

# OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB MAGAZINE

**JUNE 2019**



**Dave Hayden admiring the Dinorwic Quarries on the recent Tan yr Wyddfa meet. More photos on page 24. Photo courtesy of James Clarke.**

## **Editorial**

Coming up soon we have the Kids' meet and a barbecue meet to enjoy Heathy Lea in its new splendour - the recent working party write up is in here too.

Let's hope the weather is kind during the long light days ahead particularly for the Borrowdale meet coming up soon, and the return trip to the North York Moors at the end of the month. There are several day walks coming soon – including a 19 mile expedition in the Forest of Bowland in July. That's going to take a bit of planning so register your interest now.

Sadly this month has been dominated by the loss of four members and former members, Nan Axon, Peter Janes, Keith Gregson and Roy Sawyer.

We will not see their like again.

Photos of Nan and tributes to Peter and Keith are included here. Further memories and contributions will be most welcome for the next issue.

## 2019 Meets List Spenser Gray

Additions and alterations from last month are highlighted in red.  
Spenser Gray email: [oreadmcmeeets@gmail.com](mailto:oreadmcmeeets@gmail.com)

### Forthcoming meets 2019

<i>June</i>	7-9 Jun	<i>Children's meet Neil Weatherstone</i>
	12	<i>Wednesday Walk Phil Waterson</i>
	14th-16 Jun	<i>Borrowdale High House - Dave Helliwell</i>
	22	<i>Heathy Lea Barbecue Yvonne Waterson</i>
	26	<i>Wednesday Day walk Outside, Hathersage Stuart Firth co-ordinator</i>
	28th-30 Jun	<i>North York Moors, Bungdale Head Farm Chris Wilson</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>
	10	<i>Wednesday Walk Peter Amour</i>
	12 <sup>th</sup> -14	<i>Forest of Bowland Walk Pam Storer</i>
	14th-4 Aug	<i>Alpine meet Otztal 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 Colin Hobday</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 Michael Hayes</i>
	18th-20	<i>Tan yr Wyddfa Rob Beck and Lucy Revelo</i>
<i>November</i>	1st-3	<i>Halloween and Bonfire meet meet leader needed</i>
	5	<i>Evening Lecture Royal Oak?</i>
	9	<i>PDBW Rob Tresidder</i>
	16	<i>Annual Dinner Maynard Arms Grindleford. Adam Casey</i>
	17	<i>Post Prandial walk meet leader needed.</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>

### Training opportunities

If you wish to learn some new skills please contact Spenser Gray, he will keep a record of what members are wanting to learn and will assist with either finding someone in the club to teach you or make arrangements with an instructor. This might include rigging of abseils, dynamic belays, first aid skills, crack climbing, anchor building, the applications of double rope technique and navigation amongst many other things.

## 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.

## Wednesday Activities – Walking and Climbing

Following feedback from members last year about the Wednesday meets program's inflexibility it has been decided to run things differently this year. A series of monthly walks will take place for the duration of the summer season. (Dates below). The pub used post walk/climb will be fixed, however these are planned to be on the way back from a wide range of crags to provide the climbers flexibility in choice of climbing style (sport/ trad/ boulder) and to dodge the rain if the weather proves inclement.

### Climbing

The choice of climbing venue for all weeks will be left up to the decision of members to be chosen via the new [groups.io](http://groups.io) group (to send a message email [main@oread.groups.io](mailto:main@oread.groups.io)). A significant complaint about the Wednesday meets program observed during the FTG was the last minute change of choice of crags so please agree on a venue on Tuesday night and try and not wind up spread across too many crags before meeting up in the pub.

### Walking

The new series of Wednesday Walks has proved to be popular and it is proposed to extend the programme by having two, roughly fortnightly, threads. The first will be on the previously published dates and will endeavour to link walkers and climbers by having a common evening pub venue. **This will mean an afternoon or evening start.** There will be a nominated leader.

12 June – Phil Waterson	[pub The Wheatsheaf, Baslow, Beeley Moor area]
10 July – Pete Amour	[pub Derwentwater Arms, Calver ]
14 August – tba	[pub Black Swan, Idridgehay tbc]
11 September – tba	[pub Hurt Arms, Ambergate tbc]
09 October – tba	[pub tba]

Meet details in the Newsletter.

The second - new - thread will be straightforward **day walks** starting at nominated venues at a specific time (10:00 am for a 10:15 start), finishing late afternoon. These will be two weeks after the dates above.

29 May – Heathy Lea, Baslow  
26 June – Outside, Hathersage  
24 July – tba  
28 August – tba  
25 September – tba  
23 October – tba

Just turn up, see who's there and make a plan on the day.  
Offers of leading for Series One and suggestions for meeting venues for Series Two to be made to me please.  
Stuart Firth

## **Wednesday 29 May Day Walk from Heathy Lea**

Meet at Heathy Lea 10.00 am for a pre walk brew and decide the route. Probably best to bring a packed lunch. No designated leader for this walk, it is a get-together for those able to attend on the day. If you want to discuss, share information contact Stuart Firth ( see page 4.)

## **7-9 June Children's climbing meet, Heathy Lea** **Neil Weatherstone**

The annual meet for small Oreads, so they can have fun climbing together. This meet is also suitable for novice climbers as there will be plenty of top roping opportunities.

Climbing is at Birchen Edge on Saturday. Starting out from Heathy Lea at 10am with a picnic lunch. Some of us will be staying over at Heathy Lea on both Friday and Saturday night, so let me know if you want to stay over. We'll be having a bonfire and BBQ on Saturday evening if the weather allows. If the weather is too wet for climbing on the Saturday, plan B is to set off at 10am for a walk along the edges instead. I'll be climbing and staying over with my children who are now aged 8 and 10.

Neil Weatherstone email tel.

## **Wednesday 12 June Walk Beeley Area Phil Waterson**

Meet up at 1.45 at Beeley Lane, Hell Bank Plantation. Map ref 287 681 (where the ice cream van parks) parking free.

The walk will take in a circular route via Carlton Lees, Edensor and Chatsworth Park. Options of a picnic or a meal in the Wheatsheaf Pub Baslow to meet up with members who might be climbing in the Stanage or Birchens area.

Phil Waterson tel. email

## **14-16 June High House, Borrowdale Snod Helliwell**

High House, the K Fellfarers hut at Seathwaite, Borrowdale is in a fantastic setting right at the end of the road, below Gillercombe Buttress and it's probably the best hut in the Lakes - a converted stone built farmhouse in its own grounds, with a camp fire pit, car access and parking. OS Grid Reference NY235119. We have reciprocal rights here so the cost is the same as for Tan yr Wyddfa.

The weather has been booked and, coupled with the light nights, it's a perfect opportunity for a mountaineering day out on the high crags. Scawfell and Pillar are in reach as are many excellent lower crags. For the walkers it couldn't be better situated. Previous meets have featured ascents of Eagle Front and Engineers Slabs, Nazgul, Saxon, Eagles Nest Ridge Direct, Gillercombe Buttress and Corvus.

The hut sleeps 26, and demand will be very high - I already have several bookings so you had better get in quick!

Snod. Tel. email

## **22 June Climbing day out and Heathy Lea Barbecue Yvonne Waterson and Spenser Gray**

This meet will provide an opportunity to combine a visit to some of the wilder crags of the Peak District (such as Dovestones Tor or the Northern or Southern Edges on Kinder) or a long day on limestone, with a sociable evening of BBQ related fun and food. Everyone welcome whether for a pleasant evening with fellow members, maybe a gentle stroll, a couple of routes on Birchens or go for it and get some pre-Alps meet training on a big day out – your choice – but be there! Please book your bed nights with Mick Hayes as normal. Bring your own food, barbecue provided. Contact Yvonne Waterson for the social info: tel. or email or Spenser for the climbing plan.

## **Wednesday 26 June Day Walk from Outside, Hathersage**

Meet at the cafe above Outside, Hathersage 10.00 am for a pre walk brew/bacon butty and to decide the route. Probably best to bring a packed lunch. No designated leader for this walk, it is a get-together for those able to attend on the day. If you want to discuss, share information contact Stuart Firth ( see page 4.)

## **28-30 June North Yorks Moors Chris Wilson**

Are you joining us for a weekend at the end of June in this lovely spot? Will you be enjoying the fabulous scenery and walking area, interesting and different climbing locations and great company? With Scugdale and the Wainstones probably the best sandstone crags in the area and Whitestone Cliff and Peak Scar two of the interesting nearby limestone cliffs there is plenty for climbers for a weekend, even if you've been before. Details are available in the on-line guide as well as Rockfax's "Northern England" guidebook.

The National Park has no shortage of superb walks and we will be organising one on at least one of the two days. In addition to the walking and climbing the area has lots of other attractions, castles, abbeys, pubs, restaurants, steam rallies, shopping and more!

Camping has been arranged near Helmsley and I will be getting there on Friday night.



*The view from the Wainstones.*

The campsite is BUNGDALE HEAD FARM CAMPSITE, at Scawton, Nr Helmsley, North Yorkshire, YO7 2HH. Tel 01439 770589. It's on the Cleveland Way. It is a small quiet site on a working family farm, in a peaceful location with magnificent views across the countryside. The charge for a motor home/campervan with two adults without hook-up is £15 per night with a reduction for just one adult. For tents the charge is £6.50 per person per night. Electric hook up points are £3.50 per night. Facilities include: level and well drained pitches, electric hook-up points, chemical disposal point, toilet block with h&c water, wash basins, washing up facilities. It is a small camp site that is reluctant to take family groups because of problems with late night noise and drinking by people sitting around in groups late into the night. We have a field to ourselves. [www.bungdaleheadcamping.co.uk](http://www.bungdaleheadcamping.co.uk)

Please make your own booking with the campsite. Address: John & Sheila Foster, Bungdale Head Farm, Scawton, Thirsk, North Yorkshire, YO7 2HH, Tel: 01439 770589 or Mobile: 07792 790 434

Send an email to Sheila Foster stating that you are with the Oread:  
[sm.foster@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sm.foster@hotmail.co.uk)

On the Saturday evening we thought it would be a nice idea to have a communal meal. If the weather is poor we can escape into a "brown hut in the first paddock". If you are coming and interested, please let me know so that we can sort something out.

Chris Wilson

### **3-5 July Tan yr Wyddfa working party Snod Helliwell**

It's that time of year again! Time to give our hut a bit of TLC and have some fun in the mountains as well. There's cleaning, painting and gardening to be done. Some Health and Safety jobs, the rainwater drainage over the front porch to be improved and the gap between the new cooker and worktop to be filled in. Plus the stair carpet promised for last year.

Hope to see you there. Snod.

Book in with me by email or phone and leave me a message.

## **6-7 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.

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.

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

Please note that this meet will be immediately preceded by Snod's Working Party Meet from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> July. Do both!

Tony Howard email Tel: Home

Mobile:

## **10 July Walk around Calver Pete Amour**

Meet up at 1-45pm for a 2-00pm commencement from outside the Derwentwater Arms, Calver. I advise drivers find local parking within the village. People have options of taking a packed tea with them or food at the Derwentwater Arms on completion of the walk which will go anti clockwise starting along the River Derwent.

Pete Amour tel. email

## **Saturday 13 July The Wild Walk Challenge - Wolf Fell and Fiendsdale Pam Storer**

This is a magnificent walk over wild upland country exploring the bleak fells and deep valleys of the Forest of Bowland.

The plan is for a one day 19 mile challenge for the super fit on the Saturday. We will base ourselves at a camp site a few miles out of Chipping or the motorhome site in Chipping. This will depend on who takes part. If folks would contact me, I am prepared to make the bookings and to organise a back up.

For the more leisurely walkers, the walk could be done over two days if we have enough folks to organise return transport to the campsites. So please get in touch soon if you would like to join us so we can firm up the plans.

Pam Storer tel. email

## 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%FCChrer-%F6tztaler%20alpen-1123.htm>

<https://www.rother.de/rother-alpenvereins-%20und%20gebietsf%FCChrer-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: Mobile Number 07534821500 Email

[oreadmcmeeets@gmail.com](mailto:oreadmcmeeets@gmail.com)

## 27-29 September Clwyd Limestone Derek Pike

I have been fortunate with the weather for the last few occasions that I have run this meet so I am hoping that the weather gods will not desert me. This is basically a climbing meet but as there are Oreads who may prefer a long walk to a pub or just a wander around the beautiful Dee Valley you will be made very welcome.

We shall be camping, caravanning or motor homing at the Carrog Station campsite some seven and a half miles west of Llangollen just off the A5. [S.J. G.R. 116436]. This site has all the usual facilities plus its own railway station and the Grouse Inn is five minutes walk away where I shall be found on the Friday evening sampling the beer.

You will need to book your own pitch direct with the site, I have told them we are coming, mention Oread or my name so that we may all be together. Their large rally field will not be available this summer so space may be at a premium, so if you wish to come I was advised by the owners to book as soon as possible.

Carrog Station Campsite- [enquiries@stationcampsite.com](mailto:enquiries@stationcampsite.com)

01490 430347 mobile 07977211046

Post Code LL219BD

The current climbing guide to the area is the Rockfax 2015 Clwyd Limestone by Mark Glaister and Lee Proctor.

Hope to see you all there.

For any more info you can e-mail me:

## 10 – 21 October Kalymnos Michael Hayes



Kalymnos is a Greek Island situated close to the Turkish coast and is one of the most enjoyable sports climbing venues in the world. The climbing scene is perfect with over 60 crags and hundreds of routes at all grades. My 2016 guide has over 400 pages.

Most people get to the island via a flight to Kos with Jet 2 from East Mids / Birmingham or Manchester and then a boat to Kalymnos main harbour. Taxis, Bike and Car hire are plentiful, and most climbers stay around the town of Masouri which has loads of low cost accommodation and excellent bars and restaurants.

The dates are flexible as many stay longer than one week but our plan

is to fly out from Birmingham on the 10<sup>th</sup> October and book into a hotel at Mastichari on Kos as it arrives quite late. The following morning we will take the boat to Kalymnos, pick up a hire car and drive the short distance to Masouri where there is loads of accommodation if you book early!

We are booked into the Louis Apartment 6 with Airbnb from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> Come and join us for a fantastic holiday.

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

Michael Hayes: Tel. mobile . Email: michaelhayes6688@gmail.com

**Copy deadline for next issue is 21 June.**

## **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!

### **News, Articles and Reports from Meets.**

#### **Heathy Lea Work Party Saturday 11 May Phil and Yvonne Waterson**



We appreciate that members must be living in fear of hearing the words “there’s a working part at Heathy Lea” again. So it was really encouraging that so many turned out on what was supposed to be a dry Saturday.



One of the founder members, Paul Gardiner, was amongst the first to arrive and set to preparing and painting the inside of the porch and kitchen window frames.

Pam volunteered to sort the weeds from the plants in the garden and sowed some wild flower seeds.

Mike Wren bravely accepted the challenge to fit the old lounge door to the bedroom, a job which proved more challenging than anticipated, as was Steve McDonagh's job fitting a

handrail to the wall along the stone steps to the barn. Getting three points of contact on each rail was pretty much impossible.



Phil and Rock cleared the ground between the barns and put up a fence, assisted by one of the club's newer members, Dave Hayden, in full PPE with his chainsaw, as a safety precaution to prevent children (or unstable members) from falling down the bank to the stream.

Chris Wilson assisted by Freddie (the terrier) delivered a load of slabs which

Chris was happy to donate – many thanks, and he and Mike Hayes set about creating a patio area between the porch and the gate to the yard. I don't think we anticipated what a real sun trap it would be on a sunny evening. Dave very professionally repaired the collar to the holding tank, which was necessary to fit the outlet for the new **inside** toilet.

Helen washed down the walls in the kitchen in preparation for Yvonne to paint once she had sealed the stone wall in the porch and painted the shower room walls. The suspicious smell in the cupboard was soon tracked down when Helen removed the crockery to clean out the cupboards and found a pile of plates which had been put away dirty (something suspiciously like Bolognese!). All is clean and smelling fresh.

Rain showers not forecast gave everyone an opportunity for a brew and more cake. As Yvonne mopped her way out of the kitchen Mike H and Rock were assembling the new shiny BBQ. It was a long day and some of the jobs certainly proved a bit of a challenge so a massive thank you to all who contributed. Hopefully that is the last work party at Heathy Lea for a while but we hope as many members as possible can make it to the BBQ on Saturday 22 June to enjoy the new facilities.

Hope to see you there for food, fun, a brew or a pint and hopefully some impromptu entertainment around the fire pit.

## **Hut Bookings.**

### **TAN-YR-WYDDFA**

14-16 June	Simon Raine 3 beds
17-20 June	Snod Helliwell 3 beds
28-29 June	ABAMSAC whole hut
3-5 July	Oread Working Party D Helliwell
5-6 July	Oread Barbecue meet Tony Howard
18-21 July	J Vivian whole hut
2-4 August	FRCC joint meet
9-10 August	Fylde MC

### **HEATHY LEA**

7-8 June	Children's meet Neil Weatherstone
14-15 June	Barrow M&SC Cottage only
17-20 June	HTC Leicester cottage and barn
22 June	Oread Barbecue
12-13 July	Bedford MC
26-27 July	Vertigirls
9-10 August	Scunthorpe MC

“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: [179 Starkholmes Rd. Starkholmes, Matlock DE4 5JA](mailto:179 Starkholmes Rd. Starkholmes, Matlock DE4 5JA)

Mobile 07771 700913. Email: [michaelhayes6688@gmail.com](mailto:michaelhayes6688@gmail.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**

**From 31 May Michael Hayes will have a new address: see page 13.**

Welcome to new provisional member Luke Horne and full members Nigel Berry, William Clarke, Francesco Comin, Mike and Sue French and Emily Major We hope you will enjoy many happy days with the Oread.

The applications published last month of Ellie Rickman, Michael Goold and Daljit Bhogal will be decided at the June committee meeting. If you would like to comment on any of these applications please contact a member of the committee.

## **Nan Axon: Memories**

The photos below, contributed by Paul Gardiner, give a flavour of the times and a glimpse of Nan's joyous peronality.



These were taken by Ed Say at Christmas 1949. From the left above are George Sutton, Nan, laughing as ever, Frank Ewers, Keith Axon and Paul Gardiner. They had been washed out of a camp near Llyn Llydau: their ex WD tents, below, being neither very waterproof nor aerodynamic!



Below are meets from 1951. At Brassington with Doug King, Eddie Say, Nan and Keith.  
And at Gardoms in the same year with Harry Pretty, Nan and George Sutton.





**Peter Janes, past president of the Oread, and  
Honorary Member, passed away on the 30th of April  
aged 91.**



**A tribute from Dave Appleby.**

His long life was a journey.....full of adventures.

In some ways a type of Odyssey.

Working all his life within the Rolls Royce group..... as an engineering draftsman. Many years in the engine divisions and transferring to the nuclear division..... Finally finishing his long career as chief detail design draftsman....official secrets act and all.

We first met within the Oread when I was sixteen.....being first associate member at three shillings and sixpence a year.

We took to each other straight away.

Handley and Burge were our hard men then and of course I was rebuffed but Peter took me under his wing.

I remember my very first Cairngorm week. Janes, Handley, Burge, Hayes, Gadsby and others.

Overnight drive....wash in Loch Morlech and straight onto the White Lady.....the severest ski run..... in a white out.....my first visit.....

They skied off, leaving me stranded.

It took me two hours to find my way down.....walking.... On meeting up....at last....in the Sheeling.....I had a dressing down from Peter about being late and getting lost.

That was the way it was for a young lad in that company.

We mustn't forget the Oread Pantos: for many years an Oread Dinner spectacle.

Peter was always a leading light in those epic productions by Tinsel Allan.

Happy days.

We skied many times together.....Peter was a very competent skier. We did a lot together not only in Scotland but in many alpine regions.

A good mountain man.

A safe pair of hands.

Rock climbing was always a treat with Peter.....The funnies....the raconteur moments were legendary. He did many routes with Nat Allan, Ray Handley Derrick Burgess and myself.....as the lad. He was a safe and reliable man to climb with..... Steady.

I remember on one occasion Peter and I went to Stoney Middleton with Nat Allan and Don Whillans. After the first route, which I think was Aurora, Peter and I retired to the Moon. Peter ordered two pints. When we arrived at our table, our hands and legs shaking, we only had half pints.

One of his most personal and memorable achievements in the mountains.... was in his early twenties.... with his ascent of the Hornli Ridge on the Matterhorn.

A fine achievement in those early years.

I remember doing the Klein Shreckhorn with him ...along with Digger Williams.

We were told by the Hut Custodian that it hadn't been done ...that season.....and the last Englishman to do it was Sir John Hunt ...later Lord Hunt.....in the previous year.

But off we set: 2.00am start.

We floundered.

To cut it short I had three rear teeth knocked out and Digger finished up going through a snow bridge on what can only be described as the worst glacier in the Alps. Only Digger's large brimmed hat was visible....Digger asked us never to divulge his demise.

This is the first time Digger....I'm sorry.

We never made the summit.....but what a day....a mountain day.....teeth and all. Peter got us out of what can only be described as a dangerous situation.

Reliable mountain man.

The Annual Donkey Farm camping trips.....near Abersoch in North Wales were particularly good family trips.

On one visit....Peter and I having to put new tents up ....first time pitched....in the dark....after more than a few pints....Not helped by his son Andrew running

off with both sets of tent pegs to make things worse.

We did a lot of fishing off the rocks....some delicate traverses were required at times....rucksack/rod.....no rope.....Overlooking large zawns, high swells and crashing waves.

On this occasion I was the last to do the traverse.....timing was critical to avoid the waves.

You had to time it well. You had to trust the instructions given by your mates....

NOW... said Peter.....off I scampered...eyes down..... on this delicate 20 foot horizontal problem.

His timing was perfect. !!!!!

I was wet through.....nearly in the swim.....the laughing went on for hours.

I was still the lad.

When it was your turn....you didn't stand a chance.

Enjoyable days with Peter on the GR 20 traverse in Corsica....with Harry Pretty.  
Great long hard mountain days.

As an Oread President.... Peter was brilliant! ....being the only President to get us banned from using the Fell and Rock Mountain Huts.....by chasing Harry Pretty through the hut and the annex.... wielding a large wet fish.

Scales....flesh....bones strewn all over the place.

The Fell and Rock banned us for years.

But I can now report that at long last..... this year.... the Oread have managed to get back our reciprocal arrangement..... 40 years later.

Peter was also a member of the Derby Ski Club.....I never saw him put up the ski tow.....ever.

Also a member of the Thursday Group....walking in Derbyshire with occasional trips to The Lakes....Wales and Yorkshire. The few of us left..... miss him.

Peter was an Oread to the core. He always held the club in high esteem.

Loyal to friends.... loyal to his family.

YES.....He was sometimes difficult..... And.... for some people hard to accept his witty dry humour.....cutting at times.....outrageous at times.

But he held that perfect gift of being able to spin yarns....tell numerous funny jokes and stories.

To conclude:

Some time ago I sat with him on a hillside overlooking Parwich..... we started to reminisce about the many things that he.....and we.... had done together.

With tears in his eyes.....he looked at me.

He said.....

“But remember lad.....We've had a very good life. A journey.....full of adventures”.

And now that I have climbed and won this height  
I must tread downwards through the sloping shade  
And travel the bewildered tracks till night.

Yet for this hour I still may here be stayed

And see the gold air and the silver fade

And see the last bird fly into the last light.

*Taken from 'In Praise of Mountains' by Eleanor and Geoffrey Winthrop Young.*



*Pete Janes with Fred Allen. Photos by Godon Gadsby.*

## **Peter Janes - An appreciation by Bob Pettigrew**

“On the bare summit over tangled hills  
And feel the mountain-wind of truth that chills  
I see her inaccessible for ever:  
A slender peak that rises far away  
Remote among the hills of yesterday.”

Peter was a rock climber, mountaineer and bold downhill skier whose elegance and skill was legendary whether practiced at Turnditch in the winter snows of yesteryear in Derbyshire or in the Valfurva of the Ortler mountains where he spent several seasons in the 'seventies.

Above all he was the archetypal club man whose wit and charm gained him the rare tribute, jealously guarded and rarely bestowed, of honorary membership of the Oread Mountaineering Club, which he served in style as both secretary and president in the 'sixties.

During that era the social fashion was for an annual dinner followed by a cabaret and for twenty continuous years Peter was the mainstay of an amateur cast which achieved a professional standard of entertainment in the atmospheric “Greenman and Blackamore’s Head Inn” at Ashbourne, a 17<sup>th</sup> century coaching inn at the gateway to the High Peak of Derbyshire, the beloved stamping ground of the Oread, all devotees of the gritstone crags bordering the valley of the river Derwent. His forte was as a female impersonator and his greatest creation was of a Brazilian lady climber named Carmello O’Higgins - a disguise so realistic he accused Ray Handley of pinching his bottom!

Many of his contemporary fellow members of the Oread might have been unaware of his love of cats. He knew by heart every breed of feline in Britain and he was a regular attender at the annual cat show in the Birmingham

Exhibition Centre. He truly believed that one moggy in particular possessed an I.Q. superior to his own.

However in later years, when the Derby spur road gave access to the A50 from Chellaston, traffic became fast and furious. He lost two much loved pets and resolved not to have another.

Peter always exercised tight control of his wallet and Bob Pettigrew recounts an incident on North West buttress climb on Pillar Rock above Ennerdale with Ray Handley leading, Bob seconding and Peter third. Unaccountably Handley failed to spot a pound note as he vacated the stance but Pettigrew put his hand on it and announced his lucky find. Immediately Peter called up: "That will be six shillings and seven pence!" (Old currency of course!)

"And the wind from Cwm Idwal, Cwm Llydau and Cwm Glas  
Comes whispering over the scree:

Come back, mountain friends to your youth on the pass: Come home mountain  
climber to me."

## **Keith Gregson: 6 March 1943 – 4 May 2019**

### **Ron Sant writes:**

Many Oreads will have been aware that Keith had been ill for some time but his passing will have been a shock to family and friends alike. It is some consolation that it was only in the final few hours that his condition had deteriorated

dramatically and he passed away peacefully in his sleep on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May.

From a personal point of view I was heartened by the fact that I had spoken to him on the Thursday evening when we reminisced about past adventures.



Keith was fiercely proud of his Yorkshire heritage and after the odd lemonade or two the banter would often degenerate into "if it's so bloody good in Yorkshire what you doing down here". The instant response would be "to educate you heathens" – fair enough.

Keith was gifted academically and gained his BSc in Applied Mathematics at the University of Bradford and his PhD gained with a thesis entitled 'The effect of intramolecular electric fields on molecular ionisation potentials' (I'm sure we are all much the wiser now) at the University of Nottingham. It was during this time at Nottingham that he started lecturing and continued there until his retirement. You can imagine that his lectures were delivered in a down to earth manner which would be appreciated by his students. He also

contributed to a number of mathematics text books and authored one ('Understanding Mathematics') which was accepted as the recommended reference book at the prestigious Johns Hopkins University in the USA – no mean feat by anyone's standards.

His contribution to the Oread over the years shouldn't be under estimated. I suspect that those new, fangled sticky address labels which were produced on a real computer (in the days when Newsletters were typed and circulated via the postal system) were one of Keith's first contributions. With the exception of Treasurer\* he served in most of the official posts within the Club's structure and this included his Presidency during 1983 – 1985. He could always be relied upon to lend his support to Working Parties, Journal and Newsletter articles, Committee matters and always put the Club's best interest at the fore.

*\*Keith took on that role as well – being Treasurer from 2014-2015.*

Keith had strong views on some subjects and one of those in early days was **C-H-A-L-K**. Many will remember that the use of this stuff was out and out cheating in Keith's view (he did mellow in later life). There were many lively discussions on this subject in pubs around the Peak District at that time.

This leads me to recall an incident at Buoux in the south of France. I'm sure Keith wouldn't mind if we had a little amusement at his expense, in fact I think he would feel cheated if we didn't – this is the Oread after all.

After a couple of weeks climbing in the Alps we ended up camped near Apt and ventured over to Buoux for a days' cragging. We started off up the route only to find two French guys ahead of us and they were making painfully slow progress. As Keith led through it was obvious that his impatience was growing and he decided to put a bit of pressure on by climbing to directly below the second climber. Whether it was the pressure from this mad Yorkshireman or not, this guy contrived to snag his chalk bag on some gear and completely empty its contents over Keith. The air was blue. This had all the makings of an international incident. Keith's mood wasn't improved by my inability to hide my amusement and I was left in fits of laughter hanging off the belay. Fortunately, after a cooling off period diplomatic relations were restored and we all made it safely to the top of the crag. We were only allowed to return to the campsite after I had received a severe dressing down from Keith for not supporting him in his predicament – happy days!

Despite knowing full well of the seriousness of his condition Keith maintained his sense of humour and a recent telephone conversation went down the following line:-

KG – It's about half past eight on Wednesday evening here. What time is it at your end?

RS – Half past seven Thursday morning.

KG – Oh! Tomorrow morning..... Am I still alive?

RS – Yes, I can confirm that.

KG – Will you promise to let me know when I've died.

RS – Yes, I promise.

Unfortunately, it was a promise I was unable to keep.

Rest in peace Grego. It was a privilege to have your friendship and this will be a treasured memory.

## **Dennis Gray writes:**

I am so sad to read of the deaths of Pete Janes and Keith Gregson. When I lived in Derby, end of 1959 to 1963 Pete was one of the larger than life Oread members.

My first meeting with him was at his home, when Ray Handley and I were waiting in the sitting room for him to arrive from some upstairs getting ready, and in walked a smartly dressed German Officer in full uniform. On another occasion at an Oread dinner, he appeared in an incredible outfit in drag, apparently representing a South American Alpine Club. Initially few of us realised it was Pete.

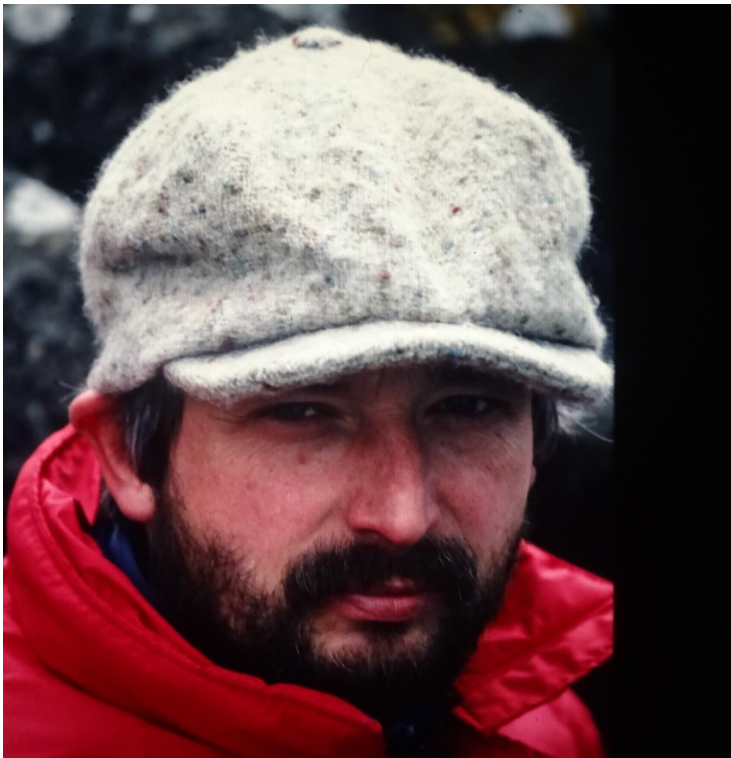
It was the same out at the crags with him, always it was light hearted with friendly barracking, he and Handley together were similar to a stand up comedy duo. So I remember him with fondness.

Keith I first met at his University climbing club, when I was invited to give a lecture to that body. I immediately came to realise at a post lecture chat in the bar, that he took no prisoners. I later met him several times at Heathy Lea, and he was always friendly and helpful but still a no nonsense personality who told it like he saw it. An approach that I grew to appreciate. So I feel lucky to have known them both.

In respect..... Dennis

## **Roy Sawyer**

Sadly Roy Sawyer passed away on 12 May. Memories and tributes would be most welcome for the July issue.



This photograph was taken by Gordon Gadsby in 1981.

## Rusty's Puzzle Corner

### Last month's puzzle solution:

A problem such as this in practical terms only lends itself to an approximate solution as in the real world the geometry would be nowhere near as precise as if it were, say steel ties in a structure or the like, and the small amount of rope slippage inevitable in the belaying process is not really measurable. There is no point in a calculation which is more precise than the data upon which it is based and so a simple analysis is proposed, neglecting the additional height energy lost by the leader due to rope stretch.

height lost by the leader from commencement of fall to lowest point of the arc through which he would swing=45ft

Potential energy lost =180\*45or 8100 ft lbs

if the elastic extension of the rope were 1.8225 ft then strain with a rope length of 90ft =100\*1.8225/90 or 2.025%

Failure load of rope at 45% stretch specified as 4000lbs

so actual rope tension is 4000\*2.025/45 or 180 lbs

strain energy in rope = half maximum load times length of rope in use, or 1/2\*180\*90, i.e.8100ft lbs

This is equal to the potential energy lost in the fall. ( the extension of 1.8225 ft was obtained by computerised trial and error (a simple quadratic equation could have been used), and is shown by the preceding figures to be correct).

The point is that since there was no slack (in theory) in the rope at any stage, the leader swung in a simple circular arc and the tension in the rope simply rose to his body weight at the lowest point of the arc.

neglecting friction in the karibiner (can't spell that), there would also be a 180lb. tension in the horizontal run of the rope between the runner and the second and so the force on the belay by triangle of forces would be root 2 times 180lbs or 254.6 lbs.

Digger sent a solution based on Newton's laws of motion, painstakingly written out, and I am still looking at this. Essentially this is adopting a purely mathematical approach rather than using the physics of energy.

Our late friend Keith would have enjoyed chewing us both up for an inelegant solution.

### This month's puzzle.

Which well known feat of endurance, performed twice by Oread parties in the 1960s, passes close to the site of a tv soap opera, a former cold war defence establishment and a geographical feature named for a celebrated archer. A founder member, still active, participated.

**Stop Press! Tan yr Wyddfa meet 17-19 May Adhe Koukoui**

“Ace weekend in Wales and the Tan Yr Wyddfa Hut with Oreaders and friends. Thanks all for having join and having share so much happiness!” Adhe.

“The Raclette was awesome!” David Uribe.

“A Raclette is an **essential** piece of hut equipment!!” Simon Pape.



*Fun at the Moelwyns and on Dream of White Horses at Gogarth.*

Thanks to Spenser, Adhe and James for the photos.

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