

OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB MAGAZINE

JUNE 2022



Saturday's start of the New Member's Heathy Lea Walking Meet, with unlimited enthusiasm. Photo Stuart Firth.

Editorial

Meets coming up to the Lake District and Swaledale, lots of local walks, including part two of the Gritstone Trail and two barbecues – one at each hut – it must be summer! plus the annual Tan yr Wyddfa working party.

Write-ups include recent access information for Wildcat and Intake; accounts of the New Members walking meet, the Coniston meet, the Hayfield walk and exciting times at Cormot, that magnificent crag near Nolay in Burgundy.

In here also are tributes to Uschi Hobday and Janet Burgess and notice of the recent loss of Chris Martin, a member since 1958.

Copy Deadline 20 June.

Forthcoming Meets 2022

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

June	May 26 - Jun. 5	Spring/Jubilee BH, Pembroke south, Manorbier	Skrinkle Haven, Skrinkle Bay Camping	Leader needed
	8	Wednesday Walk	Hathersage	Chris Radcliffe
	10-11	Fylde hut	Little Langdale	Pip Leach
	16	Thur short walk	Kniveton	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	Chris and Jan Wilson
July	6	Wednesday walk	Wildboardclough	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
	23 Jul. - 7 Aug.	Alpine meet	Argentiere (Chamonix), France	Gill and Chris Radcliffe
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	Louise Amandini
	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 mClimbing unit, Derby		
Nov	2	Wednesday walk	Hollingsclough	Clive Russell
	5	Bonfire	Heathy Lea	
	12	Weekend walk	Hathersage (Outside cafe)	Richard Linney
	17	Thur short walk		Ruth Gordon
	18-19	Fylde hut	Little Langdale, Lakes	Dave Helliwell (Snod), Fylde MC hut swap
December	3	Annual dinner, Fox and Goose	Nr Chesterfiled. Chris and Gill Radclif	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	

Exciting Opportunities

**A leader is needed for the late summer bank holiday meet.
Sea cliffs somewhere? Anglesey, Valley of the Rocks campsite perhaps. If you are willing to lead the meet it can be wherever takes your fancy.
Please contact Michael Moss if you are interested.**

Most of the Wednesday and Weekend Walk leadership opportunities in the Oread calendar have now been successfully filled. However, there are still a few vacancies for those who have yet to demonstrate their willingness to lead a group of enthusiastic walkers. Specifically the following dates are available:

Saturday 18 June Langsett (Polka Dot Cafe - see specific meet write-up below)
Wednesday 05 October Hope
Wednesday 07 December Rowsley (Massarella's Cafe)

In addition, there are two traditional meets that may require some focus:
Sunday 04 December Post-prandial Walk tbc
Monday 26 December Boxing Day Walk tbc
Please let me know if you are interested in putting yourself forwards.
Stuart Firth email stuartmfirth@btinternet.com; tel. 07977 458048.

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

Some people are stopping at Skrinkle Bay campsite but that is now full. There may still be space at Upper Portclew Farm, Freshwater East. Cost is £10 pppn. Everywhere is filling up fast for this weekend. If you want to go it will be a case of finding any campsite that can offer you a corner!

Wednesday 8 June Hathersage Walk Chris Radcliffe

Perhaps a lesser known corner of Derbyshire. This walk starts in Hathersage, climbs to Nether Bretton via Highlow Brook and Bretton Clough. Across to Abney and Overton Moor, returning along the Derwent Valley. Approximately 16km/10 miles with 450m elevation.

Meet at the end of Station Approach where it meets the B6001 at SK 2319 8117, 10:30 am. Bring lunch to eat en route. There are a multitude of hostelrys and cafes to visit at the end of the walk.

There is some roadside parking along Station Approach (not in the station itself) and other nearby roads, with a Pay & Display car park off Oddfellows Road.

Please let me know by text or email if you are interested to join me for this walk.
Chris Radcliffe: email chris@farfields.co.uk tel.07770 883259

10-11 June Little Langdale Pip Leach

This delightful hut is well situated for a variety of crags - in Langdale itself are Gimmer, Raven, White Ghyll and Pavey Ark and there's magnificent quarries close at hand too. If the weather is kind, with the long daylight hours this could be the best climbing or mountaineering weekend of the year. This is a hut swap so we only pay our own members' rates £5.00 per night. Extra nights before or after may be available but must be booked and paid for direct with the hut warden. Jen Chambers, email: fmc.bookings@outlook.com

We have 16 beds for Friday and Saturday nights. Parking is limited – only 6 spaces adjacent to the hut so car share if possible.

Pip Leach email pippasleach@gmail.com tel. 07941 395856

15 June Kendal Mountain Tour film festival Nottingham

7.30 pm Broadway, Nottingham.

Enjoy a screening of some of the world's best outdoor films. Plus hear from ultra runner and award winning author, Elsie Downing. There will also be an opportunity to win fantastic outdoor gear from tour partners. Tickets £18 (£10 concessions)

<https://www.broadway.org.uk/whats-on/kendal-mountain-tour-2022>

Thursday 16 June Short Walk Kniveton Ruth Gordon

Tom is now back to walking fitness and is looking forward to leading us on the walk he planned to do back in February. So we will park in Kniveton at or near the bend on the minor road which leaves the main road by the school.

SK209,508 for an 11.00am start.

The walk takes in Wigber Low, crosses the Haven brook to Bradbourne and back via Haven Hill. The ascent of Haven Hill is optional but interesting.

Ruth Gordon email alistair.ruth@btinternet.com tel. 07999857922

Saturday 18 June Langsett - Polka Dot Cafe Short Straw

Meet at the Polka Dot Cafe near the dam over Langsett Reservoir at 10:00 for a 10:30 departure. A short straw poll may be held to nominate a leader - unless someone volunteers beforehand.

Parking at the nearby Langsett Visitor Centre. Map OL1 Dark Peak; GR 211005. I'm happy to act as a matchmaker for those wishing to share a lift.

A suggested route is along the north shore of the reservoir, Hingcliff Common, Mickleden Edge, Cut Gate, Featherbed Moss, Outer Edge, Harden Clough, Hordron, Little Don river (flows even more quietly than the big one), Langsett. A good pub for a post-walk pint and/or pie on the way home is the Old Horns, High Bradfield, S6 6LG.

Contact for car share or volunteer leadership:

Stuart Firth stuartmfrith@btinternet.com; tel. 07977 458048.

18-19 June Swaledale Meet Peter Amour



Swaledale, possibly the finest of the Yorkshire Dales with oodles of footpaths, open access land, the Pennine Way, and the Coast To Coast routes to indulge in, not to mention pedalling action to be had both on or off-road.

I shall be camping at the very well equipped (and located) Usha Gap Farm Campsite, <https://ushagap.co.uk> just up-river from Muker. The site caters for tents, caravans and motorhomes.

If self-catering they do have their own fresh meat products. For nearby eateries there are the following, (advise booking):-

Farmers Arms, Muker 01748 886297

Kearntons, Thwaite 01748 886277

Phone signals are very poor in the dale, so I advise booking meals a) before entering the dale, or b) calling in.

Booking - I'm intending to stay for more than just the Friday/Saturday nights, and have indicated that others may too. Phillip and Louise are expecting us and are aware that individuals may be arriving/going beyond the weekend dates. To ensure a pitch contact their website directly and fill in the booking form and include the word OREAD

For any more info my mobile number is 07827 378147

25 -26 June Midsummer meet and BBQ at Heathy Lea Chris Wilson



The summer solstice marks midsummer, the 'longest day' and 'shortest night' of the year. The actual solstice will occur on Tuesday 21 June at 10.13 am BST. Whilst many will partake in ritual celebrations at Stonehenge we will be doing so the following weekend at Heathy Lea.

It's amazing what you can cook on a barbeque.

Activities are weather dependant but:

On Friday evening we intend to eat at the Robin Hood (booking advised).

Saturday – walk and climb locally followed by a BBQ, bonfire and beer.

Sunday – a quick tidy up followed by more walking and climbing.

It would be wonderful if you could join us, either for the whole weekend or just an hour or two. If enough are interested I am happy to get a quantity of beer (please let me know by 15 June if this interests you), but otherwise bring your own food and drink. BBQs are provided.



Anyone who is keen could lend a hand doing a bit of maintenance on the hut, probably on Saturday.

Chris (and Jan) Wilson chriswilson48.cw@gmail.com 07881698758

Wednesday 6 July Wildboarclough Clive “Rusty” Russell

Please assemble at the car park (SJ 987 697) adjacent to Clough House. This is about 1 mile N. of the disused quarry where we have previously parked en route to Shutlingsloe, and on the opposite side of the road. We shall set off from here at about 10.30 If the road signs say “Nottinghamshire” just nip 62.5 miles due west.

We shall travel initially to the East to drop down into the Dane Valley downstream from Knar and thence to Panniers Pool and Danebower Quarries. Thereafter we shall travel in the direction of the Cat and Fiddle before descending to Cumberland Brook which is a remote place much to the taste of those disillusioned with certain sectors of humanity.

The underfoot conditions, both soft and rocky in turn may suffer by comparison with Wembley but are superior in my view to those described by your Hon Editor on another occasion as “God forgotten bogland” On that occasion, the abundance of North bound footmarks and the total absence of those in the return direction probably created a false impression of perils ahead’

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

11-15 July Tan yr Wyddfa Working Party Dave Helliwell

Now's the chance for you to have a few days free of charge at Tan yr Wyddfa and help to maintain the Club's property. There will be lots of painting and cleaning, plus tidying up outside, though Nodge will need to find a new job now we have a local gardener to cut the grass. It's not all work though, there will be time for some climbing and walking as well. I will be going down on Tuesday 12th and, depending on the weather, staying on for the Barbecue meet at the weekend. Dave “Snod” Helliwell email fingertipdave@outlook.com tel. 07976 517216

15 -17 July: Tan -Yr-Wyddfa BBQ Tony Howard

Summer in North Wales: the very phrase brings back memories of hot and sticky days walking the hills or climbing in ‘The Pass’ or Tremadog, baking at Gogarth, or best of all - pleasant afternoons hiding from the heat on Cyrn Las, Cloggy, Craig Yr Ysfa, Llech Ddu, or Lliwedd. Alternatively, we could be walking in the rain and testing the drying room – but that probably won’t happen.

The weather will be brilliant (straight face here) and on Saturday night we will be having a BBQ. You should bring your own food and drink. I will provide some BBQ machines and fuel.

Please note that this meet will be immediately preceded by Snod’s Working Party Meet from the 11th to the 15th July. Do both!

If you want to come along, please let me know ASAP.

Tony Howard email tony.howard46@btinternet.com Tel: Home 01332 273307
Mobile: 07762 268181

Saturday 16 July Gritstone Trail Part 2 Stuart Firth

Meet 10:15 for a 10:30 departure at Timbersbrook car park; OS Explorer 268; GR 894 627.

We shall endeavour to link up with our previous stage by the following route: Timbersbrook, The Cloud, Raven's Clough, Barleigh Ford Bridge, Dunkin's, Hawkslee, Stilesmeadow Farm, Bosley (possible pub), Lymford Farm, Tunstall Road, Timbersbrook.

Bring lunch. Save the planet, share a lift, enjoy the craic.

Contact: Stuart Firth: stuartmfirth@btinternet.com; tel. 07977 458048

23 July – 7 August Chamonix Gill Radcliffe

The plan is to return to Camping Du Glacier D'Argentiere camp site near Chamonix. **It hasn't been possible to do a group booking for the summer alpine meet as the campsite owners would like everyone to book individually and pay a deposit (42 euros). Therefore, please book your pitch online with camping du glacier d'argentiere if you intend coming on the summer alpine meet. Chris and I have booked from 23rd July to 7th August.**

The campsite tells me that it's filling up, spaces are available at the moment, but there won't be room for people who turn up without booking first.

If you have any questions or are struggling to book then please get in touch : Gill Radcliffe tel. 07816 072138 email gill@farfields.co.uk

News, Articles and Reports from Meets

Local Access issues

Wildcat

Some funny business has been going on – on 18 May Jeff Ingman reported that the new abseil stations he had installed had been chopped by someone – with all the debris left in a neat pile on the path. On 22 May Michael Hayes reported that all the abseil points were back in place. It may be as well to take some extra slings etc when you go there just in case it happens again.

Intake

Roger Gibbs has sent this reminder about the parking:

If you visit Intake Quarry (which obviously you won't as it's banned), you will need to park at the Middleton Top High Peak Trail Parking **not** the layby along the gravel track close to the Quarry entrance.

The BMC Peak Limestone South guide still recommends using the layby along the gravel track close to the Quarry entrance, but please don't.

Chatting to the landowner last night (29 April) he has recently (two years ago) purchased more of the land close to the quarry entrance and installed new fencing and a gate across the track. He was pretty hacked off with fly tippers and "bloody climbers" trashing his gates and getting in the way. Can we all make an effort to not hack him off any more please?

Also I found a Boreal Juke rock shoe. It's at the bottom of Darkness Wall underneath A Sharp Intake of Breath.

23 – 24 April New Members Walking Meet Peter Amour

Friday evening saw slightly less than new members Dave and Victoria Mawer stay overnight with climbing/running friends from London. I arrived on Saturday morning to the tempting vapours of their fried breakfast, and was soon joined by *new* member (in 1949) Paul Gardiner who made an enthusiastic entrance. A further ten made the start deadline, including members Rachel Walker and John Gwyther who while not being *brand new* were possibly still covered by some sort of a warranty.

Saturday's start is pictured on page 1.

We left the Mawer contingent to their vertical preferences and took shelter from the chilly easterlies under Birchen's Edge and onto the less protective White Edge. Paul had indicated to me that he had options to cut the walk short if he felt the need. At the appropriate cut off point near Curbar Gap he informed us that he would keep to the full distance plan, and aim for the Grouse.

Soon after the discussion Radders intercepted us from his Longshaw start point to give us thirteen. Perhaps the number was an omen, for within half a mile Paul had taken a tumble, and in the process had given his nose and ribs a thumping. The tough man wasted little time and was soon under way.

When regrouping by the Grouse some of the far from *new* members indicated their discomfort with the meet leader issuing the order to by-pass the pub down into Froggatt Wood. I then took the party south to Calver for a cafe stop, and finally to HL through the Duke's Park with 13+ miles under our boots.

The overnight stay for Rachel, Janet, Nigel and myself involved the pleasures of the Robin Hood with Stuart and Sue joining us for a meal, followed by a grand bonfire with the friendly party of Dave and Victoria's friends and family. A good evening.

Sunday's activities saw brand *new* member Chris Paice arrive to join Mick Hayes, Rachel, Janet and Nigel to take part in a 7.5 mile undulating, steadily paced orienteering course. I'm pleased to say that all the clues were found to prove their map reading abilities, although the faux rock near Gardom's gave them a challenge as the validating clue was what did the rock sound like!



The faux (glass fibre) rock that challenged the teams. A superbly accurate replica of the actual ancient cup and ring rock near Gardoms. Photo Peter Amour.

All in all a good weekend with kind weather and keen participants. Thanks to Stuart & Sue, Paul, Chris Radcliffe, Helen & Mike, Nigel & Janet, Chris & Jan, Rachel, John and new member Chris Paice. Thanks also to Dave & Victoria and your family & friends, it was good to share Heathy Lea with you - great company & bonfire!

Peter Amour (new member in 1980).

11 May Hayfield Walk Rachel Walker



The day arrived and it was pouring with rain. However after a nice cuppa at Rosie Lee's, the rain seemed lighter.

Following the route of the mass trespassers 90 years ago, 11 of us headed up the rocky Snake Path. Several of the group used to run this way and were pleased to retrace their steps. We had our first stop at the bottom of the steep sided William Clough and proceeded onto the Kinder Plateau where I was keen to show everyone my discovery of some widely strewn 1940's plane wreckage amidst the undulations in the peat close to the path. (Anyone know what the plane was?)



As we ate our lunch on the rocks at Sandy Heys with views over Kinder Reservoir, the sun began to show. From here we headed for the Kinder Downfall - or rather Upfall as it was spraying upwards, and descended after passing Red Brook, down towards the welcome campsite cafe at Bowden Bridge, now in full sunshine.



13-15 May Coniston Meet Charlie Taylor

For this weekend we were based at the Low House hut in Coniston, conveniently located in the centre of the village. After a small problem trying to locate the hut, we were the last to arrive along with Roger and Mike. With a great weather forecast for the weekend everything was looking good.

Saturday looked promising with some light mist visible on the tops, but no sign of the sun. Pippa, Dawn, Janet, John, Peter, and I decided on a scramble up Weatherlam, on to Swirl How, and the Old Man of Coniston and back to the hut. Mike, Simon Nigel, and Roger headed over to Dow crag for a day's climbing. Within a 100m of leaving the hut, Janet realised she had forgotten her phone! A quick dash back to the hut and we were on our way again led by Peter Masters. Up the steepening road out of Coniston and on to the fell we encountered the second problem; Janet had left her walking poles in Coniston when she went to retrieve her phone. It was decided I needed some more exercise, so I volunteered

to run back and find them.

We started with an easy Grade 1 scramble up Wetherlam, by which time the sun was starting to poke through. Lunch was taken at the col before the sharp ascent to Swirl How, by which time Sun was beating down on us and the temperature was very pleasant. We were joined by some mountain bikers who also decided it was a nice place to take a lunch break.



At the summit we bumped into Nick Evans who had taken a similar route in a clockwise direction via Dow crag. Next was to the old Man of Coniston which was heaving with people enjoying the sun. John, who had brought along his binoculars, scouted Dow crag but there was no sign of the climbers. Had they retreated to the pub? The knee breaking descent down to the valley below via the old ruins of the copper mines led to a bluebell covered meadow and gentler walking back into the village.



We were back at the hut by late afternoon and Jane, Dawn and Pip decided on some hydrotherapy with a recovery dip in Coniston lake. Despite the kind offer to join them, I politely declined and decided I'd be better served as a photographer. Apparently, it wasn't too cold, but I wasn't convinced!



The climbers returned by early evening claiming a good day's sport on the crag with no trips to the pub. A request from Roger for the meet leader to provide the tired climbers with a meal was declined but could only have been an indication of how hungry they were!

Sunday was another nice day, but with the chance of rain forecast for mid-afternoon. Pippa, Nigel, and Janet went on a run, whilst I decided on another day in the hills, with a loop of Dow crag, Grey friars and Wetherlam.

Thanks for everyone who joined me and made this a great meet. Pip Leach, Peter Masters, Peter Amour, Dawn Willmer, Mike Moss, John Gwyther, Roger Larkam, Simon Pape, Nick Evans, Nigel and Janet Briggs.

The Grapes of Wrath Roger Gibbs

Cormot was baking in Spring sunshine. The crag smelled of heat and dust, it was virtually deserted. We warmed up on long routes with big holds and stout bolts. It was getting hotter, all very pleasant. It was a holiday; we were having fun. Lunch was bread and cheese of course. I could do this all day.

"You're not enjoying yourself, are you?" someone asked.

Then a bundle of panting enthusiasm arrived from the other end of the crag. He hurriedly reported on the exploits of the children, grabbed rope and harness and started pawing the ground at the bottom of his chosen route.

"I was going to have a sandwich, or I can belay you now..."

"Yes, now please," came the instant reply.

The enthusiast, let's call him C, raced up the first half of his warm up, got hopelessly lost on the top half and eventually contorted his very tall and rather talented frame up some decidedly tricky looking territory. There may have been some gentle ribbing about climbing talent and route-finding ability not always overlapping.

The crag classic up the middle of a pretty steep wall was still in the sun, but a butch looking crack line to the left was creeping into the shade. It was called Les Raisins de la Colere, (The Grapes of Wrath). C debated knee bar pads and jamming gloves but set off without either. These French dudes can't jam can they, so there must be holds right? There was definitely a knee jam at one point

and a worrying amount of grunting from C. Eventually he disappeared from view and made slow but steady progress to the lower off.

A call from the right asked me if I wanted to do the route over there next. It looked really good and quite a bit easier. Now the French grading around these parts is what even the locals refer to as “tres dur”. Which as far as I can tell translates as total sandbag. But the route to the right just looked like it was going to be too enjoyable. The butch crack was theoretically within my pay grade. Life is suffering, as the Buddha said. As long as the quickdraws are in and you’re climbing with a strong team he probably didn’t add. Let’s go.

There’s a really nice sensation of observing myself climbing that I get on occasion. This was one of those times. I cruised up the first third of the route – steep but positive, bolts slightly spaced but nothing to worry about. The crack narrowed and the rock leaned out. Suddenly I’m impaled on the crux. I heave up to a flared jam and try to get both hands into the constriction. It’s all very pressing. A slap out right brings only average holds. Another slap to nothing. I’m off. I go a fair way to a nice soft catch. Bugger. I haul back up and instantly discover a positive dish inside the crack. Some grunting and sweating and I’m into a contorted rest. I wriggle round and can stretch to a big positive pocket which should enable easier ground to be reached when I’m properly recovered. “Can you get that big pocket? If you can get to there the rest is fine. Come down, have a rest and do it on redpoint.” C says. I wonder. It would be great to get the tick, but there’s a lot of climbing below me. Remember the Buddha’s words, especially the sport climbing version. I have a last quick fondle of the crucial holds and lower to the ground for a rest.

Take two. It’s a little cooler now and I’m feeling ok. the crux arrives and of course I do it differently this time. The slap out right feels ok and I’m soon hauling up to the rest. I’m laying away to the right. walking my feet high. All I need to do is throw my weight over to the left and I can lean my shoulders into the niche. My fingers are unpeeling from the layback. A frantic slap to a big dish with my right and I fall leftwards into the niche panting furiously. That was close. A long rest, then the big pocket and I haul over to a proper rest. Right, now to enjoy the steady away part to the top. I’m pretty shot but this bit was “fine”. This is the problem with climbing with people who operate 4 grades above you. It very much wasn’t fine. Not as steep as the crack but fingery and balancey. I launch up and beat a hurried retreat with fading fingers. Another long rest. I go again and now I’m committed with no way to reverse. A full “elbows up” fight for survival ensues with every move feeling droppable. Sweat stings my eyes, the forearms are screaming and I’m deep into the red. It’s just like those first gritstone HVS battles. A final desperate lunge gets me level with the belay. My hands and forearms are flat on the rock staying attached through friction. I can feel the grit under them as they slide gently. I reach up to unscrew the crab, hardly daring to breathe. I let out an anguished howl as I realise the screwgate is one those hideous symmetrical things so you can’t tell which way up they are. Panicking now, it dawns on me that I have a single quickdraw left. With frantic fingers I clip in and sag back. That was close. I’m lowered to congratulations and some gentle ribbing.

“I had to try really hard on that.”



The picture shows Petit Zig, the crag classic. The Grapes of Wrath takes the steep crack to the left.

Sad Times

Chris Martin

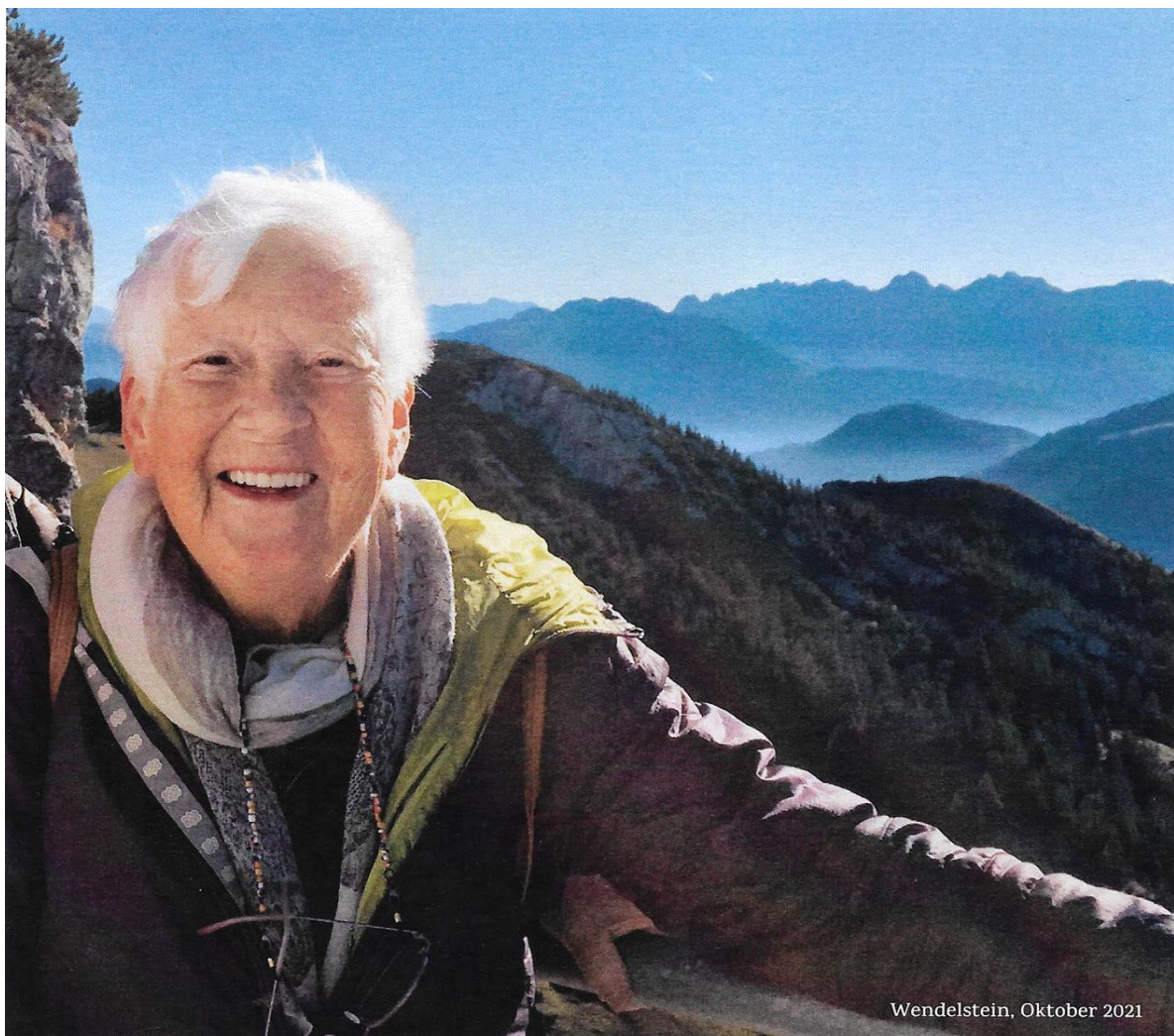
Chris Martin, one of our senior members who lived near Nottingham for many years before moving to Bexhill on Sea, passed away suddenly on Wednesday 18 May. There will be a video link to the funeral which will be circulated when the details are known. Our sympathy goes to his wife, Halina.

Ursula “Uschi” Hobday 3 December 1941 – 6 April 2022

Colin writes:

“I would just like to say a huge thank you for all the cards and letters of sympathy (125) which I have received. I did not appreciate that Uschi had made such a big impression on the Oread. Even the postman stops for a chat. To reply to you all individually will take me for ever so please accept my thanks.

The collection for Cancer Research UK made £1480 which is excellent.”



Recollections Of Uschi Hobday Peter Amour

My first conversation with Uschi was near the bar of the Green Man, Ashbourne during the annual dinner, hosted by the then President Peter Scott. She politely asked about what I'd been doing during my first year with the Oread. I mentioned a list of away meets, evening climbs, working parties and my first Bullstones as having kept me busy. She suggested that I had done well, having a *large family and* having been so active. I was a little puzzled by the *big family* bit, having just one infant son. I later wondered had Uschi gotten me mixed up with former member Ian Tucker, who had something like seven children!

Nonetheless we had an enjoyable conversation, and she asked me if I'd like to join them on a walk that Colin was organising. That conversation was in 1981 and started a long term friendship between Georgina, myself, and Uschi and Colin. What was to follow were many day and evening walks and climbs, weekends at TanYr Wyddfa, and in later years cycle touring holidays both at home and abroad. Uschi and Colin have always had a large social circle, and so our leisure activities were widened.

Always an engaging person, Uschi would welcome newcomers to the fold of not only the Oread MC, but other interest groups too. She would from time to time host the German Circle which was a mix of native German speakers and others wishing to hone their Deutsch, and would always patiently encourage those willing to master her native tongue. It has to be said that her English was of a high standard, and virtually accent free, to the point that I once heard someone ask if she was South African, it didn't go down well!

Always proud of her German background I think she always felt a little homesick for her country of origin. I remember on one occasion stopping in Dalby Forest, during a cycling holiday. She spoke with emotion as she conveyed that the rolling forest reminded her of home.

On another occasion we were staying in Durness Youth Hostel, Sutherland, and the hostel was flying the flags of the nationalities within it, including of course the Scots, English and other nation's colours. I conveyed to Cameron the hostel manager that we had a Welsh lady within our group, and, inside a minute the Red Dragon flag was raised. Pointing out the amendment to Audrey that her colours were now fluttering Uschi shot off to correct what I thought was the lack of a German flag. Not a bit of it, the blue/white chequered colours of Uschi's Bavaria were soon aloft!

For many years Uschi and Colin were active members of Stapleford Travel & Photographic Society, which they first made contact with through former Oread members Ken Bryan and Gordon Gadsby. Uschi was very supportive, and helped by presenting images, and giving their practical help in making things happen.

Uschi was naturally a caring and generous person. When Lisa Welbourn became ill she was extremely supportive of her through the multiple operations that Lisa

experienced. In fact I would characterise the relationship as being as close as a mother and daughter.

She was an outgoing person and will be greatly missed. Our sympathies go out to Colin and all the family and friends.

This photo below, provided by Rusty Russell, shows Uschi enjoying the Five Cols of Snowdon walk on a “Golden Oldies” meet in October 1988.



Janet Burgess 7 April 1941 – 12 April 2022



Memories of Janet Burgess Roma Wilcock

Janet and I were friends from very early childhood to the end of Janet's life, despite being separated by many miles for many years.

Janet was born in Derby in April 1941, as was I. She lived in Cotton Lane, just across the road from me. We walked together each day to Nightingale Road Junior School until 11 years old. She went on to Homeland School and although I went elsewhere our friendship remained strong.

My parents and Derrick's were active members of the Derby Nomads and our two families walked together every weekend, usually in the Peak. Janet would sometimes join us, and she and Derrick must have met during this time. However, they were both invited to my engagement party in 1959 and as they now say, 'the rest is history'!

Derrick was always a leading figure of the Oread Club and Janet joined him walking in the mountains, for example in Wales, The Lake District, Scotland, and the Alps. I understand that Janet also played a key role in Christmas Pantos, inspiring Bob Pettigrew to describe her as one of the 'Golden Girls'.

I moved away from Derby in 1968 and took up golf as a consuming pastime. Janet and I kept in touch, but when she also took up golf a little later it provided an additional common interest and incentive to visit each other's homes. When I returned to Derby in 2006, Janet and I went out together regularly and continued to do so till she died.

Our lives together came full circle when Derrick, Janet and I all went on an Oread climbing and walking meet to Benidorm in 2018, 75 years since our friendship began. I will miss her.

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 Member Keith Walsh. We hope you will enjoy many happy times with the Oread.

John Fisher has a new mobile phone. 07555 654870. He would be very pleased to hear from you all.

Rusty's Puzzle Corner

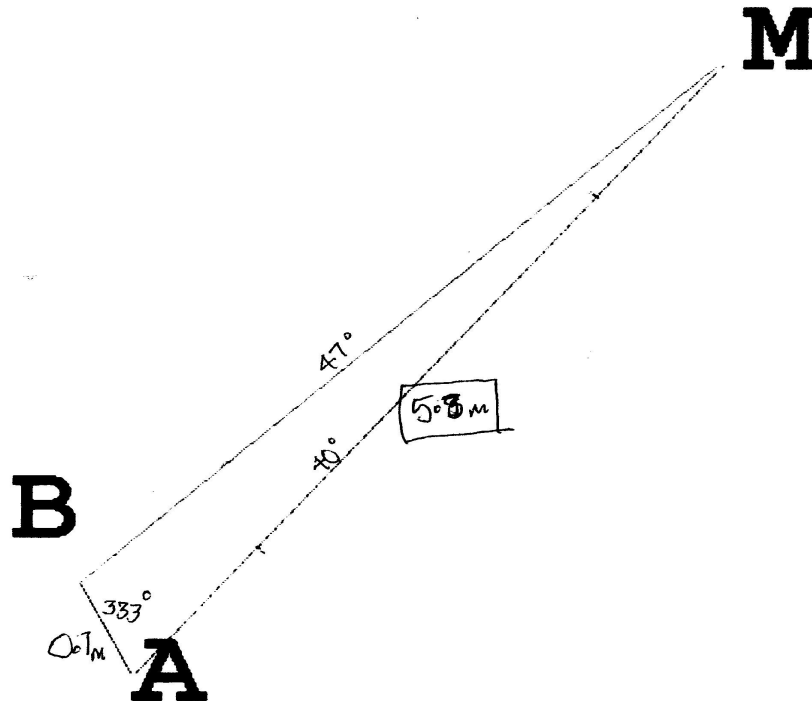
This month's puzzle:

Rusty is having a month off but your Hon. Ed. has been supplied with a photo of Mr Wilson demonstrating a particularly advanced rope technique on a recent visit to Harpur Hill.

Prizes will be awarded for the most inventive explanation of the technicalities involved.



Last month's puzzle solution:



This puzzle can be solved, without calculation, by any person able to use a map and compass so there is no excuse for those averse to mathematics in any form, The bearings between each point are stated and so a triangle joining each point can be drawn. Setting the scale so that the line A to B is 0.7 miles long as stated then the distance from A to Minninglow can be measured directly. (see the accompanying drawing)

The caveat is that because this is a real life problem, the angle at the apex is very small (7 deg) and so using a small sheet of paper on a kitchen table, there is likely to be some error in the process. I personally measured the distance at 5.3 miles, but the distance, by calculation. Is about 5.52 miles, subject to the accuracy of the compass measurement.

Anyone who uses the scale drawing method, and produces a result in this general region, shall be deemed to be entirely correct.

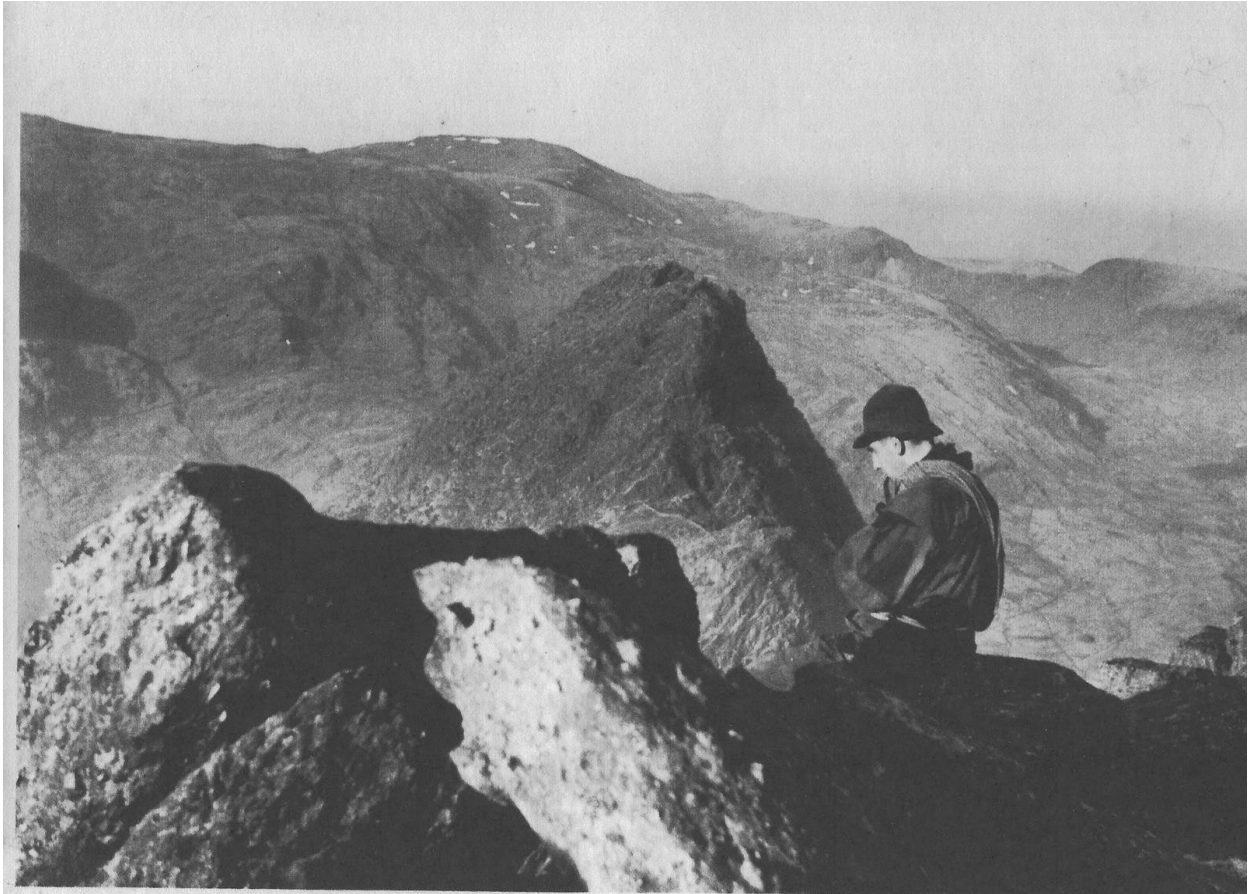
Snod intended to solve the puzzle on graph paper using the above method but a frenzied search failed to reveal the hiding place of his protractor so he did it using log tables and came up with 5.526 miles.

Name the Gnome

"Snowy," last month's gnome, was none other than John O'Reilly.

A new gnome has been submitted – though your Hon. Ed. thinks he looks more like an off-duty 1960s police constable who has forgotten to remove his helmet before taking to the hills.

Who, where and when was this vintage Gnome?



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