



# FEBRUARY 2010

## *Oread M.C. Newsletter*



Friday, March 12, 2004



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**Pete Holden (ex Oread) on the Devil's Cellar**

### **Editorial. (Last Date for next edition 24/02/10)**

The second newsletter of 2010! What a start to the season, more snow and ice than all the last 10 years put together. From my perspective, I have been enjoying the conditions mostly in Derbyshire with Telemark ski trips around Axe Edge and Mam Tor. It's been absolutely fantastic, certainly as good as Norway. There are a couple of opportunities for some good wintry stuff this month in Wales and the Lakes, as well as possible trips to Scotland. Don't forget the wall meet at "The Edge" Sheffield and the pub afterwards, "The Stag Hotel". Enjoy the snow while it lasts, it will probably be a long time before we get it this good again! I am also aware that there have been many slips and falls during the cold spell, so I would expect some exciting stories to be told. Please let me know!

**Stair Meet 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> February.**

**Rowland Smith**

This could be one of the best meets of the year! If the snow lasts it will be in excellent climbing condition and there are some great route possibilities around. If it's all melted we still have the crags of Borrowdale close by. If it's raining the flesh pots of Keswick will no doubt attract attention. John Green will be going up on the Friday morning with the key, I will be in the pub on Friday evening. The hutte is owned by the Fylde M.C with whom we have reciprocal rights, and is situated at G.R. NY 2372 2106. Book your place with me on 01159 691992 [rsmith250@csc.com](mailto:rsmith250@csc.com)

## **Tan yr Wyddfa Wintry Climbing 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> February.**

**Reuben Dakin.**

Please join us on my meet. I can definitely promise weather, but cannot divine whether the supplies of the correct sort will be replenished. For contact details see my membership piece.

## **Patterdale 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> March.**

**Stuart Haywood**

As I'm sure everyone will appreciate it's very difficult to add anything new to the usual Newsletter article regarding this traditional meet; climbing, scrambling, walking, mountain biking, canoeing, fishing and gear shopping are all available in the immediate vicinity of the hut.

Accordingly as usual the only variable will be the weather but unfortunately I can't make any promises on this score – does the phrase 'barbeque summer' or 'mild winter' ring any bells!

Over the next few weeks I will endeavour to contact the 'usual suspects' but in the meantime if you want to book a berth please call me on 07836 314403 or 01332 882331.

Andrea and I aim to arrive mid evening on Friday but others have already indicated that they may travel on Thursday so hopefully the hut will be 'warmed and aired' by Friday evening.

## **Jersey, Easter 2010 April 2<sup>nd</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Derek Pike.**

Following a successful holiday to Jersey at Easter last year I find that I am now organising a Club meet to Jersey for this year. Considering the time of year the weather we had this year was very good with only one bad day and that cleared up for the afternoon, this does not mean that I am promising a week of sunshine. The island which is only about eight by five miles appears to have something for everyone from climbing, walking, cycling plus some gorgeous beaches. We shall be camping at the Bleu Soleil campsite in the north west of the island near to the best crags and a fifteen minute walk to the beach or the pub which ever takes your fancy. The campsite which unfortunately boasts a yellow and blue colour scheme has the usual facilities plus a good cafe cum restaurant and a hot tub. You may bring your own tent or rent one of theirs already erected. Your own two berth tent for seven nights £80, four berth £150. Rent a tent around £215 for two people.

Bookings for the ferry if done through the campsite, will save you around £100. [Condor ferries from Poole to Jersey via Guernsey, around 4 hours sailing]. Bookings to [www.bleusoleilcamping.com](http://www.bleusoleilcamping.com) or I will book it for you if you wish, If you are intending to come for only a few days it is possible to fly direct to Jersey from Liverpool from around £60 return. A hire car for a short stay will probably not be needed as the campsite is only about 3 miles away from the airport. One benefit of taking your car to Jersey is that when you get there, there is no long drive to your final destination, around 20 minutes should suffice. Anyone taking a caravan or campervan will have to get a permit from the site owners. Caravans are only permitted to travel to the campsite and back to the port, and campervans must return to the site every night, no overnight parking in lay bys is allowed. A 1-25000 map of Jersey is available from the Map Shop Upton upon Severn 0800 085 40 80 or [www.themapshop.co.uk](http://www.themapshop.co.uk) Jersey Climbs by Kevin Eloury is available from Cordee books [www.cordee.co.uk](http://www.cordee.co.uk) Any further information required please phone me on 01332 670459 or e-mail [derepike@ymail.com](mailto:derepike@ymail.com)

## **Winter Climbing February 2010**

**Michael Bate.**

In a similar vein to last month we will be looking very carefully at the forecasts in February and making decisions in the week for climbing at the weekend. Scotland seems most likely at the moment unless we have another good cold snap and I'm really keen to get on some of the classic grade 5's on the Ben, especially point 5 gully!! Communication is normally by e-mail, but telephones work too. So if you want to go up to Scotland this winter or even get out closer to home if conditions allow, please let me know and I'll try and put you in touch with like-minded Oreads.

[mjbate@gmail.com](mailto:mjbate@gmail.com) 07827972287

**Arran Spring Bank Holiday.  
Sat 29<sup>th</sup> May to Sun 31<sup>st</sup> May 2010 (or longer).**



Friday, May 23, 2008

***Cir Mhor – Glen Rosa -Arran***

Years ago we had an annual Arran meet. It may well witness the passing of 30 years since my last visit, when Jan and I shared our honeymoon with the Oread in Glen Rosa. This year the club returns. Roughly 20 miles long, 10 wide and 56 around, Arran has something for everyone. A beautiful coast is complemented by a mountainous interior. Apart from climbing, walking and cycling, the isle offers horse-riding, golf courses, fishing, paragliding, power boating and canyoning. Red deer, red squirrels, birds of prey and seals abound. Robert the Bruce sheltered here but has now departed. In Brodick there is the Heritage Museum, the Aromatics factory shop and more importantly, the Arran Brewery. Boat trips can be taken to Ailsa Craig, the home to gannets and puffins. Arran is great walking country, through forests and glens, in the hills and mountains and on the coast. Cycling can be enjoyed both on and off road. Visit Machrie Moor, where the remains of stone circles exist, complete with chambered cairns, a standing stone and hut circles. Climbing is a delight. Cir Mhor has two routes from Classic Rock (Labyrinth, Sou'wester Slabs) and one from Hard Rock, South Ridge Direct. Other sport abounds. Putrell put up Ben Nuis chimney in 1901. Still VS, it was unrepeated until 1955! Caledonian MacBrayne ferries depart Ardrossan, 6 hrs drive from Derby, for the 55 minute crossing to Brodick every 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>hrs. There is a regular train service from Glasgow to Ardrossan and a secure 24 hour manned car park adjacent to the Ferry Terminal. Return tickets cost from £10.20 per passenger/driver up to £164 for a 10m motorhome. A car or motorhome up to 5m is £82 return. Pedal cycles travel free. The Lochranza bus leaves Broddick shortly after the ferry has docked. This year we are forsaking the beauty of Glen Rosa for Lochranza, 14 miles to the north and the home of Arran Malt, and camping at Lochranza Golf and Camping ([www.lochranzagolf.com](http://www.lochranzagolf.com)). Last year's scouting party reports that it is the only campsite on the island that is both accessible to vans and also within sight of the peaks for weather spotting. The Hotel in the village is good with real ale, as is the restaurant/bar on the campsite. It offers constant hot water and high pressure hot showers, level mown grass, large hard-stand area, plenty of electric hook-ups and water taps, food and shop on site. The Pavilion has been refurbished and serves hot food and drinks all day from 08:00. In 2009 the small tent charge was £3.00 per night and per person just

£5.00, giving £8.00 per night for a single and £13.00 per night for a double. Larger tents are £6.00. Advance booking at the campsite is essential and Mr Robertson has offered to hold 2009 prices for us if we can muster 10 or more. Can you therefore please let me have an idea of who and how many are going? Email, phone, write or send a carrier pigeon to Chris Wilson, 10 Beacon Road, Rolleston on Dove, Staffs DE13 9BG. Tel 01283 520911, email: [chrisandjanwilson@talktalk.net](mailto:chrisandjanwilson@talktalk.net)

## **Oread Summer Alpine Meet 24<sup>th</sup> July to 7<sup>th</sup> August 2010**

### **Steve Christian**

Next year's summer alpine meet will be at the start of the school holidays from 24<sup>th</sup> July to 7<sup>th</sup> August. Currently I am looking at a venue east of The Bernese Oberland called The Western Alps of Uri. However, there has been mention of visiting the USA and currently I am researching these and other options. I would welcome any communication on people's preferences, please contact me on 01629 825292 or text 07824 623945. You can also write on my personal e-mail of [climbersteve@hotmail.com](mailto:climbersteve@hotmail.com) or more traditionally to 1 Duke Street, Middleton, Matlock. DE4 4NB.

## **News, Articles and Reports from Meets.**

### **Oread AGM - 27<sup>th</sup> March 2010.**

#### **Robin Hood, Chesterfield Road, Baslow**

The Oread AGM is with us again. This year we have no "Rule changes" but we do need volunteers for Treasurer, Secretary and Ordinary Members on your committee. We also need additional members for the Hut Sub Committee's. The meeting will take place at the Robin Hood, now under new management, but with very good food, I am told. If you wish to stay at Heathy Lea for the night, please book with Colin Hobday. Agenda etc will appear next month.

### **Winter Lecture Programme 2010**

#### **Tony Howard.**

Our next indoor meet, on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February is a double bill. **Nick Evans** will talk on '**Hot Rock: Four Italian Volcanoes**' after which **Chris Radcliffe** will present: '**The Alps 2009**'. Both should be very entertaining. Weather permitting; I hope to see you all there: the Royal Oak Ockbrook at 8pm as usual.

I'm sorry about the cancellation of our January lecture. This was unavoidable, because our speaker could not get out of his local area at Denby Dale in Yorkshire. We are now staging this event in March. This is by **Mike Mortimer**, who has been described by the Alpine Club as having done more climbs in the Dolomites than any other British Climber. He has also done plenty of new routes in Morocco & will be coming to talk to us about '**New routing on the North Side of Jebel el Kest in Morocco**'. But more than this, he will be presenting a **Quiz for Climbers**. It should be a really good night! **You will need to bring a pencil & paper along for the Quiz.** It's on Tuesday **2<sup>nd</sup> March** – at the Royal Oak, Ockbrook at 8pm as usual. Please let me know if you intend to come along

### **Oread Club History**

#### **Tony Howard**

I have recently agreed to collate information on our Club's history. This is primarily in order to expand & update the 'History' section on the Club's website. My objective is to present more of the Club's achievements, for the benefit of our own members and in the hope of inspiring more enthusiastic young climbers to join the Club.

I am particularly interested in new routes & crag developments – *for example* those done in the Peak District & North Pembroke in the 1950's, 60's & 70's. I am also interested in notable alpine & greater ranges ascents. Although some of the latter are described in 'Harry's book' they currently get little mention on our website.

If you are aware of such achievements, please let me know – whether they are your own or those of other members. I look forward to hearing from you. [tony.howard46@btinternet.com](mailto:tony.howard46@btinternet.com)

Tel: 01332 273 307

## Bullstones Sat.12<sup>th</sup> – Sun. 13<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2009. (or a brush with a tree) Derek Pike.

The weather forecast was good for a change, and this led to nine Oreads meeting at the Crowtree Inn in the Forest of Bowland in expectation of another epic. After a good meal and a little beer the intrepid nine ventured forth into a pleasant night to find somewhere to sleep. Heading north on a wide track through the forest the sight of headlights, aided by foglights, on what I think was a van, was seen to be fast approaching us. As one, we all stepped aside, unfortunately not aside enough as said van was towing the sawn off remains of a fully grown pine tree which completely filled the track and gave us all a good thrashing around the face as it went past at high speed leaving a trail of broken branches behind it. Fortunately no one was hurt. I wished the thieving B----d a miserable Christmas with the remains of his tree. A short walk later, brought us to a commodious barn where we spent the night in comfort. The morning dawned bright and clear and an hour or so's walk brought us to Bowlands Knotts and thence on to Cross of Greet and White Hill. Most of the party visited the Bullstones before the long slog to Dunsop Bridge and the village hall where we all arrived after dark. All round, it had been an excellent day with good weather and not too much bog.



100\_3319.JPG Striding out of Gisburn Forest Saturday, December 12, 2009



100\_3314.JPG Comfort in the shelter Saturday, December 12, 2009

### ***The trudge out to Bowland Knotts***

The nine were met at the hall by Pete and Ali, Pam and Nodge who realising that there was no pub in the village had brought along supplies such as mulled wine, beer and mince pies, a good evening was had by all. Sunday dawned with a fairly heavy frost and the return trip was begun over semi frozen fields. A refreshment stop in Slaidburn came to pass because the leader required tea and a bacon butty to fortify himself for the last five miles or so. The party trudged on, some forsaking the imminent arrival of a dense piece of forest for the road but all arriving back at the start point for more beer and a dinner before the long drive home. Thanks to all my fellow sufferers John Green, Roy Eyre, Brian West, Chris Bryan, Mike Hayes, Simon Pape and our two guests who turn up every year Kev and James Fidler. Also all our thanks to the unexpected support party Pam and Nodge and Pete and Ali.

### ***Overnight accommodation.***



100\_3336.JPG Great Bullstones How do I get Off? Saturday, December 12, 2009

***Derek, how do I get down from here?***



Saturday, December 12, 2009

***Well done Simon.***

## Christmas and New Year at Tan yr Wyddfa. Rock Hudson.

Between Boxing day and early in the New Year, Tan yr Wyddfa had a varied group of Oreads and guests ranging in age from their 50's to near the grand 'old' age of 80. Some made it before the onset of Global Cooling, while late arrivals made it by the coastal route before the advance of glaciers from the Carneddau. The weather was rather mixed, with rain low down and snow higher up. Very strong winds produced nasty conditions at all levels, with drifts on the ridges. The wind was so strong at the hut we needed to fix a safety line from the back door to the coal bunker. Each day found people out on the Nantlle Ridge, heading for Snowdon, a circuit of the Moelwyns and even Ogwen. Less adventurous walked along the coast, or in the forest, and some worked with great dedication at feeding the fire with 'Carbon Footprints' so preventing the hut from suffering Global Cooling. During the long evenings all put the world to right a number of times and produced a fine hot and cold buffet on New Years Eve. A good start to the Oread's activities for the year 2010.



## Annual Dinner. Neil Weatherstone.

The Oread's 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner was attended by exactly 100 Oreads and guests, including a number of our founder members (George Sutton, Nan Axon, Dave Penlington & Molly Pretty). The event got off to the usual start of greeting old friends and partaking in a few drinks in the bar. In the Arkwright suite, Jack Ashcroft had set up numerous photographic displays depicting the history of the Oread over the last sixty years and these proved a popular talking point during the whole evening, many thanks to Jack for providing these.

Simon performed the annual presidential speech and presented George Sutton with an Oread t-shirt displaying a copy of the 1948 Daily Mirror crossword that coined the club's name. The Bent Ice-screw Award for 2009 went to Mike Hayes for ineptitude on Lochnagar, where a lost head-torch and rope led to a minor epic in the dark. Following on from Simon, our guest speaker Richard Mayfield told tales of daring do whilst completing the Hard Rock challenge and finished by raising a toast to the longevity of the Oread.

Thanks to all those who attended. Tracey and I have enjoyed organising the last four dinners, but now it is time for a rest and I hear we have a volunteer for the 2010 dinner.

PS: the photos were provided by Chiz – good work in poor light without a flash. Thanks.



*The Gathering of 100 Oreads*

*The Presidents Oration*

## Membership Renewals for 2010 Reuben Dakin

Thank you if you have already paid. **Please note that if you have not already paid:**

- You need to pay before the end of January to maintain your Oread membership.
- Your BMC insurance has already expired

I don't intend to interpret the first point strictly, but the BMC are absolutely strict that if you haven't paid the Oread, you're not insured.

I apologise that I haven't sent you an individual message about what you owe, as I have been away for all of December, and will also be away again shortly.

I must also apologise for the omission from the December newsletter which has caused much confusion over the correct rate for individual senior members. If you have only paid me £21, I am quite happy that you have paid up for the year, so please don't go to the trouble of sending me the extra £4. However, in a club where funds are tight and costs have to be fairly shared, please be ready when I ask for the excess next year.

The rates for 2010 are:

Ordinary Member	£40.00
Senior* Member	£25.00
Prospective Member	£25.00
Joint (Family) Membership	£65.00 per couple
Senior* Joint (Family) Membership	£42.00 per couple
Family: one senior*, one not	£53.50 per couple

\*You are eligible for **senior membership** if you have reached "state pension age", which is 60 for ladies and 65 for gents, on 1 January 2010.

If your permanent address is outside the UK you will not be a BMC club member, and so your rate will be reduced by £11.75 per person for all membership classes.

How to pay:

- Cheque, payable to Oread Mountaineering Club, posted to me at 14 New Street, Little Eaton, Derby DE21 5AF
- Bank transfer: sort code 05-04-07, account number 45028744. Please let me know if you pay by bank transfer.

Please do not send me any payments of hut fees.

If you have any queries regarding your renewal, please contact me at [reuben@signet-solutions.com](mailto:reuben@signet-solutions.com), or on 01332 834543. Thanks in anticipation.

### Dave Roscoe.

In case any Oreads are thinking of Kalymnos in the Autumn, we (family Roscoe) have made arrangements to go between 13/10/2010 and 27/10/2010. We are staying in Massouri.

For those who are not aware, although it is a purely sport climbing venue, there are 200+ routes graded **5 or easier** so that everybody can have fun rocksport! 01142 223791

[D.Roscoe@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:D.Roscoe@sheffield.ac.uk)

### Hut Bookings for February.

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

#### HEATHY LEA

Feb. 5/6th.	Bingham Scouts	cottage.
Feb. 12/13th	Birmingham Wayfarers	cottage.

#### TAN-YR-WYDDFA

Feb. 5/6th.	Orpheus C.C.	16		
beds				
Feb. 9/10th	Pam Storer Family		Feb. 26/29th	vacant.
6 beds.			March 5/6th.	Slough
Feb. 12/13th.	Flyde M.C.		M.C.	10 beds.
Feb, 19/20th.	Oread meet.			

**THERE ARE STILL SOME OUTSTANDING HUT FEES TO BE PAID.**

PLEASE NOTE THAT I WILL BE AWAY FROM FEB. 5-14TH. CONTACT CHUCK FOR SHORT NOTICE BOOKINGS.

## Llanberis Mountain Film Festival

5 to 7 March in and around Llanberis. This is a community event organised by volunteers. Featuring a quiz, bouldering competition, lectures, best of Banff, party, exhibitions, master classes and lots of films. Not forgetting a Welsh male voice choir, a photo competition and trade stands. Visit [www.llamff.co.uk](http://www.llamff.co.uk) for details.

### Forthcoming Meets

<b>February</b>	Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Royal Oak Lecture	Tony Howard	01332 273307
	Sat 6 <sup>th</sup> Sun 7 <sup>th</sup>	Scottish W/end Meets by email	Michael Bate	07825 629061
	Tues 9 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meets Royal Oak Ockbrook		
	Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> /Sun 14 <sup>th</sup>	Fylde MC Hut Stair.	Rowland Smith	01159 691992
	Wed 17 <sup>th</sup>	Wall-Edge Sheffield & Stag Hotel S11 8YL		
	Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> /Sun 21 <sup>st</sup>	Tan Yr Wyddfa	Reuben Dakin	01332 834543
<b>March</b>	Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Royal Oak Lecture	Tony Howard	01332 273307
	Tues 9 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meets Royal Oak Ockbrook		
	Sat 6 <sup>th</sup> Sun 7 <sup>th</sup>	Patterdale	Stuart Haywood	01332882331
	Tues 13 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meets Royal Oak Ockbrook		
	Wed 17 <sup>th</sup>	Wirksworth Wall/Royal Oak		
	Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> /Sun 21 <sup>st</sup>	Heathy Lea Fell Race	Simon Pape/Pete Scott	01629 822450
	Sat 27 <sup>th</sup>	Oread AGM	Chris Wilson	01283 520911
	Sun 28 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Stride	Tony Howard	01332 273307
	Wed 31 <sup>st</sup>	First outdoor evening meet	Neil Weatherstone	01332 726116
<b>April</b>	Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> / Mon 5 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Jersey	Derek Pike	01332 670459
	Tues 13 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meets Royal Oak Ockbrook		
	Sat 17 <sup>th</sup> /Sun 18 <sup>th</sup>	Wye Valley Meet	Angela Pingram	01159 691992
	Wed 21 <sup>st</sup>	Eve meet - pub Robin Hood		
	Sat 24 <sup>th</sup> /Sun 25 <sup>th</sup>	Heathy Lea Beginners Meet	Michael Bate	07825 629061

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