



# Oread Mountaineering Club Magazine

**May 2025**



**Short walkers in the spring sunshine heading down from Middleton Moor. - photo Chris Radcliffe.**

## **Editorial**

Early May Bank Holiday in Cornwall, late Bank Holiday in Skye and before then the New Members' Meet, and plenty more local walks to look forward to. Coming up in June, Clapham, North Yorkshire, the Lake District, near Keswick, another Geo walk and an early Alpine meet to Switzerland.

Write-ups include several local walks and there is an obituary for Steve Clegg and details of a memorial event planned for him on 20 August See page 12.

**Copy Deadline 20 May.**

## Meets List 2025 - Edward Bloomfield

The 2025 meets list still has some blanks where there should be a meet coordinator. I need more volunteers to step forward!

Ed Bloomfield email [edwardlbloomfield@gmail.com](mailto:edwardlbloomfield@gmail.com) tel. 07990 066362

2025				
				
	Dates	Hut/Location/title	Description	Leader
<b>M a y</b>	2nd-11th	Corwall camping meet	Camping, walking & climbing	Ed Bloomfield
	0	0	0	0
	7th	Hartington Station/Tissington trail	Wednesday walk	J Gwyther
	15th	Shilto woods	Thursday short walk	Chris Paice
	16th-18th	New members' meet Heathy Lee	Climbing and bbq at the hut	Kevin Moss
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	24th	hope	Saturday walk	J Gwyther
<b>J u n e</b>	23-31st	Scotland	Climbing & walking West coast	Mike Moss
	0	0	0	0
	4th	Dovedale	Wednesday Walk	Rusty (Clive Russell)
	6th-8th	Lowstern North Yorkshire	Walking & climbing N Yorks	Pete Amour
	0	0	0	0
	15th	Peak District women rock	Meet to celebrate women climbing	Emma Hayes
	19th	Ticknall	Thursday short walk	Nick Evans
	21st	Geo Walk - Flash to Brierlow Bar	Saturday Walk	Christine Paice
<b>J u l y</b>	21-6th	Saas Grund, Pennine Alps Switzerland	Alps meet	Steve Christian
	26-28th	Stair cottage Keswick (Fylde hut)	Climbing and walking meet	Snod
	2nd	Eyam	Wednesday Walk	Christine Paice
	04-6th	Rock Hall Roaches	Climbing at the Roaches	Charlie Taylor
	30-Dec	0	0	0
	12th	Peak District pinnacles meet	0	???
	0	0	0	0
	17th	TBC	Thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
<b>A u g u s t</b>	18th-20th	Anglesey camping meet	Sea cliff climbing & camping	Lianne/Dave Mason
	26th	Shuttlingsloe	Saturday Walk	Rusty (Clive Russell)
	0	0	0	0
	1st-3rd	MAM Coniston	0	???
	6th	TBC	Wednesday Walk	Stuart Firth
	8-10th	Heathy Lea family meet	0	Rob Beck Nuno Gomes
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
<b>S e p t e m b e r</b>	16th	Geo Walk - Edale to Birchen Clough Bridge	Saturday walk	Mike Percival
	0	0	0	0
	21st	TBC	Thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	22-25th	Pembroke camping meet	Sea cliff climbing, Pembroke	???
	30-6th	Ailefroide, Ecrins	Alps trip	Nigel Berry
	3rd	Teggs Nose	Wednesday Walk	Nick Evans
	2-4th	Tyw working party	Tyw maintenance meet	Snod
	5-7th	Glan Dena (Ogwen valley)	North Wales climbing and walking	Snod
<b>S e p t e m b e r</b>	0	0	0	0
	18th	TBC	Thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	19th-21st	Peak District BARMY comp heathy lea	BARMY competition	?????
	21st	post pamy sunday walk	0	Chris Paice
	0	0	0	0
	26-28th	Heathy lea meet	0	Kevin RM
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0

<b>O c t o b e r</b>	1st	Bamford	Wednesday Walk	Christine Paice
	0	0	0	0
	11-13th	High House Lake District	Curry Meet(walking & climbing)	Tony Howard
	10-19th	kalymnos	med sport Climbing meet	Em Hayes
	16th	TBC	Thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	18th	Geo Walk - Tideswell to Edale	Saturday Walk	Rob Tresidder
	19th	Froggat Slab	Peak District slab climbing	???
	0	0	0	0
	24-26th	TYW - North Wales	0	???
<b>N o v e m b e r</b>	0	0	0	0
	5th	TBC	Wednesday Walk	Stuart Firth
	8th	heathylea	Bonfire night	Kevin M
	0	0	0	0
	Ref	Tafaroute anti atlas morroco	Climbing morroco	Ed B
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	20th	TBC	Thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	22nd	Annual dinner	Bentley brook	Christine pace
	23rd	Post prandial walk	0	0
	23rd	Post dinner climb ,	0	0
	28-30th	Birkness barn Lake district	Walking meet	Charlie Taylor
<b>D e c e m b e r</b>	3rd	Goyt	Wednesday Walk	Rusty (Clive Russell)
	6-7th	Bullstones	0	Mike Mowbray
	0	0	0	0
	13-15th	Mannood drytooling	Drytooling meet hut to be confirmed	Rob Beck
	18th	TBC	Thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	0	0	0	0
	20th	Geo Walk Brierlow Bar – Tideswell	Saturday Walk	Rachel Walker
	0	0	0	0
	24-1 Jan	0	Christmas and New Year hut meet	??

## Forthcoming Meets

### 2-11 May Cornwall Ed Bloomfield

Planning on staying at Kelynack campsite for 7-9 days,

**[enquiries@kelynackholidays.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@kelynackholidays.co.uk)**

Having never climbed on Cornish Granite I suspect Tom L will be showing me some of the classics like Commando Ridge at Bosigran. We will be walking some days and climbing others having an early summer holiday on the British coast. If you wish to book on get in touch with me.

Ed Bloomfield: email [edwardlbloomfield@gmail.com](mailto:edwardlbloomfield@gmail.com) tel. 07990 066362

### Wednesday 7 May Hartington Walk John Gwyther

Meet at 'Hartington Station' car park (off B5054) at 10.00 am. 21km 254m ascent 4h 30. The walk proceeds to Biggin, then up Wolfscote Dale to Hartington (lunch stop). Then walk around Carder Low to Parsley Hay and back along the High Peak Trail to the car park. There are toilets at the start, Hartington and Parsley Hay. I'll bring a packed lunch but there are lots of eateries in Hartington.

John Gwyther: email [jagwyther54@gmail.com](mailto:jagwyther54@gmail.com) tel. 07931 630974

## **Thursday 15 May Shillito Wood Chris Paice**

Begin at Shillito Wood car park, ref: 749 293 to set off walking at 11.00.a.m. The first 1 ½ miles is along a very quiet (the leader hopes!) country lane to Unthank Hall. From here we continue on footpaths for most of the walk taking in Horsleygate, onto Lydgate and coming south to Horsleygate hall. A very short road stretch towards Smeekley Wood, skirting the wood to walk along Carr Road (not a road, a track). A footpath along the bottom of Hewett's Bank takes us back to the start. A mixture of wooded areas, fields and some steady uphill stretches. Variety under foot, roads, tracks and footpaths. Something for everyone, there is small water side stretch, so do join us.  
8.85km, 5.5 miles, not exact but thereabouts!  
Chris Paice email [walkingpaice@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:walkingpaice@hotmail.co.uk) tel. 07773 045838

## **16 -18 May New members meet Heathy Lea Kevin Raisin-Moss**

Either stay Friday night or meet up with us Saturday morning, departing from the hut around 10:00, or at the crag.

Plan is to climb at Stanage popular on the Saturday and Burbage South on the Sunday.

A barbecue will be put on for the Saturday evening.

We need members who can partner up with new members and provide sponsorship so please come along and support the meet.

Contact Kevin Raisin-Moss for further info: email [mapperleysamurai@gmail.com](mailto:mapperleysamurai@gmail.com) tel. 07920 522691.

## **Saturday 24 May Hope Walk John Gwyther**

Meet at Hope car park 10.00 am. (Please try to car share; the car park is expensive and it's a Bank holiday weekend). We'll walk beside the river to Castleton and then through the Winnat's Pass, up over Mam Tor, along the ridge to Holllin's Cross and Lose Hill. Back down to Hope. There'll be loos and refreshments in Hope and Castleton but probably best to bring some lunch. 13km 460m ascent. A few stiles and plenty of sheep. Please contact me if you're coming.

John Gwyther tel. 07931 630974

## **24 May – 1 June Skye Michael Moss**

We are going again to Skye for the late May bank holiday, the weather has been good to us for this week in most years. Dates are Saturday 24th May to Sunday 1st June.

Skye has great opportunities for climbing, scrambling and walking. There is scrambling on the Black and Red Cullins, a range of classic mountain routes at all grades and sea cliff climbing.

Climbing includes many long ameanable classics, including the Dubhs Ridge, Pinnacle Ridge and routes on Sron na Ciche including the Cioch.



The classic Cullin ridge can be tackled in one long push, or broken into a few enjoyable days.

For a great day out I can recommend the boat from Elgol to the isolated Loch Coruisk, a scramble up the Dubhs ridge and over the Cullin ridge and the descent to the campsite at Glenbrittle.

For more relaxing days, walks along the shore and cliff tops watching the otters, dolphins and seals.

We will be camping at Glenbrittle, a beautiful spot on the coast, adjacent to the best climbing in the Cullin, and with good access to scrambles on the ridge.

The facilities there are good. Booking at the campsite is only necessary if you want an electric hook-up.

Contact me or join the WhatsApp group to find out more.

Michael Moss email [mamoss@btinternet.com](mailto:mamoss@btinternet.com) tel.07932 420414

### **Wednesday 4 June Dovedale Walk Rusty Russell**

The walk will commence at a target time of 10.00 am from Alsop station car park although there is informal parking within about five minutes walk. Up to three people are welcome to travel from Parwich with me, (Slate House DE61QD). First three to email me ([zrussell2@googlemail.com](mailto:zrussell2@googlemail.com)), departure at 9.40 sharp.

The actual river valley has been comprehensively trodden by many so the River Dove will be a guide for a path through the trees at the top of the eastern bank.

Thereafter an anticlockwise loop will be taken using bits of Gag Lane or the Tissington Trail as the whim of the moment, and the wind, may dictate.

Rusty Russell tel. 07895 761615

### **6 - 7 June Yorkshire Dales Meet Clapham Peter Amour**

Possibly the best hut in Yorkshire, the YRC Lowstern Hut offers not only superb accommodation but climbing at nearby Twistleton Scar, Trow Gill and on Pen Y Ghent.

Hill walkers have the stunning limestone dales to explore. It's also in prime caving country, and for anyone with a wish to cycle it gives on and off-road sport. Bed spaces are limited, so if showing an interest please don't delay. It's likely that some of us may be staying longer, if you're keen to do that let me know EARLY so that I can make a single booking. I look forward to hearing from you.

Peter Amour email [peter@amour02.force9.co.uk](mailto:peter@amour02.force9.co.uk) tel. 07827 378147

### **Thursday 19 June Short Walk Ticknall Nick Evans**

Start - Ticknall village hall car park, (free). SK 352 241 Off Ingleby Lane.

About 6 miles. Route - Ticknall Lime Yards, Calke Abbey grounds, Dimminsedale.

You might like to bring a torch for the tunnels.

We will pass a café and a pub.

Nick Evans email [nick.evans4864@gmail.com](mailto:nick.evans4864@gmail.com) tel. 07341 258328 or via the WhatsApp walking group.

## **21 June – 5 July Saas Grund, Valais, Switzerland Steve Christian**

I have booked the campsite for myself, Sally and Tom at Saas Grund for the dates June 21st to July 5th via this link:

<https://www.campingschweiz.ch/english-1/>

The campsite has reserved 25 places for us. If you enter Oread MC - Steve Christian in the comments field when booking they will keep us together in the same area.

Camping Schönblick in the village of Saas Grund is in the eastern region of the Swiss canton of Valais, north of the Monte Rosa group. There is a concentration of thirteen peaks exceeding 4000 metres that include technically easy normal routes along with some classic snow and rock ridge traverses. It is a perfect venue for new or experienced alpine mountaineers alike. There are also lower altitude classic rock traverses and some good multi pitch rock climbs. Half and full day walks are possible to a number of alpine huts, lakes and cols, which can include ascents of smaller walking peaks.

Any questions at all don't hesitate to ask if you see me out and about or via email [climbersteve@hotmail.com](mailto:climbersteve@hotmail.com) tel.07467 329175

## **27 - 28 June Stair Cottage Snod Helliwell**

This year's Fylde hut swap meet is at the spacious, modern Stair Cottage near Keswick, which, unlike Little Langdale, has ample parking and 21 beds. (You must bring your own pillowcase). The hut is ideally situated for lots of crags and great walking in Borrowdale and the Western fells. As a hut swap the cost is only £5 a night for members.

The long days at this time of year allow access to the high crags - Scafell, Gable, Eagle Crag and even Esk Buttress are within reach. The valley crags, Shepherds, Black Crag, Bleak How, Sargeant Crag Slabs, Goat Crag and the wonderful (though I think now rather overgrown) Great End Crag, home to two of the best routes in the country. There is ample opportunity for ticking routes in Hard Rock. And back at the hut – after a long day on the hill or crag - Botty will be there with his guitar so we can have a Saturday night sing-song. It was so good last time Pip got up (or was it the noise?) and joined us in her P.J.s!

Book your place with me – email [fingertipdave@outlook.com](mailto:fingertipdave@outlook.com) or phone me on 01298 812753 and leave a message or WhatsApp me 07976 517216.

## **30 August – 6 September Ailefroide Ecrins National Park, France Nige Berry**

The second confirmed venue is Ailefroide in The Ecrins National Park, France for the first week of September i.e. 30<sup>th</sup> August to 6<sup>th</sup> September. There is an option to extend this for a further week after the proposed finish date depending upon people's preference. It will also be possible for people to independently go a week earlier. It will be based from the campsite in Ailefroide [Camping Ailefroide \(Vallouise-Pelvoux\) | Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Tourism](#)

This venue works well at the end of the season August / September (when the

French finish their holidays) perfect for families, great campsite, no telepheriques to pay for and possibilities for booking huts. Conditions can be mixed for snow alpinism but still possible with the Pelvoux traverse or Dom de Neige / Barre des Ecrin.

It has many bolt protected multi pitch granite routes, either from the campsite or in the surrounding mountains, along with many bolted valley crags in adjacent areas. There are nearby options for bouldering, canyoning and via ferratas. The local and nearby walks are also varied and extensive.

Nige Berry: email [nigebmic@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nigebmic@yahoo.co.uk) tel. 07939 073394

## **12-19 October Kalymnos Emma Hayes**

Join the WhatsApp group or be in touch to find out more.

Emma Hayes: email [emma.hayes06@gmail.com](mailto:emma.hayes06@gmail.com) tel. 07879 446441

## **22 November Annual Dinner overnight stops**

22<sup>nd</sup> November will be the Annual Dinner at The Bentley Brook Inn, Fenny Bentley, DE6 1LF. Hopefully, the date is now in your calendar. Rooms are limited, there is now 11 rooms vacant for us, various sizes.

Bentley Brook are currently holding the rooms until 22nd September and are offering a **10% discount on all rooms booked direct**, guests can **call on 01335 350278** to secure their room and discount. One person has already booked, well done.

Camper vans. As last year this will be a first come, first served basis. Bentley Brook will allow 6. Contact Rachel - [catherinerachelwalker@gmail.com](mailto:catherinerachelwalker@gmail.com) to reserve a space.

Cost and menus to follow.

Christine Paice

## **Pennine Way in Stages - Gauging Interest**

### **Neil Weatherstone**

I've always fancied doing the Pennine Way (435km, 11000m of ascent), but find it impossible to get the time off from work and a busy family life to do it in one push, therefore I'm looking to gauge interest if others would like to join me to do this in stages. I enjoyed hearing of other Oreads who completed it last year and have taken some inspiration from John, Pippa and the Hayes to find a way to get it done. I have a rough plan of 5 stages, to be completed over long weekends, perhaps one stage per year starting 2026, walking in late April or May before the midges arrive. Stages have access to public transport near the start and finish and I have family in Northumberland that could help with the logistics in that sparsely populated area north of the wall. I'd be looking to mix wild camping and basic accommodation where convenient, similar to a Bullstones weekend but with better weather and more daylight (I hope). I'd plan the walks and accommodation and co-ordinate travel, lift shares etc.

1. Edale to Cowling, 4 days

2. Cowling to Horton in Ribblesdale, 4 days

3.Horton in Ribblesdale to Middleton-in-Teesdale, 3 days

4.Middleton-in-Teesdale to Greenhead, 4 days

5.Greenhead to Kirk Yetholm, 5 days

If you're interested, drop me a note ([neil.weatherstone@btinternet.com](mailto:neil.weatherstone@btinternet.com) 07946 825798 or on WhatsApp) so I can gauge if there is enough interest to run these in the meets programme. Any comments, ideas and advice also welcome from those who have done the PW previously.

Thanks

Neil Weatherstone

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

### **Change of sequence of Geo – walks Peter Amour**

You may have noticed that the Geo walks later in the year are out of sequence – there are several reasons for this:

- 1) There has been a DCC statement saying that they may have to close Snake Pass permanently. The terrain is unstable and spiralling in maintenance costs. This may be political in a plea for funding, but if it does close that stage will be very difficult to complete as a linear walk.
- 2) Short daylight and the drive distances make for difficulties.
- 3) In December the party could visit the Christmas decorations in St John's Church in Tideswell on the Brierlow - Tideswell walk
- 4) In August Mike will lead members over in-bloom heather from Edale – Birchen Clough Bridge.

The over-riding reason is the risk of the DCC statement becoming reality, hence let's get it out of the way.

### **Spring Stride 23 March - A Wee Story Peter Amour**

The gathering of Oreads at Curbar Gap car park went without hitch as the last attendees grabbed the remaining weekend spots. Keeping close to Baslow Edge's crags we meandered onto Wellington's Monument, and headed east with a Shillito Woods rendezvous with Ruth and Snod in mind. On the approach to the Baslow -Owler Bar crossroads I rang Ruth to give an ETA with them within the woods. Ruth's reply amazed me "I can see you", I was astounded that through mists, trees and thickets, and over a mile away this remarkable lady could see me. Moments later her incredible vision became plausible, they weren't in Shillito Woods but parked over the wall at the side of me. Our numbers were now 12 Oreads, plus two newcomers, Dan, plus Sasha with her diminutive dog Disco.

Skirting Shillito Woods I took the party towards Smeekly Woods in very muddy conditions which converted the short legged Disco from black and white to one of sludge. On approaching Smeekly Woods a revolting Mr Wilson wanted a coffee stop. I was glad. I needed to jettison fluid, and so wandered back along the



muddy trudge intent on privacy, I was joined by Snod who hailed “Where you going?”, questioning my quiet spot. Under duress I thought this will have to do. As the pressure subsided, audible tittering could be heard by our party. With the chortling growing an unapologetic Snod cried out “I’m an old man”- we were entertaining a couple passing by!



*Spring Striders neither springing nor striding while scoffing a late lunch on Bar Brook Reservoir bridge.*

Apologies made by me we slithered the edges of Smeekly Wood and onto Big Moor to join Bar Brook Reservoir via my irrational wanderings. A late lunch was taken sat on the reservoir bridge, followed by a return to Curbar Gap by an ancient by-way not shown on maps but marked by two gritstone waystoops - fresh terrain for some of the group. It was great to see such a good turn-out, especially following Chris’s well attended walk the day before. Thanks everybody, Peter.

## **Dimmingsdale Southern Saunter 9 April Peter Amour**

A party of nine left the Churnet Valley to touch the outskirts of Alton with the intention of accessing fields taking us onto Gallows Green. Parking its hind legs facing the access gate, and in no mood to move, a large mare, or more particularly its long legs resulted in a change of our minds. Fortunately, a nearby alternative path was to take us over a mix of pasture and ploughed terrain and on to the ancient ruins of the 12th century Croxden Abbey.

Departing the abbey, and gaining height we looked back to view the open Dove Valley area with the Weaver Hills standing to the north. At Hollington, and in constant sunshine, our direction changed, taking us north through hilly countryside to grab a refreshment stop on a green near the village of Great Gate. With a mix of woodland and farmland we took to higher ground before dropping down into Dimmingsdale with the sunshine still with us.



Thanks for joining me to Mick and Helen Hayes, Chris and Jan Wilson, Janet Briggs, Sue Todd, Stuart Firth and Nick Evans.



*"According to him this hut was in good nick....."*

## **Middleton by Wirksworth Walk 17 April Ruth Gordon**



*Lunch stop on Hopton Incline. Photo Gill Radcliffe.*



The sun shone and a merry band of nine (and two dogs) set off to explore some unusual countryside with fascinating glimpses into the industry of the area past and present. We threaded our way between several of the old quarries that are so typical of the area, mainly keeping to high ground with fabulous, far-reaching views. Apart from a short spell on the High Peak trail it was very quiet, we hardly met a soul. The wild flowers were stunning – wood anemones, bluebells, leadwort on the old lead mining spoil heaps, primroses, cowslips – and a rogue - spotted amongst the cowslips - was pronounced by Nick and John (after much on-line research) to be a hybrid between the two – known as a false oxlip. Only 5.3 miles but full of interest and beauty. Thanks to all who kept me company, Andrea Doyle, Nick Evans, John Green, Simon Pape, Chris and Gill Radcliffe, Rachel Walker and Mike Wren.



*Blue skies over Middleton Moor. Photo Gill Radcliffe.*

## Hut Bookings.

Hut bookings are now made online at the Oread website [www.oread.co.uk](http://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](mailto: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.

## **Steve Clegg Memorial event 20 August 2025**

### **Howard Lancashire**

We have now finalised arrangements for Steve's memorial event. The venue will be the Fell and Rock Climbing Club property, Rawhead Barn and Cottage, Langdale, Lake District. The date for this auspicious occasion will be Wednesday 20th August 2025. This will be an all day gathering, come and go as you please.

In anticipation that there will be a great gathering of the clans and as there is limited parking at Rawhead I have arranged for any overspill parking to be accommodated at the Wayfarers RLH hut (Robertson Lamb Hut) which is directly opposite Rawhead and at our neighbouring Achilli Ratti hut Bishop's Scale directly next door to Rawhead (on the left as you face Rawhead from the road). Anyone making use of the parking at either the Wayfarers hut or the Achilli Ratti hut should please put a note on their car dashboard explaining the situation, i.e. Attending memorial event at Rawhead.

In the event that we require further overspill parking we can use the National Trust car park adjacent to the New Dungeon Ghyll Hotel (parking charges apply unless you are a NT member) further up the valley and then ferry folk back to Rawhead.

We shall be providing food from around late afternoon into the evening and beyond! It would be helpful if you could let me know of any particular dietary requirements, i.e. vegetarian or gluten free, which we shall do our best to accommodate. We shall also have some local beer on tap and if people prefer other drinks, wine, soft drinks etc. it would probably be best if you bring your own.

If anyone wishes to stay overnight at Rawhead on the 20th August there will be accommodation available at both the barn and cottage, both of which I have booked for the whole day and night, so we have Rawhead completely to ourselves and any accommodation costs will be provided for at Rawhead barn and cottage.

There is also accommodation available at the Old and New Dungeon Ghyll Hotels, camping at the National Trust campsite at the head of Langdale and also YHA Langdale near Elterwater as well as other accommodation in the Elterwater and Chapel Stile areas. Should you require any of this alternative accommodation it would be wise to book it sooner rather than later.

It would be helpful if you would RSVP me to give us an idea for catering requirements.

Zoe, Kerrie and I look forward to seeing you on the day.

Howard Lancashire tel. 07850 576 104 email [howard.lancashire1@gmail.com](mailto:howard.lancashire1@gmail.com)

For those of you that have not seen it below is my tribute to Steve that I delivered at the Climbers' Club Annual Dinner on 22nd February 2025.

**Steve Clegg (Cleggy)**  
**21<sup>st</sup> June 1952 - 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024**  
**Howard Lancashire**

Are you alright for time everybody? I will try to be brief but it won't be easy. Steve Clegg joined the Climbers' Club in 1984, however, he had been a member of the Fell and Rock Climbing Club since 1974. Steve served on the CC committee from 1989 until 1993 and as Membership Secretary from 1993 until 1998. Latterly Steve became assistant Archivist with David Medcalf from 2020 until the present time. Steve was an active member of the club attending many meets over the years, he loved climbing history and was an avid collector of old guide books. I first met Steve half a century ago in 1975, I was in his bed! What happened was I had gone up to the Lakes with my good mate Terry King looking for ice to climb in the days when the Lakes was a winter climbing destination, sometimes with conditions better than in Scotland. Climbers used to meet in The Pack Horse in Keswick in those days and we somehow ended up dossing at Chas Macquarie's house where Steve was living at the time. I then ended up sleeping on Steve's bed and he came home in the middle of the night only to find his bed occupied by myself. I had completely forgotten about this incident until Steve reminded me years later. Steve knew the Lakes very well and the next day he took us round to Buttermere to show us a huge ice sheet on one of the high crags which Kingy and I duly went up and climbed.

Steve was weaned on the Bridestones locally known as the Kebs near Todmorden, West Yorkshire and was one of the Burnley Lads.

The mid-seventies were a frantic time of hard climbing development in the Lakes with the likes of Pete Whillance and Dave Armstrong, Jeff Lamb, Rob Matheson and Yorkshire raiders Livesey, Fawcett, Gomersall and Berzins. And Steve was at the forefront of all this development with his good friend Pete Botterill. Pete was a pharmacist in Keswick and Steve used to go out during the day and clean and prepare a possible route they had eyed up ready for when Pete had finished work and then off they went to do the route. They have a clutch of hard Lake District routes to their credit most of which are classics. On one of their routes

"Creation" on Raven Crag Thirlmere I had what I can only describe as an out of body experience and I can still visualise that moment and the move to this day. I didn't see Steve again until the early nineteen eighties when he was working for Rolls Royce in Derby as a draughtsman a position he held for over thirty years, I don't remember exactly how we hooked up again, however, the next five years or so were a rollercoaster of climbing. In the summer months at the weekend we would alternate between North Wales and the Lakes and in the winter months it would be Pembroke, Bristol and Swanage, we never bothered looking at weather forecasts in those days, we just went away and were rarely disappointed. We did a lot of climbing, life was fast, free and an enormous amount of fun. I remember so many amusing incidents with Steve, the time we were racing along the A5 to North Wales and ended up in the middle of a roundabout almost up to the axles and Steve just calmly said "who put that roundabout there" and then racing through the Bettws bends for the mandatory beer stop at the Bryn Tyrch in Capel Curig and getting stuck behind a Porsche. On another occasion we were outside Stoney Café one Sunday morning and Bob Berzins was there in a tracksuit with paint splashes on it. Steve says hello and asks Bob what he has been up to, to which Bob replied "a bit of decorating" and Steve responds "we can see that, but



try using a brush next time"! Or the time we were walking up to Cwm Glas Mawr it was raining and I had a new girlfriend, Steve stopped by the ruin on the left on the walk up and cried "oh no the roof must have blown off in the wind last week", the poor girl was mortified and then the time we arrived at Ynys Ettws and the last entry in the book was Sue Preston Jones, not to be outdone Steve signed himself in as Steve Clitheroe Clegg! I could go on ad infinitum.

After we both got married and had children there were many holidays together and the family meet at The Count House was always a favourite. I kept in touch with Steve regularly and during the pandemic used to call him most weeks for a natter, we could be on the phone for an hour or two discussing everything from politics to some of the great old times we had together.

I last spoke to Steve on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December he was at the hotel at East Midlands Airport ready for his annual foray to Calpe the following day and the winter gathering in Spain, we were on the phone for an hour and fifteen minutes! I still have an entry in my diary from the 19<sup>th</sup> December to "Call Cleggy" at 19:00, I was going to congratulate him on a talk he did. For some reason I never made that call and the next day he was gone, there is a moral there somewhere.

Steve was a legend, always great fun, a brilliant wit and he will be very, very sadly missed by many people and indeed many of us here tonight.

## **Information on Member Activities**

Welcome to new Provisional members Mark Hipwell and Dan Watson and full members Aaron Wigley and Harriet Burson-Thomas. We hope you will enjoy many happy days with the Oread.

## **Rusty's Puzzle Corner**

### **Last month's puzzle solution:**

The late Ernie Phillips was known to have connections with the Climbers Club Hut in Cornwall and also appears in the Climbers Club guide to Llanberis Pass as first ascensionist of Spectre on Clogwyn Y Grochan (led by Peter Harding) Kaisergebirge Wall was the adjacent entry in the guide, also led by Peter.

### **This month's puzzle:**

What are the angles of the triangle with corners at "Uchaf", "Isaf" and the summit of the adjacent popular mountain? (Multiples of 5 degrees will be considered to be sufficiently accurate).

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