



OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

NEWSLETTER OF THE OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

July 1992

In spite of the imminence of summer holidays there still seems to be a lot going on on the home front. I am looking for meet leaders for two of our very traditional meets: St David's (28-30 August) and Bullstones (11-12 December). Both of these attract a fairly regular clientele, so if you would like to take your turn at organising or even step in with a new broom, please let me know.

I intend to lead an Oread meet next Easter based on the town of Die in the departement of Drome immediately SE of the Vercors regional park. The area is rich in bolt clipping crags and of course close to Mont Aiguille, scene in 1492 of the world's first sporting ascent of a mountain. Die and Wirksworth are at present engaged in discussions with a view to setting up a formal twinning agreement. I have met Jean-Marc Sorbier who is head of PE at the lycée and has climbed at Black Rocks. He will shortly send me topos of the main local crags. Some of the better known ones such as Buis ies Barronies are not that far from Die. He is keen to provide some hospitality and the opportunity for French and British climbers to climb together.

Next April I will have been Meets Secretary for three years. Although I have enjoyed myself enormously, I feel that I can no longer afford the time and energy that the job requires; I think that the club too would benefit from a change. If you fancy licking stamps, haranguing a captive audience and arranging a more entertaining meets programme for a couple of years, don't hesitate to put your name forward - I didn't! I should be happy to provide more information about what is involved to anyone who is merely "interested" at this stage.

RT

F O R T H C O M I N G E V E N T S

Summary:

W 8 July	Climb/cycle evening
Su 12 July	Pinnacle of Achievement meet
17 - 18 July	Buttermere
24 - 25 July	Heathy Lea
W 5 August	Baslow area
18 - 19 Sept	Coniston

W 8 July Cratcliffe/Cromford climb/cycle extravaganza P. Amour

The intention is to leave the Greyhound Hotel in Cromford at 6.45 p.m. and then proceed at paces suited to both the leisurely and the lunatic. It is hoped that on arrival at the crag a good number of motorised climbers will display their true Oread spirit and throw down a rope or two to assist the poorly equipped pedalers. After bidding farewell at the crag, social acquaintance will be renewed at the Boat inn in Cromford where those who did throw down a rope may reap their reward. **DON'T FORGET YOUR LIGHTS.**

Su 12 July Pinnacle of Achievement Meet Bobo Gilbert
Hard climbers' Jay: this is the day to show that you too can be a hard climber! Whether your usual standard is VS or E8 this is the day to try that climb you have had at the back of your mind for years. It might involve climbing a grade harder than your usual standard, or it might be the route you know you ought to be able to do but have always been intimidated by. In either case, put some good runners in and GO FOR IT!

I shall be attempting Quietus at Stanage, myself, but feel free to make your own choice of crag and meet up in The Miner's Standard in Winster at 7.30 p.m. to recount your tale of success or failure.

17 - 18 July Buttermere Roger Larkam
Buttermere is a less populated area of the Lakes and an excellent centre for rock climbing and fell walking. Local rock includes Eagle Crag (Eagle Front ** 495ft VS; Deimos * 440ft E2) and High Crag (High Crag Buttress ** 190ft HVS). More or less taxing excursions can of course be had. Camping will be at the site in Buttermere and subject to the absence of mutiny the previous week lifts will be co-ordinated in the Brunswick Inn on 14 July or via telephone 383371. Don't be square, be there!

24 - 25 July Heathy Lea Rob Tresidder
This will be a super low key meet at our recently improved Peak HQ. No cragathons, pinnacles of achievement, yard of ale contests or any of that sort of over achieving nonsense. This will be a chance to seek out some of the area's less well known prizes. How many climbers know Jam and Blast It or Above and Beyond the Callisthenic Barrier - the only V Diff with a rock-over? The hut is easily reached by bike or bus. When we collectively come to our environmental senses, Tan-yr-Wyddra will be less accessible and private cars will have been banned from the Peak Park, then Heathy Lea will come into its own.

I shall spend the Saturday being environmentally unsound, despatching my spouse by gas guzzling aeroplane into the Namib Desert, before driving to Heathy Lea in the evening - maybe with the bikes on the back. You have the flavour of the weekend - ambiguous, even two-faced: come along and set the programme!

W 5 August Baslow Area Rob Tresidder
Some misunderstanding last year on the "Alpine absentees meet". Baslow's hidden gems, Froggett's subtle problems, Curbar's brutish offerings or Stonew Middleton's polish. Something for everyone on this the last of the season's Wednesday away meets. I expect to be alive and kicking in the Dead Bay at Curbar. Afterwards at the Prince of Wales in Baslow.

18 - 19 September Coniston Richard Hopkinson
Advance notice for masochists:
The date of this meet happens (? - ed) to coincide with one of the classic Lakes fell races "The Three Shires" which starts in nearby Little Langdale. Essentially, the run follows the skyline as viewed from the pub. It is 13 miles long and involves 4000ft of ascent. Entries need to be in advance and accompanied by £2.50 to R Beil, Linwood, 11 Millans Park, Ambleside, Cumbria LA22 9AG. I should be happy to provide more details of the race as might Chris Radcliffe and Rob Tresidder who have also run it. I intend to run again this year as do one or two others, however for those not as dart, I'm sure I needn't go into detail about

the excellent nearby cragging and fell walking. For accommodation I have booked the Barrow MC hut at Mines House in the Coppermines Valley (map ref 289986).

The Meets list bills this as a dinner meet. This was my original intention; however my enthusiasm was not matched by the committee's. I would however be interested to hear if there would be support for an informal dinner meet away from Derby. What I had in mind requires 40 people to make it viable - as it would revolve around an exclusive booking of Eskdale youth hostel who would provide accommodation and the meal while we brought our own booze.

If you require further details or wish to book please contact me on 0629 823392. I shall be out of the country from 7 August to 5 September.

Ski-ing holiday 1993

Lisa Welbourn is planning a ski-ing party for next winter. She has produced a fact sheet for anyone interested in helping her to choose where to go and what sort of accommodation to book. She writes that she would have preferred to go somewhere other than France this year but "Austria just seems to have hotels and B&B. Italy doesn't seem very high and America is out of my price range, so that seems to leave Switzerland and France..." At the moment she is looking at Verbier, Meribel Mottaret, Val d'Isere and La Plagne.

If you are interested in Ski Oread, contact Lisa at the Brunswick or telephone her on 0332 775243 (home) or 0332 386406/398423 (direct lines at work).
ed

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

June Committee meeting

The annual photo meet is under control. Richard Coghlan organising. The annual dinner is being organised by Mike Wynne. The principal guest will be Derek Walker, General Secretary of the BMC. Cost will be about £15 per head. Details and application form will be circulated with next month's newsletter.

To clarify some points from last month's summary: first Chuck Hooley is keen to continue as a trustee for which the committee is very grateful. Secondly, Keith Gregson has agreed to fill the vacancy caused by Ernie Phillips' retirement. Again the committee is grateful to Ernie for his longstanding support.

The Meets List for 1993 is filling out. There are proposals for French rock at Easter and Italian "ice cragging" in February or March.

The Princess Victoria in Matlock Bath has finally been settled on as our Wednesday evening pub unless otherwise stated (e.g. tomorrow).

Heathy Lea has had significant improvements made to its plumbing - wash basins, water to the barn and for a shower - many thanks to Roy Sawyer.

Tan-yr-Wyddfa now has its full complement of kitchen units. Hob and cooker to be installed shortly. Any member with specific skills appropriate to hut maintenance and willing to participate in this activity is asked to contact Chuck Hooley or John Shreeve.

The Oread Journal is in preparation. Bobby Gilbert has received seven articles so far as well as several promises.

IF ANY MEMBER WOULD LIKE A COPY OF THE MINUTES. PLEASE SEND A STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE TO THE SECRETARY. 12 SUCH ENVELOPES GETS YOU A YEAR'S SUPPLY! IF YOU'D LIKE TO DROP IN ON A COMMITTEE MEETING TO SEE WHAT WE DO. SEE FAIR PLAY. ETC. PLEASE DO SO! WE MEET SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 8 P.M. IN THE BRUNSWICK.

Stephen Bashforth, 14 Farnworth Road, Derby DE3 5EQ

Cwm Eigiau (John Green)

A full complement of old and new Dreads ventured forth into the wilds of the Carneddau to seek refreshment at Cwm Eigiau cottage. Various climbs were done on Craig yr Ysfa, including such gems as Mur y Niwl, Pinnacle Wall, Amphitheatre Rib, Amphitheatre Buttress and Great Gully. Some walked and explored the surrounding cwms and llyns apparently seeing one fish so large that Reg Squires dashed off at great speed to get his trusty rod. Nothing actually appeared and suspicions were aroused! The Saturday evening saw everyone trying their hand at such delights as "Pass the Pigs" and "Cheat". The only problem was that the weekend didn't last long enough. I have booked again for next year but unfortunately only those possessing ear defenders will be admitted.

Thanks to everyone who came and helped make it a great weekend: Colin Barnard, Reg Squires, Pam Storer, Roy Eyre, Nick Evans, Tony and Jenny Raphael, Pete Amour, Richard Coghlan, Steve Bashforth and Sylvia Green.

JG

Eastern Edges (Gil Male)

The cragathon started at heathy Lea before 8.30 on a beautiful sunny morning. Nick and Mike both nursing ankle problems set off to climb at Burbage and Gardom's. The rest of the party consisting of Gil and Gail, Richard and Dawn, Chris, Julia, Steve B, Simon, Steve McD, Dave, Alan, John, Cliff and Rose, Jill, John, Andre and Ian set off for Stanage End to walk the 14 miles back doing a route or routes on each edge. Steve and Paul from Manchester University Caving Club went along with mountain bikes. A fine Alpine training session was in prospect with matching weather and real ale pubs en route.

After climbing on Stanage and the Burbage edges, an aperitif was taken at the Fox House. This proved to be a good rendezvous for the team and was attended by Pete, Helen and baby Sarah in car and Brian on bike. Alan retired hurt at this point with a badly sprained ankle.

It was then on via Froggatt to the Chequers, another splendid rendezvous where we met Tony Hinks on his bike and Roger, Phil and Hannah on their tandem

From here, the party moved on via Curbar to Gardom's where Derek and Ron were climbing. Finally to Birchen's and eventually the Robin Hood for a leisurely sprawl and chat where we were joined by Joanne and Tim.

Many thanks are due to Gil for organising this meet at short notice a meet which was both enjoyable and innovative. Lots of good routes, too numerous to mention here were climbed. Lots of toiling in the hot sun; lots of rehydration in the hostels.

MW

C H A N G E S O F A D D R E S S

Chris Cullew
Domek, Back Lane, Kirby Lonsdale, Cumbria via Carnforth LA6 2AP

Robin Beadie
7 High Brow (1 - ed), Backbarrow, Ulverston, Cumbria LA12 8DN
tel 05395 31598

Bobby Gilbert can now be reached at work direct on 0332 264894.

H U T B O O K I N G S

Tan-yr-Wyddia

July 10/11 P Amour 5 beds
 13/17 Ilkeston Ramblers 16 beds
25 July - 31 August Exclusive Oread use (no bookings)

Heathy Lea

July 24/25 Oread meet

Will the members who have used the Welsh hut over the last few months and have not paid their fees, please forward them to me ASAP.

I have received a report that several cars have been broken into, had petrol stolen and in one case had the fuel pipe cut both in the Welsh hut car park and in the nearby public parking. The police have been informed. Be on your guard. Do not leave valuables in your car and make sure the hut is locked.

Finally, I am hoping to go on holiday from the middle of July. Anyone wishing to use the nuts at short notice should contact Chuck Hooley.
Colin Hooday

S H O R T N E T I C E S

NEW ARRIVAL

Congratulations to Peter and Helen on the birth of their baby Sarah who has already been on a meet. Is this a record?

OREAD JOURNAL

Many thanks to PE, BK, RC, CM, EG, JA and LF for articles received so far. I am looking forward to receiving articles rumoured to be in production from MW, JO'R, TW, RT, RL and GB.

A tentative press date is in late September so as to be ready for distribution at the annual dinner. This means that there is still plenty of time for you to put pen to paper before the deadline.

I would be interested to hear the full story behind the Hoy trip (so would I Bobby, so would I; promises from GW but... - Rob) so perhaps those who attended could nominate a scribe, or even better produce several versions so that I can really test my editorial abilities in combining them.

Also, if anyone has any information on first ascents or details of your own matured Crag X, please send them in. I am hoping to publish details of a Wirksworth quarries guidebook.

Please send any articles to Bobby Gilbert, 14 Campion Street, Derby DE11 3AD.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

An application for full membership has been received from Simon Wren. Will any members who have any views as to the suitability of the candidate please write to the secretary, Steve Bashforth, 14 Farnworth Road, Mickieover, Derby.

NEXT EDITION

I intend to publish the next edition on Tuesday, 4 August. Please send all written material to me at 61 West End, Wirksworth DE4 4EG to arrive by Monday, 28 July. I especially look forward to hearing from Colin Hobday and Richard Hopkinson. Material would be even more welcome if submitted on 5 1/4" diskette, preferably with accompanying printout in case of incompatibility.

Rob Tresidder

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