

Ty'n Lon Meet – January 16th – 18th January 2009

This was the first of a series of new meets for 2009 which are held on the third weekend of every month at the hut. Members of the gang started arriving at various stages throughout Friday night with Lisa and Nat being the last to get there at some ungodly hour but unsurprisingly, the welcoming committee were still up and going strong!



The weather on Friday night was truly awful but answering our prayers, it had blown itself out through the night and we woke to a dry and only slightly breezy morning.

Last night's welcoming committee were clearly in need of a lie in. However, Liz was keen and taking no prisoners so persuaded the new boys, Nathan and Steve, to walk up to Dali's Hole and get some climbing done.

The rest of the party very sensibly drove up. In fact I drove up 2.5 times as I forgot the climbing rucksack so had to go back to the hut. I put it by the front door, popped to the loo and set off. The other side of Llanberis I realised I'd left it by the front door and had to turn back again! Not the most auspicious start.

Unfortunately I had all the quickdraws so John, Craig and Rich just had to stand around and freeze until I got there! In a suitably bad mood with myself, I threw caution to the wind and decided to lead everything I climbed that day – a major achievement for the world's biggest wimp.

Steve and Nathan took it in turns leading various routes and Rich did his first leads on slate too. John took on Launching Pad (E1) belayed by Craig. Watching John tip-toe across the traverse, with 99% chance of decking out or smacking into the wall if he came off, brought home the joys of outdoor climbing. Undaunted, he seconded the route which is pretty good going for only your second trip outdoors.

We decided to knock it on the head when the wind started gusting so hard that you had to hang onto a quickdraw or bolt to make sure you weren't blown off your route! Nathan, Steve and Liz obviously decided enough was not enough and headed off to Beacon Climbing for some more fun.

Nat and Lisa, after a lie in and a Pete's Eats breakfast, had spent the day bouldering up at the Cromlech working on some seriously hard problems.

The weather got progressively worse throughout the night but we woke to an OK Sunday morning. We had had a plan the night before but lie-ins and the need for early departures scuppered that quite quickly so we all went off in different directions.

Liz, Nathan and Steve went up The Pass to do Rib & Slab with Steve leading the first pitch. John & I went in search of dry rock and headed off to do Bramble Buttress on Craig y Gesail at the far end of Tremadog. The wind on the top pitch was absolutely freezing but it didn't spoil our enjoyment of this cracking route. The crux came on the walk off where you face about an E2 stile – the down climb is really overhanging and in your face and at the bottom you barn door quite dramatically!

Rich and Craig had set off round to Ogwen quite early and decided to do the North Ridge of Tryfan. I understand it was quite interesting in places with ice patches near the top and very strong winds as well.

A quick cup of tea and a sort out at the hut and everybody was on their way home. Craig, Nathan and Steve decided to sign on the dotted line and put their membership applications in so we can't be that bad! I'm sure you'll see them around at meets and in the pub over the coming months.

Attendees: (9) Emma, John, Lisa, Nat, Rich, Liz, Craig, Nathan & Steve F