



OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

NEWSLETTER FOR OCT 2001

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Oct 2 (Tue) Ockbrook Slideshow
Oct 6/7 Golden Oldies TYW
Oct 27/28 Heathy Lea
Nov 4 (Sun) Dovedale Dash

door Meets

Rob Tresidder

Both 8 p.m. The Royal Oak in Ockbrook.

2 October.

"A Year in the Climbing Life of..."

Andy Kirkpatrick returns to give an illustrated lecture about his experiences over the last twelve months including a trip to Patagonia in winter, a new mixed route in Cognia, Italy and a twelve day solo of the Reticent Wall on El Cap, one of the hardest routes ever soloed by a British climber.

6 November.

Rock Hudson back from the BIG hill will lecture on "Not much mountaineering. Some thoughts and comments on going to big E."

Oct 7/8 Golden Oldies Shirley

Wainwright

This annual knees up of the veterans of the lead will take place on the above dates. This is a do-as-you-please weekend (within reason of course). The only plan made is to dine at the Saracens Hotel in Beddgelert on Saturday evening.

For bookings for the hut please ring me (tel 0115-9279384) or leave a message on my answer machine.

Oct 27/28 Heathy Lea Paul Gardner

An opportunity to enjoy the autumnal delights of the Peak before winter arrives.

Unfortunately I am not able to attend but the hut is reserved for the club on this weekend. Please make bookings with Colin Hobday.

Paul Gardner

Nov 4 (Sun) Dovedale Dash 11 am

If it happens...

No you don't have to have done any training for this splendid event. For those who've been here before, please ignore the rest of this paragraph. The course is a little under 5 miles long and flat all the way round except for the downhill start and the uphill finish. The professional athletes finish in under half an hour, but don't worry about them, the lame and halt are still arriving an hour after the off. Car traffic is very heavy between Ashbourne and Thorpe village. If you haven't passed the Dog and Partridge by 10, you may be in trouble! Too late then to consider the alternative flanking manoeuvre crossing Dovedale to the north and approaching the car park beside the river by way of Ilam.

The George at Alstonefield has traditionally been the place to repeat afterwards the excuses you marshalled before the race and more importantly to meet up with friends you may not have seen since last year's race.

The dash has been cancelled twice in the last four years, so it would seem sensible to have some contingency plan that included the George afterwards. Cancellation has never been later than the middle of the week preceding and is well grapevined and publicised in the Derby Evening Telegraph. If the race does not take

place I suggest that the disappointed foregather in the car park at the disused station of Alsop-en-le-Dale (SK 155549), where I hope to have arranged a few committed and well informed Oreads to lead some small pack runs.

Rob Tresidder 01629 823953

FUTURE EVENTS

Nov 24 (Sat) Annual Dinner Green Man Ashbourne Shirley Wainwright

Menu

Starter Spring vegetable Soup.

Main Course: Roast Beef & Yorkshire Pudding served with vegetables
or
Vegetable Lasagne

sweet: Chocolate pudding with hot chocolate sauce

Coffee

Price per person will be £16.00

Please make your cheques payable to the OREAD MC, stating your main course choice and any allergies you have.

Also please say who you would wish to sit near and I will try to make sure you are seated near to your friends as far as possible.

I will need your cheques and choices before October 31st as after that date I shall not be at home.

(NB: The next newsletter will not come in time to remind you - Ed.)

After October 31st you will need to contact Mike Hayes, President Tel. 01335 - 345783.

Please return your cheques and choices to:
Shirley Wainwright,
6 Meadow Rise,
Nuthall,
Nottingham,
NG6 8WH
Tel. 0115 - 9279384

Guests of honour at the annual dinner will be Roger Payne, General Secretary of the BMC, and his wife Julie-Anne Clyma. Roger and Julie-Anne are both highly experienced Himalayan and Alpine Mountaineers with enviable records of achievement (Changabang, etc.) They have just returned from a fine alpine season where they made a husband and wife ascent of the Central Pillar of Frenay. They are both British Mountain Guides.

PAST EVENTS

Lofoten 2001

I love children,
especially when they cry,
for then someone takes them away.
Nancy Mitford

This was a luxury only afforded to Tony and Mike (The Beards), although they have both been through it all before. Along with the Beards, three families attended the Lofoten meet in northern Norway. The Hayeses, Bashfoths and Westons. The guidebook says that the Lofoten Islands are "a long way from anywhere" and I think that all those who attended would agree.

The Hayeses took the Dover-Calais ferry and drove just over 2000 miles to get there whilst the Bashforths and Westons took the 24 hour Newcastle-Bergen ferry and drove a more modest 1100 miles. The Beards, being (much) older and (a little) wiser flew, although even this took three separate flights.

The journey was plagued with several mini epics including a forgotten passport, a failing exhaust pipe, a self-distrusting trailer, a shredded tyre and virtually non-stop rain. Despite all this

everyone arrived at the destination in reasonably good spirits.

The Beards had arrived a few days before the families and reported that the rain had not yet stopped and that the day we met them (overcast and drizzling) was the best yet. However, they had managed to bag a couple of peaks earlier in the week and got a few routes done at Paradiset the local sea cliff.

The Westons tent blew away whilst being erected on the first night and this along with the rain prompted a retreat to the very convenient local system of Rorbus. These were converted fishermen's cabins, which proved very comfortable and were available on a night by night basis. Firstly we stopped at the small fishing village of Kalle and after a few days moved round the coast to Lyngvoeret

After the dust had settled and everyone had got over the journey, the weather began to pick up and we all managed to get out together and walk up the local hill of Glamtinden. This gave brilliant views across our island of Austvagoya.

The following day saw the first real climbing. In the morning Tony, Mike and Graham headed for the Lofoten classic, Pianohandler Lunds Rute. This gave four pitches of good climbing on very rough granite with a very short walk from the road. The Hayeses and Bashforths were out on a family type day. After their return and after tea they were persuaded that the route was worth a visit so at around 10:30pm Mick, Stephen and Alison set off. They returned shortly after midnight having completed the route and been treated to a spectacular sunset display. This was possible as it never really got dark whilst we were on the islands (you could sit outside and read a book at midnight).

This availability of light nights led to going to bed far too late and the inevitable late start the next day.

The next route on the list was Bare Blabaer, again an Island Classic according to the guide. Tony, Mike, Stephen, Mick and Graham all set off on the long walk in. Long that is in Lofoten terms, which means about an hour. This route

followed a thin crack into a series of corners then onto a slab. Five pitches of perfect granite crack and slab climbing in a deserted (apart from a French couple) fjord with the sun on our backs.

Two days later Mick and Graham returned to attempt a new line near Bare Blabaer. This had been spotted on the previous visit and the line did not appear in the guide or in the new routes book (which was conveniently located in the best cafe the islands). The main feature of the route was a large corner containing an overlap. Graham backed off the first pitch and passed the lead to the bolder Mick who had no problems. The next pitch Graham managed to lead with little incident, leaving the big corner for Mick. This proved to be the crux pitch, not at the overlap as had been expected but a little higher where the protection was at its thinnest. Mick rose to the challenge and left the final pitch to Graham. This was a continuation of the corner but at an easier angle. Another route on very good rock in a fantastic location. The route was christened "Child's Play" (as the kids were on the beach and apparently Bare Blabaer means similar in Norwegian).

Whilst this was going on the Beards were engrossed on the Svolveargeita. This is a very impressive hill overlooks the town of Svolvaer and is topped by the Norwegian version of Adam & Eve. There are several routes that gain the top but Tony and Mike did "1910 Ruta" and said that it was very good and would have been a very bold and impressive lead in 1910.

The Bashforths had made a cultural visit to the Viking Centre the same day which turned out to be so interesting as to require a second visit later in the holiday. On the way back Stephen managed to pull in a walk to the top of Hoven, a hill that appears to stick straight out of the sea. He reported very good views although the going was hard and the path difficult to follow.

Tony and Mike were active again a couple of days later, this time with Alison, Graham and Nea. A walk had been planned up a hill on the neighbouring island of Vestvagoy. Similar to Stephens experience on Hoven the path on Hatinden was virtually non-existent, although there was no path shown on the map so there

was little to complain about. The way up was not difficult but the ridge down did prove a little more exciting.

Further climbing was limited to the sea cliffs at Paradiset mainly due to lack of time and poor weather.

During the holiday climbing and walking days were interspersed with warm, sunny beach days involving all the families, cycling trips and even a meal out in the cafe. Most evenings were spent watching the sun go down very slowly and socialising. We were all invited to a very nice barbeque by a group of Germans who had caught too much fish (90 Lbs.) and did not know what to do with it all, (no one mentioned the war!).

The journey back was much more pleasant than the outward trip. Everyone took a different route but we all managed to meet up for a days walking in the Fjords and all made the ferry trip back to Newcastle together.

Overall it was a very enjoyable trip and I would like to thank everyone who made the (very long) journey that made the trip very successful.

Those present were: -

Stephen, Nicola, Rowena and Charlotte Bashforth. Mick, Helen, Emma and Thomas Hayes. Tony Howard and Mike Jones (aka The Beards). Alison Graham and Nea Weston.

Hut Bookings October.

TAN-YR-WYDDFA

Oct. 1/5		2 beds.
Oct. 5/6	Oread meet.	
Oct. 12/13	G.B. Exciles.	16 beds.
Oct. 19/20	Duffield A.T.S.	16 beds.
	J. Shreeve Oread room.	
Oct. 26/27	Derby M.C.	16 beds.
Oct. 29/02	block booking ????????	
Nov. 02/03	Coventry M.C.	16 beds.

HEATHY LEA

Oct. 12/13	Pam Norris	Cottage barn
Oct. 19/20	Kingston Uni.	Cottage,
Oct. 26/27	Oread meet.	

WILL ALL MEMBERS WHO HAVE USED THE HUT OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS AND HAVE NOT PAID PLEASE DO SO A.S.A.P.

Please note this list is only correct at time of going to press. All members are advised to check availability with the hut booking secretary before going to either hut.

SHORT NOTICES

Phone / E-mail changes

Roy & Chris Eyre Tel. 01623 469658

Tim Cairns Tel. 0115 8447176

Chuck Hooley E-mail:
CHUCK-H1-0@tinyonline.co.uk

Website

Graham Weston has put up a members only area which has a password protecting it. Currently there is only a little in there. He would like to ask the club membership a general question about what people might like to see there.

He suggests that members names and (maybe addresses) and phone numbers are published. These are currently removed from the (public viewable) newsletters and it may be useful for members to get this information "on-line".

There is also a message board in the members area. Whilst it needs more work, it is currently working and people are able to leave messages (if they wish). This facility seems to work well on other clubs sites (vagabonds). Graham hopes to improve it with time.

The password is currently "climb" (not very original!) but if the area gets any use it can be

