

# Sternians' Mountain Camp 2018

The Sternians Mountaineering Club meets each year. All Sternians are warmly invited to join us at our 2019 Meet in Cumbria in May: details below.

The current SMC officers are Hugh Podger (President), Gordon Pitt (Chairman), David Minnikin (Treasurer) and Charles Lawrence (Secretary and Meet Secretary). Please contact the latter for details of meets: e: [cp.lawrence@btinternet.com](mailto:cp.lawrence@btinternet.com) t: 01572-722777.

## Spring Meet – Llanberis, North Wales 16-19 April, 2018



Front row: Gill Lawrence; Hugh Podger; Peter Everall. Middle row: Tony Barry; Marion Turner; John Holloway. Back row: Edward Armour; Charles Lawrence; Liz Everall; David Minnikin.

We returned to Llanberis for four nights in mid-April having last stayed at Halford Hill in 2011. The party comprised 10: David and Marion Minnikin; Liz and Peter Everall; Gill and Charles Lawrence; Hugh Podger; Tony Barry; John Holloway; and Edward Armour. Apologies were received from Mike and M Beckley; Gordon Pitt; Fary Afshar; and John Hall. Heavy rain and strong winds on the first full day found most of the party on Anglesey, with another excursion to the impressive 1800 MW Dinarwig Power Station. The second day saw one party on local hills, another on Y Garn. Others visited the impressive Bodnant Garden. Thursday dawned sunny and found us all up Snowdon, the highest mountain in Wales at 1085 m., 3560' by a variety of routes: Crib

Goch; the PYG track; and the Miners' Track. Happily the cloud lifted from the summit as we arrived, affording fine views in all directions. Most returned by the Llanberis path, a long but rewarding nine hours' walk and climb.

**Autumn Meet – Deer Close West Farmhouse, Coverdale, Yorkshire 1-5 October**

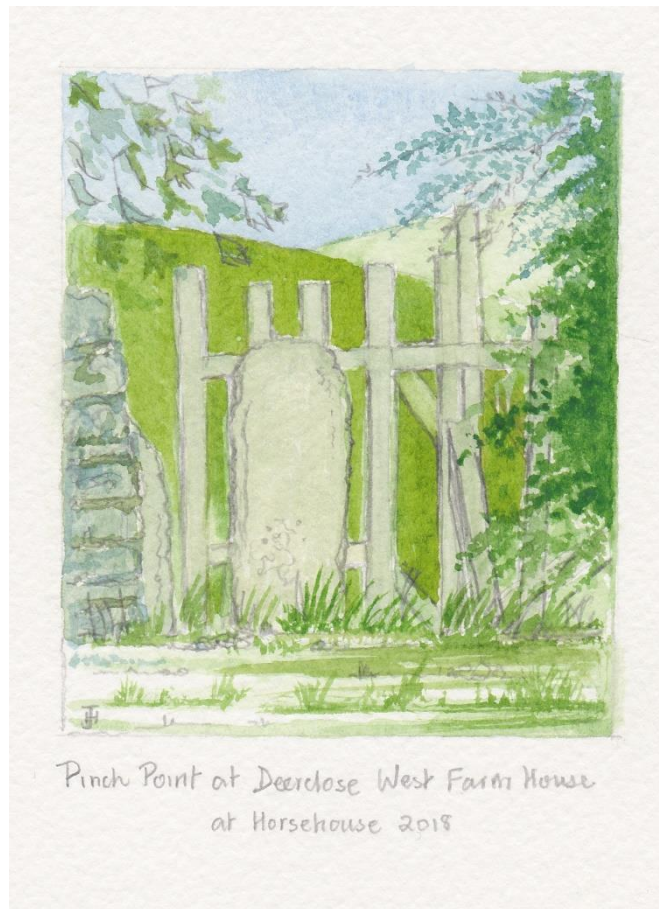


Front row: Fary Afshar; Mike Beckley; M Beckley; Gill Lawrence; Liz Everall; Hugh Podger; David Minnikin; Peter Minnikin. Back row: Laurie Hughes; Charles Lawrence; John Hall; John Holloway; Marion Turner; Peter Everall.

We returned to the Yorkshire Dales for our Autumn Meet. Coverdale is a less frequented valley N. E. of Wharfedale. With apologies from Gordon Pitt; Tony and Liz Barry; and Edward Armour the party comprised 13 with three visitors for dinner: John Hall; and Nicola and Quentin Sands who both taught at LWC. Deerclose West Farmhouse, Horsehouse provided comfortable accommodation for the four night stay. The first day found parties on Harland Hill and other hills North of Horsehouse. The second day saw one party walking downstream in Coverdale, a second East over Arkleside Moor to Nidderdale, returning via Swineside a total of twelve plus miles. The evening saw us celebrating John Hall's birthday with a fabulous cake and a selection of Ogden Nash poetry. Thursday morning was devoted to an extended AGM discussing the future of the club, now in its 48<sup>th</sup> year. The afternoon found parties walking Coverdale. A reception was held on our last evening to celebrate the retirement of Liz and Peter Everall after many years of memorable catering. Hugh Podger, President, gave the address followed by a fine dinner and poetry, including Spike Milligan and Thomas Hardy.



Deerclose West Farmhouse, Coverdale, Yorkshire Dales – photo by Fary Afshar



John Holloway's watercolour of a 'pinch point' halfway up the steep drive from Horsehouse

In 2019 we meet on 13-17 May back at Alice Howe, a delightful Pugin house in Windermere, Cumbria, close to both train and bus stations. Do join us: full details from the Meet Secretary.

Charles Lawrence.  
November 2018

(557 words)