

NEWSLETTER OF THE DREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

July 1991

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

12 - 13 July Borrowdale Roger Larkam
Of course Pillar or Great Gable would be a good idea if suitable weather emerges. Funters looking for alternative (lower) inspiration may like to consider Goat Crag (Praying Mantis et al) or Greatend Crag.

As a break with recent practice (Cloggy, Wasdale etc.) the meet leader will attend this meet. Lifts therefore can be arranged with confidence via Derby 383371 (home) or 2514266 (work) or at The Brunswick Inn.

Camping will be on the site just past the Stonethwaite turning OS ref 257141. Sufficient petition would persuade me of the merits of Stonthwaite however.

19 - 20 July Four Crags Meet Rob Tresidder

This is THE Alpine training meet for those who are still not fit enough even after flogging over to Pillar from Borrowdale the weekend before. The meet will be based at Tan-yr-Wyddfa.

I intend to make an early start (say 8) from the hut to allow plenty of time in the evening for rehydration after our exertions in the punishing sun. First port of call will be Cloggy where we shall attempt something short and not too taxing like Curving or Sunset Crack. Then on to Cynr Las either via Cwm Hetiau or Cwm Glas. Main Wall should provide a suitable climax to the day. From the top of Cynr Las, 'tis but a short walk to Crib y Ddysgl with a wealth of suitable routes such as Fallen Block Crack (said to be easier in boots) or the Parson's Nose or simply a scramble up the Clogwyn y Ferson arete. Descent of Crib y Ddysgl and the north side of Bwlch Goch will lead unerringly to the foot of Reade's route on the Crib Goch pinnacles. That may well prove enough for me, but if it doesn't I shall carry on to Crag 4 - Lliwedd where I may just manage the Bilberry Terrace. The observant quaffers amongst my readers will have noticed that all these climbs finish just a few minutes away from Wales' highest and most expensive hostelry where you may gawk at the gawkers!

While Saturday may seem like hard slog, Sunday will be a day for the rock jock inside each one of us: free form and no whip cracking. For berths and lifts and more inside information on where to find lost hats contact me on 0629 823953 (home) or 0629 823126 (work - 24hr) or in The Brunswick (sometimes).

PAST EVENTS AND ANCIENT HISTORY

Memories of an Arran Trip

Drinking Bunnabhain.

Walking with two very heavy rucksacks two miles to the campsite. Not finding the best non-line on the Rosa slabs.

Drinking Bunnadhavenn.

Cycling to Whiting Bay in boiling sun and lying on the beach with a Cornetto; returning to Brodick via the cobbled beach on King's Cross point - these hired 3 - speed bikes are just as good as ATBs!

Getting lost on an E1 half way up an 800ft. crag and having to

down climb.

Drinking more Brunnahavenn.

A beach barby complete with burnt sausages, punch and glorious sunset.

Nearly running down two hikers while not being drunk in charge of a tandem.

Graham rubbing in "Honey Bronze" suncream every day to make himself look "highly desirable".

Being light at 10.30 p.m.

Having another sup of Bunnadhbhaindh.

Always having to walk for a minimum of two and a half hours before being able to climb.

Basking on a stance in T-shirt and shorts, chatting to a Scots team who had done Pointfive Gully three weeks earlier.

A last tot of Bhmunnadhrbhainmdh.

Falling asleep at the campsite and only making the last ferry with seconds to spare.

Deliberately posting a postcard on the island only to find the recipient received it with a Glasgow postmark.

TW

June Committee meeting

The committee heard that Bob Pettigrew had paid his subscription. We did not have sight of it but were vouchsafed a glance at the signed up lease for Heathy Lea. The custodian reminded us that the gate should be kept locked when not in use. It was agreed that a decision on whether Heathy Lea should be placed on the BMC list of huts should be deferred until October. Chuck Hooley also reported on progress with the removal of the fungus farm from Tan-y-Wyddfa.

RT

Cloggy bivvy

Well what were this meet's essentials? Did "Cloggy" mean hard climbing at any price? Or did it mean Cloggy at any price? How vital was the bivouac or bivouacs? Ten of us assembled in the Vynol Arms on Friday evening. Argument produced no consensus. In the end nine of us walked up to the Clog and bivouaced while one prospective member preferred the doubtful comfort of the President's car at Hafodty Newydd. Three took tokenism to extremes and walked down in the morning. The remaining six made a traditional late start, found the boiler in the summit cafe out of order and failed to persuade our travelling plumber to step into the breach. We descended the Fyg Track and came back over Crib Goch and Crib y Ddysgl. Radders, following the absent meet leader's instructions to the letter bathed in Llyn Du'r Arddu twice as penance for sleeping in a tent on a bivvy meet.

The descenders rescued their wet weekend with a mountain day on the South Buttress of Tryfan followed by the inevitable girdle of Carreg Hyll Drem in Sunday's rain.

RT

Cratcliffe

From small beginnings in the Greyhound car park, the party grew to record (almost - 20) in the pub. Those who had braved the (alleged) rain in Derby cycled dry to Cratcliffe in fruitless pursuit of the Moss stoked Larkam tandem. After a few damp boulders, the climbers chased the leading group on a pub-wheel, via Bonsall moor to the Miner's Arms followed by a whizz down the

via Gellia to the Boat Inn at Cromford. From there "some" did cycle home: others found mysteriously materialising cars and trains!

GT

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Helen Griffiths and Peter Johnston
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SHORT NOTICES

OBITUARY

Douglas Milner, an honorary member for many years, died in April. An appreciation will appear in the next newsletter.

MAGIC OF THE MOUNTAINS

An exhibition of photographs and watercolour paintings by Gordon Gadsby is on show now at Beeston Library, Foster Avenue, Beeston, Nottingham until July 13.

CREVASSE RESCUE

The club are owners of a BMC video on crevasse rescue and avalanches. Richard Coghlan is the custodian. He will lend it to you on payment of a deposit.

HEATHY LEA

Please read the paper overleaf on possible futures for Heathy Lea, complete the questionnaire and return to any committee member. There are important decisions to be made about the future of this hut and the committee would like to be as well informed about club opinion as possible.

HANDBOOK

Please find enclosed new versions of some pages of the handbook. Please insert them in the appropriate slots in your folder. Many thanks to Roger Larkam and George Fowler for these.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Applications for full membership have been received from John Blackledge and Bill Kenyon. Will any members who have any views as to the suitability of the candidates please write to the secretary, Steve Bashforth, 14 Farneworth Road, Mickleover, Derby.

NEXT EDITION

I intend to publish the next edition on Tuesday, 6 August. Please send all written material to me at 61 West End, Wirksworth DE4 4EG to arrive by Monday, 29 July. I especially look forward to hearing from Rock Hudson.

Rob Tresidder

THE FUTURE OF HEATHY LEA

1. Background

In April 1991 a new nine year lease was signed. Under the terms agreed the rent will be £300 p.a. for 1991/2, 92/3, 93/4. In 1994 the rent will be increased by 12% of the cost of any improvements made by the landlord, the Chatsworth Estate. Adjustments to allow for inflation and based on the Retail Price Index will be made in addition in 1994 and 1997.

2. Financial

*The following improvements have so far been considered.

Replacement of cottage roof (1992/3)	£5000
Provision of flush toilet and drains	£2000

*Likely effect on hut finances

	cost p.a.	per member
Rent, assuming £7000 improvements	1140	
Running costs (1990 level)	350	
	1490	£9.31
Less income at 1990 level	430	
Likely net annual deficit	1060	£6.63

*Thus if Chatsworth Estate carry out the above improvements and usage of the hut remains unchanged, each club member will have to pay at least £6.63 p.a. as part of subs in order to finance Heathy Lea.

3. Options

To avoid this effect on subscriptions, the options are:

- Limit the improvements carried out
- Increase income from fees by increasing usage by members and/or guests or by increasing fees
- Some combination of a and b

The committee does not believe that it is prudent for the club to invest its own money in a property with a 9-year lease.

The committee is presently seeking to increase use of the hut by publicising the availability of the barn to reciprocal rights clubs and clubs already using Tan-yr-Wyddfa. Inclusion of Heathy Lea on the BMC's list may also be possible. While the lease contains no restriction on sub-letting, it is understood that the landlord would prefer use to be at a discrete level. If Heathy Lea and barn were booked out on 20 weekends per year at £3 per bednight and assuming 18 guests on 20 weekends, this would yield £1080, sufficient to cover the deficit.

4. Conclusion

The club therefore has the option of increasing usage or subscriptions by 1993 or giving up Heathy Lea in March 1994.

Please complete the questionnaire below and return to me or any other committee member.

Roger Larkam
May 1991