



OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

NEWSLETTER FOR OCTOBER 2000

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Oct 3 (Tue)	Ockbrook indoor meet
Oct 7/8	Golden Oldies T-Y-W
Oct 15 (Sun)	Bonsall Bash
Oct 21/22	Coniston Casual Supper
Nov 4 (Sat)	Heathy Lea bonfire
Nov 7 (Tue)	Ockbrook indoor meet

Indoor Meets

Indoor meets are held at 8 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the months October to March at the Royal Oak in Ockbrook.

3 October. Ed Douglas

Ed Douglas will kick off the indoor winter with a talk on Alison Hargreaves about whom he published a book last year. Alison was brought up in Belper and was a member of the Matlock based Derwent MC and well known to many Oreads. This promises to be a most interesting talk. Ed tells me he will speak about other women climbers as well.

7 November. Andy Kirkpatrick

Andy (or "Bigwall Andy" as your receipt from Outside may betray) will give an illustrated talk entitled Fly or Die: Eight Trips up the Captain. Some Oreads heard Andy speak last winter about his big-walling in Patagonia and on Les Droites. This time he will be speaking about his experiences in Yosemite and may (or may not) talk about the trip he made at Easter up Zenyatta Mondatta ("old wave A5") with Airlie Anderson and our very own Esmond Tresidder.

I hope to run a members' slide evening in December. If you have some fairly recent

pictures you would like to show, please let me know.

Oct 7/8th Golden Oldies Tan-Yr – Wyddfa Shirley Wainwright

I haven't received details from Shirley, but I don't think this meet needs much explanation anyway. Please 'phone Shirley if you want to go. (Note for new members to the club – this meet is aimed at people of above average age, but I don't think Shirley will wish to exclude anyone)

Oct 15th Bonsall Bash Keith Gregson

Meet at 10:00 for a prompt 10:15 start at Middleton Top.

We shall follow the H.P. Trail heading towards Brassington for a couple of miles to the top of the Hopton Incline (latecomers could join us here by parking at Harboro'). Here we turn right, up over the hill to meet and follow the bridleway leading to Grangemill via Griffie Grange. At the quarry go through the gate and head down the field to cross the Via Gelia and hence diagonally up through trees, then straight up the field to The Beeches Farm (watch out for the dog) and Ible.

Follow the road (right) through Ible and in a quarter of a mile take the footpath on the left heading diagonally up the hill in the general direction of Bonsall via Upper Town to descend steeply to the Kings Head. We shall harry a while here! It's a proper pub!

The way home is straight, but steep. Follow the road down through the village and the valley to the old "Pig o' lead", sadly now defunct. Cross the main road and follow the path via the mill pond, then right and so up to Middleton. Head up the hill out of Middleton to pass the old

quarry and pick up the bridleway leading back to Middleton Top.

I look forward to a good turnout and an enjoyable day out (and inn).

Oct 21/22 Coniston Casual Supper John Salmon

John Salmon has taken over the running of this meet from Tony Howard, but it will follow the same format as recent years. The Church Hall at Coniston has been booked for accommodation at £3 per night. The supper will be at 7.30 for 8.00pm in the Black Bull at Coniston.

Please 'phone John Salmon to book your place. John will tell you how to get to the Church Hall if you don't already know and he will need to discuss your menu choices in advance.

FUTURE EVENTS

4th Nov (Sat) Bonfire party at Heathy Lea. Roy Eyre

I will be at the hut from Saturday morning to collect wood for the fire. Any help with this would be appreciated. So come along with your fireworks and beer and help make the evening go with a bang.

Nov 25th Oread Annual Dinner Shirley Wainwright

7pm for 7.30 start at the Green Man Ashbourne.

Menu:

Cream of vegetable soup

Roast Beef & yorkshire pudding
Roast and New Potatoes
Selection of Vegetables

OR

Roasted Peppers stuffed with wild rice and herbs
(vegetarian)

Apple pie with either ice cream or custard

Coffee

Price £15.00

Please send your cheques, made payable to Oread MC, and your menu choices to:

The Green man car park holds only approx 12 cars and we need to leave spaces for residents cars. Car parking is available on the supermarket site at the bottom of the alleyway - free after 6pm.

Accommodation at the Green Man for the dinner is £30.00 single B&B per person and £50.00 double B&B. Members book their own accommodation.

Please do not leave your bookings too late and say if you have any food allergies when you book, also say if you have any preferences who you wish to sit next to.

Shirley Wainwright (otherwise Aunty).

PAST EVENTS

Who's the BARMYest in 2000?

I've finally been persuaded to give a result, much against my better judgement and principles! The point of the exercise being to have an enjoyable day out and perhaps do one or two things that you wouldn't normally do.

However, I'm pleased to report that the scoring system worked almost perfectly in that my team were winners. The Tressiders fell for the stepping stones ploy, finally giving up the search at the top of Grindsbrook! Snod was unable to stand after the seventeenth pub and Mick & Daryl burnt themselves out after a mere 6 hours.

Much fun was had and it was excellent to give and receive some old fashioned banter on virtually all the crags. By some impressive coincidence most of us were in the Grouse during the rain storm where we magnanimously drank a toast to those less fortunate! Rob and Esmond were seen shortly afterwards in full swimming regalia.

Here then is a summary of the efforts:

Snod, Stoffer, Roget, Mike, Toby & Benjy : 236 points

penalty : 50 points - there are no stepping stones outside the Robin Hood!

bonus : 50 points - for taking their own Cairn with them!

net score : 236 points

Rob & Esmond Tressider : 294 points

penalty : 25 points - inappropriate dress code. Evening dress slit to the thigh without thermal underwear is not considered appropriate on British Hills.

penalty : 25 points - running whilst belaying, an extremely dangerous practise.

penalty : 3 points - incorrect spelling of Nelson's Nemesis.

bonus : 5 points – Esmond was clearly handicapped waiting for Rob.

net score : 236 points

Neil & Tracy : 63 points

penalty : 4 points - Neil carried all the gear.

bonus : factor 4 – he was in Tracey's rucksack.

net score : (63 minus 4) times 4 = 236 points

Mick & Daryl : 236 points

bonus: 30 points – I felt sorry for them, they started late.

penalty : 30 points – on second thoughts, sod that!

net score : 236 points

Rock, Keith & Michael : 246 points

penalty : 10 points - the Eagle Stone was not climbed in proper style, i.e. no rope was used.

net score : 236 points

Congratulations to everyone who took part, and thanks for making the effort.

Alpine Meet - Courmayer.

This year's "unofficial" meet to the Alps went very well with over 25 members and family attending at various times. These included the extended Hayes family, the Lancasters, the Bashforths, the Hopkinsons, the Abberlys, John Green, Chris Radcliffe & Jill Heyes. The campsite in the Val Ferret was great with fine views of the mountains from the tents, and booking in advance ensured a good site together. We were even blessed with, according to some locals the best weather of the summer, which wasn't saying a great deal up to that point! Except for a 5-day spell of mediocre weather, and a couple of afternoon "crashes", you could not use the weather as an excuse during the 3 weeks of the meet.

A lot was achieved on and off the hill. Besides the usual excesses of cheap Italian wine and ice cream, alpine starts were not assisted by the discovery that the local supermarket sold a malt whiskey at £4.50 per bottle - the Oread bought the whole stock!

However despite these distractions the following was achieved :-

Mont Dolent (Mike, Richard, John & Pete)

Dent Geant (Chris, Jill & Richard)

Rochfort Ridge (John & Steve. Richard & Dawn)

Aig Croix (John & Bev)

Tour Ronde (Chris & Jill)

Dent Rouges de Triolet (various rock climbs varying 2 to 19 pitches and VS to E1) (Chris & Jill. Richard & Pete)

Aig de Savoie defeated Mike, Richard, Chris, Pete & Jill, although they did manage an extensive unguided tour of the Triolet glacier, before spending the afternoon cragging outside the hut.

Grand Capucin defeated Chris & Jill who discovered that cragging at nearly 4000m requires more clothes than a day out at Termed. Also a lot of serious walking was, done especially by the women, and in particular Dawn, not too mention low level cragging and running.

Achievement of the holiday probably goes to the non climbing party including the Hayes and Lancaster children who visited the Triolet hut which involved 1000ft. of via ferrata type climbing.

All in all a good meet and holiday.

The author apologises for, but accepts no responsibility for any inaccuracies due to the effects of cheap malt whiskey on the memory.

Richard Hopkinson.

Pembroke - August 2000

Friday evening was heralded in with a fantastic firework display over St George's Channel which lasted several hours. It seemed strange to be standing about the campsite drinking and talking with all the thunder and lightning providing spectacular effects over towards Ireland.

Saturday dawned cloudy, and so a mass walk around the coastal path was called for, though we did back the day each way by carrying climbing gear. And so when the sun came out we were able to bag a few routes on Pen Dal Aderyn and various other crags on route to Porth-clais. All but one was lucky enough to see a school of porpoises in the sound, sorry Joan!

Having made its appearance, the sun shone for the remainder of the meet and hence we were all encouraged to do Pembroke things so that much climbing, walking, cycling, swimming and sun-bathing was accomplished.

Once again the Pikes were at the forefront of activities, this time on account of their 25th wedding anniversary which started on Saturday and seemed to last the best part of the week. Derrick Carnell also had his 100 and 101st birthday parties which were celebrated in fine style. I'm sure that I am speaking for everyone present in wishing both parties "Many Happy Returns" and saying a big thanks for their excellent hospitality.

One of the locals also wishes to express thanks for our presence. "Brok" enjoyed Graham's cheese, the Pike's bread and sundry gourmet items from the Wren's larder.

Many thanks to everyone who came and contributed to a great weekend. Included were: Mick & Jill, Stewart & Edith, Tony & Barbara, Vince & Tina, Roy & Chris, Derek & Joan,

John & Jenny, Neil & Tracey, George, Ray, Tony, Stuart & Edith, Mick & Jill, Mike & Sue, (Pattie & Derek) times 2, Graham & Margaret, Nick & Pam, Richard & Dawn, and of course Charlotte, Eileen, Emma, Michael and myself.

To those present and not mentioned, I'm sorry. To those not present and not mentioned, we hope to see you next year.

All the best, Keith Gregson

September Saunter - 10th Sept

An average turn-out of approx. 25 persons, boosted by the presence of the immaculate Gadsbys and their extended entourage. Of course the arrival of the Gadsbys is enough to put any meet leader on his mettle, and I am no exception - rather like receiving the fashion editor from Vogue. Wearing gear that was second hand 20 years ago one can only feel conspicuously inadequate before this display of the latest Paramo in all its multitudinous coloured layers .

Then there's the actual walk. Navigation must be inch perfect for this Grand Master of the Monday Elite. So, in general, it was a nervous occasion with some anxious sighting of elusive stiles, and an abortive attempt to get so far in front they didn't know where I was.

A small contretemps, when the party inspected the elevation of Sharpcliffe Hall, reminded Uschi of her Bavarian roots and the female owner (plus dogs), who sallied forth to make war, was given a stern reminder of her cultural inferiority. The possibility that the lady compainant may have been deshabelle' when someone beamed in with the bonocs is just a guess. But I don't really know as I'd pressed on to Combes by then, where Gregson fulminated on the many deficiencies of the RSPB. But it was a good day and a few pints at the Boat, Cheddleton, restored my confidence while we waited several hours for the Eyres to be served their roast beef with all the Sunday trimmings. At least Digger wasn't there to make terrier like diversions into adjacent counties, and Burgess was wreaking havoc elsewhere - off the West coat of Scotland they said. So it could have been worse.

I think everyone more or less enjoyed their day in the country and, for the first time in the 50 year history of Oread Meets, the Meet Leaders subsequently received a letter of appreciation from one who took part. Quite remarkable really.

Harry Pretty.

SHORT NOTICES

HUT NEWS

The work on the repair to the sewer pipe at Tan yr Wyddfa which was due to commence on September 5th, as been re-scheduled to start on September 25th the same conditions of use will apply as published in the September newsletter.

HUT FEES

Will all members who have used the huts over the Summer period and have not paid their hut fees, please forward them to me A.S.A.P. Colin Hobday.

TAN-YR-WYDDFA - CAR PARKING

Complaints have been received that Oread cars violating the conditions of agreement with the National Park (all vehicles should park beyond the post) have recently obstructed the farm access gate to the Snowdon track. In view of this current situation, the committee requests that all members and guests should conform.

As the farmer often comes with a trailer and needs a large turning space, please do not park near the gate. If in doubt, see the notice board in the hut.

(The following comment was received anonymously - Ed)

A modern parable illustrates the dire consequences of ignoring this warning.

A contemporary equivalent to Cornelius Tacitus the Story Teller relates that one R.G.Pettigrew was recently interrupted in his early morning contemplation of Indian Erotica and required to

move his car to allow access for Edgar's tractor and trailer. Lesser persons were dispatched to move the offending vehicle as the great man, attired only in dhoti and Darjeeling jock strap, was no sight for a God fearing Welshman on a Sunday morning.

Our hero, once the great white hope of a fading Imperial power, modern international icon in all matters concerning access and conservation, was greatly dishonoured by this lapse and subsequently fled to the Indian sub-continent to plead indulgence at the feet of the Dalai Lama. Accompanied by his faithful bearer, Ernesto Phillipus, he crossed the great plain of Rajasthan grinding clouds of devotional petals into dust, spurred on by fiery beacons on every hand, only to find on his arrival that, forewarned by the fiery portents, 15,000 Tibetans had fled North back to Tibet. The Dalai Lama had simply disappeared.

"While Vishnu weeps doth Siva smile"

The 2001 provisional meets list

First: many thanks to my predecessor, Mike Hayes, who has done most of the work on this list. The list is provisional. I have marked the most glaring omissions with an asterisk. If you would like to lead one of these meets please get in touch with me. In addition there are still some blank weekends. If you have constructive ideas about places which you would like to visit with the Oread, again please let me know. Bear in mind the "Burgess formula" which requires that away meets should not occur on consecutive weekends.

The last edition of the meets list will appear in the same A4 format with either the December or the January newsletter.

Membership list

Tony Howard has taken over as owner of the "Master" membership list from the Treasurer and Tony has sent me the list for inclusion in this month's newsletter. However, for a number of reasons (I am having a crisis at work and hence short of time to deal with it, the Oct newsletter is a big one anyway, etc.) I would like to delay sending it until the Nov newsletter. My apologies to all concerned.

Brain teaser

Jack Ashcroft replied to last month's teaser correctly with the answer that Mt Kenya was first climbed in 1899 by H.Mackinder and party.

I don't have a brain teaser for this month, so Jack automatically wins the bottle of Malt Whisky to be presented at the annual dinner (what's your choice of malt Jack?).

For the record, a Parisian baudrier is a type of improvised chest harness.

NEXT EDITION

For the October edition it is essential that all material reaches me by **SAT Oct 21st** (but the earlier the better). I look forward to hearing from anyone who might wish to comment on the Dovedale Dash.

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