



OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

NEWSLETTER FOR AUGUST 1995

summary

August 12-13 Woodlands Derwent Valley
Circuit

August 19-20 The Roaches

August 25-29 Arran

August 12-13 woodlands derwent valley circuit jack ashcroft (extra meet)

This addition to the meets list is not an objection to climbing wall meets, Derbyshire Dales meets or mid-week quarry meets; it's just an appropriate summer walk to add interest to the programme for those who have not travelled further afield this August, and for whom a wander in the Dark Peak may appeal.

I was full of enthusiasm with a first thought of the classic Sixteen Stones walk. Madwoman's Stones - Wain Stones- Bleaklow Stones - Hoar Stones - Crow Stones - Hurling Stones to itemise but a few. But then discretion crept into the exercise and bearing in mind the advancing age median a more modest day is planned. When did you last link Haggwater Bridge, Alport Castles, Slippery Stones and Derwent Edge in a day long walk? This will be it. Sorry, no pubs but for those familiar with the terrain there is the let out for a cup of tea at Derwent Dam or Jubilee Cottages on what may be described as the short ten mile round, as opposed to the long twenty mile circuit.

Meet Saturday August 12th. 9.30 a.m. G.R. 198 839 (Car park near Thornhill)

Sunday your choice of climbing edge. Maybe Birchens with the Victory's and Emma's favourite or Black Rocks with V.J. Crack (F.A. Harding/Lee/Horsefield 16/8/45).

Hut bookings 0114 2890717

N.B. There is a pub or two at the 19th mile on the Saturday Walk (O.K. big deal)

august 19-20 the roaches roger larkham

"The finest and most impressive of all British gritstone crags... The view from the crest of the ridge is magnificent... The crags offer almost the complete spectrum of types and standards

of climbing." So wrote Dave Jones in the 1981 guide about this area which is neither in Yorkshire nor Derbyshire.

There is every reason then to discontinue the meets list neglect this local area and construct a little adventure composed of climbing walking or even spectating.

I suggest Hen Cloud on Saturday and the Roaches on Sunday with camping over Saturday night and discussion therefore in The Rock. Enquiries, arrangements and criticism will be coordinated via 01332 383371 (home), 266054 (work) or the Brunswick.

august 25-29 arran steve bashforth

August Bank Holiday on Arran! what could be better than classic granite rock routes or walking on Arran's compact Fells.- all walking starts near sea level. We plan to travel up on Friday evening and B&B or camp on the mainland on Friday night with an eye to catching the 7.00.am sailing, unless we are fortunate to just catch the last ferry around 8.30 pm. from Ardrossen to Brodick. We will camp in Glen Rosa, not far from good hostelrys in Brodick. Our loose strategy is to have a good day out walking along the main ridge, explore routes on Cir Mhor, then to try classic rock routes on A'Chir; the order will depend on the weather which can be fickle. I do recommend you bring midge repellent-they are not as bad as Skye midges, but they're still fairly nasty beasties! OS Map sheet 64 covers Arran and some climbs are described in "Scottish Climbs" by Hamish MacInnes.

Please contact me if you are going, it will be helpful to write to the campsite to arrange for all our tents to be located together and to ensure we have places. We plan to leave on Tuesday late morning, but those with more holiday may want to stay longer.

important notice

The drought and heatwave conditions are still continuing. The National Park Authorities have now closed 51200 acres of moorlands in their ownership. (It sounds more than 80 square miles doesn't it?) I understand that public rights of way are not affected, but it may still be worthwhile ascertaining the exact position from meet leaders before setting out. I myself am pursuing enquiries to try and discover precisely where we are supposedly permitted or not permitted to go.

FUTURE EVENTS

september 2-3 Ogwen valley daryl kirk

Particulars of this meet should have been included in the current circular, but the meet leader has not responded to my request for particulars. Rather than miss this delightful area with walking, scrambling par excellence, and rock climbs ranging from the fine Moderates like Rowan and North Buttress on Tryfan to the classics like Munich climb, the fine upper routes of Idwal (Lazarus being my own favourite), and the more remote routes of the Carneddau, I suggest you either ring Daryl and get him out of bed, or just go anyway.

PAST EVENTS

Yorkshire Gritstone Meet 24.-25 June

I would like to mark yet another successful Oread meet and thank the organiser for his efforts to ensure that everything went smoothly. This was in spite of the injuries which prevented him from climbing that weekend. (A rather bizarre mountain biking accident, I believe)

The meet was attended by Mitchel and Alison, Kev Alsobrook, Daryl Kirk, Julia Stowell, Steve Bennet, Nick Evans, Al Clark, Lisa Welbourne, Richard Coghlan and Graham Weston. Between us we visited Brimham, Almscliffe and the best of the local mountain bike circuits. I would like to go back next year, but after the riotous behaviour in the Craven Arms, will we be allowed?

Richard Coghlan.

HUT NEWS

Colin Hobday will be away from July 29th. to August 13th. Anyone wishing to use the huts between these dates should contact C. Hooley.

Bookings Heathy Lea

Aug 11/12 Loughton M.C.
Cottage and Barn

Bookings Tan Yr Wyddfa

Aug 9/20 Smedley/Gregson 6 beds
Sep 3/7 C.Cullum whole

hut

SHORT NOTICES

- { Steve Bennet has applied for full membership of the Oread, and so any member with views regarding his suitability should write to the secretary in time for the September committee meeting.
- { The Committee would like to remind the club that a membership application consisting of mere signatures is not acceptable. A covering letter is expected from the proposer and comment as to suitability expected from the supporters.
- { Advance warning for competition photographers:- a Photo Competition will take place this year, hopefully on November 11th. or thereabouts. Details later.
- { Colin Hobday and Richard Coghlan now have a supply of club badges, similar in style to the old metal ones of yore. These are for sale at £2.50 each, and the vendors ask that anyone ordering by post should send a return s.a.e.

two items from the president

- { On behalf of the Oread I would like to congratulate Harry Pretty on his 70th. birthday. The club owes its huts, its outlook, indeed its very existence to Harry and his contem-

poraries. As the Oread nears its 50th anniversary it is good to see that Harry is still there doing what he's always done. I shall say no more. Happy birthday Harry.

{ By now most of you will have heard of the death of Nat Allen - uncle Nat to many of us. In this newsletter is an appreciation of Nat written by his lifelong friend Derek Carnell. I am sure that with me you will agree with his concluding affirmation, which offers as fine a memorial as man can wish for: to live forever in our hearts. Brian West.

JOHN REGINALD (NAT) ALLEN 1928 -1995

When, on the next Bank Holiday, I travel down to Pembroke, it will be in the knowledge that a major strand in my life is broken and that an era is ended. With the death of Nat Allen in June, the interwoven pattern of our lives was ended, and the spirals of our rope forever severed. Now, whilst I grieve his loss, the many, notable memories of the 46 years I spent Climbing and Socialising with Nat remain at least to cheer me. I remember my first climb with him - Black Slab on Stanage - then many more on Gritstone, Limestone and Granite peaks: in Wales, the Lakes, Scotland and Ireland too. The Alpine holidays, rock climbing and mountaineering routes among the great and lesser ranges. In good or bad weather, scorching heat, frozen, wet or baked - we tried them all, but always his enthusiasm, skill and indomitable spirit coupled with an innate stubbornness to achieve his goals, made Nat a cherished partner.

From the 1960s until his death, we found a common purpose on the Pembrokeshire sea-cliffs, regularly climbing together, doing new routes (some 200 plus), and with others, exploring the possibilities. Nat's enthusiasm was boundless, he always had ideas on where to go, what to do, and was a source of inspiration, if not to say competitiveness amongst our little group. 'Secret Craggs' abound, and we hugged ourselves each time we forged another route.

My final memory of Nat is of us climbing together in Pembroke on the last day of May this year; neither of us in the best of health - me with a knee op, he with the debilitating effect of his illness. We both crept (in every sense of the word!) away from our friends doing their hard routes, to climb a couple of slabby V Diffs in a secluded bay - 'Summer's End was to be the last climb Nat did in Pembroke. We sat, watching the setting sun pointing a rosy finger along the sea in Ramsey Sound and I saw a serenity in his face and felt with him his pleasure at having done the routes despite his illness. Ruth had joined us and we laughed and talked easily in the euphoria of just sitting there, in the grass, above the crag, above the sea, reliving the earlier times and making plans to visit Ireland again before too long. Just over 3 weeks later Nat was dead.

With his death, the Climbing world loses a most active, erudite and friendly man; one who had managed to mix easily with people of all levels, ages and experiences while still remaining true to his own principles. On the personal side, I lost the truest, closest friend that I have ever had. Thank you Nat for your steadfast and reliable companionship in the hills, for enriching my life; giving, not just for me, but many others, a different perspective on Life itself, an enthusiasm for it, and, an even greater satisfaction from it. I am proud and happy to have known you. You live forever in our hearts.

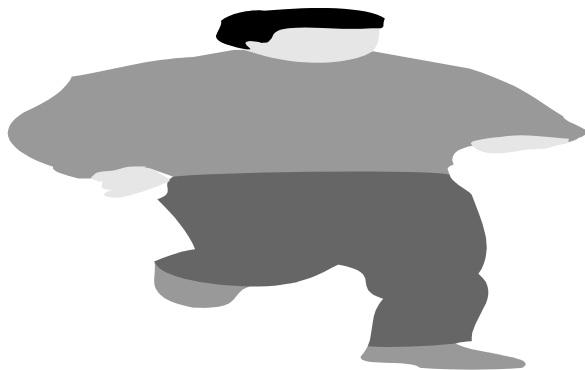
JOHN REGINALD (NAT) ALLEN
1928 -1995
Derek Carnell.

BRAIN TEASER

Last months problem

This was solved with ease by Hereward Tressider, Rob Tressider, Chuck Hooley, Digger Williams and Tony Smedley (apologies if

01335 390369



I've forgotten someone) The answer was fifteen teeth, and there was a slight rounding error in my question. I award myself the moral victory this time,

RUNNING SCENE

Rob Tressider and Chris Radcliffe have prepared a list of fell races. I have mixed feelings whether this should be published in a mountaineering club circular, even though I am interested myself. Fell races on the mountains are relevant, evening hill races marginally so, road running, in my view a separate sport, none of these however conflict with the aims of the Or-ead, and I am sure either of the gentlemen named would send their program on receipt of a return envelope.

Incidentally, Chris, Rob, Richard and Dawn Hopkinson and Anne and Mike Wynne are now all running extremely well.

NEXT EDITION

I hope to post this on *Sat Sept 2nd* It is essential that particulars of all events for this edition reach me by *Friday August 25th. and preferably earlier*
I look forward to hearing from Graham Weston, Ron Chambers and myself.

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