

Dear LAF Members

May I inform you of a couple of items that you may be interested in:

1) On the 10th July last, The Cleveland Mountaineering Club coordinated a Work party to undertake repairs to the Scugdale approach path which was showing considerable signs of wear and erosion. The BMC offered support and National Park Ranger, Simon Bassindale advised and arranged for the provision of essential materials to undertake the work. CMC and Swaledale Outdoor Club members, together with a number of individuals put a hard days work in, constructing steps, clearing existing culverts and installing several others. The improvements to the path have been immediate and commented favourably upon by a number of users of what is probably the most frequented climbing venue in The National Park. I think it provides an excellent example of cooperation between user groups and the National Park.

2) In recent years there have been a number of BMC sponsored North East Festivals of Climbing, all of which have centered on Northumberland. It has been suggested that the 2017 Festival should take advantage of the what the North York Moors has to offer. The Cleveland Mountaineering Club is coordinating arrangements and hosting the event and is currently exploring a number of camping / accommodation bases. Recent Festivals have not had an enormous impact on climbing venues although the Saturday night social get togethers have been popular. The dates for the festival have been set as 16th - 18th June and I am mindful of a request to avoid ground nesting bird disturbance about such time. I will try to ensure that crags in particularly sensitive areas are avoided. Going by recent events, a large attendance is not anticipated although efforts are being made to promote the Festival and showcase "The Moors". I would be grateful if you would note the proposal, advise of any further action that should be taken and consider promoting and supporting the initiative.

Yours Sincerely,

Mike Conlon,

LAF, BMC North East Access and Conservation Volunteer, CMC.