



OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

NEWSLETTER FOR JUNE 2001

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Jun 9/10	Esoteric Grit
Jun 16/17	TYW
Jun 20 (Wed)	Midsummer Madness
Jun 24 (Sun)	Summer Stroll
Jun 30 (Sat)	H/L Barbeque

Jun 9/10 Ramshaw Rocks ***Richard Coghlan***

As I go to press, most footpaths in the peak are opening up, but not all of them and it is not clear exactly which climbing areas are open. I will therefore restrict my choice to a venue which is confirmed to be open by the BMC - Ramshaw Rocks.

The crag is at the side of the A53 Leek-Buxton road at and around Grid Ref SK 019622. Meet at 11.00 am at the crag. My 1981 guidebook says that there is parking available by the side of the main road or at a few places along a narrow lane which comes off the main road at the Southern end of the crag.

The crag is not very high, most routes being 25-35 ft high, but there are a few up to 50 ft. There is plenty to go at - enough starred routes for a day's entertainment whether you are climbing at V.Diff or E1.

If you need a lift or more details please contact me.

June 16/17 Tan-Yr-Wyddfa ***Michael Hayes***

Advertised previously as the 14 peaks meet but due to recent inconveniences i.e. the hills being shut, I have decided to change plans slightly.

The date and the venue will still be the same but the agenda will now focus on rock climbing. Even as I write more and more of the Welsh crags are once again opening up so there should be plenty for us to go at.

With this years slow start I expect the meet to be well attended and so as they say "book early to avoid disappointment". For seasoned Oreads you know the rest already but if there are any newcomers then I will continue. Situated in the heart of Snowdonia our club hut in the village of Rhyd-Ddu is ideally located for a great mountaineering weekend, a pub within staggering distance, Snowdon on the doorstep and most of the rock climbing areas in North Wales within easy reach.

The plan as usual will be to make our way over to the hut on Friday evening followed by two days of climbing, and socialising. The sun will shine and you will have a good time!

Either see me at the Smithfield or give me a ring to reserve your place.

June 20 (Wed) Midsummer Madness - Froggatt

There is no official meet leader for this in the club calendar. For the sake of getting everyone together in the same place at the same time, I nominate Froggatt Edge. Please arrange lifts and climbing partners among yourselves at the Smithfield on the previous Tuesday evening as usual.

The BMC website warns that the crag should be approached only from the Grouse Inn car park or from the Curbar gap car park and that the woods below the crag are still closed.

June 24 (Sun) Summer stroll

There is no meet leader for this either ! I recommend meeting at the main Edale car park, Grid Ref. 125854 at 10.30 am for 11.00 am start up Mam Tor.

Please phone me and I will keep a register of those who plan to attend, so that people can have some idea in advance of who else is likely to turn up. We can even start to discuss the likely route of the walk once Mam Tor is reached.

June 30 (Sat) Heathy Lea Barbeque

No meet leader again ! There again, this shouldn't take much organising anyway - Just turn up with your own food and drink and light your barbeques at 6.00 pm. Please book places in the hut with Colin Hobday as usual (the hut has been kept clear for this event).

Rules about staying within the confines of the hut grounds were still in place when going to press, but climbing on most of the Peak's crags should be possible by this date.

FUTURE EVENTS

July 7/8 Llangollen Richard Coghlan

I haven't got my head around organising the details yet, but the concept is a one day event with climbing on World's End Crag on Sunday. Some people may prefer to travel out just for the day, and some (including myself) will camp overnight on the Sunday.

More details will come in the next newsletter and, of course, it's all subject to FMD.

PAST EVENTS

Heathy Lea'' "fell" race

First my sincere apologies to Brian, Freda and John who appeared in the right place at the right time for this race. Unfortunately I had put the wrong date in the newsletter. Sorry about that, guys. However six of the fleet of foot did appear in Wirksworth a week later and in bright cool conditions, a good run was had by all. And I managed more than my usual quota of

innovations this time: wrong date, all on tarmac, no navigation needed, organiser ran.

Congratulations to Gill and Dave on their victory. Unfortunately I was unable to present the fell race trophy because it is still missing. The most recent sighting of this was in March 1999 when I tried to present it to Graham Weston. Graham was absent and never received the trophy which was accepted on his behalf by someone else. Can anyone help? The trophy is about six inches tall and consists of a running figure cut from stainless steel sheet and mounted against a stone doughnut, the whole resting on a ?stone base.

Rob Tresidder

Forest of Dean May 12/13

Despite the forest being closed the meet went ahead with 22 Oreads and friends attending, staying at the Lodge adjacent to the Fountain Inn, Parkend . The weather was perfect, with breakfast being taken on the patio and shorts the order of the day.

The party split into three groups, Nick, Pam, Nodge and Pam went canoeing while Graham and Margaret Foster did the tourist route, walked across the Severn Bridge and met up with the cycling team at lunch time at Tintern Abbey. Cycling down the narrow lanes proved very enjoyable with all the wild flowers and blossom at the best, however the hills proved steeper and longer than expected (John Green was observed walking). A lunch time pub stop at Tintern Abbey, where Beryl Turner discovered that her bike had passed it sell by date and had to limp back to base escorted by Roger. After a liquid lunch, Sandy Lane proved the next challenge a 2mile "slope", Mike Keeling some how managed to get lost arriving back at the lodge after everyone else.

Saturday evening saw everyone sit down to an excellent meal with plenty of wine and beer. On Sunday there was more canoeing and cycling, at Symonds Yat even the visitor centre was closed. And In the centre of the forest was a shrine with flowers, poems and cardboard sheep, in memory of all the sheep that had been culled.

Thank you all for coming and making the week end a success despite the foot and mouth

those present, Mike & Sue Wren. Beryl & Roger Turner. Mike & Jill Keeling. John & Sylvia Green. Stuart & Andrea Haywood. Graham & Margaret Foster. Pam & Nodge Norris. Nick Evans & Pam Storer. Stuart Godfrey & Edith Colley. Chris & Jane Scolau. Colin & Uschi Hobday.

Colin Hobday

Hut bookings for June/July

BOTH HUTS ARE OPEN FOR USE SUBJECT TO ANY FOOT AND MOUTH RESTRICTIONS IN THE AREA. FOR SNOWDONIA INFORMATION. WWW.SNOWDONIA-NPA.GOV.UK

Please note this list is only correct at time of going to press. All members are advised to check availability with the hut booking secretary before going to either hut.

SHORT NOTICES

Membership

An application for full membership has been received from Andrea Haywood. As required by the club rules, I have to ask that any comments regarding her suitability for membership should be sent to the Secretary.

Snowdon Access.

Latest info. from National Park via Chuck Hooley:

The paths open up Snowdon are :

Miners
PYG
Watkyn
Llanberis.

People must stick to the paths, go through disinfecting points and follow a code of conduct. Dogs are not allowed.

Access to Pen y Pass is by bus only at weekends.

Rhyd Ddu and Snowdon Ranger paths remain

closed.

The Glyders , Tryfan, Y Garn are also accessible, but only from the Ogwen Valley.

BRAINTEASER

On a recent trip Digger found himself near the Bull Ring when he thought that he was on the way home from the N.E.C. On a previous occasion Clive Russell had me trogging miles across rough moorland to a grid reference which he thought was the Chatsworth Tower – it wasn't. Shrouded in the mists of time there was the occasion when a large posse of Oreads was lost on Moel Hebog. Well, it was misty at the time, and I have to admit to being one of them. Navigation? Rubbish!

Cheese Shop Answers.

I thought that this navigation problem was within the capacity of a halfwit, and not worth the bother of an explanation. However, from the altercations which have resulted, maybe this is not so.

Note that walking takes five times as long as riding. Thus, five minutes of footslogging only takes one minute in the saddle, a SAVING OF FOUR MINUTES. I left the car park at 10.00 expecting to arrive at the shop at 10.30, but the hot toddy in the pub took 20 minutes, so that I rode up to the shop door at 10.50, noting as I did so that if I had dumped the bike at the pub and walked the last bit to the shop without stopping for a drink, I would have reached the shop at the same time, viz. 10.50. By biking the last part instead of walking, I had to "save" twenty minutes by riding for five. (Yes, five times four does equal twenty, that's the hard maths bit!). So, the itinerary is – start at 10.00, reach the pub at 10.25, imbibe until 10.45 and ride for five minutes to the shop for 10.50. This checks against the corresponding walking time from the pub of twenty five minutes, to arrive again at the shop door at 10.50.

Ernie Phillips

Congratulations to Hereward Tresider with this answer:

"20 minutes is 4/5 of the time it would have taken to walk from pub to shop.

Therefore 25 mins is walking time from pub to shop, and so 5 mins is the cycling time.

Deduct this from the 30 minutes to cycle the whole way and add to departure time to give a time of arrival at the pub of 10.25. A bit early for the hard stuff!

Hereward Tresidder "

NEXT EDITION

For the July edition it is essential that all material reaches me by **SAT June 23 rd.** (but the earlier the better) I look forward to hearing from **PAUL GARDNER, GILLIAN HEYS** and **BRIAN WEST.**

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 (Newsletter Editor)