



OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

NEWSLETTER OF THE OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

February 1993

A real pot pourri to get your teeth (or is it your nose) into this month. Special meets for women, runners, Bulgarians, bureaucrats, cragrats, armchair climbers and ice climbers - even two weekends running in the Lakes - sorry about that Derrick. ed

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

Summary:

Sunday 7 February Women's meet
19 - 20 February Tan-yr-Wyddfa
26 - 27 February Patterdale
Tuesday 2 March Indoor meet
5 - 6 March Brackenclough, Wasdale
Sunday 14 March Oread fell race
saturday 27 March LAGN

Sunday 7 February Women's meet Dawn Hopkinson
Climbing, walking, running day. Meet at Heathy Lea 10 a.m.

19 - 20 February Tan-yr-Wyddfa Rock Hudson
It's too early to predict what the conditions will be in mid-February. It could be fine or wet, cold or warm, deep snow or none. I will say that you are more likely to get in some winter routes on this meet than those in spring, summer or autumn! Whatever the conditions there's always some venue which will provide sport.

This meet will get you fit for the following weekend in the Lake District, so book now. For transport and booking beds, ring me on 0602 333031 or see me down at the Brunswick.

26 - 27 February Patterdale Colin Barnard
Just a few places are left on this late-winter Lake District extravaganza. That's the reason for ringing me a.s.a.p.: the other is that I'm doing my usual trick and disappearing to Scotland the week before the meet, so if you ring after 18 February, you'll be too late, so DO IT NOW.

Snow is booked: the hut, as regulars will know, is superb: the Ratcher's Bar makes a good Friday night watering hole. So ring me on 0735 644614 and I'll see you there.

Tu 2 March Royal Oak, Oakbrook Steve Bashforth
8 p.m. Robert Sovocodo will give a talk on climbing in Czechoslovakia, Eastern Germany and Russia covering crabs on sandstone outcrops, mountain crags and expeditions to the Pamirs. I hope we have a good attendance at this, the last indoor meet of the season. Thank you for your support.

5 - 6 March Brackenclough, Wasdale Rob Tresider
After smallest church, deepest lake and highest mountain, what more can one say of this most remote and beautiful corner of England? Well lots! We will stay in what I believe is the only purpose built mountaineering club hut in the Lakes. Perfectly placed for the flog up Brown Tongue into Hollowstones and the delights of the easy snow gullies on Scafell Pike and the sterner stuff in Steep Ghyll on Scafell itself. Of course superb rock climbing on Scafell or if only the afternoons are sunny, try the low level crags of Tawbarrow and Buckbarrow and maybe even include one of my youthful trifles! Superb scrambles include the hidden gem of Ill Ghyll on Kirkfell, descending by the steepest walk in Lakeland direct to the hotel. The area boasts some of the top walks in the district including the Corridor route to Scafell Pike, recently re-engineered by Ray McHaffie, the Mosedale horseshoe, the Gable girdle and the high level route to Pillar. This meet holds all the aces for all conditions: snow, ice and rock climbing, scrambling, running and walking. For berths in hut and car, see me soon or ring me on 0629 823126 (24h answering).

Saturday 27 March Annual General Meeting
Members are reminded that under rule 17, proposed alterations to the club's rules must be lodged with the secretary by 27 February. Any proposed alterations will be included in the March newsletter.
Nominations for any officer of the club or any committee member must be proposed and seconded in writing and lodged with the secretary by 14 March.

ADVANCE NOTICE

8 - 15 April Paques a Die en Drome Rob Tresider
As promised last month, a translation of Jean-Marc's welcoming letter:

For a short stay, there are in the immediate environs of Die, three crags which should offer what you are after. They are: Romever, Val-croissant and le Claps de Luc. You may also "canvon" at le Rio Sourd and there are big routes at Grandasse or Archiane if the weather is fine... An outing to Umblece and Saou could persuade you back another year...

As far as the camping is concerned, the only site close to the town which could be open at this time of year is the municipal site on the Romever road. I have been in touch with the manageress: the camp site opens on the 9th April, but an earlier opening could be arranged to fit in with your dates.

For us the "Easter" holidays are very late this year (24 April to 9 May). If you come to Die, I think that the Sport & Nature department or our school could work with you: we have some very good climbers for whom the contact could be very enriching.

In any case, I am at your disposal for more detailed information and indeed for anything you think might be useful in moving your project forward.

I intend to be in Eie with my family from April 5 - 15. Please let me know if you hope to come as it may assist arrangements at the French end. Also please see me if you need a lift or could offer one to someone else.

ADVANCE NOTICE

1 - 5 May Isle of Skye Richard Coghlan
It should be too early in the year for midges, but the weather may be a little too unreliable for a full week under canvas. I have therefore booked two caravans on the Sligachan side of Sconser Village. These are not static type caravans but were described by the proprietor as being of the largest size that can legally be towed behind a vehicle. They hold 4 people each. If there is sufficient interest, I shall try to book another one.

The cost will only be £2.50 per person per night and this is probably one of the few places on the island where there is a choice of two pubs within walking distance. Three of the eight places are already taken, so see me soon if you are thinking of coming.

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

January committee meeting

It was agreed that the committee would nominate Ron Chambers as a candidate for president at the AGM at the end of March. Richard Coghlan agreed to nomination for treasurer. The possibility of an exchange with Bulgarian climbers was discussed (see note below). There was a very vigorous discussion about qualifications for membership. The full range of opinion was aired ranging from "take their money and run" to something approaching a two year apprenticeship, frequent attendance at meets (including all working parties) and a bottomless pocket to keep the meets fed in beer. Your views please. Rook Hudson reported from the Peak District committee of the BMC that there had been high links on High Tor with a climber being attacked by someone from the care. (Presumably they have finally rumpled the one about me leaving my money in my sack at the bottom!) Anyway tread carefully and also at the mass trespass planned for Rainster. I don't know why he told the Oread this since my little jaunt there last year only attracted one other climber. The wings went to Harborough!
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C H A N G E S O F A D D R E S S

John Dench
8 Clive Road, Fittingham, Staffordshire. WV6 7BU

Tony Fidler
51 The Parkway, Darley Dale, Derbyshire DE4 2FW

H U T B O O K I N G S

Tan-yr-Wyddra

February	5 - 6	Orpheus MC 15 beds
	12 - 13	Open University 16 beds
	19 - 20	GMC meet
	26 - 27	GS Exiles 16 beds
		Oread room full - G Foster
March	5 - 6	Southern Trekking 15 beds

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions fall due on 1 January, so if you haven't yet put your hand in your pocket, you are now late! Cheques should be made payable to "Oress MC" and sent to the treasurer, Roger Larkam, 5 St John's Terrace, Derby DE1 3LJ. The committee have set subscriptions for this year as follows:

Member	£19	Senior
Family Membership	£30	£11
Partner of Honorary Member	£15	£18
Prospective member	£8	£9
		£4

(A senior member is one of pensionable age).

Names of declared members will be sent to the BMC on 28 February.

WANTED

We are in need of a new storage heater for Heathy Lea. If you have a heater which you would like to donate to the cottage, please contact Chuck Hooley or anyone on the huts sub-committee.

NEXT EDITION

I intend to publish the next edition on Tuesday, 2 March. Please send all written material to me at 61 West End, Wirksworth DE4 4EG to arrive by Monday, 12 February. Material would be even more welcome if submitted on 5.25" diskette, preferably with accompanying printout in case of incompatibility. I especially look forward to hearing from Freda Rapnael, Roger Larkam and Harry Prett.

Rob Tresidder

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