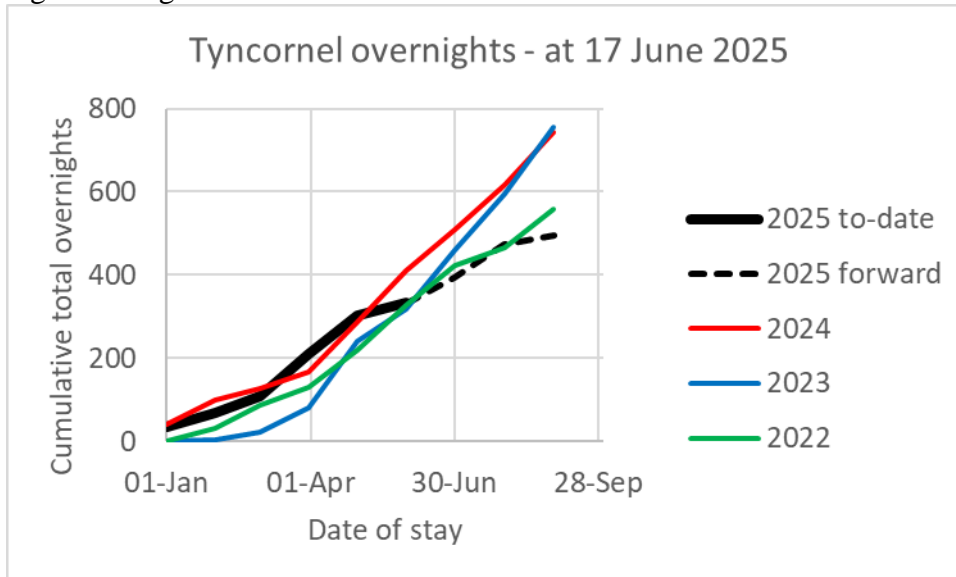


# NEWSLETTER 56 – SUMMER 2025

## Ty'n Cornel

Ty'n Cornel has begun 2025 with a promising overnight performance. As the chart shows, visitors during the first few months have been well up to the levels of previous years. May was a quieter month than usual – the hot weather probably attracted people to the beaches rather than the hills – but bookings are coming in steadily for future months and we hope for a respectable performance over the year. At June 17, we already have 500 overnights including forward bookings, and there is plenty of time for more bookings. The shepherd's hut is performing particularly well – it is already booked on 40 nights this year, compared with 36 nights during the whole of 2024.



The new porch has proved very useful – the double glazing and insulation make it much warmer than the old porch, and the benefit of the heat is felt in the entrance hall too. The roof leak was cured by the builder, and the inside now looks very smart, following decoration by Mike and Helen Boothman. Richard and Janet painted the white front wall of the terrace, and renewed the preservative on the hostel's hardwood windows, taking advantage of the May sunshine.



Richard and Colin performed the annual cleaning and chlorination of the water systems at both hostels in early April. Following advice from our Safety Advisor Andrew Phillips, the large storage tanks were cleaned without climbing inside them – sediment was “Hoovered” off the bottom of the tanks while they were emptied, and the inside walls were pressure-washed. The water supply from the spring at Ty'n Cornel slowed down during the drought, but the flow never stopped, and has recovered following the recent rains. We are currently preparing to provide facilities at Ty'n Cornel for safe storage and re-charging of e-bikes.

Our insurers require us to take steps to reduce and contain the hazard of electrical fires, which can occur if an internal short-circuit occurs inside the battery. E-bikes are brought to Ty'n Cornel with increasing frequency, both by hostellers and by wardens. We urgently need a safer location than the metal shed – which contains too many other materials that are inflammable and/or valuable. We're going to convert the hovel – a small breeze-block building that is separate from all other buildings – to house e-bikes. The building will contain only the e-bikes and their charging equipment, so the fire risk will be confined and reduced as far as possible. The electrician is booked to install the electricity supply at the end of June – conventional three-pin 13 Amp sockets will be provided, and users must bring their own charging equipment to plug into those sockets. Wardens will need to direct hostellers to keep their e-bikes in the hovel, and must not allow batteries to be taken elsewhere (e.g. inside our other buildings) for charging.



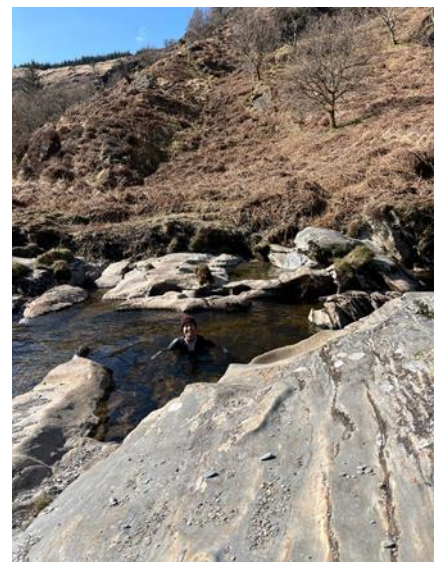
We have recently (18 June) received a preliminary version of a map showing the proposed layout for tree planting on the land sold by Dafydd Edwards to Foresight in 2022. The map shows proposed planting over practically all of the land, with a few exclusions for areas where the work would be difficult. EWH is invited to submit a response by 4 July and we are currently drafting this, including objections on environmental grounds, loss of Open Access, and identifying measures that would be required to protect important features such as rights of way, peat bogs, and Ty'n Cornel's water supply which originates on the land.

## Dolgoch

Visitors to Dolgoch during April and May enjoyed some incredible weather with lots of long, sunny, dry days. The local wild swimming spot, Wolf's Leap, was popular, at least for those with a wet suit and wooly hats!

The lack of rain did lead to some grass fires in the area, including one close to the hostel which was attended by the local fire service. We now seem to be back to normal with most weeks having a mixture of sunny days followed by rainy ones.

Overnight numbers for April and May have been marginally up on the same period last year. Taking the calendar year from January and including forward bookings to December we currently have around 1,000 overnights. This is again similar to the position at this time last year.





The big project for Dolgoch this year will be the upgrading of our electricity supply. We have had various discussions with our insurers and the local fire officer regarding the safe storage of the lithium storage batteries. The ideal location is the mezzanine platform in the main corridor. Our local fire officer is happy with this plan but has advised us to install a fire protective compartment around the area. Our insurers are also finally in agreement. We now just have to find someone to construct it!



The trustees have also agreed to the internal electrical set up, including plug sockets and lighting. As part of the project we will also be installing a gas boiler/water heater. Our existing solar water heating system is great when the sun is shining but does not provide much hot water during the winter months. However, even during the winter the water is often heated up to over 20 degrees. The system will be designed so that the gas heating will “top up” the water from the solar system. We are also looking at fitting an immersion heater to the solar water tanks which will use excess electricity from the PV panels to heat the hot water. This should give us a very efficient

system of providing hot water throughout the year, and far more energy efficient than boiling kettles of water. It should mean that even in the grimmest days of December we can guarantee hot showers!

### **.Disabled Accommodation**

As part of the renovation project, following the acquisition of Dolgoch, an annex with facilities for disabled visitors was provided. To be honest we have had very little success in attracting disabled visitors to the hostel. It was always intended that the annex would provide accommodation for wardens when not being used by disabled visitors. However, the lack of disabled visitors has led to the annex increasingly being referred to as “the warden’s room”.

We are very keen to attract more disabled visitors to Dolgoch. With this in mind we now have an Access Statement on our website which sets out the facilities and access arrangements for disabled visitors. This can be viewed on our website or via this link [Dolgoch Hostel Access Statement 2024 - DD V2\(1\).pdf - Google Drive](#) .

We would like to encourage all of our members, and previous visitors who may read the newsletter, to mention Dolgoch when any of their friends or relatives are looking at accommodation for disabled visitors.

### **AGM**

This year’s AGM will be held on Saturday 18th October. Y Talbot have once again kindly offered to host the event. Following the meeting in Tregaron we will move on to Ty’nCornel for food, drink and a chat. If anyone would like to book accommodation over the weekend at either Ty’nCornel or Dolgoch then contact Janet, [janet.hollins@btinternet.com](mailto:janet.hollins@btinternet.com) or Gill, [dolgoch.bookings@elenydd-hostels.co.uk](mailto:dolgoch.bookings@elenydd-hostels.co.uk)

### **Events calandar**

<b>When</b>	<b>What</b>	<b>Further details</b>
Saturday 18th October	AGM	<a href="mailto:barglam@yahoo.co.uk">barglam@yahoo.co.uk</a>

## Membership

If you are not yet a member why not join us? EWH will only survive and prosper if we have a continuing inflow of new people. Even if you are not able to help in an active way there are a number of jobs that can be done remotely including a grant applications officer and marketing roles. To become a member the easiest route is via our website <https://www.elenydd-hostels.co.uk> or send an email to our membership secretary email [members@elenydd-hostels.co.uk](mailto:members@elenydd-hostels.co.uk)

Colin Hughes [huwscol@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:huwscol@hotmail.co.uk) (On behalf of the Trustees)