



OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB MAGAZINE

DECEMBER 2020 – JANUARY 2021



A Christmas card scene for the last issue of the year. This stunning photo of Minninglow in the snow was taken by Tony Smedley many years ago.

Editorial

As usual, a double issue for the Christmas/New Year period – as I write who can guess what the regulations will be come 2021!

Here we are, on the Naughty Step, in Tier 3 but the good news is, walking in groups of six is ok again so the planned walking meets will go ahead – though the 2nd December walk has moved on a week to the 9th to clear the National Lockdown period.

A draft meets list for the whole of next year is in here too. We need meet leaders to come forward if all these events are going to happen.

Write ups include recent walks, the tale of a book that inspired a life of caving and climbing and more memories of climbing in the 1940s.

Finally it is Subs time again – with reduced rates for the coming year.

Copy Deadline 15 January.

Provisional Meets programme 2021

January	1	New year's day walk	Venue TBD	Rusty
	6	Wednesday walk	Ashford on the Water	Stuart Firth
	22-23	Hut meet	Tan Yr Wyddfa	
	24	Weekend walk	Bretton Clough Abney	Chris Radcliffe
February	3	Wednesday walk	Monyash	
	19-21	Hut meet	Tan Yr Wyddfa	
	20-21	Weekend walk	Venue TBD	
March	3	Wednesday walk	Ilam	
	5-6	George Starkey Hut, Patterdale	Lake District	ABMSAC/AC hut. Stuart Hayward
	5-6	High House, Borrowdale (TBC)	Lake District	K-Fellfarers' hut
	13	Heathy Lea working party	Heathy Lea Derbyshire	Chris Wilson
	25	AGM	Virtual	Thur 8 pm, probably via Zoom
	21	Spring stride (Weekend walk)	Venue TBD	Nigel Briggs
	26-28	Hut meet	Tan Yr Wyddfa	Neil Weatherstone
April	1	First outdoor evening climb		
	2-5	Easter camping	Fontainbleu or Sea Cliffs	venue Covid dependent. Lance Baker
	14	Wednesday walk	Youlgreave	
	17-18	New members meet	Heathy Lea Derbyshire	Ben Wooler
	23-24	Fylde hut, Stair	Lake District	Hut swap, Snod (Dave Helliwell)
	24-25	Weekend walk	Venue TBD	
May	1-3	Early May BH camping meet	Pembroke	or Gower
	12	Wednesday walk	Millers Dale	
	15-16	Snowdonia meet	Tan Yr Wyddfa	
	22-23	Weekend walk	Venue TBD	
	29-31	Spring BH camping meet	St Just, Cornwall	Michael Hayes
June	9	Wednesday walk	Ladybower	
	11-13	Camping meet	Short notice location	
	19-20	Mid summer BBQ	Heathy Lea Derbyshire	include BBQ if covid restrictions allow
	26-27	Camping meet	Northumberland	Spenser Grey. Suggested venue, could change
	26-27	Weekend walk	Venue TBD	
July	7	Wednesday walk	Bonsall	
	13-17	TyW working party	Tan Yr Wyddfa	Snod (Dave Helliwell)
	17-18	Welsh BBQ	Tan Yr Wyddfa	include BBQ if covid restrictions allow
	24-25	Weekend walk	Venue TBD	
	24/7-15/8	Alpine meet	TBD	
Aug	4	Wednesday walk	Hathersage	
	21-22	Weekend walk	Venue TBD	
	28-30	Summer BH camping meet	Baggy point, Devon	Suggested venue, could change
Sept	8	Wednesday walk	Tideswell	
	10-12	Camping meet	Short notice venue	
	24-25	Lowstern hut, Yorkshire Dales	Clapham, Yorkshire Dales	Nigel Briggs, Yorkshire Ramblers Hut,
	25-26	Weekend walk	Venue TBD	
Oct	2	BARMY comp	Peak, Derbyshire	
	6	Wednesday walk	Ashover	
	9	Heathy Lea working party	Peak, Derbyshire	Chris Wilson
	16-17	Curry meet	Tan Yr Wyddfa	
	23-24	Weekend walk	Venue TBD	
	29-31	Strawberry cottage, Glen Affric	Scotland	An Teallach MC hut. Graham Weston. Possibly from Thur 28th.
Nov	3	Wednesday walk	Brassington	
	5	Bonfire	Heathy Lea Derbyshire	
	6	Annual Dinner, Fox and Goose	Nr Chesterfield	Heathy Lea booked for 5th and 6th
	13-14 TBC	Cwm Eigiau hut	Snowdonia	Janet Briggs
	20-21	Weekend walk	Venue TBD	
Dec	1	Wednesday walk	Wetton Mill	
	10-12	Bullstones		
	15	Black rocks evening meet	Cromford, Derbyshire	
	18-19	Weekend walk	Venue TBD	
	24-3 Jan	Christmas and New Year hut meet	Tan Yr Wyddfa	

This is what we hope to do in 2021. We will of course have to adapt our plans to comply with whatever Covid 19 regulations are in force at the time of each planned meet.

Tan Yr Wyddfa and Heathy Lea are booked to the Oread for more weekends than usual in 2021, this is because securing bookings with other clubs seems harder this year because of Covid-19 restrictions uncertainty. I've also put in camping meets at each of the bank holidays. Many of these meets still need leaders, so if you fancy leading a meet at one of our splendid huts, or have an idea of where you would like to have a camping meet (Pembrokeshire, Gower, Lakes, Scotland...) on any of these dates please let me know.

Stuart Firth has sketched a plan for monthly Wednesday walks, with approximate venues, and weekend walks. Anyone interested in leading one of these is invited to contact Stuart (stuartmfirth@btinternet.com). Confirmation and details will appear as usual in the appropriate newsletters. The weekend walks will operate in a similar manner to the Wednesday walks. The logistics of a Peak District Boundary Walk follow-on that we initially hoped to do would likely be even more challenging with Covid restrictions, so circular walks are most likely, especially in the initial part of the year. The plan proposes weekend dates, but we are likely to alternate Saturdays and Sundays with maybe the odd weekend thrown in if future restrictions allow.

To help meet leaders we have produced a general risk assessment, following BMC guidelines, that meet leaders can use with a minimum of fuss for both walking and climbing meets, and I'll be able to offer advice on how it applies to your meet.

Mike Moss email mamoss@btinternet.com

Forthcoming Meets 2020

Wednesday 2 December Walk Rescheduled to 9 December.

Sunday 6 December Replacement Walk Paul Gardiner

It would be irresponsible to invade the hamlet of Earl Sterndale just days after the end of the lock down so that walk is **OFF**. At the time of writing there is no information regarding which tier we may be in and what restrictions will apply. Apparently the tablets are not being brought down from the mountain until the last week of the month at the earliest. I had considered moving the venue to a more isolated location but, on balance, I think it best to stick to our individual walking and wait until there is some clarification on how to proceed.

Paul Gardiner tel. 01332 559957.

Wednesday 9 December Tissington Walk John Gwyther

Meet at the Tissington Trail pay and display car park SK177522 at 10 o'clock (Doesn't stop you parking for nought elsewhere!). Circular walk to Parwich and Alsop en le Dale. I don't expect any cafés or hostelrys to be open so please bring refreshments. The walk will, of course, be run according to Covid -19 regulations.

Please let me know if you're coming on 07931 630974.

Wednesday 16 December Black Rocks/ Harborough Night Climbing

T'will be the Wednesday before the Wednesday before Christmas and the fact that we can't all crowd into a lovely warm pub, breathing the nasty colds we've just caught in the chill night air over one another, while scoffing pie and peas together does not in any way excuse committed Oreads from this traditional pre-Christmas event. Let's be seeing you all out there in the dark, dark night! Cromford Chippie will be frying up the usual excellent fare.

1 January New Year's Day walk. Rusty Russell



In the absence of a younger volunteer, I have offered myself up to arrange something so that an event of some sort actually takes place. I shall be trying out my new camera accompanied by our latest Rescue beast.

It is impossible to settle on any details before the December magazine copy deadline in the current state of uncertainty but I will do whatever is possible in the light of whatever restrictions are in force on the day, I

shall do a write up somewhere round about mid December and it will be circulated by e mail. I have to say though that being at the vulnerable age plus a bit, I shall not personally enter a crowded indoor space even if all restrictions are off, - but we will pull together and work round the difficulties somehow.

Rusty: tel. 07895 761615 email zrussell2@googlemail.com

Wednesday 6 January Walk Ashford in the Water Stuart Firth

Meet 10:00 near the bridge opposite the church in Ashford in the Water for departure at 10:15. To keep to Covid-19 restrictions we will walk in groups of whatever size is permitted and maintain social distancing. Please let me know if you intend to come.

Stuart Firth tel. 07977 458048

22-23 January Tan yr Wyddfa

If you would like to go on this meet, either to stay in the hut or in your camper van in the car park please book with Michael Hayes as normal. First come, first served. As many people will be booked in as regulations permit.

Michael Hayes: email michaelhayes6688@gmail.com Tel. 07771 700913

24 January Bretton Clough and Abney walk Chris Radcliffe

I will make another attempt to lead my cancelled November walk on this Sunday, regulations permitting. We will start in Hathersage and gain Bretton Clough, cross to Abney and over Offerton Moor, before descending to the valley and returning along the Heritage Way. Approximately 15km with 500m ascent.

Meet at 10:15 for a 10:30 start at SK 232812. This is where the Station Approach meets the B6001 south of Hathersage centre. The station car park is for rail users only, but there is limited roadside parking. Alternatively use the Pay & Display car park on Oddfellows Road, opposite the swimming pool and café.

To keep to Covid-19 restrictions we will walk in groups of whatever size is permitted and maintain social distancing. Please text or email me if you intend to join the walk.

Chris Radcliffe email chris@farfields.co.uk tel. 07770 883259

Thursday 25 March 8.00 pm Annual General Meeting

As it seems very unlikely that we will be able to hold an AGM in the normal way the Committee proposes to organise a remote meeting, probably via Zoom.

Reports will be circulated in advance of the meeting and questions are invited before the AGM where they will be answered.

It would be very complicated to undertake any voting so it would be helpful if any proposed amendments to the constitution that members might want to make could be held in abeyance until 2022

Every effort will be made to enable members who cannot access the technology to participate.

It is hoped that by holding it on a mid-week night it will avoid clashing with members' weekend activities. Details will follow nearer the time.

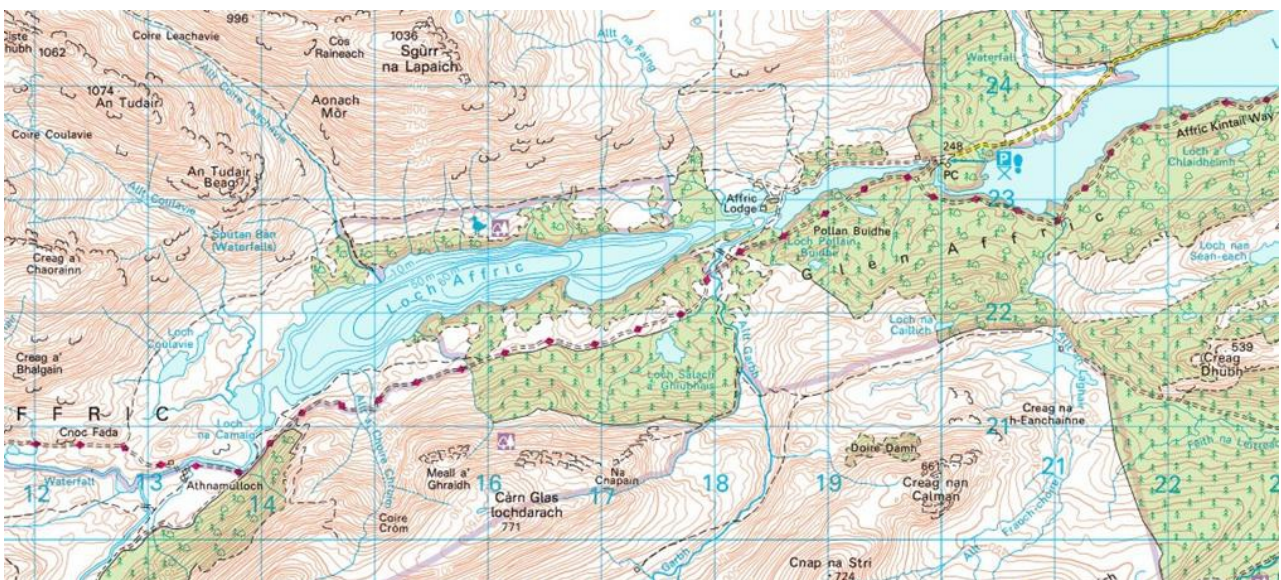
And looking ahead to 2021

28 - 31 October 2021 Glen Affric Strawberry Cottage Graham Weston



Whilst on a trip to Glen Affric in October this year I discovered a club hut belonging to the An Teallach Mountaineering Club. This hut (Strawberry Cottage) is located in a fantastic location five miles beyond the end of the public road at NH 132206 1:25k sheet 414 1:50k sheet 25

End of the public road is at NH 200233 1:25 sheet 415 1:50k sheet 25



We now have this booked for three nights at the end of October 2021. There are all the now normal caveats around the C word. This is a great opportunity to

visit this area and stay amongst the hills. There is no rock climbing in the area but there are a number of Munros and other big hills all of which are now five miles nearer than they were before.

The hut sleeps 12 and I think we can take two cars up the track so there will need to be some prior planning to get people, food and kit up there, but there is plenty of time for sorting that out. Due to distance from home and the access we have it booked for three nights. This is at the end of the October half term and there may be the possibility of stopping for longer before or after, but this would need to be arranged.

If this sounds of interest please let me know at graham.weston@yorkshirewater.co.uk

Past Times and Old Friends

Honorary Encounters III: Tony Moulam

A small step back in time is now relevant to the narrative as, in the week after my 17th birthday, full of patriotic fervour, I volunteered for the army. Although I had, of course, wanted to be a fighter pilot I recognised that my eyesight meant that I would have to settle for a less glamorous role. I took the King's shilling in the rather dingy Derby Drill Hall, after a brief questionnaire and a perfunctory but embarrassing medical examination. When I returned to school the Careers Master, who also happened to run the ATC (Air Training Corps) to which I belonged suggested that I apply for a Short Service Commission. I filled in the forms, which he endorsed and sent off to the authorities. A week or so later I received, through the post, a rail travel warrant and instructions to report to a WOSB (War Office Selection Board) at Edinburgh University. The next three days were filled with literacy and numeracy tests; a technical problem which, for me, was to strip down and re-assemble an Autovac device, and finally a bonding exercise. Five chosen leaders had to select three companions and then each group was given three too short planks, a sturdy pole and a length of rope. The task was to bridge an imaginary chasm so that one's quartet could cross it. In the end no solution was found but we were all judged on ingenuity, leadership qualities and team spirit.

Back home I resumed my outdoor pursuits and although to date my trips had mainly been solitary affairs, with the emphasis now on climbing I started to rely on other people joining me. Amongst them were Ron Naylor and Ted Upton of the Mercury Road Club, which used the same Friargate HQ as the YHA, but on Thursdays. Despite the name, the club catered for walkers, cavers and rock climbers as well as cyclists. Tony Taylor was another Mercury man who joined the infant Stonnis on its jaunts further afield. These included a week end cycling trip to Birley Edge Youth Hostel (for nearby Wharneckcliffe, the birthplace of gritstone climbing*) and by a complicated rail journey to Almscliffe Crag where we met the local expert, Arthur Dolphin. We were so impressed that we returned for the VE day holiday and camped below the rocks.

**This widely-held belief was corrected by Dennis Gray – see newsletter May 2020.*

On VE + 1 we found that we had escaped death by inches as a great baulk of timber with a half burnt, viciously pointed end had been hurled from the crag top bonfire and was neatly embedded between our tents.

Much less dramatic was our first visit to Brassington, or Rainster, Rocks, but it



was here I met my next future Honorary Member, on 13 May 1945, Ernie Phillips. It rained all the way as we cycled from Derby, and for that matter, all the way back. We had, however, done almost all the climbs. I particularly remember an excruciatingly painful jamming crack contrasting with the comforting hand jams in Black Crack, which I had led for the first time the day before.

Black Crack.

Ernie was the oldest and most experienced of us. He had climbed extensively in Snowdonia and the Lake District with Arnold Carsten, and was already a member of the Climbers' Club. Ernie was tall and phlegmatic with a rather acerbic wit expressed with a pronounced nasal drawl. Gangling would be another good description and my main memory is of him climbing everything in precisely placed tricouni

nailed boots.

A week later Peter Harding and I took several trains from Tamworth to Coniston and walked, heavily laden, up the Walna Scar track. We camped by the old powder hut below Dow Crag, in Peter's ex US army bivouac tent. The weather was atrocious and we spent all of the Sunday in our sleeping bags hoping for the rain to stop. Over the holiday we managed about half a dozen climbs, the best being George Bower's Trident Route, particularly apposite as he worked at Rolls Royce, where Peter was apprenticed.

Though this Whitsun holiday was a literal washout, and the cost per foot climbed, was astronomical, it did cement together the Harding/Moulam partnership. Only four weeks later I made the first ascent of the Stonnis, namely Green Crack (*Right*). It had been choked with turf so I had a top rope to remove the verdure, then led it and made a repeat for a photocall:



We graded it VS, but now it apparently rates HVS 5a!

In the next few weeks we went on to pioneer the Promontory Traverse, and to visit Wales and do an earlyish ascent of Munich Climb, in nails.

These halcyon days were soon to end as I received word that I had passed WOSB and, in the same post, calling up papers to go to a training camp in Bury St Edmunds. My heart sank as it would be difficult to imagine anywhere further from my climbing grounds, Reprieve came a day or so later when I was redirected to Norton Barracks, near Worcester on 16 September. The Japanese must have heard the news as they surrendered the day before and I spent a good part of the VJ holiday at Black Rocks, tearing grass from what would become VJ Crack when Peter led it next day.

My preliminary training took place in one platoon of three in that intake. My 29 fellow squaddies were all WOSB recruits whilst the other two platoons of the Company were normal conscripts, of whom several must have had a market trading background as they seemed to spend all their spare time trying to flog dodgy 'Rolex' watches to us, the toffs. A PT section revealed that I was the only recruit able to do ten pull-ups and six upward circles on the beam and so I was put in an elite group with excused drills and duties like potato peeling and similar chores. A Bank Holiday neatly split the training and, as it was mandatory to wear uniform at all times, I made an ascent of the trackless east face of Worcestershire Beacon (425m) in my heavy serge clothes and smooth soled boots on what must have been the hottest day of the year! It was a relief to return to my Nissen hut accommodation to polish my buttons and boots for next day's parade.

The remaining few weeks of my induction to the armed forces soon passed; I was transferred to the reserve and sent to UcofSW in Exeter for my University Short Course. There the only residual military commitment was a weekly session with the Army Cadet Force, which proved easy for us as we were REAL soldiers, with a wealth of experience! Life returned to its normal rhythm, but with the greater freedom of university learning. And we had the luxury of long vacations. Unfortunately Peter's reserved occupation meant that he only had civilian style holidays so we went to Capel Curig for a few days.

The Stonnis Christmas meet was held at Snowdonia Bungalow, with five members attending. The highlight of the holiday was our ascent of Craig yr Ysfa's Great Gully, in traditional style ie pouring rain and four hours! We emerged from the darkness of the great cave pitch to the real darkness of the night on the top of the crag. The soaking had made our knots undoable so we set off down as a roped party of four (Ken Herbert had gone home a day early, and so missed the fun). Ernie took the lead and turned, in a big circle, towards the middle of the Carneddau. Luckily Peter had his wits about him, and a compass, so called a halt to our mistaken meanderings. Under his new direction we descended into Cwm Llugwy and, reaching the road, managed to free ourselves of the rope and mount our bicycles for the downhill ride to Capel Curig and Christmas dinner.



The Stonnis Group at Capel Curig. Left to right: Ronnie Lee (later Phillips) Tony Moulam, Ernie Phillips, Peter Harding.

Although defending the realm took most of my time for the next four years I managed a remarkable lot of climbing including new venues such as Crag Lough in Northumberland, the Weald sandstone and Dartmoor. I was even able to partner Harding from time to time, but was absent on three critical dates. Thus Ernie seconded both The Spectre and Ivy Sepulchre, two breakthrough routes in the Llanberis Pass. Harding and Gordon Dyke also accomplished the Girdle of the West Buttres of Clogwyn Ddu'r Arddu before I returned to the local scene.

News and Reports from Meets

Peak District Boundary Walk - A Catch-up, 22nd October Peter Amour

Over several autumn and winter seasons Stuart Firth has put together the superb PDBW programme, hats off to him for the level of commitment he's put into it. The project has taken members to many locations that are normally just off-target, and as such have been interesting new territories to investigate. Similar to many others I haven't made each one, indeed, I think I still had five outstanding. To attempt to pull things back on course I have recently completed two missing stages, the Whaley Bridge - Buxton, and the Winster - Roystone Grange legs. Weather-wise the latter was in very wet conditions but the Whaley Bridge - Buxton walk gave reward worthy of recording with prime autumn colour over some superb "Peakland".

To minimise the driving element I switched the start/finish point around and arrived in Buxton just as dawn broke in grey conditions, the plan being to complete the PDBW stint northbound to Whaley, and then return on territory east of the A6 back to the car. The departure from Buxton saw me pass over the Cavendish Golf Club's greens and out onto Edgemoor in brightening conditions with views extending in all directions. The Goyt Valley's eastern shoulder then funnelled me north-west along the former Cromford & High Peak Railway bed in lovely morning light before descending the green lane onto footpaths running by Errwood Reservoir, and towards the road that traverses its dam by Bunsal Cob.

A couple of minutes from the dam I met with two women, one being Oread Chiz Dakin in the company of her friend Sarah, we spoke for a short while, they were intent on pulling in Shutlingsloe and I had still some distance to go, and so we parted company remarking about the superb autumn colours.



Outbound en route to Whaley Bridge from Buxton, overlooking Fernillee.

The secluded hamlet of Fernillee was my next reference point, and was experienced having walked the leaf littered reservoir track in bright sunshine. The next stage would have me cross to the Goyt's east bank, and again take to the old C & HP rail-bed via Shallcross Wood, which was a picture of red, yellow and gold dressed trees. I departed the line of the river by Taxal and gained height before dropping into Whaley under the shadow of the recently infamous Todbrook Reservoir, which was a huge site of remedial civil engineering.

Lunch was taken by the railway station car park, the end point of an earlier Bollington - Whaley trek, which I believe Stuart led. On completing my feeding and drinking I left the town under dramatic conditions: bright sunshine and



Threatening rain: mid-point lunch stop by Whaley Bridge Station.

very dark, threatening clouds. The immediate rain risk didn't materialise, and I left Whaley by signs of old rail lines and wharfs in the direction of Combs Reservoir, passing through the farmsteads of Cadster and Tunstead. At the latter I made a navigational mistake and found myself fighting my way up a steep, heavily vegetated gully, which I persisted with to eventually receive patchwork shadowed views of Whaley in the one direction, and the pennine moorlands in the other. The penalty had not been too costly, I accessed the contouring Long Lane about a quarter of a mile off target.



View from Long Lane under the shadow of Ladder Hill.

This green lane passed below the north side of the eye catching Ladder Hill, a reference point for a change of direction onto the bridle way towards the pre-A6 Buxton - Whaley Bridge Old Road by the farm of Wythen Lache. From here on my journey saw me enjoy features such as Combs Edge and the Whitehall Outdoor Pursuit Centre, with the sounds of young adventurers of tomorrow yelling out from its bounds. Before too long I eyed my goal – Buxton sitting amongst a surprising amount of woodland, and most of it in the splendid colours of October. Although feeling tired with about twenty miles completed I was highly satisfied having a PDBW stage under my belt, and having seen some extra curricular terrain from a different view point, by which ever way you wish to interpret it. Thanks for getting the ball rolling Stuart.

Wednesday Walk 4 November Sue Todd



Lunch stop. Photo Chris Radcliffe.

Rusty's Wednesday walk got in by ' the skin of its teeth' - thank goodness!, and what a glorious sunny morning after all the rain and gloom.

A small group turned up in good spirits. We were each issued with a very professional A5 coloured map, just in case we lost sight of our leader, and after a few amusing remarks about the length, dangle and position of Peter's camera, we set off at a good pace from Hartington duck pond.

The route took us south east up out of the village along very muddy tracks, through Brighton and up to Dale Head. Rusty pointed out a handsome Blue Belgium bull with its ladies, and a Texel ram with a very large head. Evidently it's offspring can be tricky to lamb, so ewes need a lot of human intervention. The ram in the following field looked pretty knackered and was limping, but had served his ladies well!

After a section of Road walking, we headed along more muddy tracks, across fields to Coldeaton, where a farmer put us on the right path towards Wolfscote Dale. A coffee stop in the sun was very welcome, before we dropped into the cool and shade of the Dale with Iron Tor wood rising up on our right. Climbing out of the steep sided Dale, we did almost lose sight of our leader as he shot up ahead of the team towards Alstonefield, but we all made it.

Fabulous views and a suitable lunch stop preceded our walk through the dry Narrow Dale, where the story was told of the much needed water pump installed in times gone by, for the sheep. We found the remains of the pump with a Lister engine that had done the job. Not a Pratt and Whitney or even a Briggs and Stratton as was previously suggested - puzzle solved.

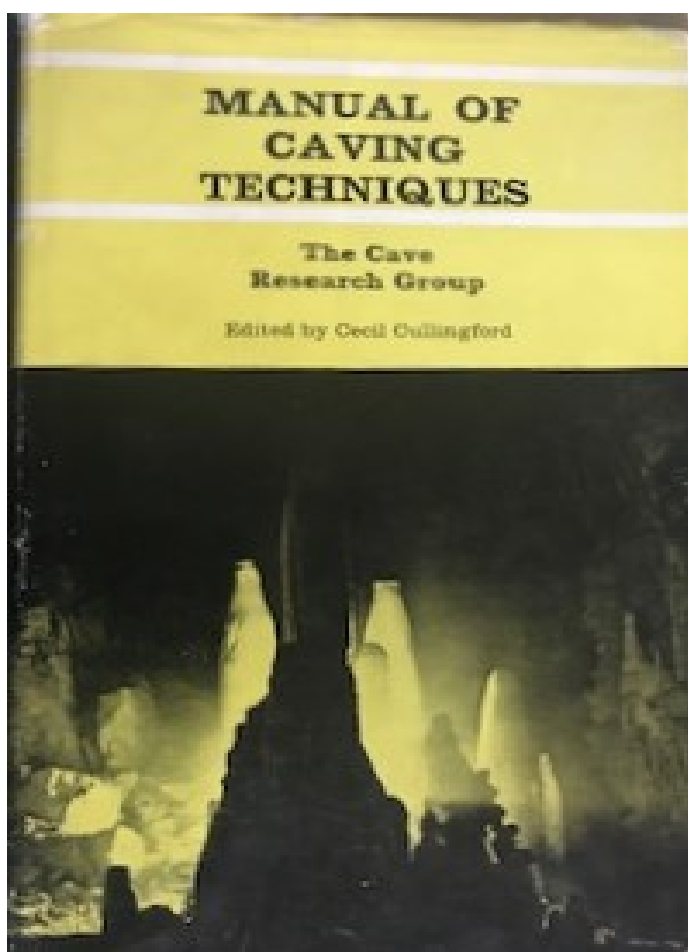
Finally we arrived at the head of Wolfscote Dale, crossed the river Dove twice as we followed the snaking Dove, passed the impressive Pike Pool, and back into Hartington.

A lovely day, good company and an invigorating walk, thank you Rusty.



Coldeaton Bridge heading out of Wolfscote Dale towards Alstonefield. Photo Pete Amour.

Is this where it all began? Nigel Briggs



During a Covid enforced sorting session I unearthed this book. It holds a special place in my interest in mountaineering. Somewhat ironically it is not even about mountaineering!

Let me explain.

As a child, in the early 1970's, I used to really enjoy visits to the local lending library, in my case this was in Headingley, Leeds. I discovered that near the maps (which I found particularly fascinating) there were books on mountaineering and caving which I began to browse. One of the books I looked at whilst sitting in an alcove on the first floor was this one.

The main thing that caught my attention was the cover photograph, it is not a brilliant photograph and does not convey any real sense of scale, but I think it does give the impression that the formations are

big. At the time I did not know where the photograph was of. That did not matter, it captivated me and drew me in to read it. Many years later I found a copy in a second hand bookshop.

The photograph has even more significance to me now. In the intervening years I had started to cave (and climb) and learnt that the picture was of the 'Salle des Treize' in Le Gouffre Berger, Vercors, France. In the summer of 1982 I went down the 'Berger' with friends from my University caving club (on the same trip there was another future Oread member, Gail Male). I can only describe it as being 'gob smacking' when out of the darkness I found myself walking through the front cover! Obviously, I knew where we were going and what I would see, but to be walking through a childhood image that I had dreamed over was quite a feeling! The photograph actually gives a good impression of what it looks like when you are there.

Well lit photographs using multiple flashes may show a cave clearly. However they do not depict what you actually see at the time when illuminated by a pool of light from a 'carbide' filtered through a cloud of condensation. Formations disappear into the gloom!



What the 'Salle des Treize' does not look like when you are there.

In the library I discovered mountaineering and caving. None of my family climbed and the books inspired me to find a route into mountaineering and caving, the Duke of Edinburgh Award gave me the opening to joining the Leeds Mountaineering Club and the rest is history!

There was one further Oread connection with the Headingley library. The one climbing book I remember reading and got me wondering how I could start to climb myself was 'Rope Boy' by Dennis Gray!

Janet Reynolds

Sadly Janet died on 13 November.

She was found by a relative lying peacefully on her bed. She had been chatting with Uschi Hobday on the telephone only a couple of days before, and had mentioned that she didn't feel very well.

Memories and photographs in tribute to Janet would be very welcome for the next newsletter. As Peter Amour wrote "She did a great deal not only with the club but for it too."



This photo of Janet was taken by Bob Pettigrew at an NMC dinner in 2016

Hut Bookings.

All bookings for both huts will be separated by three days.

The situation is changing so fast no meaningful list of forward bookings can be printed. If you want to go contact Michael Hayes.

TAN-YR-WYDDFA

Open for bookings by members and their households/social bubbles. The regulations in Wales are more restrictive than in England and are subject to frequent change.

HEATHY LEA

Open for bookings by members and their households/social bubbles.
All queries and outstanding payments should be addressed to Michael Hayes,
the Hut Bookings Secretary: 179 Starkholmes Rd. Starkholmes, Matlock DE4
5JA Mobile 07771 700913. Email: michaelhayes6688@gmail.com

When paying the club by bank transfer could you please use the 'Reference' box to say what the payment is for. **In particular if it is hut fees please say which hut, ie Hut fees HL, or Hut fees TyW.** Your name is not necessary in the reference, unless it is different from the bank account name.

Information on Member Activities

An application for full membership has been received from Kayleigh Renberg-Fawcett. If you would like to comment on this application please contact a member of the committee.

As many of you will know, Tony Smedley is currently in hospital, having collapsed at home. We all send him our very best wishes for a full and speedy recovery.

Rusty's Puzzle Corner

Last month's puzzle solution:

Climber A was of course Mr Radcliffe who has served frequently in this role because of his ultra recognizable personal traits. (because of his record of good humoured acceptance I now propose to grant him an exemption pro tem). It follows that because all will immediately identify Chris, there would be no purpose in granting an additional point by asking for a letter from his surname, therefore climber B was first (against the run of play whoever he may be). Those who prefer to indentify the finishing order by numerical processes will realize that Naismith's formula takes account only of distance travelled and height gained. The diagonal path must be the longer distance and therefore according to the formula lead to a longer overall time.

I never had any intention of disclosing the identity of "B". It will be clear from the foregoing why this element of the question was introduced.

Snod, who often adds to our amusement by taking part, indentified CJR as anticipated, but thereafter introduced his own reasoning regarding the speed potential of the alternate routes offered. Correct though he may have been in practice, his reasoning contradicted that of Mr Naismith. Snod's response is reproduced below for perusal.

"According to my Scottish Mountaineering Club Black Cuillin map the distance from Bealach a Mhalm is 1 mile and the vertical interval 2000 ft therefore the rate determining step is the vertical interval - the extra distance of the zigzag not being as important as the nature of the climber. Besides, climbing direct up scree is hard work!

A would get there first. I think he is Radcliffe.

All this is irrelevant as Radders would not come in second and would put on a spurt to get there first anyway!!

A is Radders, the second climber may be Mr Scott so my best guess is C but it could also be A for Gil Male or E for Tim Sellears both of whom have jostled famously with Mr Radcliffe in the not too distant past!"

This month's puzzle

This month's puzzle is as much an invitation to make suggestions as a clear cut right/wrong question, but I do have an answer in mind.

What mountain feature, actually classified as a rock climb rather than a scramble, is of a similar nature to Lords Rake which appeared in a recent puzzle, and attracts similar satirical comment. This feature is not in Scotland or the Lake District. An excerpt from climbing literature suggests that it should preferably be ascended by large men who are also incompetent. The author and source of this quote are the subjects of a supplementary question.

Oread Membership 2021

It's time to renew your membership for 2021. As a result of a very challenging year with restrictions to normal club activities continuing into 2021 and financial pressure on some individuals not helped by lockdown, the committee has decided to make a temporary reduction to the subscription for the coming year.

Please also make sure you fill out the contact form as we will be unable to include your details on the membership list without a completed form.

For 2021 we are asking all members to pay a minimum of **£20** which will cover the cost we pay to the BMC for your membership.

If you would like to contribute more then that is also OK and as a guide, we have included last year's fees below.

- £45 for Full Membership
- £35 for Senior Membership
- £35 for Provisional Membership
- £25 Voluntary contribution for receiving the paper newsletter

How to Pay: 1 of 2 ways

1. By bank transfer to Oread Mountaineering Club Sort Code 30-98-97 Account 62584068 with Subs and your name in the reference field. Once the payment has been made please email michaelhayes6688@gmail.com with confirmation and a copy of the renewal form
2. By Cheque made payable to the Oread Mountaineering Club and then posted with the renewal form to Michael Hayes, 179 Starkholmes Road, Starkholmes, Matlock DE4 5JA

Oread Mountaineering Club Membership Renewal and Contact List Update 2021		
Name		
Address		
Telephone Number		
Telephone Number Mobile		
Email address		
Secondary Email address		
Contact in case of emergency	Name, 'phone number and address	
I hereby renew my membership of the Oread Mountaineering Club, and confirm that I have read the constitution and agree to abide by its rules, respect its properties, and give due respect to the mountain environment		Yes / No
Data Protection: I agree to my details being held by the Oread MC in accordance with the Privacy Policy and shared with the BMC to gain my third-party insurance.		Yes / No
Data Protection: I agree to my contact details being included in a membership list which is distributed to all full members of the Oread Mountaineering Club.		Yes / No
Participation Statement: I recognise that climbing and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions.		Yes / No
Signature		
Date		
Membership Category: Please mark the relevant box		X
Full Member	£20 + (£25 Optional)	
Full Member (Senior)	£20 + (£15 Optional)	
Provisional Member	£20 + (£15 Optional)	
Member with permanent address outside the UK. 50% of appropriate rate as BMC membership is not included.	(£22.50 Optional)	

Please complete and sign the form and return to the Membership Secretary, Michael Hayes.

Please note that if you do not agree (or leave blank) for your contact details (address, telephone number(s), email(s)) to be included in the distributed membership list, then only your name will be on the list.

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