



Oread Mountaineering Club Magazine

December 2025- January 2026



Time to turn our thoughts to winter – this is Cairngorm last year. Photo by Ed Bloomfield. See page 8 for next year's meet.

Editorial

In here is the outline of next year's meets list – lots of meets just waiting for leaders to step forward!

Meets coming up include the next winter lecture on December 2nd with our very own Robin Beadle, dry-tooling at Masson Lees, two Scottish weekends and a winter mountaineering trip to climb the highest mountain in Morocco and the photo competition in March. Lots of local walks as usual including the next Geo walk, Boxing Day and New Year's Day gallivants.

Write ups include recent local walks and the curry meet plus the outcome of the Annual Dinner raffle see page 16.

Copy Deadline 15 January.

Meets List 2025 - Edward Bloomfield

Ed Bloomfield email xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

D e c e m b e r	3rd	Goyt Valley	Wednesday Walk	Rusty (Clive Russell)
	5-7th	Bullstones Meet	Peak District	Mke Mowbray
	10	black rocks, the boat at cronford	Wednesday before the Wed before xmas	Ed bloomfield
	14th	Masson lees	Dry tooling meet	Rob Beck
	18th	Alstonefield	Thursday short walk	Rusty (Clive Russell)
	0	0	0	0
	20th	Geo Walk - Brierlow Bar to Tideswell	Saturday Walk	Rachel Walker
	26 th	Miners' Standard Winstre	Boxing Day Get Together	Peter Amour
	24-1 Jan	Tan yr Wyddfa	Christmas and New Year hut meet	Snod Helliwell

Here is the outline of the 2026 Meets Programme. More meets will be added later if meet leaders come forward with ideas for having fun.

	Dates	Hut/Location/title	Description	Leader
J a n u a r y	1st	Youlgreave	New Years Day walk	Richard Freestone
	6th	Royal Oak, Ockbrook, OMC Winter Lecture	tbc	0
	10-12th	Mlehouse Cottage Kingussie	Winter Climbing Meet, Cairngorms	Edward Bloomfield
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	22nd	Ashover	Thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
24th	0	Saturday walk	John Gwyther	
F e b r u a r y	3rd	Royal Oak, Ockbrook, OMC Winter Lecture	Montenegro	Aaron Wigley
	4th	Cronford-Holloway circuit	Wednesday walk	Steve Booth
	6-8th	Inverandran Cottage	Winter Climbing, Orianlarich	Steve Christian
	Dec-99	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
19th	Chatsworth	Thursday short walk	Chris Paice	
21st	Mildale- Wotton Mill (15km)	Saturday Geowalk	Stuart Firth	
M a r c h	4th	Edale/Kinder	Wednesday walk	Simon Pape
	6-8th	George Starkey Hut Patterdale	Winter Lake District meet	Pip Leach
	0	0	0	0
	12-17th	Toubkal Alpine walking/ climbing	Atlas Mountains	Ngel Berry
	19th	tbc	Thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	21st	tbc	AGM	0
22nd	tbc	Spring Stride Post AGM Sunday walk	Ngel Briggs	
0	0	0	0	
A p r i l	1st	tbc	Wednesday walk	Ngel Briggs
	3-12th	Easter meet Font?	Bouldering in Fontainbleau	?????
	16th	tbc	Thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	25th	Elrchen Clough - Fairholmes	Geowalk Saturday	Louise Amandini
24-26th	Edale	Pennine Way in stages (stage 1)	Neil Weatherstone	
24-26th	TyWNorth Wales	Climbing & walking, North Wales	Ngel Berry	

M a y	1-8th	Cornwall camping meet	Climbing and walking, Cornwall	Edward Bloomfield
	13th	Charmwood Forest	Wednesday walk	Mike Rittig
	15-17th	Heathy Lea	New members meet	??
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	21st	tbc	Thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	23rd	tbc	Saturday walk	Louise Arandini
	0	0	0	0
??	Scotland	Walking and Climbing meet	Michael Moss	
J u n e	3rd	tbc	Wednesday walk	Nick Evans
	12-19th	Fairhead (Belfast)	Ireland	Kevin Raisin Moss
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	20th	Fairholmes - Upper Burbage	Geowalk Saturday	Jan Wilson
	25th	tbc	Thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
26-28th	Little Langdale Fylde MCHut	Climbing and walking meet, Lake District	Snod Helliwell?	
J u l y	1st	Monsal Head	Wednesday walk	Peter Armour
	30-Dec	0	0	0
	10-12th	Ynys Eitws, CCHut, Llanberis Pass	Climbing in Llanberis Pass	Ed Bloomfield
	18-20th	Cader Idris	Wales	Ngel Barry
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	23rd	tbc	Thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
25th	Mow Cop 23km	Saturday walk	Nick Evans	
31-2nd Aug	Coniston Copper Mines YMCHut	Climbing and walking meet, Lake District	???	
A u g u s t	0	0	0	0
	5th	tbc	Wednesday walk	tbc
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	14-16th	TyW	Climbing and walking meet, North Wales	???
	0	0	0	0
	22nd	0	Geowalk Saturday	Rachel Walker
	27th	tbc	Thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
28-31st	Pembroke camping meet	Climbing and walking meet	0	
S e p t e m b e r	2nd	0	Wednesday walk	Linda Drew
	5-12th	Lundy Island	Climbing meet	Kevin Raisin Moss
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	24th	tbc	Thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	26th	tbc	Saturday walk	Linda Drew
25-27th	Holyhead, Rhoscolyn	Climbing & Camping weekend	Alan Monks	

9-11th	Great Langdale FROCHut	Lake District	Janet Briggs
7th	tbc	Wednesday walk	Ngel Briggs
0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0
15th	tbc	Thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0
24th	Upper burbage bridge - Robin Hood 15k	Geowalk finale Saturday	Gill Radcliffe
0	0	0	0
30-1st	Tyw North wales	Curry meet, Climbing and walking	Tony howard
4th	tbc	Wednesday walk	Rachael Walker
6-8th	Heathy Lea	Bonfire Night	???
0	0	0	0
mid-late tbc	Wadi Rum Jordan	Climbing meet	Ed Bloomfield
0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0
21st	Annual Dinner tbc	0	0
22nd	0	Post Prandial walk tbc	???
25th	tbc	Thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
0	0	0	0
2nd	0	Wednesday walk	Steve Booth
4-6th	Bullstones Meet	0	??
0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0
23rd	tbc	Thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0
26th	tbc	Boxing Day walk	tbc

Forthcoming Meets

Tuesday 2 December 8.00 pm Lecture Royal Oak Ockbrook



Guiding in older age – Robin Beadle will tell us how his alpine guiding career was brought to an abrupt and premature end by Brexit and Covid. He will talk about this setback, and his recovery from it, including his recent guiding trips to Kyrgyzstan, Lhotse and Carstensz Pyramid amongst others. He will also reflect on his decision 30 years ago to quit engineering to work as a mountain guide, and whether, with

hindsight, this was a good idea. Entry £3 Oreads, £5 visitors.

Rob Tresidder: xxxxxxxxxxxx tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Wednesday 3 December Goyt Valley Walk Rusty Russell

Please assemble at the car park at SK013756, near the NW corner of Errwood Reservoir at 10.15 for a 10.30 start, (this should give us almost six hours of daylight, and so, I estimate, a two hours margin).

Many have previously suffered in my company in the area but there remains untrodden ground. Since we will be looking at winter ground conditions I have two options in mind. If suitable, I would like to introduce you all to a remote little dry valley on the west side of the main ridge over Cats Tor but should the ground be soft and wet then we will follow firmer paths North beside Fernilee Reservoir before swinging anticlockwise and passing the delights of Windgather to descend via Pym Chair and Errwood Hall.

As many will know, there are frequent road closures in the area so I would advise an approach via A5004 from Buxton.

It would be helpful if those intending to take part would email me xxxxxxxxxxxx when we can also discuss car sharing.

5-7 December Bullstones Meet Mike Mowbray

I have booked The ULMC Hut 'Fallcliffe Cottage' between Grindleford and Hathersage for Sat Dec 6th. The hut sleeps 16 and is fully booked. Please let me know, preferably via the 'Bullstones' WhatsApp group, if you too would like to join us on the walk/bivvy. We are booked to eat at The Barrel Inn at 7.30 on Friday evening (I need to let them know numbers on 1 December) and then walk to GR 203 786, a suitably wild bivvi spot. On Saturday we may walk 10-12 miles, but shorter options are possible. I have a couple of routes in mind for consideration on Friday evening. I plan a take away curry to be delivered after some refreshments at Fallcliffe.

On Sunday we can have a shorter walk back to Friday's pub and our vehicles. I hope for a great, challenging and above all sociable weekend that maintains this excellent Oread tradition!

Mike Mowbray email

xxxxxxxxxxxxx tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Sunday 14 December Dry Tooling Masson Lees Rob Beck

Building on the huge success of Masson Fest this year I'll be running a dry tooling meet on the 14th of December at Masson Lees quarry.

Tooling is perfect training for hard mixed routes in Scotland and ice climbing, and is guaranteed to be a fun day out even if the weather's bad!

Please get in touch if you'd like to come. I can lend most of the kit, but you'll need to bring your own b2 or b3 boots.

Rob Beck tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Thursday 18 December Alstonfield and Narrowdale Rusty Russell

With the shortest day in sight and the probability of unkind weather I am

confident that there will appear seasoned participants who will rise above these trivialities.

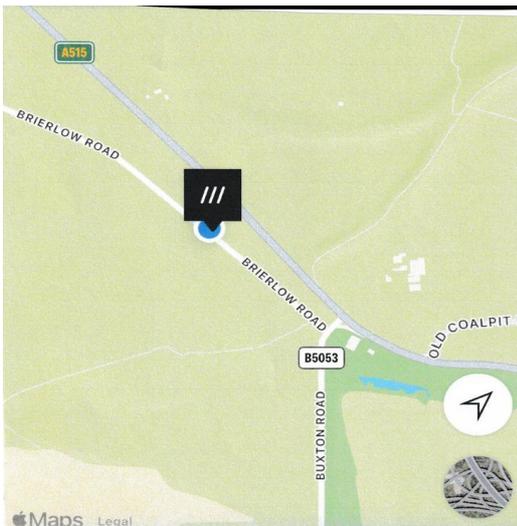
The walk will commence in Alstonefield and initially head Northward using field paths parallel to the Hulme End road before turning clockwise to head for Narrowdale Farm and Beresford Dale Ford, We shall then walk a little downstream by the Dove to the next bridge and recross the river to Narrowdale itself and back to Alstonfield.

Please meet on foot opposite the toilet blocks and the Peak Park car park although the village hall car park nearby may be used for a very reasonable £1 fee in the honesty box, at say 10.45 for 11am, (it is not a long walk but let us not forget the very restricted hours of daylight at this date).

I will be pleased to offer lifts from Parwich for up to three people (dogs accepted, first come first served) Please let me know if you will be coming - email xxxxxxxxxxx or ring xxxxxxxxxxxxxx to discuss lifts.

Saturday 20 December Brierlow Bar to Tideswell Geo Walk Rachel Walker

10.00 am start. Distance 14km. Total Ascent 240 m. Start: lay-by Brierlow Bar SK087 698.



Meet at 9.45 for 10.00 am set off from Brierlow Bar layby, The parking is on the Harpur Hill road (Brierlow Road) which, coming from Ashbourne direction, is left on the A515 at Brierlow Bar traffic lights (then sharp right towards Harpur Hill) , First lay-by on right hand side. What 3 words /// includes. rationing.march. GR 084 700 Finish: Tideswell SK152 757.

This section of the Geo Walk is slightly out of order. Rob Tresidder led us on the impressive section 9 from Tideswell in October and Chris Paice led section 7 up to Brierlow Bar in the summer. So this is a bit of infilling.

This is the description from the Geo Walk Guide:

A relatively easy walk punctuated by two short steep climbs and a rather treacherous descent towards Topley Pike Quarry. The route passes through several limestone dales, only one of which contains a permanent water course, the Wye, which is one of Derbyshire's loveliest rivers. Throughout the walk there are interesting igneous rocks to be seen, at scales that affect the landscape. These rocks show that many volcanic eruptions took place during mid-Carboniferous times, forming extensive lava flows and layers of volcanic ash amongst the limestones and shales that were steadily accumulating in the sea. Wait for more instructions for shuttles.

Please let me know if you are coming.

Rachel Walker: email xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx, tel. [xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](tel:xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

26 December Boxing Day Get-together Peter Amour

Due to the disparate activities of members on this day a specific leader has not been appointed. That said, The Miners Standard, Bank Top, Winster DE4 2DR is aware that Oreads may make use of the hostelry following a walk, climb, cycle or car ride, and to partake of a festive drink, or perhaps even a meal.

Should you wish to dine there please pre-book at :- The Miner's Standard, Tel No 01629 650279 Scarlett was the lady that I spoke to.

Festive best wishes to all, Pete.

Christmas/New Year at Tan yr Wyddfa Snod Helliwell

The hut is reserved for members and their guests over the festive period 24 December to 4 January. Book yourselves in, come and go as you please. I will not be there at Christmas but will arrive a day or two later in time for a New Year celebration featuring a joint meal, probably a fiendish jigsaw, silly games and fun and, with luck some climbing too. Hope to see a good crowd there.

Snod email xxxxxxxxxx tel. or WhatsApp xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

1 January Youlgreave Lathkill Dale circuit Richard Freestone

Please join me on New Year's Day for a 7-8 mile stroll taking in Youlgreave, Alport, Over Haddon for lunch at the Lathkil Hotel, Lathkill Dale and Cave Dale. We shall start from the car park on Moor Lane SK194645 at 11.00. This car park in now pay and display I'm afraid but there is free parking at the road junction about 100 yards west. Lunch can be taken at The Lathkil Hotel but you need to book in December before Christmas at <https://www.lathkil.co.uk/menus/> 01629 812501 please mention you are from the Oread. We should be arriving there at about 13.00. There is plenty of industrial heritage in Lathkill Dale plus a connection between Over Haddon and MI6.

Richard Freestone tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Tuesday 6 January 8.00 pm Lecture Royal Oak Ockbrook

This will be a double bill. **Andy Miller** will talk about his new book *A Year on the Ethels. A Life in the Mountains*. Andy climbed all the Ethels (95 summits in the Peak District) in 2024. While walking these he reminisced on his mountaineering experiences from earliest days new routeing with Rev. Bob Shepton on Portland, through to the Alps, USA and the Himalaya. The photo is of Andy on the E face of Mt Whitney. In the other half of the evening, **Robin Knott** will talk about the work of Derby Mountain Rescue Team, which we have supported on several occasions with raffles etc. Entry £3 Oreads, £5 visitors. Rob Tresidder: [xxxxxxx](https://www.dermountainrescue.org.uk/) tel.

xxxxxxxxxx



10 -12 January Milehouse Cottage Kingussie Ed Bloomfield



Winter climbing in the northern Cairngorm.

Hopefully the new year will bring good conditions for mixed climbing, with frozen turf and rimed up rock or better still the ice will be in on Creag Meagidh? One way to find out!



We are staying at the SLC hut in Newtonmore which is well situated for both Megy and the northern Corries. The last three seasons I've always managed to get plenty out of a January trip to the Cairngorm, last year my self and Rob Beck got three routes done in the January weekend - Pygmy ridge, Fingers ridge and Aladdin's Mirror direct. I'd like to say we made it home for tea but we didn't get out of the Corrie until dark and ended up with cheeseboard on the dashboard all the way home. If avalanche forecast is low Shelter stone or Lochan could be on the cards as haven't made it into either of them on previous trips. Get in touch, get booked on, get psyched, pray to the winter gods and let's get it done.

Ed Bloomfield: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Thursday 15 January Lecture Matlock Bath

The Derwent M.C. Invite us to their lecture: "**Nanga Parbat, alpine style.**" Roger Mear kindly sharing his experience on one of the most challenging of the 8,000m peaks. To be held in the Fishpond pub (upstairs in the ballroom) in Matlock Bath, 7pm for a 7:30pm start.

Thursday 22 January Short Walk Ruth Gordon

We will start at 11.00 am at Ashover Village Hall, On street parking or there are usually plenty of spaces at the Village Hall, SK 351632. Most of the route is not on the White Peak map, you need Explorer 269, Chesterfield and Alfretton. My plan is cunningly to avoid all the steepest ups and downs in the parish, taking us via Hockley Quarry to Fallgate, Milltown, Overton Hall, Goss Hall and Butts Quarry. The route is about five miles, suitable for the short winter days but can be lengthened with some steeper ground included according to the enthusiasm and fitness of the party on the day. There are, of course three excellent pubs in the village should anyone happen to be interested in such establishments. Ruth Gordon email xxxxxxxxxx tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Saturday 24 January Cromford – Rowsley John Gwyther

Rendezvous: Cromford Wharf car park at 10.00 a.m.
Cromford—Bonsall—Winster—Rowsley and return to start by bus.
15km. 462m ascent. Time 5 h approximately.
John Gwyther email xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Tuesday 3 February 8.00 pm Lecture Royal Oak Ockbrook

This will be Aaron Wigley talking about Montenegro. More details in next issue.

Wednesday 4 February Cromford Circuit Steve Booth

A circular 9.5 mile walk exploring the east and west sides of the Derwent valley between Cromford and Holloway. The walk starts at 10.30 from the Cromford meadow car park (SK 30074 57069). Use the parking app "RingGo" all-day parking is £4, the reference number for the carpark is 24734.
Steve Booth email: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

6-8 February Inverardran Cottage Crianlarich Steve Christian

The Ochills Mountaineering Club cottage at Crianlarich is a wonderful location for winter hillwalking with many nearby Munros, as well as good winter climbing areas with the Bridge of Orchy Hills, Beinn an Dothaidh and Beinn Udlaidh to name a few. We have 10 beds booked (three taken already) with an option to book

eight more, so get in touch if you fancy some Scottish winter action in a less frequented area.

[Club Cottage – Inverardran Cottage – Ochils Mountaineering Club](#)

Steve Christian email xxxxxxxxxxxxxx tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Tuesday 3 March 2026 Oread Photo Competition

Calling all Oreads !!!!! At the last indoor meet of the season in March 2026 we are planning a photo competition. This is something the Club hasn't done for a few years so will be a bit of an experiment. Our professional judge Richard Freestone is known to many of you. There will be some great prizes and more importantly a great social evening when all your fabulous experiences in the hills can be shared and enjoyed with your fellow Oreads.

To date the format has not been finalised but we hope to include submissions from both amateur and more serious photographers. Categories will include all aspects of climbing, mountaineering and hill based activities both in UK and abroad. There will also be a category for the most amusing shot or possibly short video. This notification is to ask you to make sure you take plenty of great photos throughout the year and dig out any that are really important to you from the past. I will be finalising arrangements later in the year and will communicate the plans via the Newsletter, website and other Oread communication channels.

Jan Wilson email: xxxxxxxxxxxxxx tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Toubkal Meet – 12 to 17 March 2026 Nige Berry



Winter ascent of Morocco's highest peak, Toubkal (4167 Metres).

Last year I organised a friends' trip to the Atlas and by popular interest, I have been asked to plan another trip next year using the local trek company that was such a success last time.

For a flavour of this, see Aaron Wigley's video on WhatsApp.

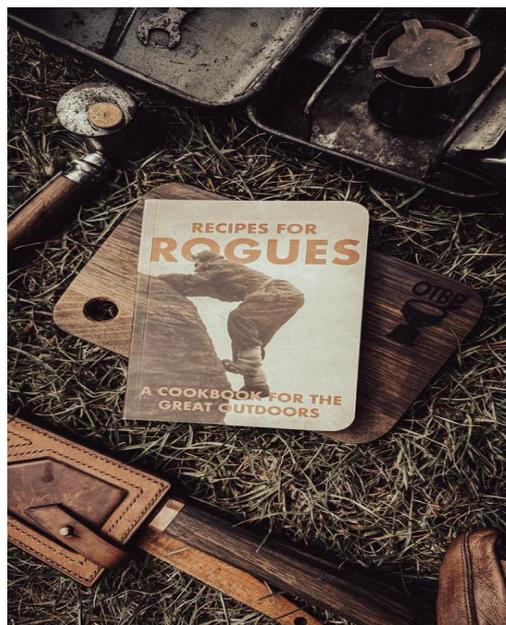
Flying from Manchester, the local contact out there will supply transport, accommodation, food, mule and porters, as well as a local 'guide' (now a requirement to go into the national park). Suitable for anyone who wants to climb a big mountain and can use crampons and ice axe. Winter walking experience. For more information on costs, itinerary and what to expect contact me Nige Berry email xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

News, Articles and Reports from Meets

Recipes for Rogues

Thom Axon, grandson of founder members Keith and Nan Axon has produced a cookbook for the outdoors. There's over 30 recipes, loads of hints and tips and pictures of the very early days of the Oreads climbing. He says it is built to live in your rucksac just like those old climbing guidebooks our grandparents carried when weekends meant hobnail boots, rain and strong tea!

You can order a copy for £9.99 from www.offthebeatenpot.com



Bakewell – Rowsley Walk 6 November Stuart Firth



On the day before our walk, it had rained almost incessantly. Although the weather forecast had not been encouraging, it turned out completely dry and remarkably warm; folk were soon stripping off to display bare arms.

To enable an A2B walk, the plan had been to use buses to get to the start in Bakewell and return home via Massarella's café at Rowsley. It was heartening

that everyone bought into the idea. Unfortunately, multiple road works conspired to delay our transport at the beginning. Nonetheless the team eventually assembled in good order in the Derbyshire Emporium for a well-deserved coffee. We set off a mere forty minutes behind schedule.

Although it was on our home patch, the footpaths were new to many in the party and provided extensive views over the Chatsworth Estate and beyond.



Lunchtime: L to R: Chris Radcliffe, Michael Hayes, Clive Russell, Nigel and Janet Briggs, Sue Todd, Alan Bower, Rachel Walker, Richard Freestone and John Gwyther.

I had offered a prize to the solver of a WhatThreeWords word association puzzle. Sadly, no-one completed it all and therefore the 5* weekend for two in Cleethorpes was not awarded. Rachel came closest with an offering for the first element of three. Her part-solution was **Shaped**-Form-Pupil-Eye-Blink-Sun-Holiday-Travel-**Passport**. Better luck next time.

Many thanks to all who attended what transpired to be a very happy day in the local hills.

Curry Meet High House Borrowdale 10 – 12 October Tony Howard



This year we were at High House, the K-Fellfarers hut in Borrowdale. What a wonderful hut this is, and in a magnificent location.

This year the take-up for coming on the meet was very slow. A couple of weeks before hand we had nine, all of them regular participants. That was enough to go ahead with the meet, but less than I had hoped for. However, after this, interest increased and applications improved by over 50%. This included two members that I met for the first time: Seyhan and Cathy Ayton. The final count was 14, which was enough to make the hut feel well occupied.

Some people including Pippa went up early and many of us stayed over on the Sunday night. Retired people not only have the time to do this, but are also less inclined to make a long and time-consuming journey home after a good day on the hill. Pippa arranged these extra nights with the Fellfarers. Thanks for that Pippa.



The weather was OK on the Thursday, I think. I wasn't there. However, we had two days of beautiful weather after that. Everyone went walking, mostly high up on both days. Quite a few walked alone or in small groups. Most summits – yes most of them - in that area were ascended and a multitude of superb and inspiring photographs, including the ones shown here, were posted on the Club's Facebook account by Cathy Ayton.

On Saturday night we had the usual feast of curries; two vegetable ones, one chicken, one lamb and one beef. This was followed by a tropical fruit salad. Thank you to the cooks, Pippa, Simon, Gill and Nigel and to Rachel who prepared the fruit salad.

It was a great weekend and I think everybody enjoyed it.

Next year we will be back at Tan yr Wyddfa, but in 2027 I am hoping we can be back in the Lakes. I look forward to seeing many of you on these events.



Bonfire Night at Heathy Lea Chris Wilson

On the days beforehand the weather was pretty dire giving us fabulous fire safety and lots of very wet material for the bonfire, so it must have been Saturday's clear skies that enticed an army of helpers out. Lots of nice dry firewood was brought from home and fun was had wrestling suitable material from the hillside. A few hardy souls went climbing and walking. As darkness drew near the clamour from the little ones grew too great and the bonfire was lit. It was great, if a little hot at times, especially for marshmallows. The BBQ's proved popular as well. The sky stayed clear and windless for the fireworks. It was difficult to count the numbers but there were over 30 of us, from very young upwards, enjoying a lovely evening in great company. Well done Heathy Lea, we'll be back same time next year and many times more. A big thanks to everyone who came. Spread the word, it's a wonderful place for a gathering!

Youlgreave Walk 20 November Andrea Doyle

A beautiful sunny day, with blue skies overhead, firm ground underfoot and excellent company.



From Coldwell End car park, we made our way down to the River Bradford, where we spotted a stately heron slowly striding amongst the grasses looking for lunch and a couple of fellow Oreads heading in the opposite direction. After climbing up to the ridge above Hopping Farm campsite, we crossed the fields with views of Youlgreave, Robin Hood's Stride and stony outcrops all looking superb in the sunlight. Through the disused quarry by Anthony Hill, up to Elton Church, and across fields to the Cricket Club grounds for lunch. Refreshed, we strode on to Cratcliffe Tor, watched by a small group of black deer in the neighbouring field. Past Robin Hood's Stride we stopped to admire the view of the nearby standing stone circle and Stanton Hall in the distance, before descending back into Youlgreave. Thank you Peter for the photo, and Rusty, Chiz, Nick, Peter, Ruth, Chris R., John, Jan, Chris W. and, of course, Lula, for your company!

Apparently our company was not appreciated by all as the following letter was delivered later to our Hon. Ed. via the afore-mentioned fellow Oreads.

Dear Sir / Madam,



I would like to lodge a formal complaint about the behaviour of certain members of your Oread Mountaineering club yesterday morning. I was peacefully minding my own business near the Bradford River when I was disturbed by the yawping and hollering of a brightly coloured flock of Oreads. I did my very best to ignore them, but it was nearly impossible, and I had to stand in some cold water for a long time before I calmed down. I attach a photograph of the mountain nymphs so that you can easily identify and reprimand them.

Ann Heron
Moatlow Knob
Bradford Dale
Derbyshire

2025 Raffle

The raffle at the Annual Dinner raised £453 for Edale Mountain Rescue Team, and the Oread has rounded this up to £500. Wouldn't it be wonderful if none of it was ever needed to rescue one of us. This year we had ten really good prizes rather than have a raffle that goes on for ages with lots of small ones, and we opened it up for advance sales. There were rucksacs from Equip, a £50 Alpkit voucher, Rockfax guides to the Peak district (thanks Rockfax and Will Knifton-Smith at Jo Royle Outdoor), sessions at Awesome Walls, kit from Outside and generous donations from club members with Peak Rock and a bottle of pop. This year's winners were Paul Bingham, Paul Gardiner, Chris Radcliffe, Mark Sitwell, Simon Pape, Michael Hayes, Chris Paice, Steve Booth, Victoria Mawer, Patrick Barber.

Post Prandial Walk 23 November

After an excellent dinner on Saturday a surprising number of people turned out for Sunday's walk in spite of a less than inspiring forecast. The first obstacle was the uncooperative pay machine at Tissington Station. Belatedly we all managed to get some sort of ticket and our noble leader led us off in the teeth of a chilly wind and spitting rain!



Rusty took over the route-finding at an early stage to avoid a hideously muddy farmyard and led us to Parwich where he left the party to enjoy our sandwiches in the sun followed by liquid refreshment at the Sycamore where we found Brian and Roger already installed.



Driven by the increasing danger of hypothermia in the chilly marquee we set off on the return leg which was fairly steady uphill so we soon warmed up and got back to the cars before any of us got nabbed for exceeding the random tickets the machine had seen fit to issue us. A grand day out with stunning views – thanks to Pete Amour for the route, Mike Moss for leading, Rusty for the diversion and Chris Radcliffe and Spike Johnston for the photos. More photos can be seen at <https://photos.app.goo.gl/wkg4crbt8uwkcG4z6>



Hut Bookings.

Hut bookings are now made online at the Oread website www.oread.co.uk. The system allows you to see up to date bed availability details and make your own bookings.

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

All queries and outstanding payments should be addressed to Michael Hayes, the Hut Bookings Secretary: 179 Starkholmes Rd. Starkholmes, Matlock DE4 5JA Mobile 07771 700913. Email: michaelhayes6688@gmail.com

Our preferred method of payment is via bank transfer to our Lloyds account – Sort Code 30-98-97 Account number 62584068. Please use the 'Reference' box to say what the payment is for. **In particular please say which hut, ie Hut fees HL, or Hut fees TyW.** Your name is not necessary in the reference, unless it is different from the bank account name.

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

Hut Door and Barrier Codes

Note – these are available on the website in the Club Information section under the Members tab section **when you are logged in as a member**.

Oread Mountaineering Club T Shirts and Hoodies:

We still have club t shirts and hoodies available to order, now or in future, from

<https://ipmteamwear.com/collections/oread-mountaineering-club>

For all the details, photos, and a link to order them go to the Oread website and log in as a member. You will see the link to Oread Clothing in the list on the left of the screen. If you have not logged in before your user name is your first initial and surname eg rgordon then click the forgot password link to get a new one.

If you have any questions or if you need help with ordering please contact Janet Briggs: email xxxxxxxxxxxxx

Information on Member Activities

Welcome to new provisional members William Cook, Callum Core and Craig Dooley and full members Trevor Stevens and Emily Young. We hope you will enjoy many happy days with the club. We have a new application for full membership from Chris Williams. If you would like to comment on this application please contact a member of the committee.

Rusty's Puzzle Corner

This month's puzzle

On a grey November Saturday “Dosn” was in nominal charge of a meeting of the carnivore M/C club. His handler volunteered him to fetch everyone a fish and chip lunch. He could only remember who the four customers were by the bikes they rode and he called them Combo, Two Stroke, Six Hundred And V twin, hereafter C,T,S and V.

Already depressed because he had neglected his monthly magneto change and his bike wouldn't start, he had to walk along in drizzle and fog, and lost the paper with his instructions on.

However, his money was in four plastic bags, in order as stated for the four clients, and the shop prices were Cod £6.95, Chips £3.35, Fishcake,£2.00, Peas £1.00

bag 1 contained £10.30 from c

bag 2 contained £5.35 from t

bag 3 contained £11.30 from s

bag 4 contained £4.35 from v

our man (known to the staff in the chippy) sneaked round the back and used the computer whereafter he placed his order and identified the four gourmets

Which biker had which meal?

Last month's puzzle solution.



The puzzle referred to the breeds of cattle generally seen grazing in the Peak District, those are Friesian and to a lesser extent Herefords. (The red/brown posterior of a Hereford Heifer partly masked by a nearby Friesian was on view in the photo published with the puzzle. Snod and Ruth. jointly and separately arrived at this correct solution. Ruth also tendered the breed Belgian Blue as an alternative. This of course satisfies the puzzle stipulations but with the caveat that they are somewhat less numerous.

*Ruth Gordon, 4 The Terrace, Upper Lumsdale, Matlock, Derbys DE4 5LB
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