

# OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB MAGAZINE

**FEBRUARY 2020**



**Intrepid Bullstoners braving the elements on Mam Tor: photo - Tim Sellears**

## **Editorial**

Happy New Year to you all – at last a promise of Spring with stunning weather for the Hayfield - Glossop Boundary walk – Lantern Pike - can there be any more splendid 360 degree panorama in the Peak? Sunday saw a big Oread team of all ages climbing at Birchen Edge, enjoying almost warm, mostly dry rock in glorious sunshine – a tonic indeed. Top tip: turn your rock boots upside down to absorb the sun through their soles – Angela was ecstatic to find they were warmer than her feet!

Lots of meets to enjoy – day and weekend walks, two Lake District meets and one to Wales – or if you've used up all your holidays there's a social night at Heathy Lea and a few interesting evening lectures coming up – our own and others, including Mick Fowler at Cromford on 6 February. Or – run to the sun – still time to book a trip to the Costa Blanca and join the Benidorm team!

Back home the club needs a few new folk to get involved in making it all happen, a Heathy Lea Hut Custodian, a Meets Secretary – your club needs you! Please read the important notice on page 2 – oh! and don't forget to pay your subs!

## The Oread Needs You!

The Club urgently needs two new committee members: a **Meets Secretary** and a **Heathy Lea Hut Custodian**. The Club cannot function without people to take on these two roles at the 28 March AGM. Please think seriously whether you could do one of these essential jobs or part of it – people to strengthen the Heathy Lea Hut Committee, or the Meets Working Group would really help as well.

### Heathy Lea Hut Custodian:

It is with great regret that due to personal/family reasons we are planning to move out of the area and so will be stepping down as custodians of Heathy Lea from the AGM in 2020.

That being the case the Committee is looking for a new custodian to come forward to take our place.

Now that the lease has been renewed, all of the updates completed and the problematic trees removed, the job should be relatively straightforward, just involving hut checks, a bit of DIY, attending committee meetings and facilitating occasional hut committee meetings and work parties. The custodian doesn't have to do it all alone – there is a Hut Committee to share any issues and decisions with and several people who help out with the hut checks.

We know that the improvements we have overseen have been favourably received by your very kind comments. Thank you to all who have given their time to attend work parties to support us. We hope very much to be able to join you at Heathy Lea in October 2020 to help you all celebrate the hut being open for 50 years.

Kind regards

Phil and Yvonne

email tel.

### Meets Secretary:

If anyone is interested (or knows someone who is interested but shy) please get in touch with me to find out more about this essential but rewarding role. We need somebody willing to take over at the next AGM (28<sup>th</sup> March 2020). There is a Meets Working Group to help with planning and booking meets and the meets program for 2020 is almost complete so it is not too daunting a task.

Nigel Briggs email

## Forthcoming meets 2019 – 2020

The meets program for the coming year is given here though regular mid-week walking and climbing meets are not included beyond April 2020.

Changes from last month are printed red.

Nigel Briggs. Email for Meets Secretary remains oreadmcmeets@gmail.com

February	31 – 2 Feb	Karn House Aviemore Michael Hayes <i>meet full</i>
	3-15th	Benidorm Derek Pike
	4	Evening Lecture Royal Oak
	5	Wednesday Walk Eyam

	15-16	PDBW 2 stages with bunkhouse Stuart Firth
	21st-23	Stair Hut Charlie Taylor
	28	Heathy Lea Social Ben Wooler
March	3	Evening Lecture Royal Oak
	4	Wednesday Walk Longnor
	6 <sup>th</sup> -8	Patterdale George Starkey hut Pippa Leach
	14 -15	PDBW 2 stages camping
	20 <sup>th</sup> - 22	Tan yr Wyddfa Neil Weatherstone
	28	AGM
	29	Spring Stride Nigel Briggs
April	1	Wednesday walk Youlgreave + first outdoor evening climbing.
	10 <sup>th</sup> - 13	Easter Pembroke camping St Petrox Pam Storer
	24 -26	New Members' meet Heathy Lea Ben Wooler
May	8 <sup>th</sup> - 10	Bank Holiday on 8 <sup>th</sup> . Dartmoor camping Ben Wooler
	15-16	Ogwen Glan Dena Charlie Taylor
	23 <sup>rd</sup> -31	Bank Holiday week. Kinlochewe Torridon camping Spenser Gray
June	6th-7	Heathy Lea Children's meet Neil Weatherstone
	6th- 7	High Moss Duddon Valley
	26-28	Yorkshire Dales bivvy meet Pete Amour
July	7 <sup>th</sup> -9	Tan yr Wyddfa working party Dave Helliwell
	10 <sup>th</sup> -12	Tan yr Wyddfa barbecue meet Tony Howard
	25 -8 August	Alpine meet/Lofoten
August	1 <sup>st</sup> - 8	Alpine meet
	14- 16	Wye Valley camping
	28-31	Bank Holiday weekend
September	11 <sup>th</sup> - 13	Yorkshire Grit Manor House Farm camping
	20	PDBW
	25- 27	Little Langdale Fylde Hut Dave "Snod" Helliwell
October	2-4th	High House Borrowdale
	16th- 18	Cwm Eigeau Janet Briggs
	6	Evening meet Royal Oak
	10	PDBW and 50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of Heathy Lea celebration
	30-31	Patterdale Bethan Cottage Mike Moss
November	3	Evening meet Royal Oak
	7	Bonfire meet Heathy Lea
	8	PDBW Chris Radcliffe
	21	Annual Dinner C & G Radcliffe
	22	Post Prandial walk
	27 <sup>th</sup> -29	Curry Meet High House Borrowdale Tony Howard
December	1	Evening meet Royal Oak
	6	PDBW Paul Gardiner
	9	Black Rocks/Harborough night climbing
	11-13th	Bullstones
	24-31	Christmas and New Year at Tan yr Wyddfa

## **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 7-9.30 pm on Wednesdays, then adjourning to the Royal Oak, North St.

### **31 January – 2 February Karn House Michael Hayes**

This is meet is full and there is a waiting list.

### **5 February Wednesday walk**

Meet at the Village Green Cafe, The Square, Eyam S32 5RB 10.00am for coffee. 10.30 departure.

### **6 February Mick Fowler Lecture The Boat Inn Cromford**

The Derwent MC has organised a lecture by Mick Fowler 'No Easy Way' on Thursday 6th February at 7.30pm at The Boat Inn at Cromford. This lecture is based on his latest book, and covers 11 climbs undertaken in the great ranges over the past two decades. They are asking for donations to the DMC of between £3 and £6 at the door.

### **3-15 February Benidorm Derek Pike**

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. Most have already booked from the 3rd February for 10-14 nights, half board. All welcome.

If you want any more info my email is xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx or you may phone

### **11 February Pavilion Arts Centre, Buxton**

7.30 pm An evening with Damian Hall, Ultra Marathon runner.

More info and tickets via [www.buxtonoperahouse.org.uk](http://www.buxtonoperahouse.org.uk)

### **14 -16 February Peak District Boundary Walk Stuart Firth**

Saturday – Old Glossop to Greenfield: Distance 10 miles (16k); Ascent 1576ft (480m)

Sunday – Greenfield to Marsden: Distance 10.6 miles (17k); Ascent 1959 ft(597m)

**Overnight Bunkhouse Accommodation available Friday & Saturday nights.**

We are now over halfway through the Peak District Boundary Walk but it is certainly not “downhill all the way to the finish”. Being in the Dark Peak and further away from home, this double section passes through some spectacular high moorland scenery and includes sections of the Pennine Bridleway and the Pennine Way.

To reduce travel time from home base, convenient overnight bunkhouse accommodation has been booked at the Boarshurst Centre, Boarshurst Lane, Greenfield, Oldham OL3 7EA. ([www.boarshurstcentre.org](http://www.boarshurstcentre.org)) There are options to stay Friday night, Saturday night, both or neither. Those wishing to do only one stage are welcome and a DIY communal meal will be organised for Saturday night. Other meals – bring your own or there are local pubs that do evening meals.

The start of Saturday’s stage will be at 10:30 am from the free car park at Corn Mill in Manor Park, Glossop SK13 7SH. Access by leaving Glossop on the A57 along High Street East. Take the second exit at the five-way roundabout - along Corn Street.

The end of Saturday’s stage and the start of Sunday’s (10:00am) will be at the Boarshurst Centre.

The end of Sunday’s stage will be near the Riverhead Brewery Tap in Marsden. Good café and ice cream parlour nearby. The hourly Transpennine Express train service will return us to Greenfield in 7 minutes! (16:39 or 17:39) Or No 84 bus at 15:06 taking 27 minutes.

Facilities at the Centre are excellent. Pillows and pillow cases are provided; bring your own bedding and a mattress cover – sheet or blanket.

I need to confirm numbers to the Boarshurst Centre so please let me (or Janet Briggs) have a £10 deposit by the end of January. There are 32 bed-spaces available so this is a great opportunity to introduce friends to the joys of the Oread. I also need to organise the communal meal so please let me know if you would like to contribute some culinary expertise and any dietary requirements. Bring your own booze and packed lunches.

The walks are on exposed hills so warm clothing, full waterproofs and stout footwear are essential. Maps OL1 Dark Peak and OL21 South Pennines; Peak District Boundary Walk publisher Friends of the Peak District.

Stuart Firth: email tel.

## **21 -23 February Stair Hut Lake District Charlie Taylor**

The Club's first Lake District meet of the year sees a return to the spacious and modern Fylde M.C. Hut at Stair near Keswick. This is on a Hut swap basis, so at £5 a night for a weekend in the Lakes how can you resist? The hut is ideally located for Catbells, Dale Head and Borrowdale and the Western fells. A wealth of walking and climbing is available on the doorstep. For those wishing to travel a short distance Buttermere is just a few miles up the road.

To book a place, please e-mail or call/text me on

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX.

## **Friday 28 Feb – Saturday 1 March Heathy Lea Social Ben Wooler**

The Plan is to meet at the hut on the Friday evening for a few drinks and decide on plans for Saturday. Hopefully it'll be dry and we can go tick off a few routes but if not we can always head inside somewhere in Sheffield.

Everyone welcome, newer members, partners and all. Please let me know if you are coming so I can keep track of bunk space.

Ben Wooler, email tel.

### **4 March Wednesday Walk**

Meet 10.00 am at Cobbles Cafe, Longnor marketplace for a 10.30 departure.

### **6-8 March Patterdale Pippa Leach**

The Patterdale meet has been a very popular meet with Oreads over the years, a superb area, highly accessible, with the iconic Striding Edge and Swirral Edge routes up Helvellyn, as just one example of what's on offer. It's a Mecca for walkers, fell runners and mountain bikers alike. In the past, we have experienced snow on the fells (necessitating ice axes to be safe!) but also torrential rain, March weather can be unpredictable, so no guarantees there. The George Starkey Hut has excellent facilities and is warm and cosy, especially once the fire is lit. Stuart Haywood is unavailable to lead the meet this year, so I have offered to step in. Please contact me if you wish to go, with any additional information, such as, whether you are able to offer lifts to others, when you expect to arrive and whether you wish to bring any guests. In the past, it has been possible to stay extra nights, if you are wanting to do this, let me know, and I will inform the hut secretary. Finally, if you are planning on using your own van/ motor home, please inform me of this too, as it will free up bed spaces for others.

Pippa Leach. Email

### **10 March Pavilion Arts Centre, Buxton**

7.30 pm. An evening with Martin Boysen, who will be interviewed by Ed Douglas. More info and tickets via [www.buxtonoperahouse.org.uk](http://www.buxtonoperahouse.org.uk)

### **20-22 March Tan yr Wyddfa Early Spring Meet Neil Weatherstone**

It will no longer be winter for this meet as spring starts on the 19th of March (vernal equinox), so this will be a very early spring meet. Last year the weather was mild for this meet with good visibility allowing some great views from the summits. As usual there will be plenty of opportunities for walking, climbing, cycling or what ever takes your fancy at our Welsh hut.

Hope to see you there.

I'll be arriving late on the Friday night and my children will be attending with me. If you would like to book a bed please contact me on tel. xxxxxxxxxxxx or email

## **28 March Annual General Meeting Robin Hood Baslow**

The Annual General Meeting of the Club will take place at 8 pm on Saturday 28 March at the Robin Hood Public House below Birchen Edge.

There is one item along with the usual reports and elections to be considered at the meeting:

### **The Oread Constitution – Proposed Amendments**

The AGM in March 2019 gave approval to a new Constitution. On reflection a few improvements could be made, and we must thank Stuart Firth for highlighting some of these. The Committee proposes that three clauses be altered.

To reflect good practice we wish to alter two clauses in section 7, so that signatories should not be related. The third change is that should the club ever be dissolved the recipient of any remaining funds will be decided by the members at a General Meeting rather than by the Committee.

The proposed clauses are stated below, with the additional text highlighted in red.

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

7.8 Any cheques drawn against club funds should hold the signatures of at least two signatories **who are not related to each other**.

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

The hope is that you will all turn up for this year's AGM and give approval to these amendments and that our Constitution can then remain unaltered for the foreseeable future.

Please send any other motions for debate to the Secretary, Simon Pape by 7 March.

Nominations for Officers of the club and other (3) members of the committee are welcome and must be submitted by 7 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 a Meets Secretary and Heathy Lea Hut Custodian.

Simon Pape Secretary.

**All correspondence to be sent to:  
Simon Pape.**

## **Lofoten July 2020 Derek Pike**

Since the last note to go out there have been some positive signs, at least two parties in campervans are definitely going around the second half of July, with two others intending to go in their vans, these are parties where time is not an issue. Anyone intending to fly, we have two members interested, will have to camp [note weather can be variable] or, a better option, book some accommodation. **This will need to be booked, the sooner the better.** For those who fly there is a weight limit of 15kg. so I am prepared to carry out some of the heavier climbing gear; another option is by rail. As this is a trad climbing venue with long multi pitch routes you may need a lot of gear; details can be found in the Rockfax guide to the islands. There is also some bolt clipping I believe and some nice little peaks to walk up apart from the beautiful scenery. **If you are interested please contact me.**

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

## **Member's Corner**

**Ruth Gordon writes:**

A friend has a box of early Mountain and Rocksport magazines which he would like to pass on to a good home in return for a small donation to the Cystic Fibrosis Trust. If you are interested or would like more details please contact Tom Corker via Ruth.

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

### **Curry Meet High House Borrowdale November 2019 Tony Howard**

Sixteen Oreads including five past or current Presidents plus three guests assembled at High House in Borrowdale on the Friday night.

Early on Saturday morning the Vice President and his glamorous lady financial assistant disappeared, apparently to partake in (largely) urban activities, although we were told that some very cold water and perhaps the wearing of a black rubber suit were involved.

A gaggle of past Presidents and their flock of younger less infirm members set off

for a pub in a far-off land (Wasdale), most returning via the same route, Sty Head. However, Charlie added a diversion via Scafell Pike (sans Pike). Pike traversed Glaramara sans companions to reach Watendlath. He returned via Rosthwaite looking the worse for wear.

Neil and his mate Tim Gully, without ascending a single one, went up Green Gable, encountering wind at Windy Gap and collecting tarns en-route to the Langstrath Inn. Our retiring but not shy President and Bott also apparently went looking for wind at Windy Gap. However, they were still in the hut when the others left and were back there when they returned! The oldest past President and his carer walked to the nearest pub and back.

The evening was spent in elegant decorum sipping tea with crooked fingers from china cups, eating a range of curries and roasting by the fire. No alcohol was consumed!

Sunday morning saw vigorous cleaning and packing before each party ventured out. The main flock this time traversed Glaramara to drink in the Langstrath Inn. Neil and Tim also traversed Glaramara, albeit by a different route, joined the others for refreshments in Langstrath, then took a high level return over Allen Craggs back to High House.

The oldest past President with Mss Pike, Hardwick (the carer) and My Cherrie Amour took a gentle perambulation round Buttermere, along with many young families, pets and pushchairs etc.

The retiring but not shy President and Bott supposedly went rock climbing - Jackdaw Ridge on Shepherd's Crag. There were no witnesses!

Thanks to everyone who attended and made the weekend such fun.

## **Peak District Boundary Walk Peak Forest – Hayfield 19 November Ruth Gordon**

The sun was just breaking through the mist as we arrived at Hayfield to drop the cars off. Mick, being unsure how many spaces we would have in the car, had already dropped his passengers off at Peak Forest, cheerily suggesting Pippa run a PE class to ward off hypothermia. They must have been frozen as it was still thick icy mist when we got back there. So we didn't delay departure – once we had coralled Tom who was waiting by the church on the main road rather than the chapel on the side road.



The first part of this leg of the walk is not very inspiring – round the back of a farm then almost down to the road again – a few more PDBW

markers had appeared since our recce in September but several of the stiles were just as fragile as we remembered. As we passed Barmoor above the A623 the sun began to break through giving spectacular short-lived views. Crossing the road we plodded steeply up through the gorse to emerge above Chapel. We made our way down through Blackbrook and, in a deviation from the printed route, which is horribly boggy, by road into the bottom end of town where some ate their sandwiches and had a drink at the Packhorse while others availed themselves of tea and delicious bacon butties at Fosters. Several of them emerged with other purchases including great sourdough loaves. Mick was tempted by the Christmas trees, reminding me of a dog trying to pick up an over large stick- but decided they were just a bit too big to carry six miles over hill and dale.



*Contact made with the Pennine Bridleway before South Head. Photo Peter Amour.*

We plodded up the road to pick up the footpath to Wash, then a bit more steep down and up, crossing the railway to join the Peak Bridleway. The sunshine and views still coming and going elusively. We stopped below Mount Famine for a cake break – Jan had brought some delicious offerings but the wind was too cold to linger long. Finally made it down into Hayfield around 4pm where Mick took a carload of folk needing to get home soon and the rest of us stopped for an excellent cup of tea and home-made chocolates in Millie's cafe.

Thanks to all 13 participants for an enjoyable day in good weather, unlike the two recce walks when we both got soaked to the skin! *Dropping down from Mt Famine with an atmospheric, distant Kinderlow End. Photo Peter Amour.*



## Bullstones 2019

It was Friday 13<sup>th</sup> and it had been raining steadily all day. With sinking heart I dropped my car at the appointed spot, at the end of the track below Eldon Hill Quarry and Snod took me back to Peak Forest where we walked into the



Devonshire Arms to find a long table full of jolly Oreads feeding their faces and assuring us there was nothing left worth eating. Fortunately this proved to be untrue and excellently fed and watered we awaited the last arrivals, Mick Hayes and Tom who duly turned up back of 10.00pm.

Eventually we could no longer put it off and we turned out into a surprisingly pleasant moonlit night. Snod led us on his pre-checked route which involved, as promised, several well-hidden 5b stiles – one of which attacked Kev and bit his finger. We reached our destination and skirted the giant puddles on the track to get into the quarry. Squelched uphill to find – as promised a fine expanse of level and not too soggy grass – perfect!

Within minutes the moon had gone and we were fighting with flysheets in a howling gale while being battered by frozen rain.

Where did that come from?

Somehow everyone got themselves installed - the snag with the bivvy spot became apparent – the layer of grass was barely an inch deep over solid limestone – a quarry – what a surprise! But we were in – not cosy perhaps and the noise of flapping flysheets saw to it that sleep wasn't in the plan. Some lucky souls must have dropped off instantly because not everyone saw the flash of lightning followed at once by a loud thunderclap and long slow rumble. It was snowing like fury. Snod roused himself and turned the boots round away from the drift gathering round the tent. The poles kept bending over on top of me and snapping back, we shipped some water and both found we had wet feet come morning. But that was luxury! Tim's tent collapsed and he lost all his pegs – and sat huddled in the bottom of the quarry shivering, from 5 am onward.



Come morning I saw Roy grimly packing up in the half light beneath a still bright full moon, so we creaked into action likewise. Everyone was packing up except the Hayes and Briggs parties who were very snug and showed no intention of moving. Down in the lane it was a different world – no wind, a sprinkling of snow on the hills – much brewing and bacon butty cooking comenced.

In spite of his ordeal Tim found a moment to slip the Bent Screw into Kev's sac. It was thought that, as it had been awarded for forgetting to bring vital equipment on last year's Bullstones it would be poetic justice if he were to carry it unknowingly all day this year. Alas – he soon spotted the foreign object.

At last all were ready for the off – except the Briggs who were still snoozing cosily. A team consisting of Roy, Tim, John and Arthur set off down the road aiming to ascend Rushup Edge, Mam Tor, Back Tor, Losehill and down to the Cheshire Cheese for lunchtime sustenance. Kev and James headed straight to Mam Nick, meeting the others in the pub. The rest set off in the opposite direction aiming for the Hucklows and Eyam for a lunch stop. A violent snowstorm soon obliterated the arrows they claimed to have left on the track for Nigel and Janet. They were waylaid en route and joined by Mike Wren and the Bivouac Avoidance Party. (Pam and Derek).

The weather continued capricious, at times sunny and clear, with short sharp showers and snowstorms to keep everyone entertained. Meanwhile I drove back to Heathy Lea and offloaded all the soggy camping gear. My plan was to bag a couple of beds in the hut – no chance! Those cunning Bullstoners had all called by on Friday and commandeered every last bunk!

At the Cheshire Cheese Kev declared himself so weakened by the extra weight of the Bent Screw that he could go no further (not sure what Roy's excuse was) but the two of them phoned for a taxi and were carried back to Baslow in style! Is this a Bullstones first? Tim, John, Arthur and James, (the Flying Oread) had a few more pints before catching the bus to Foxhouse to return via Longshaw and White Edge.

The other party took many different variations on a theme, herding cats comes to mind. The Wilsons' party followed the route as described to the pub in Eyam then via Stoney and Calver and down the river to Baslow. Others went through



to Froggatt, up onto the edges and followed them down. Mick Hayes claims ascent of a rock route in the process. It may have been a Moderate – or even a Diff!

As darkness fell the last of the teams were making their way up from Baslow or down from Birchens. John and Tim began crossing the road outside Heathy Lea, a car coming down the hill courteously stopped to let them cross, one coming up the hill did likewise, so James and Arthur began to cross, then another car coming down the hill pulled out round the stopped car and took out Arthur as he crossed. He leaped onto the bonnet, smashed into the windscreen and was carried down the road before rolling off. Tim and John thought they were looking at a dead body, somebody screamed his name – and Arthur picked himself up, walked to the side of the road, and down to the hut. What was nearly an unthinkable disaster became instantly the stuff of legend.

We went up to the Robin Hood to eat and wondered what a police van was doing in the carpark. Nothing happened until we had finished eating but a second van arrived and then Arthur and later James were summoned to give an account of the incident – the drivers who had stopped had reported it to the police. The lads were in the van, with the young blonde policewoman??? so long most of us had left before they were liberated– but at least they got a lift down to the hut in the van.

Come Sunday some folk who had thoughtfully left a car at the hut made a quick getaway. Others were having a lift part way and then walking back to Peak Forest. The Briggs and Mick Hayes had decided upon a bike ride – a very muddy escapade.



Kev had offered a lift to The Barrel to Roy and Pete, and back to Peak Forest for Neil. The van refused to start. He had to phone the RAC. Snod witnessed a very grumpy RAC man who didn't want his van to get muddy, fail to tow Kev up the track to get him turned round and decided it was time to leave! The end of this story Kev relates as follows:



“After the RAC man had spent an hour trying to get my van going to no avail, we managed to turn it around, he got it onto a towing platform and towed us back to my local garage. My mate at the garage tried it, he said to me “have you got a spare key?” I gave it to him and the van started first time! Then it dawned on me - at the hut my normal key had broken in my pocket, it was a key that came apart in two pieces. I clipped them back together, but it didn't work because there was an immobiliser stopping fuel getting to the engine. I didn't realise there was some electrical part inside the key that I hadn't put back, and the funniest thing was, all the time James had the spare key in his pocket! (don't laugh) I may just hang on to the Bent Screw for a while longer.”

## A Bullstones Bivvy Peter Amour



“Hello, I’ve found a body!” commented the President around Friday midnight on the annual doss-out. The “body” was mine, contained in new Grot - Ex bivvy and down sleeping bags undergoing their first live test in sleety conditions. Things were OK apart from the noisy wind rattling bin liners keeping the boots and 'sack dry outside. A reasonable night was had apart from a resounding thunder clap and the weakness of an aging bladder calling to see what the weather was doing more than once.

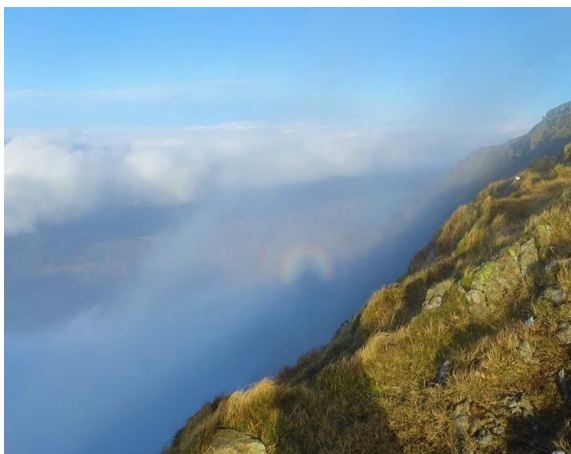
Dawn greeted the quarry floor bedroom with a snow dusting visible to the higher terrain. My grub was quickly taken in the wind-chilled air before packing and depositing the overnight kit in Ruth’s roadside car. Keen to get moving I indicated such to others who soon got fell in which included the Wilsons, Tom and Michael Hayes, Roy Eyre and Neil Weatherstone. We moved along under clearish skies on a line that would take us through to Little Hucklow where a lively snow shower greyed things out for about ten minutes to then give us a brighter outlook onto Great Hucklow, Foolow and a lunch stop in Eyam, where Hayes junior and senior pressed on to catch Derek Pike, Pam Storer and Mike Wren who had a different plan. Following a pint and nosh in the Miners Arms Neil and I continued our route onto Froggat and Curbar Edges to then skirt Gardom’s Edge and complete our jaunt roadside to a cosy Heathy Lea.

The Sunday return to Peak Forest was aided by Ruth offering car assistance along some icy roads to take Roy Eyre and myself to the Barrel Inn at Bretton. Our route was to take us through the Hucklows and onto an unauthorised farm drive clearly marked “Private”. Our cunning plan shuddered into reverse gear when spotting the farmer muck spreading his land. Plan B had us head another mile north to guide us north - east to Peak Forest and the cars through some fascinating old mineral workings.

Thanks Ruth and Snod for a great weekend, and for the fact that John Green's grandson Arthur was in good fettle after being scooped up onto a drunken driver's bonnet outside Heathy Lea – it *could* have been so, so different....

**Well – that was Bullstones 2019 – who is going to plan the 2020 event???**

## **New Year**



The party at Tan yr Wyddfa proceeded on traditional lines in far better than average weather – it was generally dry, not too cold and on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> there was a wondrous cloud inversion to reward those who went high – Pam Norris on Snowdon, Ruth and Snod on Cader Idris - with Brocken spectres galore. New Year's eve everyone enjoyed a gloriously sunny afternoon before a splendid and bounteous multi-course feast was served. Thanks to all who came and joined in the fun and particularly to all the cooks.

Meanwhile something distinctly unusual was going on at Heathy Lea.....

## **"Tudor" New Year Party at Heathy Lea Dave Hayden**



Sometime in September we'd foolishly agreed to help make Pippa's dream of a 'Tudor New Year' a reality if she could source the meat. After extensive

negotiation with her butcher, Pippa managed to convince him to sew together a Cockerel and a pork leg (Don't ask... it's a Tudor thing apparently? Cockentrice?)



Dave and James went up on the 30th briefly to prepare some firewood and generally make ready. Joined by Doug, Charlotte, Pippa, Rob, Flavia and the two Ollies on the 31st to cook an enormous piece of meat on a 'DIY windscreen wiper motor powered spit' built by Dave. Doug once again did an excellent job cooking



side dishes in the kitchen with sous chefs Charlotte, Pippa and Oli. Whilst 'Team Fire' James (Fire Marshal-in-chief), Dave and Rob kept an eye on the meat.

Evening finished with drinks, fireworks and songs around the campfire. Definitely in that order... All had a thoroughly good time, with no reported cases of food poisoning! Although the Fire Marshal was pretty hung over the next day.



## New Year's Day Walk 2020 Clive “Rusty” Russell



In the absence of a younger man with new ideas I acted in accordance with the feeling of the meeting and arranged a short walk from Milldale to the Royal Oak at Wetton, which has been our standard destination in recent years. The climate was kind to us and there was a good attendance with Paul Gardiner, Sue Todd, Stuart Firth, Mike Moss, Mike and Sue Wren, Jan and Chris Wilson, Roy Eyre, Christine Renouf and Richard Hopkinson.

There is somewhat limited scope for deviation from the obvious general direction but we headed for Stanhope Hall and then weaved about the interlaced maze of footpaths heading generally NW in the direction of Wetton. I am always attracted to the views from the Wildlife Trust owned section of the bank of the Manifold, looking downstream, indeed a representative of the Trust once tried to prevent me from traversing this ground, but it was not possible to incorporate this into the itinerary without an unacceptable delay to the arrival time.

Brian West, Chris Eyre, Uschi, Colin, Dave Wright and various others were seen in the pub. As always, I lost any last illusions of control or discipline, and the party broke into various small groups for the return. Some, for all I know may have perished or become irretrievably lost to this day.

## Peak District Boundary Walk Hayfield – Old Glossop 18 January Sue Todd

The chance of clement weather in January is probably a tall order, but wow, were we blessed. Blue skies, clear visibility, crisp temperatures, and a happy team.



Most of us opted for the bus from Glossop and we made a prompt start at 10.30am from Hayfield bus station. Snod, Ruth and Ellie met us a mile in, near the foot of the climb on to Lantern Pike. A few outer layers of clothing were cast as we felt the warmth of the sun and our own efforts on the route up. The views just got better on the ascent until, at the top, [\(photo overleaf\)](#) we could all take in a stunning panorama of the dark and white peak.

After a quick break and photos, we descended through open moorland and wild scenery to Rowarth village and the Little Mill pub by the brook. Sitting outside, we were able to eat and drink to the sound of a variety of quacking pet ducks, delightful.

Climbing out of the village our route took us onto Cown Edge, where distant Manchester was clearly visible on our left and the wild moorland and Kinder to our right.

Before our descent into Charles Town, we were confronted with wonderful views of Bottoms reservoir and Tintwistle Moor in the far distance...our next stage of the PDBW!

Only one short climb left before we dropped down into Old Glossop through various horse fields and a special little memorial corner with photos and flowers dedicated to Luke.



*Stunning views from Lantern Pike.*

Manor Park stream afforded a boot wash facility, which was greatly appreciated and the sun was still shining. A great day out.

A big 'thank you' to everyone who turned out on my first meet:- Peter, John G., Stuart, Helen and Mike, Jan and Chris, Snod and Ruth, Pippa, Ellie, Angela, and Jon.

I hope you enjoyed the day as much as I did.

## **Fashion Notes**

Our Hon. Pres. switches on the Christmas lights at Tan yr Wyddfa. Note the Santa Claus images around the hem – those present thought they bear a distinct likeness to another distinguished member present on the night. Thanks Pete Amour for capturing the moment.



## Hut Bookings.

### TAN-YR-WYDDFA

8-9 February	Orpheus CC
21-22 February	Fylde MC hut swap
20-22 March	Oread MC
25-30 March	George Lewis

### HEATHY LEA

31 Jan – 1 February	UEA Cottage
7-8 February	Vibram MC cottage
14-15 February	Rugby MC
21-22 February	A Jackaman BMYC
6-8 March	Durham University

“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  
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

Welcome to new provisional members Adam Akister and Chris Ashworth.

We hope you will enjoy many happy days with the Oread.

An application for full membership has been received from Samantha Shillinglaw and the following provisional members have applied for full membership: Rob Beck, Tim Freeman, Jess Green, John Gwyther, David Hayden, Ashley Kitchen, Louise Pymm, Lucia Revelo Silva and David Uribe. If you would like to comment on these applications which will be decided at the March committee meeting please contact a member of the committee.

## **George Alan Sutton 1923 – 2019 an obituary. Robert Pettigrew MBE**



*George at our Annual Dinner , The Bluebell, Tissington 2013. Photo Bob Pettigrew.*

George Sutton, mountaineer and founder of our Club, died on November 1, 2019, aged 96.

In his book “Glacier Island” published by Chatto and Windus in 1957 George recounts how, when his plans to mount the first mountaineering expedition to the Antarctic were in serious jeopardy, he recalled Shackleton’s book “South” and how from its pages shone the indestructible spirit of man. George’s doubts were resolved for he wrote that:

“Money and security were of no value to me if I lived all my days in a world which did not also hold courage and comradeship.”

On his return from the Far East where he had served in the R.A.F. as a signals operator and following demobilization, George appealed through the letters pages of the Burton Daily Mail for anyone interested in hillwalking and mountaineering to contact him. Hitherto George’s mountain forays to the highlands of Scotland and the Lakes had been solo and consequently limited in scope.

When, with Paul Gardiner, David Penlington and Barry Tipper, George met for tea at Paul’s house to plan a visit to Black Rocks at Cromford on Sunday March 20 1949, that event was to signal the birth of the Oread Mountaineering Club.

George was born in 1923 in Burton-on-Trent, known the world over for its

famous breweries. He was educated at Winshill School and conscripted into the R.A.F. shortly after the outbreak of war. The men with whom George shared rough living in wartime were not in the end the ones who wanted to join him for mountain exploration ventures. The core members of the early days of the Oread, male and female, were climbers to whom their chosen sport was a way of life that held them as powerfully in its thrall as a strong drug. In some of his many unpublished papers George wrote that:

“For a time it would be stronger than love, or career, or home, or even life itself.”

George and his fellow founder members were inspired by a fanaticism about mountains that led Sir Jack Longland to describe George as the High Priest and the Mystic of the movement!

Nonetheless, within two years of the foundation of the Oread, George organized and led the club's first expedition to the Lyngen Peninsula of Arctic Norway. In ten weeks of activity the team accomplished a vast amount of glaciological, geological and survey work and existing maps were amended to include a previously unrecorded range of mountains and new glaciers. Some 40 peaks were ascended, with four first ascents and numerous new lines.

A mere five years later George organized and led the British South Georgia Expedition 1954-1955. Its outstanding achievement was the ascent of Mount Gregor by Ian Brooker and Clive Webb. Many Himalayan peaks of far greater stature have offered less resistance than this fine mountain; few have been climbed by so small a unit.

After graduating from the University of Liverpool in Further Education George moved to the Wirrall Peninsula where he met and married June Smith, who predeceased him in 2013. June enthusiastically embraced George's love of mountains, which he was to use henceforth as a means of outdoor education for the young people of inner city Liverpool. That led to a period of full time employment at Whitehall Centre for Open Country Pursuits where a fellow instructor was the legendary Joe Brown.

For services to youth work in Liverpool George was awarded the B.E.M.

His son Richard, a gifted organist, and director of higher education at Dulwich College, survives him.

### **The funeral and donations to the Oread in memory of George Sutton.**

George's funeral was a fine occasion. Paul Gardiner, fellow founder member writes: "I went to Wallasey and met up with Bob Pettigrew and Harry Pretty's daughter, Laura. We were joined by Clive Webb, (sometime Oread member) and member of the S.Georgia expedition. Also present were Stan and Edith Moore, long time friends of Harry and the Oread. It was a good rousing service with Richard on the organ. George went out of church to Widor's Toccata and we stood in admiration as Richard really gave 'welly' to a piece that is frequently used for married couples going back down the aisle. Be sure, George was given a good send off."

The Club has since received donations totalling £232 collected at the funeral. Forwarded with the donations were these letters, written to all members, from George's close friend and former Oread member, Stan Moore and Stan's daughter Diane.

Oread Mountaineering Club  
C/o Kenna & Turner Funeral Directors  
Breezehill Funeral Home  
31 Rowson Street  
Wallesey  
Merseyside  
CH45 5AR

29 November 2019

Dear *Oread Members*

**George Sutton**

Please find enclosed a donation to the Club made in memory of a very special man, and one of the Club's founders, George Sutton. How typically generous of George to think of the Club in this way, even though he had been living away from Derbyshire for decades! I knew George as a dear, dear family friend, but that friendship had been forged initially between my dad, Stan Moore, and George, through climbing, first on local crags, then seasons in the Alps and of course the early 1950's expeditions to Arctic Norway. Those friendships truly lasted a lifetime; George living to 96, Stan now 92. And there were others too of course who shared this bond; Bob Pettigrew is the youngster in this posse!

I truly hope that current members, as well as experiencing great climbing, make similarly long-lasting & life-affirming friendships too.

With all good wishes for the next 70 years of the Oread,



Dianne Handy

Encl.

*To the OREAD CLUB.  
For some years I was also a  
member of the Oread and  
climbed with George in  
Derbyshire, Wales and in 1951  
in Lungen in Arctic Norway  
A great friend of mine  
& my wife Edith*

*STAN MOORE*

## Donations to the Club.

Laura Burnett, Harry and Molly Pretty's daughter, has recently donated a collection of slides of Oread meets taken by her father.

Janet Reynolds has donated photographs taken by George Reynolds of work at Heathy Lea. These will appear in future newsletters and will later be added to the Oread Archive in the Derbyshire County Record Office.

## Molly Pretty

Molly Pretty, one of our founder members, died on Saturday 28 December. She was in the Derby Royal, following a stroke, and then suffered from pneumonia, dying in her sleep on Saturday morning. A tribute will be published in a future issue.

## Rusty's Puzzle Corner

### Last month's puzzle solution:

Mike, estimating the ratio of speeds and the optimum path in a fraction of a second, headed diagonally away from the lorry at 12.8 degrees so that his diagonal distance to safety was 10.25 ft, requiring 0.685 secs. The lorry, if it was 43.8 ft away initially, and Mike's diagonal path took him a further 1.2 ft away from it, would travel 45 ft. which at 45 mph would also require 0.685 secs. The answer is therefore 43.8 ft.

A response from Snod went as follows:

Answer:

Too close !!

This will be difficult for our younger members who may not know 60mph = 88ft/sec.

1mph = 1.467 ft/sec thus 10mph = 14.67ft/sec speed = distance/time therefore time = distance/speed  $10/14.67 = 0.68$  sec

45mph = 66ft/sec thus distance =  $66 \times 0.68 = 44.89$ ft.

This seems too easy there must be a catch???

Rusty says:

There was indeed a catch! Snod and others elsewhere made the assumption that Michael would run at right angles to the kerb and within this parameter his answer was correct to within a few thousandths. ( I Expect his difficulties, unlike the younger element to which he alluded, would be that schools in Yorkshire were using rods poles and perches at the time).

The best chance of escape requires Michael to incline his direction slightly away from the lorry, at an angle depending upon the relative speeds of the vehicle and pedestrian. Mike's literary alter ego did this calculation instantly and ran at 18 degrees to the perpendicular which means he could just escape when the lorry was 43 feet and a bit away. To illustrate the principle, had he had a hypothetical speed capability of 46 mph it can be seen without the need for calculation that

were the lorry only 6 inches away he would have been flattened if he ran at right angles, but that he could escape if he ran almost parallel to the kerb.

*This puzzle seems almost premonitory after Arthur's close encounter. Although he did not tell us (or the glamorous policewoman) that he was conducting practical experiments to prove the answer he should undoubtedly be declared winner of this one.*

### **This month's puzzle.**

The photo overleaf has been submitted by Janet Reynolds for your puzzlement. It was taken by George on an Oread meet – where was it – and bonus points for when and naming any of the participants!



## **Membership Renewals for 2020**

Following a full review of the membership subscriptions we have made some significant changes to both the cost and the structure as detailed below.

- Although we managed to absorb last year's BMC increase this year we have seen another increase of £6 for every member which we now need to pass on. The committee reviewed the cost v benefits and decided that it was still a very competitive proposal given the benefits of continued BMC membership - The subscription includes the BMC fee of £20.25 giving you all the benefits of individual club membership including the BMC third party insurance.


- We have removed the Joint membership Fee as all our members receive the same benefits and we have to pay the full BMC membership for everyone. With the move away from the posted newsletter there is also no benefit to the Oread from members sharing the same address.

**Fees for 2020 are:**

- £45 for Full membership
  - £35 for Senior Membership (Past UK State Pension Age)
  - £35 for Provisional membership (First full year only)
- (members paying multiple BMC club memberships can reclaim £20.25 from the BMC)*

**How to pay:** 1 of 2 ways

- You can pay by bank transfer 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 [michaelhayes6688@gmail.com](mailto:michaelhayes6688@gmail.com) confirmation and a copy of the form below.
- Please complete the form below and send it with a cheque made payable to the Oread Mountaineering Club, posted to Michael Hayes, 179 Starkholmes Road, Starkholmes, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5JA

Oread Mountaineering Club Membership Renewal and Contact List Update		
Name		
Address		
Telephone Number		
Telephone Number Mobile		
Email Address		
Secondary Email Address		
Contact in case of emergency	Name, phone number and address:	
I hereby reapply for membership of the Oread Mountaineering Club, and confirm that I have read the constitution and promise to abide by its rules, respect its properties, and give due respect to the mountain environment	Yes / No	
Data Protection: I agree to my contact details being held by the Oread MC, shared with other paid up members and passed to the BMC to gain my third party insurance	Yes / No	
Participation Statement: I recognise that climbing and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions	Yes / No	
Signature		
Date		
Membership Type: Please tick relevant box		
Full Member	£45.00	
Senior Member	£35.00	
Provisional Member	£35.00	
Member with permanent address outside the UK. 50% of appropriate rate as BMC membership is not included.	£22.50	

**If you have any questions, then please contact me – Michael Hayes 07771 700913**

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