

The Wednesday evening drinking sessions are with us again, and as usual, there will have to be some climbing done in order to work up a decent thirst. The first official evening meet of the year is April 27th at Brassington, the next being June 8th at Wildcat for those unfortunate enough to be back in the area after the minimum Spring Bank Holiday dates. (Hopefully, this circular will be out in time to catch the April 27th evening meet, but I have had some difficulty in obtaining write-ups. More about this later.)

Most people seem to have had a fairly enjoyable Easter, weather permitting. It only remains for members to have a rest at work for the next few weeks in order to gather enough strength to throw themselves into the Spring Bank Holiday.

In order to avoid the heart-stopping (for me) deadlines which seem to occur with every circular, please may I have the write-ups for the June meets by Tuesday 10th May. Anyone who feels moved to give me his July write-up by then will earn my undying gratitude (until the next time he fails to produce the goods on time!).

Finally, I am sure that by now, we are all aware of the tragic accident which occurred over Easter, resulting in the loss of James Watts, a prospective member. An obituary is included at the end of this circular.

Beryl Strike
9 Bailey Street
DERBY DE3 6SD

BRYN HAFOD, CWM COWARCH

APRIL 29 - MAY 1

JOHN LINNEY

I have booked 18 places at the Mountain Club's hut, which is situated at the head of Cwm Cowarch (Grid Ref SH 853194) near Dinas Mawddwy and is about 15 minutes walk from the car park: all vehicles must park on the common, Fawnog Fawr.

Lots of scope here - plenty of cragging and good walking. In fact, something for everyone. If sufficient people feel fit enough (!) I might be persuaded to walk the Dovey Watershed (2 days). Start Sat. morning from Dinas Mawddwy, stopping off at the hut Sat. night and continuing on Sunday back to Dinas. This means those who want to do a bit of climbing could join the walk either day. Anyway, I'm easy, so let's race ya!

Booking etc. - for further details ring me at home after 6pm on Penkridge 3342 or at work - Bilston 43161 - ask for Design Office. For the Sons and Sisters of Suction, I shall be exercising my right arm on the Fri. night at the Red Lion at Dinas Mawddwy. So look forward to your company. Cheers!!

ERIC BYNE CAMPSITE, BASLOW

MAY 7/8

Unfortunately, Harry Pretty is no longer able to lead this meet. (Before the jocular comments, I am sure that he will be able to meet other meets.) Derek Burgess has magnanimously, after some little pressure, agreed to lead it instead. As you must all know, the site is just up the road from the

hut, near the Robin Hood. Cars to be left in the carpark/bottom field and gear to be carried onto the campsite proper (how rugged)! The close proximity of Burgess, the Robin Hood and Birchens, Gardoms and Baslow must make this an immediate success. So further enquiries to Derek, please.

NORTHUMBERLAND

MAY 14/15

RUSSELL WALKER

Meet leader will be found at "The Wheel", Haydon Bridge (5 miles west of Hexham) from 9pm onwards on Fri. 13th!! Ask for Lorimers Scotch (hand pumped). Hut is called the "Knowe". Marked Grandy's Knowe on O.S. Sheet 77 (Hexham) G.R. 782674. Facilities are basic. Bring water carriers - there's supposed to be a tap, but it's more likely to be out of the (little-used) cattle trough. There's nothing except calor gas stoves and sink, so bring equipment as if for camping, including foam, li-lo's etc. There's a gigantic fireplace at each end of the hut, but coal supplies are possibly non-existent. i.e. bring a few bags (tut! tut! Ed.) with you. All gear has to be carried about 50 yards to the hut. Charges are 15p per night, numbers nearly unlimited - 25 would fit in with no bother. I shall have the key. It takes about 3 hours from Nottingham - up the M1/A1/A68 to Corbridge.

Climbing - Northumbrian sandstone is extremely strong, with plenty of problems in all grades. Routes are steep and up to 50' high. Proficiency in handjamming, strong fingers and a gorilla-like physique are necessary for the harder routes. Crag Lough, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile away offers steep and strenuous routes on frictionless rock. For walkers, Hadrian's Wall is at hand and the county abounds with splendid excursions. If you think this sounds too good to miss, then the Meet Leader offers to buy anyone a pint on Sat. night who can justifiably claim not to have had a good day! Guide - "A Rockclimbing Guide to Northumberland".

STANAGE

MAY 22

KEITH GREGSON

Although this meet is nominally a one-day affair, I intend to make a full weekend of it and expect to see a good crowd at the Wheatsheaf for "suction practice" on the Fri. evening.

Saturday will be a freestyle day with possibly an amble to Baslow Edge in order to guarantee a few comments for Nat's revision of the guide book. The main event of the day will however, consist of compulsory movements - elbow bending, head tilting etc. followed by the usual wall vaulting exercises late into the evening. In order to avoid the usual Stanage Sunday Scenario, I intend to base Sunday's climbing on the High Neb/Crow Chin areas, thus ensuring that these otherwise quiet climbing venues will be crowded with Oreads. Last year we had a turnout of well over 50, so let's see you all again!

There's plenty for everyone (even if you have to come via Pen y Ghent and Tan Hill, Jack!), so I look forward to seeing you all - if not in the pub on Fri. night, then at Stanage on Sunday.

HUT WORKING PARTY, TAN-Y-WYDDFA

MAY 28/29

KEN HODGE

Please see Ken as soon as possible if you are interested in helping on this weekend. Jobs to be done were previewed in last month's circular, but for those who might not know, the jobs include: Mending barge boards on roof, repainting all paintwork inside and out, painting whole of outside of extension, tiling bathroom and drying room floors, and plumbing-in radiators in bathroom

and drying-room. This is a major working party to make the new extension usable. So see Ken in plenty of time (once he's recovered from the 'flu!) if you are interested, as you all will be!

ADVERTISER'S ANNOUNCEMENT - Ron & Kath Chambers want a baby carrier. (I applied for the job, but Kath says that it's a Karrimor-type papoose carrier they want.) If you don't think that it would be tempting fate to sell your carrier, please see Ron or Kath.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Graham Slater now at 53 Clapgun Street,
Castle Donington, Derby. Tel: 0332 811756

Paul & Christine Craddock now at Albury Cottage,
Albury,
Tiddington, Oxon. Tel: Ickford 525

NEW MEMBER

Congratulations to John Draper, who was elected to full membership at the Committee Meeting on April 4th.

OBITUARY

It is with deep regret that I have to announce the death of James Watts, aged 19, a Prospective Member of Littleover, who was killed in a climbing accident on Good Friday in Glen Coe. It is especially tragic that he should die when going to help his climbing companion who was injured in a fall.

James first came out with the Oread nine months ago, and proved to be an enthusiastic Prospective Member, who was beginning to fit well into the club scene.

The funeral took place on Friday, 15th April and was attended by various club members. Our sympathy goes to Mrs. Watts on the loss of her son.

C. Hobday