

Oread Mountaineering Club Magazine FEBRUARY 2012

“Climb if you will, but remember that courage and strength are nought without prudence, and that a momentary negligence may destroy the happiness of a lifetime. Do nothing in haste; look well to each step; and from the beginning think what may be the end.”

— [Edward Whymper](#), *Scrambles Amongst the Alps*



Dog Sledding on the Antarctic Peninsula – Rock Hudson 1972

Editorial. (Last Date for March edition 24/02/12)

February is probably the best time of year to be in the high hills of Scotland, I shall certainly be on my way for a few days from the 4th most likely getting into the hills around Loch Affric, as the Munro Society have asked that we climb a number each, so that all have been done by the 30th September 2012 in celebration of the tenth anniversary of the Society. It is quite a long flog from any starting point there to do An Socach and Mam Sodhail and if the weather is not kind it can be arctic! If anyone would like to join me they would be very welcome. It would suit anyone who did the Bullstones last year.

This month Roland has some interesting foody things even if the weather is inclement and Chiz Daykin's slides should certainly get us all in the mood for some snow and ice climbing if we get the right weather!

We still need a volunteer to take over the Editorship of the Magazine from the end of March; otherwise communication will be severely curtailed!!

Winter Lectures at the Royal Oak - 6th March 2012

Tuesday **31 January** (note the date): Chiz Dakin

Icebergs, historic huts and seriously cute penguins. Chiz features them all in her talk on Tuesday evening at the Royal Oak in Ockbrook. All are invited and bring a friend!

Rock's 6 March lecture will be in two halves:

1. A trip to the Cordillera Real in Bolivia
2. Exploration – Mountaineering Kangerelussuaq East Greenland

Sat 11th – Sun 12th February 2012 Tan-yr-Wyddfa

Roland Smith.

Following on from the success of Tony's curry night at TYW, I have suggested we do something similar on a more continental theme. TYW is already booked for the weekend of 11th and 12th Feb 2012, so why not make it another evening of culinary delight, but this time with French, Spanish or Italian recipes?

There are clearly some very good cooks in the Oread, and I expect some of you are good at more than just curries, so if you fit into that category and you can come along that weekend then please let me know. If you don't, but you would like to come along and eat some delicious food, then still let me know.

If you are able to contribute to the cooking then please suggest 2 or 3 recipes that you like to make and we'll decide between us which ones would make the best overall meal. I think that is a better way to do it as it won't lend itself quite so well to just having a bit of everything on the plate as curry tends to (on an English plate at least), but I am expecting the desert course to be better.

Oh, and I nearly forgot – there is some good climbing and walking nearby.

Rsmith250@csc.com 01773 856702

Little Langdale – 18th/19th February 2012

Steve Christian

This meet is at the Fylde Mountaineering Club hut in Little Langdale. We have 16 beds available and it is a "Hut Swop" so we use it at their rates (£3-00 a night) but we get the money. They have the same arrangement for our hut. Getting there is done by following the usual A591 into Ambleside, then the 593 to Skelwith Bridge, continue on this road for a further mile to where a turn off is made to High Colwith and Little Langdale. After passing the pub (The Three Shires Inn) a small left turn will bring you to the hut after a few meters. It is part of a terrace and only has parking for 6 cars so car sharing certainly helps.

The usual Climbing, Walking and Biking is all available in this lovely area, so please contact me and book your place. 01629 825292, 07824 623945 climbersteve@hotmail.com

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Patterdale – 10th/11th March 2012

Stuart Haywood

As I've indicated on quite a few occasions now 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 the only variable will be the weather, and with the record breaking weather pattern we experienced in 2011, and also so far this year, I certainly can't make any promises on this score!

Over the next week or so 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 ; 01332 882331 or e-mail stuart.haywood8@yahoo.co.uk I will of course reply to all e-mail and voicemail messages to confirm bookings. Also if you are looking for, or can offer lifts please let me know.

As I'm still a 'wage slave' we will probably arrive mid evening on Friday but others have indicated that they intend to travel during the day so no doubt we'll all meet during the course of the evening at the usual local watering holes!

Night Navigation

Derwent Mountaineering Club Meets

The DMC are inviting the Oread to their Night Navigation evenings. They have 2 of these left this year –

22nd Feb starting from Robin Hood carpark - set by Tony Fidler

21st Mar starting from The Peacock, Owler bar - set by Mick Biggin

Six flags are positioned on the moors and grid references/instructions given to teams.

Usually takes 2 - 3 hours of blundering across the moors in the dark with the only reward being a pint at the individuals expense and being ridiculed in the pub afterwards.

Any incompetence in not finding flags is totally down to the teams taking part and nothing to do with the setter getting it wrong. Usually kicks off between 6.30 and 7.30 pm with teams of 2 or more forming and setting off as they arrive at the start.

Headtorches, maps, compass and thickskins essential.

Any Weekend – Winter Climbing 2012

Pete Lancaster.

If the colder temperatures are putting fire in your heart, dreaming of ice falls, gullies and snowy ridges, then read on. During the coming winter there are a series of weekends pencilled into the meets calendar, for which an assessment of winter climbing and weather conditions will be made during the week preceding. A communication by e-mail will be made, notifying of any proposal to travel to the mountains in the pursuit of winter climbing the following weekend. Accommodation will be hut, hostel or bunkhouse. All possible climbing locations will be up for review, including Scotland, Wales and The Lake District. Those members not on the e-mail circular can obtain further details

nearer the day by telephoning or texting the meet leader for the specified weekend. Over the past few years, Oreads have had some excellent sport, let's hope for a bumper year in 2012. I will act as a 'hub' and try to co-ordinate things for those not connected via the yahoo group. I can be contacted by 'phone 01142 301136. 'NB Change of email address. Pete Lancaster's email address is now petel1952@hotmail.co.uk and his

previous one is no longer accessible. If anyone has sent an email to him in the last few weeks and not had a reply, please resend it to this address.'

Biking with Bennett.

Steve Bennett.

December: Under dull skies and the threat of a poor weather forecast, six stout bikers rode from Buxton to Taxal via some interesting trails which proved to be good fun. The Goyt was crossed utilising a variety of styles; we had one rider and one eventual wader whilst the rest copped out and used the foot bridge. The promised weather started to set in as we continued south and by the time Derbyshire Bridge was reached things had become decidedly wintry. All eyes now turned back to Buxton and we returned along the old road which made for a sporty descent under the conditions.



Muddy with Bennett – Rue at Buxton.



The team at Cannock Chase (Jan)

February:

Classic trails in and around the Edale area with something for everyone.

March:

More high quality biking seeking out quiet trails in this, usually busy, area of the Peak.

- Sunday February 26th, Hope Railway Station (grid ref: 181833) 10am.
- Sunday March 25th, Hathersage Railway Station (grid ref: 233812) 10am.

For further information or possible car sharing please give me a call.

Steve Bennett, 01332 516367, 07795 511582, steve@apexdesigns.biz

News, Articles and Reports from Meets.

John Welbourn.

Lisa Webourn.

It is with great regret that we have to announce the passing of John Welbourne on the 21st Jan 2012.

The funeral will be held on Monday 30th January at 2:30 pm at Pentre Bychan Crematorium, near Wrexham. You are invited to The Buck Hotel in Bangor-on-Dee after the service for refreshments.

Donations in lieu of flowers would be appreciated. They will be split between the Macular Disease Society and a cancer charity.

Helga and I would like this to be a celebration of Daddy's life and a chance to remember all the good times. Black is not necessary, dress to celebrate.

If people are coming next Monday, I'd appreciate it if they'd let me know so that we can ensure there's enough food! You can call on 01530 839312 or email me on lisa@lisaw.me

We will be having a memorial service in Allestree at a later date as we know some can't attend next Monday

The postcode of the crematorium is LL14 4EP. It is off the A483 between Oswestry and Chester, just on the edge of Wrexham. It is sign posted from there, so hopefully people won't have too many problems finding it.



Last Newsletter?

Some months ago John advised that his term as Newsletter editor was coming to an end. A replacement was called for. The response has been underwhelming. John will cease to be Newsletter Editor at the end of March and until a volunteer steps forward the Oread will be without a newsletter.

A magazine as good as that which John has produced is not essential, but the club really does need something. So, how about giving it a go?

During his term in office John has simplified the printing and distribution. This is now carried out by a printer. The major element of work, and that which causes the greatest headache, is gathering material, especially from meet leaders. There's also a Committee meeting 11 times a year.

Please contact a member of the Committee urgently with your offer, or Chris Wilson on 07881698758 or email c.wilson.48@btinternet.com

Picos De Europa 15-29 June 2012

Steve Bennett

Why the Picos?

1. "Stunning lines, on good rock in an un-crowded area".
2. Exceptional trekking.
3. Classic walking including the famous Cares Gorge.
4. No acclimatisation required.
5. Funicular railway and cable car access.
6. "30 mins drive to the North coast with secluded coves, sandy bays and some of the most famous surfing beaches in Europe".

After careful consideration of the limited available information and for this our first visit to the area it was decided that we would prefer a two centre approach to the holiday. For this reason it has proved difficult to organize a club meet along conventional lines. However, we would be delighted to welcome the company of anyone that may care to join us.

We have booked to fly to Santander from where we will pick up a hire car for the last two weeks of June. Our objective will be rock climbing and mountaineering peaks and we have chosen the early summer dates to make the most of:

1. Historically (and hopefully) good pre-busy season weather.
2. Bearable average temperatures.
3. Avoidance of the worst of the crowds.
4. Diminishing build ups of snow.

We will initially head for Arenas De Cabrales. The majority of week 1 will be spent in the north and will, hopefully, be centered on the Refuge Ubeda and the Naranja De Bulnes area which we will access from either Sotres or the Bulnes funicular. For week 2 we expect to move to somewhere close to Espinama/Fuente De for exploration of the Southern end of the Central Massif and the Eastern Massif.

There are campsites, chalets and hotels at Arenas De Cabrales (north), Espinama and Fuente De (south)

For further information or to offer any (much welcome) advice that you may have to give please give me a call.

Steve Bennett 01332 516367 07795 511582 steve@apexdesigns.biz

Bullstones 2011 9-11th December

Pam Norris

Friday night – and the drive up did not bode well, lakes where there should have been fields, an axle-deep flood on the road, and paths indistinguishable from streams! Oh well, not to worry – the pub was warm, the beer and company good, no need to rush off (or so most of us thought).

Two keen souls however could not subdue the desire to get cold and wet, leaving early to establish an advance base camp at around 9 pm. The remaining 14 participants, mindful of the need to support the local economy stayed in the pub a while longer, finally setting off at around midnight to look (if possible) for a mud-free patch of ground on which to lay our beds.



Bivvy on Harland Hill



Sunrise on the fells

Fate was smiling on us and we were rewarded with a glorious moonlit night, reasonably crisp snow, and a choice of sheltered spots, most managed to get some sleep.



Saturday am - preparing to leave



The long march begins

Saturday morning saw one party member heading down to the valley for the vitally important task of driving to the Barn, lighting the fire, and preparing the mulled wine. He was replaced by another willing Oread who, on the advice of his doctor to take things easy, decided to join the rest of us on a 15 mile tramp over tussocky grass through ankle-deep snow! Most of us were “cream crackered” before we were halfway there.

The Barn, reached long after dark with its roaring fire, mulled wine, beer, and comfortable beds was a very welcome destination.



Can't we just stop here then?



The lively team

Sunday morning and all the snow had washed away/ melted overnight and purists who walked back to West Burton were rewarded with a pleasant half-day's walk on grassy tracks. Others pleaded injury/ illness/ exhaustion/anything really (and nothing to do with the rain falling from the sky!) and obtained a lift from our excellent Bullstones support, calling off on the way to marvel at the spectacular Aysgarth falls swollen by snowmelt.



A tired Meet Leader



Heading off into a festival of wetness

The team re-grouped in the Fox & Hounds before setting off for home.

My thanks to all who took part and helped to make a great weekend, I expect we're all convinced now that it was thoroughly enjoyable, and will doubtless (thanks to short-term memory failure) be back for more similar punishment next year.

The Bullstones team consisted of: - Pam & Nodge Norris, Derek Pike, Simon Pape, Pam Storer, Nick Evans, Chris & Jan Wilson, Brian West, Helen Griffiths, Roy Eyre, Reuben Dakin, John Green, Kevin & James Fidler, Tony Raphael, and Mike Hayes.

New Year at Tan yr Wyddfa Fri 30th Dec – Tue Jan 2nd 2012

John Green

A group of stalwart members arrived at the hut to celebrate the New Year. On New Year's Eve a walk was undertaken in the mist and drizzle starting from Pen Y Pass (using the bus) along the Miners Track to the Causeway and up to Glaslyn where a snack was taken. The arête of Y Gribin was climbed in very slimy wet

conditions making it feel much harder than it was! We arrived at the bwlch with no injuries and then descended the Watkin Path to the mine workings, where lunch was taken. A re-ascent to the Aran Col then left us with a reasonable walk back to the hut, where tea was very welcome. Others had taken some exercise to the Aran Col from the hut getting equally damp! A superb spread of Baked Potatoes, Chilli, Casserole, and various cold offerings with cheese and wine and even some sloe gin and mulled wine. A great evening to bring in the New Year.



Y Gribin - New Years Eve.

New Years Day was very wet and I went into Beddgelert with Sylvia to look at the craft shops, have a bite of lunch and return to the warm fire. The evening was given up to a superb slide show by Rock who I thought excelled himself in the variety and quality of his presentation, which took us on a journey from its beginnings in the Antarctic through Egypt, to the Himalayas. Certainly the best slide presentation I've seen in some time. Due to other commitments Sylvia and Myself along with Margaret and Kevin set off for home on the Monday just as the sun was shining for the first time!!!



The Egyptian Desert – Rock Hudson 1980

New Years Day Pete Kennington 2012

Monday: from Pete Kennington:-

Pam, Ali and I had a cold, breezy and dry day on Mynydd Mawr, Nodge went looking for a new exhaust and Rock made the fire ready for our return. We spent a quiet evening reading and turned in about 10pm only to be awoken at 2pm with the fire alarm wailing at us. No not a fire, a power cut that lasted all night and hadn't returned by the time we left at after 10am.

New Year Walk Sun 1st Jan 2012

Clive Russell.

With the level of attainment in the modern Oread in the major ranges and the big climbs, a walk in the lower Peak must be described with diffidence, but it was pleasing to be greeted by a large and enthusiastic group in the prevailing grey and un-welcoming climate. Chris Bryan was fresh back from the Himalayas, and we had the support of numerous Presidents past and present for a muddy, slithering traverse of the west bank of the Dove by Air Cottage and Dovedale Wood, en route from Ilam to Wetton. Reg Squires used his countyman's tools to butcher an innocent sapling to obtain a necessary third leg in an attempt to maintain an illusion of equilibrium on the slippery sidelong ground. On arrival, the Royal Oak was jammed with (mostly convivial) humanity whilst we consumed our health giving diet of alcohol and chips, and we were joined by others who had arrived by diverse means, Digger, Janes, Brian West, Pete Hassall and Roger Larkham with their handlers, were seen amongst others. The fitness freaks were prised out of the pub with the usual reluctance, trying to get back to Ilam whilst it was merely twilight, but the party split as ever, it transpired that a splinter group, led and coerced by Uschi, had walked back down Stable lane and so missed out the pleasing views down the Manifold from upstream of Highfields Mine. Those attending: Reg, Chris B, Colin and Uschi, Mick and Gill, Tony Smedley and Pat, Simon Pape, Snod (is this how he appears on the electoral roll?), Chris and Jan Wilson, Peter Armour and one or two others in the mist including ladies who, sadly, I do not know. It is believed that most made it back, but some small percentage loss of personnel is inevitable whilst I am on a retainer from the pension authorities.

A Grand Day out with Mr. Gibbs.

Dave Mawer

In preparation for our 2005 summer holiday a plan was hatched to build up a bit of stamina for the long Alpine rock routes of the Dolomites. Our challenge was simple, a route mixing the best grit and limestone Derbyshire has to offer. 21 pitches, 1775 feet of climbing, a few miles of driving, 1 or 2 miles on foot, 2 litres of tea, 6 litres of water, a loaf of sandwiches, 1 genoa cake, 3 bars of chocolate, 2 pints of lager and a packet of crisps. How hard could it be.....

0300 – The alarm angrily disturbs my restless slumber.

0304 – Can't find any socks? **0307** – Arrgh I've forgot to switch the kettle on.

0312 – A crash from upstairs. What on earth was that? I shovel my 3 year old son back into his bed.

0323 – Great, a drag race with some boy racers in a Purple Vauxhall Nova. My pitiful Peugeot 205 is clearly no match.

0349 – I meet my friend in the lay by beneath High Tor. He greets me warmly with a big grin and his trademark handshake. We tread the familiar foot path leaving Matlock's answer to an Alpine telephrique behind us. Ten minutes later we're gearing up underneath the first challenge of the day.

0407 – Already dripping with sweat my battered rucksack thermometer reads a balmy 20°C as Mr. Gibbs begins the grassy scramble to reach the route of Debauchery. His way lit by the dim light of dawn and his head torch. First climbed over 40 years ago by Jackson and Atkinson this wandering classic weaves its way diagonally leftwards through the immaculate shield of High Tor. Overlooking the river Derwent, there are no spectators wandering the valley bottom today. I stop paying rope out, a bellow from the gloom signals his safety, I detach my belay and the remaining rope rapidly disappears as I tighten my boots, then I'm away racing to keep ahead of the winch man. I arrive at the halfway ledge, wheezing and sweating with exertion. A quick change of rack and I'm away again, painfully aware of the ground yet to cover. Wobbling up leftward along slippery cracks I pass good runner placements, favouring the decaying relics from ages past. A decision I soon regret, as wide eyed I pull out a loose peg throwing it over my shoulder into the trees

below. At last I reach juggy rock that ends the difficulties and quickly make my way to the safety of the abseil tree. Mr. Gibbs soon bounds into view as a distant church clock sounds 5 chimes. After an abseil to the base of the cliff we bundle our gear away and jog back to the cars. Favouring a flash BMW over my dilapidated banger we speed away heading for Stanage.



Roger on Debauchery



Roger on Right Unconquerable

0549 – We arrive at the Plantation car park. Still burping from my egg butties we bounce up through the trees and stand beneath pitch 3, “Right Unconquerable”. Arguably one of Brown’s finest additions to the edge it follows an overhanging flake to an evil little finish when your arms are sapped of juice.

0607 – Still smiling Mr. Gibbs ties the sharp end to his harness that sports a few choice cams. In no time at all he’s at the top and my rope comes tight. Of this I’m glad as the flying teeth are out and beginning to make a meal of me.

0620 – Back on the floor.

0628 – Sat in the Beemer.

0641 – We screech to a halt in the Chequer’s Inn car park, the world has one less pigeon courtesy of Mr. Gibbs’ driving. After a heart thumping trek up through the trees we arrive beneath Froggatt Pinnacle’s west face. In the summer of 1948 Brown wowed onlookers as he floated up the strenuous jamming crack that provides the opening pitch of Valkyrie. He returned the next year with Wilf White to finish off the route by adding the committing top pitch that leads to the isolated summit.

0654 – Sporting a few more pieces of technology than the Gritstone Master I mould hand after hand up the fine grained grit crack of pitch 4. I’m soon swinging along the break to clip a long sling and my rope into the chock-stone belay. After a brief shake out, I press on placing yet more cams to protect my way to the top of pitch 5. With my ropes secured to the stake belay and bring up a happy partner, his smile undiminished.

0723 – We stuff our sacks with ropes and gear, wolf down some cake, slurp some tea and we're away. 3 down, 5 to go.

0731 – We arrive back at the car. Next stop Curbar Gap. After a brief trot along the tops we descend to stand under an ominous cleft, pitch 6.

0745 – Fortunately for me my valiant companion had yet to lead the Baron's Elder Crack. This once formidable 1950's "VS" was originally protected with railway nuts and a threaded chock stone deep inside. Today its dangers are lessened by the use of a cam the size of Mr. Gibbs' head but the physical difficulties remain the same and only a Gritstone apprenticeship will prepare you. I try to contain a smirk as I report a slippery layer of condensation lining the inside of the crack that will exacerbate the difficulties, soon confirmed by the amount of noise and wriggling coming from above. With a colossal effort and sheer determination a tenacious Mr. Gibbs found himself whooping at the top minus some skin and a pint of sweat. My turn but thankfully my intrepid leader's clothing had dried the rock, considerably aiding my thrutch to the top.



Roger on Elder Crack



A tired Roger in Cheedale.

0829 – Back beneath the cleft.

0839 beside the car. We enter the steep sided valley after a short drive west passing The Moon Inn to park in a familiar lay-by. Crossing the road the heat of the day is noticeable as we wind our way through the trees to stand beneath the large limestone rock face of Windy Ledge Buttress.

0900 – I set off on Alcasan following the classic line of Aurora (a must for any VS leader) to the Altar belay, pitches 7 and 8. From here we swap leads along a natural traversing line on horizontal strata. Originally climbed partly on aid by Dearman and Moore in 1964 and later extended by Jackson *et al.* we clip the ancient relics that adorn the cliff. Swinging merrily past the cave of Our Father, across Scoop wall, around the fine arête of Windhover, into the Flakes, crossing Kink, then Circe we eventually finish up Inquisitor and pitch 12, fossil spotting all the way. Dripping with sweat in overwhelming humidity Windy Buttress doesn't live up to its name today.



Roger on Alcasan



Victoria, Tullan and Gran in Cheedale.

1140 – An abseil returns us to the half height ledge. We coil ropes, scramble down to our rucksacks and then back to the car. Shovelling in sandwiches and cake I relax a while as Mr. Gibbs' heavy right foot propels us toward Cheedale, enjoying a breeze through open windows.

1216 – We come to a halt at Topley Pike lay-by and shoulder our rucksacks once more. The heat of the day is showing an increase as we jog down into the valley to join the train track. On the first ascent of our next route trains had to be dodged to gain access, but those times have now departed.

1230 – Mr. Gibbs begins our 13th pitch, a cracked limestone wall to a large ledge beneath the overhanging buttress containing Sirplum. Another Dearman route of the 60's this time with R. D. Brown they impressed all with this bold free ascent. Even by today's standards it remains a spicy lead. After a shout of safe the rope comes tight and I'm soon at the halfway ledge. We swap gear and I launch out up a steep wall to reach a ledge before the main onslaught. Juggy rock leads me to the huge thread, this I hug for an age before trying to clip my ropes. Feeling the effects of the last 1000ft of climbing and the now 30°C heat, my eyes sting with sweat. I hear my name but not Mr. Gibbs' dulcet tone and look to the valley below. Victoria, Tullan and my mother-in-law wave back and shout encouragement. Not wishing to disappoint the audience I summon what little beans I have left and follow the steep wall and grass above, fashion a belay and collapse. I pull the ropes tight and begin to belay my partner from the depths below. He soon appears not looking his usual sprightly self an imaged mirrored in myself. We coil the ropes and scramble up through the trees and down the grassy slopes to regain our sacks at 1350. We're soon trotting along the track to exchange a brief hello with wife, son and M-i-L and venture into deepest, darkest Cheedale.

1430 – Mr. Gibbs sets off on Doggone Groove, the entry pitch to Jackson and Atkinson's Chee Tor Girdle of 1964. Reaching the break he continues leftward clipping assorted threads and pegs the idea being we move together until his gear or the rope runs out. As the rope gradually comes to an end and pulls at my harness I assume the latter. I begin to climb and the rope steadily tugs at my waist. As I emerge from the shade into the full heat of the sun the rope stops and I scramble to the break and begin to wilt. The slack now disappears and I presume Mr. Gibbs is secure as I swing quickly along the juggy break to join him on his lofty perch. Soaked with sweat we swap gear and comment on the strange lack of climbers in this fiery inferno. Mad dogs and Englishmen! I lead off, keen to return to the relative cool of the shade below. With most of my gear spent I turn the final bend above Mortlock's Arete and fasten myself to a tree. I quickly reel in the rope and watch my partner get closer, competently dispatching the crux. Without a word we rig the abseil and descend from the cliff to reach the floor at 1616. Pitches 15-19 in the bag!

1709 – We reach the car feeling a little pooped and empty a 2 litre water bottle between us. With windows wide we race forth to arrive at Cratcliffe at 1735.

1800 – Feeling my stamina levels a little depleted I begin our final route aiming to lead pitches 20 and 21 in one pitch. Harding’s “breakthrough” route of the 1940’s, Suicide Wall, argued by at least one guidebook as the best HVS on Gritstone. A chimney, groove and a helpful tree lead to a respite before a step right, crack, niche, shake out and flaky finish. Simple! When fresh maybe? I had an altogether different experience at the end of a long hot day. Dry mouthed and with arms of lead I emerged with an ungainly flop on to warm horizontal grit. Hear I lay for a moment taking in its texture and smell. Magic! Securely attached I take in a steady flow of rope until Mr. Gibbs emerges a shadow of his former self. A handshake and the challenge is complete.

1850 – Back on the ground, gear packed away, we descend the familiar track to the car. With rucksacks stowed in the boot our next destination is the Miner’s Standard for a well earned pint. After this we wearily begin the drive back to Matlock to retrieve my car. Another handshake, we part company and go our separate ways.

For Sale.

New home wanted for a Mountaineering Technology technical ice hammer. Any offers? Contact Chris Wilson, 10 Beacon Road, Rolleston on Dove, Staffs DE13 9EF Tel 07881698758 or email c.wilson.48@btinternet.com

Membership Renewals for 2012

Thanks if you have already paid. If you haven’t yet paid, please remember that your BMC 3rd party insurance is now invalid, and that your Oread membership will expire on 31 January. If you’ve paid but not yet received your card, please let me know. The subs for 2012 are as follows:

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

* Those eligible for **senior membership** are:

- Ladies born on or before 5 February 1951
- Gents born on or before 1 January 1947

Prospective members who have been in the club since January 2010 will discover that your subs for 2012 becomes the same as the ordinary members’ rate, so you might as well get on with applying for full membership now. A copy of the (very simple!) application form is attached with this newsletter. If you live at the same address as another ordinary member, you will become joint members, which will cost you no more anyway.

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.

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

Many thanks

Reuben Dakin

Assistant (Membership) Secretary

Information on Member Activities.

Membership applications have been received by the committee, from Roderick Campbell, and Nodge Norris these will be approved unless anyone has any objections, if so please speak to any committee member.

New Members.

We welcome Alan Monks, Brian Rodgers and Kevin Fidler to the Oread, they were voted in as members during the January committee meeting. We wish them an enjoyable time with us in the mountains.

The following has been received from Colin Hobday.

These items for sale belonged to the late Ernie Phillips. I have been instructed by the solicitor to sell the equipment, all proceeds to go to his estate.

Boots Scarpa size 39 used £10

Boots Scarpa size 41 used £10

Rucksack Karrimor Trail 45ltr. £10

Rucksack (no name) 35ltr approx £5

Rope Edelrid 11mm. History unknown but looks in good condition. £15

Boreal Wild Country rock boots Almost new size 6.5 £10

The Masters rock boots, good condition, size 8.5 £10

Assorted slings, 2 wires, 2 figure of 8, karabiners, stitch plate £10

Harness, Black Diamond, padded waist band, size L?. as new. £15.

Book, Climb if you Will, collectors item, there was one for sale on EBay recently at £100. Best offer over £25.

Please contact Colin Hobday Tel 01332 551594 or Email colinanduschi@talktalk.net

If paying by cheque make payable to Shacklocks Solicitors.

Hut Bookings for February.

Please note that hut fees should always be paid to me and no one else. "Whole Hut" includes the Oread room! Thanks, Colin Hobday.

TAN-YR-WYDDFA

Feb. 3/4th. Orpheus C.C. 16 beds.

Feb. 10/11th. Oread meet.

Feb. 17/18th. Flyde M.C, hut swop.

Feb. 24/25th. Bedford M.C, 16 beds.

T. Howard 2 beds.

March 2/3rd. Bassettlaw H.W.C. 16 beds.

HEATHY LEA

Feb. 24/25th. Warwick Uni. cottage/barn.

Forthcoming Meets

February	Any Weekend	Scotland/Wales Snow & Ice	Pete Lancaster	01142 301136
	Sat 11 th Sun 12 th	Tan yr Wyddfa	Rowland Smith	01159 691992
	Tues 14 th	Committee Meets Royal Oak Ockbrook	Committee	
	Sat 18 th Sun 19 th	Little Langdale - Fylde MC Hut	Steve Christian	01629 825292, 07824 623945
	Wed 22 nd	Night navigation DMC		
	Sun 26 th	Biking with Bennett	Steve Bennett	01332 516367
March	Tues 6 th	Evening Meet at Royal Oak Ockbrook	Committee	
	Tues 13 th	Committee Meets Royal Oak Ockbrook		
	Any Weekend	Scotland/Wales Snow & Ice	Pete Lancaster	01142 301136
	Sat 10 th Sun 11 th	Patterdale	Stuart Haywood	01332 882331
	Sat 17 th Sun 18 th	Tan yr Wyddfa	Tony Howard	01332 273307
	Wed 21 st	Night navigation DMC		
	Sat 24 th	Mountain Bike ride	Steve Bennett	01332 516367
	Sat Eve 24 th	AGM at Robin Hood, Baslow	Committee	
	Sun 25 th	Spring Stride	Pete Lancaster	01142 301136
	Wed 28 th	Harborough and Rainster Rocks		
April	Fri 6 th Mon 9 th	Joint Meet with Derwent M.C.	Derek Pike	01332 670459
	Tues 10 th	Committee Meets Royal		

		Oak Ockbrook		
	Sat 14 th Sun 15 th	Yahoo Group arranged meet	Yahoo Group	
	Sat 21 st Sun 22 nd	Beginners Meet, Heathy Lea	Mike Hayes	01530 231401
	Sat 28 th Sun 29 th	Yorkshire Grit	Chris Wilson	01283 520911

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