

MEETS CIRCULAR - MAY/JUNE 1976

Its climbing time again, the season has already started with a bang with something like 70 or 80 Creads out climbing over the Easter period. The next few weeks sees a very full callender so let's hope that the enthusiasm continues and that we get good weather.

The main thing to note from this circular is the date of the Extra-ordinary General Meeting which is to be held on June 15th at the Royal Oak, Ockbrook. It is vital that as many members as possible attend this meeting in order that the Club can press on with grant applications while money is still available. so please make sure that you are able to be there.

YORKSHIRE - MALHAM AREA 15th/16th MAY 1976

ROCK HUDSON

Dont miss this never to be repeated offer - a weekend meet in nearly inaccessible country - only recently explored, believed to be dominated by the unclimbed 100 meter 'Rawplug' face of Malhamsula Lingram, which is still in the grips of the icecream age. The area is roamed by the wild and little known Tyke tribe (Wochit!! Ed.) whos young girls go around naked, while their elders supply gallons of free ale to visiting mountaineers. This of course is only hearsay (or heresy! Ed.) as I know nothing of the area but was told to organise a meet there.

No! seriously, an area of good walking, with climbing on Gordale Scar, Malham Cove, and sundry other smaller crags.

I've arranged camping at the bottom of Gordale, adjacent to Gordale House GR SD 9143 6345, at a cost of 20p per night, 10p per car. There is running water and a toilet. For any arrangements see Keith Gregson at the 'Moon' as I am at present in exile in Tykonian.

STANAGE 23rd MAY 1976

KEITH GREGSON

This crag should need no introduction to any of us - so I won't! No doubt the trippers will be monopolising the southern end so I intend to take over the uncharted, and very nearly untouched, northern end. The party will therefor confine itself to the Stanage End - High Neb area, where no doubt we shall be able to find climbs to suit all tastes.

The meet is intended essentially as a one day job in preparation for the high hills of Skye but I shall be promoting the ale drought in the Wheatsheaf on the saturday night and will be pleased to see anyone else there. Otherwise I'll see you on the crag on sunday morning.

P.S. Definatly no chalkies!

Skye is a unique mountain area in Britain with the Black Cuillin giving an almost continuous area of rock, the main ridge rarely falling below 2500 feet. As far as I can remember there has not been an official Dread meet there for years so we can now make good this omission. I have been twice so far, but I have yet to see the hills - surely this time the weather must give me a break.

I have decided to camp in the vicinity of the Sligachan hotel, at least over the immediate holiday period, as in my experience the Glen Brittle site tends to get rather crowded at this time. The hotel is about 30 miles from Kyleakin on the Portree road, beyond Broadford, and there are several good campsites in the vicinity including a field opposite the hotel. I have checked with the hotel that there are no restrictions. However as I shall not be arriving until late on Saturday, would the first arrivals pick the most attractive site, bearing in mind there are likely to be 15-20 tents. There are no facilities - apart from the hotel.

Sligachan is central for the whole island, although unlike Glen Brittle it is not immediately under the ridge. There are good tracks which lead to Glen Brittle and to Camasunary and these give access to the northern part of the Cuillin. However it will be desirable to use transport to get round to Glen Brittle on the one hand and Loch Slappin (for the Blaven group) on the other - about 3/4 hr. drive in each case. Sligachan is also a good starting point for anyone wishing to travel to the many other interesting features on the island on an off day - such as the Old Man of Storr, the Kilt Rock and Waterfall and the Quiraing Hills. Finally there is the possible advantage of being close to a hostellery, although as it is the only one for miles around it gets desperately crowded.

Loch Corruisk, land-locked in the heart of the Cuillin, is one of the most magnificently remote points. There are boat trips from Elgol and we could organise one of these if there is sufficient interest.

The climbing is superlative in quantity and quality and there is something for everyone. The traverse of the main ridge, involving about 10,000' of ascent and descent, is one of the finest expeditions in the country - but one needs good weather as it is scrambling or moderate rock climbing for much of the way. It can be extended to include the traverse of Clach Glas and Blaven as well. It goes without saying that there are endless possibilities for walking.

There is a S.M.C. rock climbing guide in two volumes - £2.50 each and a Scottish Area Guide at £3.50. I believe there is a 2 1/2 inch O.S. map, but I haven't seen this. However a S.M.C. map 3 inches to the mile at 30p is also recommended.

To get onto the island there are three car ferries: Mallaig to Armadale, Glenelg to Kylerhea and Kyle of Lochalsh to Kyleakin. Although the furthest north this latter service is the one most generally used. There are frequent crossings starting from 06.30 hrs. on Saturday, 10.15 hrs. Sunday, & 05.30 other days. Crossing time 5 minutes.

I hear there is a breakaway party camping somewhere near Portree, but I look forward to seeing as many as possible at Sligachan. Should anyone require further information please contact me at the Moon or at 27 Edinburgh Road, Wingerworth, Chesterfield, Derbys, S42 6SE. Tel 0246-35940 or at work 0246-77211.

AGDEN ROCHES 5th/6th JUNE 1976

DAVE APPLEBY

This fine edge, with routes for all is set in a magnificent situation overlooking the Agden reservoir (old map 1" ref 05265933). We have made many visits to this crag which is steep, clean, and full of good classics as well as a smattering of 'thin jobs'. The camp site is situated at Walker House farm (Mr. Shepperd), Bradfield, which can be found on the Strines road. It is an idyllic spot and only a short walk from the pub.

As this will be my last Derbyshire weekend before we depart to New Zealand (two weeks later) I would like to smell some nostalgia. I therefore intend to spend the Friday night at Heathy Lea (and the Baslow pubs) moving on to Agden on the Saturday morning. If you can make it on the Friday night it would be good to have a beer with friends before I start drinking the bath water down under, if not - I'll see you on the crag.

The quickest route is via the M1 and Sheffield, leaving Sheffield on the A616 (northwards) to turn left approximately 3 miles from the city centre, along the B6077 towards Bradfield. Alternatively the scenic route can be followed which is via the Ladybower reservoir (hold your breath!) turning right onto the Sheffield road and turning left to Strines and Bradfield.

See me in the Moon or give me a ring should you require lifts or information.

NEW MEMBER

Congratulations to PETER ONEILL who was elected a full member at the Committee Meeting on May 3rd.

1976 Oread Journal

It is hoped to produce the next edition of the Club Journal at the annual dinner in November. As ever, the success of this project depends on contributions from members and so I look forward to receiving literary masterpieces from one and all! The copying facilities used allow reproduction of black and white photographs provided these have clear definition and with greater difficulty it can also be used for colour prints. I have included an example of the standard of reproduction possible in this newsletter and hope this will encourage members to include illustrations with their articles. I should mention that to produce such photographs is a lengthy procedure and material of this type should be presented 1 month before publication.

Editor. Jill Gregson.



size to be approx. 17' x 12' (See Map).

Pedestal - Heptonstall.

WELSH HUT PROJECT

PROGRESS REPORT

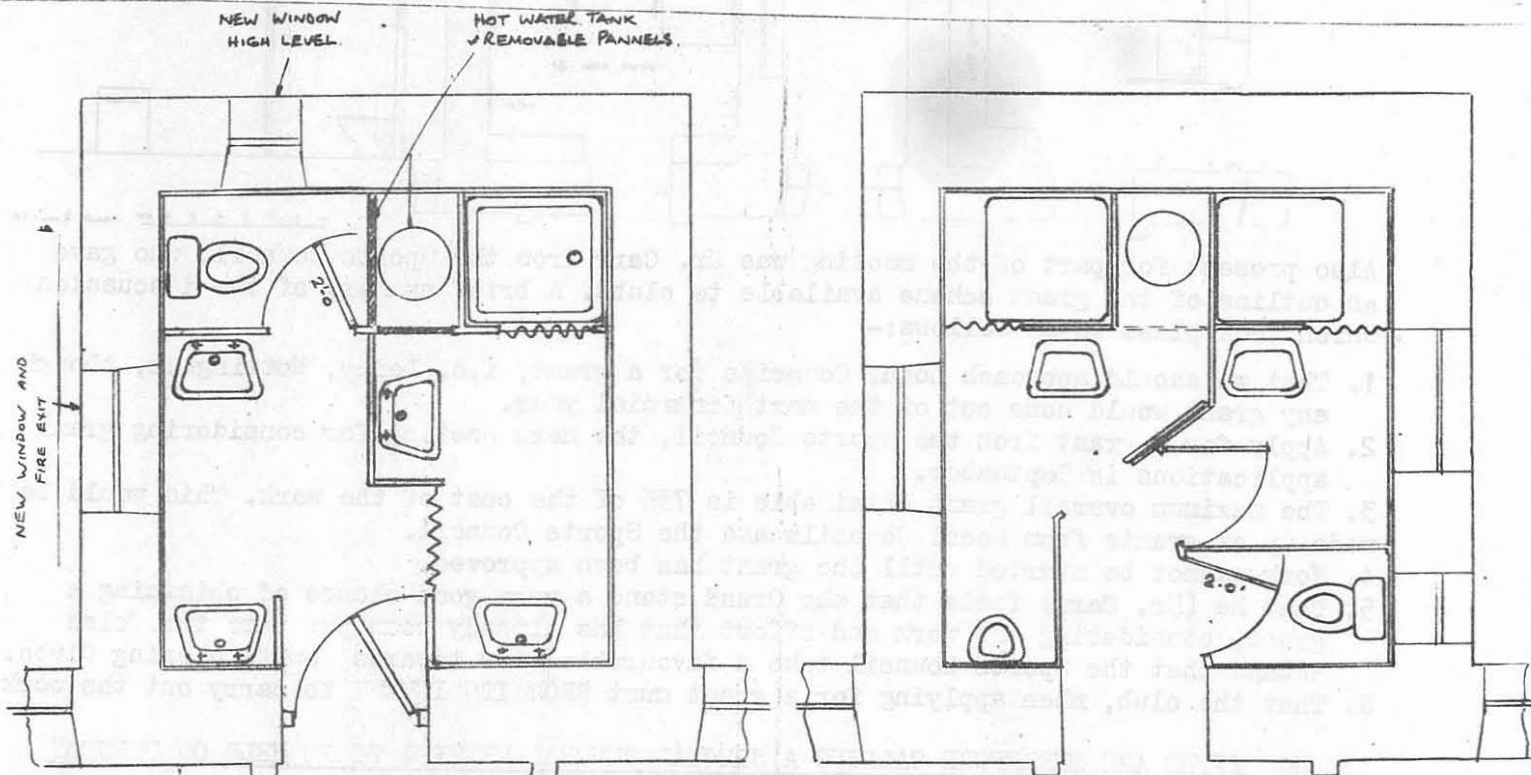
At a recent committee meeting, the project for improving the bathroom and drying room facilities were restudied, following letters sent to the committee plus a considerable amount of feedback, following discussions by members.

The Committee are therefore offering two alternative plans.

SCHEME A (Original Proposal)

The main objection seemed to be the layout of the bathroom, which with the various points made by members taken into consideration, the plans have been redrawn. From the diagram you will see, that there is now only provision for one shower unit, the toilet has been resited onto the outside back wall and includes four washbasins. Two washbasins to have a partition for use by the lady members. The drying room remains as the plan with a new, all purpose solid fuel boiler, fan heater, drying racks, sink for washing dirty boots and socks, etc.

The original quotation was for £ 3,020, the plans have now been resubmitted to the builder for a new estimate, though the committee feel, that there will not be a lot of difference from the original estimate. The estimate for £ 3,020 has been checked out by a builder in Derby, who feels the price is reasonable, as there is approximately 6 weeks work on the alterations.



SCALE 1/2" TO 1 FT

REVISED BATHROOM PLAN

APRIL 76  
DLW

SCALE 1/2" TO 1 FT

ORIGINAL BATHROOM PLAN

AUG 75  
DLW

SCHEME B

As an alternative to Scheme A, the committee are offering the following proposals. At the rear of the hut to be built an extension onto the drying room, bathroom, the size to be approx. 13' x 12' (See Diagram).

On the groundfloor, the existing drying room would be made into an entrance hall (for removing wet gear, dirty footwear, also food racks, etc.) Remove the existing chimney, boiler and put a door through into the new drying room. Part of which would house 2 toilets, plus boiler and drying facilities, similar to Scheme A.

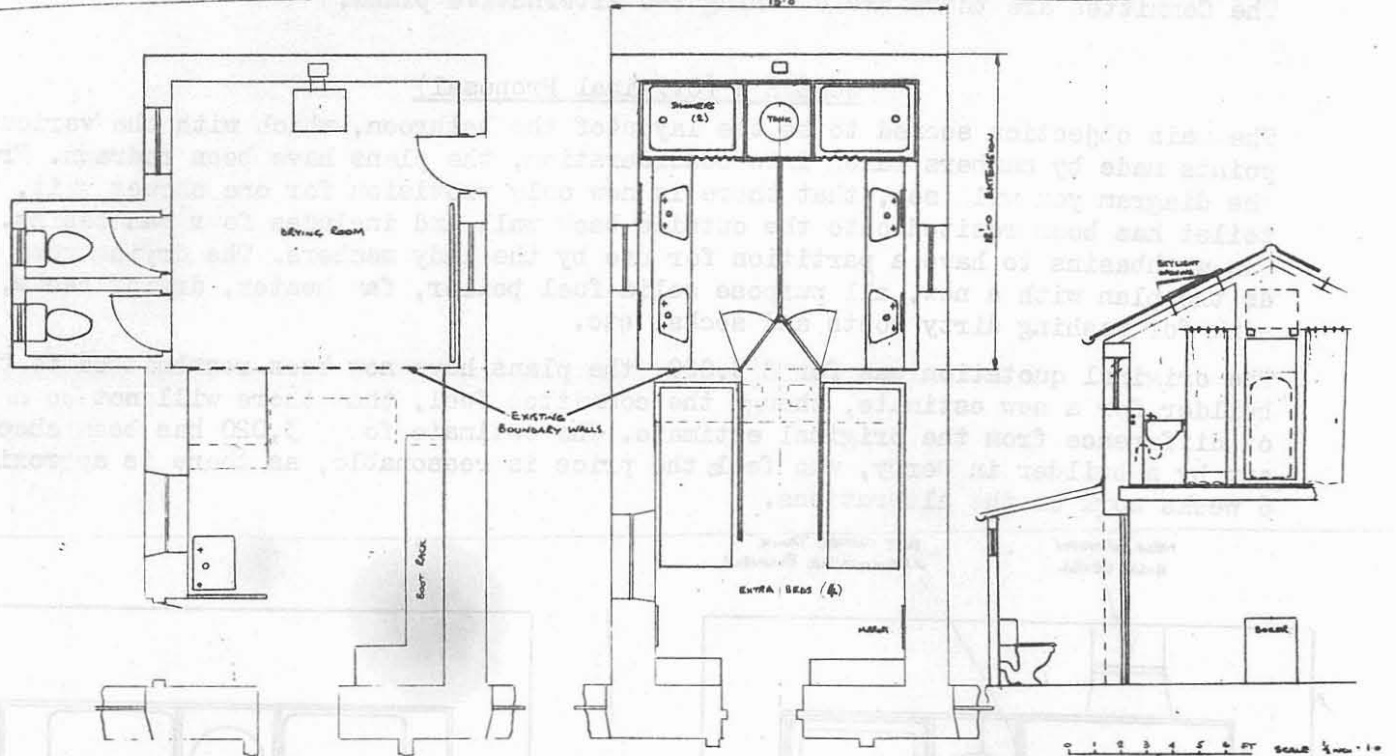
Upstairs, the present bathroom would become an overflow bedroom with 4 beds, 2 double bunks. Again there will be a door leading into the new extension, which will house

4 washbasins and 2 shower units with a partition. Again similar to Scheme A, but offering an improved layout.

The main construction would be of brick, cement rendered, to match the existing building.

From a cost angle, the plans have been submitted to Mr. Parry, a local Welsh builder who came to look at the hut on the work party week-end. He gave us a verbal estimate of £ 3,750, this of course is subject to confirmation in writing.

This proposal takes into consideration the growth of the club in future years, providing extra beds and increasing the value of the property.



Also present for part of the meeting was Mr. Carr from the Sports Council, who gave an outline of the grant scheme available to clubs. A brief summary of the discussion which took place is as follows:-

1. That we should approach Local Councils for a grant, i.e. Derby, Nottingham, though any grant would come out of the next financial year.
2. Apply for a grant from the Sports Council, the next meeting for considering grant applications is September.
3. The maximum overall grant obtainable is 75% of the cost of the work. This would be made up of grants from Local Councils and the Sports Council.
4. Work cannot be started until the grant has been approved.
5. That he (Mr. Carr) feels that the Oread stand a very good chance of obtaining a grant, considering the work and effort that has already been put into the Welsh Hut and that the Sports Council take a favourable view towards mountaineering Clubs.
6. That the club, when applying for a grant must SHOW ITS INTENT to carry out the work.

THE COMMITTEE ARE THEREFORE CALLING A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY 15TH JUNE AT THE ROYAL OAD, OCKBROOK, AT 8.00 PROMPT.

ALL MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE AN EFFORT TO ATTEND THIS MEETING.

For members living away from the Derby/Nottingham area, the committee would welcome correspondence on the project and if they would be prepared to support the venture.

Finally, should the body of the club accept the Welsh Hut Project and give the committee the power to approach the various Local Councils and Sports Councils for grants, it will be necessary to start a Hut Fund to finance the project, possibly in the style of when we purchased Tan-y-wyddfa in

1. an interest free loan from members, to be repaid at a later date. The amount of money loaned by an individual would be left to his or her discretion.
2. By increasing Hut Fees. Suggested: Guest to 65p, Members 30p.
3. By special events, i.e. lectures, raffles, etc.

Colin Hobday (Hon. Secretary)

All correspondence to C. Hobday, 71 Carsington Crescent, Allestree/Derby.