

# Oread Mountaineering Club Magazine

June 2012



The Improvised Rescue Techniques weekend at Heathy Lea.

## Editorial

We were rained on in Yorkshire, snowed on in the Lakes on May Day and Saturday in Northumberland was a six fleece day: but finally the sun shone on the faithful and Sunday at Kyloe Out was a teeshirt day, with fleeces being shed to the winds, fluttering down from all points of the crag in the summery breeze. By Tuesday we were suffering from sunstroke – sunshine – who needs it? Here's hoping this week's weather will be with us over the coming month because there are lots of fun meets coming up soon. Enjoy!

## What's on.

### Wednesday evenings.

6 June Cratcliffe Miners' Standard

13 June Dovedale Watts Russell

20 June Castle Naze The Beehive

27 June Stanage High Neb car park The Millstone

4 July Ravensdale The Monsal Head

**Cornwall 2-5 June 2012**  
**Roy Eyre**

We are booked in again at Trevaylor campsite which is between St Just & Botallack. Campsite phone number is 01736 787016.

I will be away from May 22nd sorting out the good weather.

**Reiff Sea Cliffs "Rogue" Meet 4th - 8th June, 2012**  
**Dave and Victoria Mawer.**

If you fancy a trip to "Stanage by the Sea" we will be staying at Port A Bhaigh campsite <http://www.portabhaig.co.uk/> in the hamlet of Altandhu. Please book the site yourselves and put (Oread) after your surname and the campsite owners will reserve us pitches near to each other.

Email me at [dtmawer@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:dtmawer@yahoo.co.uk) or phone/text Dave on 07790715520 or Victoria on 07947832986 if you need any other information/inspiration.

**Heathy Lea working party & BBQ 16 – 17 June**  
**Michael Hayes.**

This year's working party will once again be a mixture of cleaning, painting and woodcutting. The Hut is in a good condition and just needs a tidy up see it though the next 12 months.



Nea Weston helping out at a working party.

I would like to encourage as many Oreads as possible to turn up and help, The Hut Sub Committee will be there from 10.00 am on Saturday morning so please come along and support us - even an hour or two will make a real difference. You do not need to bring any tools as these will be provided with the exception of chain saws which are always welcome to continue the tree clearing and wood cutting duties!

The weather will of course be good so I plan on having the usual large bonfire on the Saturday evening to get rid of the rubbish. Bring your BBQ and Liquid refreshment and join in the party. As usual it will also be a good occasion to grab a few hours out on our local crags over the course of the weekend. So please make the effort and come along to help and support (tea making is appreciated as well!) The Hut is seeing increasing usage and even made a profit last year so we need to make sure we don't let it slip back into disrepair. If you need more information then please give me a call on 07771700913.

Michael Hayes  
Heathy Lea Hut Custodian.

**Tan-Yr-Wyddfa BBQ 23 - 24 June 2012.**  
**Tony Howard**

Summer in North Wales: the very phrase brings back memories of hot and sticky days in 'The Pass' or Tremadog, baking at Gogarth, or best of all - pleasant afternoons hiding from the heat on Cynr Las, Cloggy, Craig Yr Ysfa, Llech Ddu, or Lliwedd. The weather will be brilliant (straight face here) and on Saturday night we will be having a BBQ. You should bring your own food and drink. I will provide some BBQ machines, fuel & perhaps a little aperitif. If you want to come along, please let me know ASAP.  
Tony Howard

[tony.howard46@btinternet.com](mailto:tony.howard46@btinternet.com)

Tel: Home 01332 273307 Mobile: 07762 268181

**Walk and climb the Edges. Sunday 8 July 2012**  
**Gil Male**

Coming up soon: a real fun day out. Last year was a multi-star day, don't miss this year's repeat. As Simon's write up in a recent newsletter showed there is always a way to make an outing like this work for you!!

**Gogarth Meet 14/15th July, 2012.**  
**Dave and Victoria Mawer**

Following the success of last year's meet, another visit is back by popular demand. The cliffs of Gogarth are home to classic single and multi-pitch routes of all grades, but mainly VS plus and not for the faint of heart! There is the newish Gogarth North guide available and a South due out soon, but for the first time visitor a North Wales compilation guide will do if you need your appetite whetting. Which ever route you choose you'd better buckle up for an Adventure! Tides are favourable with early afternoon lows. Once again we will base ourselves at the "Valley of the Rocks" campsite, Portdafrach Rd, Treardurr Bay, Isle of Anglesey, LL65 2LL Tel:01407765787. This site is within walking distance to the nearest beach and even sports its own public house. Let me know if you intend joining us by text 07790715520 or by email

[dtmawer@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:dtmawer@yahoo.co.uk)



Simon Pape on “A Dream of White Horses (HVS)” during last year’s meet.

**Alpine Meet: Val Ferret 28 July – 12 August 2012**  
**Pete Lancaster**

So far, I have had only 2 members showing interest and 2 'possibles', which isn't enough to make an alpine meet. We are in the process of booking the campsite, so if you are intending to go please let me know as soon as possible so that we can make the final arrangements; it would be shame if this annual event founders through lack of interest - what has happened to the 'M' in OMC? come on, let's be having you! You can contact me on 0114 2301136 or [petel1952@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:petel1952@hotmail.co.uk) .

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

**Swanage, Friday 27 to Sunday 29 January 2012**  
**Chris Wilson**

It seems a long time ago (probably because it was) that we had our Swanage meet in the depths of winter.

As practice for the Derwent MC’s night navigation traumas we followed our satnav to get there, the Studland ferry from Poole providing a sense of travelling to a different land. As Jan and I settled down in our camper-van, the rest of the team explored their luxury mobile home, complete with bridal suite, that Snod had managed to book at a bargain rate.

Saturday dawned as predicted, with blue skies and sunshine. Brian and Simon introduced themselves to Boulder Ruckle with a rapid ascent of Old Faithful (100' VS 4c) before heading off to climb Aventura (100'



HVS 4c), one of Simon's 2012 objectives.

Snod and I made the 100' free-hanging abseil down Marmalata but a high tide then stopped us reaching our target. A lengthy sea level traverse ensued before we found a suitable alternative route that we hadn't previously climbed. We settled on Asp (110ft VS 4c) which as a first route of the year felt slightly mean on the grade and miserly with only one star. A cramped belay half way up with the sun beating down, overhangs above and below followed by a steep loose exit exemplified Swanage climbing.

The remainder of the team (Derek, Joan, Ruth, Tony and Jan) set up camp at Subluminal, where ascents were made of High Street, Balcony and Gangway. After a late lunch, and with the sun now gone, we all made our way to Cattle Troughs. Here we all climbed at least one route before the cold and hunger became too much and time was called.

The evening saw us walk into town for a well-deserved pint and meal in the White Swan.

By Sunday morning a cold sea mist had settled so we headed for the sports routes at the sheltered Hedbury Quarry / Cannon Quarry (where there is a cannon last fired 150 years ago). Initially the rock was freezing and enjoyment lacking but we soon warmed up and had another great day.

At the end of the day whilst walking back to the car park, Tony strayed onto the Priests Way, striding out to Swanage by mistake. Much merriment ensued once a phone call pointed him in the right direction.

A measure of the success of the meet was that next year's event discussed before we'd left.

Those who went were Ruth Gordon, Dave Helliwell (alias Snod), Tony Howard, Derek and Joan Pike, Brian Rogers, Simon Pape, and last but not least, Chris and Jan Wilson.



## **Yorkshire Grit - Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 April**

### **Chris Wilson**

This was not a weekend of sunshine. Several weeks of rain ensured a waterlogged campsite and I had to get towed out of the mud. And, guess what, it rained on Saturday and Sunday!

Undeterred, Dave, Victoria, Roger and Sharon went to Brimham, the advertised venue, to meet Graham. Each time I've visited the crag with Snod he's pointed out the aptly named off width Desperation Crack (HVS 5b), it being formative in his development. Dave, Victoria and Roger enjoyed themselves on this (so that Dave could try out his new large Friends) before climbing Jabberwok (VS) in the howling wind and rain. Hide and seek and tea with the Westons was followed by bouldering between the showers. Dave bouldered on Joker's Wall including the desperate start to Minion's way (5b) which took more goes than its neighbouring 6a and b's. Victoria and Tullan joined him for more bouldering around the Pommel 6b, the highlight of Dave's weekend.

Meanwhile the rest of us went for a walk from Ripley to Dacre Bank along the Nidderdale Way. Sunday's weather was even worse. Heavy rain accompanied a gale. Sharon and Victoria managed two hours character-building running whilst Roger and Dave kept warm and dry. Derek and Joan went sight-seeing and the rest of us were persuaded to go for a walk, this time on the Dales way from Barden Bridge down to The Strid and then up to Appletreewick.



Thanks to all those who came and made it an enjoyable weekend despite the weather: Roger and Sharon, Dave and Victoria, Pete and Sue, Chiz, Graham, Derek and Joan, Ruth, Simon, Jan and me (Chris)

### **Aspirations and Inspirations. Roger Gibbs**

It's Simon's fault. Lots of things are, but his inspired notion to tell everyone he could think of what he's got planned for the year prompted me to do the same. So now I've got to do them or at least get more creative with my excuses. Chatsworth Edge has been called the Cinderella of the Eastern Edges. The cliff faces north-west and so only receives any real sun on high summer evenings. I'm not sure if we're getting any of these this year. The very best of the routes here are the equal of any on grit though, and any true gritstoner will one day have to bite the bullet and throw themselves at the likes of Vibrio, Emerald Crack, Pearls and the peerless man-eater that is Sentinel Crack. If you like to climb away from the crowds that populate Stanage and Froggatt, it is worth putting Chatsworth on your list of venues. I was going to meet an established crack master and a very strong youngster. Oh dear. K, young and strong, warmed us up on Up the Establishment which was good but a little stiff for the grade at the top.



“Right, that’s enough fun, we’re not here to enjoy ourselves” Let battle commence! D is a generous man and suggested K had first go at Emerald Crack, as we’d both been on it before with various results. We wouldn’t want to spoil the experience by revealing any of the climb’s

secrets. This route has been described as “a wide struggle to start, leading to a fantastic no hands rest off a knee bar. Brilliant moves on pinches and a long reach into flared jams all adding up to an arduous outing”. After K had put some gear in, taken a good whipper and got an impressive bruise on his leg for his trouble, I got the next go. I took three falls (a lot smaller than K’s) before handing over to D. He promptly made mince meat of it. K got it next go. I tried again with D’s beta, which didn’t work for me and I took another small fall. Finally, I got it with a slightly different method (I can reveal the tall/weak person’s method for a small



fee.) The top crack is still a bit of a battle but on much better jams. The route is obviously massively easier with the gear in (especially the cams in the top crack) so I clearly didn’t do it in anything like good style - I’ll be back! D followed (!) rather than letting me abseil which was heroic (or mad depending on your point of view). It was getting on a bit and energy levels had dropped but we knew the plan. I got on Sentinel Crack and it felt hard. The stories and descriptions of the route ran through my head. “The awesome roof crack is a desperate fight”. Tales of early ascensionists having salt and vinegar poured on raw hands in the cafe afterwards. There were seeps in the “easy” groove but I managed to avoid them and battle on to the traverse out. The move to get established in the undercuts felt hard and committing. The pump was pressing and the cams weren’t firing in quite perfectly. I reached into the wide part of the crack, felt some dampness and promptly sat on the runners. (It was actually quite wet in there). I had a couple of rubbish attempts at the crux then lowered off and handed over to K. He took some good whippers before admitting defeat. Finally D had a bash in gathering darkness. He slipped off. It was time to go to the pub. I abbed and stripped the gear. Brown and Whillans were hard weren’t they?

## Improvised Rescue Techniques Training 21 -22 April. Ruth Gordon

A beginners' meet on the calendar, an instructor booked and no eager beginners clamouring to be trained! What's to do? A last minute change of plan was emailed out to members on a first-come-first-served basis and resulted in a full house for two one-day courses at Heathy Lea on improvised rescue training techniques. What do you do when your leader falls and is injured, or a second is unable to follow on a multi-pitch route? Simon Cooke, A.M.I. was both friendly and knowledgeable, talking us through many scenarios: from simple and practical tips for speedy and flexible belays using clove hitches and Italian hitches to the horrors of trying to raise or lower an injured climber. Prussiking on the roof beams of the barns made us realise just how hard work it really is to move up or down a rope with basic equipment but my favourite tip of the day is this one.

Q. When is a knot not a knot?



A. When it is a Mariners' Knot.

Who would have thought that wrapping a long sling 4 times round 2 karabiners and sticking my foot through the free end, so using the greater strength of a leg rather than an arm, would enable little me to shift the dead weight of a chunky chap off the rope so I could untie the knots and re-fix the ropes and start to free us from our predicament? Simon Cooke was an excellent instructor and a very interesting and thought provoking day was enjoyed by Mike and Emma Hayes, Ruth Gordon, Jeff Ingman, Rhiannon Hollick Cooper, Linty Higgs, Richard Hopkinson, Ola Stepien, Chris & Gill Radcliffe, Chiz Dakin, Graham Weston and Sally Dipple.



**Ken Griffiths.  
Dave Penlington**

I am sorry to report that Ken Griffiths died on 14th May, aged 96, after a short stay in hospital following a fall. He was for many years a trustee of our huts and a member of the club since 1950.

**Information on Member Activities.**

Reuben will be producing a new membership list very soon so make sure he knows of any recent changes to your contact details.

**Hut Bookings for June.**

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**

June 1/4th Scunthorpe MC 10 beds  
June 8/9th. Skyline MC 16 beds.  
June 15/16th London Hikers 8 beds.  
S. Christian Oread room.  
June 22/23rd. Oread Meet.  
June 29/30th. King Henry School Whole hut.  
July 2/7th. J. Green 4 beds.  
Davies. 6 beds.

**HEATHY LEA**

June 15th. Stapleton cottage  
June 16/17th. Work Party  
June 22/23rd, E. Sage cottage/barn.  
July 6/7 Oread meet

Please note that I will be away June10-17th, July1-8th.  
Any short notice bookings via Chuck Hooley please.

### Forthcoming Meets

<b>June</b>	Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues 5 <sup>th</sup>	Cornwall	Roy Eyre	01623 469658
	Tues 12 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meets Royal Oak Ockbrook		
	Sat 16 <sup>th</sup> Sun 17 <sup>th</sup>	Heathy Lea Working Party/ BBQ	Mike Hayes	01530 231401
	Sat 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sun 24 <sup>th</sup>	Tan yr Wyddfa BBQ	Tony Howard	01332 273307
	Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Yahoo Group arranged meet	Yahoo Group	
<b>July</b>	Sat. 8 July	Walk & climb the edges	Gil Male	0784 5591069
	Tues. 10 July	Committee meets Royal Oak Ockbrook		
	Sat 14 Sun 15	Gogarth	Dave Mawer	01332 512459
	Sat 21 Sun 22		Yahoo Group	
<b>August</b>	Sat 28 Sun 29 4-5	Alpine Meet starts Alpine meet.	Pete Lancaster	0114 2301136
	11-12	Alpine meet		
	Sun 19	Local Edges	Dave Roscoe	0114 2223791
	Sat 25 Mon 27	South Pembroke	Mike Mowbray	01636 815382

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