

OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER 2017



Synchronised climbing? Twenty Oreads and friends enjoyed some fun in the sun at Llangollen after the Gogarth meet decamped to Carrog in search of better weather. Photo courtesy of Michael Hayes.

Editorial

This is an issue that needs your immediate attention – **you must book the Annual Dinner now or it will be too late.** And next year's subscriptions are now due so you might as well get them both done at once!

There is a bumper crop of lectures, walks and weekend meets coming up soon including the bonfire, the Dovedale Dash, the Dinner and Post Prandial walk, followed by the inaugural stage of the Peak Boundary Walk, and, of course, the Bullstones. We should all be fit after that lot! Looking ahead, several winter meets have been fixed for early next year and don't forget to think about February sunshine – the Costa Blanca hotel meet has something for everyone.

Elsewhere, write ups of two Lake District meets, tales of the Monday walkers and more memories of former member, Don Cowan who died recently.

Last, but not least – the Forthcoming Meets calendar for 2018 is starting to fill up - a preview here with more to follow next month.

What's On

Coming Soon				UK	Abroad
November		Wed	1	Yahoo Group (evening)	
		Thur	2		
		Fri	3		
		Sat	4	Bonfire Meet, Heathy Lea Neil Weatherstone	Sicily, San Vito lo Campo Ruth Gordon
		Sun	5	Dovedale Dash Rob Tresidder	
		Mon	6	Climbing Unit, Derby	
		Tue	7	Royal Oak lecture (evening)	
		Wed	8	Yahoo Group (evening)	
		Thur	9		
		Fri	10		
		Sat	11		
		Sun	12		
		Mon	13	Climbing Unit, Derby	
		Tue	14		
		Wed	15	Yahoo Group (evening)	
		Thur	16		
		Fri	17		
		Sat	18	Annual Dinner, Matlock Golf Club	
		Sun	19	Post Prandial Walk	
		Mon	20	Climbing Unit, Derby	
		Tue	21		
		Wed	22	Yahoo Group (evening)	
		Thur	23		
		Fri	24		
		Sat	25		
		Sun	26	Peak Boundary Walk - Stage 1 Stuart Firth	
		Mon	27	Climbing Unit, Derby	
		Tue	28		
		Wed	29	Yahoo Group (evening)	
		Thu	30		
December		Fri	1	Bullstones Simon Pape	
		Sat	2		
		Sun	3		
		Mon	4	Climbing Unit, Derby	
		Tue	5	Royal Oak lecture (evening)	
		Wed	6	Yahoo Group (evening)	
		Thur	7		
		Fri	8		
		Sat	9		
		Sun	10		
		Mon	11	Climbing Unit, Derby	
		Tue	12		

Coming Soon			UK	Abroad
	Wed	13	Black Rocks, Night Climb Rob Tresidder	
	Thur	14		
	Fri	15		
	Sat	16		
	Sun	17		
	Mon	18	Climbing Unit, Derby	
	Tue	19		
	Wed	20	Yahoo Group (evening)	
	Thur	21		
	Fri	22	Christmas/New Year Meet, Tan yr Wyddfa Rock Hudson	
	Sat	23		
	Sun	24		
CHRIS	Mon	25		
TMAS	Tue	26		
	Wed	27		
	Thur	28		
	Fri	29		
	Sat	30		
	Sun	31		

- See below for details of these meets.
- Use your Yahoo group to see what members are doing on a day to day basis.
- See the Oread website <http://www.oread.co.uk/> for the full meets calendar.

Evening meets:

It's back to the long dark evenings once more so come along to the evening climbing wall sessions:

Mondays at the Unit from 7 – 9.00 pm and after at the Wilmot Arms, Chaddesden. (Often there are people there in the afternoons 1.30 – 4.30 as well.)
Wednesdays at Wirksworth wall from 7.00 pm then the Royal Oak on North St.

Winter 2017/8 Indoor Meets Rob Tresidder

These take place on the first Tuesday of each month, October to March in the Royal Oak, Ockbrook at 8.00 p.m. So far my programme looks like this:

07 November: a revival of the members' slide evening – still time to take part and tell your tales.

05 December: Spenser Gray: *A Modern Apprenticeship: Surviving the First 5 Years.*

02 January: (this date may be changed to 09 January or may not run at all; watch this space, or one like it).

06 February: Paul Ramsden, multiple Piolet D'Or winner returns to the Oread

06 March: TBA

Rob Tresidder email Rob61.Tresidder@virgin.net tel. 07951 625378

Tuesday 31 October Doug Scott: The Ogre (Banta Brakk 7285 m.) Karakoram Himalaya. Derby Guildhall 7.00 pm

Doug Scott, CBE will be lecturing on his ascent (and subsequent accident) on the Ogre, next Tuesday evening at the Guildhall, Derby.

The lecture is in aid of Community Action Nepal which is engaged in re-building its Medical and Educational Centres in the Langtang Himal of Nepal which were almost totally destroyed in the massive earthquake of two years ago.

Thursday 2nd November TransAlp Ski III - Austria 2017 a lecture by David Hamilton at the Plough Inn Hathersage 6.30pm

This is the third leg of a multi-year project to travel from the Mediterranean to Vienna by ski. The trip took 49 days, from the Engadine into Austria, with Steve Kentish. It will outline the route day-by-day as a record of the route he chose to follow, along with suggestions for how future parties could benefit from his experiences and improve the route for future attempts themselves.

<https://highadventure.org.uk/transalp-ski-iii-austria-2017.html>

Costs £15 including meat/veg pie or £5 without food - payment at the door.

Please contact Max Huxham to reserve your place. Email hxmlm24@outlook.com

4 November Bonfire and Fireworks Meet – Heathy Lea Neil Weatherstone

Remember Remember the 4th of November, as that is the night of our traditional Bonfire and Fireworks night at Heathy Lea. Derek Pike has volunteered to be our pyromaniac for the evening and will be entertaining us with his rockets as soon as it gets dark. There will be a barrel of beer thanks to Ben and BBQs for food are encouraged as is cooking directly on the fire with long pointy sticks (I'll provide a gas powered BBQ that anyone can use). As usual, help building the bonfire during Saturday would be appreciated, especially from those with chain-saws. There will be a small charge to cover the cost of the fireworks that I'll determine on the night. If you need a bed for the night let me know. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Neil Weatherstone email Neil.weatherstone@btinternet.com tel. 07946825798

5 November Dovedale Dash Rob Tresidder

This year's race starts at 11 am on Sunday 5 November, with signing on from 9.00 am. The cost is £8 ((£3 for under 14s.) There is a separate children's race for under 8s and under 10s starting at the bottom of Thorpe Cloud at 10.am.

Keep an eye on the website www.dovedaledash.co.uk for last minute information.

Tuesday, 7 November, Lecture, Royal Oak, Rob Tresidder

The second evening lecture of the season will be held at 8 o'clock at the Royal Oak, Ockbrook on Tuesday, 07 November. This will be a members' miscellany. Just because you haven't volunteered already, doesn't mean we won't enjoy hearing from you. Just bring your memory stick along with you and I'll throw your images into glorious super size onto the Oak's splendid screen.

Rob Tresidder email Rob61.Tresidder@virgin.net tel. 07951 625378

18 November Annual Dinner at Matlock Golf Club Tony Howard

Deadline for booking is 9 November.

This year's dinner will kick off at 6.30 pm to sit down at 7.30 pm. Price **£22.50** per person. **See the back of this newsletter plus last month's issue for full details.**

19 November Post Prandial Walk Ruth Gordon

This year's gallivant has a bit of everything – fields, woodland, moorland and quiet lanes. We will assemble at 10.15 in the Eddlestow Lot car park SK323 632 (turn left off the Matlock-Chesterfield road at the top of Slack hill) We will go via Robriding and Shooters Lea Farm to pick up the footpath out to the Rowsley Bar road, then left and down Bent Lane into the beautiful Halldale woods, arriving at the Plough Inn at Two Dales around 1pm. (A little over 6 miles.)

This little village pub does not normally serve food but they will do us hot pork cobs with apple sauce and stuffing for £5. They will be good. If you want one you **must** let me know by Wed 15th at latest. Chips/chip butties will also be available at around £2, it would be helpful if you could pre-order these also.

The return leg will be via Ladygrove and Matlock Forest. It will take around 1 hour 40 minutes back to Lumsdale (under 4 miles) where we can ferry drivers back to their cars if it is too dark to complete the last 40 minutes (2 miles) on foot. (If you are feeling lazy you could catch the Transpeak bus (at 14.20 or 15.20 along the A6 into Matlock and the X17 at 15.10 or 16.10 up to the Top of Slack.) If you would like to join the party at the pub – it is a well hidden secret. Coming from Matlock on the A6, take the first available right turn after entrance to DFS on left and petrol station on right. The pub is off to the left of this road hidden away, before it starts to go uphill. Phone box on right, – large carpark behind the pub.

For more info or to order your pork cob/chips contact Ruth tel 01629 56636 – just leave me a message – or email alistair.ruth@btinternet.com

Saturday 25 November Pre- Boundary Walk Mick Hayes

The hut's been reserved for Oreads and friends to stay over on Saturday night and make a weekend of it. I will be at the hut from mid-day on Saturday.

Depending on the weather we will adjust our adventure plans but if it's sunny I will probably go climbing and if not I'll probably go out on the mountain bike. Saturday evening is likely to include a trip to the Robin Hood and maybe even a bonfire. Please call, email etc. me to book your bed spaces in the hut.

Michael Tel 07771700913 email Hayes_michael_j@cat.com

26 November Peak District Boundary Walk Heathy Lea to Rowsley loop Stuart Firth

Sunday 26 November - 10:00 am start (optional- Heathy Lea overnight on Saturday 25 November)



This is intended to be the first of a series of Oread walks circumnavigating the newly established 190-mile Peak District Boundary Walk. The official route starts and finishes in Buxton. However, for the convenience of members, I have tailored our version of the walk to start at Heathy Lea, part way through official Stage 11; and reach Rowsley, part way through official Stage 12. We will then return to the hut for cream tea and cakes. Future walks may be of an A-to-B format.

Given the short length of day at this time of year and the possibility that we may not experience wall-to-wall sunshine, flexibility will be the name of the game. The basic route will be to leave Heathy Lea around 10:00am, walk to Hob Hurst's House via Chatsworth Edge and Gibbet Moor and descend through Hell Bank Plantation to Beeley. We will carefully resist the temptations of The Old

Smithy Café and the Devonshire Arms and go via Smeltingmill Wood to Rowsley. Here there are two cafes - Cauldwell Mill and one in the Retail Park; and two pubs – the Grouse and the Peacock).

The return to Heathy Lea will be along the Derwent Valley Heritage Way and through Chatsworth Park to arrive neatly at the back gate via Jubilee Rock.

The whole circuit is about 20 km (12.5 miles in old money) and there are several options should a shorter version be required – no purism here. For example, some might consider depositing transport at Rowsley for a quicker but less scenic return journey to the hut. (There are two free public car parks off the A6 at GR 258659 and GR 257657 – the third one at Rowsley Retail Park has a time limit – beware).

It will be good to see as broad a spectrum of members as possible. Early indications are that we will have an enthusiastic turnout of all vintages – there will be honourable mentions of the oldest and youngest members and also for the

silliest hat. To accommodate different speeds and abilities, we will organize subgroups on the day so offers of encouraging 8-10 participants would be appreciated.

The whole hut has been reserved for members' use over the weekend: to reserve your place please contact Michael Hayes (see above). Undoubtedly there will be a convivial evening to be had. There will be cream tea and cakes at the hut after the walk on Sunday – an indication of numbers would be helpful – please let me know if you are likely to join us.

Finally, a number of folk have already offered to lead subsequent sections of the Walk – please let me know your preferences and we'll work something out. The more the merrier. Additional volunteers welcome.

Useful Info:

Map: OS24 The Peak District - White Peak area

Book: Peak District Boundary Walk; editor Andrew McCloy. Amazon £10

Stages: 11.5.5 – 12.3

Stuart Firth: stuartmfrith@btinternet.com; 07977 458048

1-3 December The Bullstones 2017 Simon Pape

THIS MEET IS GUARANTEED FREE FROM MELTED CHEESE, WHITE GUNGE, COLLAPSING RIVERBANKS AND OTHER THINGS HARMFUL TO SNOD.^{1, 2}

This year's Bullstones will be starting at the Buck's Head in Church Stretton. Car parking is available on the streets nearby. From there it's a short walk to our bivvy near the reservoir in Carding Mill Valley.

I'm planning on heading north on the Saturday, along the Long Mynd and the Portway, aiming for a lunchtime drink in Habberley. From there, we'll go along the Stiperstones ridge before dropping down to our accommodation at Bridges. Sunday's walk back will be over the Long Mynd again, the length depending on the mood of the party.

We'll be stopping at the Bridges Youth Hostel or at the Bridges pub on Saturday night. The available beds have all been taken, but there is camping available and metal tents can be parked in the pub car park. Please let me know if you're coming – if you want to eat in the pub I need to know what you want to eat as well.

<http://www.the-bucks-head.co.uk/>

<http://thebridgespub.co.uk/>

Simon Pape tel. 07813 616563 email s.pape@virgin.net

¹ The management take no responsibility for participants who are unable to tell left from right.

² The management may be lying.

Tuesday 5 December Lecture, Royal Oak, Rob Tresidder

The third evening lecture will be held at 8 o'clock at the Royal Oak, Ockbrook on Tuesday, 05 December. Spenser Gray will regale us with "A modern Apprenticeship: Surviving the First 5 Years". Some of those of course in the company of the Oread. All will be revealed in frightening detail on the night!

24 -31 December Christmas/New Year at Tan yr Wyddfa Rock Hudson

As usual there will be festive fun to be had in Wales, come and go as you please, just book your bed nights with Mick Hayes as normal.

5 -7 January Winter climbing Scotland, Spenser Gray

The first weekend in January a small meet visiting Waters Cottage, Glencoe will take place to get people warmed up before Jeff's European Ice Climbing trip, I can't promise good conditions (can anyone?), however I can promise fine whisky and enthusiasm to explore the mountains of Glencoe.

Spenser Gray. tel 07534 821500 email spenser.h.gray@gmail.com

14-21 January Ecrins Ice Climbing Meet Jeff Ingman L'Argentiere la Bessee/La Grave, French Ecrins.



This note is to assess club interest in an ice climbing meet to the Ecrins early next year. The proposal is to fly to Grenoble from Birmingham, hire vehicles and stay in a gite either at L'Argentiere la Bessee or La Grave. There is lots of ice climbing in the area, and the photo, left, shows Chris Radcliffe enjoying himself on Forms du Chaos back in 2013.

Whilst there are routes suitable for all, I am personally not competent or qualified to take beginners on to steep ice climbs. You will need to be able to look after yourself on steep icy ground and be competent in building and assessing ice belays. Also, the gites offer a three course meal in the evening but there is little choice on what food is provided, and this may not suit some dietary requirements. The likely cost of

flights, vehicle and gite for the week is £350 today. Prices may change and we would need to make a booking by mid November. Also, conditions are likely to be good in January, but they are not guaranteed.

If you have some experience of winter climbing then this meet may be for you. Contact Jeff Ingman if interested at jeff.ingman@sky.com or 07891 517101.

27-28 January Snowdonia Michael Hayes



The first away meet of 2018 sees us back at our own hut in North Wales. At Tan yr Wyddfa on the southern flank of Snowdon we are ideally placed to react to the unpredictable weather of a North Wales winter and find some adventure in one if not all disciplines of our wonderful sport.

I will be hoping for ice climbing or at least a bit of winter mountaineering. If it's mild then we might be out rock climbing and if it's wet we'll probably head out to the coast so no excuses.

For those going to Benidorm the following weekend then this is an ideal meet for you to enjoy those cold mountain moments before you all frazzle in the sun.

To book your place please give me a call on 07771700913 or email:

hayes_michael_j@cat.com

5 -17 February 2018. Hotel based walking/climbing meet to Benidorm Derek Pike

There are around 13 members and friends now booked on this meet - there is room for more. We are booked on a Jet 2 package holiday and are staying at the Hotel Benilux Park - five minutes from the beach if you like winter sun bathing. The package is for all flights, transfers, and the accommodation is half board plus i.e. wine with your dinner. This year the food was good and there is more than you can eat. Some are going out on 5th Feb. until the 17th others are going out on various dates in between, also flying from various airports, EM. Birmingham and Manchester.

The cost depends on how long you stay and when you fly: On 5th from East Midlands 7 nights around £303p.p. 10 nights £364, 12 nights £418, 14 nights £450.

Please contact me if you require any further information.

Cheers, Derek.

Email derepike1234@btinternet.com Tel. 01332 670459

*** Copy deadline for next issue is 24 November.**

News, Articles and Reports from Meets.

15 – 17 September Wasdale – Brackenclouse Hut

Chris Radcliffe



The Scafell group from Yewbarrow

The FRCC Brackenclouse hut is in a superb position with unrivalled views overlooking Wasdale. This weekend we were blessed with fine weather so could enjoy excellent autumnal conditions in “the birthplace of British rock climbing”.

Gill and I arrived early enough on Friday to enjoy a quick yomp up Yewbarrow with great views over the Scafell Range. The crags looked dry from this distance, although Jeff had gone up to Hollowstones and reported streaks of water on



Scafell crag. Despite this, I hoped the sunnier Pikes Crag would allow us to rock climb and together with Steve and Pippa we set off on Saturday morning aiming for Cremation Ridge.

Left: Gill, Steve and Pippa at Hollowstones.

Even before getting to the foot of the route I had taken a heavy fall slipping on the wet boulders below the crag. We escaped up the very loose bounding gully to Mickledore

where I declared my self *hors de combat* and descended back to the hut. Steve continued to the top of the Pike before descending to Mickledore and Lords Rake, and then followed *West Wall Traverse* to Scafell. Here he fell over Gill and Pippa who had taken the same route to the summit after a “look at” a very slimy *Broad Stand*. They all continued to *Slight Side* and Steve returned via Burnmoor Tarn. Gill and Pippa made it a long day by continuing over *Illgill Head* and *Whin Rigg* then descending to *Wast Water* and back along the lake side track.

Meanwhile Simon and Spenser had successfully completed a route - *Wall and Crack Climb* – on Pikes Crag despite greasy conditions. They continued over the Pike and descended by the Lingmell tourist path. Jeff and Roger also climbed on Pikes Crag – *Grooved Arete*. Jeff returned leisurely via Mickledore while Roger seeking his lost youth pressed on at speed to the top of the Pike, then managed to twist his ankle on the descent which he finished in discomfort, thereby eliciting much comment and attention back at the hut.



Mick and Helen had had an uneventful day summiting Scafell via Lords Rake, while Gil and Andrea arrived in the afternoon after “dog mountaineering” on Yewbarrow.

Right: the team at Buckbarrow on Sunday.

The downside of a honey pot area like Scafell Pike is that it was incredibly busy – many were seeking to tick the peak despite not being regular hill walkers. On my slow descent I was asked by several parties for information and directions, despite the clear conditions. It was also the day of the Scafell Pike fell race.



By contrast I enjoyed a solitary day on Sunday off the beaten track up to Greendale Tarn, nursing a badly bruised leg. Gill, Pippa, Spenser and Simon

climbed on Buckbarrow. Mick and Helen were seen heading off towards Black Sail Pass while Jeff planned to hone his dry tooling skills at The Works, a dire hole in the ground near Hodge Close Quarry.

Thanks to all who joined the meet: Steve Bennett, Pippa Leach, Simon Pape, Spenser Gray, Jeff Ingman, Roger Larkam, Mick and Helen Hayes, Gil Male and Andrea, Gill and Chris Radcliffe.

Little Langdale 6-8 October Ruth Gordon

With an iffy forecast the numbers kept dropping – but it was a glorious autumn morning when Derek picked me up, 9.15 am and we headed for the hills, via Chapel en le Frith to collect Snod and his mate, Bott. The sun shone all the way and we arrived at the hut to unload and a swift lunch stop before heading to the ODG car park and up to Raven crag. By now the day was past its best but dry as we set off up Revelation HS and Derek and Bott embarked upon Centipede S. Our route was excellent but short and, as the others were having such a great time, Snod decided we should follow them up it – although we had no route description or knowledge of the descent – and my headtorch was in my rucksac. Twas ever thus. The route is a delight, the descent is easy – in daylight - but there was little of that as we picked our way down with Derek shining his torch up to guide us into the correct gully. The ODG was packed out so we had to go down to Wainwright's to get a meal – expensive but good – no doubt the ODG was so busy because they charge pub prices not London prices! Back to the hut we found Mark in residence and settled down for a cosy evening.

Saturday the rain had arrived as forecast – never heavy, not cold or windy, so it wasn't a bad day for exploring the local quarries on a goldfish hunt (no sign of it, poor creature must have died since last sighted in June), We revelled in the stunning rock architecture before a walk up to the ruins of Greenbank Mine where we had a nosy at the works in progress. The National Trust has a new hydro-electric scheme underway to harness the ample and fast-flowing waters of the Greendale Beck. Then home for tea and fingers crossed for a better day to come.

Sunday started out wall to wall sunshine and really hot. It clouded up a bit later but still a lovely, warm day with glorious views showing off all the fine autumn colours. By the time we had packed up, cleaned up, giving the rock a chance to dry, the best use of time seemed to be Raven's Crag, Wallthwaite where we spent a delightful afternoon. On Route One Derek would have liked more than one runner behind a loose flake in 22 metres! (Is that why it is called Route One?)

OK: Route One is only Severe but just one good bit of pro would have been nice! Mind you – Derek was equipped only with Bott's eccentric rack of wires – there were Rocks 1 and 5 - and bigger.... but in between - nil – a bold but desperate situation to find oneself in! Hardup wall and Enterprise were both excellent at VS (protected occasionally with Rocks 2-4) and Route Two was a stunningly good and varied Hard Severe – hospitable to the occasional cam. What a lovely little crag, such a delight to visit a new venue in Langdale, overall a great weekend. Thanks to you all for making it such a good do: - Irwin Bottomley, Dave Helliwell (Snod), Derek Pike, and Mark Steel.

A Couple of Monday Walks Tony Howard

The Monday Walking Group, an offshoot of the Oread, walks most weeks; on Mondays! Here are descriptions of two recent ones.

4th September 2017

Last Monday seven old Stalwarts assembled at Monyash for a walk led by our Most Venerable Sage. We headed south to the head of Cales Dale then east along Lathkill Dale. On ascending northwards to Mill Farm the mist descended, soft music was heard from everywhere around us, a rainbow and then a most aged Sage appeared like a guardian angel behind us. "It's a miracle" one was heard to proclaim. "Let us follow him" another cried - though this was ignored by most, including our Most Venerable Sage.

We continued to the first road we saw, turned right and plodded "boringly" along tarmac until we came to a sign saying Monyash two miles! There was a green lane ahead of us and a complaint from the rear. Our most aged Sage, not just any Aged Sage you understand but THE most Aged Sage politely referenced the tarmac in less than enthusiastic terms.

After experiencing long grass, barbed wire and other fences, calves and cows we eventually reached Magpie Mine for lunch. The octet continued towards Sheldon and turned west for home. A young upstart began map reading and advising on our direction until he was shamed into deceasing. The last couple of miles involved crossing many fields and walls, by even more stiles than walls!!!

We rested tired knees with a birthday tea at Monyash café before heading home, satisfied with another good day out.

Next week we'll meet at Litton at 10:15 for a 10:30 start around the 'Five Dales': Tansley, Cressbrook, Miller's and Tideswell!?

11th September 2017

I was entrusted to lead this week's walk. The forecast was for heavy rain until late afternoon, and it did. I had no backup plan and no excuse for not having one. So a Magnificent Seven trusty and trusting Stalwarts assembled at Litton. It was raining as we kitted up and thumping down by the time we were ready to go. We fled for the shelter of the bus shelter. The bus had just gone. Intending to lead in the manner of John Major rather than Margaret Thatcher, I asked the Stalwarts what they wanted to do. No bright ideas emerged but the Road Runner emerged from the shelter proclaiming it was time to go. I think she's an admirer of the Late Mrs T? Anyway 'go' we did. It was only lightly raining by now.

We journeyed south down a short lane and on into Tansley Dale. The foot-worn limestone was characteristically slippery. I was the last to reach Cressbrook Dale, having stopped for the usual relief. Emerging through a gate I let it go and it slammed loudly causing a group of young cows to stampede towards the other Stalwarts. Thankfully they all survived; cows and Stalwarts, although the encounter was very close. We continued on, slipping and sliding past Ravensdale Cottages and on towards Cressbrook Mill. The Road Runner was unsurprisingly

way out in front.

On reaching the road we were one short; our Most Venerable Sage had stopped to shed a layer. As we walked downhill I had to ask him, in the manner of those phone calls one apparently has to pay for, what he was wearing underneath, now he had shed a layer. In the manner of those phone calls one apparently has to pay for, he began to tease me; "socks, trousers, underpants" he said. I was getting more interested. "What about your upper body, where the garment has been removed", I enquired. "Just one shirt" he replied. and continuing in the aforementioned manner began to expose his left breast, revealing not one but two shirts. The inner one displayed the initials of the satanic club: OMC. I managed to muster sufficient self-control to feign disinterest, but hormones control us and the lady to my left could not do the same. She rushed across my path and began to fondle the Sage's left breast. Or was it the T-shirt? I dare not look. Curiosity and ardour were satisfied by the time we reached the mill.

We avoided the watery path of Water-Cum-Jolly and headed uphill to the Monsal trail. Fine dining was had in the entrance of Cressbrook tunnel. OK, there were no cucumber sandwiches, smoked salmon or china cups, but we were (nearly) dry, warm and with enough daylight to see what we were eating. Some even got to sit down.

We strode on, albeit on tarmac, for the next kilometre until descending to Litton Mill. For the rest of our journey, through Tideswell Dale and Litton Dale we continued on tarmac. Even the footpaths were tarmacked. We endured a very heavy downpour in Tideswell Dale and sheltered in the car park toilets. No-one cried "boring". No-one complained about all this tarmac. The rain must have dampened their desire to disapprove.

Having recently suffered another birthday our second oldest Sage treated us all to a cuppa in Litton Post Office Café. It was warm and dry: the café not the drink that is. The drink was warm and wet; a fine end to a not-so-fine day. Apologies for the rain the tarmac and the innuendo.

Old men and Old Man – Pete Scott



Well done gentlemen.

Having climbed it a couple of times, I suspect I would require a snug rope these days for any chance of summiting.

The photo was taken in the '80s after a lovely peaceful ascent with my then girl friend Julia. On topping out Tut Braithwaite, Hamish McInness and a couple of others flew across in a helicopter with refreshments and offered a lift off. Sadly we had to abseil and retrieve our rope, traditionally left in position on the first pitch.

Don Cowan 1928 – 2017

Memories from Dennis Gray

I was sad to learn of the death of Don Cowan.

I only climbed with him on one occasion, when he persuaded me to accompany him on a swift ascent of Tower Ridge on Ben Nevis at Easter 1954, during a Rock and Ice meet.

We soloed the Douglas Boulder direct, and then moved with rope coils up the rest of the route, passing a party of the Polaris club including Betty Emery, who unfortunately fell later, after we had moved on.

With Don I felt absolutely safe, and we were up and off the climb, glissading back down in perfect winter conditions back to our tents in less than two hours. To then spend all of that night on an ensuing call out to help recover the body of Emery.

I only met Don once after that meet, for he moved away south for his work.

He was an outstanding alpinist and winter climber, and I feel lucky to have been with him on Tower Ridge in 1954.

Memories from Pete Scott

Chris Radcliffe and I were on an Oread meet in the Chamonix valley in 1970 and on 5 August had a great day with Don, setting out from the Albert Premiere hut to traverse the Aiguille Chardonnet via the Forbes Arete.



Chris took the photo, so it shows Don in the middle of the rope and me beyond in red.

Hope it'll be of interest, there may well be members still around who were on the meet.

Oread Quad Challenge Stuart Firth

At 22:48 hrs on 17 October, Nigel Briggs informed me that he, Janet and Peter had completed the trio team version of the Oread Quad Challenge which is nominally to

- Walk Land's End to John O'Groats - 1,400 km (1,403km)
- Swim the English Channel - 33km (275.7km)
- Cycle the Tour de France - 3,500km (10,750km) and
- Climb Everest - 8,848m (34,855m)

Their combined achievements are in parentheses. What an amazing set of figures - congratulations to the Briggs family. Incidentally, 115km of the swimming was in open water of which Janet herself did 97.7km.

The Gordon / Radcliffe team claimed the duo prize so we still await any claims for achieving the Challenge solo prize - plenty of time left...

Any suggestions for a 2018 Challenge?

Hut Bookings.

TAN-YR-WYDDFA

3-5 Nov	Herts MC Whole hut
1-2 Dec	Wrekin M.C.
8-10 Dec	Rock & Heather
22-31 Dec	Oread Christmas/New Year

HEATHY LEA

3-4 Nov	Bonfire Meet
9-10 Nov	Brecon Beacon C & MC
25 Nov	Oread Boundary walk
2-3 Dec	Steve Baxter

"Whole Hut" includes the Oread room!

"Sole use – children present" means you may not stay overnight, even in the Oread room.

All queries, payments and bookings should be addressed to Michael Hayes, the Hut Bookings Secretary: 32 Hawthorne Drive, Thornton, Leicester, LE67 1AW. Tel. 01530 231401 mobile 07771 700913. Email: hayes_michael_j@cat.com

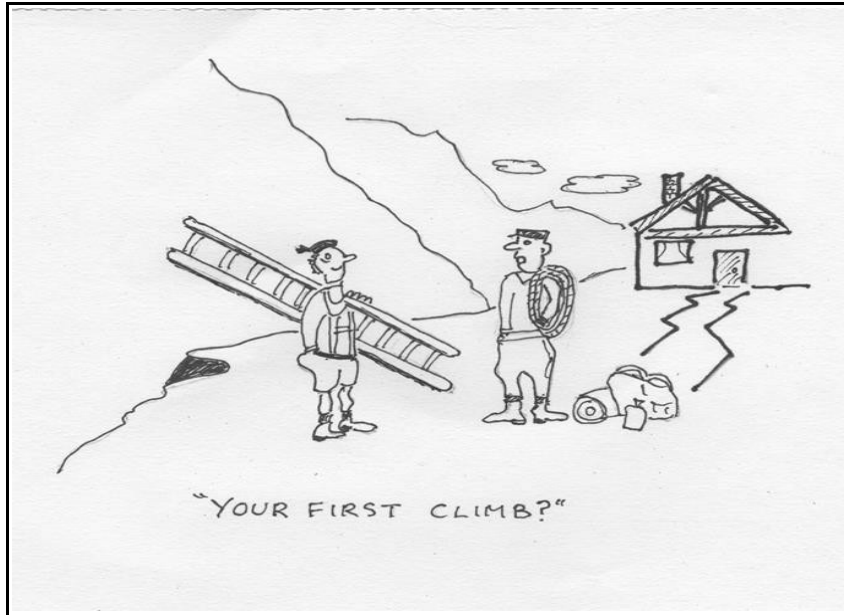
Our preferred method of payment is via bank transfer - Sort Code 05-04-07

Account number 45028744 You must put your name **and either TYW or HL as a reference**. Otherwise Joan cannot allocate the payment to the right hut.

Please follow up with an email to Michael to let him know that you have made a payment and what it was for.

Alternatively you can post a cheque, payable to Oread MC, to the above address.

Hobday's Humour



Information on Member Activities

Welcome to new Provisional member, Kirst Elton. Applications for full membership have been received from Lance Baker, Janet Briggs, Tom Hayes, Phil and Yvonne Waterson. If you would like to comment on any of these applications please contact a member of the committee.

Rusty's Puzzle Corner

Last month's puzzle solution:

Part 1

This is fairly straightforward so long as one is not diverted by the interim conditions. When all materials have been moved over Pam(182lbs) +materials(50lbs) are 36 ins from the pivot point (8251lb ins). Mike (168lbs) must therefore be $8251/168$ or 49.7 ins from the pivot. The two are therefore 85.7 ins apart.

Digger rang in triumph with a correct solution.

Part 2

Joe Brown, in his early years, worked for a Builder/Plumber named Archie. The young Joe and his mate confessed to larking about using an extending ladder as a see saw, balanced on the ridge of a roof. There is a brief mention of this in "The Hard Years" praising Archie's forbearance when the ladder was broken.

This month's puzzle.

The "Trumpeter's war" had ended and civilisation almost destroyed: Northern

based climbers with constitutional toughness and lower dependence on the trappings of society were over represented among the few survivors and many stubbornly carried on as before. Fossil fuel was a thing of the past and animals once again were the only transport. One pair, desperate for speed, even tamed a carnivore although girders (rescued from wreckage) were needed to steer and restrain it.

A team of climbers were determined to get to one of the UK's premier crags and do the Cioch Direct, even though they only had thongs of dried animal and vegetable matter as improvised ropes. It was known by hearsay that a section of the screes on the approach contained old war material and was a radiation hazard, either the right or the left.

Two strange survivors, Donis and Hurit, roamed this Corrie. Their chromosomes and other juices had been damaged by radiation, resulting in the addition of an eye (sic) by both, and one had a psychological disorder resulting from war trauma. The effect of this inter alia was a compulsive untrue answer to any question. The climbing team, encountering the two nomads were aware of this but did not know whether the affected person was Donis or Hurit. They deduced that a single question addressed to either would suffice to determine whether the right or left side of the scree should be used for their approach. How should this question be phrased?

BMC members now have discount on Montane products

There is an introductory discount of 20% off Montane products purchased through www.montane.co.uk until midnight on Sunday 12 November 2017. After that date, Montane's website will carry a list of Montane UK stockists offering BMC members direct discounts online and instore. Montane is also stocked by BMC recommended retailer Cotswold Outdoor.

Membership Renewals for 2018

Although it's time to renew your annual subs we have once again managed to hold the cost for another year and absorb the £1.00 BMC increase. So please renew early to take full advantage of it.

The subscription includes the BMC fee of £14.25 giving you all the benefits of individual club membership and in particular the BMC third party insurance.

How to pay: 1 of 2 ways

- Please complete the form below and send it with a cheque made payable to the Oread Mountaineering Club, posted to Michael Hayes, 32 Hawthorne Drive, Thornton, Leicester, LE67 1AW.
- You can pay by bank transfer Sort Code 05-04-07, Account Number 45028744 with (Subs and your name in the reference field). Once the money has been transferred please email hayes_michael_j@cat.com confirmation and a copy of the form below.

If you have any questions then please contact me. Michael Hayes.

Oread Mountaineering Club Membership Renewal and Contact List Update		
Name		
Second Name (Joint Membership)		
Address		
Telephone Number		
Telephone Number Work		
Telephone Number Mobile		
Email Address		
Secondary Email Address		
Data Protection: I agree to my contact details being held by the Oread MC, shared with other paid up members and passed to the BMC to gain my third party insurance Data Protection: I agree to my contact details being held by the Oread MC, shared with other paid up members and passed to the BMC to gain my third party insurance		
Membership Type: Please tick relevant box		
Ordinary Member	£40.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Senior Member	£25.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prospective Member	£25.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joint Membership (Two people at the same address)	£65.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senior Joint Membership	£42.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joint Membership (One senior one ordinary)	£53.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Member with permanent address outside the UK. 50% of appropriate rate as BMC membership is not included.		<input type="checkbox"/>

18 November Annual Dinner Tony Howard

This year's dinner will once again be at Matlock Golf Club, Chesterfield Road Matlock (DE4 5LZ). Please arrive from 6.30 pm onwards, to sit down at 7.30 pm. The price will be **£22.50** per person; slightly more than last year. All other details were provided in last month's Newsletter.

There are still over 25 people who normally attend but have not sent in their forms yet. If you would like to come, please send me your forms ASAP. Late entries make it difficult for me plan the event; seating etc. I must receive your bookings by Thursday 9th November at the very latest.

It should be a really good do. I look forward to seeing you there.
 Tony Howard, 134 Willson Ave., Littleover Derby, DE23 1TW

Tel. 01332 273307 0776 226 8181. **Email** tony.howard46@btinternet.com

Booking Form with menu options and payment information below.

Oread Annual Dinner Order Form

The dinner will be on the 18th November and will cost **£22.50** per person. Tea or coffee is included in the price.

Please write your name & the name of your guest(s) in the boxes on the top line and tick one item per course per person.

Post your completed form and payment to Tony Howard 134 Willson Ave, Littleover Derby, DE23 1TW, to arrive by **Thursday 9th November at the latest.**

Payment should preferably be by cheque payable to Oread MC. Alternatively you could pay by bank transfer. But if you do you must add a payee's note saying who you are & that it's for the Annual Dinner. Oread Acc nr.: 45028744; Sort code 05-04-07.

Please tell me your payment method on the form below, e.g. BACS/cheque.

I must have the completed forms by 9th November

(V) = suitable for vegetarians. (GF) = gluten free (OR = on request)

Name:				
Payment method				
Starter				
Garlic mushrooms on ciabatta (V)				
Smoked mackerel pate				
Tomato & lentil soup (V, GF)				
Main Course				
Braised beef (GFOR)				
Fish pie (salmon, smoked haddock & prawn)				
Tomato & mascarpone cheese tart (V)				
Dessert				
Raspberry roulade				
Tarte Tatin				
Fruit salad (GF)				

If you have any special dietary requirements please state them below (e.g. gluten/wheat/vegan). The Golf Club is used to catering for special diets.

Please contact them directly on 01629 582191 to be certain that they can cater for you and for your peace of mind.

If you have a strong preference to be seated next to others, please state this below & we will do our best to accommodate you.

Forthcoming Meets 2017/2018

This is a work in progress – next month's issue will have a more complete meets list for 2018 - several more meets are currently being finalised.

Please support your club. More meet leaders are required for 2018 (UK and abroad). If you intend leading a meet please contact Gil Male - email meetsec@oread.co.uk who will enter details in the Meets List Calendar.

2017	November	3-12	<i>Sicily, San Vito lo Capo</i> Ruth Gordon
		4	<i>Bonfire Meet, Heathy Lea</i> Neil Weatherstone
		5	<i>Dovedale Dash</i> Rob Tresidder
		18	<i>Annual Dinner, Matlock Golf Club</i>
		19	<i>Post Prandial Walk</i> Ruth Gordon
		25-26	<i>Peak District Boundary Walk Heathy Lea</i> Stuart Firth
	December	1-3	<i>Bullstones</i> , Simon Pape
		13	<i>Black Rocks, Night Climb</i> Rob Tresidder
		22 Dec -1 Jan	<i>Christmas/New Year Meet, Tan yr Wyddfa</i> Rock Hudson
2018	January	5-7 Jan	<i>Winter climbing, Scotland Waters Cottage</i> Spenser Gray
		14-21	<i>Ice climbing Ecrins</i> , Jeff Ingman
		26-28	<i>Tan yr Wyddfa</i> Mike Hayes
	February	2-4	<i>Fylde Mountaineering Hut, Stair</i>
		9-11	<i>Winter climbing, Scotland Karn House</i> Spenser Gray
		3-17	<i>Spain, Benidorm</i> Derek Pike
	March	9-11	<i>George Starkey Hut, Patterdale</i> Stuart Haywood
		24	<i>Oread AGM, Robin Hood Inn, Baslow</i>
		25	<i>Spring Stride</i>
		30 – 2 Apr	<i>Easter weekend</i>
	April	20-21	<i>New Members Meet</i> Spenser Gray
	May	5-7	<i>Early May Bank holiday</i>
		26-28	<i>Late May Bank holiday</i>
	June	15-17	<i>Hut meet venue TBA</i> Dave (Snod) Helliwell
	July	5-6	<i>Tan yr Wyddfa Working Party</i> Dave (Snod) Helliwell
		7	<i>Welsh 3000s Walk</i>
	August	17-20	<i>Galloway</i> Spenser Gray
		25-27	<i>Bank holiday weekend</i>
	September	31 Aug – 2 Sep	<i>Walk & Climb the Edges</i> Gil Male

Editor: Ruth Gordon, 4, The Terrace, Upper Lumsdale, Matlock, Derbys. DE4 5LB
Tel. 01629 56636 07999 857 922. **Email** alistair.ruth@btinternet.com