

Oread Mountaineering Club Magazine

July/August 2012



Reiff: sun, sea and sandstone.

Dave Roscoe beginning a duel with “The Executioner” E2 5b

Editorial

A bumper issue this one, to see us through the summer and give us lots of fun to look forward to after the holidays are over and Autumn calls. It seems a long time ahead but if you want to be in South Pembroke for August Bank Holiday, (and who wouldn't?) or book your place on the Rescue Techniques weekend you need to let the meet leader know **now**, not in a couple of month's time!

Don't say I didn't warn you!

Last year's “Walk and climb the Edges” was my first Oread meet in years – and I enjoyed it so much I've been hanging around ever since. Fun, fun, fun – don't miss it! Note the change of date from the last issue: it is **Saturday** not Sunday.

Some memorable meets this year are remembered too, including a couple of highlights of my year so far: Northumberland and Reiff.

Hope you enjoy this photo-filled issue.

What's on.

Wednesday evenings.

4 July	Ravensdale	The Monsal Head
11 July	Froggatt	The Grouse
18 July	Beeston Tor	Royal Oak, Wetton

25 July – 28 August no pre arranged meets. Check Yahoo Group for who is going where. Arranged meets will re-start from 5 September.

Walk and climb the Edges. Saturday 7 July 2012

Gil Male



The idea of the meet is that we meet in pubs at lunchtime and evening and discuss, argue, embellish and witter about what we have been doing in the past 4 hours or so. This shouldn't be too demanding for the retired lot, who are highly accomplished in this art, and it should suit the younger brigade who can enthuse about tales of daring do. Overall, it's perfect for those who never let the truth stand in the way of a good story,

probably all of us. All you need to do is motivate yourself, turn up at the pubs and be sociable, irritating, boring or all three at the same time. I'm up for it. How about you?

There's just one snag! For those of us with limited memory we need to do something in the previous 4 hours so we have something to talk about in the pubs. You will see that the day has been split into two parts (*in accordance with medical advice*) to avoid any mental strain that may result from data (*bullshit*) overload. I suggest we meet at the Stanage High Neb car park (grid ref. SK 227843) at 8.45hrs on 7 July. Then! - the idea is to walk in teams of two, or multiples thereof, over Stanage, Burbage North, Burbage South, Froggatt, Curbar, Gardoms and Birchens Edges before arriving at Heathy Lea. If you feel like a bit of exercise, as well, you can do a climb on each of these edges or play on any other crags or bits of rock. You can join in at any point during the day. The important thing is to make it to the pubs (i.e. Grouse Inn above Froggatt and Robin Hood, above Heathy Lea) at the allotted times by your own route and means of transport (*e.g. feet, bike, car, parachute or camel*) and be prepared to bullshit. I know what you're thinking. This is a meet to drag you from your firesides and you're not wrong! If you want to know more then look at the sheet "Walk & Climb the Edges" at the end of this Newsletter.

If you intend doing the edges walk/climb then please let me know by e-mail (gilemale@gmail.com) indicating what nights you will be staying in Heathy Lea. This is important so arrangements can be made to get cars to and back from High Neb at the end of the day (*and to stable the camels*). If you want to join in at any point during the day the table at the end of the newsletter gives approximate times when the meet will be at different points in order to ensure successful and timely arrival at the pubs (*most important*).

Look forward to seeing you ... mine's a pint!

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, Trearddur Bay, Isle of Anglesey, LL65 2LL [Tel:01407765787](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

Alpine Meet: Val Ferret 28 July – 12 August 2012

Pete Lancaster

We now have 10, possibly 11, folk intending to go so far which means we have the makings of a good meet, a few more would be great however, so if you are thinking about it but haven't contacted me yet then now is the time. This side of Monte Bianco offers access to some of the finest routes in the range and since the last Alpine Club guide (about 1990) there has been a great deal of development of equipped rock routes; I am searching for the best guide to these and will pass on what I can find.

Contact details: petel1952@hotmail.co.uk or Tel: 0114 2301136

South Pembroke: August Bank Holiday 24-26th

Mike Mowbray

Once again we have a chance to enjoy the delights of the finest limestone climbing in the UK all in fabulous sea cliff locations, and followed by good pubs and excellent company. Whether you want gorgeous sandy beaches, stunning coast walks, or some very steep adventures – south Pembrokeshire has it all.

There is wonderful climbing at all standards on, usually, perfect rock. Steep it is, but juggy too – and almost always excellent protection. The birds will have flown so happily you are unlikely to have a fulmar regurgitate upon you!

Top venues include:

- Flimston Bay for a rare slab,
- Saddle Head for many easier routes
- Mother Carey's 3 star classics across the grades
- Mewsford 2 pitches and loads of atmosphere
- Huntsman big pitches in intimidating setting*
- St Govans join the bank holiday crowds!

Ma Westons in Bosherton to take tea. Still going strong at 92 last year – and recently honoured by the queen.

*If you must try the legendary Huntsman's Leap please bring a horse or a parachute - unlike the failed attempt I once witnessed resulting in a very cold Polish paratrooper being rescued from the sea with a broken arm.....

After extensive researches we will be staying at the same campsite in St Petrox (SA71 5EQ for your satnavs). This is a spacious site with fine views and convenient location, although it can get busy on bank

holidays, so some loo queues are possible! This year the owners will attempt to provide us with a 'members enclosure' though your Ascot hats will not be required...

Please let me know if you intend coming by e-mailing me at

mike.mowbray@sfh-tr.nhs.uk

as **I need to let the campsite know approx. numbers in 1st week of August.**

If you require hook up, then you will be slightly separated from the rest of us and will need to book your site directly with the campsite by ringing : 01646 622561

Don't forget the suncream!

Clwyd Limestone. 8-9 September.

Derek Pike

This meet was originally a one day affair but has now been elevated to weekend status, consequently I have now to find a suitable campsite for all the dozens of members who I am sure will want to come on this meet to sample the delights of the various crags offering steep trad as well as bolted routes. The limestone escarpment from Trevor to Worlds End overlooks the pretty Vale of Llangollen as well as Llangollen itself. Don't fancy climbing - there is plenty of scope for walking, steam train rides, motor museums, canal rides, plus the usual pubs and cafes. Look out for September's issue of the newsletter when I hope to be able tell you on which site we shall be staying.

Derek. Tel 01332 670459 Email Derepike1234@btinternet.com

First Aid/ Rescue weekend September 15/16th

Pete Lancaster

Unfortunately for us, Rick, our First Aid man, has got some work in Jakarta which clashes with this weekend and so we will not be able run the first aid part of the weekend. What I intend to do is run an extended 'improvised rescue' weekend with the first day covering the basics and the second dealing with more elaborate situations; let's face it, when things go pear-shaped they are seldom conveniently straightforward are they? A number of you have already done a course of basic techniques but can you still remember what to do? Here is an ideal opportunity to have a refresher and extend your abilities, if you have never done any training before, then here is your chance. I think it is fair to say that all those who have had some training to date have found it not only very valuable, but enjoyable too.

When I have sorted out the details with Guy, who will run the training, I will pass it on to you, including the cost, which will be in the region of approx £60-£65 per person for the weekend; this will cover costs for 6 people per instructor, whether we have one or two instructors will depend on demand.

I will be away this summer in the Alps and other places so will need to know who is intending to come before then, therefore, would you let me know before mid July, please.

Contact details: petel1952@hotmail.co.uk or Tel: 0114 2301136

TYW Work Meet 22-23 September 2012

Tony Howard

We will be having a Work Meet at TYW on the above weekend. There are lots of jobs to be done, including wood cutting and tree clearance, dry stone walling, fencing plus internal and external DIY on the building. I will provide more details in the next Newsletter. We will also provide food and hopefully some booze. I am keen to get a good turn out. Please let me know if you can come along.

Tony Howard.

Email: tony.howard46@btinternet.com tel. 0776 226 8181 01332 273 307

News, Articles and Reports from Meets.

Northumberland Meet 19 – 21 May 2012

Dave Helliwell

This meet was held at the same venue as in 2010 - the Demesne Farm Bunkhouse in Bellingham - and delightful it was. In this poor summer the forecast was changeable and this may have kept numbers down a bit. However eight Oreads and a Local Expert convened in the bunkhouse on Friday night. On adjournment to the pub we found The President and his good lady along with Mr Motivator and his wife already settling in to a hearty banquet with copious glasses of wine. The pub was a revelation: two years ago the beer and food were mediocre at best, now, several good ales and top class cuisine a definite bonus. The late comers particularly appreciated the pizzas provided well after time had been called for last food orders.

The President and Mr Motivator had climbed at Brimham on the way up whilst Gobbo and I, in search of esoteric rock, had climbed at Padda Crag, a remote crag in the Keilder forest on the Cumbrian border: a long walk but well worth it.

Saturday dawned damp and overcast but a promise of improving weather. Our expert recommended Callerhues Crag, the Wharncliffe of Northumberland, where the grades are tough but at least it faced south west and out of the wind.

Editorial note: It was raining in the morning so the Meet Leader took on the duty of entertaining the party until better times arrived. A breakfast cooking performance, worthy of an Oscar, (involving several changes of frying pan and an advance party being sent out to secure oil supplies) lasted for 55 minutes until the weather began to relent.



Wet and cold at Callerhues. Meet Leader playing the hero on Thunderclap VS 5a.

It is quite a long walk to the crag along the Pennine Way but someone suggested we walk from Bellingham, adding another two miles to the approach! The weather stayed fine and dry, although cold, with odd glimpses of the sun. Most of the party climbed the classic Callerhues Crack, along with several other routes, although everyone commented on the toughness of the grades. Mr Motivator motivated several of the party up Rice Crispies 5c and in his enthusiasm forgot something... A good day out on a remote crag with a good long walk thrown in as a bonus.

We had an excellent meal in the pub and then returned to the bunkhouse where Derek Pike tried, fortunately without success, to burn the building down after a mishap with the wood burning stove:

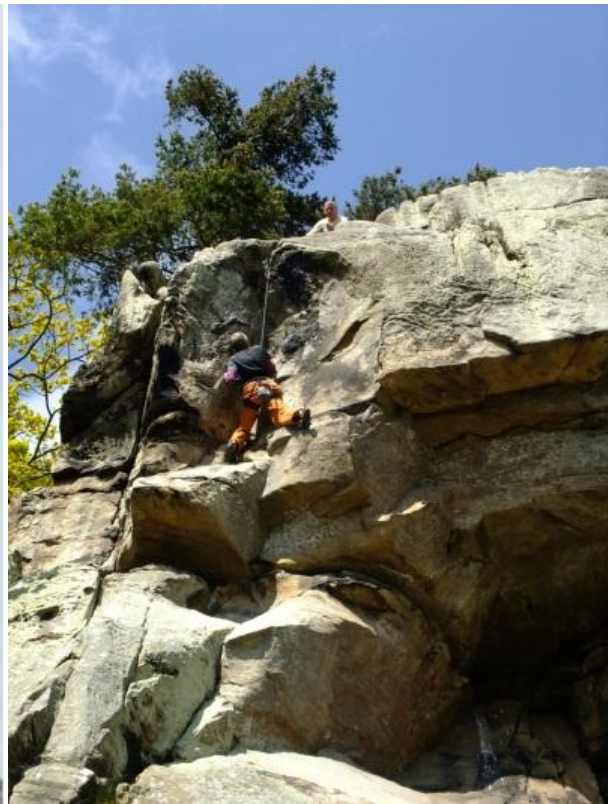
“The only safe course of action is for three people to drag Derek away and sit on him. Then Snod, who hasn't been drinking, should deal with the stove.”

Derek persevered however, and meltdown was averted.

Sunday dawned dry and we set off on the long drive to Kylloe Out. This is a great crag with sensible grades and something for everyone. The weather couldn't have been more different from Saturday, multiple layers were abandoned and “T”shirts were the order of the day as we basked in the sun. Several ascents were made of Elevator, Coldstream Corner, Gagarin's Groove and Wilfred Prickles and a good day was had by all. In the course of the day Mike Mowbray realised he had left most of his gear behind at Callerhues, but fortunately he met a friend at Kylloe who flogged up there on Sunday night and retrieved it.



Chris on Callerhues Crack.



Snod & John Mountain on Gagarin Groove.

As we took tea in glorious sunshine before setting off home it seemed as if summer had finally arrived. Perhaps in 2014 we can have another Northumberland meet and get to Crag Lough.

Attendees: Dave Helliwell (Snod), John Mountain (Gobbo), Chris Wilson, Ruth Gordon, Simon Pape, Roland and Angela, Mike Hayes and Derek Pike in the bunkhouse, plus Pete (The President) and Sue Lancaster, and Mike (Mr Motivator) and Alison Mowbray in camper vans.

Dispatch from the 2012 Cornwall Meet



A scene near the campsite



We were blown away with the superb classic climbing and walking we did.

Here some attenders are seen assisting the meet leader to ensure the same does not happen to his tent while packing it away.

More next month...

Reiff Rogue Meet – Jubilee Bank Holiday week 2012

Dave Mawer.



Roger and Dave enjoying "Spaced out Rockers on the Road to Oblivion" E4 5c,5c.

"Roll up roll up, for the ultimate alpha male contest! For one night only, the Middleton Ox versus the Southwell Silver back....." This will be one of the many memories I will treasure from the Reiff Rogue meet 2012. Most of you will agree that seeing almost 30 Oread and their families smiling and laughing over the course of the week safely constitutes a successful meet! The campsite was perfect. The weather was very kind with a predominant easterly wind keeping away the dreaded midge and no precipitation to write home about. Porpoise, seals, otters, golden eagles and osprey were amongst the plethora of wildlife spotted throughout the trip.

After breaking up long journeys north with visits to a "field" south of Blair Atholl due to an A9 closure and crags such as Dunkeld near Pitlochry and Ardmail near Ullapool, the campsite's main "street" was gradually taken over by meet members after Victoria's Mum and Dad reserved the premier pitch. Castle Dipple even had its own moat! Meanwhile Messers Lancaster and Wilson were enjoying the midges on Arran where they and Jan undertook the Glen Rosa horseshoe, taking in Beinn Nuis, Beinn Tarsuinn, the ridge on A'Chir and on to Cir Mhor. After this they set out to do Black Cave Pillar, a HVS on the sea cliff of Bennan Head but bravely retreated due to vegetation and the lack of a thick pair of gloves.

Due to limited parking in the tiny hamlet of Reiff itself, many chose the 2.5 mile coastal bike ride sending heavy climbing sacks with an advanced vehicular party. The areas of the Pinnacle and Sealsong were sampled first and despite their popularity, being the closest crags and a sunny west facing aspect, the queues weren't long.



Kyya strutting his stuff on "A walk across the rooftops" E3 5c.

As the week progressed the more adventurous found their way to the northern tip of the peninsula. These crags were about an hour's walk from the parking, made easier by noticeably dry bogs. The highlight of my week was partnering Roger on "Spaced out Rockers on the Road to Oblivion". The best route I have done since the last one! It epitomised all I love about climbing; commitment, adventure, exposure, a north facing aspect, the trust of a climbing partnership topped off with a large dollop of terror. After relinquishing the abseil rope following a severely overhanging approach, I tied on above the booming sea. The first pitch traversed large rounded breaks to land in a niche below an imposing wall barring access to the belay ledge. It was some time later I arrived on this a little flustered and wide eyed after lunging for a thin but thankfully solid jug handle, relieved not to have plummeted beneath the overhangs 20ft below me due to the run out and the extra-long quickdraws I had placed to prevent gear lifting out. After constructing a 5 point belay (such was my disposition), Roger soon joined me looking more relaxed than I felt. He was soon away on the main pitch, however what this one lacked in commitment it made up for in available gear and required effort. Sporting 2 racks of friends and playing to the assembled crowd he reached an impasse half way along the 45m pitch and the exposure became greater than his steely resolve. His face said it all!



Mike Mowbray cruising Elastic collision E3 5c. Roland & Angela enjoying the Razor's Edge E1 5b

We later emerged triumphantly into the sunshine. What a route, worth every one of its 4 stars and guidebook "title" of the best route on the peninsula (in my humble opinion). After mis-reading a text and wrongly assuming I had all day we called in at the Golden walls for a few routes before making a "scenic" trek back to Reiff after not looking at the guidebook map, oops, trouble was probably deserved!

With no respite in the glorious weather, the following days called for yet more climbing. Black Gold area and Boulder Cliff were explored where Graham and Nea joined myself, Victoria, Tullan and Kyra for an ascent of the delightful Tystie slab and the classic Black Gold. Other teams explored Pooh cliff and Minch wall.



Graham and Nea Weston on "Black Gold" VS 4c Tullan engrossed on his first trad lead. Slab and Corner D

Meanwhile Mike Mowbray was doing battle with the Crack of Desire which saw him return a day later with the necessary "Oooja" to lead myself and Roger up it. Roland, having only climbed about 2 routes this year prior to arriving at Reiff, ate this for breakfast and continued up the direct finish that same day.

Thanks to all for a fantastic holiday! Negotiations for next year's weather has commenced as a return is already in demand.

PostScript

Roger and Sharon will be pleased to find out for next year that the government are mooting that carers may be eligible for a free holiday! Priscilla Roscoe may also be very pleased.

A certain long-standing Oread found the key to happiness is not just more climbing but actually lies at the bottom of a glass of Pimms and lemonade!

On the way home we found the best fish and chips in the world in Ullapool and Mike Mowbray auditioned for National Lampoon's Fishing vacation on Loch Garten.

Chris and Jan headed north to Sandwood bay and Durness, whilst Richard and Ruth drove to Skye to join a Derwent Club Meet.



Victoria balancing up “Hy Brasil” Vs 4c



Richard and Simon on Moody Blues VS 4c The Southwell SilverBack a.k.a. Mike Mowbray (left) and the Middleton Ox a.k.a. Steve Christian (right).



Nearly all of the Reiff Rogue meet 2012 attendance.

Information on Member Activities.

2012 Handbook.

A new edition of the handbook is being circulated with this newsletter. Members who receive a printed copy of the newsletter can download the handbook from the web site. If this is not possible and you need a printed copy please contact one of the committee.

New Members.

Sophie Kenyon and Hereward Tresidder have been accepted as members of the Oread, we wish them well for the future.

Hut Bookings for July and August.

TAN-YR- WYDDFA

July 2-8 J.Green 16 beds.

July 2-6th Davies 6 beds.

July 12-15th Aldermaston MC 16 beds.

July 20 21st. F. Raphael whole hut.

July 23rd - Aug 27th reserved for Oread use.

HEATHY LEA

July 6/7th Oread meet

August 3/4th Tuesday C.C. cottage

August 10/11th. Mercian MC Cottage/barn

August 24/27 J. Pike (Rolls- Royce Cadets) cottage/barn.

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

“Whole Hut” includes the Oread room!

I will be away July1-8th.

Any short notice bookings via Chuck Hooley please. Thanks, Colin Hobday.

Forthcoming Meets

July	Sat. 7 July	Walk & climb the edges	Gil Male	07960007643
	Tues. 10 July	Committee meets Royal Oak Ockbrook		

	Sat 14 Sun 15	Gogarth	Dave Mawer	01332 512459
August	Sat 21 Sun 22		Yahoo Group	
	Sat 28 Sun 29	Alpine Meet starts	Pete Lancaster	0114 2301136
	4-5	Alpine meet.		
	11-12	Alpine meet		
September	Sun 19	Local Edges	Dave Roscoe	0114 2223791
	Sat 25 Mon 27	South Pembroke	Mike Mowbray	01636 815382
	Sat 1 Sun 2	Yahoo Group		
	Sat 8 Sun 9	Clwyd Limestone	Derek Pike	01332 670459
	Tues. 11 Sept	Committee meets Royal Oak Ockbrook		
	Sat 15 Sun 16	Advanced Rescue Techniques. Heathy Lea.	Pete Lancaster	0114 2301136
	Sat 22 Sun 23	TyW Working Party	Tony Howard	01332 273307
	Sat 29 Sun 30	Yahoo Group		

Walk & Climb the Edges Timetable

Date: 7 July 2012

Contact: Gil Male

Home : 01695 625647 Mobile : 07960007643

Timetable:	Start	Stanage High Neb car park	08.45hrs
(approx.)	2 miles	Stanage (popular end)	09.30hrs
3.5 miles	Burbage North		10.40hrs
4.5 miles	Burbage South		11.30hrs
6.5 miles	GROUSE INN		13.00hrs
7.5 miles	Froggatt Edge		14.45hrs
8.5 miles	Curbar Edge		16.00hrs
10 miles	Gardoms Edge		17.30hrs
11 miles	Birchens Edge		18.30hrs
12 miles	ROBIN HOOD INN		19.00hrs

Maps & : Ordnance survey – Peak District tourist map

Guidebooks : Stanage Edge (Stanage)

: Burbage North & South Edges (Burbage, Millstone & Beyond)

: Froggatt, Gardoms & Birchens Edges (Froggatt to Black Rocks)

Rules : 1) Meet at Oread hut before 08.00hrs (or night before)

: 2) Allocate people to cars & go to start (Stanage High Neb car park)

: 3) Arrive at pub approximately at times given

: 4) Climb, walk & drink as much as you want!

: 5) You may join or leave at any time provided you have transport

: 6) **Have fun!**

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