

## CRN Spring meeting and seminar 2014

Date: 14 - 16<sup>th</sup> May 2014  
 Location: Stackpole Activity Centre, Pembrokeshire  
 Hosted by: National Trust



### Introduction

As well as getting the opportunity to discover the beautiful Pembrokeshire coast first hand, this event will explore recent and ongoing developments in Welsh outdoor recreation, as well as delving into what the future looks like for the sector. An appetite for improved access to the outdoors, combined with major structural changes to the key government bodies which have responsibility for this, provide a colourful array of opportunities and challenges. Delegates will gain an understanding of how changing legislation, major capital spend, and partnership working is changing the outdoor recreation scene across Wales, now and in the future.

### Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May (early arrivals)

18:00 Arrive at Stackpole Centre  
 19:00 Walk to St Govans Inn, Bosherton  
 Past the Lilly ponds and over the bridges  
 19:30 Dinner at Inn  
 22:30 Return to Stackpole Centre/accomodation



### Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May (business meeting and site visits)

08:00 Breakfast

09:00 **Introduction to the NT Stackpole Centre**  
*Rebecca Stock*

Catering for family holidays, group getaways, education and training courses, conferences and corporate events, the Stackpole Centre is located in the heart of the centuries old 2000 acre Stackpole Estate in south Pembrokeshire. It has exceptional facilities with excellent value for money accommodation and has even won a Platinum Eco-Centre Award for its environmentally friendly management. It is situated within a National Park with wonderful countryside and coast on it's doorstep.

09:30 **ORN business meeting and information exchange**

12:30 Lunch

13:15 **Introduction to the wider Stackpole Estate**

*Jonathan Hughes*

The Stackpole estate itself dates back to the 12th century and the original fortified house – Stackpole Court – was besieged during the English Civil War. It was subsequently extensively rebuilt and, in the 18th century, the estate passed to the Cawdor family who established the famous lakes and landscaped the garden. Lord Cawdor set out from Stackpole Court to defeat the last French invasion in 1797 and many famous people have stayed at the house, including Admiral Nelson and King Edward VII. The huge house itself was eventually demolished in 1963, but the terrace wall, steps and much else still remains, including the home farm, stable block, game larder and dairy – so today it’s quite easy to imagine the grandeur that was Stackpole Court.

13:45 **Choice of instructor-led, outdoor activities:**

*Ack Moore*

The natural surroundings of Stackpole are wonderfully wide and varied, including mature woodlands, dramatic cliffs, dune systems, freshwater lakes, and formal gardens. Choose from:

- Sea kayaking from Stackpole Quay
- Coasteering from Stackpole Quay
- Cycling around the Estate - Mencap Garden/House/Lakes/Woodland



17:45 Return to Stackpole centre for tea

19:00 Beach BBQ (or wet weather dinner alternative)

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May (seminar)**

08:00 Breakfast

09:00 Observations from previous day

09:30 Seminar registration

Tea/coffee

09:45 Welcome and introduction to Seminar: ***What is happening in Wales for outdoor recreation – the opportunities and challenges.***

10:00 **Keynote 1: Developing and managing the Wales Coastal Path**

*Richard Neale, National Trust*

*Elinor Gwynne, Natural Resources Wales*

Developed by the Welsh Government in partnership with Natural Resources Wales (formerly Countryside Council for Wales), sixteen local authorities and two national



parks, this 870 mile path provides a continuous walking route around the whole of Wales – from the outskirts of Chester in the north to Chepstow in the south. Some 20% of the path is owned by the National Trust.

The path is as near to the coast as legally and physically practicable, whilst fully taking into account the needs of health and safety, land management and conservation. It was officially opened in May 2012.

Richard will take us through the benefits of it's introduction, while Elinor will discuss the path's impacts on historic and nature conservation.

10:45

**Keynote 2: Developing integrated legislation for outdoor recreation**

*John Watkins, Welsh Government*

In 2013 the Welsh Government announced a review of existing legislation and guidance relating to access and outdoor recreation. The aim is to secure better access to the outdoors for recreation, modernise and simplify the current regulatory framework, and provide clarity and certainty over where people can go and what they can do there.

John will talk to us about the process of developing integrated legislation for outdoor recreation, and provide an overview and update on the Welsh Government's consultation and its current priorities for access.

11:30

**Keynote 3: Challenges and opportunities facing Natural Resources Wales (NRW)**

*Emyr Roberts, CEO Natural Resources Wales*

NRW brings together the work of the Countryside Council for Wales, Environment Agency Wales and Forestry Commission Wales, as well as some functions of Welsh Government. Their purpose is to ensure that the natural resources of Wales are sustainably maintained, enhanced and used, now and in the future. This presentation will look at the many challenges and opportunities facing NRW, it's priorities for 2014-15 and beyond, and how it can build on the existing partnerships with organisations like the National Trust.

12:15

Questions

12:40

Summary

12:45

Networking lunch

13:45

Depart

**Cost:**

£170.00 +VAT

Includes:

Accommodation on Wednesday and Thursday nights

Breakfast and lunch on Thursday and Friday

Beach BBQ (or wet weather option) on Thursday evening

Choice of activity on Thursday afternoon

**NB** This price is available for up to two representatives from each executive member organisation, and for one representative from each support member organisation. Additional delegates are welcome to attend the seminar on Friday. The following seminar costs apply:

<b>Package</b>	<b>Includes</b>	<b>Full cost</b>	<b>Executive member discounted rate (-15%)</b>	<b>Support member discounted rate (-10%)</b>
Seminar	Friday: Seminar and lunch	£50.00	£42.50	£45.00
Seminar with overnight accommodation	Thursday: Accommodation  Friday: Breakfast, seminar, lunch	£99.50	£92.00	£94.00
Seminar with overnight accommodation and dinner	Thursday: Dinner and accommodation  Friday: Breakfast, seminar, lunch	£114.50	£107.00	£109.50

**To Book:**

Call the National Trust's Stackpole Centre on 01646 661 425. You will be asked to pay at the time of booking. Lines are open 10:00-18:00 every day including weekends.

Please note that all costs exclude VAT.