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Review of the Online Talks and Presentations

So far this year, we've had three Zoom presentations on a diverse range of subjects from Plants and Habitats through to the environmental impact of our equipment choices.

This Newsletter will look at the first three of these Online Talks and Presentations and give you a flavour of the content and, also, links to where you can find videos of the Online Talks and Presentations, so you can watch them at your leisure.

Jim talking about Habitats and Plants

The first was with Jim Langley from [Nature's Work](http://www.natureswork.co.uk), telling us more about the different habitats and the plants we might find while out on some of our camping trips. These range from the high mountains down to sea level.

Jim is a director of Nature's Work, one of the UK's leading outdoor education and environmental education training consultancies. Based in North Wales, Jim has over twenty-five years' experience of guiding people in the outdoors and holds the International Mountain Leader award.



Jim's talk was a trip around Britain's main rural habitats, illustrated with lovely photographs, and he demonstrated his huge knowledge of the subject. Not only telling us the names and types of plants, but also telling us a little bit about some of their history, their uses (in some cases both ancient and modern) and some of their unusual features, like relationships with ants.

Jim also offers a discount on some of his products and service to Nearly Wild Camping Members. You will need to log into the [Community Page](#) (and find the Member Discount section) for details of these.

To watch the whole presentation, please click the button below:

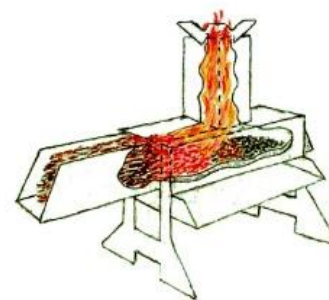


Link to be added, once webpage to be linked to is approved

Graeme and Rachel showing us the 'Tawi Stove'

The second talk took us into a completely different world, learning about the uses, design and physics of a stove which produces 'Bio Char' as a byproduct.

Graeme and Rachel, from [Carbon Farmers](#), showed us not only how the stove works, but also gave us an insight into how to cook on it, the flexibility and diversity of its four cooking areas and an understanding of how it is better for the environment, compared to normal campfire cooking.



The 'Tawi Stove' was invented by Graeme, building on experience from his early life in Kenya. It uses an incredibly small amount of wood, only needing what most of us would consider to be kindling to burn, it gets to cooking heat extremely quickly and provides four main cooking areas on the stove – the main cooking area, a heating plate, a warming area and a grill.

Graeme also offers a special discount on the Tawi Stove to Nearly Wild Camping Members. You will need to log into the [Community Page](#) (and find the Member Discount section) for details of this discount.

To watch the whole presentation, please click the button below:



Link to be added, once webpage to be linked to is approved

Pete talking about equipment and its environmental impact

The third talk in this year's series, was with Pete from [ProAdventure](#), an independent outdoor shop in Llangollen, with a reputation for providing quality kit and professional advice. ProAdventure focus on providing some of the best, and most respected, outdoor brands and products by asking searching questions of their suppliers to seek out quality, long lasting products with the environment at the heart of design.



Pete showed us some of the equipment in the shop giving us a real flavour of the range that they carry, whilst giving important insights into the environmental impact of the different equipment. We were able to discuss the pros and cons of different materials, approaches to manufacture and distribution, and the kit itself.



Pete also gave us some thoughts for comparing "cheap and cheerful" with "expensive and long lasting", including how to rent or purchase gear on a return basis. This talk would prove extremely important to anybody wishing to consider the environmental impact of their actions through gear purchase.

ProAdventure offer discounts on many products, at their store and online, so give them a visit to find out what they can do for you.

To watch the whole presentation, please click the button below:



Link to be added, once webpage to be linked to is approved

Winter Demo's and talks still to come

The winter Online Talks and Presentations will continue as shown in the table below:

NOVEMBER			
19	5-6pm	Brian from Glencoe Mountain Rescue	Mountain rescue team – kit demo and a bit more about its work
DECEMBER			
10	5-6pm	Lucy from Wild Cooke	Cooking and foraging, fun recipe demos.
	6-7pm	AGM	The Organisations Annual General Meeting.
JANUARY			
14	5-6pm	Karl from Otter Adventure	Camping with a canoe
28	5-6pm	Rupert from Feral Science	Wine and beverage making
FEBRUARY			
11	5-6pm	Steve & Irene (Founders)	Walking and running the Cape Wrath trail
25	5-6pm	Suzie Drew	Campfire cooking
MARCH			
10	5-6pm	To be confirmed	Animal tracks and signs
17	5-6pm	Steve (our Founder)	Preparing for the camping season – kit ideas, wildlife challenges and NWC activities

You can find details of all of the Online Talks and Presentations, as well as links to the registration pages, on the Community Page.

[Check the Community Page for more details](#)

If you would be interested in providing a talk or you have a particular passion to share, then please do get in touch. We are keen to build this opportunity for members to **build their skills and knowledge about the countryside, wildlife and our relationship with nature, as well as good, leave no trace, camping techniques and kit.**

If you have an offer, please contact nicholas@nearlywildcamping.org

Experience Weekends and Socials

Following the success of this years' Experience Weekends and Socials, we are hoping to set a program for next year to build on this year's achievements. Steve is already working on this, talking to a number of providers and host locations who have contacted us with an interest in either hosting an activity, running an activity, or both.



Experience Weekends are the camps we run for members with a paid for trainer, covering relevant wildlife, countryside or heritage activities. We are also happy to consider other activities which you think would be relevant and of interest to Nearly Wild campers. These camps will charge the members a small fee for attendance at the training, along with the usual camp location fee.

If you provide activities, you think other campers might be interested in, and are keen to run a themed camp (trainers are paid) then please get in touch with Nick nicholas@nearlywildcamping.org



Alternatively, if you are interested in hosting a social camp then please get in touch with Nick.

Social camps are an opportunity for members to get together at the same camp location. These are a new opportunity and will cost nothing more than the location's usual camping charge. We are looking for people to host these camps either as campers, letting us and other members know that you will be camping at a particular location so that others can come and join you; or, alternatively, if locations are willing to host a social camp which they themselves will facilitate, we'd be keen to hear from them too.

If you are interested in any of these options, but want more information or clarification, please contact Nick or Steve directly nicholas@nearlywildcamping.org

We are now developing much more opportunity for members and member locations to promote relevant product, activity and camps to other members for sale or free. We hope this will help build our community and create more opportunity for everyone.

It is important that these products, services and opportunities are appropriate to members and fit the club's ethos. We are therefore developing some simple guiding criteria to help you decide if what you want to offer is relevant. More about this soon.