



Newyddion gan / News Release

Snowdonia-Active

09 May 2013

A group of paddlesport enthusiasts, swimmers and walkers showed their love for Llyn Padarn by leaving it tidier than when they arrived on Sunday morning. The litter clean-up of the Llanberis valley lake was organised by the lake-side outdoor activity business and retailer, Surf-Lines, together with the 'Loving our Lake' project and the Environmental Outdoor Charter Group.

Surf-Lines offered those attending the event a free canoe session or supported swim in return for rubbish collection. Nearly forty people, including many youngsters, got involved in the tidy-up. There were lots of lost wellies (but no pairs), drink cans and even a tea pot among the underwater rubbish collected by the swimmers. Gwynedd Council played a part by taking away the substantial amount of litter and trash collected, with the plastic bottles and cans separated for recycling.

Chris Wright from Snowdonia-Active, leading the 'Loving our Lake' project, said: "Today was a good example of how through a simple action the local community and lake users can get involved in looking after the fantastic natural resource that is Llyn Padarn. Everyone can make a difference by reducing their impact on the lake."

Surf-Lines owner, Phil Nelson, commented: "It was great to see so many people from near and far turn up to lend a hand to start the process of tidying-up the lake. We only scratched the surface of the rubbish that's out there and we are keen to run another session soon to make a real impact, but we will need more help next time." So keep an eye out for the next 'Rubbish Paddle & Swim' event. You can find out more information about 'Loving our Lake' at www.loving-our-lake.org

Llyn Padarn and its habitat is of national importance and is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest. On Sunday 19th May a thousand competitors will be braving the chilly waters of Llyn Padarn as part of the Slateman Triathlon, which will be televised for Channel 4 and Eurosport.

Diwedd / Ends

Picture titles

Padarn_clean_up3

(LtoR) Ellie Edwards-Jones, Ceri Loxton and Mair Loxton Paddle and litter pick

Photo credit 'Ray Wood © 2013'

Padarn_rubbish

Youngsters from the litter clean-up who are 'Loving our Lake' but not the wellies!

Photo credit 'Ray Wood © 2013'

Nodiadau i Olygyddion / Notes to Editors:

WHO:

For those who live, work and holiday in the Llanberis valley, Llyn Padarn is a significant feature. The livelihoods of many people in the area are closely linked to the well-being of the lake.

WHY:

Many aspects of how we live and work have a direct impact on the health of the lake. Simple changes to some aspects of how we live and work might make a big difference to Llyn Padarn.

WHAT:

Over the next 12 months, support and advice will be provided to residents and businesses with the possibility of joining the 'Loving our Lake' project.

FIRST HYDRO COMPANY:

First Hydro Company (FHC) is a pump storage hydro electric business consisting of two assets. Ffestiniog Power Station and Dinorwig Power Station based in and around the Snowdonia National Park in North Wales.

In addition there is a visitor centre based in the village of Llanberis which operates under the name of "Electric Mountain" the centre has some 200,000 visitors a year and within the region of 45,000 visiting the underground complex of Dinorwig Power Station.

Under the ownership of the GDF Suez group, The largest independent electricity producer in the world, FHC has a staff of approximately 160 and is a self sufficient business unit, operating and maintaining both power stations.

SNOWDONIA-ACTIVE:

'Loving our Lake' is run by Snowdonia-Active. Based at Caban in Brynrefail, they are a social enterprise established in 2001, working to support and develop the outdoor sector and sustainable tourism in North West Wales. At Snowdonia-Active, they believe a sensitive and imaginative approach to environmental management can deliver benefits to the local economy, the wider community and the environment.

CONTACT:

Emma Edwards-Jones – Project Manager 01286 685 501 emma@snowdonia-active.com