

O R E A D M O U N T A I N E E R I N G C L U B

N E W S L E T T E R

FEBRUARY 1966

The Death of Sid Webb after a fall on Ben Nevis was a great shock to all who had climbed and known him. A member of the Summit Climbing club, he was well known by many Oreads. Most years he attended the dinner and was always seen on the Ilam Meet. The funeral at Nottingham was attended by a number of Oreads and a wreath was also sent by the club. The committee have decided that a collecting box shall be placed in the room at the A.G.M. and any money collected given to the Summit to be used as they think fit. If any member unable to get to the A.G.M. would like to donate to this collection the Secretary will be pleased to hear from you.

NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 1966

At the first Committee meeting of the new year it was decided to change the rendezvous for the Tuesday evening informal Meet from the 'Bell' to the Willmot Arms, Borrowash. This decision may come as a surprise to those Oreads not living in the Derby area. For a considerable time the number of members getting into the 'Bell' has been very small indeed. The old hard core of Pretty, Janes, Handley, Burgess, Williams were there of course, but very few other members ever went even on Tuesdays before meets. It is sincerely hoped that the new venue in the rear bar at the Willmot will prove popular. The main advantages of this Pub at Borrowash are, more room to park cars (In the old days that was no problem in the Bell because few Oreads possessed such transport wonders and went to Derby to try and get a lift from those more fortunate). Borrowash is a little nearer to Nottingham (which is tipped to be the new seat of power in the club) (but keep your eyes on Coventry, Hebog is spreading the Oread gospel loud and strong in that area).

The Willmot Arms can be found on the Derby side of Borrowash village and is easily identified by a large tree lit with coloured lights, at least during dark winter nights. Please try and get along to support this new venue and try and restore some of that club spirit which has been sadly lacking during the week but not, I'm pleased to say on week end meets. The Borrowash Scout Hall will of course still be used for the once monthly indoor organised meet. The Committee and Meets Secretary hope to organise an interesting entertaining evening once a month during the year except for the months when outdoor climbing evenings are taking place. Any suggestions for lectures, talks, parties etc. would be welcomed from the body of the club.

Editorial Continued.....

Saturday evening March 5th is an important time for the Oread, the Annual General Meeting. Let us make it a good meet once again with plenty of climbing on both Saturday and Sunday (Camping at Frogatts farm below Birchens Edge) and an interesting useful meeting. Have you proposed your candidate for Committee? Remember this year we need a new Hut Warden, and Meets Secretary and a number of ordinary committee members and it is up to you to propose candidates, with their permission of course! The A.G.M. is the one time of year when any member of the club can go along and say what is right or wrong with the club. If there have been any complaints or praise for the Committee and club matters during the past year this is the chance to voice opinions and get things put right. The new Meets Sec will welcome suggestions for the new meets programme and offers to lead meets, the A.G.M. is the time to contact him (whoever he is).

Chuck Hooley is retiring from the post of Hut Warden after Four years of hard work. He has to devote more and more time to cave and Mountain rescue organisation. The thanks of all members go to our popular 'Warder' for a job well done!

Finally may I as Newsletter editor ask the members of the club for a little more support, or should I say some support. I have only received one article for this issue of the Newsletter since the last issue went to press in early November last year! I have no objection to writing fifty per cent of the Newsletter myself, but when it comes to 90% even Geoff Hayes begins to get a bit fed up. I realise the contents of the Newsletters recently have not been up to much but even a letter of criticism would be a sign that at least someone at least reads this sheet. Perhaps no one does read it and I'm wasting my time and your subs. The money spent on duplicating paper could be used to keep down your subscriptions which are due to go up this year. What do YOU think? it would be nice to get just one letter to print in the next issue, that is if you still want a Newsletter. This is an important subject that should be discussed at the A.G.M.- See you there.

G.H.

INDOOR MEET - BORROWASH JAN 11th

Ray Handley presented a fine evenings film show. The films booked for that evening were not available but will be shown on Feb 15th. Ray went along at short notice and gave a very good evening indeed. His film on the Zmutt ridge was very impressive indeed. An older film showed a much younger Burgess at work in Derbyshire. Chuck Hooley also took along a short film of the Club Hut including a working party. (we don't have them like that anymore thank goodness)

Quote by Handley at a recent committee meeting discussing new members-

"I think we ought to accept 'birds' on sight as long as they are not too much of a sight"

Put this date in your diary - May 13/15th. It is the date of the Wastdale meet. The Fell and Rock Club hut Brackenclough has been booked and will provide limited accommodation. There is of course good camping close by at the end of the lake

CLUB HUT WORKING PARTY OCTOBER 1965 J CORDEN

Members and friends present

Roni and Ernie Phillips, Roni and Les Langworthy, Chuck and Margaret Hooley, Peter Janes, Dave Williams, Laurie Burns, Jim Kershaw, Chris Martin, Lesley Kirkham, Dave Appleby, Judith Pountney, Eric Wood and Son, Ruth Williams Shirley, Roni Leeson and John Corden.

Ground Floor Work

The Kitchen walls and floor were cleaned down also pans and cutlery. Then the painting team took over and while they and everyone else worked away in semi darkness, - The Phantom electrician had struck again, the kitchen had two new strip lights fitted and the other lights in the hut had new shades. The "sparks" was flashing about with a screwdriver behind each ear and a pair of pliers in his mouth.

The lounge fireplace was the next to come under fire, it was completely rebuilt which should help the fire to heat the room more efficiently. The tortoise stove has been removed and the hole blanked off. The carpets and furniture were given a birthday.

The Hut Name Board over the front door was removed to outside the front door, this will allow more daylight into the hall. Also a new parking instruction board was put up outside to replace the wooden one.

The First Aid box was removed from the kitchen and placed in the drying room, the contents were begining to suffer from calor gas poisoning.

The Bog door frame was renewed completly. This was done under hazardous conditions, the weather and the constant stream of bodies wanting to use same!

The ideal boiler pipe which was broken was replaced also the check draft was restuded and the main drain pipe was replaced. A new draining board was fitted in the drying room. All windows were cleaned inside and out and also all curtains washed.

Upstairs work

The Bath Room was attacked and all the plaster and laths were removed down to the roof slates, after the dust had died down or rather was washed down with a drop of "Greenalls" the room was repainted throughout. The light was repositioned over the wash hand basin a new mirror hung on the wall. The front of the bath was boxed in - the whole room now shines like a new pin.

More work could have been done outside, where quite a lot is needed to tidy the grass and trees and generally all round to get it up to scratch, but with having the meet so late in the year it wasn't fit to do anything outside I think next year it should be held in the early part of the summer ie May or June. All the work that was arranged was carried with the party working very hard to make your hut more efficient and looking more respectable.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

Mr. Bob Gill of 37 Rounds Hill, Kenilworth, Warwicks, has applied for full membership to the Oread. Will members wishing to comment on his suitability for membership please write to the Hon Sec without delay.

Proposed Geoff Hayes. Seconded Clive Russell.

CHANGE OF ADDRESSES

Charlie and Mary Cullum have moved to a des Mod Res at 9 Buckingham Ave., Hurst Park, West Molesey, Surrey. (O S Sheet 170 grid ref. 138691). Any Oread visiting the waste lands of London and seeking refuge will be very welcome. Detailed instructions for finding the hut will be supplied on request. P.S. Charlies telephone No. is MOLEsey 7565.

Clive Russell who is working in the Wakefield area can be contacted during the week at W.R.C.C. Bridges Section,
Burton Street,
Wakefield,
Yorks.

Rusty's Derby address as shown in the Club Handbook is still correct.

Jim Kershaw can be found for a short time at least at 22, King Street,
Normanton,
Yorkshire.

Harry and Molly Pretty now living at Plot 3, Pond Road, Holbrook, Derby
Telephone Horsley 726.

Mike Clark has moved to 3, Forest Road, Markfield Road, Leicester.

Geoff Gibson is at 10 Cross Lane, Rothley, Leics.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

Eric Wood . 54 Oakover Drive Darley Abbey Derby. Proposed B. Pettigrew
Seconded. P. Janes

Miss Lesly Kirkham Proposed. C. Martin.
Seconded. C. Hobday.

Non Payment of Subscriptions.

The following have not paid subscriptions for last year (1965) and have therefore been removed from the list of members.

C. Cully

D. Widdows.

G. Lee.

P. Grainger

J. Wolfe.

Miss. M. Lowe

The following have resigned from the Oread having left the Midlands area.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Smith . T. Panther. B. Housley.

SOME RECENT CLUB MEETS.

Bullstones December 1965 - G. HAYES (EXTRACT)

Just a short report to tell that the meet was a great success despite no one getting within miles of Bullstones! I'm hoping that Pretty will come up with the full details of this epic. It deserves being reported in full detail, being a meet of the 'Vintage' type.

After gathering in the 'Nags Head' the party was called to order and marched swiftly around the village following Pettigrew ~~at the Pipes~~ on the bagpipes. Unfortunately he took the wrong track to the Barn and ended up at the rear of the file. This was to be Bob's finest hour. How he managed to play the Pipes all the way to Polterguist Barn no one will ever know! It was a fantastic effort, although by the sounds of his breathing during the remainder of that long cold night Bob must have blown a gasket in his right lung! Everyone slept in the snow that night because the barn was inches deep in churned up mud etc. I expect all were pleased to see ~~the~~ a fine sunrise over the Mam Tor Ridge.

To the strains of the Pipes (Pettigrew returned to Nottm) the team marched off in triumph over the lower slopes of Kinder. The descent from the Edge was not as difficult as envisaged. Pretty had stated earlier in the week, after a great snowfall, that the descent would be like going down the N face of Nevis! At the shooting Cabin on the clough the usual debate about going down to the Snake for the rest of the day was held. In the end only a few tough members resisted the temptation and went on to 'Drains in the Water' returning to the Barnsley Hut by way of Oyster Clough.

A grand night followed with Janes endeavouring to sell about 12 pints of Beer he had fetched in lemonade bottles from the 'Snake'. I have never before seen Pretty refuse Beer.

Because of the quantity of snow in the Snake area a number of people phoned home for skis. This resulted in a smaller number completing the walk at Bamford and the others having a day on the 'boards on the side of Oyster Clough and Geoff Hayes having the distinction of being the first Oread to have his Mother-in-Law on the Bullstones Meet!

There was no official Club Meet over Christmas. A few Oreads and friends spent the week end at the Hut or in the village of Rhyd Odu. The popular area with Club members this year was the Lake District and there was a big team in the Patterdale Area. The weather was very good without much snow on the tops although there was plenty of good ski-ing in North Teesdale

Welbourns Meet January 1966

Another well attended meet this. A hard walk from the Manifold to the Scout Hut in the Dane Valley and an even Harder return by way of the Dane, Flash and a treck down the Manifold. It was nice to see Dave Penlington and Paul Gardner out on this meet. They were pleased they had kept their walking boots supple with plenty of gardening during the last year!

OREADS IN SHORTS

A number of Oreads including a family or two are going to the Bernina in late July early August Period. Whilst this will not be an official club meet anyone interested should contact Jack Ashcroft. Camping will most likely be at Pontresina which is a good centre for the Bernina main peaks and near enough for Piz Badiale area.

Book News. "High Peak" by Eric Byne is not yet published but should appear early in March.

"Climbing Days" by Dorothy Pilley, an old classic of Mountain literature was recently reissued. It is the kind of book that should be on the shelf of all Mountaineers. There is even a rather delapidated copy on the shelves of the Club Hut Library. This new edition is published by Secker and Warburg at 42/- It has an eye catching cover and is good value for all people wishing to read about the popular routes in Britain as they were first climbed. First Published in 1935 this book still has an up-to-date feel about it.

A book of interest to all the hard men is "Rock Climbers in action in Snowdonia" by Tony Smythe photographs by John Clear. Published once again by Secker it should cost 30/- and be in the shops some time in April.

It is a very readable humorous book with behind the scenes information about the moderns. The photographs (all on the hardest of routes of course) are good. I expect people will purchase this book if only to read the name Roger Turner which appears on page 49!

I have just noticed that Penguin are publishing "Mountaineering - from Hill Walking to Alpine Climbing" by Alan Blackshaw at 18/6. Publication date is February 24th. The catalogue says that this is the first paperback on the techniques and geography of climbing and describes in full how to learn hill-walking, Rock Climbing and Alpine Mountaineering as well as where to go in England, Wales, Scotland and Europe. While doubting if this edition will sell as well as Lady 'C' it should prove a popular book even with the high price for a paperback. It is a Penguin Original, not a reprint from a hard bound volume. It should be very worth it.

Please note that those Oreads who ordered 'High Peak' from me will get their copies as soon as published. This date has been put back twice already.

Mountain Rescue Oread Team . NEWSLETTER - FEB '66

The Oread Team 'Alpha' along with other teams were called out on Sunday Jan 2nd. A walker was reported missing on Bleaklow. The team (all but 3 members) arrived at Slippery Stones at the head of the Howden Reservoir at approx 9am. Soon after the call out was cancelled because the person was reported safe at home after spending a cold night on the Moors. The team were thus able to talk about any fault in the call out system the following evening, ~~because~~ (a meeting had been arranged some time before). In fact many of the team on the morning of the alarm thought it was a Hooley fix to see if they could get out of bed on a Sunday morning. I think everyone was surprised that so many people were at home that week end. Anyway the team had a good Bash over to Bullstones so it was not a wasted day.