

OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

NEWSLETTER FOR APRIL 1994

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The snow as in most recent years has promised only to disappoint, but the season is not entirely over. There is still the Patterdale meet to come, and the Fell race which will be more fun if it snows. We must too attend to the essential running of the club at the AGM. before commencing the evening climbing program or enjoying the Spring Walk.

summary

8-9 April.....Tan yr Wyddfa Work Party

15-16 April....S.Pennines/Yorks Grit

22-23 April....Heathy Lea

27 (Wed).....Wildcat

29-1 May MAYDAY ..

.....Northumberland

9-10 April work party tan yr wyddfa hut sub-committee

It's time for the all important jobs to be done on your hut, so that the high standards which are expected can be maintained.

The jobs which need to be carried out during the weekend are- emulsion painting of walls in various rooms, upkeep of grounds, painting outside around windows, general annual maintenance.

The hut sub- committee would be very pleased if

.....the most useless tradesman or woman can work on any task.....

some members would come along and help. For more details ring John Shreeve(0332-673945) or Chuck Hooley (0335-370463), or see a sub committee member in the Brunswick the Tuesday before, but please note that Easter falls the week before. Note that the Oread is an equal opportunities club (sod all for anyone) , it is not a 'closed shop', the most useless tradesman or woman can work on any task, and all workers (or shirkers) are expected to attend union meetings in the local (branch office).

15-17 April Godzone - South Yorkshire - Stuart Firth

The South Yorkshire area is sandwiched between the Yorkshire Dales and Peak District National Parks and itself was nearly designated as such several years ago. It contains some magnificent countryside and, as a consequence of its "non-status", is not well known as a recreation area - despite it containing the crossroads of the Pennine and Calderdale Ways and some excellent crags (Yorkshire Gritstone guide). The advantage, of course, is no crowds.

Climbing and walking possibilities are endless but, if there are enough takers and the weather is amenable, the plan is attempt the circuit of the Calderdale Way in two days - 55 miles in all - a mere double marathon to keen runners.

For accommodation, I propose to turn my house into a climbing hut for the weekend - beds for a few, lots of floor space and facilities for tents/campervans. Breakfast will be provided at a nominal fee and evening meals will be taken at the local pub.

To book in, please phone me in advance so that I can let the pub know approximate numbers. I will send travel details to those who need them. Telephone 0422 824324.

22-23 April Heathy Lea rob tresid-der

What new to say about Heathy Lea? Perhaps this is the meet for less experienced Oreads. I shall start the weekend on Friday night by warming up on Birchens edge before adjourning to the Robin Hood at dusk . If the weather is anything like I shall try to climb on Chatsworth Edge for the first time for years. If it has been even better I might even make the long trek to remoter rock on Kinder. If the weather is foul, I shall not go to the Foundry but will run in the Shining Tor race in the Goyt Valley. (Saturday 2pm. EOD) Anyway the most important event will be the pub on Saturday night. Beer buffs please advise me, but Robin Hood for the short walki home, Wheat-

sheaf for pwope watching etc. etc. See me or 'phone (0629 823953 or 823126) For berths lifts or public transport details.

29 April 1 May MAYDAY Northumberland rob tresidder

Sorry folks, I've been caught out by Rusty's shortening deadlines and early publication dates! So I offer this skeleton programme without on the spot, in depth research.

I propose to camp near the River Coquet . On Saturday we'll climb nearer the tents on Ravensheugh, Sandy crag or Simonside. After striking camp on Monday morning we'll break the journey home, stopping at Crag Lough on the way.

I'm sorry I can't give more details now, This is an outstanding and seldom visited area for climbing and walking , so I hope the meet will be well supported by look-no hands mountaineers as well as rock-jocks. There will be no skiing But out in these wide open spaces there must be some good mountain biking (are you reading this, Penlington? Ed.) I shall have a factsheet ready in April , so ring me for a copy or pick one up from me in the Brunswick on a Tuesday or the PRINCESS vic on a WEDNESDAY.

B.A R M Y Competition Colin Hobday

PAST EVENTS

mARCH committee meeting

This meeting was largely occupied making final preparations for the AGM , including finalising the accounts and nominations, and updating the club's membership list.

fell race

This year's event was centred on Heathy Lea and required competitors to follow a clearly defined course with no deviations.

competitors were required to submit their estimated times for two points round the course (Nelson's and Wellington's monuments) plus their time back at Heathy Lea. Walkers started around 10-30 and runners left en masse at 11-00

Unrevealed to the contestants at the start was the decision that the trophy would be awarded to he or she who came closest to their estimated time at Wellington's monument.

Competitor's performances are recorded in the attached table.

First man back was Clive Russell closely followed by Al Clark, Roger Larkham and Pete Lancaster. First comparisons of the check point indicated an apparently clear winner in Clive, with a delta of only 1 minute. However, check point marshall's reports on course compliance revealed a different story. A sorry record of arrivals at check points from the wrong directions or in some cases missed completely. One keen eyed motorist saw Chris Wilson down in Baslow running past the Wheatsheaf- inwhich direction is unclear. That he apparently did not attempt to enter one is uncertain whether to applaud or condemn.

Clearly navigational accuracy is not an Oread forte.

As a consequence all the runners were disqualified and the trophy awarded to Pam Storer , Chris Eyre and Jet (the guide dog?) A satisfying verification (especially for those of my age) that the is usually to the long, not the swift.

My thanks are due to Esmond for an admirable choice of course, to John Gresty, Richard Coghlan and Sue(the soup) for their assistance, and to all of you who took part

C.J.

(It would be an abuse of my position to question the eyesight, judgement, morals and parentage of a small bearded man, reputedly a friend of the elder organiser, who was lurking around Wellington's monument-ed)

patterdale meet

Despite a wild forecast a good crowd nearly filled the George Starkey Hut ; would indeed have done so but for late cancellations and one non-appearance. (Yes Chris Bryan it's you to whom I'm referring!)

Anxious to have an incentive never to forget her boots again, Pam Storer wore the meet leader's 'B' pair all Saturday. Determined to punish herself to the last extreme she continued to cripple her tootsies all day, despite having a pair of comfy trainers in her sack. So Pam keeps her trainers dry, and will never leave her boots at Ashcroft, weighed down by his burgeoning embonpoints gave the top feet of Helvellyn a miss, but Penlington and Coghlan fought their way onto the icy, windswept plateau. On the icy, windswept plateau. of Fairfield the meetleader and team practiced going round and round in ever decreasing circles. There were rumours of an epic run across the tops, which even by Hopkinson standards was a star performance in the conditions. Other people stayed a bit lower and a bit warmer, or got back early to avoid Saturday's rapidly deteriorating weather.

Sunday dawned evil with ferocious winds. Those who left early missed an improving day, but not one on which the tops would have been pleasant. As one wag remarked, observing the sunlit but windswept fells from the comfort of the bar of the Brotherswater Hotel, happiness is a kilogram of chips, two pints and a plate glass window between you and the elements. Watching Russell demolish chip butties is a pretty awesome experience. Thanks to all who came
C.B.

HUT NEWS

bookings tan yr wyddfa

March 4/5 Solihull MC. 16 beds

March 11/12 Vacant

March 18/19 Surbiton MC. 8 beds

March 25/26 G.P.T. Beeston 12 beds

April 1/2/3/4 Easter Oread

April 8/9 Work party

April 15/16 R.R. J Corden 16 beds

April 22/23 G. Gadsby Whole hut

April 29/30 - May 1/2 May Day Oread

bookings heathy lea

March 4/5 Northumbrian M.C. 6 beds

please note Colin Hobday will be away on holiday from March 31 to April 16. Anyone wishing to use the huts at short notice should contact Chuck Hooley

BRAIN TEASER

Brian West was struggling into a headwind on his state-of-the-art 531 framed bicycle, fitted with 686 mm. dia. tubular tyres, when Colin Hobday flashed past on his old sit up and beg, ride to work bike with 26 inch by 1 3/8 inch tyres. By chance, as they drew level, both tyre valves were vertical on the rims. By an amazing chance, when they stopped later at the Miner's Standard both valves were again at the top of the rims, and in the meantime, this had occurred at a number of positions along the road equal to the height, in metres, of the highest point in Staffordshire. (that is to say although they passed these points at different times, both valves were at the top of the rims when they passed.)

How much time, to the nearest minute, elapsed from when Colin, who was averaging 40 kilometres per hour, passed Brian, until he stopped at the pub?

(Send an s.a.e for your answer, book token for the first correct solution opened.)

Any replies from Rolls Royce applied mathematicians will be fed to the livestock

SHORT NOTICES

{ Last month's brain teaser prize was won by the president., but, judging by orgasmic noises off when I telephoned him, he received considerable assistance.

{ Nichola Bashforth (nee Braine) was admitted to membership of the Oread at the March Committee meeting.

NEXT EDITION

I hope to publish this on Thurs March 31. I am now working away, and need to prepare the newsletter at weekends, so it is essential that material reaches me by Sat march 26. I look forward to hearing from **Stuart Firth and Rob Tresidder**

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P.S. Don't forget the indoor meet
next Tues (1st March), speaker
Peter Holden