



OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

NEWSLETTER FOR JANUARY 2001

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Jan 9 (Tues) Indoor meet (NB: Wirksworth)
Jan 20/21 Tan-Yr-Wyddfa
Jan 27/28 Scotland
Feb 3/4 Heathy Lea
Feb 6 (Tues) Ockbrook Indoor Meet

Jan 9 (Tue) Indoor Meet The Red Lion Wirksworth

8 p.m. Parking available in the Market Place or through the arch and at the top of the yard. Function room is upstairs above the arch. Bar. Es Tresidder will give an illustrated talk "Heights of Ambition: a year of learning fast". I understand this will cover rock and ice in Scotland, the Alps and Yosemite

Jan 20/21 Welsh meet at T-Y-W Rock Hudson

The first 'real' meet of the 2001 Oread calendar. I've arranged for a severe global cooling, which will provide vast snow falls, advancing glaciers, huge serac barriers and the odd 100m hanging icicle, plus a little good luck with the weather.

Whatever the conditions North Wales and environs can provide something for all - winter scrambles, hill walking, a rare crag in condition, cheap gear sales, or just a peep through the hut window at the appalling weather.

Still places available (at new year). Book a place and see about transport by calling Colin Hobday on the state of places available.

Jan 27/28 Scotland.

Daryl Kirk will be looking after this meet instead of Tony Howard. As usual, I would expect arrangements to be fluid and highly dependent on the weather forecast. Please 'phone Daryl if you are interested.

PAST EVENTS

51st annual dinner.

Ninety members and friends booked in for the Annual Dinner at the Green Man Ashbourne. From various comments I have heard it was an enjoyable evening spent with good food and friends. Steve Hillditch from the Derbyshire Mountain Rescue Team entertained us with graphic accounts of rescues and 'happenings' with his team. Mike Hayes gave him £106.00 from our raffle towards their funds.

I'm sorry that I mis-informed you all regarding parking at the Supermarket carpark. At going to press in October the information that I had been given was that parking was free from 6 pm. Unfortunately this was not so - apologies to Sylvia Green for collecting a parking ticket !

My thanks to the committee for their support and also guests for bringing raffle prizes, namely - Harry Pretty, Gordon Gadsby, Rob Tresidder, Rock, John Shreeve and, of course, Mr President.

May I thank Harry for dealing with the seating plan. This is never an enviable task. We do try to please and put members next to their friends. Sometimes mistakes are made but someone has to alter the place cards!

Mike did very well for his first Oread Dinner as President and gave an inspiring speech.

I hope we have a good turn out next year. Thank you all for coming, it makes it all worth while.

Auntie Wainwright.

Nepal trekking

Our party of four (three from our village plus a friend of mine), took a plane from Kathmandu to Biratnagar in the far south-east of Nepal and then hired a bus to our start point at Basantpur. We then trekked over the hills to the Tamur river and followed the Tamur Khola and then the Ghunsa Khola, taking ten days to reach Ghunsa. At Ghunsa we realised that we were a bit tight on time and elected to move straight over the Sion/Mirgin La into the Simbuwa Khola and up this to the South Base Camp. We returned via the Simbuwa and Kabeli Kholas to rendezvous with the dirt road at a place called Gopetar and hired a long wheelbase Landrover for the twelve hour drive back to Biratnagar. Time, airport to airport, was twenty three days with twenty one on the hoof. Lessons learnt were:-

1. Its a lie that you acclimatise to altitude more quickly with age.
2. The luxury of trekking with a competent Sherpa organisation conjures up old images of the Raj, eliminating completely any 'Bullstones mentality one may have harboured.

If anyone else is contemplating trekking in Nepal we would certainly recommend our Sherpa organisation, HIMALAYAN EXPLORERS. The guy who organised our trip has known them for twenty years and would be happy to advise. He is Tom Bebbington

Chis Jonson.

FUTURE EVENTS

Indoor Meets

6 February. 8 p.m. The Royal Oak, Ockbrook. Harry Pretty will give an illustrated talk on Corsica. Many Oreads will know already that Harry is responsible for the English language version of the definitive Corsica walking guide. So I think we can expect much especially about that finest of "walking" routes - the GR20.

6 March. 8 p.m. The Royal Oak, Ockbrook. David Seddon of the Eagle Ski Club will give an illustrated talk about ski mountaineering. As well as the Alps, I think this will include places further afield, such as Canada.

Possible summer meet in the Canadian Rockies

There might be an unofficial A.C. meet in the Canadian Rockies during part of the period July-August 2001. Plans are still very vague, also the venue. Several areas will may be visited including the Bugaboos. Anyone interested contact Rock Hudson and he will supply info. when available or look at Newsletters early next year.

OBITUARY (AMENDMENT)

Despite the notice in the local press before Christmas that a Colin Hobday of Allestree had passed away plus various rumours circulating at the Miners Arms on Boxing Day, I wish to inform all members that I will be handling hut bookings for 2001 as usual.

Colin Hobday (alive and kicking).

SHORT NOTICES

LOST & FOUND

Lost on Golden Oldies meet.

A pair of prescription sunglasses in a dark blue case. For any info please contact Shirley Wainwright.

BRAIN TEASER

The following puzzle was sent in by Ernie Phillips:

The other day Digger Williams went into an emporium and said to the person behind the counter "how much does one cost?" "Thirty pence" replied the vendor. "What about twelve" asked the Celt. "Sixty pence" came the reply. "Well, how about one hundred and forty-four" queried Dai? "just ninety pence" was the answer. Our near-octogenarian bargain hunting member was not miffed by this information, so the question is - what could he have been pricing up? It might help to recall that in the Principality they still use pockets full of pebbles to tally up flocks of sheep, but of course, on the other hand, it might not!

NEXT EDITION

For the February edition it is essential that all material reaches me by **SAT JAN 27th**. (but the earlier the better) I look forward to hearing from **JACK ASHCROFT**, **DARYL KIRK** (Feb Scotland meet and Subs) and **COLIN BARNARD**.

Articles in the form of Word (.doc) attachments to E-mails are preferred, but floppy discs sent through the post are also welcome.

Richard Coghlan