

I HOPE IT'S SHORT

NEWSLETTER OF THE OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

January 1991

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Summary:

Tu 15 January	A Roberts on "Caving" at the Royal Oak	
25 - 26 January	Little Langdale	Pete Amour
1 - 2 February	Tan-yr-Wyddfa	Richard Coghlan
Tu 5 February	Australian Climbing	Bobby Gilbert

25 - 26 January Little Langdale Pete Amour
The combination of location and date of this meet has always created problems in accomodating the numbers wishing to attend. With this in mind, two huts are available. They are both within staggering distance of the "Three Shires Head" (shurely shome mishtake here - ed; try "Inn"). They are the Fylde MC hut at NY 316031 (for those who have paid subs, will buy me a pint etc.) and the Yorkshire Ramblers' hut at Low Hall Garth (NY 309029) for those tight with money, bad breath, snorers etc).

Anyone interested, please contact me in the Brunswick or telephone Belper 826219 after 6.30 p.m. I look forward to receiving free drinks at the aforementioned inn on the Friday evening.

P.S. Also the Saturday evening.

P.P.S. Must pay my subs.

1 - 2 February Tan-yr-Wyddfa Richard Coghlan
This is the first meet of the year in the Welsh hut and set at a prime time to catch the best of Wales' snow and ice climbs. Join the crowds on the classic IIIs and IVs on the Trinity face of Snowdon or perhaps try some of the uncharted steep little snow gullies on Foel Goch. Area abounds in wet weather scrambles and walks. Unseasonal sunny weather may draw some to nearby Tremadoc.

For lifts, berths etc. please see me at the Brunswick or telephone me on Derby 753807.

MOUNTAINEERING TRIP TO THE GREATER RANGES IN 1991

Some members have expressed an interest in a club trip/expedition to a mountain range outside Europe.

The venue, period, objective, cost will all depend on the response to this notice and the interests of those wishing to go.

If you are interested, have any ideas, previous experience of particular areas or would just like to give some background information contact the president as soon (THAT'S NOW) as possible. This is important if anything is to be organised for this year.

Rock Hudson

P A S T E V E N T S A N D A N C I E N T H I S T O R Y

NILKANTA EXPEDITION 1990

Sadly, this expedition, which included one Oread, was not successful in reaching the summit by either of the two routes attempted. The climbing party consisted of three pairs and in the course of the trip an attempt was made to reach the west col from the south. This proved far more complex and labourious than at first appeared. Better progress was made on the SE ridge whose start was much more accessible. In the end all efforts became bogged down in steadily deteriorating weather. In the early part of the trip, the mornings had been fine, but these clear periods steadily shrank until they consisted of a few minutes around dawn.

Many thanks to OMC who supported the expedition with a grant. If you are interested in having sight of the expedition report, please ask. The mountain remains unclimbed by any non-Indian part and the W and SE ridges unclimbed by anyone. The peak is very beautiful, especially from a distance when its isolation is most marked.

Rob Tresidder

BULLSTONES

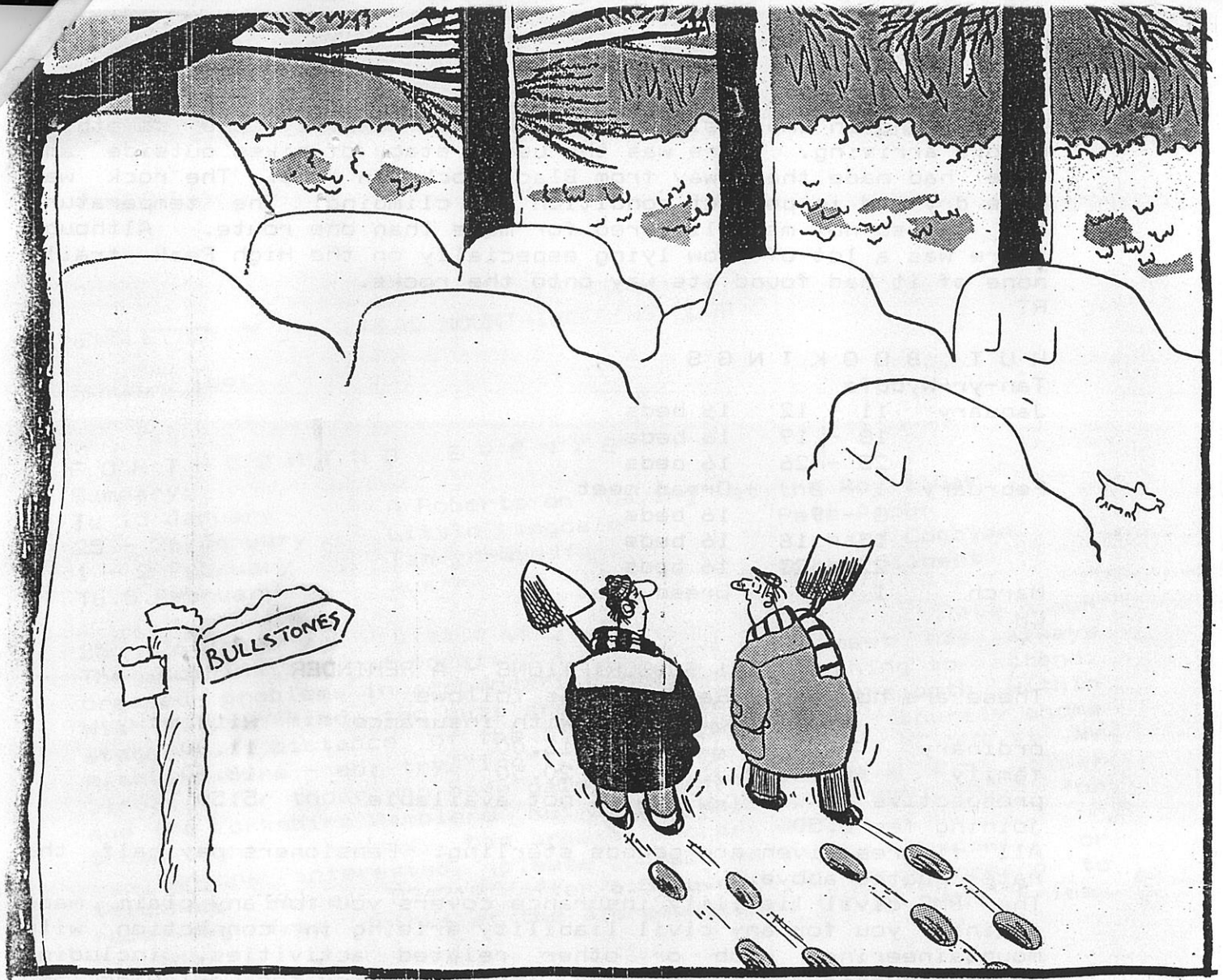
Jack Ashcroft

Horton-in-Ribblesdale was under siege by diabolical weather which crept up imperceptibly: rain, then snow and the final assault - gale force winds. We rather casually sipped our late Friday evening pint in the Golden Lion - and by Saturday morning we were in command of the village! From the railway station to Dub Cote Barn, a hut pleasantly situated on the southern slopes of Pen-y-Ghent - when you can see the view. A snow blizzard raged all day Saturday. We intended travelling north by rail to Dent for a walk back over the tops. The Station Master completely put paid to such ideas by commenting that the six-in-the-morning train had gone north and "not been heard of since. If I were you, I'd forget it, go to the pub, get drunk and funk it." We walked out into the storm after the "OMC Waiting Room Conference 1990" for a second breakfast at the cafe with the thought "all self respecting mountaineers ensconce to a bar in weather like this." And so, that was about it. An Irishman, a Scotsman and fourteen Englishmen spread at various times between Dub Cote Barn, the Golden Lion, Horton cafe, the Crown Hotel and the station waiting room. We learnt later in the afternoon that the morning train returned from the Bleamoor tunnel entrance - mission abandoned.

A few significant points. One car made the barn on the Friday. Three cars took up forced positions halfway up the lane in snowdrifts. Three more cars remained mobile in the village. Come to think of it, were there fifteen people on the meet or eighteen? We will never know. Anyway the bacon butties were delicious. the chips were crisp and the mushroom & tomato omelettes delectable. Strategic planning came into question over the dominoes.

All in all it was a noble effort in the prevailing weather conditions and a tactical coup by the Lancastrians - for those familiar with the area.

Who will have the courage to lead the 1991 meet? Will it get above base camp? It might be in the hands of the joker station master and his ghost operator! And for the record one, Helen, reported sick having done a mercurial nose dive over a bridge parapet - bike and all - onto the banks of the River Derwent earlier in the week.



'Mine's the white one'

In attendance: Ashcroft, Barnard, Briggs, Eyre, Green, Gregson, Gresty, Hobday, Hopkinson, Hudson, Linney, Phillips, Radcliffe, Raphael, Scott, West. Sick: Griffiths. AWOL: Burgess, Larkam, Pretty.
Anon 1990

December Committee Meeting

Rates relief on Tan-yr-Wyddfa has been refused by the district council. Messrs Phillips and Hooley will visit their offices when convenient. The National Park are making new difficulties over parking at the hut. Their efforts are being resisted. Abuse of the hut by Bewdley MC was discussed.

The new lease on Heathy Lea was accepted with a few alterations. Plans for re-decoration and re-furnishing of Heathy Lea are proceeding.

Some last minute alterations and additions were made to the meets list.

RT

BLACK ROCKS

The Wednesday before the Wednesday before Christmas seemed a long way from the Yuletide festivities, but only before I got into the

Gate. There was a huge number of Oreads and friends quaffing and jawing and an impressive number who had actually done something before arriving. There was the usual stack of bikes outside and some had made their way from Black Rocks on foot. The rock was bone dry and in perfect condition for climbing. The temperature was low so not many lingered for more than one route. Although there was a lot of snow lying especially on the High Peak trail, none of it had found its way onto the rocks.

RT

H U T B O O K I N G S

Tan-yr-Wyddfa

January	11 - 12	16 beds
	18 - 19	16 beds
	25 - 26	16 beds
February	1 - 2	Oread meet
	8 - 9	16 beds
	15 - 16	16 beds
	22 - 23	16 beds
March	1 - 2	Oread meet

CH

1991 SUBSCRIPTIONS - A REMINDER

These are now due. Rates are as follows

	with insurance	without
ordinary	13.00	11.00
family	20.50	16.50
prospective	not available	5.50
joining fee	5.50	

All figures given are pounds sterling. Pensioners pay half the rates quoted above.

The BMC civil liability insurance covers you for any claim made against you for any civil liability arising in connection with mountaineering, club or other related activities, including social events and fundraising. The cover operates worldwide and there is no excess applicable.

The limit of indemnity in respect of any claim made during the period of insurance is 2 million pounds for any one event including claims arising from breach of professional duty with the exception that in respect of goods sold or supplied (products) claims, the limit of indemnity applies to an aggregate of all events during one period of insurance.

This is only a summary of the master policy held by the BMC, copies of which are available upon requests from the BMC, subject to payment of an administration fee of 2 pounds.

Please remember that any member who has not paid his subs by the AGM is liable to be removed from membership. (Joining fee is 5.50).

RL

NEXT EDITION

I intend to publish the next edition on Tuesday, 5 February. Please send all written material to me at 61 West End, Wirksworth DE4 4EG to arrive by Monday, 28 January.

Rob Tresidder

nljan91
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