

OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB MAGAZINE

MARCH 2022



Christabel Goode and Emma Travers enjoying the best day of the Kincaig meet on the ascent of Creag Liath. Photo Pip Leach.

Editorial

Details of the last Zoom lecture of the winter in here. Lots of meets coming up - from local walks to the last winter trip to Scotland, and a look forward to Easter in France and the Jubilee Bank Holiday in June. There are two meets in April particularly aimed at newer members. Also plenty of meet write-ups from wild and woolly Scotland to sunny Spain.

On page 8 is the formal notice of the AGM on Thursday 24 March by Zoom - with all the reports, accounts and budget in here so that you can read them and submit questions in advance of the meeting if you wish.

Copy Deadline 20 March.

Forthcoming Meets 2022

Michael Moss: email: mamoss@btinternet.com Tel 07932 420414

March	9	Winter Wall Wednsdays		
	23	Winter Wall Wednesdays	Awesome walls, Sheffield	Dave Mason
	24	AGM	By zoom	Nigel Briggs
	25/26	Carn Dearg MC hut, Braedownie	Glen Cova, Scotland	Christabel Goode
	27	Spring stride /Weekend walk		Nigel Briggs
30	First outdoor meet	Harborough rocks, Brassington		
April	6	Wednesday walk	Macclesfield	Stuart Firth
	8/10	New members' meet	Heathy Lea	Ben Wooler
	15-17	Easter Bouldering, Fontainebleau	Camping Les Prés - Aquadis Loisirs.	Lance Baker
	21	Thur short walk		Ruth Gordon
	23	Weekend walk with new memb	Heathy Lea	Peter Amour
May	Apr 30-May 2	Early May BH		
	11	Wednesday walk	Hayfield (Millie's Tea Room)	Rachel Walker
	13/14	Low House hut	Conniston, Lake District	MAM hut. Charlie Taylor
	19	Thur short walk		Ruth Gordon
	21	Weekend walk	Flash Bar Cafe	Michael Percival
June	2/5	Spring/Jubilee BH, Pembroke sc	Upper Porclew Farm, Freshwater East	Leader needed
	8	Wednesday Walk	Tideswell	Chris Radcliffe
	10-11	Fylde hut	Little Langdale	Fylde MC hut swap, meet leader needed
	16	Thur short walk		Ruth Gordon
	18	Weekend walk	Langsett (Polka Dot cafe)	
	18/19	Camping and walking, Swaledale	Usha Gap Camping and Caravan Site,	Peter Amour
	25/26	Midsummer meet & BBQ	Heathy Lea	
July	23- 7 Aug.	Alpine meet	Argentiere (Chamonix), France	Gill and Chris Radcliffe
	6	Wednesday walk	Wildboarclough	Clive Russell
	11-15	Hut working party	Tan yr Wyddfa	Dave Helliwell (Snod)
	15-16	BBQ Tan yr Wyddfa		Tony Howard
	16	Weekend walk	Congleton	Stuart Firth
	21	Thur short walk		Ruth Gordon
August	3	Wednesday walk	Tansley (Kath's Cafe)	
	18	Thur short walk		Ruth Gordon
	20	Weekend walk	Longshaw Estate cafe	
		Late summer BH		
Sept	3/4	BARMY comp	Heathy Lea	
	7	Wednesday walk	Ashford tea room	John Gwyther
	10/11	Climb?		
	15	Thur short walk		Ruth Gordon
	17	Weekend walk	Ilam NT café	
	30/1	Climb and curry High House,	Borrowdale, Lake District	Tony Howard, K-Fellfarers' hut

Oct	5	Wednesday walk	Hope	
	8/15	Mediterranean sport climbing		Avoiding half term 24/28 Oct
	15	Weekend walk	Froghall	Stuart Firth
	20	Thur short walk		
	23-29	Strawberry cottage, Glen Affric	Scotland	Peter Amour
	31	Start Monday evening indoor mee	Climbing unit, Derby	
Nov	2	Wednesday walk	Hollinsclough	Clive Russell
	5	Bonfire	Heathy Lea	
	12	Weekend walk	Hathersage (Outside cafe)	
	17	Thur short walk		Ruth Gordon
	18-19	Fylde hut	Little Langdale, Lakes	Dave Helliwell (Snod), Fylde MC hut swap
Dec	3	Annual dinner, Fox and Goose	Nr Chesterfiled. Chris and Gill Radcliff	Date & location TBC
	4	Post prandial walk		Date & location TBC
	7	Wednesday walk	Rowsley (Massarellas cafe)	
	9/10/11	Bullstones		
	14	Black rocks evening meet	Cromford, Derbyshire	
	15	Thur short walk		
	26	Boxing day walk		Loction TBD
	24-3 Jan	Christmas and New Year hut meet	Tan Yr Wyddfa	

Wednesday 9 March 7.00 pm Evening Wall Meet

Nottingham Climbing Centre is closed for a competition so an alternative venue will be decided via the io group.

Dave Mason email dmason1992@hotmail.com

Tuesday 15 March 20.00 Zoom talk Chris Wilson

GR20 in Corsica

The final Oread Zoom of the winter features a footpath that traverses the mountains of Corsica from north to south and is said to be one of the finest walks around. Jan and I walked it in 2017 and wouldn't disagree. Many Oreads have first hand knowledge of it and it was the subject of a Harry Pretty lecture some years ago at Ockbrook. Hopefully the Zoom will rekindle memories of good times past and encourage others to give it a go.

As an introduction and to add a bit of interest I'll be describing three other interesting walks:

a lovely walk that Jan and I did after escaping from storms in the Dolomites – a pair of gorges in Paklenica, Croatia;

A few years ago some of us had a lot of fun descending the Torrent de Pareis in Mallorca;

The (now sadly emasculated) Caminito del Rey at El Chorro in southern Spain is a fairly thought-provoking trip. The link will be emailed out before the event.

Thursday 17 March Short Walk Ruth Gordon

We will meet on the Lower Hartshay Road, SK 377516, just beyond the traffic lights at Buckland Hollow on the A 610 Ambergate to Ripley road, for an 11.00

am start. We will make our way up to Pentrich and over, via Weir Mill Farm to Wingfield Manor, returning through Wingfield Park. It is mostly farmland so quite a few stiles, but the ascents are fairly gentle and the views surprisingly good.

Ruth Gordon email alistair.ruth@btinternet.com tel. 01629 56636.

Wednesday 23 March 7.00 pm Evening Wall Meet

Sheffield (Awesome walls)

Dave Mason email dmason1992@hotmail.com

Thursday 24 March 8.00 pm Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Club will take place at 8 pm on Thursday 24th March 2022. We will be holding the meeting virtually on Zoom.

See page 8 for full details regarding the business of the meeting and how it will be conducted.

25-26 March Braedownie Hut Glen Cova Christabel Goode

This is the Carn Dearg Mountaineering Club hut in Glen Clova (south east side of Cairngorms, Scotland).

find more details at <https://carndearg.org/club-hut/>

We can have up to 16 people, 8 people have signed up already. Cost is £10 pppn.

Please book your place with Christabel Goode

email: christabelgoode@gmail.com tel. 07904 944846

Sunday 27 March Spring Stride Over Haddon Nigel Briggs

We will meet in the car park at Over Haddon at 10.30 am. (Grid Reference: SK 203 664). This is a pay and display car park, pay using coins, or by phone. There are toilets in the car park.

The walk will take in parts of Lathkilldale, before crossing over to join the valley of the River Bradford South of Youlgreave, following it for a bit before returning to Over Haddon.

The walk will be somewhere between 10 and 16km, depending on the weather and the appetite of participants. Please bring a picnic lunch, however there could be opportunities to divert into Youlgreave for refreshments, or to end the walk with a drink at the Lathkil Hotel in Over Haddon.

We hope for a good turn out for this traditional Oread event. Please let me know if you intend to come along.

Nigel Briggs: email nigel.briggs@btinternet.com, tel. 07939 660369.

30 March First outdoor evening meet Harborough

Time to go out to play again. Come to climb, walk or just be sociable from late afternoon till darkness falls and then to the now re-opened Miners Arms at Brassington where we will be made welcome and food is served till 8.30 pm.

8-10 April New Members Meet Heathy Lea Ben Wooler



A shot from the new members meet way back in 2018 which saw a fantastic turnout of old and new members.

It's about time we dusted off our ropes and shoes for a slightly delayed new members meet to see just how weak our fingers have become. Hopefully this year we'll actually get out on real rock!

The format of the weekend will likely involve a small group out climbing on the Friday evening then retiring to Heathy Lea via the Robin Hood. Saturday morning we will then head out to a local crag to be confirmed nearer the time although probably Stanage.

Saturday evening will include a hearty meal provided by the club. The Chef is still to be determined and if no one volunteers it will be the meet leader (to everyone's risk), any budding caterers are encouraged. **Please ensure you inform the meet leader in good time if you are attending the meal and of any dietary requirements.**

Sunday will once again see us out at a local crag before heading home when enthusiasm or daylight fails.

The cost of the two nights in the hut plus Saturday's evening meal will be £10 payable on the weekend. Please come along and support your club, even if just a few hours out on the crag one day. These meets have brought many new members to the club and I think we can all agree it would be a good chance to

get out and see some familiar faces without a webcam!

If you wish to attend or if you are a new member and would like any further information on what you may need or what you can expect please get in touch with the meet leader on benjaminwooler@gmail.com. The hut tends to fill up fast and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

15-18 April Easter Bouldering, Fontainebleau Lance Baker

An Easter getaway to test and refine your technique, or to enjoy the comfort of your bouldering mat whilst sampling the wine, coffee and patisseries. The sandstone boulders are clustered at a number of venues spread out in the forest surrounding Fontainebleau. There are problems at all grades, often above friendly sandy landings.

I have booked in at the campsite: Camping Les Pres – Aquadis Loisirs

<https://www.aquadis-loisirs.com/camping-nature/camping-les-pres-fontainebleu>

Most venues accessible within a 30 minute drive.

Lance Baker email lance.baker88@outlook.com tel. 07811 152705

22 – 23 April New (or even second-hand) members' Heathy Lea Walking Weekend Peter Amour



The finest climbing hut between Baslow and Chesterfield is booked for the new members walking week-end so get your beds reserved – two already taken. If you're not such a new member you're more than welcome, let's mix it!

Friday evening - Do as you please, walk or climb. Meals available at the Robin Hood Tel 01629 700888

Saturday 10-15am- Be ready and booted to head north along the top of Birchen's, over White Edge, enter Longshaw Estate and make our return under Froggatt, Curbar Edges. 11-13 miles, pace and distance set according to the group on the day.

Saturday evening - Georgina is offering communal cous-cous meals (chicken or vegetarian) plus a sweet and maybe some wine for just £5-00 (the maybe depends on whether individuals sup a bottle or share it).

Please let us know a week before.

We could even have a bonfire party if folks want it, bring additional booze.

Sunday 10-15am - Treasure Hunt, locate the clues, test your map reading, more details to follow.

As mentioned, it's a great hut facility so get your bed spaces booked in or come along for the individual days, it'll be a good weekend. If interested let me know by email, peter@amour02.force9.co.uk tel. 07827 378147.

See you there, Peter

Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday Thursday 2 – Sunday 5 June Pembroke South

Twelve places have been reserved for Oreads camping at Upper Portclew Farm, Freshwater East. This is handy for the climbing on the South Pembroke sea cliffs. Cost is £10 pppn. Apparently it is filling up fast for this weekend. If you want to go please contact the campsite directly to book. They have a web site, but you need to phone 01646 672122 to book.

Oread Summer Alpine Trip 2022 Gill Radcliffe Change of date.

I had originally planned to run this meet earlier in July but due to the unavailability of some club members I now intend to run the meet from the 23rd July to 7th August.

It's likely that Chris and I will be in the area for longer so any member is welcome to join us before or after these dates.

The plan is to return to Camping Du Glacier D'Argentiere camp site near Chamonix. The club went there in 2016 but I didn't get to go so I'm putting it forward as the summer Alpine meet for 2022. I've been reliably informed that it's an excellent camp site and I'm aiming to reserve a spot for Oreads.

The Chamonix mountains are the premier alpine climbing area in Europe and there's a lifetime of adventures waiting for everyone. Whether you want to focus on multi-pitch rock routes in an alpine setting or opt for classic snow and mixed routes there is plenty to do. There are excellent walks in and around the Chamonix valley, including the Tour du Mont Blanc. I walked this excellent route in 1986 and it took me seven days, now it's run in 20 hours by elite athletes.

There are plenty of guide books out there but I would recommend the following two books by Jean-Louis Laroche & Florence Lelong for starters:
Mont Blanc and the Aiguilles Rouges / Mountaineering in the Mont Blanc Range

If you're intending to come (Covid restrictions permitting) then I would appreciate a response as I will get in touch with the campsite to see if we can camp near one another. On-line booking is now available so that will make life a lot easier for the meet leader!

Gill Radcliffe tel. 07816 072138 email gill@farfields.co.uk

Thursday 24 March 8.00 pm Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held on Thursday 24th March at 8:00 pm, using Zoom. The joining details will be sent out nearer the time.

Please could members show their names on their Zoom screen so it is easy to see who has joined the meeting.

I would request all members are on 'mute' unless they are speaking. This is to avoid any unintended background noise being shared with the meeting.

If you wish to speak please raise your hand, either using the Zoom feature, or physically 'on camera', you will be invited to speak.

The reports are being circulated ahead of the meeting. Questions are invited to be submitted before the meeting. At the meeting the questions will be read out to the meeting and answers provided. Please submit questions to the secretary, Simon Pape.

Obviously questions can be asked on the night but it would be preferred if the questions were submitted in advance.

The 2021 Minutes will be recirculated by email. If you do not have email and cannot find the May 2021 newsletter in which they were printed please contact Ruth Gordon, contact details at the end of this newsletter, and she will post them to you.

Proposed amendments to the Constitution

In the February 2022 Newsletter I outlined two changes to the Constitution. Since then we have had comments about the proposed changes from Helen Lane of Daines Associates (our inspector of accounts). She has informed us that mutuality is not retrospective so we would not be considered mutual for period when we received the Covid grants. She also advised that mutuality would not be advantageous to us as we aim to, and usually do, break even. However being mutual, whilst not being a disadvantage, would make accounting more complex as member and non-member income would have to be separated. Whilst this is not impossible it is adding extra work without any obvious benefit.

Consequently, we propose to revert to the previous wording to 11.1 with the addition of agreement by a General Meeting to the final beneficiaries.

The amendments are given in the agenda below.

Oread Mountaineering Club
Annual General Meeting.
Thursday 24th March 2022
8 pm Zoom (details to follow)

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the 2021 AGM
3. Matters arising from those minutes
4. President's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Approval of 2021 accounts
7. Tan yr Wyddfa HC report
8. Heathy Lea HC report
9. Proposed Constitution Amendments

Changes have been proposed to the following two clauses, with the additional text in bold.

7.6 The Treasurer shall be a signatory of the account(s). Additionally the Committee will nominate a minimum of three elected ~~Club~~ **committee** members, **who are not related to each other or to the Treasurer**, as signatories for the club account(s) of whom at least two shall have access to see all transactions in the Club's bank account(s).

11.1 The Club can only be dissolved by a two-thirds majority vote at a General Meeting. Any liabilities at the time of dissolution, if the assets of the Club are not sufficient, shall be the joint responsibility of all Full Members. The Committee will arrange to discharge any remaining assets by donating to Charity or to organisations with similar aims and objectives to the Oread **and agreed by a majority vote at a General Meeting.**

10. Election of officers. The following nominations have been received:

- President: Nigel Briggs
- Vice President: Jan Wilson
- General Secretary: Vacant – nominations welcome
- Membership Secretary: Michael Hayes
- Treasurer: Janet Briggs
- Hut Bookings Secretary: Michael Hayes
- Hut Custodian Heathy Lea: Chris Wilson
- Hut Custodian Tan yr Wyddfa: Dave Helliwell
- Meets Secretary: Michael Moss
- Communications Officer: Ruth Gordon
- Additional Committee Members: Pip Leach, Dave Mason, Simon Pape
- Heathy Lea Hut Committee: Chris Wilson, Michael Hayes, Steve McDonagh, Pam Storer, Mike Wren
- Tan yr Wyddfa Hut Committee: Dave Helliwell, Dave Appleby, Chris Eyre, Roy Eyre, Ruth Gordon, Derek Pike, Pam Storer.

Simon Pape – General Secretary

All correspondence to be sent to:

Simon Pape, 41 Intake Lane, Cromford, Matlock DE4 3RH

email simon.pape66@gmail.com

Presidents Report to the AGM March 2022

As we draw to the end of the second year of the Covid-19 pandemic we are hopefully nearing the end, or at least getting close to it. The committee decided to use zoom for the AGM primarily as we are in control of the meeting and were confident that we could hold it whatever. (The decision was made a couple of months ago, when Omicron was rising.) I realise some members may not be able to access zoom easily however, accessing the meeting is a problem for some wherever and however it is held.

I would like to start by remembering members and friends of the club who have passed on during this last year: Mike Berry, Tony Moulam, Lisa Welbourn and Digger Williams. They will be sadly missed.

The club was honoured and grateful to receive a bequest from Lisa Welbourn of £30 000. At the moment the money is deposited in the club account. The committee are considering how best to use the money. It is likely that some will be used in upgrading Tan yr Wyddfa. We welcome any suggestions from the membership.

Despite the restrictions imposed by the pandemic there has been much activity within the club. Forgive me for giving a flavour of what has taken place rather than an exhaustive account.

The first weekend meets to return to the calendar were camping with trips in late spring and early summer to Yorkshire, Cornwall, Teesdale and Northumberland. From what I gather Cornwall was particularly eventful! Hut meets returned a little later, initially at Tan yr Wyddfa and subsequently in Ogwen, Clapham (Yorkshire), Cwm Eigiau and Little Langdale (the Little Langdale meet coincided with storm Arwen and lost power, particularly troublesome in a hut with electric cooking and heating). New Year was seen in by a small group at Tan yr Wyddfa and a couple of meets have been held in Scotland so far this year, unfortunately conditions have not been good, 'lean' is somewhat generous. However, summits were reached, and good walking and company enjoyed.

Booking huts has proved particularly difficult during this last year with periods when they could not be accessed, and then clubs, quite rightly, having to restrict their use. The differing rules in the three nations has added complexity. Hopefully the situation will continue to ease and access to huts return to what it was. I would like to thank Michael Moss (Meets Secretary) for all he has done in what has been a challenging year, and also to thank all the meet leaders. The meets would not happen without you.

Throughout this last year day meets have regularly taken place, the 'first Wednesday' and 'third Saturday' walks becoming well established. And we now have a Thursday 'short' walk group. The Peak Boundary Walk was finally completed in July, a year or so behind schedule. This has proved to be a popular project with many members joining for at least one stage and some doing many, if not all, of the stages. It culminated with drinks at the Robin Hood before a

cream tea celebration at Heathy Lea on a sunny day last July.

Day and evening climbing meets have been taking place through the year with many crags visited, from the rough grit of the Kinder edges to the polished limestone of the Derwent valley. This winter a fortnightly indoor wall meet alternating between Nottingham and Sheffield walls has been instigated to give a little winter variety to the indoor scene. The BARMY competition was held in September and a New Members meet held albeit in slightly different circumstances to previous years. We also celebrated Bonfire night at Heathy Lea in a low-key way, the regular features from the calendar are returning.

Thankyou to all involved in organising and leading the day meets. These have been particularly beneficial this year when overnight accommodation has been problematic.

Indoor meets have resumed again this year, we returned to the Royal Oak, Ockbrook for the winter lecture series. It would be good to see more people attending these sessions. Thanks to Rob Tresidder for organising these lectures. He is now working on next year's programme; I hope to see you there. We have had a second series of winter zoom talks which have been well supported and we will continue with them next year. We managed to get the annual dinner in just before the Omicron wave caused a pause in large gatherings. Thankyou to Chris and Gill Radcliffe for organising the dinner.

Thanks must be given to the two hut custodians, Dave Helliwell and Chris Wilson, and the Hut Committees. Access to the huts for maintenance has been hampered this year particularly Tan yr Wyddfa, one work meet was thwarted by petrol shortages last autumn! Thankyou also to Michael Hayes for running the hut bookings.

A couple of years ago the club made some funds available for members to apply for to subsidise the cost of training. I am pleased to report that this year we have used some of these funds to subsidise the running a number of self-rescue courses that were attended by 14 members. Thanks to David Mason for organising these courses. If anyone has any suggestions as to suitable training either for themselves or for a group, please let any member of the committee know.

In the last year we have launched the new website with a number of new, to us, features such as online hut booking and management of your own details. We are also collecting copies of Newsletters and Journals on the site as well as club information. I hope you have had a look at it and found it useful. Thanks must go to the group, led by Janet, who drove the aspiration to reality and to Dave Mason for his work in maintaining the site and to all who contribute to and update the site. I would also like to thank Mike and Simon Wren for the work they have done in running the previous club website.

Throughout the year the committee have maintained their monthly meetings, initially on zoom, then in gardens before finally returning to The Boat, Cromford.

I would like to thank the committee members for all the work that they have done over this last year in difficult times. This year Pete Lancaster and Mike Wren are stepping down from the committee, many thanks for their input over the years. Many thanks to Simon Pape who is stepping down as Secretary but is standing as an ordinary committee member. He has kept things running smoothly. Thanks to Janet Briggs for all her work as treasurer and introducing a facility for Direct Debit payments which has made collecting fees easier. It is a testament to the committee members that things 'just happen'. People only seem to notice when things do not happen, and quiet competence goes unnoticed. I would like to thank Ruth Gordon for producing the regular Newsletter. As in last year the Newsletter has been central in helping the club through the year, thanks must also be extended to all who contribute material, it is appreciated. Finally, I would like to thank our trustees, Maggi Pape and Chris Radcliffe, for their role in enabling the club to function as it does.

As I write this and look back, I am amazed just how much has been achieved both in outdoor activities and in the running of the club. We are seeing a steady flow of new members joining the club and I thank Michael Hayes for all he does as Membership Secretary. Going forward we are in a strong position and the future of the club seems secure.

I look forward to getting out in the hills with you in the next year and thank you, the members, for your support.

Nigel Briggs

The Receipts and Payments Accounts, and Balance Sheet for the year 2021 are attached.

NOTES:

11. The club returned a deficit in the year of £4,500. This was a smaller deficit than expected for three reasons. A further covid relief grant of £4,000 was received from Gwynedd Council. Expenditure on huts was low because of less use of utilities and consumables and the inability to access for work meets and repairs. Hut income was good once the huts were reopened.
12. The income from subscriptions is reduced as very few members had paid for 2022 by the end of the year. This is a deliberate policy by the committee, in conjunction with moving, where possible, to payment by direct debit through GoCardless. This should make the checking of membership and subscriptions a less time consuming task for the membership secretary.
13. The website has been completely revamped with online facilities for membership and hut booking. This went over budget by £1200, because we had to pay to get some custom features incorporated. However it should now serve us well for the foreseeable future.
14. Under bank payments the figure represents charges for using the GoCardless system.
15. The committee understand that some Corporation Tax may be payable for the 2020 financial year. The 2021 deficit should reduce this amount. Progress on registration with HMRC has been slow due to lack of response from them, however with the help of Helen Lane at Dains Accountants a form has now been sourced and filled in.
16. As mentioned by the President the bequest from Lisa Welbourne gives a great boost to the club's finances and gives us opportunities for the future.
17. In summary the club's finances remain in a healthy state. We hope the year ahead holds fewer uncertainties, but the club is in a good financial position to cope whatever may happen.

The accounts have been inspected and approved by our Examiner of Accounts: Helen Lane, of Dains Accountants.

I would like to recommend that Helen be appointed as Examiner of the Accounts for the 2022 financial year.

Oread Mountaineering Club

**Chartered Accountants' Report to the Members of the Oread Mountaineering Club
on the Unaudited Accounts**

In accordance with instructions received, we have prepared for your approval the accounts of Oread Mountaineering Club for the year ended 31 December 2021, set out on pages 2 and 3 from the entity's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given to us.

As a practising member firm of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at icaew.com/members/handbook.

This report is made solely to you, in accordance with the terms of our engagement. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the accounts of Oread Mountaineering Club and state those matters that we have agreed to state to you in this report in accordance with ICAEW Technical Release TECH08/16AAF. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than you, for our work or for this report.

You have approved the accounts for the year and acknowledged your responsibility for them and for providing all information and explanations necessary for their compilation.

We have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the accounts.

**Dains LLP
Chartered Accountants**

**8 February 2022
St. John's Court
Wiltell Road
Lichfield
Staffordshire
WS14 9DS**

Oread Mountaineering Club
Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
GENERAL RECEIPTS		
Subscriptions	3,560	6,702
Indoor Meets / Dinner	2,329	212
Outdoor Meets	236	552
Deposit account interest	120	26
Training courses	160	-
GENERAL RECEIPTS TOTAL	6,405	7,492
HUT RECEIPTS		
Tan Yr Wyddfa – Hut Fees	4,342	1,823
Heathy Lea - Hut Fees	3,406	2,324
Grants (COVID19)	4,000	20,000
TOTAL HUT RECEIPTS	11,748	24,147
GENERAL PAYMENTS		
BMC	3,767	3,847
Bank Charges	14	-
Printing / Postage / Stationery	766	862
Web Site	3,228	136
Indoor Meets / Dinner	2,557	184
Outdoor Meets	211	691
Training Courses	320	-
Solicitors / inspection of accounts	542	363
Donations	-	525
Travel and Miscellaneous Expenses	-	10
TOTAL GENERAL PAYMENTS	11,405	6,618
TAN YR WYDDFA PAYMENTS		
Insurance	1,316	1,254
Utilities (elec, water, waste)	2,657	3,544
Consumables (cleaning, toiletries, coal)	9	410
Regular Maintenance, inc. gas tank	434	230
Improvements / Replacements	408	165
PAT / Fire / Gas Tests	284	259
Travel/ Miscellaneous	30	40
TOTAL TAN YR WYDDFA PAYMENTS	5,138	5,902
HEATHY LEA PAYMENTS		
Chatsworth Rent	3,334	3,240
Insurance	877	836
Utilities (electricity, tank emptying)	1,393	1,233
Consumables (cleaning, toiletries, coal)	54	96
Regular Maintenance	201	26
Improvements	-	41
PAT / Fire / Gas Tests	252	-
Travel/ Miscellaneous	-	28
TOTAL HEATHY LEA PAYMENTS	6,111	5,500
TOTAL PAYMENTS	22,654	18,020
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS/(PAYMENTS OVER RECEIPTS)	(4,501)	13,619

**Oread Mountaineering Club
Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December 2021**

	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed Assets:		
Freehold property	250,000	250,000
Current assets:		
Deposit account balance	20,147	20,026
Current account balance	19,291	23,846
Heathy Lea float balance	<u>---</u>	<u>67</u>
	<u>289,438</u>	<u>293,939</u>
Reserves brought forward	293,939	280,320
Surplus/ (deficit)	<u>(4,501)</u>	<u>13,619</u>
	<u>289,438</u>	<u>293,939</u>

Notes to the accounts:

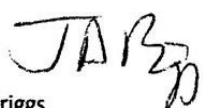
- 1) These accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis and do not include any amounts owing to, or by, the club at 31st December 2021.

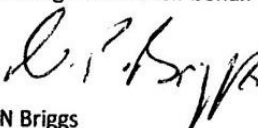
The Club had the following at that date:

	2021 £	2020 £
Liabilities:		
Subscriptions received in advance	205	2,195
Hut fees received in advance	1,600	800
Income received in advance re meets	360	360
Accountants fees	360	360
Printing December newsletter etc	116	
Debtors and Prepayments:		
Huts for 2022 meets	230	255
Deposit for dinner venue	-	100
Bequest - Lisa Welbourne	30,000	-

- 2) The freehold property at Tan yr Wyddfa is included at market value 2015.
- 3) Leasehold property fixtures, fittings and equipment are written off in the year of purchase.
- 4) Corporation Tax – the Club is registering for Corporation Tax and a liability will arise.

The above Statement of Assets and Liabilities and attached Receipts and Payments account were approved by the Committee on 8 February 2022 and signed on their behalf by:


J Briggs
Treasurer


N Briggs
President
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BUDGET for 2022

A budget for 2022, shown with receipts and payments for 2021, and the 2021 budget, is shown below, figures in brackets refer to the notes below:

	2021 TOTAL	2021 Budget	2022 Budget
GENERAL RECEIPTS			
Subs	£ 3,560	£ 6,000	£ 7,500
Deposit Account Interest	£ 120	£ 100	£ 120
Indoor Meets / Dinner	£ 2,329	£ 3,000	£ 3,150
Outdoor Meets	£ 236	£ 1,000	£ 1,000 ⁽⁵⁾
Training Courses	£ 160	£ 500	£ 500 ⁽⁶⁾
TOTAL GENERAL RECEIPTS	£ 6,405	£ 10,600	£ 12,270
HUT RECEIPTS			
TYW hut fees	£ 4,342	£ 2,250	£ 6,000
HL hut fees	£ 3,406	£ 2,250	£ 5,000
Donations	£ 4,000		
TOTAL HUT RECEIPTS	£ 11,748	£ 4,500	£ 11,000
GENERAL PAYMENTS			
BMC	£ 3,767	£ 4,000	£ 4,000
Bank	£ 14		£ 100
Printing / Postage / Stationary	£ 766	£ 1,000	£ 850
Web Site	£ 3228	£ 2000	£ 130
Indoor Meets / Dinner	£ 2557	£ 3,000	£ 3,300
Outdoor Meets	£ 211	£ 1,500	£ 1,500 ⁽⁵⁾
Training Courses	£ 320	£ 1,000	£ 1,000 ⁽⁶⁾
Solicitors / inspection of accounts	£ 542	£ 500	£ 400
Donations	£ -		
Travel Expenses	£ -	£ 50	£ 50
TOTAL GENERAL PAYMENTS	£ 11,405	£ 13,050	£ 11,330
TYW PAYMENTS			
Insurance	£ 1,316	£ 1,300	£ 1,325
Utilities	£ 2,657	£ 2,800	£ 4,700 ⁽³⁾
Consumables	£ 9	£ 400	£ 350
Regular Maintenance	£ 434)		
Improvements / Replacements	£ 408)	£ 2,500	£ 2,500 ⁽⁴⁾
PAT / Fire / Gas Tests	£ 284	£ 300	£ 300
Travel/ Misc	£ 30	£ 100	£ 100
TOTAL TYW PAYMENTS	£ 5,138	£ 7,400	£ 9,275
HL PAYMENTS			
Chatsworth Rent	£ 3,334	£ 3,500	£ 3,365
Insurance	£ 877	£ 900	£ 900
Utilities	£ 1,393	£ 1,800	£ 3,000 ⁽³⁾
Consumables	£ 54	£ 400	£ 250
Regular Maintenance	£ 201	£ 1500	£ 1500 ⁽⁴⁾
Improvements	£ -		
PAT / Fire Tests, Chatsworth Survey	£ 252	£ 200	£ 250
Travel / Misc	£ -	£ 100	£ 50
TOTAL HL PAYMENTS	£ 6,111	£ 8,400	£ 9,315
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£ 18,153	£ 15,100	£ 23,270
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£ 22,654	£ 28,850	£ 29,920
RECEIPTS - PAYMENTS	£ (4,501)	£ (13,750)	£ (6,650)

Points to note are as follows:

1. This budget shows a loss, this is based on the assumption that hut fee receipts might still not be

back to the pre covid level (£16,000 total in 2019), and assuming electricity costs will rise considerably.

2. The covid grants received in 2020 and 2021 more than cover the loss in 2021 and the predicted loss in 2022. It is hoped that a balanced budget can be achieved again in 2023.
3. The budgets for utilities at each hut has been increased by a factor of about 1.6 from the 2020 (pre covid) budget. This is to cover predicted increases in electricity costs. It is hoped that by 2023 we will know how much these are likely to be going forward.
4. For Tan yr Wyddfa the total of Regular Maintenance and Improvements / Replacements is based on 1% of its value. Any unspent amount will be carried forward to future years. (See below) In addition £1500 has been allocated for Maintenance and Improvements at Heathy Lea.
5. The budget shows a contingency of £500 to allow for loss making meets. It is considered by the committee that as the running of outdoor meets is the main function of the club we should be able to book huts in the knowledge that there may be occasions when the hut is not filled to capacity and therefore a loss may be made.
6. The budget shows an allocation of £500 for training. Members are invited to apply for this to fund or subsidise any mountaineering based training they wish to undertake. Any unspent amount will be carried forward for one year.
7. Earmarked reserve funds:
Tan yr Wyddfa Maintenance and Improvements: £3750, carried forward until needed.
Training: £340, carried forward for one year.
8. The budget does not include the bequest from Lisa Welbourne. This has been received and transferred to the deposit account until such time as we wish to use any of it.

Janet Briggs
February 2022.

2021/22 Annual Report for Tan yr Wyddfa Dave Helliwell

Another year and all's well. In spite of the long months when nobody could use – or even visit the hut the income from bed nights has been surprisingly good – well above our expectations - as you will have seen from the Treasurer's report.

In April Derek Pike and I went to the hut and replastered the crack in the dining room wall that was investigated by Structural Engineers, Datrys, in 2020. When last checked, at New Year 2022, there had been no further movement, and the tell-tale had not moved so I think we can assume that it is now stable.

During the same visit Derek and I removed the metal edging strips in the plaster around the two downstairs bay windows which were constantly rusting through, unsightly and needing annual repainting. We replaced them with plastic strips and replastered. The intention was to rub them down and paint them at a small-scale working party in September however, due to morons panic buying, there was a petrol shortage – or was there? So we had to cancel the working party and the job remains to be completed.

In November Nigel and Janet Briggs installed Digger's bookcase and books in the lounge, as he wished, and did a number of maintenance jobs, including repairing a leak in the upstairs toilet and clearing drains. At New Year, Derek and I mended a leaking basin in the Gents washroom and repaired the switch on the shower. We also put up a few of Harry Pretty's watercolours and a painting donated by John Fisher.

There are two noteworthy changes to hut procedures:

BT, in their infinite wisdom, have removed the phone box from the village. Bean counters obviously don't realise its significance in a mountain area. Hut notices have been altered to reflect this: the only means of calling the Emergency Services now is from the nearest mobile signal up the Nantle road.

Secondly we have changed the leaving procedure for the fridges. In view of the rising cost of electricity the instruction now is to leave them switched off and with doors propped open as we do at Heathy Lea.

Finally this year's working party will be in July, I hope for a good turnout.

2021/22 Annual Report for Heathy Lea Chris Wilson

Another year in the life of Heathy Lea is over. As last year COVID has had a major impact on how the hut has been used. Despite this Heathy Lea has had a good year. The "highlights" include a brilliant working party in July, a gathering on the final day of the Peak Boundary walks, a new electricity contract and the collapse of the roof on the STW building.

By April 2021 Heathy Lea was ready for use and the May Newsletter contained James Tubby's report of a stay there which included the line: *"It reminded me how lucky I am to be a member of a club with such facilities available."* How true. In June we updated the hut's Fire Risk and Health and Safety Risk Assessments. A very stimulating exercise that unfortunately must be done.

A really great working party was held on 17 July to ensure everything was ready for the end of the final stage of the boundary walks. Vegetation was cleared. The barn was emptied, cleaned, scrubbed and polished. The windows were cleaned inside and out, the gutters emptied and furniture treated for woodworm (also timbers inside). Woodwork was painted, cupboards tidied and leaks in pipework repaired.

In July we started a new 3 year electricity supply contract with British Gas Lite. Over the contract term this is estimated to cost £220 more than our previous contract with EON (but £550 less than their renewal price).

In 2019 Yvonne had asked Derbyshire County Council to erect a junction ahead sign on the main road but no response was received. A new request was made and they replied negatively. However, a prominent sign has mysteriously appeared, placed just off the highway.

An Electrical Installation Condition Report was carried out in late June and all the portable appliances PAT tested. The waste holding tank continues to be emptied by PW Tanking Services. They are extremely responsive, arriving once within a few hours of a phone call.

A couple of windows have been broken during the year. The first was on the porch in mid June, presumably by some ne'er do wells. In November some

exuberant testing of the cottage fire escape (a knotted rope from the bedroom) resulted in a living room window being broken and a profuse apology from the university club secretary. We were all young once!

November saw another successful working party. Gardening, cleaning, gutters emptied, and a bonfire built. The annual chimney sweep and check was carried out by Chatsworth's contractor.

In October the roof of the adjacent Severn Trent building fell in and its condition has subsequently worsened. It is impacting on our barn. We are in contact with Chatsworth who are urgently trying to get their building repaired! A meeting was held in mid-January with Severn Trent's representatives and we await further developments.

We are now approaching the half way point of the 9 year lease which commenced on 25 March 2018.

Many thanks to the hut committee – Jan Wilson, Pam Storer, Steve McDonagh, Michael Hayes and Mike Wren.

News, Articles and Reports from Meets

ABMSAC George Starkey Hut Patterdale: Booking Information

The hut is available to Oread members midweek for parties of between 4 and 10 to book for individual visits rather than official club meets. In excess of 10 the hut must be booked by the club.

When using the ABMSAC hut booking site Oread members are asked to note and use the new 2022 code, OreadMC 31748 -74.

24 -31 January Milehouse Cottage, Kincaig Pip Leach



Inside Milehouse Cottage.

Although the meet was officially 28th-29th January, some of us had travelled to Scotland four days earlier and had made use of The Cabin Hut Balgowan, near Laggan (thanks to Peter Amour for organising this). The weather was mixed, but the 'Early-Birds' group, between us, managed a number of Grahams, a Munro and some lower level walks, in Rothiemurchus and also utilising parts of the East Highland Way.

Whilst the Friday took Christabel and her friend Emma, into the Northern Corries, Jacob's Ladder, in quite good snow, the group from The Cabin, climbed the Graham Creag Ruadh, before turning up at Milehouse.



John and Pip on Creag Ruadh with views of Binnein Shios and Binnein Shuas from earlier in the week.

It was blustery and overcast, but the walk was varied, giving good views and even took in a Pictish fort. On this particular trip, this was Graham number 5 for John Green, a step closer to his quest for the 'full house' of Munros, Corbetts and Grahams.

Sadly, the forecast was pretty awful for the meet itself, with heavy rain and gale force winds predicted, in the form of Storm Corrie! Some Oreads thought better of it, and decided not to travel all the way up to Scotland, given the appalling outlook. Even the Park Run at Aviemore (which some of us had contemplated doing) was cancelled! In truth, the weather didn't stop us getting out and having fun.

Saturday saw the group divide, Christabel, Emma and Michael Percival headed up Meall a' Bhuachaille (a Corbett) via Ryvoan Bothy, but they backed off due to the wind. The rest of us stuck to a lower level walk in Glen Feshie. In conditions such as these, one has to appreciate the delights of lichen covered trees,

highland cattle or the raging torrent of the River Feshie, cascading at Feshiebridge.

On Sunday, some people chose to stay low again, visiting a nearby bird sanctuary and the historic Ruthven Barracks. Nigel and I opted for the Munro Ben Gaoith and three Munro Tops. There was some snow high up and we made it down in good time, before the worst of the weather, in the afternoon. Likewise, Christabel and Emma were down and drinking hot chocolate after a scramble in Diagonal Gully, near Loch Avon (Loch A'an)

Those of us staying through to the Monday, saw the best of the snow to lower levels. Janet and Nigel were rewarded with the drive through Drumochter Pass, on the way south. Christabel, Emma and I bagged a Graham, Creag Liath, enjoying a wintry scene that this provided.

The general feeling was that the hut was excellent, clean and cosy and definitely worth a second visit. Thanks to all who came, maybe we will be a bit luckier with the weather next time!

Wednesday, 3 February Hulme End Hobble Peter Amour



The Pointed Finger! Guilty as charged! Photo Stuart Firth.

“Be at the Hulme End Tea Junction for 10-10am” I said, “Join me for a pre-walk drink I said”. in spite of advertising it would be open at 10-00am it wasn’t, nor at 10-20am, or at 10-30am. The day did not look good.

We left the cars following the old rail bed to my intended road junction. Rusty, being very familiar with the area spotted a footpath prior to my planned turn and suggested “Did I want Warslow, this path goes there”, “Yes, I said”. Mr Russell lead us up the slip sliding clay lined ascent, mutterings were starting. Rusty cleared himself by stating that the last time it was summer and dry.

Leaving Warslow the terrain was little drier. This, and the need to clamber under a barbed wire fence was now generating a few tut-tuts. Taking a right turn at Stoneyfold Farm saw various ways of tackling a stile, Rusty’s involved the testicles on nails method.

The next section had us meander through the valley of Warslow Brook towards Upper Elkstone, this was so enjoyable that I led the group over parts of it twice. Following a food stop Mr Firth found yet another crossing of the brook for me, whereupon we wisely grouped upon a snapped bridge, the far side of which was gated and dressed with barrier tape to prevent use of the structure that we’d just crossed.



No barriers to Oreads. Photo Stuart Firth.

Briefly eyeing Upper Elkstones we continued in search of more muddy valley sides, on one of which Rusty was to be seen practicing an upward body slide technique. The terrain was generating questions like “When did you recce this?” To cut my losses I short-circuited the troops back to Hulme End thinking that I could get them to love me again with a warm cuppa, my thoughts were rash, the Tea Junction was still shut - “You can never trust the internet” - phrase used by Boris Johnson...

Thanks for the company of Pete and Judy Scott, Stuart Firth, Sue Todd, Mike Moss, Johns Gwyther and Green, Nigel and Janet (“I blame him”) Briggs, Chris and Jan Wilson.

While I have had a little schadenfreude at Rusty’s expense, it was great to see him still covering the ground at an impressive rate. I’m sure I speak for many in offering our hearty congratulations on your significant birthday . Cheers Rusty!

11-12 February Inverardran Cottage, Crianlarich Michael Hayes



A few last minute Covid and plague pull outs were replaced with the reserves, so we had a full party head up for the weekend in the Ochils Mountaineering Club hut where we were greeted by Pip and Rachel who had already been up there for the week. We also had Steph and Dave in their luxury overflow accommodation next door, but they lowered their standards to visit us in the hut!

The advance party had clearly used up all the good weather and the full force of a Scottish day welcomed us to our Saturday morning attempt on Ben Lui. The wind blew and the rain got heavier and by the time we had walked into the base everyone had reached their own decisions that going back down the valley was the only option. We did at least get an eight mile walk out of it and our spirits weren't too down by the time we had filled the drying room with all our gear.



Sunday promised an improvement in the weather and seven of us headed up Ben Lawers. As we ascended the conditions gradually got more wintry and it wasn't long before the snow was settling and our spirits were rising.

Having been there 40 years earlier I confidently almost led the party astray by taking the path up Meall Corranaich as it was the only mountain I could see but fortunately after being called back I opened the map and we were once again heading up the right path. As we reached the top the crampons and axe came out and we emerged onto a windy summit imagining the spectacular views from the inside of a cloud.

A thoroughly enjoyable day and thanks to all 11 who made the trip up North.

Thursday 17 February Short Walk Tony Howard

Four of us took a stroll, starting from the Red Lion in Kniveton. Pre-planning had been negligible, for reasons I won't go into. We set out in the direction of the rising sun but eventually came to the Red Lion Inn in Hognaston. From there we headed north to The Knockerdown where we felt compelled to take a short break for refreshments. The weather began to deteriorate and the shortest way back would have taken us along the main road, so an anti-clockwise loop northwards and westwards was chosen. One of us, after much fiddling and confusion managed to don a pair of very posh and expensive waterproof salopettes. Two of us chose not to, and the fourth had no choice in the matter. It soon stopped raining!

We began our loop down the lane to Netherton Hall and south to Banktop Farm, where we were stopped by an attractive young lady who told us we could not

proceed to the next farm because there was no right of way. Apparently she was wearing very tight riding pants - though I hadn't noticed. Anyway the man in the (dry) saloppettes engaged the riding pants in a protracted game of semaphore signals, after which our shortest alternative route back to Kniveton was clear - ish! On arrival back at Kniveton we inspected the Red Lion, purely for academic interest, but discovered it was closed. A great day out, longer than normal and more punctuated than normal, but great fun. Thanks to Roger, Mike and Ollie for joining me.

Sounds more like a pub crawl than a walk to me! Ed.

19 February Ellastone, Wootton and the Weaver Hills Louise Amandini

A hardy six of us set off from Ellastone village hall after having enjoyed the bonus coffee morning which had great cakes!!



We set off in light rain across muddy fields and soon found ourselves in a JCB testing area with a lake and racing JCB's!!! We next came across the splendours of Wootton Hall going through a hole in a wall like a secret tunnel going into the private Estate of Wootton Hall which was fascinating and normally there are many deer there. However even the deer stayed inside today! The weather quickly turned into sleet and snow and got very cold. After a cold stop for a picnic lunch in Wootton the group split in half with the sensible three going back to Ellastone and the crazy three going on up around the quarry and up to the

trig point on the Weaver Hills which by this point had snow on the ground. After John and I both falling over in the snow we finally reached the trig point.



We were rewarded by a good view as the summit was now out of the clouds and we could see over to the Malvern Hills. On our descent it got decidedly windy and at times it was tricky standing up. However after a challenging (due to the weather) but fun 11 miles we were pleased to have made the most out of the day as the sun then came out. Thanks to Pippa Leach, Rachel Walker, John Gwyther, Stuart Firth and Sue Todd who made the first walk I have led great fun!

Mas de la Penya Roger Gibbs

A fat guppy for my left hand and a mean pinch for my right, feet padding on general rubbish. I lunge up and hit the rail. It's good. Now for some real foot holds. I pull over the bulge and into balance, panting hard. Above perfect orange limestone leans out. The crag is deserted, two locals having headed off a little while earlier. It's just about ok to climb in the sun, but the crag is coming into the shade now and it feels perfect. It is February and at home the wind and the rain is battering Derbyshire. Concentrate.

Ahead are a few very steep moves before a big move to a prominent flake. Chris had gone big and only just hit the flake on his go, laughing with relief when he held it. He's even taller than me. Watching him, I wondered why he hadn't used the higher hold to launch from. Must be rubbish. Then the line zags left on chalked blobs and spikes to the left arete and some respite. It's merely steep from there to the distant chains.

I jerk into motion. The holds are good, but I've got my left hand on the best bit where I need my right. I take both hands off the buckets and move them to worse holds. Then rearrange my feet. Then put my left hand back on the best bit. It feels like my brain is full of blood. Panting some more, I get to the hold Chris launched from. I move up to the higher hold. Feet high and the big move is static and even I can't fall off the flake. Clip and breathe.

The leftwards traverse doesn't look too desperate but it's still steep. I hurry across, nervously eyeing the increasing distance from the last bolt. Actually, the bolting is smart – you don't want to stop here. Eventually I haul over into a tiny easing of the angle and try to shake some life back into my forearms. I time a rest and even smile for the camera. Normality restored, I swing back right and pad up sharp grey rock, steep and positive. I'm feeling confident now and I can see the lower off. But wait. The holds have disappeared – a sting in the tail. A huge stretch just gets me to an only ok sloper for my left hand. At chest height is a little edge, black from the passage of rock shoes. I teeter up but the black edge



is too far left. I slap my right foot on anywhere and bump my left onto the edge. Not daring to breathe, I stretch right for a pocket. The bolt is metres below me and there's 30m of rope out. If I drop this I'm going miles. My fingers plunge greedily into the pocket, a step up and I can clip the chains. I'm lowered to grins and fist bumps.

Mas de la Peña is yet another superb limestone sport climbing crag north of Alicante. It's now considered one of the major crags in the Alicante region. The rock is close to perfect on most of the routes, blue and orange rock with pockets and crimps...and quite a lot of buckets. There are lots of routes in the 6s,

with a few 5s but 7a-7c is the sweet spot. Flights and accommodation are cheap and the oranges are superb. The route was called "Apocalypse Please".

Costa Blanca caperings Ruth Gordon

Roger's account of deeds of derring do arrived in your Hon. Ed's inbox on my first day in Benidorm. The objectives of our party were less ambitious – to enjoy a bit of winter sun and, for the climbers among us, get some mileage in and see if we can still remember how to do it! There was also something of an embarrassing footwear competition going on – socks with sandals were definitely in vogue!



There were nine of us in our hotel, Eyres, Pikes, Wrens, Simon, Snod and me, but we met other Oreads on the crags, sometimes by chance – Angela and Roland turned up at Alcalali, Chris and Gill Radcliffe were found camping in the cemetery car park at Redovan - and we arranged meeting up with Chris Wilson and Martin Lancaster, and Andy and Sue Birtwistle at the crag.

We certainly picked the right fortnight to go, while storm after storm battered the UK the worst we got was a bit of a cold wind in the first week and a few spots of rain at the end of two day's climbing. After two years there were a few surprises – some pleasant – several delightful new routes have appeared at Toix Far West and some not - a huge house has been built on the car park at the bottom of Echo Valley, the road to the car parking at Bodovan is now signed “Residents Only” and Echo 1.5 had mysteriously been partially de-bolted. “Houston, we have a problem!” announced Simon as he clipped the last bolt and moved up to discover the lower-off had gone AWOL!

We did lots of climbing, the odd route may have felt much harder than it should have been, bolts may have been stepped on here and there but generally confidence grew as the days went by. Some of us enjoyed the walking, – Roy walked further than he intended – following the wrong path to Murla crag and not re-appearing for almost an hour!

We had a lot of fun – nobody caught Covid – no doubt we'll be back next year. Thanks to Derek and Snod for organising, Simon and Derek for all the driving, Joan for the fashion photos and everyone for your company.

2 March Wednesday Walk Crich John Green

On a miserable morning in Crich seven Oreads set off on a walk down to the Derwent Valley and back. The weather was pretty poor and most of us succumbed to the damp! It was not a good day, as meet leader I had “technical” issues with my GPS system, and the café was closed when we got back so no after walk tea. The route was very pleasant but a little boring along the canal. Thanks very much to those who came and braved the rain, John Gwyther, Nigel and Janet Briggs, Pippa Leach, Richard Hopkinson and Mike Moss.

Hut Bookings.

Both our Welsh and Derbyshire hut bookings have now moved online at the Oread website www.oread.co.uk.

The new system allows you to see up to date bed availability details and make your own bookings.

Please remember to sign in as members first before making your bookings as you get access to the Oread beds and rates and you don't have to enter lots of details required for external bookings.

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

Our preferred method of payment is via bank transfer to our Lloyds account – Sort Code 30-98-97 Account number 62584068. Please use the ‘Reference’ box to say what the payment is for. **In particular 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.

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

Information on Member Activities

Welcome to new Provisional members Edward Bloomfield and Lydia Nowak. We hope you will enjoy many happy times with the Oread.

Applications for full membership have been received from current Provisional members Chris Ashworth, Tom Larkam and Seyhan Turan plus new applicants from Linda May Drew and Richard Linney, all for consideration at the March committee and there is a more recent application from Judy Scott. 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:

The Church Steeple depicted in last month's puzzle was Butterton, viewed from Ecton Hill. Snod and Ruth, working independently, identified this

correctly (Grindon Church, which has a similar steeple' can be seen from further down the ridge, towards the Manor House, but not from the summit.)

This month's puzzle:

Our digital-minded committee decided to classify all Oread members for purposes unknown:

1 point was awarded if the member had been enrolled for less than 50 years.

2 points if a user of powered two - wheeled conveyances.

4 points if a seasoned Eastern Alpinist.

8 points if male.

16 points if resident within a mile of a lake (flood conditions excepted).

32 points if resident West of the River Derwent.

The person under review was allocated 54 points Who was this?

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