



# Oread Mountaineering Club

# Newsletter

June 2006

## Editorial

So, the first edition got out with a few hiccups and issues. I send some people 4 copies and others received none till I had cracked the limited group distribution features of my mail client, and some received copies by e-mail when they wished it by post. I hope both that you are forgiving of these trials and that this month's issue has a smoother ride to delivery.

Now to the important "stuff" – the climbing. I have enjoyed a good mix of gritstone and limestone so far – despite the weather, and appreciated the camaraderie of mid week climbing. I would like to hear of others' experiences, something of the Thursday or Thirsty walkers and their circumnavigations large or small.

## Forthcoming meets

Whitsuntide	27 May - 2 June	Cornwall	Roy Eyre	01623 469658
June	3 – 4 June			
	10 – 11 June	Forest of Dean Heathy Lea	ColinHobday	01332 551594
	17 – 18 June	Barbeque	Simon Pape	01629 822450
Midweek meet	Wed 21 June	Esoteric Grit (Dovestone Tor)	Neil Weatherstone	01332 726116
	24 – 25 June	Borrowdale	Roger Larkham	01773 820260
July	1 – 2 July	Summer Stroll	Derrick Burgess	01283 702493
	8 – 9 July	Tan-yr-Wyddfa	Derek Pike	01332 670459
	15 – 16 July			
	22 July – 6 Aug	Austrian Alps (Heiligenblut / Grossglockner region)	Michael Hayes	01530 231401

## BBQ meet at Tan-yr-Wyddfa 8<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> July

For those of you who have never ventured onto one of these meets the weekend starts as usual by meeting on Friday evening at T.Y.W. Saturday will as usual be spent walking, climbing, biking, or avoiding the rain. In the evening while the B.B.Q.'s are being lit and the steaks, sausages and anything else that comes to mind are being blackened on the outside the participants of this eagerly awaited repast will be destroying their braincells on alcoholic beverages. The evening will pass in convivial conversation, food and more drink before

everyone eventually drifts off to bed.

Sunday will take care of itself.

A nominal charge of around £5 per head is levied by the meet leader to defray the expenses incurred by members providing additional food [beyond that which all members usually provide] and also to myself who will provide some of the alcohol.

I shall provide a number of disposable B.B.Q.'s for everyone to use but I would be grateful if some members could provide their own.

If you would like to attend this by now popular meet please give me a ring on 01332 670459 and book your bed.

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## Spring Bank Holiday

### May 27<sup>th</sup> onwards (Roy Eyre)

We are booked in again at Trevaylor campsite which is between St. Just & Botallack – so come along for the Bank Holiday or longer. We will be in the second field as before. There is plenty of climbing, walking, cream teas, beer and hopefully plenty of sun. I will be arriving sometime during the previous week and staying until the following weekend. Please ring me on 01623 469658 so I can have some idea of numbers. I will be away from May 13<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>.

## Forest of Dean

### 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> June (Colin Hobday)

By popular request we have resurrected the Forest of Dean Meet. As in the past we have booked the Lodge which adjoins the Fountain Inn at Park End. Since our last stay, sadly there has been an increase in the price of the accommodation, which is now £11.00 per person per night. We are hoping to organise a three-course evening meal at the Fountain Inn. The cost will be approx. £10.00; details nearer the date.

The Forest of Dean should be at its best this time of the year and offers climbing (Winton's Leap), walking, cycling, and canoeing. For those intending on climbing, please check restrictions due to nesting season. I have already had quite a few advance bookings so don't leave it to the last minute if you want to go. First come, first serve.

Any more information or bookings, ring C. Hobday - 01332-551594.

## Reports from last month's meets

### Croatia - Easter meet

The limestone crags (Dobar Dan) of the Istrian peninsula in North West Croatia provide short bolt-protected pitches in a beautiful location. A large team of Oreads and guests enjoyed a ten-day trip over this Easter break. The Team comprised Tony Howard, Dave Roscoe, Steve Bennett, Simon and Maggie Pape, Roland and Angela Smith, Sharon Fletcher and three guests.

Access was easy and fairly cheap to the region, via

Ryanair flights to Trieste (c. £70 return). The drive to Rovinj took about 2 hours, but some took longer because they enjoyed multiple loops of the Trieste ring road. Rovinj is a pretty seaside resort with lots of nice



restaurants – and the cragging is within easy walking distance. Accommodation is cheap and plentiful, a decent apartment can be had for as little as 10 Euros per person per day if you are happy to squeeze 8 people into a 3 bedroom flat. Eating out was excellent with good seafood and salads we enjoyed three-course meals with beer for around £20 per head.

The locals were very friendly and the effort of learning a few words of Croatian was rewarded with surprised smiles (Thank you - Hvala, Please/Excuse me - Molim, Beer - Pivo, The Bill - Rachun, Cheers! - Nazdravja!).

The climbing was good, though not particularly varied, featuring slabs and walls on viciously sharp pockets. Many of the crags are in splendid locations with good views and the countryside is much lusher and greener than the usual Euro dust bowl. Much of the development of these crags was done by

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visiting Italians, which means that run-outs are rare: the maximum lob was measured at a mighty 15" (37.5cm). The Italian tendency to squeeze two lines of bolts into a very small gap is also common, but this does mean that a tally of 60 -70 routes or more in a week is reasonable. The crags are quiet outside of the peak holiday period when visiting Germans, Italians and Austrians outnumber the local climbers. The pick of the climbing on the Istria peninsula was to be found at Cepic and Dvigrad, with the world famous cragging at Osp just over the border in Slovenia.

There is excellent walking in the Croatian National Parks, and for the tourist there is always the mecca of Dubrovnik (a short flight) and the mountains of Slovenia further afield.

## Appletreewick 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> May (Derek Pike)

Arriving at Masons campsite at about 9-20p.m. I was greeted by the campsite owner who said to me you must be Mr.Pike you're a bit late. I forbade to tell her it is quite common for the Oread to turn up at two in the morning but I had already summed up my enemy and I was not going to waste any more words on her than I had to. Enough of her on with the write up.

The rest of Friday evening was spent in the Craven Arms pub trying out the various beers and hoping for better weather in the morning.

Saturday dawned a bit wet but this soon passed to leave an overcast day with clag on the hills. Simon, Maggie and Joan disappeared in their car towards Ribblehead so that Simon could do some planning for the next Bullstones and try out some pub or other. Joan said that she enjoyed the cheeseburger and the beer. Simon was later abandoned on Emsay Moor and left to return to the campsite on foot.

Margaret and Kevin spent the day plodding around Bolton Abbey whilst Chris, Gill, Chiz, Rue, Nick and myself had a brisk walk to Simons Seat so that we could view damp rocks in the mist. One member who shall remain nameless wandered off and got lost and the rest organised a search party. Once the party was back up to full strength again a wander down into the Valley of Desolation. [it is anything

but desolate] and into the grounds of Bolton Abbey past the Strid, and a walk along the River Wharfe back to the campsite. The Strid is where the river is forced to flow through a narrow defile.

On Sunday morning a decision was taken to visit Crookrise for a look round and possibly to do some climbing. The number of participants for this jaunt was boosted by one when John Fisher turned up keen to do some climbing.

A number of routes were climbed, actually three, Two V.Diffs and one Severe the Meet Leader managing to fall off the start of a V.Diff and do a backwards summersault down the hill. The weather then took a turn for the worse and so we all departed for home after a good weekend.

Thanks go to those attending, Simon and Maggie Pape, Chris Radcliffe, Gill Heys, John Fisher, Kevin and Margaret Sarson, Nick Evans, Chiz and Reuben Dakinand Joan Pike.

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## Hut Bookings

### TAN-YR-WYDDFA

June 2nd/3rd	Tony Howard	2 beds
June 9/10th	ABSAC	whole hut
June 16/17th	Vacant	
June 23/24th	Leicester M.A.	16 beds
June 30th-July 1st	Provisional booking?	

### HEATHY LEA

June 2nd/3rd	Vacant	
June 9/10th	K.Fellfarers	Cottage
June 16/17th	Oread Meet	
June 23rd/24th	Vacant	
30th June/1st July	Summer stroll (D.Burgess)	

## From the committee meeting

### Membership

Sally Dibble has applied for membership which was approved by the committee. Will anyone wishing to comment on or support Sally's membership please write to the Hon. Secretary (Derek Pike) so their letter or e-mail is received before the next committee meeting which is to be held on 13 June.

### Treasurer's report

Accounts for April were presented to meeting, Tan-yr-Wyddfa has made a small surplus whilst Heathy Lea has made a small loss.

### Hut Bookings

Colin was absent, so we received no report on the state of booking generally.

### Huts Sub-committee

There is to be a working party at T-y-W on weekend of May 20th - 21st. Chuck Hooley was asked via Keith Gregson to write a report for inclusion in the newsletter.

### Newsletter Editor

The Newsletter Editor asked the committee to give guidance on whether the benefit of colour printed newsletters was balanced by its cost. The benefit was seen as members receiving the same quality of publication in print as electronically. The committee's decision was that the newsletter should be printed in black and white.

### Tuesday evening meets at The Smithfield.

The committee discussed the point raised by Brian West at the AGM. It was agreed that Club meets at The Smithfield now only take place on the second Tuesday of each month coincident with the committee meeting.

## Winter meets - call for talks

I am starting to put together the winter indoor meets programme, so please let me have your suggestions and contributions to the programme. We have not heard much about rock-climbing in Greece in recent years, and the recent trip to Croatia sounds interesting. Volunteers to give talks should contact me: Tim Cairns by phone (07734 414271) or drop me a note to my home address (phone preferred).

## “Close Publication” and “Go to Press” dates

In general I shall plan to *Go to Press on the last Tuesday of the Month*, so that I can collect print on the subsequent Saturday and post out so members should receive print copies by the first Tuesday of the month and so be reminded in a timely manner of our Winter Indoor Meets as appropriate. This means I shall *Close for Publication* the month's Newsletter *on the preceding Saturday*. I plan to circulate Newsletters by e-mail on the last Tuesday of the month.

## For next month's Newsletter

The last date for articles to go in to the July and August (double month) Newsletter will be Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July. The newsletter will go for printing on 14<sup>th</sup> July. I would like to publish reports from: Colin Hobday, Neil Weatherstone and Roger Larkam.