

OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

NEWSLETTER FOR MARCH 1995

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

summary

March 4-5 Tan yr Wyddfa
March 7 Indoor Meet Ockbrook-Birds and Bergs
March 11-12 Patterdale
March 17-19 The Ben
March 25-26 Trail Quest cancelled (see substitute)

march 4-5 tan yr wyddfa Kev alsobrook (repeat)

Kevin has stepped into his own breech to lead this meet, but I still have the problem of composing yet another interesting, and different epistle about T.Y.W.

The intention is to again react to conditions and take advantage of either the late end of the snow, if available, or else crock climbing if conditions allow. ("crock" was originally a misprint, but I decided to leave it in.) Ring 0332 553195 to book beds etc.

March 7 . indoor meet ockbrook birds and bergs paul bingham

Falklands and Antarctic wild life and scenery as encountered the lazy way - during a wild-life cruise. lots of birds, lots of scenery, no action. Oread decadence personified. Active Oreads can plan new routes up inviting looking mountains and crags. desperate Oreads might fancy a penguin

march 11-12 patterdale colin barnard

Contrary to indications this is not a day meet, or it had better not be, as I have reserved 20 places in the eastern Lakes 'Hilton Hotel', the George Starkey Hut (GR 394162).

I had begun to fear a snow-free winter, but as I write the forecasts for northern Britain are making increasingly frequent references to the white stuff. Places are already going rapidly so good company is guaranteed. The 'White Lion' has an excellent selection of ales to complete your mountain day, (No one is in a better position to dissert on this point than Barnard- Ed.) and it is there that I sug-

gest we foregather on Friday night. For one or more of the remaining berths ring me after 19.30 on 01785 664644, but hurry, hurry, hurry.....

mARCH 17-19 THE BEN DARYL KIRK

Although this meet is listed as 18 - 19 March, it is my intention to travel through Thursday night (16 March) and arrive in the early hours of Friday morning at Achintee Bunkhouse. To this end I have booked 6 beds for Friday night and 10 beds for Saturday night, as the conditions will be excellent!

There will be room for those wishing to stay on, as I might. A lot of interest has been shown, so ring me A.S.A.P. to avoid sleeping on the floor.

So all you have to do now is fall out of the Bunkhouse, walk up the tourist path around the Halfway Locken and there you have it. "THE BIG BAD BEN." See you on the North Buttress.

Tel (0602) 490996 after &.30 PM

march 24-25 Trail quest substitute

The original meet has been cancelled. Hopefully this will be the last cancellation this year in view of new arrangements.

If anyone wants a day out on Sunday March 26, I shall be at Windgather Rocks, no matter what the weather, from 10 am until noon, if conditions are reasonable for gritstoning, we shall stay the rest of the day, but if it is very wet and windy, the state of the party will be reviewed. If fit and virile, there will be a training run for our ever-growing band of fell runners, but if the party is not judged suitable then a geriatric walk in the direction of Lamaload Reservoir will be arranged, both options might even be exercised if numbers warrant it.

C.R.

April 1 annual general meeting

The A.G.M. will be at the Princess Victoria at Matlock Bath, commencing at 8pm.

The committee nominations for club officers

for 1995-6 are as follows:

President-	Brian West
Vice President and Meets Secretary -Ron Chambers	
Treasurer-	Rich. Coghlan
Hut Custodian-	Chuck Hooley,
Hut Booking Secretary	Colin Hobday
Secretary-	Stephen Bashforth
Assistant Secretary	Tony Raphael
Newsletter Editor-	Clive Russell.
Committee mem.	Graham Weston
Committee mem	Mike Hayes

No nominations or rule change proposals have been received from the membership.

Please make every effort to attend.

FUTURE EVENTS

April 8-9 Welsh Hut working party

Its time for the annual spring clean at Tan Yr Wyddfa so that members and guests can enjoy the facilities. The committee hopes that enough members will attend, so that the following jobs can be carried out.:

- 1) Dig trench for new gas tank.
- 2) Repair living room ceiling.
- 3) Paint kitchen.
- 4) Fix tiles at back window of lounge.
- 5) General maintenance inside and out.
- 6) Clean chimneys.

If you would like to help out, contact Rock Hudson, John Shreeve, Colin Hobday, or see them at the Brunswick, the Tuesday preceding Hut Sub-committee

Easter meet france richard hopkinson

Having done some more research and borrowed a guidebook I have firmed up on the Ardeche for at least the first half of this meet. I intend to camp at Mazet Plage (Just East of Les Vans mentioned in the last newsletter) which would appear to offer at least a couple of crags within walking distance of the campsite, as well as others in the area, and climbing at all grades.

Other details remain as in the last newsletter. I will produce an information sheet nearer the time (with campsite details etc.). In the meantime if you want any more

information etc. please see me or give me a ring. (0629 823392)

(To recap, Richard's dates in the last n/l were-out April 13, back April 22- Ed.)

alpine meet 1995 richard coghlan

I hope to issue a formal statement to fix the venue and dates in the April Newsletter. Please use the next three weeks to lobby me about your favourite area. I personally would like to go to the Tatra mountains. Oread members who have just come back from Eastern Europe have made encouraging remarks about the possibilities there. However I do not mind going to any other Alpine region, as long as I have not been there already, on previous Oread Alpine meets.

Michael Hayes is going to Austria and Steve and Nicola Bashforth have expressed a desire for the Dolomites.

The nominal dates for the Alpine meet are July 29-August 12, but these are still open for discussion.

Xmas 1995

Julia Stowell writes "Following Rock's wonderful pictures of his Aconcagua trip, I have decided that this would be an excellent adventure for Xmas 1995. Some Oreads have already expressed an interest in joining me. If anyone else would like to come then contact me on 0332 516734 or see me at the Brunswick. I plan to have folks around to my house in early March to discuss dates, objectives, flights etc. Also, if anyone has any info. (particularly on smaller but technically interesting peaks in the area) please give me a bell."

PAST EVENTS

annual dinner

The annual dinner was again at Millfields, on the shores of Carsington Water, and this year's featured Mick Fowler making his first after dinner speech, by way of a change from his usual illustrated lectures.

Seventy people attended and (hopefully) a good time was had by all, even the organiser.



The most significant change from the last two years was the absence of a band. Instead, stereo equipment kindly lent by Clive Russell and Steve Mc.Donagh allowed the club to demonstrate its varied taste in music and varied talents at dancing.

This year, raffle prizes were kindly donated by: **DERBY MOUNTAIN CENTRE, ROGER TURNER MOUNTAIN SPORT, PRESTIGE, WILDERNESS WAYS, NOMAD (MATLOCK), HARRY PRETTY, DAVID APPLEBY LTD., RON CHAMBERS.**

february Committee Meeting

The meeting was largely concerned with finalising arrangements, financial report and nominations, for the A.G.M.

Welsh Hut Feb 4-5 julia stowell

Having been severely reprimanded by the President on Friday night for failing in the Meet Leader's responsibilities (ie. tend to the fire rather than go to the Pub) I took Burge's advice to delegate. Hence Graham was up bright and early on Saturday on tea-making duty only to find Ron had already surfaced. There were at least three different teams of walkers, Ron and Burge went to Tremadoc and five of us squashed into my car for a trip to the slate quarries. It was positively Spring-like in the morning at pool level in Vivien quarry. Later in the day up at hot knives level I did an ostrich impersonation, suffering minor lacerations to hand and face. Notable successes were Graham on Physiotherapy E2 5C, and a joint Tim and Graham ascent of Night of the Hot Knives E3 5c and Tim on a holdless 6a. Not bad for early February.

Sunday was less favourable weather-wise, but I understand some folk did have a reasonable day. Thanks to everyone who came and made my initiation as an Oread meet leader so enjoyable.

HUT NEWS

Bookings Heathy Lea

March 24-25 J. Linney Cottage
12 beds

Bookings Tan Yr Wyddfa

Mar 3-4 Oread meet
Mar 10-11 Hucknall M.C.
16 beds
Mar 17-18 Derby Nomads
Mar 24-25 Ron Chambers Whole
hut
Mar 31-Apr 1 Peak and Pint 16 beds
Apr 8-9 Work Party
Apr 14-15 Easter

SHORT NOTICES

- { Club members are reminded that a 10% discount is available, on production of membership card, at Track and Trail, St. John's St., Ashbourne. This was omitted from the list published in the Feb. circular (my mistake.)
- { Jim Winfield has written to remind us that his chalet at Les Haudines, Switzerland, is available for letting from June to September this year. Interested parties should 'phone Jim (0602 258443)
- { Applications for membership have been received from Barbara Smedley and Eileen Gregson. Anyone with views on the suitability of either for membership should write to the secretary before the end of March.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

A last reminder! For those few who have not paid yet, please send your subs to Richard Coghlan, 4 Peterlee Place, Alvaston, Derby.

full £16
prospective £8
family £24

BRAIN TEASER

Last months solution-

Ernie Phillips' problem last month attracted a better than average response, with replies

from Messrs. Ashcroft, Cullum, Tresidder and Hooley. Chuck and Charlie solved the problem with economy and logic, Rob's reply, though lengthier, was beautifully set out, but the prize, which Ernie left in my gift, goes to Hebog Jack in recognition of his rambling, semi coherent and amusing narrative, in a style inimitably his own. The fact that he alone failed to arrive at the correct numerical solution is considered of lesser importance. The wall of the hole, not dia., but without a hole, i.e. $\frac{4}{3} \pi r^3$ or 113 cu. ins.

MEETS

Many thanks to a number of members who wrote on this contentious issue. Letters addressed to me personally were brought to the attention of the committee. As a general rule, individual replies were not practical in the space available, and the President's reply below is collective to all correspondents. Graham Weston however wrote with a handsome apology for defaulting with his meet write-up, and also asked me to publish his opinion, which in fairness I feel bound to do.

From the president

The Committee has received several letters regarding this year's meets and the apparent lack of volunteers to lead them. Limited space in the newsletter prevents the publishing of these, but I, on behalf of the committee, would like to thank those people who wrote in giving their constructive criticisms and offering to lead future meets. We have therefore decided to revise the meets list for this year, and a copy of the amended list is enclosed. We hope this will meet with your approval and satisfy the varied interest of all members.

We have also drafted a meets list for 1996 and have already booked some of the huts, but would welcome any suggestions for new venues, and of course, offers to be meet leaders. If these are not forthcoming we shall have to resort to bullying tactics!

Ron Chambers

from mr. graham weston

After reading the article in last month's newsletter I feel I must put pen to paper even if a little late for some people's taste. I cannot agree that this year's meets program looks as

bad as it was painted, in fact it looks the most diverse and interesting for a long while.

With two Scottish winter meets, one Scottish summer meet, the return of a long standing traditional Oread meet in the Marsden to Heathy Lea walk, two mountain bike meets and even a meet at a mystery crag at Little Eaton - All this along with the usual meets in Lakes and Wales

We also see meets at indoor walls and like them or loathe them, they are now part of the overall scene and as Rusty said "Mountaineering in all aspects"

I don't think this meets program pampers one clique or another. I think it's a wide ranging, diverse meets list that all members should be able to find at least one meet they would enjoy attending
Graham Weston

Graham is probably going to Newark for his next meet (just think of it as an anagram -Ed.) Seriously though, my concerns were not just the program, but the lack of follow up effort, if there is no information published, the meet is only available to people you see, not out-of town members. This subject has now, however, had a good airing, and the correspondence should close.

NEXT EDITION

I hope to issue this on Sat April 1st. at the A.G.M. It is essential that particulars of all events for this edition reach me by ***Fri Mar 24th.***

I look forward to hearing from Kev Alsobrook, Dave Weston, Roy Eyre and Rob Tresidder

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