

OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB
NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 1964.

Well, part of this newsletter was started in early November with the intention of this being a Christmas Number. - a Happy Belated New year to All Oreads and friends! It's back to a small monthly news sheet after this edition so please let me have your contributions as soon as possible so that all news printed can be topical.

One of the most important events in 1964 will be the once monthly meeting of the Oread at the new Scout Hall Borrowash. The first evening will be TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY at 7.30pm. IT WILL TAKE THE FORM OF A

GRAND SOCIAL EVENING ORGANISED BY PETE JANES

Regular Once Monthly meets will be held at Borrowash on the second Tuesday in each month. I am sure that you will all give this new venture your fullest support. It is only by that support that a once monthly meet of this kind can be a success. Bring along your friends and pass the word around. The Scout Hall is situated in Borrowash and is easy for both the Notts and Derby sections to find. For some time now it has been voiced that something other than the 'Bell' meet should be arranged. (We will continue to meet at the 'Bell' on all other Tuesdays of course). Something different will be arranged each month, Film Shows talks Etc., Please be as prompt as you can. Pete -Brown Owl - Janes will be there to welcome you, you need not wear shorts.

Another important date is Wednesday January 29th at 7.30pm when

Ian Howell will talk on CLASSIC ALPINE ASCENTS

This illustrated lecture is being organised by the Oread and is in aid of the British Karakoram expedition 1964. The place is the Art Gallery Derby, Tickets are 3/6 and can be obtained from Burgess or myself. Derrick Burgess has gone to some considerable effort to arrange this lecture and I'm sure you will all help out and make it a success. If you feel that you can sell a ticket or two please don't hesitate to ask for some.

To save putting out another meets circular here is the information about the weak end meet at the Club Hut. Barry Williams is the leader. The meet will be held on FEBRUARY 22nd. Book your place in the Hut (With the meet leader). Camping is allowed at the farm close to the hut.

Finally a word about the A.G.M. Don't leave it too late to change the rules or propose your friends for Committee Etc. If you don't like the way the club is being run, now is your big chance. I can say nothing more here but I have heard that there should be quite a lot of stirring and excitement at the meeting.

Once again all the best for 1964, lets make it a good Mountaineering Year.

Geoff Hayes

Congratulations to Janet and (President) Jack Ashcroft on the birth of their Son just before Christmas. Carry on the good work Jack!

Wanted a pair of size 8 approx Ski Boots. Any offers to Tom Frost. Tom has at last decided to invest in another pair of Boots, the set he uses at the moment were his fathers and are 35 years old! It is expected that he will present the boots (if he can get another pair) to the Norwegian National Ski Museum in Oslo.

DON'T FORGET TOM FROST STILL REQUIRES ARTICLES FOR THE OREAD JOURNAL.

MARSDEN - ROWSLEY 1963.

JIM KERSHAW.

Like many another exile I am occasionally ~~seized~~ with moods of nostalgia for the region where I was born. I long for springtime in the rhubarb fields where the dark rivers meander through the spoilheaps of the West Riding. In the greener hills to the west, the grimy minarets of Marsden beckon the pilgrim on. I was not alone among the faithful there as I left a Huddersfield tram and enquired the way to the Pettigrew Memorial from a wandering Sikh. Erected on the site of the Marsden Gas-Works the plaque is inscribed

" In gratitude from those who knew
Robert Gavin Pettigrew".

The 9.40 train from Manchester discharged a select company. (as Welbourne says by invitation only). Burgess, Pretty, Faulkner, George Sutton, Janes, Ashcroft, Dave Williams and Wes Haydn. A screech of bathchair tyres began to race down the incline to the Ramsden Supper Rooms and the Tetley House next door.

I will not weary you with details of the Marsden - Rowsley route itself. I think Phil Faulkner is missing the point a little when he complains that nobody finished the walk. The thirty or forty miles of desolate moor between Marsden and Rowsley are merely a canvas on which a series of incidents and characters are painted. The picture varies in quality and size from year to year.

These were the highlights of 1963. A fine Saturday (many of those present had never before seen Black Hill); Dave Williams' Instant Soup which exhausted all fuel supplies; the despatch of Janes by Burgess down Crowden Brook, to perish in machine gun fire - he survived however to provoke an incident with the landlord at the "Yorkshire Bridge" - Pretty abbreviates; Ashcroft really does know the way across Bleaklow; Faulkner threatens to write to the Newsletter about the lack of enthusiasm; I retire at "Fox House" to give his case greater weight.

I really must complete this walk some time.

OREADS IN SHORTS

" she will be a welcome edition to the swelling ranks of females in the club" - a paragraph from a recent letter supporting an application for membership!

Roger Turner is the Oread representative on the Peak Park Planning Board.

OREADS IN SHORTS - NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 1964

Quote by Chuck Hooley "and ~~she~~ does not know me from Adam when ~~I~~ ^{I've} got my clothes off" (Even with that beard Chuck?)

Knives forks and spoons are urgently required at the club hut. If you can help please contact C. or Margaret Hooley.

The recent Peak Park Planning Board report contains many interesting items. Colin Hobday has a copy of the report if you wish to borrow one to see what is going on in our nearest climbing area.

NEW MEMBERS

Celia Berry, 3, Dorchester Road, Leicester.
Proposed Geoff Hayes. Seconded Gordon Gadsby.

Paul Grainger. 44 Hall Drive, Chilwell, Notts.
Proposed Eric Wallis. Seconded Geoff Hayes.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP.

Ian Flint 10, Stevenson Crescent, Sutton in Ashfield, Notts.
Proposed Gordon Gadsby. Seconded Colin Hobday.

LOST

On the Ilam Fireworks meet a POLJOT watch was lost by Jim George of the Rugby M.C. Jim says he would be very grateful of any assistance in tracing this watch - immediately recognisable because it is running at approximately 2½ times the accepted rate - it also stops frequently. He offers a reward. Any news to the editor please.

WINTER SPORTS IN SCOTLAND.

British railways are again offering cut rate travel for skiers. If there is any snow this year the Cairngorms should be as popular as ever. Hoping to repeat last years successes a small group of Oread Males will be wandering the Ski slopes day and night at the end of February. Anyone interested in joining the party should speak to Janes or Wally Smith. I expect Pretty will be there trying to bring his local guide book up to date!

PEAK PARK WARDEN TRAINING SCHEME.

A further warden training course is to be held at Edale commencing 7th March 1964. The course is open to anyone over 17½ years of age and consists of attending lectures at Edale on two Saturday afternoons and evenings from 3.00pm to 5.00pm and 6.00pm to 8.00pm and accompanying existing patrols on four Sundays. It will include instruction on map and compass work, hints on equipment, advice on how to walk on the hills and first aid and Mountain rescue tuition. The Peak Park Planning Board are willing to consider the payment in appropriate cases, of up to 75 per cent of the approved cost of travelling and overnight accommodation to wardens who complete a training course. For further details write to the Planning Officer, Aldern House, Bakewell.

ASSISTANCE AT GLENMORE LODGE.

Eric Langmuir has recently taken up his appointment as Warden of Glenmore Lodge. He would welcome any offers of assistance from experienced Club members in Mountain Craft, Climbing (rock or Snow) skiing and sailing.

SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK WARDENS.

Almost half the Oread Committee are now Snowdonia Wardens (No you don't get travelling cash!). They can be immediately recognised by their green badge and large arm band. It's better to keep well out of their way on the hill or you may get "shot at" by the large whistle which is part of all good wardens kit! If you wish to join this clan Chuck Hooley can provide details.

HUT NEWS - JANUARY 1964

The Oread Newsletter is a medium by which news and messages can be passed on to members. As Hut Custodian, through this medium I would like to convey a message, one of my periodic thrusts, designed to stimulate the memory ~~to~~ that you have a hut and someone looks after it for you. Someone who is prepared to become unpopular if the situation demands.

On a recent visit to Wales, myself, my wife, and two guests spent the week end ferrying twenty mattresses from Harlech to the hut. These were placed in the bedrooms and arranged to suit the varying dimensions of the beds.

When I went to the Hut three weeks later I found that not only had the mattresses been moved from room to room but also furniture, ie., dressing table and chairs. I put it to members and possible guests that I deplore this kind of procedure and I wish articles of this nature to be used and left as they are found.

The Hut committee and myself plan and arrange the amenities at the Hut to suit everyone, not individuals.

One final shot for the completely selfish member or guest whom I have no time for, if you must move things around to satisfy that alien part of your character, then put them back before you leave.

As a result of this chopping and changing there is a tear in a new mattress that had been moved, also a good gouge down to bare wood on a newly painted door.

C. Hoolcy,
Hut Custodian.

There are Hut Fees outstanding from several members will you please send them by post.

HUT BOOKINGS

January 24/26 1964 Block Booking Derby Nomads

February 21/23 Oread Club Meet

February 28/1 March Block Booking Wessex M.C.

Please make a note of the above dates in your diary.

The Hut is reserved for members use on the week end of Feb 22nd when an official meet will be held. Bookings to the meet leader please.

Letters to the Editor.

18, Holkham Avenue,

Sir,

Chilwell, Notts.

8th November 1963.

I like beginning like that - just "Sir,". It gives one a certain sense of authority, like writing to the Times. This brief recognition of formality is of course followed by a short, terse, well informed letter calculated to prevent the Editor from getting anywhere near the "This correspondence is now closed" stage.

That letters to the Times are anything but genuine is never questioned. However the papers read by "Bottom People" are probably written by the editorial staff themselves.

An interesting conjecture concerning authorship of correspondence arose in my mind after reading a recent letter in the Oread Newsletter (the one which posed the question "what is happening to the Oread?")

Did Hayes write this and then with all the cunning of those who are wont to slip in odd things (like week ends with continental girl friends on their own ground without telling anyone until afterwards) - slip in an editorial comment under this anonymous letter to dissuade any assumption that he was the author himself?

Or was the author of Irish extraction? This latter suggestion might at first appear to be ridiculous, but a careful reader will have noticed the peculiar phrase: "This I'm SHURE the members would not want to happen"

It was fairly obviously written by someone who goes to the Derby Bell. I reckon Hayes wrote it - in which case I'm wasting my time like a B.F. by pandering to his attempts to stir it up and get something for the Newsletter.

However just to cover my steps and call heads as well as tails (in case it wasn't Hayes and the "active member" was being a bit serious). Serious? I'm in danger of getting serious on this one.

This letter is the third or fourth of its kind to appear in the Journal of Newsletter. The last one was in 1960. It was a letter of resignation (after about a dozen years in the Club I'm getting a bit resigned myself!) This '60 letter was very well replied to by Laurie Burns and another in the November Journal of that year. (Look it up in the library - we've got one you may be surprised to know).

The interesting difference in this latest letter is that it was written by someone who not only has the cheek to remain anonymous, but uses the pseudonym "Active Climber" note that he didn't write "Active Oread".

Letters to the editor continued.....

He asks us to remain a club and not become an association. Now what in the name of a nymph does he mean by that? Well I'll tell you.

My dictionary (Pocket Oxford) says "Club", Heavy stick with one thick end". Obviously this is what he means by dead wood and you know which is the thick end without me pointing that out!

Further down the dictionary says! "Structure with knob at end" - I think this is irrelevant (or irresponsible).

Further down still we came to the real core: and the book says "association united by common interest". There you have it! Your correspondent is not being critical after all, he is merely saying that the club is rapidly becoming a club. So it looks as if after 14 years we're going to make it!

Thanks for the encouragement!

Yours etc.,

J. Roger Turner.

LETTERS! NEWSLETTER JANUARY 1964

~~Birmingham~~

Dear Editor,

Through the medium of your newsletter may I seek advice on some climbing matters which might be of general interest.

Is it possible for some avant - garde member to offer suggestions as to which nailing patterns are most highly thought of this year? The tricouni edge nail appears to enjoy popularity but new types of clinker are available so possibly someone has some useful experience to impart on this most interesting subject. Illustrations would be a splendid idea although no doubt difficult to reproduce in the newsletter.

A further recent innovation too, is the lighter type of Beales' Hempen Alpine line which seems to be a great improvement upon the heavy manila in use at the present time. Does this give satisfaction?

Whilst reading the letter of "active member" in the most recent Newsletter it is difficult to resist the temptation to ask if whether, to some degree, he is confusing vociferousness with interest and is this partly responsible for the absence of some members on meets?

Yours sincerely,

John Fisher.

Well at last a letter to the Editor has stirred up a bit of feeling and even made two people write and reply. There were even mutterings heard just before a committee meeting about the author of this first letter. No Roger it was not me I'm afraid. I can't blame you for thinking it might be. As you know I often use the double bluff but not this time although as I said before I agreed with much of that put into the letter. But I think the point has been made. Finally although I can't tell who wrote that 'active Member' letter I do know that he attends far more Club functions than most members, perhaps that is what he is getting at.

OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TO BE HELD AT THE TWA ROOM BEHIND THE "PRINCE OF WALES" BASLOW
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22nd 1964 at 7.30pm.

Despite arguments (at great length in committee) the A.G.M. will once again be held in that notorious room in Baslow. It is hoped that a better place will soon be found for the Photographic Meet and the A.G.M. somewhere in the Peak not far from an edge. (Any ideas?)

Members are requested to read club rules regarding an A.G.M. particularly those which state that Proposed alterations to rules must be submitted to the secretary not less than 28 days before an A.G.M. Also as rule 9. states - all nominations for officers and committee must be received by the secretary at least 14 days before an A.G.M.

So if you have great ideas for the club and want to get rid of this unimaginative and tottering committee (That includes me) and elect a team with some new ideas and a bit of drive, you know what to do.

SOME RECENT AND FUTURE MEETS

G. Hayes

First of all a word about the LANGDALE MEET which is to be held on FEB 8th. Brian Cooke reports that the hut is overbooked but that he is getting further accommodation at "The Barn" and across the road, but he must know the names of all those who want a bed as soon as possible. He can't book another hut until he has those names. So please book now, it looks like being a very popular meet indeed and a few of the Old faces will be given an airing.

DINNER MEET - NOVEMBER 1963 - NEWSLETTER, JANUARY 1964

It seems a long time since the dinner, but for those who did not attend here are a few details. Ashcroft ^(President) spoke at great length about marriage and children and babies, the only thing he did not suggest was that the Club Hut should be turned into a day nursery for the large Oread families, both actual and planned! Burgess also spoke at length (45min) and very successfully pulled all the guests to pieces - he has been ignored by most of them since. ~~the dinner~~ Chris Bonnington one of the chief guests talked about Stanage and not the Eiger. ~~Raf~~ Jones told one or two of the most recent jokes. He was overheard asking members for some new ones just before the dinner. ~~Jack~~ Jack Longland took great delight in quoting from the newsletter, trying mistakes, grammatical errors and all, in his speech. The Editor wishes to inform Jack that he was educated in Nottinghamshire and not Derbyshire. Oliver Jones again put on a good performance. It was a shame that we did not hear more from Oliver as he was cut short because of lack of time. To Many Oreads Oliver's little one man show is one of the highlights of the dinner. Nugs were this year presented to Mr & Mrs Burgess, Mr & Mrs Caris. ~~and~~

BULLSTONES MEET - 1963 - NEWSLETTER JANUARY 1964

Perhaps the largest number ever of Oreads were on Bleaklow for this meet. The unfortunate thing was that there were two separate groups which never actually managed to connect.

Harry Pretty lead the Friday Night group in triumph to a cabin in Lower Small Clough. The party was about twelve strong and included Gibson (returned from the dead). Apparently the hut was over full and the Vice President was sent outside to sleep (he is the fattest of the group). The Hooleys and Langworthys tried to connect with Prettys Mob, but after wandering about somewhere near to the correct clough and, later at the head of the Derwent, they managed to get into Bullstones Lower Cabin about midnight. Welbourn, Hobday, Rod Craddock and Margaret Lowe also arrived late in the evening at Bullstones top Cabin, after doing a double trip of Derwent Edge Etc. I have to put Etc. because no one knows where they went, not even themselves! I was in the other party, 12 strong and consisting of mainly the Nottm

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Various routes were used to get back to Yorkshire Bridge, some went over the tops, in thick cloud and others took the road back beside the Dams. A special mention must be made of the fine effort of Peter Scragg who walked with his father to and from Bullstones from Yorkshire Bridge. Peter is only 13! On the Saturday night he was going much stronger than some of the old timers.

SOME RECENT AND FUTURE MEETS continued.....

CHRISTMAS AT THE CLUB HUT.

Those who were lucky enough to get a place at Tan Y Wyddfa over the Christmas holiday spent one of the nicest festive seasons yet. The meal on Christmas day was provided in Capel Curig where we were joined by Kershaw, Fisher and Burns who were living at a hut in Festiniog.

For the first time in three years the Gadsbys decided not to Bivvy on top of Snowdon on Christmas Eve. Their place was taken by Barry Williams (an old hand at this game) and Ian Flint and 'Bill'. Unfortunately the weather on Christmas Eve was not in the best tradition and the gallant four were driven down by high winds and rain after reaching the summit at about 1am. "We were wet to the skin a minute after leaving the Hut!

Boxing day was fine and bright. The party that went to Cwm Cylin had a good time on the Great Slab (not much Ice) and the walk back along the ridge to Y Garn in the moonlight was a memorable one. That day another party went over to the Molewins hoping to find ice for skating, but what ice there was lay at an angle of 50 degrees.

Eric Wallis was on form as usual and did the hard routes on Tremadoc. He also had a bit of an epic on Main Wall when one member of his party was unable to do the 90ft pitch and they had to rope down most of the cliff in the rain and cloud.

Tryfan was visited on the Saturday and Lockwoods Chimney was the centre of attraction on Saturday Night (Paul Craddock, Rod Craddock, Bill and Sandy) and on Sunday by the more mature members(?).

WELBOURNE'S DERBYSHIRE WALK.

Welbourne once again found a different area for his traditional walk which starts the meets in the new Year. This time it was a return flog from Longnor in the Dove Valley to Back Dane Cottage just about two miles from Winkle Village. Although I was not on the meet I have been hearing disturbing reports about young Paul Craddock who was either mauling or being mauled by the "Lion". Apparently he and she monopolised the fireside chair for the whole evening. Further details from Pete Jones.

Accommodation was at a Rover Scout Hut and was ideal for such a meet. The walk back by way of the Roaches was apparently very enjoyable. Those on the meet were - Burns, Dave Williams, Jones, Margaret Lowe, Ian (tea masher Skin) Flint, the Two Craddocks, Lenny, Doug Cooke, and of course Welbourne.

Please send all contributions for the next Newsletter to - G. Hayes,
1, Elm Ave.,
Beeston, Notts.

Harry Pretty has written a fine Appreciation of Cyril Machin. This will be printed in the next Cread Journal.