



OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB MAGAZINE

DECEMBER 2013 – JAN 2014



A suitably wintry scene- last year's Patterdale meet on Striding Edge.

Editorial

And another year away- where do they go? I hope you have had as much fun and companionship from the club and as many routes done and good times on the hill as I have over the year.

This month's double issue brings you the full meets list for next year – lots to look forward to! Plus it contains some **very important information that will save you money** – if you pay up your subs now! Also, **if you receive your newsletter by post, please let me know whether you need to continue getting it by post.** I've only had a handful of replies to last month's letter from the Committee as yet. A quick message on my answer phone is all I need. Still just time to sign up for the Bullstones – how could you resist? Some other

tried and tested local meets coming up soon – including the Black Rocks extravaganza, the New Year's Day walk and of course the Royal Oak lectures. Further afield, trips are being planned to Swanage and, looking well ahead, Kalymnos. These will need commitment well in advance so the meet leaders can book accommodation.

What's on.

**2013-14 WINTER MEETS! ! ! ! ! Rob Tresidder
Tuesday 3 December at the Royal Oak, Ockbrook.
8.00pm**

Wide Boyz: Pete Whittaker

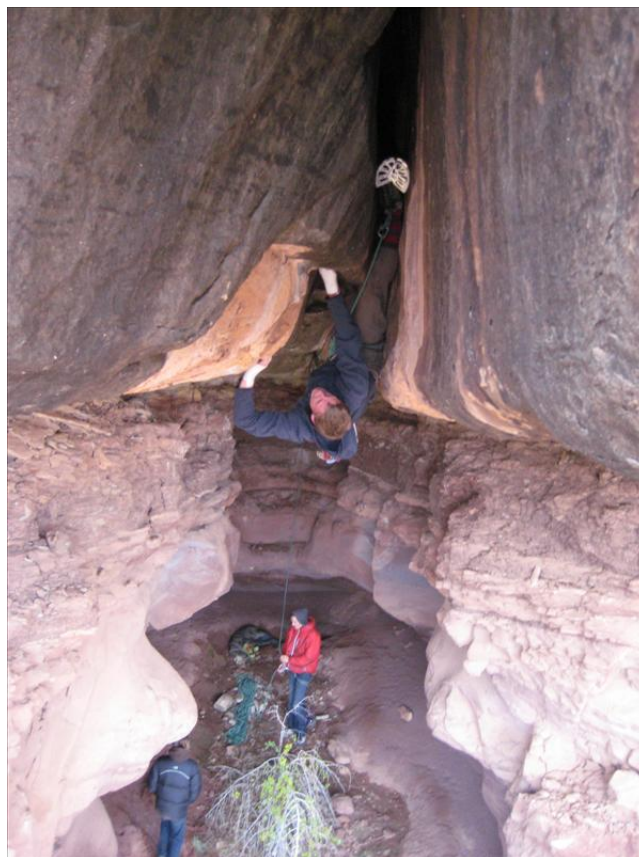
A look into the world of wide crack climbing. Pete and Tom's journey that took them to America to climb the worlds hardest offwidth crack, Century Crack.

Pete Whittaker will talk about the climbing of wide cracks in the first part of this presentation; after the beer break, he will show the film from Hot Aches, called Wide Boyz, about his ascent, with Tom Allen, of Century Crack in the canyon lands of the USA.

Photo: Indian Creek -Witness Wideness.

The rest of our winter programme is shaping up nicely: expect to hear Stu Fisher in January, Mick Fowler in February and our own Jeff Ingman in March.

Learn more? Text me. Rob Tresidder
07951 625 378



Bullstones Meet 6 - 8 December 2013 Kevin Fidler

Welcome to the Annual Oread Bullstones weekend. Yes, it is that time of year where once again a group of hardy walkers venture out on a Friday night (avoiding high fuel bills by sleeping on damp ground!). We will meet at the Rudyard Hotel near Leek, Staffordshire- Grid Ref: SJ95128-58163. It has a very large car park which we are kindly being allowed to use for the weekend (Please park at back end of car park). If you wish to eat at the Rudyard Hotel please let me know beforehand so that I can give them an idea of numbers. Beer, of course, will be readily available. Then it is out for a nice bivvy around 3 miles away in

somebody's field in which, I unfortunately have to report, room service is unavailable.

Saturday morning set off to Shutlingsloe and to Upper Hulme Bunkhouse Grid Ref: SK01296-60973, around 13 miles. The bunkhouse sleeps 42 people and costs £10 per person & 50 pence per shower and is reserved for us (again need to know numbers). If you want the Rock Inn pub is around the corner for evening meals (most of you climbers will know this inn). Then on Sunday back to the Rudyard Hotel around 5 miles... but you can extend it if you wish. If you need any more info contact Kevin on 07807815475 or email thefidler@talk21.com

Club night: 10 December at the Red Lion, Wirksworth

November's committee meeting will again be held in the Red Lion, Market Place, Wirksworth at 8.00pm following a session at Wirksworth Wall. The idea is that this could form the basis of a fixed monthly club meeting place where new members can come along to the climbing wall and/or the pub, and be sure of meeting people. It is hoped that existing members, particularly those local to the Wirksworth area, will come along to the Wall and/or the pub at some point on this evening.

Pete Lancaster tel 0114 2301136 or petel1952@hotmail.co.uk

Black Rocks night Wednesday 11 December: Rob Tresidder

We usually assemble some time after work and on the rocks. Pie, chips and peas for £6.95 including a pint or a 175ml glass of wine after at the Rising Sun at Middleton Cross.

Don't leave it too late. I have advised the pub that most will arrive between 8 and 9. The space beside the fire has been set aside for us! Some go straight to the pub — often by bike.

Rob Tresidder; Rob61.Tresidder@virgin.net tel. 07951 625 378

Christmas and New Year at Tan yr Wyddfa Rock Hudson and Ruth Gordon

As usual there will be an informal meet over Xmas New Year – do what you want, bring what you want.

This year will feature a grand New Year's Eve party to see the New Year in with style from teatime till crack of dawn - featuring mulled wine, mince pies, a pot-luck supper and novel entertainments!

Bookings are coming in steadily, but there are still a few places left - even on the busiest nights: 30 Dec -1 Jan.

Rock Hudson: 0115 933 3031

Ruth Gordon: contact details at end of this newsletter.

New Year Walk to The Royal Oak, Wetton 1 Jan 2014

Clive Russell

After a fair number of years organising this walk, i.e. choosing the route, it has become increasingly difficult, aiming at the same pub and with the short mid-winter daylight hours, to cover some new territory which is what I like to try and do. Accordingly, we shall start this year from Alsop en le Dale car park on the Tissington Trail, accessed directly from the A515 at m/r 157 549. Customers from the Yorkshire borders, who will not be discriminated against on racial grounds, will observe that this will marginally reduce their road travelling distances. This starting point gives us the option of walking outwards via Nabs Dale and Cave Dale, and then returning in the afternoon via Gypsy Bank and Iron Torrs, this latter route being relatively comfortable to negotiate if fatigued, unsteady of gait or beset by twilight. As usual, I would like to meet at 10.45 and set off a few minutes after this time. Again, this will be a social stroll rather than an occasion for serious exertion.

Clive "Rusty" Russell: zrussell2@googlemail.com tel 01335 390369

Tuesday 7 January at the Royal Oak, Ockbrook.

8.00pm. Mountains and Biology - Stewart Fisher

Stu is a born and bred Zambian, a retired chest physician, an ardent naturalist and experienced mountaineer. He has ascents of Kilimanjaro and Mount Kenya behind him. He was brought up on the copperbelt and is a self taught paddler who built his first canoe himself and shared the learning process on the Kifui river with crocs and hippos! Should be an interesting night!

Rob Tresidder; Rob61.Tresidder@virgin.net tel. 07951 625 378

Swanage Meet 17-19 January 2014 Snod Helliwell

The Oread has a long history with Swanage. Excellent but steep climbing, both traditional and bolted, there is also good walking. The weather in January can be good, I have climbed there on New Year's Day in shirtsleeves. I intend to book holiday appartments or caravans but, to minimise the chance of a wasted journey, I will not actually make the booking until the week before. However I will need to know in advance the number of people interested so I can identify appropriate accommodation. If you want to come please let me know by 5 January.

Snod; dave.helliwell@stirlinglloyd.com tel 01298 812753 07976517216

Kalymnos October 2014 Pam Storer

In 2012 a big party of Oreads enjoyed an unofficial meet to Kalymnos, staying for varying lengths of time and in a variety of accommodation. To set the ball rolling I am prepared to lead the meet next October and have found flights from East Midlands with Jet2. They only run on Tuesdays, and I propose to book from

14th-28th Oct. at a cost of £181pp return. The flight arrives late so an overnight hotel in Kos seems a good idea, cost around 30-40 euros.

I'd like to stay in an apartment, friendlier and cheaper than a hotel, with the opportunity for self-catering some nights. Michael Bates has given me some good advice on self catering apartments that will cost around 20 euros per room (2 people). If enough of us book together we will get a discount.

If anyone in the club would like join in these arrangements, I am prepared to book flights and accommodation for the party. However this will need doing soon so, if you would like to join me, I need firm commitment from you by January 10th. Do get in touch if you would like to discuss it further.

Pam Storer; email pam_storer@hotmail.com tel. 01623 795758.

News, Articles and Reports from Meets.

Curry Meet 26 - 27 October 2013. Tony Howard

The weather forecast was not good, but nine of us had signed up for curry at TYW. Emma and I set off from Tower Hamlets at 5pm on Friday night. It took an hour to reach the bottom of the M1, but we arrived at the hut by 10:45, via a 'chippy' stop in Corwen. Steve Bennett, Richard Hardwick and Annegret had already arrived. Pam and Nick had been there a couple of days. Angela and Roland arrived shortly after us.

Saturday morning was damp and Steve set off to run to the col above Cloggy and from there continued upwards before returning to TYW in the early afternoon. Pam and Nick went underground again. Angela, Roland and Richard took a highish level route from the hut to Beddgelert. Emma, Annegret and I walked from Beddgelert towards Llyn Dinas and back over Cwm Bychan and the fisherman's path. Despite the forecast of a real drenching and the occasional showers, we stayed pretty dry. A, R and R went to a café, E, A and I went to the pub, though the ladies needed some shopping therapy first. We returned to the hut well before dark and indulged in social interaction round the fire before the curries were enjoyed. Wine and beer flowed well and the evening slipped by with the usual lively banter.

Sunday morning saw heavy rain to start with. Emma ran up the Snowdon path as far as the upper quarries. Steve and Richard went for a gentle walk. Pam, Nick and I talked about and inspected the hut! We all left by lunchtime. Nonetheless it was an enjoyable weekend. Thanks to all who took part and made the curries.

Tan yr Wyddfa Working Party Snod Helliwell

A midweek working party was held over the week 19-22 November to coincide with the annual fire alarm and extinguisher servicing and PAT testing. Eleven

members took part and many jobs were completed. The outside party cut the grass and hedges, chopped firewood and cleaned up the rough, boggy area below the carpark – the transformation down there is amazing. White-painted rocks were laid around the edge of the carpark to avoid – hopefully – a repeat of Rock's mishap for which he won this year's bent icescrew award. I think this is most unfair- it can't have been his fault - he wasn't even in the car at the moment when it decided to explore the lower car park. The gutters were cleaned and missing areas of “porcupine” fitted. The coal bunker was treated with preservative and new hinges fitted to the tool store door.



Indoors the chimney was swept, cracks were filled, and lots of magnolia paint applied. It all looks very clean and bright. The loft was insulated as investigation showed insulation was almost non-existent – we must have been losing most of the heat through the roof. We now have a bare minimum over the central area, but more is required.

A meeting with the builder was held to discuss replacement of slipped slates and also to sort out the drainage at the back door and by the tool store. We carried out a fire alarm test and also did a fire drill to keep the fire log book up to date. A Fire Safety Policy was drafted and a review and rationalisation of hut notices was carried out.

On arrival all the storage heaters were found to be switched off, and the hut was very cold. We must try to ensure this does not happen, particularly during the winter months.

All in all this was a very successful working party; many thanks to all who took part.

A trip to Montana. Colin Hobday

Uschi and myself left for America in early September on a walking holiday to Montana, visiting three National Parks: Glacier N.P. near the Canadian border, Yellowstone N.P., and the Grand Teton N.P. The trip was organised by the Ramblers Worldwide holidays with 17 people in the group (all extremely fit), including two from New Zealand.

A typical day's walk was about 12 miles at an altitude of 8,000- 9,000ft. The climbs were usually for 5 hours uphill, then 3 hours back down. Most of the

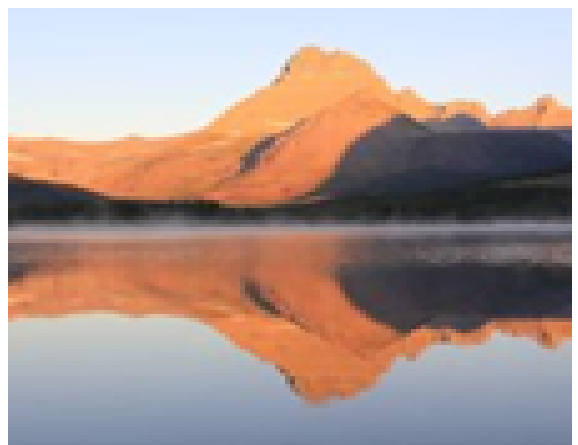
trails are linear due to the sheer size of the terrain. Once one leaves the valley there are no huts, (only bears) so to climb a peak you must camp or bivvy with a permit and equipped with bear spray.



On the way to Grinnell lake, Glacier National Park.

All three national parks have their own characteristics:

Glacier N.P. boasted some wild scenery. We stopped at Many Glaciers Hotel right by the Many Glaciers Lake. Built in the 1920s in the style of a Swiss Alpine Lodge, it has remained unchanged over the years. The bell boys even wear “lederhosen”. Uschi thought it was quite bizarre. The bar is even called “Heidi’s Bar”!



Left, Grinnell Lake. Right, sunrise at many Glacier Lake.

From the terrace the full range of the peaks made a wonderful panorama with the

most amazing sunrise and sunsets. All the glacier lakes were full of icebergs with beautiful shapes and reflections due to the crystal clear waters.



Yellowstone amazed us with its geysers, bubbling mud pools, the sulphur smell and the rich colours of the micro organisms which survive in hot temperatures.



And finally the magnificent mountain range of the Grand Teton, soaring up to 12,000 feet. *(Shown in the background of this photograph).* The weather was brilliant apart from an earthquake in Yellowstone and a big hailstorm with hail stones the size of marbles. Very painful whilst out in the open countryside without shelter. We were very lucky with the dates, as a week later, after we left, all National Parks shut down due to the U.S. shut-down. As we left winter was already approaching rapidly and the

temperatures plummeted. Wildlife was in abundance with bison en masse, elk (the rutting season having just started), long horned sheep, coyotes and white fluffy mountain goats plus the usual ground squirrels, eagles, herons, etc. Even though some of the trails were closed due to bear activities, we only spotted one bear disappearing into the undergrowth.

We just wish we could have had one of those big American RVs in order to stop if and where it took our fancy. We will just have to save that for another year.

Random Thoughts of a Dinner Organiser

Chris Wilson

I last organised an Annual Dinner in the 70's. Competition for the over 170 places (at the Black's Head in Ashbourne) was high and Prospective Members went on a waiting list. With post being the only way to receive bookings life was fairly simple, except that some (and they know who they are!) wouldn't book until the very last second (but they always came and places had to be kept for them, thus keeping those on the waiting list on tenter hooks). A few days before the dinner a small group would gather to decide on the seating plan. Speakers and other guests had been booked, but on that occasion the main speaker got delayed in the Himalayas and so, with a few days to go, panic set in. Fortunately Bob Pettigrew came to the rescue and helped organise a stand in (Doug Scott). The privileged few prospective members were always seated furthest from the top table and I had spotted the advantage of this location – near the bar and on the way to the kitchen (seconds might be available). Thus the dinner would come, we'd all have a great time and weary heads would eventually find their way to sleep somewhere – the bar shut at midnight but hotel residents could carry on, with a few invited guests, until late.

Organising the dinner today is slightly different. Members have to be cajoled into coming. They book by post, email and phone, and pay by cheque, cash and bank transfer. And some still leave it until after the last minute! The data is all put on a computer spreadsheet and seating plans printed. Last year we had 67 attendees, this year 59. We had one of our founding members, George Sutton, as a guest, thanks once again to Bob Pettigrew. George's reminiscences of the early days of the Oread and his escapades with youngsters on Kinder in foul weather were enthralling. Pete Lancaster recalled the year's events, and Rock's trials and tribulations in Tan yr Wyddfa's car park won him the Bent Screw award. A recent working party has now placed large stones around the steep bank and painted them white, but car owners are still advised to engage their handbrake. Brian West brought the formal part of the evening to a hilarious conclusion, reminding some present of an ex-treasurer's infamous stag do.

Thank you all for coming – please come again next year and book a little earlier please!



A sigh of relief – all safely over for another year and we're off on the after dinner walk - all present and correct at Minninglow en route to the Miners Standard where many more reprobates put in an appearance. (Photo Chris Radcliffe.)

Hobday's humour:



Following Rock's unfortunate experience, Pam decided the recent working party at Tan yr Wyddfa should erect appropriate signage around the perimeter of the car park.

Wanted at Heathy Lea! Mick Hayes

We could do with six replacement dining chairs at Heathy Lea, so if any club members have any old ones to spare please let me know.

Michael Hayes. Tel 07771700913 email: Hayes Michael.j@cat.com

Membership Renewals for 2014

It's that time of year again! The bad news is that the subs have had to go up by £5 across the board – **the good news is that you can avoid this increase by paying promptly!** The rules state that anyone who has not paid by 31 January will be struck off! Apparently this actually used to happen - now it is just going to cost you more. Please pay **now** at last year's prices shown in bold below:

Ordinary Member	£45.00 (£40.00 before 31 Jan 2014)
Senior* Member	£30.00* (£25.00)
Prospective# Member	£30.00 (£25.00) for 2 yrs, then £45.00
Joint+ (Family) Membership	£70.00 (£65.00) per couple
Senior* Joint+ (Family) Membership	£47.00 (£42.00) per couple
Family: one senior*, one youthful	£58.50 (£53.50) per couple

* You are eligible for **senior membership** if you will have reached “state pension age” on 1 January 2013. This applies to:

- Ladies born on or before 5 February 1952
- Gents born on or before 1 January 1949

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

Prospective members who have been in the club since January 2012 will discover that your subs for 2014 become the same as the ordinary members' rate, so you might as well get on with applying for full membership now. If you live at the same address as another ordinary member, you will be eligible for joint membership, which will cost you no more anyway.

All of the above rates include £11.75 (also unchanged from 2013) in respect of your BMC club membership. You cannot opt-out of this arrangement, but you can get a refund from the BMC if you are paying through another affiliated club. If your permanent address is outside the UK you are not a BMC club member and your subs will be 50% of the standard rate set out above.

How to pay:

- Cheque, payable to Oread Mountaineering Club, posted to me at 4 Bolton St. Swanwick, Derbyshire DE55 1BU

- Bank transfer: sort code 05-04-07, account number 45028744. Please let me know if you pay by bank transfer.

You need to pay before:

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

Receiving your payment promptly helps me immensely.

If you have any queries regarding your renewal, please contact me at rhiannon.900@hotmail.com or tel. 01773 541934 mobile 07525 654639

Rhiannon Hollick-Cooper

Hut Bookings for November onward.

TAN-YR-WYDDFA

29 Nov-1 Dec.	Rock & Heather. Whole hut.
6-8 December.	Southampton Rats
13-14 December	Milton Keynes M.C.
21 December -1 Jan.	Oread whole hut.
17-19 January	Surbiton & Kingston M.C.
24-26 January	Tuesday C.C.

HEATHY LEA

29 Nov-1 Dec	St George's University
3-4 Jan	ABMSAC

“Whole Hut” includes the Oread room!

All queries, payments and bookings should be addressed to Derek Pike, the Hut Bookings Secretary:

Derek Pike, 19 St. Johns Drive, Chaddesden, Derby. DE216SD

Tel. 01332 670459 Email: derepike1234@btinternet.com

Rusty's Puzzle Corner

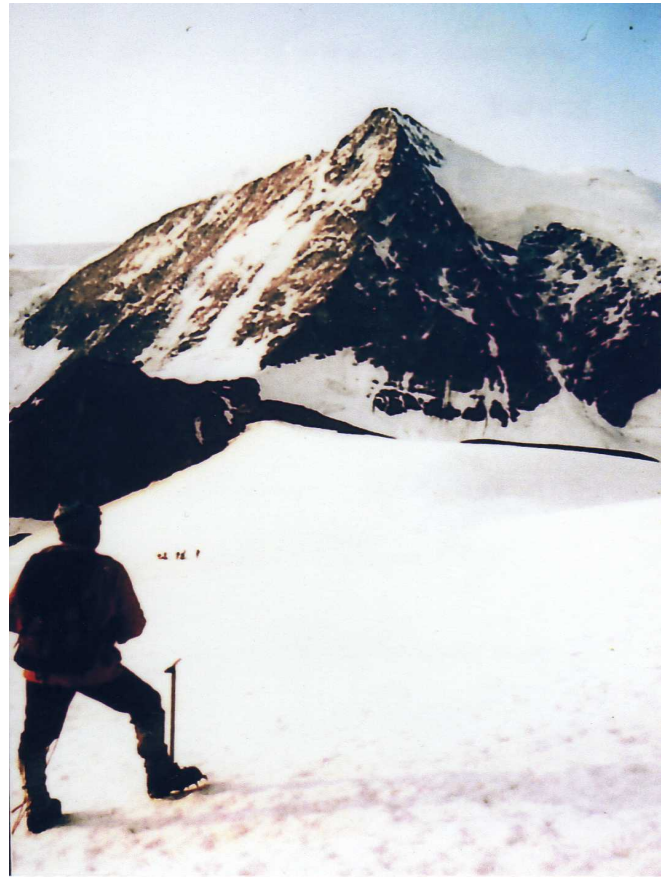
Last month's picture.

"What is the name of the pub, in the general locality of this scene, which is less than one mile from the highest point in the County in which it resides". Four answers were received, all recognising the photo as Panniers Pool, Three Shires Head. Unfortunately, Rusty says, nobody got the answer quite right.

“It is in fact the **New Inn at Flash**, adjacent to Oliver Hill, the highest point in Staffordshire at 513m.

Hereward Tresidder and Jack Ashcroft's answer of Cat and Fiddle was, I fear, incorrect. I have always believed the highest point in Cheshire to be Shining Tor, although I have never seen this in print. Shining Tor is about 1840m as the crow flies from Cat and Fiddle so this is a plausible answer, but unfortunately not rigorously correct. Two people (Snod and Chris Wilson) correctly guessed the pub at Flash in Staffordshire but offered a series of wildly random names including the Kings Head, Royal Oak and the Travellers Rest”.

This month's puzzle is set not by Rusty but by Jack Ashcroft: thus giving Rusty the chance to do a spot of puzzling too. The question is simply **Who? When? Where?**



Forthcoming Meets: Chris Radcliffe

December.			
30 th Nov-1 st Dec.	Patterdale.	G. Starkey.	Tony Howard.
7 th -8 th .	Bullstones.		Kev Fidler
11 th .	Black Rocks.		Rob. Tresidder
14 th -15 th .		Yahoo Group.	
21 st -22 nd .		“	
25 th – 1 st . Jan	Christmas	T.Y.W.	

See over for next year's meets list.

2014

January			
1st	Peak District	NY Day Walk	Rusty Russell
18 th -19 th	Swanage	Climbing Meet	Dave Helliwell
February			
8 th - 9 th .	Rhydd-Ddu	Tan-y-Wyddfa	Gill Radcliffe
22 nd -23 rd .	Scottish Meet, Glen Etive	Inbhirfhaolain Hut (Grampian M.C.)	Rob Tresidder
March			
8 th - 9 th	Patterdale	George Starkey Hut	Stuart Haywood
22 nd	AGM	Robin Hood Pub	Committee
23 rd	Spring Stride	Stoops & Stones	Chris Radcliffe
April			
5 th - 6 th	Little Langdale	Fylde MC Hut	Hut Swop
18 th - 26 th	French Meet (1)	Fontainbleau/Dijon	Roger Gibbs
27 th -May 8	French Meet (2)	Ariège	Chris Radcliffe
May			
17 th - 18 th	B.B.Q.	Heathy Lea	Mike Hayes
24 th - 26 th	Coniston	Low House (MAM)	Steve Bennett
June			
7 th - 8 th	Kiddies Meet	Heathy Lea	Neil Weatherstone
7 th - 8 th	Rhydd-Ddu	Tan-y-Wyddfa	
28 th - 29 th	North Yorkshire	Osmotherley	Chris Wilson
July			
5 th -6 th	Malham Cove	Camping	Michael Bate
12 th - 13 th	Cloggy: pre-Alps	Tan-y-Wyddfa	Chris Radcliffe
19 th -Aug 10	Alpine Meet	Ecrins	Pete Lancaster
August			
23 rd - 25 th	S Pembroke	Camping	
September			
13 th - 14 th	Clwyd	Limestone cragging	Derek Pike
20 th - 21 st	Joint with DMC	Heathy Lea	Ed James
October			
4 th - 5 th	Gogarth	Valley of the Rocks	Dave Mawer
14 th - 28 th	Kalymnos	Hot Rock	Pam Storer
November			
1 st	Bonfire Night	Heathy Lea	Mike Hayes
2 nd	Dovedale Dash	Fell Race	Rob Tresidder
18 th	Annual Dinner		
December			
6 th - 7 th	Bullstones Meet	Long Walk	Pam Storer
10 th	Black Rocks	Night Climbing	Rob Tresidder

And it's goodbye from her and goodbye from me.



Your esteemed Vice president paddles from Lake Como into Lago de Mezzola in July. Coming back the wind got up and it got a bit rough and wet, but you will be relieved to know that the water was relatively warm!

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