



May 2009

# Oread M.C. Newsletter

## Editorial. (Last Date for next edition 29/05/09)

May once again. Very definitely Spring in full flow. I write this, having just returned from a great weekend in the Lakes, on the Stair meet. The Fylde club have built a new entrance extension to the hutte, makes a lot of difference. This month we have a write up for the Oread Fell Race and an article about winter climbing on the

Cobbler. Keeping the winter theme probably for the last time this year we hear about an ascent of Kinder Downfall from Roger Gibbs. Keep the write ups and info coming, it's your newsletter and it's only as good as your input. **Attached to this edition' is a copy of the updated handbook. If members who receive there copy by post would like one, please contact the secretary.**



JG-fell-race-02.jpg

Fell Race 2009

Thursday, April 02, 2009

## ***2009 Fell Race – Ready to Go!!***

### **OREAD FELL RACE - 22ND MARCH 2009 - FINISH LIST (INCLUDING BONUS)**

	<b>"TORTOISE"</b>	<b>"HARE"</b>	<b>START</b>	<b>FINISH</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>BONUS</b>	<b>FINAL</b>
1	Pete Scott	Simon Pape	11.07	12.18	1.11	Yes	1.04
2	Chiz Dakin	Reuben Dakin	11.01	12.17	1.16	Yes	1.08
3	Steve Bennett	Mike Wren	11.06	12.24	1.18		1.18
4	John Dobson	Mike Hayes	11.02	12.29	1.27	Yes	1.18
5	Derek Pike	Chris Radcliffe	11.09	12.39	1.30	Yes	1.21

	<u>"TORTOISE"</u>	<u>"HARE"</u>	<u>START</u>	<u>FINISH</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BONUS</u>	<u>FINAL</u>
6	Ruth Gordon	Alastair Gordon	11.00	12.22	1.22		1.22
7	Colin Hobday	Rob Tresidder	11.03	12.31	1.28		1.28
8	Dave Roscoe	William Roscoe	11.04	12.37	1.33		1.33
9	John Gresty/Martine	Gill Radcliffe	11.08	12.43	1.35		1.35
10	Dave Helliwell	Chris Wilson	11.05	12.42	1.37		1.37



**Renewed outside, waiting for door pillars.  
South Devon and Dartmoor  
(Dewerstone). 1<sup>st</sup>&2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> May.  
Sally Dipple.**

Here's the list of all coming. Keep praying for the weather! Anyone on this list who can't make it please let me know asap. Many thanks  
**Tents Arrival Day/date Departure day/date Site no**  
 Mike & Sue Wren Thursday April 30th Monday 4th + F5  
 Roy & Chris Eyre Thursday April 30th Monday 4th + F6  
 Sally Dipple & Tim Cairns Friday May 1 Monday 4th G10  
 Simon & Maggie Pape Friday May 1 Monday 4th G1  
 Gill & Chris Radcliffe Friday May 1 Monday 4th F4  
 Malcolm Leick & Frances Curran Friday May 1 Monday 4th G9  
 John Dobson & Donna Gates Friday May 1 Monday 4th F3  
 Tony Howard Friday May 1 Monday 4th + F8  
 Dave & William Roscoe Friday May 1 Monday 4th F9  
**Campervans Arrival Day/date Departure day/date**  
 Angela Pingram & Roland Smith Friday May 1 Monday 4th F10  
 Steve Sally & Thomas Christian Friday May 1 Monday 4th F2  
 Mike Helen & Emma Hayes Friday May 1 Monday 4th F1  
 Richard Hopkinson Sunday May 3 Monday 4th + F7  
 It has all been plotted out a bit scientifically so that we can all be together so I need to be there to tell you which site you are on! There is a masterplan!!!! Those of us on G level will naturally look down on F level. I put our



**The plastered "new" dining room.**  
 illustrious President up there note! I believe we can mingle with the level below quite sociably though!

**Notes:**  
 You need a £10 deposit for the barrier to get in and out - totally refundable if you don't lose it. Last orders for the takeaways 9 pm. It looks as if I shall be able to meet people who arrive after 10 pm on the Friday - I'll be there already with a barrier key. But please keep in touch with me during the evening when you are driving down if that is going to happen. And try and make it by 10 if you can because that is what they prefer. My mobile if you don't have it is 07764207992

**Tan yr Wyddfa Working Party.  
16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> May.  
Pam Storer.**

TYW has just undergone considerable repairs to the front of the building and treatment to inhibit dry rot – at a cost to the Club of approximately £12,500. The results look good and the hut should also be a little warmer & drier from now on. However, a good deal of work now needs to be done in the way of routine maintenance and decorating. Pam Storer will be running the working party meet to put these things right. She has also promised some snacky, drinky things to keep the workers happy, including a BBQ on Saturday night & to rotate the task allocation to

give everybody some sunshine! The work list includes:

• Varnish new wood panelling in bedroom
• Varnish front door
• Strip wallpaper from lounge wall & investigate damage beneath
• Strip wallpaper from part of stairs
• Remove ceiling paper
• Painting washrooms & upstairs toilet
• Touch-up painting in kitchen
• Sweep chimney
• Replace some floor tiles
• Clean kitchen fan
• Paint external front porch posts
• Replace bulb in kitchen porch lamp
• Clear leaves from guttering & elsewhere
• Fit anti-block 'siphons' to drain pipes
• Tidy wood shed
• Identify & photograph trees for felling
• Investigate drainage system outside front porch

A good turnout would generate a convivial atmosphere & get much done. If you would like to join Pam & Nick please contact Pam on 01623 795758 or pam\_storer@hotmail.com  
 Tony Howard (Temporary Sec to TYW Hut Sub-Committee)

## **Spring Bank Holiday – Cornwall - 23rd May, onwards.**

### **Roy Eyre.**

The Spring Bank Holiday meet is in Cornwall as in the original meets list and not in Scotland as stated in the last two newsletters. We are booked in again at Trelvor campsite between St Just and Botallack. We have been promised our usual field (the one with the bar) So, for the people who want sun warmed rock, walking the coastal path, swimming, not forgetting the Cornish pasties and cream teas, this is the place to be. Please ring me on 01623 469658 before May 16<sup>th</sup> so that I have some idea of numbers. I will already be down there sorting out the good weather.

### **Heathy Lea 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> May.**

#### **Pam Storer.**

Join us for a weekend of traditional gritstone climbing, weather permitting. Or if we are unlucky and rain descends, we could always explore the many mines in the Chatsworth area.

Why not join us on Saturday evening for a Mad Scientist BBQ. We will organise fuel (bring your own food) and provide some equipment for those long forgotten experiments of our childhood . Coke geysers - can we beat the record of 251. Can we calculate the speed of light using a bar of chocolate . Perhaps you might like to bring some of your own challenges."

## **Reports from past meets and news.**

### **Alpine Meet 2009.**

This will probably be in the Dolomites this year. More info next month. Ed.

### **Heathy Lea Fell Race – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.**

Gill & I joined Mike H and Derek in the Robin Hood on Saturday evening – Mike in his best suit having been at a wedding and Derek reviving after an afternoon scrambling on Birchens. Next morning they had stoked up the fire in the living room so it was a real fug while 20 of us crammed in for the briefing for this year's fell race. After Saturday's warm sunshine, it was a cooler and cloudier on Sunday, but ideal conditions for the race. The 20 people who turned up were segregated into "tortoises" and "hares" on a nearly arbitrary basis and set off in opposite directions, meeting at various places on the other side of the course which circumnavigated the upper Chatsworth Estate. Everyone managed to follow the rules as intended, apart from Dave Roscoe who hadn't brought his specs to read my blow-by-blow directions and was dreaming equations, so he managed to deviate from the course and miss meeting up with William. 4 teams elected to gain bonus points by visiting Hob Hurst's House, although the first 2 teams were speedy enough to win outright anyway. Congratulations to Simon and Pete for coming first and winning the trophy, runners up Chiz and Reu and third place Steve and Mike W who held their position despite not getting bonus points. There was plenty of post race analysis in Heathy Lea afterwards and everyone seems to have enjoyed themselves. Thank you all for supporting the event.  
 Chris Radcliffe



**Meet Leader in charge!**

Jack and Janet who turned away from the grassy delights here at the last moment: we saw them heading towards Carl's Wark. From here we crossed the two Sheffield roads before joining the throng on Stanage. We came down through the Plantation and past North Leys Hall (I was dismayed to discover that Roy claimed no familial connection with Jane Eyre) to Hathersage. Most of the party caught the train back to Grindleford. Some nobly eschewed such soft options and walked. Not to be outdone by the president's hard rock party, we even managed a little climbing: ne'er a boulder was passed without it being scrambled over and we did one route on Higgarr and three on Stanage. Thank you to everyone for the warm hospitality extended to my friend Stu Fisher (father of Jamie, who lectured to us at least once). And thank you too for your company: Chris and Sue Jonson, Jane Tresidder, Rock Hudson, Reu and Chiz Dakin, Stu Fisher, Roy Eyre, Jack and Janet Ashcroft.

Rob Tresidder

### **Stair 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> April.**

A small, but bold party, meet at Stair to take on the mountains of the Newlands Valley with gale force winds and rain out to try and stop them. They managed to get over Hindscarth 727m, Dale Head 757m, High Spy, Maiden Moor, Cat Bells, and return to the hutte unscathed by the ferocious conditions. The climbing team meanwhile, had given up due to the weather and gone "gear fondling" in Keswick. This strange new sport reached its zenith (as told by an eyewitness) in a female member being belayed to the bunk by two male members, what was really happening, I have no idea but the mind boggles!!! After a long and meaningful discussion, good food and drink, both teams retired until the second round on Sunday. The day dawned as only Spring in the Lakes can, clear skies, hills reflected in Derwentwater, and warm sun on the crags, daffodils and primroses in full bloom and new born lambs playing in the fields. Nearly everyone went climbing at Shepherd's. The meet leader struggled up Little Chamonix and Brown Slabs Arete, while others did Adam, Eve and Donkeys Ears, and various other gems. Thanks to everyone who came and Dave Penlington for his Saturday visit. J.Green.



**Worthy Winners!!!**

### **Spring Stride 29<sup>th</sup> March.**

Immaculate timing by all ensured that we left the shady delights of Grindleford station on time and then walked with increasing pleasure through Padley Gorge and across the road to Mother Cap. We stopped at Higgarr Tor for lunch but were dismayed to have somehow lost



**Annegret and Derek on Catbells – note the smile!**



**Pam Norris on final pitch of Little Chamonix**



**Tony Howard on Brown Slabs Crack.**

## **60th Annual General Meeting, Saturday 28 March 2009.**

A return to the Baslow area and the choice of The Robin Hood proved a success with 55 members in attendance. After a welcome by the President, Simon Pape, the 2008 Minutes were accepted. Simon then reviewed a wet year, thanking many members for services rendered. Despite the weather there were lots of good meets including Cornwall, Lewis and Borrowdale. The Dauphiné meet was blessed with glorious sunshine and much rock climbing was done. The return of the Fell Race was welcomed, not least because Simon (with Pete Scott) had won. Oreads ventured far and wide during the year and an excellent indoor meets programme had been well attended.

Reciprocal rights were established with the JMCS (Edinburgh) who have 2 huts in Scotland. Keith Gregson was thanked for his many years as Trustee. He is replaced by Pam Storer and Mike Hayes. Steve Christian presented the 2008 accounts, audited once again by Reg Squires. Items of note are that we received £300 from the BMC for a poster campaign, purchased a new projector, spent £4,646 on Tan yr Wyddfa improvements and Heathy Lea showed a £2,600 deficit. The cash available is £47,586. For next year we expect zero receipts from interest and have incurred about £11,000 treating TyW dry rot. In Chuck Hooley's absence Colin Hobday presented the Tan yr Wyddfa report. It was a mixed year, with decline in guest numbers, especially Oreads. Much work has been done including electrics, bike store, coal bunker, plans for the rear room, a new cooker and furniture. An outbreak of dry rot took 5 weeks to eliminate and finishing works are now required. Mike Hayes, who during the year became a Trustee and also Hut Custodian (Derbys), described progress at Heathy Lea. A survey of members' views, carried out following the 2008 AGM, will provide guidance to the new Sub Committee. Led by Chuck, lease negotiations with Chatsworth Estate are on-going. It seems that the new lease may include a 6 month termination clause. The Estate will shortly carry out several repairs including the reconstruction of part of the barn wall. There were 235 bed nights and 77 members stayed there (up from 57 previously). Numerous trees have been felled and firewood collected but until completion of lease negotiations major expense is not being incurred. Both advertised rule changes were

carried. Hut sub committees can now have more than 2 members plus the custodian and only the President is prevented from staying in office for more than 2 years consecutively. Nominees for the Committee were all elected unopposed, with Keith Gregson and Dave Roscoe departing. Mike Wren has been enlisted as Meets Secretary, Neil Weatherstone moves from that post to become a Committee member (although he will organise the 60th dinner) and is joined by Michael Bate. Both Hut Sub Committees were returned unopposed. A suggestion that AGMs be held midweek was dismissed and Bob Pettigrew, in absentia, still managed to enthrall the meeting with a plea for support for Doug Scott as president of the BMC. Afterwards Rob Tresidder appeared to do brisk business selling club tee-shirts that he had modelled during the meeting. If you want a copy of the Minutes please contact me. Chris Wilson (01283 520911 [chrisandjanwilson@talktalk.net](mailto:chrisandjanwilson@talktalk.net))



**Derek – Real Work! AGM’s are all about this.**

### “How about The Cobbler?” .....

Roger’s comment came like a bolt from the blue, some where between Carlisle and Glasgow. Earlier we had been debating where to climb whilst interrogating the weather forecasts and avalanche reports, but silence had taken over on the long road North. ‘Great I thought to myself, ‘that’s at least an hours less driving’.

“What is there to do?” I enquired, not wanting to sound too enthusiastic. After a short look through the guide a decision was made and a parking spot identified.

The following morning saw a relatively civilised 6:30 rise and away by 7:15. However I had not twigged that the guide book description of “back door” approach really meant “short but steep” and trudging though calf deep crusted powder took its toll. We were heading for Cave Gully on the Central Peak and all was well, if a little weary, as we dropped over the coll to arrive at the base of the route. There was a short debate as to where we were to start and who got to lead off.

Lack of organisation meant that I was not in a position to say “No..... You go first Rog” so I ended up with the first pitch. It looked OK until I discovered that the snow was powder (not neve’) and the turf was soft (not frozen). After a couple of joke runners and around 50’ more powder I found a decent placement and



**AGM, Heathy Lea – Mad Axeman!**

**Note from ABMSAC.** I thought that you might like to know that there are still free weekends and related weekdays in the George Starkey Hut in July and August this year. Recently, all weekends and weekdays in July were available, and the first two weekends and weekdays in August. If you would like to check availability and make a booking, please contact Mike Pinney on [<Mikepinney@aol.com>](mailto:Mikepinney@aol.com).

stopped sweating quite so much. The pitch continued and I belayed under the continuation gully. Rog followed with his usual grace and on arriving at the belay, asked where I thought the route went. When I pointed he gave me a withering look and said he was off to look for the proper belay. He probably had a point, when I looked again it did look a bit stiff for Ill 4. Rog dispatched his pitch in what seemed like no time and as I arrived the guide book description made much more sense. He was belayed in the most fantastic cave surrounded by icicles. After a steep exit from the cave I continued up the gully and found a belay of slightly less stature. So far so good I was thinking as Rog arrived. The weather was holding and we were pretty sheltered from the little wind there was. According to the guide, the next pitch should be the crux. That was fine as it was Rogers lead. He stepped to the side and found a peg. Great start. Then a wire, brilliant! Some time then passed. After a number of contortions, Rog finally disappeared round the corner and out of sight. A little rope went out. Then a little more.....Then nothing..... It's not unusual to stand and shiver for a while. "I'm not happy!" came from round the corner. All of a sudden a lot of rope went out and I saw a flail of axes. "SAFE.....Bomber belay.....I'll bring you up". I untied the belay and tentatively looked round the corner past the peg and wire. There seemed to be a large void to traverse across before the next runner. After a number of contortions I made the move away from the peg and found myself at the base of a tricky looking corner. Some time passed. Eventually I took out the remaining wires and, avoiding the hard climbing, struggled up to the left and joined Rog on his bomber belay. "Good lead Rog!" was about all I could muster. The final pitch was more in keeping with my ability and I arrived on top to be met with a bit more wind than I was expecting. After a cup of tea back in the van, a while later we both agreed that Cave Gully was indeed good value. So next time someone says to you "How about The Cobbler?" don't hesitate for too long. Graham Weston.

## Winter thoughts.

Now it's Spring and I'm daydreaming in the sunshine, our recent hard winter seems a long time ago but here are some doodles from then:

"Well it seems like we're getting a proper winter so thoughts (well my thoughts when I'm bored and can't be bothered to do any work)

turn to the mighty Kinder Downfall. Consulting the oracle (and giant waste of time) that is UKClimbing.com it looked like the route was formed. This is a once in a lifetime experience now, so something had to be done. As Sharon and I headed off to see Mike Mowbray's talk at the Oread Winter Lecture, I started plotting. "Richard, [Hopkinson], do you fancy a foray up to Kinder?", I asked. "Yes, I'm already heading up there tomorrow with Pete." These retired folks, able to climb in the daylight – just not cricket really! Never mind, Steve Christian was up for it. I was already having second thoughts, but too late – I was committed now! Richard's text arrived late afternoon. The route was in nick but looking a little hacked. I scived off work a little early and arrived at Steve's house. It's always good to catch a grown man in his underpants. Steve grabbed his kit and we headed across to Hayfield. The road out of the village was a little snowy, but we made it to the large car park without incident. I leant over Steve to see the map better. From the only other car in the car park a face leered out. "Hello Roger!", said Paul [Ramsden]. "Heading for the Downfall?" Before long the great and good of British mountaineering had assembled. Mick Fowler, besuited in tax office finery, poked at the snow with a well-shod toe. "It's slippery this ice stuff isn't it?" he observed to no one in particular. Steve and I hurried to get kitted up and away. We paused a few times to consult the map and we were soon overtaken by Mick, Paul, local guru Es Tressider and two others. At least they won't take long, I thought, so we won't have to queue. The path faded out and we scrambled up first one bank and then the other of the river that flowed from the Downfall. After an hour and a half I heard voices and the unmistakable clink of climbing gear. We grovelled over the last snowy boulders. Half lit in an eerie green glow, no fewer than fifteen climbers stood around waiting for the ice-climbing event of Derbyshire. Steve and I grabbed a snack and some water. The team of three in situ on the ice didn't seem to have moved. I suggested the iced up corner and Steve quickly agreed. Meanwhile another pair opted for the ice line squeezed in between the corner and the normal route. It was getting crowded. Blocks of ice crashed down from the team of three in the centre of the icefall. I was pleased with my choice of route. The climbing was short and a little sketchy with powder snow lying on rock, but slings gave good protection. A long step at the top and I was up.

The leader of the team to my right was now caught in the bottleneck below the team of three. More ice crashed down. The first of Mick's crew huddled below a bulge six feet off the ground, right in the line of fire. It looked like the Gaza Strip down there. Feeling smug, I belayed and brought Steve up. Above was blocked by rock overhangs so we had two options now: left across the shelf that bisects the main icefall or right across steep grass. Steve ran the rope out across easy grass to a rock belay. I followed and tried to find an easy line down. After a bit of faffing I gingerly slid down the shallow gully to what I really hoped was flat ground. It was flat enough. I coiled the ropes and we traversed back to the sacs. It was after 10pm and there were still a pair queuing for the downfall. We trudged back to

the car and headed home. I finally managed the Icefall proper a few weeks later, just before it fell down!. Roger Gibbs



## Hut Bookings. For May.

**Please note that hut fees should always be paid to me and no one else.**

**TAN-YR-WYDDFA** - May 8/9/10/11th Holiday no bookings  
 May 15/16th Work Party Pam Storer - May 22/23/24/25th. Holiday 7 beds.  
 May 29/30th. Kendal M.C. 16 beds. **HEATHY LEA** May 29/30th. Oread meet.

## Forthcoming Meets

<b>May</b>	Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>	May Bank Holiday	Sally Dipple	01629 824888
	Tues 12 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meets Smithfield Derby		
	Sat 16 <sup>th</sup> - Sun 17 <sup>th</sup>	Tan yr Wyddfa Working Party	Hut Sub Committee	
	Sat 23 <sup>rd</sup> - Mon 25 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Bank Holiday – Cornwall.	Roy Eyre	01623 469658
	Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> – Sun 31 <sup>st</sup>	Heathy Lea	No Leader	
<b>June</b>	Sat 6 <sup>th</sup> – Sun 7 <sup>th</sup>	Borrowdale	Roger Larkham	01773 820260
	Tues 9 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meets Smithfield Derby		
	Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> – Sun 14 <sup>th</sup>	Heathy Lea Work Party.	Hut Sub Committee	
	Sun 21 <sup>st</sup>	Summer Stroll	Derrick Burgess	01283 702493
	Wed 24 <sup>th</sup>	Longest Day	James Tubby	01283 736737
	Sat 27 <sup>th</sup> – Sun 28 <sup>th</sup>	Heathy Lea Bouldering Dash	Rob Van Beek	01159 411123
<b>July</b>	Sat 4 <sup>th</sup> – Sun 5 <sup>th</sup>	Cloggy Classic at Tan yr Wyddfa	Michael Bate	07825629061
	Tues 14 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meets Smithfield Derby		
	Sat 11 <sup>th</sup> – Sun 12 <sup>th</sup>	Heathy Lea – Summer Beer Festival.	Neil Weatherstone	01332 726116

Copyright – Oread Mountaineering Club.

Editor: John Green, Ivy Cottage, Church Lane, Morley Derbys. 01332 832101

Email – [green71@btinternet.com](mailto:green71@btinternet.com)