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Climbing at Baggy Point - Mike's abseil

Sunday, September 12, 2010

Baggy Point - Mike Hayes abseil to "Kinky Boots"

Editorial. (Last Date for next edition 26/11/10)

The year is winding to its close, but with it comes the thought of winter snow, with climbing, skiing and all the other wonderful things, not to mention Christmas not far away. This month is our annual dinner, a chance to meet old friends and relate what we got up to in the year so far. Our main article is from Steve Christian again. I think it is a superb piece of writing and really makes me want to get out there and tread the mountain paths. Our president has sent in his write up for Arran and we would like to thank Chris & Gill Radcliffe for the use of their photos, there are some excellent shots.

It would be very nice if any one of our many readers could put pen to paper and let me have some of their work for publication especially our older ones. I am running down the pile and it needs some additions, otherwise the newsletter will begin to get thin. I can accept articles in any format but preferably about the mountain environment with an Oread bias.

Look forward to hearing from you all,

Winter Lecture Programme 2010/11

Tony Howard

November's talk: Alan Hinkes: 'High Altitude Exploits'

I'm very pleased to announce that on Tuesday 2nd November, Alan Hinkes will be talking to us about his high altitude exploits. As you will know, Alan is the only Briton to claim ascents of all 8000m peaks. He began with Shishapangma in 1987 and for example climbed K2 in 1995, Everest in 1996, Nanga Parbat in 1998 and Kanchenjunga in 2005: a fantastic achievement!

We are very lucky to have Alan talking to such a small audience as ours. This has only been possible because he is a personal friend of Sally Dipple. Because the Club's costs for this presentation are a lot higher than normal, the Committee has agreed to an increase in door-fee for this lecture. That is £2 for members and £3 for non-members. It's still less than the price of your first pint of the night! So I hope you will turn out en-masse for what should be a superb evening.

Could you please let me know if you intend to come?

The next two lectures after that are:

7th December

2010 **Jack Ashcroft / Steve Christian** The TMR (Tour de Monte Rosa) / Ice Climbing

4th January

2011 **Ben Bransby & Adam Long** Voie Petit - Grand Capucin & Lotus Flower Tower

I hope to see you at these as well.

Dovedale Dash Sunday November 7th 2010.

Rob Tresidder.

Some changes this year. But some things stay the same. Start is at 11; sign on from 9. If you aim to arrive at 10 you'll give yourself plenty of time to queue for the Pastures CP, register and warm up. Big hike this year in the entry fee. It has now gone up to £5. There will be no fee for parking at the start. Sadly a big discouragement for those who like to cycle to the event or park in Dovedale itself.

I don't know what battles or duels to predict this year, only that I hope there will be a good turnout again. A further change is that the stepping stones have been "improved", not that I expect that will affect any Oreads, posing briefly as Naiads. More here:

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/travel/article-1300509/Dovedale-stepping-stones-Derbyshireconcrete-make-over.html>

If you've never run in this event, it's just one you have to try. If you can run 5 miles in less than an hour you won't disgrace yourself. Course is usually deliciously muddy and an early crossing of the Dove guarantees wet feet at least. More details here:

Heathy Lea Bonfire Meet Sat 13th & Sun 14th November 2010

Pam Storer.

The Bonfire Meet will be a traditional fire and fireworks party for adults and children on Saturday evening with folks bringing their own food (bonfire toffee and fireworks provided by me). On Saturday afternoon we will need to build the fire and stuff the Guy, so any help would be appreciated. Hopefully the weather will provide us with an opportunity for a good walk or bike ride on Sunday. Please let me know if you are coming even if it is only for the Saturday evening so that I know how much toffee to make.

Pam- 01623 795758 email--pam_storer@hotmail.com

61st Oread Dinner – Saturday 20th November 2010

Victoria Paterson.

The next annual dinner will be held at 7.00 p.m. (for 7.30 p.m.) on Saturday 20 November at The Bluebell Inn, Tissington. The cost is £16.50 per person or £12.95 per child for 3 courses (a cheese course can be included for an extra £1.50 per person) The venue is a little out of the way with not a lot of accommodation nearby - With regards to accommodation, if anybody would like to stay overnight near to the Bluebell, there is accommodation available in Ashbourne at the Miraj Hotel & Leisure Club. Prices for the Miraj are as follows:

Double/twin room 2 people B & B £70 - Single room B & B £63

Double room 2 people room only £45 (non refundable)

Double room 2 people room only £55 (refundable)

Single/twin on room only same room rates apply as for double/twin

Their availability is good and should easily be able to cater for the number of people who wish to stay in Ashbourne overnight. There are a few taxi firms in Ashbourne so transport from The Bluebell to Ashbourne shouldn't be a problem.

I am looking into the possibility of arranging a minibus/small coach starting in Derby and picking up larger towns/villages along the way, probably following the A6 through Duffield, Belper then Wirksworth, Ashbourne, Tissington. This is just a possible route as I am not sure where the highest concentration of Oreads can be found aside from a Wednesday night!

I will be publishing the menu and asking for choices and payment from early September onwards.

If anybody has any questions about the dinner then please don't hesitate to contact me, home telephone is 01332 200167, also emailable at victoriaannpaterson@gmail.com, if anyone leaves a message I will of course return it.

After Dinner Walk - Sunday 21st November 2010-10-06

Colin Hobday.

In the aftermath of the Saturday evenings wining and dining, to get rid of any hangovers, and drag those living in the luxury of their tin tents out into the fresh air, I propose to meet at 10.15 for a 10.30 start in the car park Mill Dale (free?).

We will walk down the Dove to Ilam Rock, then up Hall Dale to Stanshope and across the fields to the Royal Oak, Wetton. for light refreshments, The return journey is via Alstonfield. For those who have difficulty leaving the pub, a head torch may be useful. This walk is suitable for dogs, kids, fell runners, silver backs, rock hoppers, tin tenters and committee members,

Hope we have a good turn out, all welcome, see you there!.

News, Articles and Reports from Meets.

Arran – Spring Bank Holiday May/June 2010.

Chris Wilson.

A long time ago, or so the Editor tells me, 14 of us travelled north to the holiday isle of Arran for a fabulous week in the sun. On the way Gil's dash to the island was delayed whilst the police admonished him for speeding and Snod's veteran motorbike expired in the Scottish borders.

On Saturday, whilst Pete and Judy toured art galleries, a small band embarked on a walk around the Cock of Arran. After a bit of bouldering on the beach and caving at Ossian's Cave we encountered the strange sight of a pile of books at Laggan Cottage and nearby the author, Paul Story. He invited passers by to take a copy of his novel and pay later, so we did!

Several of us went to Cir Mhor on Sunday. The sensible went up Glen Rosa but we went via Glen Sannox. A stiff pull near the end of the glen leads to the Saddle at 432m. We then traversed round to the foot of the Rosa Pinnacle, but not without incident. Annegret took to the air whilst scrambling down a gully and needed a bit of first aid. We all then took our turn to climb the classic South Ridge Direct. As we climbed Pete Scott put his rebuilt leg to the test by embarking on the Glen Sannox Horseshoe with Judy. In the evening we all sat down to a meal and washed down with Arran Blonde at the camp site's Stags Pavilion restaurant.



Gill on "Blank"



Chris & Jan's 30th Wedding Anniversary

Monday saw us once more heading up to the Rosa Pinnacle where some of us displayed our incompetence by failing to find the "obvious" start to Arctic Way and climbing instead Fourth Wall. Meanwhile Pete Scott enjoyed South Ridge Direct and Chris and Gill went cycling. Evening entertainment at the Lochranza Hotel included some superb playing of the tea chest by a local.



The circuit of Glen Rosa

A tour of the island followed on Tuesday, the highlight being the Neolithic stone circles at Machrie Moor. On Wednesday Jan and I travelled north to Mull, Pete and Judy journeyed to the Cobbler and others went back to work. The remainder took to the Goat Fell slabs, climbing both Blank (VS) and Blankist (HVS). Chris, Gill, Simon, Richard and Annegret spent Thursday doing the circuit of Glen Rosa.

Jan and I had a wonderful wedding anniversary in perfect weather we would like to thank everyone who came, and especially the midges who stayed away:

Pete and Judy Scott, Dave Helliwell, Pete, Sue and Bryone Lancaster, Annegret Siebert, Gil Male, Chris and Gill Radcliffe, Roger Larkham, Richard Hopkinson, Simon Pape (and Tulla from the Derby Nomads)

Baggy Point Meet 11th & 12th - September 2010.

Simon Pape

Reasons not to go to Baggy Point - Number 1: "I'm now working in Belgium, so I won't have time to get home, down to Devon, home again and back to Belgium before Monday morning." Consequently I took over leading the meet from Sally (and you'll have to suffer another of my meet write-ups!)

Reasons not to go to Baggy Point - Number 2: "I've just pulled down one of Matlock's premier sports crags and I can't walk." Get well soon Mr Mike.

Consequently a reduced number of Oreads headed south. Sally had booked us a bunkhouse near South Molton, which wasn't overly handy for Baggy Point, but was attached to a climbing wall if the weather turned bad. A quick look at my Good Beer Guide suggested that the George would be a suitable pub to meet in, situated in the centre of town, and this is where Mike & I headed after leaving my car at the bunkhouse. We walked past several other busy pubs to the George, which only had three customers: Messieurs Green, Pike and Pike. "At least it's quiet youth". "And we can get a seat". The beer was good too, and the food. We were soon joined by team Radcliffe, whilst Annegret joined the Ladies Green and Pike at the bunkhouse.



Chris Radcliffe on "Ben" Baggy Point

Saturday dawned wet, as per the weather forecast. By the time the assembled Oreads rose, the sun was out and there was no need to visit the climbing wall. Team Radcliffe went for a bike ride, whilst Team Green hit the tourist trail. The rest of us headed for Baggy. The Pikes started on the Promontory and climbed two or three of the lines on the Left Hand slab. Mike, Annegret & I went to Long Rock and climbed the classic severe Shangri-La and the even better VS Lost Horizon. After heading up the abseil rope for lunch, an incoming rain shower and an approaching hoard of Pikes prompted a return to the Promontory for a quick couple of roots before the tide came in.

Sunday saw the whole team returning to the Promontory. Mike and I had a look at the start of Kinky Boots and as suggested in the guidebook said "You've got to be joking" and quickly ran away to join the rest of the team on the pleasant left hand slabs. James and Derek did leave us to join Kinky Boots, but everyone else spent the rest of the day on the easy angled stuff, until it was time to head back north. All except for Team Radcliffe. One of the benefits of being retired/working part-time is that every weekend is a long weekend. They returned to Long Rock on Monday morning, whereupon it started raining. Life can be so unfair at times!

Many thanks to Sally for doing most of the organisation; since she's still not been to Baggy Point, expect to see it on another Meets List soon!

Curry Meet - Wednesday 22nd September 2010

Simon Pape

Reasons not to go to the curry meet - Number 1: "I want to go to a football match instead." Consequently I took over leading the meet from James - apologies for any confusion in the newsletter, I only just beat the publication deadline.

So what did James miss? We had glorious weather, as we seem to for the last evening's climbing, and several of the retired Oreads were able to get to Wildcat early. Their number didn't include Radcliffe who was having transport problems. Seems they've moved the bus stop in Chesterfield and consequently he missed the bus to Matlock. Seems he had to sit around drinking tea and eating cake whilst waiting for the next one. Their number also didn't include Tony H, who arrived later. He obviously felt the need to make up for lost time and climbed until after dark, rather than heading for the Curry house.

What else did James miss? The curry was as ever excellent, doubtless we'll be back next September (some of us probably sooner). The beer was free, since it was our wedding anniversary. Many thanks to all who came to celebrate with us.

And the football? I believe that the mighty Mickleover Sports were well beaten. James - you'd have been better off on Wildcat!

Tan yr Wyddfa Working Party September 24th -27th

Colin Hobday

12 Oreads assembled at the hut from Friday onwards, Nick Evans building new food, and boot, racks. plus a bench and tiling behind the hand wash basin.

Chris Jonson, John Fisher, Pete Kennington, had a mammoth wood cutting session (from the trees that were felled last year) so the wood store plus the old toilet are now full though the wood is still wet. Also the surrounds of the hut, hedges, bushes etc were given a pruning.

Dave Penlington, and Nodge Norris repaired rotten barge boards. cleaned the guttering.

Pam Norris sanded down the outside bench and painted the inside walls of the bays with the help of Ali Kennington, while Tony Smedley fitted a new outside light at the rear entrance and repaired the one overlooking the wood store.

Mick Keeling and Colin Hobday decorated the back room with the help of others, D.P. & J.F. who stayed on painted the floor though it will need a second coat of paint.

Pam Storer had the usual big cleaning session, and treated the bench with wood stain.

Apart from it raining for over 24 hrs a large amount of work was done.

Pam provided a meal for all on Saturday evening with Merle and Bob from Llanberis joining us.

We had a visit from the Treasurer Michael Bates just to see where the money goes!.

Thanks to all who attend and put a lot hard work in over the W/End.

Highland Dreams

Steve Christian.

The snow fields shine like an incandescent light across the highlands. The crisp, white landscape and pale wintry sky hide behind broken wisps of clouds, which hover on wings of angels. Mountains stretch out as far as the bounds of my wild imagination, an unbroken peace disturbed only by the winter breeze brushing gently on my face. There is a smile of innocence on this face of solitude, and I am touched by disbelief at its beauty. Tears, for the gift of this chance, to be again, part of this infinite landscape, choke my mind.

It is a landscape so incredibly real, captured within my veins, my very soul. The depth of my feeling for this place fills a space vaster than the greatest of black holes. Inside this hole, I am swallowed up by my emotion, genuine love, a desire to be here, in this wildest of places, where there is question about mans relationship with ecology. This is a place where fascination, beauty and serenity overtakes all other thought and where the closest of friends can become the furthest away. The peace is heaven on earth, a place to be shared, even when I am alone.

And people have mocked such experience which is part of what I am. I bid you not to be amongst such sceptics, even if to you I seem but a poor fool. Instead come with me for a while to see life through my eyes, upon a journey which will take you to places that only exist in the sweetest dreams.

But beware, on this journey you will meet an infectious lust, which can consume every waking minute and desire. A lust which can bleed the very last ounce of energy from within and leave exhaustion in the wake of fulfilment. Then replete, as the cup over flows, it springs once more from the furthest corner of the mind to leave you floundering in wonder and gasping at it's expanse, it's appetite.

And so for you my friend what of it? Does the experience leave your dreams hungry in the night? Does it fill your heart with fear of what may or may not be? Does it tear at your life in a whirlwind of turmoil and dizzying emotions? Does it touch your most sensitive places and leave you tingling with apprehension?

It has burnt the lives of many a trapped wretch and left them on the beach of abandonment, wandering aimlessly, lost on the fringes of reality.

And for me? I have paid the highest prices for my passion. It has chastised me like the other woman, soaking up energy and emotion like a hydrosopic famine, leaving in its wake a dry and loveless being. Of my own undoing that is of no doubt. The addiction my downfall, leaving behind a complex character of unsure emotions. A man for who does nothing else matter? Do people really think that!? Or do they see the light?

Oh for the words to make them understand, to bring such vision to virtuality.

And where did it all go wrong? Did the mountains selfishly tease my subconscious? Am I guilty of being? What makes up a man like I, stuck between the sky and earth? These questions leave me floating somewhere, out in the void.



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Bidean a Chambair 867m 4/4/06

So do not ask me again why my heart breaks every time I leave here. Within these mountains I have lived, real tales of courage, strength, fear, love, life and of death. My living soul will always be here, with those I have shared it with and with those that remain. And I will cherish these memories, forever, until God shows me a better place.

Lake Constance by Bike. July 2010.

Colin Hobday.

Family commitments took us this summer to Lake Constance in Southern Germany during a heatwave in Mid-July. Travelling south through Germany we took the Motorway at Stuttgart towards Switzerland. After about an hour (60 miles) you come to a small town called Tuttlingen which is the source of the Upper Danube. From there runs a cycle route all the way along the Danube to Bucharest, an estimation of 500 miles.

We stayed in the Wildenstein Youth Hostel, which is very atmospheric old castle, at an altitude of 800 m overlooking the river gorge. We spent a day cycling along the river through a beautiful gorge, similar to the Manifold Valley but on a much larger scale. A railway runs along the valley and the train can be boarded anywhere en route together with your bike for the return journey if need be. There is a large amount of lime stone outcrops several hundred feet high which have a climbing guide to them, however, there is no climbing during the nesting season up to beginning of August. There are plenty of campsites nearby. It would be perfect for a stopover for a day or two.

We then carried on to Lake Constance near Friedrichshafen, not far from the Austrian boarder. We stayed there for several days before cycling round the whole lake of Constance, passing through Germany, Austria, Switzerland, a distance of 300 km (5 days) but easy cycling, except for the heat of 35 centigrade+. However,

the lake is always on your right hand side and you can jump in for a swim anytime and anywhere, not to mention that the cherry season was in full swing. The area around Lake Constance is one of the biggest wine and fruit growing areas.



From the Wildenstein Youth Hostel, looking down the Upper Danube Valley -Sunset on Lake Constance

Volunteer Needed.

The committee is looking for a volunteer to attend the BMC quarterly area meetings. If anyone would like to do this please contact Chris Wilson on 01283 520911 - I'm told the sandwiches are very good! Ed.

Membership Renewals for 2011

Reuben Dakin.

The evenings are drawing in, which means it's time for me to awake from my summer slumber and start thinking about subs for 2011. This year, I'll be in the correct hemisphere for most of the time, so if you're lucky you may find that my quality of service improves from abysmal to poor.

This time last year, club finances were looking in a doubtful state, necessitating a sharp rise in subs. I'm pleased to report that, thanks to your extra contributions and to increases in both hut fees and hut usage, the position looks rather better this year, so that subs can be frozen at 2010 levels for the coming year:

Ordinary Member	£40.00
Senior* Member	£25.00*
Prospective# Member	£25.00 for first 2 years #, then £40.00
Joint§ (Family) Membership	£65.00 per couple
Senior* Joint§ (Family) Membership	£42.00 per couple
Family: one senior*, one youthful	£53.50 per couple

* You are eligible for **senior membership** if you will have reached "state pension age" on 1 January 2011. This applies to:

- Ladies born on or before 6 August 1950

- Gents born on or before 1 January 1946

You may have paid only £21.00 for senior membership last year, due to a misprint in the newsletter. If this was the case, please can we redress the balance this year.

§ Two ordinary members living at the same address are eligible for **joint (family) membership**.

Prospective members please remember that, as from January 2010, the reduced rate applies for two calendar years only. So now is the time to start thinking about upgrading to ordinary membership. It's really quite easy: we want to encourage everyone to participate in the club fully.

All of the above rates include £11.75 (also unchanged from 2010) in respect of your BMC club membership, which we pass on to the BMC on your behalf. You cannot opt-out of this arrangement, but there are options to get a refund from the BMC if you are paying through another affiliated club.

If your permanent address is outside the UK you will not be a BMC club member. The rate for members resident abroad will be set at 50% of the standard rate set out above.

I will be sending out individual emails and eventually letters to let you know what is due, but if you can beat me to it, it will save the club the cost of the postage.

How to pay:

- If you catch me at the dinner with the money in your hand, I will give you your new membership card straight away without any need for posting.
- 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.

You need to pay before:

- 31 December to ensure that your BMC 3rd party insurance remains current
- 31 January to maintain your Oread membership

If you have any queries regarding your renewal, please contact me at reuben@signet-solutions.com , or on 01332 834543. Many thanks

Hut Bookings for November.

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

HEATHY LEA

Nov. 5/6th. Surbiton & Kingston MC Cottage.

Nov. 12/13th. Oread meet.

Nov. 26/27th. Royal Veterinary College MC Cottage.

TAN-YR-WYDDFA

Nov. 5/6th. Alysbury CC 16 beds.

Nov. 12/13th. Leic, M.A. 8 beds.

Nov. 16/19th, Pam Storer 4 beds.

Nov. 19/20th. vacant

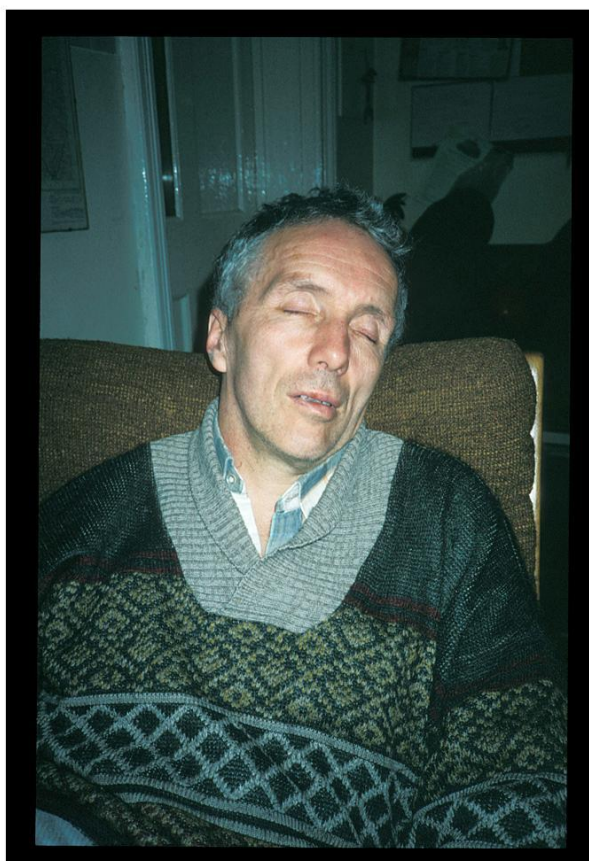
Nov. 26/27th. Bassentlaw H.W.C. 16 beds

Dec. 3/4th. Yorkshire M.C. 16 beds.

Forthcoming Meets

November	Tues 2 nd	Alan Hinkes Royal Oak Ockbrook	Tony Howard	01332 273307
	Sun 7 th	Dovedale Dash	Rob Tresidder	01629 823953
	Tues 16 th	Committee Meets Royal Oak Ockbrook		
	Sat 13 th Sun 14 th	Bonfire Night at Heathy Lea	Pam Storer	01623 432560
	Sat 20 th	Annual Dinner	Victoria Patterson	01332 200167
	Sun 21 st	Post Prandial Walk	Colin Hobday	01332 551594
December	Tues 7 th	Royal Oak Ockbrook	Tony Howard	01332 273307
	Sat 11 th Sun 12 th	Bullstones	Rob Tresidder	01629 823953
	Tues 14 th	Committee Meets Royal Oak Ockbrook		
	Wed 15 th	Black Rocks	Steve Christian	01629 825292
	Sat 25 th Mon 31 st	Christmas at Tan yr Wyddfa	Rock Hudson	01159 333031

January	Sat 1 st	New Years Day Walk	Rusty Russell	01335 390369
	Tues 4 th	Royal Oak Ockbrook	Tony Howard	01332 273307
	Sat 8 th Sun 9 th	Tan yr Wyddfa	Steve Christian	01629 825292 07824 623945
	Tues 11 th	Committee Meets Royal Oak Ockbrook		
	Any January Weekend	Scottish Winter Climbing Meet	Steve Christian	01629 825292 07824 623945



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Rusty asleep 03/03/97



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