

OREAD CIRCULAR

Jan/Feb 1977

As you can see from the Meets Card, 1977 should be an active year for the Oread. During the past year the meets attendance seems to have grown steadily and I look forward to this trend continuing in 1977, and to seeing most Oreads on at least some of the meets.

Unfortunately two of our members are unable to start the year in an appropriate manner due to illness. I am sure that everyone will be pleased to know that Margaret Hooley is on the road to recovery, as also is Howard Johnson who has recently been hospitalised with a back problem. Best wishes to you both.

On another note, many of you will already know that there is a good deal of speculation within the Club about running some kind of expedition. At present ideas range from Norway to the South Pole, the Andes to the Himalayas - and from a Cooke's Tour to a full blown expedition. Perhaps we could take the opportunity of Nat's fell race weekend to have an informal discussion in the Wheatsheaf on the Saturday night in order that a consensus of opinion may be reached. Anyone with ideas, contacts, views, and enthusiasm will be welcome - and, of course we can run off any differences of opinion the following day!

Keith Gregson

LITTLE LANGDALE 28th/29th JANUARY 1977

GORDON WRIGHT

Here is the opportunity for those who don't give up mountaineering for skiing when winter arrives. All the omens point to the strong possibility of some real winter conditions at last. My spies in The Lakes tell me that at the time of writing there is more snow on the mountains than there has been for several years.

I have booked the Fylde M.C. hut at Little Langdale and as there are only 15 beds early booking is advisable. It will have to be on a first come first served basis.

To get to the hut travel on M6 to Kendal, A591 to Ambleside, A593 towards Coniston, turn right, then left for Little Langdale after 4 miles. In Little Langdale village turn left after passing (or stopping at) the Three Shires Hotel. The hut is the centre one of three old slate miners cottages on the left at the point where the road becomes a track (after about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile). Parking is opposite the hut but as it is somewhat restricted please park as closely as possible. M.R. of the hut is 315029.

I hope to be in the 'Three Shires' on the Friday evening for a quick quaff before going to the hut at chucking out time. See me at the 'Moon' for booking and transport arrangements or phone me at Burton-on-Trent 812642.

SWALEDALE 5th/6th FEBRUARY 1977

KEN BRYAN

Here's an opportunity for you hut dwellers to get under canvas for the first time in 1977 in an area that is especially beautiful at this time of the year. It offers some very fine walking both high and low level, with views typical only of the Yorkshire Dales. To round off your day there's a good pub with an open fire 5 minutes walk from the campsite.

I propose to camp at Muker, the site being about 400 yards past the village at 'Usha gap' farm. The field is on the left across the road from the farm.

Map reference :- Sheet No. 90 (Wensleydale) 901979

If you need any more information see me at the Moon.

NEW MEMBERS At the Committee Meeting on Jan 10th an application was received from JOHN CORDEN. Would anyone with views on the suitability of the above please forward them to the Hon. Sec. or to any Committee Member. At the same meeting the following were elected, congratulations to Mike Dyer, Stephen Evans, Martin Musson, William Tucker, and Brian & Lynn Wright.

As usual this meet will be based on the M.A.M. hut - Glan Dena, which is situated at the head of Llyn Ogwen. The frost protection system has been improved so hopefully this year the hut will not be submerged beneath the Ogwen Glacier!

There is no need to describe the area which must be known to all. Winter climbing gear is essential if you want to do more than walk round Llyn Ogwen.

In order to give M.A.M. members a fair chance to book places I do not propose to open the booking list until Tuesday February 1st, see me at the 'Moon' then if you would like to come along.

FELL RACE 19th/20th FEBRUARY 1977 (HEATHY LEA)NAT ALLEN

As a result of considerable pressure from a 'dischuffed' ginger group, after the last crowded Ilam Dash, I agreed to organise this affair. I have long held my own firm views on the use of the hills as a race track, however on reflection I remember all the fun I have had in fell races that have seen me more often than not the unwilling participant. I think this lot will be right up the Oreads street.

The course will be revealed at 10.50 am on Sunday the 20th. Starting and finishing at the Heathy Lea barn, it will take in three check points, where the competitor simply gives his name and clears off to the next one. The first group will go off at 11.00 am with the likes of Beryl, Reynolds and Handley. The second, a more athletic group of say Burgess and Cheshire at 11.20, and the third and last containing the Russells and Radders will go at 11.40.

The course will be approximately 6 miles and everyone is a likely winner, the result is on individual handicap. The actual winner will be shown, but it is 1,2,3 handicap that takes the prizes, with a finishing sheet looking something like:-

NAME	START	HIGH	NEB	MAM	TOR	BASLOW	FINISH	TIME	PLACE	ALLOWANCE	ADJ/TIME	H/CAP	PSW
CHAMBERS R	11.20	11.38	12.03	12.18	12.26	1.06	25	14 MIN	52 MIN	3RD			

As previously stated the course is a closely guarded secret, held by the corruptable organiser and his henchmen. The fee is 10p to offset the cost of soup and tea. Volunteers are needed to run the kitchen for our jaded heros. Some checkpoint marshalls will be required to officiate, complete with doctors notes and war ribbons. Everyone else standing competes! Youth and friends are welcome, but I think, please no children. Some knowledge of the ground to be covered is necessary, a 2½ inch map of the district and a compass will help. Dress according to the conditions of the day - we don't want a queue forming whilst the ladies give Sedgwick the kiss of life.

So with all that comforting information, when do you sign on? Please do that before the day if you can, although there will be a sign on the line arrangement. It will help if you do it before.

It is of course a weekend meet, climbing on the Saturday as the mood takes us, and naturally the 'Wheatsheaf' Baslow. I will be there Friday nite so let's have you giving it all!

GLEN NEVIS - EASTER - ADVANCED NOTICEPAUL BEVERLEY

The Easter Meet this year will be held in Glen Nevis and I am hoping for a good turn out of Oreads. There is something for all; good walking, rock climbing near the road at Poldubh, and of course on the Ben itself with its magnificent northern cliffs.

As last year, I propose to book caravans (6 or 4 berth) in Glen Nevis for a long weekend (Friday - Tuesday) and the whole week. The cost will be about £1 per head per night. If you would like to book a place please let me have a deposit of £2 per person - preferably before February 23rd. I will be in the Moon on Tuesdays if you require any further information or you can phone me at work on Nottm 48531 ext. 2379.

For the purists, there is a campsite 400 yards down the road and it is also possible to camp next to the road in some places further up the valley.