



# OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB MAGAZINE

**FEBRUARY 2019**



**Urgent Health and Safety warning to all Oreads visiting Spain – a new type of sausage has recently appeared on the market. Even in the back streets of Benidorm the Chorizo Man may have you in his sights. -You have been warned! Has anyone heard from the Radcliffes in sunny Spain???**

Thanks to Nick Evans for warning us of this unforeseen consequence of Brexit.

## **Editorial**

Lots of meets coming up in the next couple of months:

For the dark nights two more **lectures** and another **social pub evening**.

Outdoors four day **walks**, plus three **Scottish meets**, weekends in **Wales** and the **Lakes** – all hoping for good winter conditions. Or join the gang in **Benidorm** for a spot of winter warmth.

Looking ahead: all the info in here to start planning this year's **Alpine meet**.

**Write-ups** include tales of the Piz Bernina from way back, memories of Frank Goldsmith, festive fun, soggy walks and Moroccan gold.

Well that's the fun bit over – lots of boring but important stuff in this issue – **AGM** information and we seriously need **volunteers** to join the committee and/or help with the IT side of things.– it does not have to be a big commitment – every little helps as they say!

Answers here to questions many have been asking about **club liability and insurance cover**. **No change in legal status is planned at this time**. See page 22.

**Don't forget: it's time to pay your 2019 subs right now!**

## 2019 Meets List Spenser Gray

A couple of meets have moved or been postponed – these are highlighted in red.

Spenser Gray email: [oreadmcmeeets@gmail.com](mailto:oreadmcmeeets@gmail.com)

### Forthcoming meets 2019

<i>January</i>	25-27	<i>Helyg Spenser Gray</i>
<i>February</i>	4th-16	<i>Benidorm Derek Pike</i>
	5	<i>Lecture Royal Oak Rob Tresidder</i>
	6	<i>Wednesday walk Pete Amour</i>
	8th-10	<i>Karn House joint with FRCC Spenser Gray</i>
	16	<i>PDBW John Green</i>
	22-24	<i>Buttermere, Birkness Barn – Michael Hayes</i>
	26	<i>Social evening meet</i>
<i>March</i>	5	<i>Lecture Royal Oak Rob Tresidder</i>
	6	<i>Wednesday walk Phil Waterson</i>
	8th-14	<i>CIC Scottish meet Spenser Gray</i>
	8th-10	<i>Patterdale meet Stuart Haywood</i>
	15th-17	<i>Waters Cottage Neil Thompson</i>
	17	<i>PDBW Chris and Jan Wilson</i>
	22-24	<i>Tan yr Wyddfa meet leader needed</i>
	30	<i>AGM preceded by 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary repeat of first ever Oread meet.</i>
	31	<i>Spring Stride Snod Helliwell</i>
<i>April</i>	5th-7	<i>New Members Meet Amy Prosser</i>
	10	<i>Wednesday walk Rob Tresidder</i>
	19 <sup>th</sup> -22	<i>Easter</i>
	12th-28	<i>Proposed sun rock trip venue not yet known</i>
	30	<i>Evening social meet</i>
<i>May</i>	3rd-6	<i>May Bank Holiday Gower Mick Hayes</i>
	17th-19-	<i>Tan yr Wyddfa Adhe Koukoui</i>
	24th-2 June	<i>Skye Mike Moss</i>
<i>June</i>	7-9 Jun	<i>Children's meet Neil Weatherstone</i>
	14th-16 Jun	<i>Borrowdale High House - Dave Helliwell</i>
<i>July</i>	3rd-5	<i>Tan yr Wyddfa working party Dave Helliwell</i>
	5th-7	<i>Tan yr Wyddfa barbecue meet Tony Howard</i>
	12 <sup>th</sup> -14	<i>North Downs Way postponed see newsletter Pam Storer</i>
	14th-4 Aug	<i>Alpine meet Oztal Spenser Gray</i>
<i>August</i>	2nd- 3	<i>Tan yr Wyddfa joint FRCC meet</i>
	16th-18	<i>Yorkshire Low Stern Emma Hayes</i>
	23rd-26	<i>Bank Holiday South Pembrokeshire Gill Radcliffe</i>
<i>September</i>	6th -8th	<i>Gogarth Neil Thompson</i>
	21	<i>PDBW meet leader needed</i>
	27th-29	<i>Clwyd limestone Derek Pike</i>
<i>October</i>	1	<i>Evening Lecture Royal Oak?</i>
	12 <sup>th</sup> - 20	<i>Kalymnos</i>

	18th-20	<i>Tan yr Wyddfa</i>
<i>November</i>	1st-3	<i>Halloween and Bonfire meet Neil Weatherstone</i>
	5	<i>Evening Lecture Royal Oak?</i>
	9	<i>PDBW Rob Tresidder</i>
	16	<i>Annual Dinner</i>
	17	<i>Post Prandial walk</i>
	22-24	<i>High House curry meet Tony Howard</i>
	30	<i>PDBW Dave Helliwell</i>
<i>December</i>	3	<i>Evening Lecture Royal Oak</i>
	11	<i>Black Rocks/Harborough night climb Rob Tresidder</i>
	13 <sup>th</sup> -16	<i>Bullstones Dave Helliwell</i>
	21 Dec-1 Jan	<i>Christmas/New Year at Tan yr Wyddfa Rock Hudson</i>

## Evening meets:

Do come along to the evening climbing wall session:

**Mondays at the Unit** from 7 – 9.00 pm and after at the Smithfield, Meadow Road, Derby. Over the winter there is also a group at Wirksworth wall from around 7-9.30pm on Wednesdays, then adjourning to the Royal Oak, North St.

## Wednesday Walking meets Stuart Firth

A series of Wednesday walks is now underway. (See the write up in this newsletter page 13).

The third and fourth are on

06 February – Peter Amour – Longnor -more info below page 4.

06 March - Phil and Yvonne Waterson – Ashover - more info page 6.

10 April Rob Tresidder venue tba.

We hope to keep this going and link up with the Wednesday climbers when the long evenings permit so we need volunteer leaders for the following dates:

Leaders required for :

15 May - tba

12 June - tba

10 July - tba

14 August - tba

11 September - tba

09 October - tba

Please let me know if you would like to be part of this new venture.

Stuart Firth

## 25 - 27 January Helyg Spenser Gray

The Ogwen valley offers excellent mountaineering options for all weathers with Helyg sitting in prime position to facilitate many of these. The hut is now full but camping is available very close by and I am happy to cater for you providing you let me know you are coming. Details of the hut can be found here:

<https://www.climbers-club.co.uk/venues/helyg-ogwen/>

To book contact Spenser Gray

## **Tuesday 5 February 8pm Lecture Royal Oak Ockbrook**

Speaker to be announced later.

Rob Tresidder

## **Wednesday 6 February Day Walk Pete Amour**

Those keen on a midweek leg stretch should assemble at the market place car park in Longnor at 9-45am for 10-00am activities. The route will head south from the village following the Manifold Way to then take a route change in the direction of Reepsmoor for an open air packed lunch stop (those who know Reepsmoor will possibly think of the watering hole of The Butchers Arms, sadly it doesn't open at lunchtimes midweek). After refuelling we shall take one of a number of options which can be chosen according to factors like the weather and group mindset at the time, but will head in a generally clockwise direction to revisit Longnor. Distance, 8-11 miles according to options taken on the day. I look forward to seeing you there, should anyone wish to obtain further information, or offer/require a lift please feel free to contact me.

PeteAmour

## **8 - 10 February Karn House Spenser Gray**

As part of our new Reciprocal Rights agreement with the FRCC we are having a joint meet at their Aviemore Hut, Karn House, at the start of February. As with my previous Scottish Winter meets there will be a communal meal on the Saturday night along with some climbing/ mountaineering/ hillwalking as weather allows. Given that we will be visiting the Scottish Mountains in winter I can not give any guarantees of where we will be climbing, however Aviemore offers a wide range of options to suit the conditions on the day. Please come and dabble in the delights of the Scottish winter mountains and enjoy the hospitality of the FRCC (while also enjoying nosh provided by Spenser Gray). To book contact Spenser.

## **4 -16 February Benidorm Derek Pike**

Do come and join us for a bit of fun in the sun. We shall be staying at the Benilux Park Hotel It is on the list of package holidays offered by Jet2 which flies from East Midlands, Birmingham and Manchester to Alicante where you may pick up your hire car or take advantage of a coach transfer straight to the hotel. A group of us are already booked from the 4th February for 12 nights the cost of which was £830 for two in a twin bedroom, half board. Half board is breakfast and evening meal plus a bottle of wine, nobody has as yet gone hungry. You do not have to come on these exact dates as Oreads come and go to suit themselves some staying for only a week, others ten days.

## **Saturday 16 February Peak District Boundary Walk Wildboarclough to Bollington John Green**

This section of the walk is very interesting, hopefully we shall have some good weather to do it with.

I propose starting at the Crag Inn in Wildboarclough at 10.30. I have asked the pub about parking and they are happy for us to park if we come in after the walk for refreshments. We will be walking along the road and up Cheshire's Matterhorn, Shutlingsloe, then descending to Macclesfield Forest and its reservoirs. At the end of Ridgeway Reservoir is our lunch stop at the Leather's Smithy pub which opens at 12.00. The landlady has asked us to let her know numbers before we go so please let me know if you want to stop for lunch. Suitably refreshed we will climb up to Tegg's Nose and along the ridge to the visitor centre. If anyone feels like a quick climb, I am sure that will be OK. In my guide book there is a Moderate and two Diffs. Anyone wanting tea at the visitor centre should also be OK as it's open till 17.00. The walk then continues along the Gritstone Trail up onto Kerridge Hill before descending to Pool Bank car park (free) and a return to Wildboarclough. 14k or 8.5 miles. I shall be arranging to have at least two cars there for our return. Please let me know if you are coming so that we shall have enough transport for the return.

John Green.

## **22-24 February Birkness Barn (Buttermere) Michael Hayes**



For our first Lake District meet of the year we will be staying at the Fell & Rock Hut - Birkness Barn in Buttermere which offers easy access to a range of areas in the Northern and Western Lakes. Situated on the shore of Buttermere at Dalegarth at the foot of Robinson it's a great place for walking and Mountaineering.

Hopefully by February we will once again be in the full grip of winter like the view

of Oreads on the summit of Dale Head taken last year on the Newlands Meet shown in the photo above.

We have booked 14 beds (9 Male and 5 Female) so please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to come so I can try and manage the accommodation.

Details of the hut can be found here. <https://www.frcc.co.uk/venues/birkness/>

For more information and to book onto the meet please contact me.

Michael Hayes:

## **26 February Social evening Smithfield Alehouse, Derby Spenser Gray**

After the success of December's Social Meet (unfortunately it looks like my phone died before it was able to save the photo) let's do it again! (Oh the hardship of sitting in a warm pub with 10 different real ales on tap, a variety of whiskies and cracking pork pies, it's a real sacrifice I tell you!). Last time people sat round and enjoyed having a couple of beers, chatted about climbing and generally had an enjoyable evening. If you would like to get an idea about what you will be able to do on a particular meet I will be more than happy to bring some guidebooks and discuss the area in question with you. Equally if you would like some help planning a meet I will of course help with this too. See you there 7.30 -10 pm. Spenser Gray

## **Tuesday 5 March 8pm Lecture Royal Oak Ockbrook**

Our very own Mike Mowbray "Mr Motivator" will entertain us in his own inimitable style!

Rob Tresidder.

## **Wednesday 6 March Day Walk Phil Waterson**

The walk will be in the Ashover area, meeting in the community centre car park at 10 00 am for a 10:15 start. (Post code S54 0BA map reference SK 3510-6320 OL24). We will make a magical mystery tour taking in Ravensnest Tor and I promise you a visit to an outstanding pub afterwards.

Phil Waterson.

## **8-10 March Patterdale Stuart Haywood**

21 beds have been booked at the ABMSAC George Starkey Hut in Patterdale for the nights of Friday 8<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March, but dependent on weather conditions etc. as usual we have the option of extending our stay.

As this is a long established Oread meet I think everyone will be aware of the possibilities that the location of this hut offers and over recent years climbing, walking, mountain biking, and canoeing have all featured. As we have reciprocal rights with ABMSAC the cost is £6pp/night.

Over the next few weeks I will endeavour to contact the 'usual suspects' but in the meantime if you want to book a berth please contact me. I will of course reply to all e-mail and text messages to confirm bookings. Also if you are looking for, or can offer lifts, please let me know.

### **8-14 March Scottish meet Spenser Gray**

The club has a meet at the CIC hut, there are still some spaces on the meet: The cost of the meet will be £20 per night.

Spenser Gray will be travelling up on 8th March and intends to stay at either Riasg or Waters Cottage (both huts where we have reciprocal rights) that evening before heading up to the CIC hut for the Saturday night and returning to Derby on the Sunday evening. Other attendees are expected to head up to the area Sunday Daytime for the full week.

Spenser Gray.

### **15-17 March Kinlochleven Waters Cottage Neil Thompson**

The club has reserved 12 beds in the hut for the Friday and Saturday nights so there's plenty of room cost £12/night pp.

This weekend offers a chance to walk or climb in Glencoe, the Mamores or the Fort William area as all are within easy driving range. For those with more esoteric tastes (Corbetts, Donalds or Grahams etc) the Kinlochleven hut is also handy for visiting Ardgour or Sunart, the Glenfinnan area or perhaps a bracing wander on Rannoch moor for the dedicated madman.

I'll be staying in Scotland all the week following and we have a CIC hut meet in the week before the meet so hopefully some of you might like to come along for a bit of Scottish fun ( hopefully type 1 with sunshine, what else?) If you're keen please contact Neil.

### **Sunday 17 March Peak District Boundary Walk - Bollington to Whaley Bridge Chris and Jan Wilson**

This is advance notice of the final boundary walk of this winter. And what a pleasant surprise it was when we had a look at it on a cold January day and found it to be a lovely, worthwhile walk. It has something for everyone, even hardened mountaineers returning from the frozen north. The walk is about 11 miles long with 500 metres ascent and descent. The slopes are generally fairly gentle although a couple of steep pulls might warm you up!

We start in the "Happy Valley" (the market town of Bollington in Cheshire). Apart from a lot of free parking it offers cafes, pubs and shops. After leaving the town we head uphill towards Andrew's Knob and Bakestonedale Moor, where some gorgeous views take in the surrounding area and much of the route ahead.

A lengthy downhill section follows passing the Coffee Tavern (is this too soon for a break?) before Adlington Basin on the Macclesfield Canal (latecomers could have

used this as a short cut) and the Miners Arms. After a brief pause for lunch we follow the canal north before turning east and gently uphill to Lyme Park where cafes are available for further refuelling. We continue through the grounds and on up to Higher Moor and Dissop Head, with fine views in all directions. A slight dip follows as we head on to Whaley Moor and the Dipping Stone. Then its downhill all the way to Toddbrook Reservoir, Whaley Bridge and the River Goyt. Although parking is available here, it's not as easy as at the start (about 15 minutes drive away).

Further details will appear next month, but what I need are volunteers to help with transport, and it would be wonderful to have an idea of how many might be interested in some simple pub food at lunch (soup and chips for example). So please let me know if you can help, or if you might be coming along.

Contact Chris Wilson, by email, phone or text or by any other method you can think of. It will be a good day out.

### **30 March Annual General Meeting Robin Hood, Baslow**

The Annual General Meeting of the Club will take place at 8 pm on Saturday 30 March 2019 at The Robin Hood Public House below Birchen's Edge.

In the run up to the AGM Secretary, Nigel Briggs, will be out of the country and **all issues relating to the AGM should be sent to the 'acting' secretary, Chris Wilson.**

There are a number of items along with the usual reports and elections that will be considered at the AGM. At the moment these are:-

The Committee has been looking at updating the constitution, we will be considering the **adoption of the new constitution.** This is to be circulated separately from the newsletter.

The Committee has adopted a **Health and Safety Policy and a Privacy Policy**, the AGM needs to endorse these policies. (Available to view on the Club website under the Policies tab).

Please send any other motions for debate to Chris Wilson by 15<sup>th</sup> March.

Nominations for Officers of the club and other (3) members of the committee are welcome and must be submitted by 15<sup>th</sup> March. Each nomination must be in writing and supported by two full members of the club along with the consent of the nominee. There are vacant positions for Ordinary Members and a Secretary.

Nigel Briggs, Secretary

**All correspondence to be sent to:-  
Chris Wilson.**

## **12-14 July North Downs Way replacement Pam Storer**

I'm very sorry but I was too late to book any accommodation for this walk so it has been put back to next year. I am proposing a camping meet in the Forest of Bowland to replace this year's meet. I would suggest the Wolf Fell and Fiendsdale walk described in Wild Walks by Wilson and Gilbert. It would be really helpful if you could let me know if you might be interested in coming along.

Pam Storer.

## **14 July – 4 August Alpine Meet Otztal, Austria Spenser Gray**

This year the Oread Mountaineering Club will be visiting the Otztal valley in Austria. Some of the mountains were featured in Chris Radcliffe's evening lecture back at the start of October. For those who were unable to attend it looks like a stunning area with a choice of snowy alpinism, rocky alpine ridge scrambles, bolted multipitch rock routes in the Stubai Alps, a range of Via Ferratas and a huge number of single pitch crags. For those who are less vertically inclined there are a number of valley walks and mountain bike rides which can be undertaken either directly from the campsite or with a short drive. As ever with the alps there are also some sizeable climbs for the road cyclists to undertake.

We will be staying at Otztal Camping Arena in the village of Umhausen, this is located at the heart of the valley. Camping will cost around 12 euros per person per night (depending on size of tent). This is one of the cheaper campsites in the area and appears to have excellent facilities (although I am yet to figure out what an Adventure Shower is...):<https://oetztalescamping.com/>

There are several guidebooks which cover the area:

### **Alpine Guides:**

<https://www.needlesports.com/2699/products/oetztales-alps.aspx>

<https://www.needlesports.com/2599/products/stubai-alps-and-south-tirol.aspx>

These are both quite old, I would advise checking online for more recent beta on routes, particularly snowy ones and routes with fixed gear:

<https://www.climbers-paradise.com/en/>- This provides info about climbing across the Austrian Tirol.

<https://www.summitpost.org/tztal-alps/153953>- Otztal only, good for planning a day out but useless for use on a route.

<https://www.summitpost.org/stubai-alps/155126>- Stubai, again good for planning, but not much use on a route.

[www.bergsteigen.com](http://www.bergsteigen.com)- Details a limited number of routes in the area, print outs may be useful for planning a route.

<https://www.stubai.at/en/activities/climbing/>- Bit like climbers paradise but for the Stubai Alps.

More recent German Language guidebooks seem to be these:

<https://www.rother.de/rother-alpenvereinsf%C3%96hrer-%F6tztaler%20alpen-1123.htm>

<https://www.rother.de/rother-alpenvereins-%20und%20gebietf%C3%96hrer-stubaier%20alpen-1271.htm>

### **Walking:**

<https://www.needlesports.com/4358/products/walking-in-austria.aspx>

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/Innsbruck-Mountain-Adventures-multi-activity-Austrias/dp/1852849584/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1543359107&sr=8-1&keywords=innsbruck+mountain+adventures](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Innsbruck-Mountain-Adventures-multi-activity-Austrias/dp/1852849584/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1543359107&sr=8-1&keywords=innsbruck+mountain+adventures)

### **Sport Climbing:**

Single Pitch: <https://bit.ly/2P7h9oT>

Multipitch and Single Pitch (Innsbruck area): <https://amzn.to/2P3QJo8>

<https://amzn.to/2BBP2L7>

### **Mountain Biking:**

[https://www.oetztal.com/summer/biking-cycling/bike-routes/mountainbike-tours.html#area=1027337&cat=Mountainbike%20Routes&ov=mtb&wt=Oetztal%20\(Geographic%20region\)%0A1027337&zc=9,10.9474,47.02007](https://www.oetztal.com/summer/biking-cycling/bike-routes/mountainbike-tours.html#area=1027337&cat=Mountainbike%20Routes&ov=mtb&wt=Oetztal%20(Geographic%20region)%0A1027337&zc=9,10.9474,47.02007)

Mapping is provided by the DAV (Alpenvereinskarte) or by Kompass. I have heard good things about the Alpenvereinskarte and have previously been disappointed by Kompass maps. Alpenvereinskarte numbers 31/1, 31/2, 30/5 and 30/6.

There is a useful app which you can use to see which lifts are open on any given day for the Otztal:

<https://www.oetztal.com/summer/services/mobile-apps.html>

Some standout routes seem to be the North Ridges of Wildespitze, Weisskugel and Hinterer Brochkogel, Mischbachgrat (Habicht), East Ridge (Zuckerhutl), East Ridge (Wilde Leck), NE Face (Schrankogel), NW Ridge (Ruderhofspitze), N Face (Ruderhofspitze), NE Ridge (Maningkogel), Luftballonweg (Maningkogel)

I aim to leave the UK on 14th July and return on the 28th, other people will likely be travelling out the weekend after and many of the retired members will use the

trip to facilitate a leisurely tour around the crags and vineyards of Europe on the way home (at least they will if previous years are anything to go by). Spenser Gray:

**Copy deadline for next issue is 20 February.**

## **The Oread needs You!**

**We need a volunteer Dinner Organiser** to replace Tony Howard. This is not necessarily a Committee post, any member can do it and it can be just for one year if you wish - full training and support will be given!

**Help to make the Oread website fit for the future.**

Calling mountaineers/climbers with skills in development, content management and administration of websites. Please will you help the club improve and develop its website?

If you think you might be able to help, even in a small way please contact Mike Wren. **Please reply by email to: [webmaster@oread.co.uk](mailto:webmaster@oread.co.uk)**

## **Members' Corner**

Here's the regular spot to share info, ask for hints and tips, put your For Sale and Wanted ads, write open letters to the committee and generally make your voice heard. All non-libellous contributions welcome!

**Rob Tresidder writes:**

"Our very own **Ian Spare** hits the top spot in **Swiss Mountain Leader!** This slightly old news has, I think, escaped the attention of your esteemed organ."

Oread member, Ian, who lives in Switzerland, has been president of the Union of International Mountain Leader Associations since 2017. The photo feature, (link below) shows scenery on a trek from Cortina to Bolzano.

<https://swissmountainleader.com/2018/08/dolomites-august-2018/>

**Bullstones Heroine!**

Respect to **Uschi Hobday** who completed her first ever Bullstones meet on the eve of her xx birthday. Your correspondent and fellow Bullstoner is forbidden to reveal her age but she is well older than most of the team and we were impressed! Everyone said it was an unusually difficult outing this time as the Sunday route was every bit as long and hard as the Saturday.

**Old climbing magazines wanted!**

When you have finished with your last year's magazines please consider taking them to Tan yr Wyddfa - the ones we have there are last century! Some newer offerings would be most welcome. Thanks in anticipation, **Rock.**

## News, Articles and Reports from Meets.



Nigel's account of his 38 year relationship with the **Piz Bernina** last month brought back memories for **Jack Ashcroft**.....

Here is a photograph I took way back in the summer of 1960 - it shows the Spalla Grat, the south approach to the Piz Bernina (4049.1 m), some two hours above the Monte Rosa Hut. It is much shorter than the Biancograt - the approach from the north - which is some six hours above the Boval Hut.

The photograph shows John Fisher, Colin Hobday and June Walker within 100 metres of the summit rock block of the Piz Bernina so clearly shown on this year's Dinner Menu card, but off to the right of my photograph. The pinnacle on the left is the junction of the Spalla Grat and the east ridge of the Seersen.

### **Black Rocks Night Climbing 12 December Ruth Gordon**

Well, to the best of my knowledge and belief nobody actually went to Black Rocks this year - but a round dozen - maybe more - disported themselves at Harborough. It's hard to count in the dark even when a misty moon made a brief appearance. It was dry and the rock felt good underfoot - but a chill wind whistled about the top so we were grateful that the early call for pies at 8 pm forced a retreat after a couple of routes. On arrival the climbers found a large jolly party already toasting their toes in front of a magnificent fire. 18 of us sat down to eat, at a proper laid dining table no less, and the home-made pies were truly excellent. By the time we'd eaten the wimps from the climbing wall had arrived plus sundry walkers, cyclists and hell-drivers who kept on and on arriving - I think I counted 37 Oreads in this very cosy pub - fortunately not all at the same time! Thanks to Rob for organising a great evening.

## **Inaugural Wednesday Walk - 5 December 2018 S Firth**

The weather forecast was appalling - so the wise and the wimpy got their excuses in early. But cream comes to the top and just four of us met in Brassington to brave the elements. Due to the meet-leader's incompetence, we struggled to find our way out of Brassington and then got lost in the mist on Carsington Pasture. Thanks to GPS and a download of the OS app on my iPhone, we were soon back on track. Lunch was taken in a bird hide at Carsington Reservoir with glances exchanged between us inside and the ducks outside wondering who was wettest. We then succumbed to a cuppa in the Visitor Centre. The weather for the return walk was much improved and we made it to Brassington in good time for a rewarding pint in The Olde Hanging Gate.

All agreed we had had fun and undertook to keep the ball rolling with this new programme of monthly Wednesday Walks. In the short winter days, we'll set off mid-morning; in the lighter summer days, we'll try and coincide with the afternoon / evening climbers. Thank you to Peter Amour, Phil and Yvonne Waterson for their support.

### **1 January New Year's Day walk Colin Hobday**



*Glorious sunshine for the first event of the year. Photo courtesy of Lisa Welbourne.*

New Year's Eve saw a new project emerge for the Forward Thinking Group with messages on the Yahoo Group asking if there was a walk on New Years Day. Apparently they don't read the newsletter, even a high ranking Oread Committee Member admitted that he does not always have time to read the newsletter. The F.T.G. will have to regroup and analyse the problem. However 17 Oreads and friends did make it to the Mill Dale car park on a bright but cool start to the New Year. The steep uphill start soon saw the group spread out, to regroup at Stanshope and admire the first snowdrops in flower. Arriving at

the Royal Oak ,Wetton, some decided to stay out side to eat their sandwiches while the the rest went in the pub which was not too busy. Food was ordered (mostly bacon butties) which took around 45 minutes to arrive. Various Oreads arrived in dribs and drabs having walked from Alstonfield or parking in Wetton so quite a good turnout in the end making it a good social occasion. The people outside decided to head back and those inside split into small groups also heading back to Mill Dale in late afternoon sunshine.

### **13 January Peak District Boundary Walk Stuart Firth**



*The happy team of wanderers en route from Tittesworth to Wildboarclough.*

Although the weather was vile on the drive over the Cat and Fiddle to Tittesworth Visitor Centre, it rapidly improved. Those who braved the inauspicious start were well-rewarded. We stayed largely dry as the cold wind dropped and the day brightened up. A few silly hats were on display and the team set off in convivial mood. Farmyard conditions were challenging.

The route itself was scenic and interesting throughout and, having abstemiously foregone the delights of the Dane Valley microbrewery, we enjoyed sustenance at the Ship Inn, Wincle. Colin then entertained us with a near face-plant in the mud, glorious mud towards the end of the walk and Alex's trainers were certainly not "as-new" at the finish.

We made it before nightfall and many thanks to the car shufflers who facilitated the logistics.

We look forward to John Green's PDBW stage on Saturday 16th February and Chris and Jan Wilson's on Sunday 17th March.

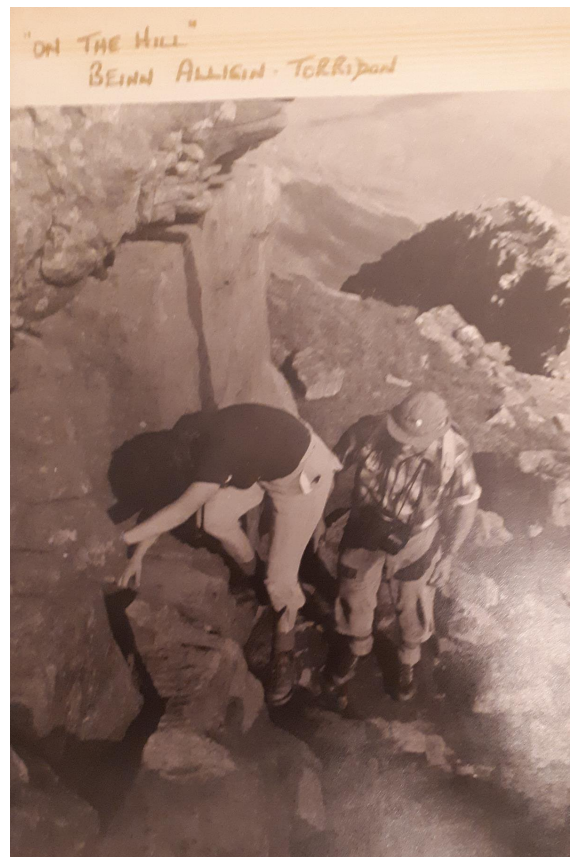
## Frank Goldsmith who died on 19 August aged 85. Memories from his daughter, Julia Willson



I am sending you some photos of my Dad which may be of interest to some older members. Many won't remember him because he didn't go out with the Oread after re-marrying 30 years ago and he also moved away from the area.

After he moved to Lee on Solent in 2014 he did slide shows on his ventures in Torrison and other places in Scotland for the residents of the sheltered community that they lived in. They all loved it and couldn't believe how fit my Dad used to be considering he was then in a wheel chair. He has asked for his ashes to be scattered in Torrison. So my husband, Graham and myself are planning to go up there next April/May time to do that, hopefully on Beinn

Alligin or Beinn Eighe.



*Dad with me and my sister when we were very young on a ferry and one of me climbing on Beinn Alligin with Dad watching out for me below.*

Dad wrote his own "Reflections on my life" which was read at his funeral. In this he recalled that after he left the RAF, in the late 1950's, he met Gordon Gadsby through doing a climbing course at an evening class and from there they joined the Oread. In the early '60's they started climbing, walking and mountaineering mainly in Scotland, Wales, the Lakes, Derbyshire and the Alps.

Very sad to say, there are many people he used to go out with, who have also passed away. He was regularly seen out with Gordon Gadsby, Chuck Hooley, John Welbourne, George Reynolds and Harry Pretty.

He used also to venture out many years ago with Ken Bryan, Stuart Bramwell, Dave Appleby, Jack Ashcroft, Bob Pettigrew, Paul Gardiner, Keith Gregson, Colin and Uschi Hobday, Reg Squires and a few others that I can't remember – a bit before my time!



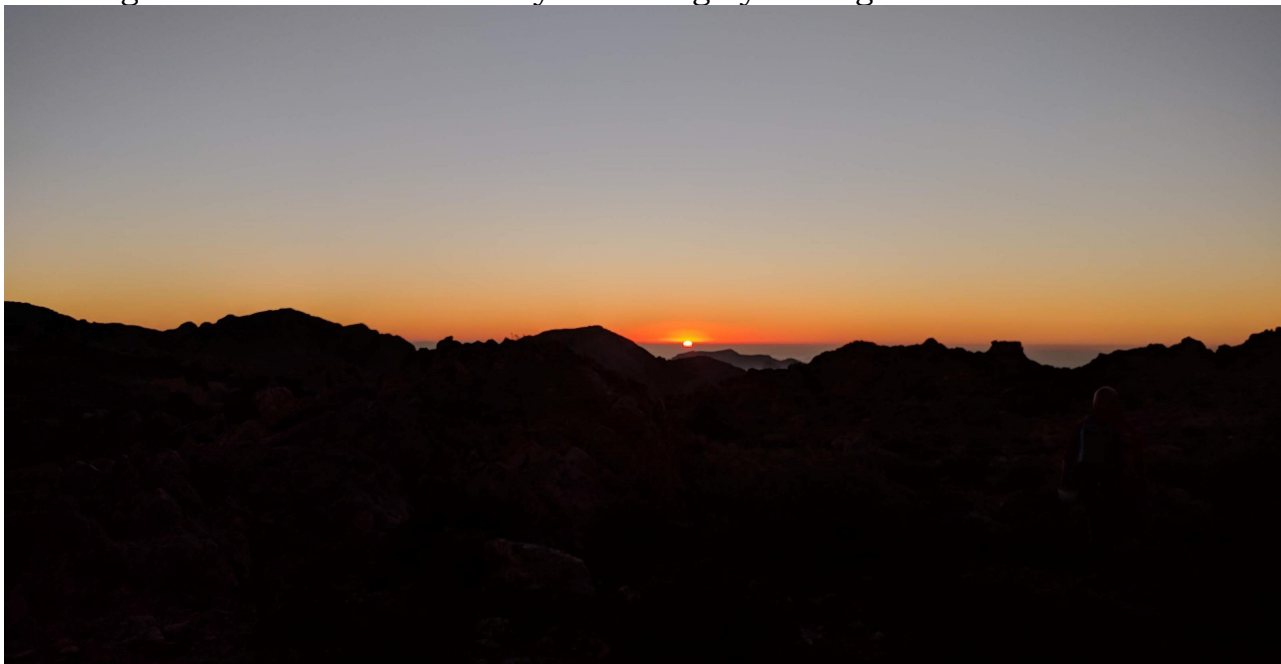
I particularly like this photo of him with Gordon Gadsby (who was also his best man when my mum and dad married). I remained very close to Gordon until he passed away - he was like a second father to me. Obviously with them both passing with cancer it would wonderful to get some donations for cancer research. If these could be forwarded to me at the following address I can then ensure that they are passed on. Cheques should be made payable to Cancer Research UK.

My address is: Mrs Julia Willson (nee Goldsmith) xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

## **Morocco, the Anti-Atlas Spenser Gray**

Shortly after I started climbing six years ago I came across this article:  
["Unearthing Moroccan Gold: Quality easy and mid-grade climbing on the north side of the Jebel el Kest by Don Sargeant](https://www.climber.co.uk/articles/destinations/unearthing-moroccan-gold.html)  
<https://www.climber.co.uk/articles/destinations/unearthing-moroccan-gold.html>

I was sufficiently taken with the idea of the climbing in the area that I chose to take up trad climbing with a view to doing a trip there when I had enough experience. Cue several years of trad all over England and Wales, bits and bobs in Scotland, Spain, the Alps and a three week trip to Arapiles. There have been some fine adventures over the course of those years, however the experience of climbing in the Anti-Atlas certainly ranks highly amongst all the others!



### *Sunset from the top of Inshallah Buttress*

I was glad to have five other members of the Climbers' Club (Mark Anstiss, Mark Courtiour, Harry Moss, Brian Hodgson and Geoff Der), a keen aspirant (Marcin Kruszelnicki) and Harry's Old Friend (a half rope which might well predate me!) join me on the trip. Some of whom I had climbed with/ met before and others who I had not, everyone provided good company both on and off the crag.

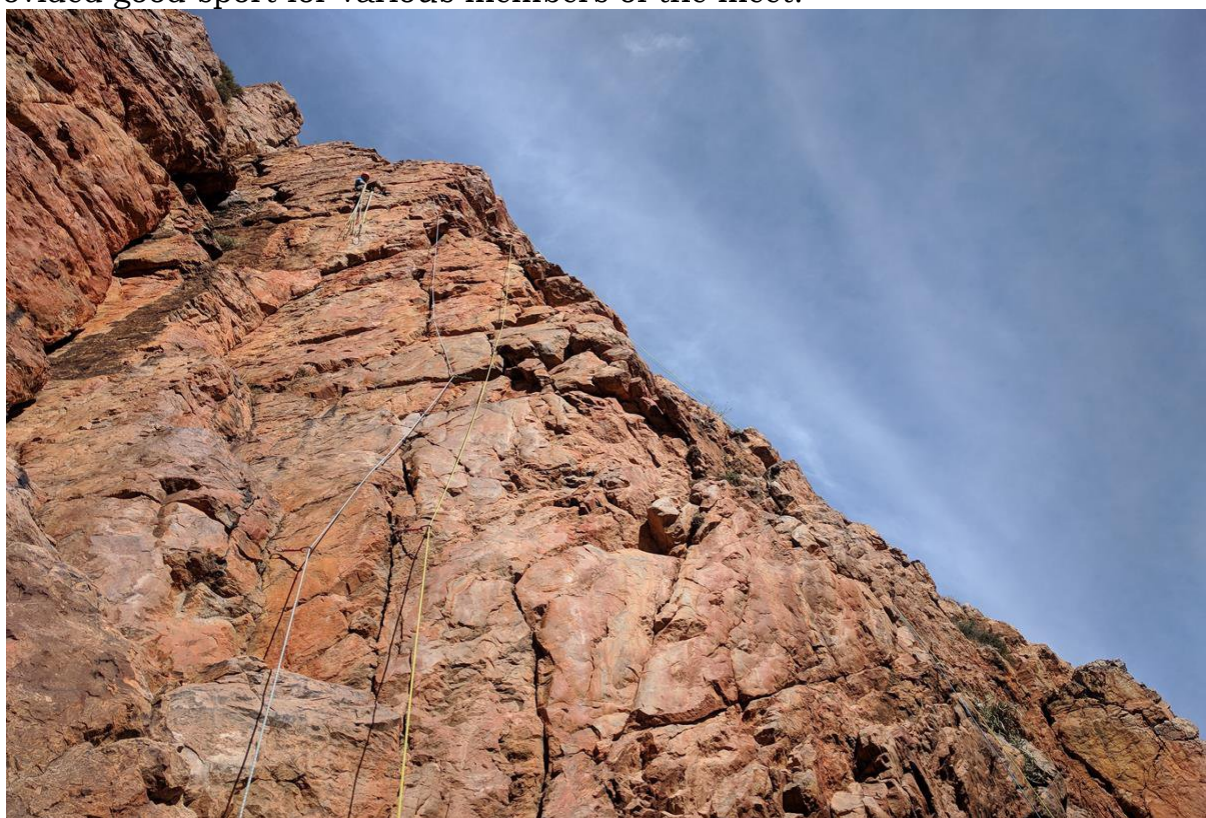


For the first half of the trip we based ourselves in Tafraout at the Hotel Argana, a low cost means of accommodation (100 dhirams pppn for shared rooms), during this time we climbed some excellent routes including Ride the Wild Wind, Flake Quake, High Sierra (bring BIG cams for these two and don't expect perfect rock), White Tower Original Route and White Tower (Slot Machine). *Mark Courtiour dispatching the crux pitch of White Tower Original.* Clearly the mountain routes are what the climbing on the south side is all about with White

Tower Original being one of the stand out routes for the year in my eyes (also having one of the least comfortable belays I have ever used!).

There are a good variety of places to eat in Tafraout, Restaurant La Kasbah is certainly worth a visit, as was a small French place on the left just after the bridge. Tagine forms a large part of the menu here, so it is good that it is quite tasty! Marcin did choose to brave a "Goat Evaporator one night", I don't think he was much more certain what had been done to the animal after he'd eaten it! The second part of the trip was spent at the Ksar Rock Guesthouse to the west of Ida Ougnidif, it's got a heck of a view from the bedroom window:

The food here was quite basic (and felt quite thin on the ground at times!), it seemed that we got the same amount of soup/ tagine when there were six meat eaters as when there were four! Geoff seemed to do pretty well as a vegetarian! Ksar Rock provides an excellent experience with easy (but slightly prickly) access to a range of 3\* routes, Morocco Coco, Sahara, Pelez, Jedi Grooves, Age of Empires, Palladin, Desert Storm, Cannon Buttress Direct and Civilisation all provided good sport for various members of the meet:



*Mark Anstiss sat at the top of Age of Empires.*

We did also make the occasional foray into Ida to buy food for our lunches (also to get internet so that Marcin could attempt to find his wallet, wherever it had gone after he left it on the plane when travelling to Morocco!)

The mountain routes in the area also proved to be excellent with teams enjoying Pink Lady, Black Beauty, Inshallah, Moroccan Gold, Jaws (What a chimney!!!!), Michael Burka (my first E1 lead in about eight months, thanks for not complaining how long I took to get up it Mark and Marcin!), Crazy Mushrooms Ridge and Hee-Haw. I also snatched the opportunity to go for a walk after

climbing (mostly seconding) Otello on the Sanctuary, this took me into the valley behind Upper Eagle Crag.



*Mark Anstiss on Black Beauty*

Due to the non-availability of climbing gear out in Morocco I would strongly advise to have some spare with you (I brought a spare rope in case anyone wound up having to chop up their rope in an epic descent, thankfully no such situation occurred). Alternatively you can use the time honoured solution of Gaffa Tape:

*(The time honoured solution!)*

Having talked a lot about climbing I now feel that there should be a photo of the adorable Afantinzar Puppies!



Do I have any regrets about investing so much of my life to make this trip possible? None whatsoever! Did the trip meet my high expectations? Absolutely! This has certainly given me rather more confidence in myself and lit a fire of enthusiasm to visit other similar areas (and of course to return to the Anti-Atlas!)



## Hut Bookings.

### TAN-YR-WYDDFA

25-27 January	Croydon MC
27-28 January	Pete Amour
1-2 February	Skyline MC
8-9 February	Orpheus MC
15-16 February	Southern Trekking and MC
17-20 February	D. of E. Ridgeway School <b>Whole Hut Sole Use.</b>
1-2 March	Litchfield MC 8 beds
15-16 March	Scunthorpe MC 10 beds

### HEATHY LEA

2-3 February	Sam Cooper
9 February	Neil Weatherstone 5 beds
15-16 February	Plymouth Uni Cottage and Barn
22-23 February	U E A Cottage
15-16 March	Durham Uni MC Cottage and Barn

“Whole Hut” includes the Oread room!

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

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

Our preferred method of payment is via bank transfer to our account with Lloyds - Sort Code **30-98-97**. Account number **62584068**. You must put your name **and either TYW or HL as a reference**. Otherwise the treasurer cannot allocate the payment to the right hut.

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

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

## Information on Member Activities

Applications for full membership have been received from Adam Casey, James Fidler, Ian Middup, Kevin Raisin-Moss and Sue Todd. If you would like to comment on any of these applications, which will be decided at the March committee meeting, please contact a member of the committee.

Welcome to new full member, Emily Ross and to new prospective member Bruce MacIntyre. We hope you will both enjoy many happy days with the Oread.

## Rusty's Puzzle Corner

### November's puzzle solution

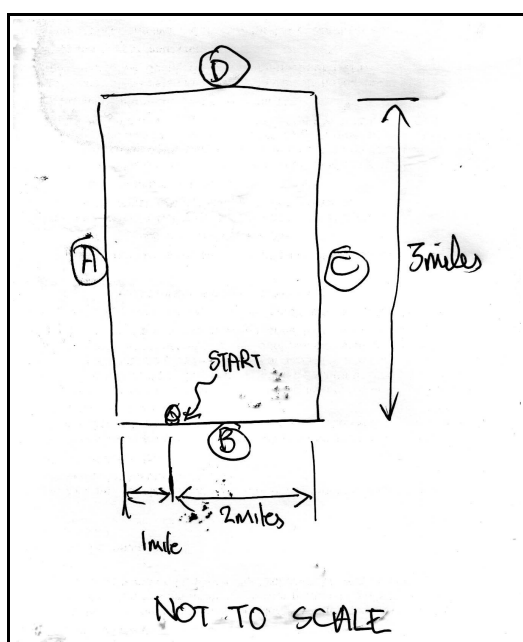
26 Letters in the Alphabet	12 Days of Christmas	1815 Battle of Waterloo
7 Wonders of the World	90 Degrees in a Right Angle	8 Furlongs in a Mile
52 Cards in a Pack	24 Blackbirds in a Pie	39 Steps by John Buchan
5 Sisters of Kintail	9 Lives of a Cat	12 Members of a Jury
57 Heinz Varieties	10 Green Bottles	10 Downing Street
11 People in a Football Team	2468 Who Do We Appreciate?	24 Hours from Tulsa
76 Trombones in the Big Parade	600 Charge of the Light Brigade	3 Cliffs in the Llanberis Pass.

Snod and Martin Lancaster both got there in the end – after some prompting. Martin writes: "I'm having second thoughts about my 5 Symbols of the Khalsa. May well be too niche for the regular readers? *(It was certainly too niche for your Hon. Ed. And he declined to enlighten me.)* Not sure why a guide title from 1948 would spring to your mind though. Plus it wasn't very PC of the CC calling them Cliffs in Wales. But it was 1948..."

### Last month's puzzle solution:

The watercourse depicted in the December 2018 puzzle was Hoo Brook where it discharges into the River Manifold opposite the car park at Wetton Mill Tea Rooms.

### This month's puzzle.



The Oread Fell Race was revived (again) and a new concept was introduced. This entailed the exclusive use of electronic navigation as distinct from the dated idea of positioning by reference to visible detail on the ground. Each competitor was equipped with a GPS and monitored by the organisers by means of a tracker device. The rules were that each person should start at the point specified on the plan, on line B, and navigate to a point of their choosing on line D. There was also a requirement to touch both line A and line C en route. Any obstacles such as rock outcrops, watercourses etc. were to be traversed without deviation, using the competitor's outdoor skills. He to whom the very notion of weakness or defeat was anathema had discovered it to be

impossible to compensate for the depredations of age even by the most extreme effort of will power alone and so he was only capable of an average of 7.5 m.p.h.  
***What is the least time in which he could possibly complete the course?***  
Please note that this puzzle is in imperial units in anticipation of a triumphant conclusion to Brexit negotiations.

## **Oread MC - Review of Status**

**The outcome of the review is that the Oread will remain an “unincorporated association” but this will be reviewed at regular intervals of 5 years or less.**

**See below for detail of how your committee reached this decision and an explanation of the insurance cover which underpins the Club's operations.**

Almost a year ago the committee began developing a Health and Safety policy for the Oread. The legal status of the club was almost immediately identified as a major issue. Periodic reviews are recommended by the BMC and were recommended by the Forward Thinking Group. Concern about their financial liability was expressed by some trustees and committee members.

The Oread has always been an “unincorporated” association. This has many advantages but also significant disadvantages.

It was founded by agreement between the members and no further steps are required. It can have any aims and its rules can be whatever we choose. Our members can have a say in day-to-day decisions. Administration is simple, and there are no rules regarding the format of accounts or where they have to be submitted.

However, it is not a body corporate and does not have a separate legal existence from its individual members; accordingly it can neither sue nor be sued other than through its officers and members. It cannot hold land and investments other than in the name of officers or trustees. It cannot make formal contracts. The club does not have limited liability. The committee, trustees and sometimes the members of the club may be held liable for the debts of the club and other obligations. Members, trustees and officers can be unclear about their liabilities. In certain circumstances committee members can be held personally liable to compensate a third party for harm they have suffered as a result of the wrongful actions of the club.

The purpose of the review was to consider the current risks, liabilities and their implications to the club, the committee, officers, trustees and members and decide whether any of the many alternative structures would be better suited for the Oread. Perhaps the main object of any change would be to minimise the threat of litigation against individuals.

Several organisations (eg. the BMC and Sport England) make recommendations about what to consider. Chris Radcliffe attended a BMC training event on this topic. Our review looked at the pros and cons of the many alternative club

structures available. Some clubs have become companies limited by guarantee, others Community Benefit Societies or Industrial and Provident Mutual Societies. Charity status can sometimes be of benefit.

The risks and liabilities are linked to the insurance cover that the Oread and its members have. This is provided through the BMC. (See the article below). Its cover is extremely comprehensive and is intended to protect against any consequent financial penalties, but individuals may none the less face a harrowing experience should they be sued. The insurance cover provided is the same irrespective of status. If we were 'incorporated' and sued individuals would still have to appear in court, and could, in some circumstances still be personally liable. Claims against sports clubs however are rare and almost all are settled out of court.

Any change to the Club's status would incur financial cost and be time consuming as well as imposing additional duties and regulation. The review concluded that it would not be appropriate to change the current status of the Oread, but that this be looked at again in a maximum of 5 years.

We have however concluded that a number of steps be taken to minimise the risks. These include updating and modernising the club rules (to cover such issues as diversity and the termination of membership), reviewing the club insurance policies and ensuring that all reasonable measures are taken to minimise the risk by adhering to its Health and Safety, Fire Safety, Data Protection and similar policies, as well as complying with the terms of its insurance policies. These actions are now being undertaken, and are close to completion.

### **How the BMC Combined Liability Insurance protects your club and you.**

**The information below is taken from a document kindly supplied to the Oread M.C. by Charles Stupart, Hon. Secretary of the Alpine Club. It was written to help A.C. members understand how clubs are protected against legal liability by the BMC. Relevant parts of the document are reproduced here for your information.**

One of the range of benefits that all clubs and their members gain from being affiliated to the BMC is Combined Liability Insurance. This "Master" policy has been specially developed by Howden, the BMC's Insurance broker, and protects clubs and their members against legal liability under Civil Law.

#### **What is Combined Liability Insurance**

The policy is designed to provide cover whilst undertaking activities recognised by the BMC. The main features of the Policy are:

- [i] **Public Liability** – Accidental bodily injury to third parties and/or damage to third party property. This section of the policy provides cover for: (a) member to member liability and (b) liability arising out of the sharing of knowledge.
- [ii] **Products Liability** – Accidental bodily injury to third parties and/or damage to third party property arising out of any goods lent to another person by an

Individual or club member or sold or supplied by the club.

[iii] **Libel and Slander** – Includes defamation, which is vital in relation to allegations of child abuse.

[iv] **Directors' and Officers' Liability** – Legal Liability protection in respect of negligent mismanagement.

The Policy is also extended to protect against liability arising out of the use, ownership or possession of any **club premises** e.g. mountaineering huts, and includes protection for Trustees.

### **How much cover does it provide?**

The 2018 “Master Policy” provides the following cover:

Public Liability £15,000,000 any one event

£15,000,000 any one period of cover for products and pollution

Professional Indemnity £10,000,000 any one claim and period of cover

Directors and Officers Liability £10,000,000 any one claim and period of cover

### **In Summary**

From the £13.25 affiliation fee paid by an affiliated club to the BMC for each UK member, £2.50 purchases this Combined Liability Insurance.

It means that all the Club's Officers and Trustees, and all the Club's Volunteers eg Meet Leaders, Lecture Organisers, Dinner Conveners, IT team, are protected from potentially being personally liable.

It also mitigates the risk of the Club's assets requiring to be disposed of in the event of paying out to cover a successful claim, or to defend a claim.

For the members, it provides Public Liability Insurance, whether on a Club event or not, when engaged in a wide range of mountaineering activities. For more information please see:

[http://bmc-insurance-centre.co.uk/uploads/documents/bmc-insurancecentre//BMC\\_Club\\_Confirmation\\_of\\_Cover\\_2018.pdf](http://bmc-insurance-centre.co.uk/uploads/documents/bmc-insurancecentre//BMC_Club_Confirmation_of_Cover_2018.pdf)

## **Membership Renewals for 2019**

- Please pay up now! All the details and rates were in the last newsletter. Pay by cheque made payable to the Oread Mountaineering Club, posted to Michael Hayes, 32 Hawthorne Drive, Thornton, Leicester, LE67 1AW or by bank transfer to our **new** account: **Sort Code 30-98-97, Account Number 62584068** with **Subs and your name** in the reference field. Once the money has been transferred please email [hayes\\_michael\\_j@cat.com](mailto:hayes_michael_j@cat.com) confirmation. Any questions then please contact Michael Hayes.

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