

OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

NEWSLETTER FOR DECEMBER

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Summary

- 6 Dec Indoor Meet Royal Oak
Ockbrook
- 9-10 Dec Bullstones
- Wed 14 Dec Black Rocks
- 1 Jan '95 Sun The George Alstonfield
- 3 Jan Grand Auction

6 Dec Indoor Meet Royal Oak Ockbrook

This month's extravaganza features Rock Hudson on "Christmas at 7000m. and climbing the mountains of the Moon". I know that Rock's good humour and patient wisdom will provide entertainment to attract you in droves

9-10 Dec Bullstones David Jones (More Details)

Since the last newsletter, arrangements for the Bullstones Meet have been firmed up. The starting point is, as previously advertised, the Padarn Lake Hotel in Llanberis. I'll probably be in the bit with the pool table. The first night will be spent in a hut in the slate quarries above Llanberis. I anticipate staying in a shed on one of the upper levels, but Friday night weariness may cause a stay in one of the lower ones. There's a bunkhouse near Tryfan booked for the Saturday night, so the Glyders will have to be crossed on Saturday to get there. There are no pubs within sensible striking distance, but consignments of food and drink can be left at the bunkhouse on the Friday night. Anyone wishing to do this should contact me for details of the bunkhouse.

You know it makes sense!

Wed 14 Dec Black Rocks

Keith Gregson has kindly made the arrangements for this traditional pre-Christmas excursion when we shall show our disregard for the rigours of the English winter (wet and nasty, but without the redeeming presence of snow in this post global warming era,) with an evening ascent of a route or two of our choosing at Black Rocks, or a similar local crag, before congregating in the Princess Victoria for conviviality and nourishment, which will be available from about 8.30pm. It is usual to arrange beforehand with whom to climb, owing to the difficulties of locating Oreads in the dark.

The event brings back personal recollections of retrieving Squires' spectacles from the noisome confines of Queen's Parlour Chimney. The following year he claimed that the battery of his head-torch was flat and with lamentable lack of planning, or was it a desire to be absent? only tried to obtain a replacement on the night.

1 Jan 1995 (Sun) The George Alstonfield Clive Russell

Following last year's well attended event, and walk in, the George is considered the best venue for the occasion on current form (The Gate has never been as welcoming since the departure of our friend Eddie Castledine). For the sake of variety however I propose to offer a different route from last year for the walk-in. We shall meet at Hartington Station car park on the Tissington Trail at 10.45 for an 11 am. start, and approach via Beresford Dale and Narrowdale. We can then return intoxicated and benighted, over familiar ground down to Iron Tors, finishing along the Trail which offers the facility of easy walking in the dark for the elderly and those unsteady

of gait. Conditions are expected to be seriously muddy, poncy alpine gaiters and the like will be frowned upon. The meet leaders dress will be in the expendable category. It will be advisable however to bring a pair of gym shoes or slippers for use in the pub.

Please note that the meeting place is not exactly in Hartington, but is at map ref. 150 611 off the B5054

3 Jan Grand Auction Royal Oak Ockbrook

See November Edition for particulars.

FUTURE EVENTS

7 Feb Indoor Meet Ockbrook

Tim Cairns has sent particulars of this event which will be disclosed next month, he will give a 2 part slide show on "winter Climbing" and "Recent Trips to the Alps". Meanwhile, put the date in your diaries.

PAST EVENTS

November Committee Meeting

The meeting was largely occupied with debate about the final arrangements for the dinner, the meets card, and the budget for 1995. After a full discussion, the treasurer's proposals for funding the club were slightly modified by a slight reduction in the proposed hut expenditure, and a budget involving unchanged membership subscriptions was accepted. The Meets secretary produced an almost finalised 1995 meets card which after some on-the-spot additions, was approved, and there was a final run through the dinner arrangements

Golden Oldies Ernie Phillips

It rained all the previous week, and continued through the weekend. I blame Doreen for this

- the prayer wheel she sent contained an Indian rain dance instead of a fine weather mantra.

Saturday saw the 'A' team of Stuart Firth and his enamourata (is this singular or plural Ernie?- Ed.) head for the four cols. It seems that they found three of them. The 'B' team thought they would head for Snowdon, whilst the 'C' team, "Young" Appleby, Dr. Death and myself headed for Borth y Gest Here a thin penetrating drizzle fell remorselessly, from sea - level cloud. We eventually retired hurt to the Golden Fleece at Tremadoc. The dog - dropper brown decor is just the same as it was 30 years ago.

I made about a gallon of Gluhwein for teatime, a good foundation for the Saturday evening libations at the pub in Bettws Garmon, where the landlady did us proud in the private room.

Sunday was spent socialising and local ambling as most members drifted off home, but in spite of the inclemency of the weather, a good time was had by all.

Dovedale Dash

The conditions at the event, especially at the stepping stones where, doddering and senile. I missed my footing in the crowd and sampled the balmy November temperatures of the Dove, brought to mind a saying of our late friend Douglas Milner, who entertained us so superbly at the 'photo meets of the '60's and 70's, "how I hate the human race, how I hate its ugly face." Apart from the overcrowding however, it was enjoyable to see familiar faces and hear encouragement and friendly insults in the crowd. The Oread running form, matched against increasingly serious athletic club type opposition, was no disgrace, and the

performance of John o' Reilly, the leading Oread this year, was a major surprise.

Oread positions were as follows

John O'Reilly	66
Clive Russell	103
Richard Hopkinson	104
Esmond Tresidder	114
Mike Wynn	188
Rob Tressider	216
David Jones	260
Roger Larkham	264
Annie Wynn	433 (1st Oread Lady, Larkham failed the scrutineers)
Robin Sedgewick	565
Ron Chambers	566
Chris Wilson	660
Dawn Hopkinson	680
Dennis Davies	681
Ruth Gordon	866
Val ?	891
George Fowler	991
Graham Foster	995

HUT NEWS

Bookings Heathy Lea

Bookings Tan Yr Wyddfa

Dec 2-3	Polaris MC. 8 Beds
Dec 9-10	Derwent MC. 16 Beds
Christmas	Vacant
New Year	10 Beds

SHORT NOTICES

- ◆ Stuart Haywood was admitted to full membership of the Oread at the November committee meeting
- ◆ Tim Cairns has applied for membership of the Oread, and anyone with views regarding his suitability is invited to

write accordingly to the secretary before the end of December.

- ◆ Ernie Phillips again added to a distinguished climbing career by an ascent, during late summer, of Commando Ridge, more meritorious because of the considerable time lapse since his debut. This epic finally dispelled persistent rumours that bone tissue left from his recent hip surgery has been used to make the handle of a lady member's walking stick!
- ◆ Bev and Kath Abley have realised a long ambition by moving to the Lake District. Their new address is Rivendell, Skelwith Fold, Ambleside, Cumbria LA22 0HU. They also now own an attached 4 bed cottage which will be available to let to Oread members at preferential rates. Their new telephone number is 05394 33752
- ◆ Ian Sutton has for sale a pair of Mountain Range Gortex salopettes. His description is- Blue (strata on knees - rear), full length side zips, 2 year guarantee, XL (suit someone 6ft.+), unused. £100. Ian's phone number is 0695 29880
- ◆ The committee in general, and the organiser in particular, were concerned about the poor attendance at the Photo Meet, one of the highlights of the year in times gone by, and would welcome any suggestions or opinions from members as to whether the event should be a) discontinued, or b) presented in a different form in future.
- ◆ There will be an exhibition at the Alpine Club 55 Charlotte Rd. London EC2A 3QT entitled WHERE MEN AND

MOUNTAINS MEET. It is an exhibition by artists past and present and Alpine Club members open 11.30 - 6.30 Wed 7th to Monday 12th Dec. (open Sat, closed Sun.), admission free. Harry Pretty has exhibited 3 watercolours. 2 of S. Georgia, and 1 of Lyngen, Arctic Norway. Private viewing is from 6.00p.m. to 8.00 p.m., Tues. 6th. Dec.

SUBSCRIPTIONS 1995

The basic subs for next year are the same as for the last 2 years, but BMC fees have gone up. The rates are

Member	£16
Senior member	£8
Family membership	£24
Senior family membership	£12
Prospective membership	£8
Partner of honorary member	£12

Please pay £3.50 in addition to the above figures if you want BMC membership. The subs are payable by 31st. December 1994. Leave it longer than this and your subs will be late Leave it until March and you risk being asked to pay a re-joining fee or worse still, being chucked out of the club permanently.

The BMC list is finalised on 1st. Feb. 1995. Any overpayments (eg uncanceled standing orders, BMC subs received after 1st. Feb) will be treated as donations to club funds and will not be returned.

Please make cheques payable to "Oread MC" and send them to me at 4 Peterlee Place Alvaston Derby DE24 0DN

Richard Coghlan (Hon Treasurer.)

NEXT EDITION

I hope to post this on Jan 5th. I have not been informed who are the meet leaders for Jan.

except for Colin Hobday (Winter Walk), but it is essential that some particulars reach me for this and the *Wales and Lakes meets before post ceases for the Christmas break*, otherwise it will not be possible to issue a worthwhile circular for January, and the meets may not be attended.

Clive Russell (Newsletter Editor)

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Grand January Auction

of mountaineering equipment and ephemera (loosely defined) to be held on *Tuesday 3 January 1995* in the *Royal Oak Auction Rooms*.

To ensure a successful sale, please turn up in large numbers, with cash, bankers' drafts or letter of credit agreement from Swiss banks. Sellers are asked to submit their goods at 7.30pm for lotting.

Sale regulations and conditions

- 1.No private sales to be arranged on pain of black-balling.
- 2.A commission of 15% of sale price to the club. NB no buyer's premium
- 3.A reserve price may be notified to the auctioneer.
- 4.Payment to be made before removing goods.
- 5.All goods are at buyer's risk.
- 6.Surplus Himalayan expedition equipment which has not been cleared by the Indian Health Authorities cannot be offered for sale.
- 7.Boots should be treated with athletes foot powder or disinfected before entry in the sale.
- 8.No tights or underwear which has been involved in a serious fall should be offered for sale

Reg. Squires - auctioneer.