



Ian Tombleson  
(County Advisor - Hillwalking Activities)

11 December 2009

## **HILLWALKING & MOUNTAIN SKILLS WEEKENDS - 2010**

**Do you enjoy the hills, the views and spending time with like minded people?**

**Perhaps you wish to become authorised to take parties out yourself - this is more straightforward than it first appears!**

**We have something to interest you, please keep reading.....**

### **Hill walking skills weekend - one**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb (pre-meet 15:00-17:00) & Friday 19<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> Feb (skills weekend)**

### **Hill walking skills weekend - two**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April (pre-meet 15:00-17:00) & Friday 7<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May (skills weekend)**

These weekends are run by GLSW and the Surrey Scout County, and are open to all Scout Association members over the age of 16 - it will be run from the GLSW County Activity Centre (Yr Hen Neuadd) in Bethesda on the edge of Snowdonia National Park, North Wales.

The programme structure is flexible and will depend upon the skills training required by the participants themselves, it is hoped this will be fully discussed and covered at the pre-meet (as such please ensure that the relevant form section is fully completed so as to let us know what you want from the weekend).

Mountain skills covered over the weekend could include the following:

- A general and practical introduction to the many aspects of mountain walking, with the weekend providing the basic personal all round skills required.
- Leader responsibilities, when taking young people into the hills. Awareness and understanding of group management. The additional technical skills leadership requires.
- Route planning and navigation, techniques required to navigate safely off main paths, and in wild country. Additional navigation skills under poor conditions and during the winter months.

- How to move safely with a group over steep or mixed ground.
- Group supervision and monitoring.
- Training and guidance for those wishing to make a start on the Walking Group Leader or Mountain Leader Awards.
- Building experience/log book by; acting as assistant leader, using skills previously gained, or exploring unfamiliar routes.
- For those that have previous experience, authorisation assessment for the scout authorisation scheme may also be taken over the weekend (terrains one or two). (Notification must be given when the application form is returned – all the form filling can be sorted at the premeet or in discussion prior to an assessment).

The pre-meet will be spent covering navigation techniques, equipment, risk assessment and other relevant matters. The Scout Association's hill walking authorisation scheme will also be covered. Route plans will be completed for the following weekend and transport to Bethesda on the following Friday (leaving afternoon/early evening, returning Sunday evening) will also be arranged.

The cost of the weekend is £65 (includes all food and fuel costs) - cheques should be made payable to **G.L.S.W. Scout Training Account**. Applicants are advised to enquire at once of their D.C. regarding the availability of grant aid payment of grant aid may be dependent upon submitting an application prior to the weekend.

Applications should be made on the attached form; places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope for your booking confirmation, which will include a location map for the pre-meet.

Please note that weekends in the mountains can be physically demanding, participants should be fit enough to sustain and enjoy a full programme, this would be particularly relevant to the February weekend.

These weekends are always very popular and I would encourage you to send in your application as soon as possible.

Please contact me if you have any questions or if you want to have a general chat about Hillwalking.

Many thanks

**Ian Tombleson**

GLSW County Advisor - Hillwalking Activities

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**Surrey & GLSW Scouts Mountaineering Courses Application Form**

<b>Course</b>	<b>One / Two</b> (please delete one) <b>HILLWALKING COURSE</b>				
<b>Name</b>				<b>Date of Birth</b>	
<b>Parental Consent</b>	<b>Note if you are under 18 then a separate parental consent form must be completed</b>				
<b>Address</b>					
<b>Telephone</b>			<b>E Mail</b>		
<b>District</b>		<b>Scout Group or section</b>		<b>Appointment Held</b>	
<b>Any Special Dietary requirements</b>					
<b>Details of any medical conditions or allergies</b>					
Summary of previous hill walking experience (over the last five years & attach a copy of personnel log if you have one)					
What do you hope to get from this course?					
Where did you hear about this course?					

**Please reserve me a place on the above course.**

**I enclose a cheque for the full cost of the course £65.00 payable to "G.L.S.W. Scout Training A/C", and a stamped addressed envelope.**

**Signed:.....**

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