



OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

NEWSLETTER FOR MAY 1996

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Summary

May 4-6	Baggy Point
May 11-12	Shining Clough
May 18-19	Tan yr Wyddfa
May 25-27	Spring Bank Cornwall
June 5	Dovedale
June 8-9	Agden Rocher

Please note that a possible typing error in the meets list has been rationalised. Roger Larkam will lead the Agden Meet on June 8-9, and Derrick Burgess the Wasdale meet on June 15-16

May 4-6 Baggy Point Rob Tresidder

As spring spreads into full blown summer, come and have a sunny time in Devon! Most of the climbing action over the weekend will be centred on Baggy Point, but for those in need of something more demanding, the Culm coast at Blackchurch is not far away. More subtly charming routes may be found in the Valley of the Rocks (R. D. Blackmore's "Doone Valley") near Linton. Those overcome with welschmerz (or is it schadenfreude, or perhaps just plain homesickness) could climb on the gritstone wall near Combe Martin. The truly adventurous may prefer to tackle the 30000 feet of the Exmoor Sea Traverse. Non-climbing attractions include the incomparable surfing in Croyde Bay and on Woolacombe Sands, the cliff top walks of the SW coast path and the literary cum wildlife Tarka Trail. 2.5 inch mapping bisects Baggy so Landranger Sheet 180 is the best bet. Route descriptions in the CC North Devon and Cornwall guide (1988) or Pat Littlejohn's Southwest Climbs.

Camping will be at Bayview farm, Braunton Rd. Croyde (SS442387). The site is within walking distance of the crag. The farmer does not accept reservations. Charges are £5 for a car and tent + £2.50 per person, all charges per night. Let's ease the pressure on the environment and our pockets just a little and

see into how just few cars we can squeeze this hugely popular meet. (note the Churchillian avoidance of the preposition as the last word of the sentence -Ed.) Offers of (and requests for) lifts and further information to/from me at the Brunswick of a Tuesday or ring me on 01629823126 (daytime/machine) or 01629823953 (evenings).

May 11-12 Shining Clough Roger Larkam

Shining Clough Rocks (GR SJ 098986) is the main objective of this meet. The crag is in a superb position on the edge of the moor overlooking Longdendale and has over 90 routes of all grades.

I recommend an expedition to Laddow, Tintwhistle Knott or Crowden Great Quarries on Saturday and camping at Crowden. I shall definitely be there on Sunday and depending on various factors might even be there on Saturday! Final plans can be discussed on 01773 820260 or at the Brunswick or Princess Victoria the preceding week.

(Larkam's map ref., which I corrected, placed Shining Clough somewhere in Nottinghamshire. Hint, SJ, SK, Roger -Ed.)

May 18-19 Tan Yr Wyddfa Julia Stowell

This has turned into a joint meet as a sizeable Middlesborough contingent have already booked in (the Graham Weston connection). However there are still plenty of spaces in the hut for what promises to be a packed weekend of climbing. I plan to climb in the pass but I think a fair few people have their slate heads on at the moment so trips to the quarries will also feature.

Ring me on 01332 516734 for places/lifts or see me in the Brunswick (Tuesdays) or Princess Vic (Wednesdays).

May 25-27 Spring Bank Cornwall Ron Chambers

Camping will again be at Trevaylor Touring Park situated at the small village of Botallack

on the B3306 about a mile North of St. Just (Map Ref 369326)

All the main climbing areas are within easy reach and there is plenty to occupy the non climber ie. coastal walks, clean beaches, good pubs as well as tin mines and stone circles to explore, the cream teas aren't bad either!!

See you there ??

June 9 Agden Rocher Ron Sant

It's a good few years since the Oread last visited this crag and whilst it may not be at the forefront of climbing development the location is second to none. For those who may not be familiar with the area the crag is situated to the NW of the village of high Bradfield (GR 268925) and overlooks Agden Reservoir. It may be approached either from Sheffield via the B6077 or from Bamford and heading for Strines Reservoir.

At the moment I intend to be in the area on Sunday only but there is (or used to be) a campsite at Bradfield and a pub which goes by the name of "Old Horns" (I think this is the correct name but maybe I'm just getting mixed up with some ageing Oread Characters). For further developments please contact me on 01332 863579.

FUTURE EVENTS

Ernie Phillips is making the usual gastronomic and outdoor activities arrangements for the Golden Oldies Meet which will be on 20-21 July. Contact him soon for a place. Full details will appear in the June edition.

PAST EVENTS

Patterdale Meet

A full hut, in fact an over-full hut, belied the Meet's track record of wet days and soggy snow. Ron and Ruth were consigned to the car park and the spacious acres (we're told) of the camper van.

Saturday dawned fine, and Oreads were soon abroad. The largest contingent made for Ruthwaite Lodge where they picked up a ridge called the Tongue which gave an entertaining

line of ascent, with the odd step and varied from soft new snow to excellent old firm. The matted semi-frozen turf gave excellent ice axe placements and there was a succession of easy snow couloirs for those who were minded to take them. In the words of one member the Meet leader was observed "shouting breathless instructions from the back". At the top we burst out of the mist into a gloriously sunny prospect with swirling wraiths of mist adding a moody, atmospheric character. Beyond Dollywagon Pike half the party returned via Grisedale Tarn whilst the "famous four" continued over Helvellyn meeting Messrs. Reynolds Janes and Weston, looking windblown like us.

Back at the hut the odd gully wars reported to have been climbed, whilst the Fairfield ridge was said to have been misty most of the day. To an Oread team on the hills this is of course a grossly unfair hazard, and as Tony and Freda will aver it shouldn't have been allowed. How was Ambleside by the way? Sunday saw more sunshine, more activity and a mega team on High Street where this time Tony proceeded to lose Freda and Rock altogether. Today the meet leader was observed plodding his solitary way up the ridge, because none of the rest of the party had told him about the coffee break. Is somebody trying to tell me something?

In conclusion two good days, with plenty of activity from all concerned, much of it regrettably not reported above. Blame a failing short term memory for that! Thanks to all who came and helped to make it a first class weekend.

Colin Barnard.

Easter Meet France

As an Oread meet this meet was not a great success with only 4 Oreads attending and outnumbered 3 to 1 by others who had joined the meet. The meet was however very successful except for one incident.

The spring sun shone from the clear Provencal sky from the start of the meet until the end. The "crack" was good, the climbing was

brilliant and the wine flowed freely. Climbing grades were pushed, drinking capacities were tested and the omission of suntan cream in the rucksack regretted. Buis proved to be an excellent venue, the campsite had all the facilities required and was near bars and shops. Climbing routes long and short at all grades on excellent rock were close by. There was also good walking in the area. The only shadow over the meet was an injury to Dawn who slipped descending from the crag and badly twisted her knee, and was virtually confined to campsite and bar for the rest of the meet.

Richard Hopkinson

Heathy Lea Work Party

The work party was well supported with 12 people on Saturday and 14 people on the Sunday. Amongst the work done was painting bedrooms, painting lounge, new ceiling in the washroom, removal of staples from the panel floor, window cleaning and general clean up. A drainage ditch was dug out by the track up to the barn, also wood cutting and ground clearing.

Many thanks to all who gave up a day or two to work.

Colin Hobday.

HUT NEWS

Bookings Heathy Lea

May 3-5 Vacant
 May 10-11 R. Coghlan Cottage
 May 17-18 Loughton MC Cottage
 May 24-25 Vacant
 May 31-1 Vacant

Bookings Tan Yr Wyddfa

May 4-5 Oread Bank Hol
 May 10-11 G. Gadsby Whole Hut
 May 17-18 G. Weston 10 Beds
 May 25-26 Oread Spring Bank
 May 31-1 Vacant

SHORT NOTICES

Colin Hobday would like to thank all who donated to a sponsored abseil down the 150 ft. Wilderlowe tower at the D.R.I. in aid of the Macmillan Appeal for Cancer. His work team of three raised about £700.

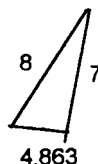
Our invalids in general are progressing well. Jack (running dog) Ashcroft was nearly back to normal speed on the spring walk, after his serious ankle injury last year. Dawn is nursing a badly twisted knee after a mishap in France (see meet report.) Get well soon Dawn! Colin B. is back home and improving after eye surgery. I'll soon have him out.

Change Of Address

Roger Larkam-
 53 Brookside
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BRAIN TEASER

Solutions To April Problem



From map ref. Rock was 1300m. E. and 700m. S. of Keith, 1476m. overall, bearing 118.3 deg. From triangle of velocities, Keith's speed relative to Rock was 4.863 mph, 7.825 kph. Time to close would be 1.467 over 7.825 or 0.1886 hr., 11.32 min. After 9 min., 20.5% of the distance, 3025 km. remained when Rock turned away. With a straight 1mph. or 1.609 kph. differential this would take 11.28 mins. so overall time was 20.28 mins. No solutions were offered.

This Month's Problem

Let x be a 3 digit number. The first two digits correspond to the first two letters of the surname of Joe Brown's second man on the first ascent of Cenotaph Corner, numbering the letters of the alphabet from 1, in alphabetical order. Three consecutive multiples of 7 when added together, make x . What are these three multiples? (There are two possible solutions. The first Oread to send either will receive a book token)

NEXT EDITION

I hope to post this on *Fri May 31st*. It is essential that particulars of all events for this edition reach me by *Friday May 24th.. and preferably earlier.*

I look forward to hearing from Derrick Burgess, Colin Hobday and John Green

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