

BANK HOLIDAY IN DERBYSHIRE

COLIN HOBDAV.

On August Bank Holiday Sunday, looking for somewhere quiet, we paid a visit to a disused quarry in the Peak. Map Ref. O.S.111 - 217615.

From Elton, take the lane sign posted "Airport" for about half a mile, where the road steepens and curves off right and up a hill. Three water troughs are past on the left. Just above the troughs a track leads left into the quarry.

At the North end, or the furthest from the road, is a slab 20ft high, giving a climb of moderate standard. This was climbed solo by D. Weston, and C. Hobday.

To the right of the slab the face becomes steep with many small overhangs. About 20ft to the right of the slab close to some vertical shot holes in the rock a route which we called "Zig Zag" starts:-

Very Difficult. Length 70ft.

Climb 30ft to a ledge where a peg belay can be obtained. Then up the wall to the back for 8ft where a peg was used for a runner. An exposed traverse left for 10ft to the foot of a vertical crack. Ascend this crack, this finishes in an awkward mantle shelf on to a grass ledge. Traverse right and up a broken corner for 15ft to a peg belay. From here to reach the top is a question of choice as it consists of loose soil and rock with overhanging tufts of grass.

There appears to be unlimited scope for the pegging enthusiast, and no doubt free climbing, on rock over 100ft high in most places, with many fine walls and overhangs.

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EDITORIAL

The current Newsletter contains a great deal on the subject of LITTER, indeed it might well be called a NEWSLITTER (it probably is by some of you).

There is no need to mention to Oreads that if you take it out you can bring it back. I would like to ask your support on our annual Scovenger meet which will be on the same week end as the Photo Meet. There is ample time to prepare your prints, slides, spades and rakes.

Several Oreads were in the Alps this year - some have told me of the fun they have had - what about letting me have a line or two for this Newsletter (P.O. and cheques crossed and made payable to J. Roger Turner, and sent to this address, 18, HOLKHAM AVENUE CHILWELL, NOTTS)

A Doreen Gadsby Quote:- "When I returned from the Alps I rushed up to the bedroom and stripped everything off, and said to Gordon, "For heavens sake do something". - (To be fair we must explain that Doreen had broken out in a rash and wanted calomine lotion applying).

The Photo' meet will be later than usual giving more than ample time for members to submit quality as well as the usual quantity. The name of the judge is so secret even the meet leader does not know yet!

Photographs dating back to past years of Oread pursuits in the hills are permitted providing they have not been placed first in previous Oread competitions.

Competitors are allowed to enter a maximum of 3 slides in each section of the colour group and a maximum of 4 prints in each section of the monochrome group. i.e., a maximum of 21 photographs!

The groups in each section are:-

- (1) Mountaineering in the British Hills.
- (2) Mountaineering Abroad.
- (3) Action.

Prints should be at least full plate i.e.,  $6\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$  but bear in mind quality counts.

Entries should be clearly marked with your name and section you are entering. The photographs should be in my possession not later than 21st November with entrance fee 1/6.

Camping for the weekend will be at Froggatts farm. The showing of slides followed by presentation of cup will commence at 7.00p.m. at the Prince of Wales tea room, Saturday evening.

The Scavenger meet will be held on the same weekend. (cleaning up Gardom's and Birchn's Edge.) - Details later.

MEET LEADER.

Roger Turner,  
18 Helkham Avenue,  
Brancote,  
Notts.

Congratulations to Sue and Tom Frost, on the birth of a daughter. (It did not take Tom long to find our the responsibilities of being a father were not to be under estimated. He disappeared to South Wales, not to turn up for a week. He arrived at the Club Hut in time for the 'Welcome Home' - He walked all the way!)

The B.M.C. are investigating the possability of a group insurance scheme for Member Clubs.

Your Committee had a good night out recently- Your treasurer reports only seven outstanding subs!

Will Ashcroft remain bearded? - Further news on this interesting subject in the next Newsletter.

The following memorandum on Camping in Snowdonia has been issued by the British Mountaineering Council, North Wales Committee. As it contains important recommendations, the Editor and Oread Committee would welcome members views.

#### MEMORANDUM ON CAMPING IN SNOWDONIA

The following are some of the objections to uncontrolled camping:-

1. By landowners and tenants: damage to walls and fences, litter; natural dislike of the use of one's land by strangers without permission.
2. By local authorities: pollution of water supplies; difficulty of coping with rubbish.
3. By planning authorities: general unsightliness of masses of tents and incidental rubbish heaps etc.
4. By local inhabitants: natural and usual dislike of foreigners with strange habits; mostly young, noisy and aggressive.

Snowdonia is a National Park.

Camping is an activity natural and proper to the use of a National Park. People camp for one or both reasons:-

- (i) They cannot afford hotels.
- (ii) They prefer camping.

It is the manifest duty of the Park authorities so to order matters that camping may be enjoyed without giving rise to legitimate objections by local people.

This means some measure of regimentation.

Considering the above list of objections:-

1. Can be met by allocating definite areas for camping.
2. Some sanitary facilities must be provided. Adequate rubbish collection must be provided.
3. The rules for guiding planners must surely be capable of sufficient elasticity to permit them to approve suitable sites as the alternative to the present state of affairs.
4. Familiarity will in the end breed tolerance.

It seems that the only satisfactory answer to this camping problem is the establishment of a number of sites, mostly small and well dispersed, but each furnished with water and sanitation, and each with some kind of guardian but all on the simplest scale.

The idea of one large highly organised site to serve a whole valley just will not do, and will fail in practice.

The obvious thing to do would be to select the best of those sites which are at present being run by farmers; to see that they meet at least a minimum standard for sanitation etc., and perhaps gave the proprietor some kind of

### Camping in Snowdonia continued.

authority as a Park Official, if that would help him to keep order and ensure proper behaviour. If at present he finds it worth risk to accept campers, presumably he would not require additional remuneration; but it might be a good thing to give him a small stipend to keep him under control. There is one development, however, which should be prevented at all costs; i.e., the use of camping sites for the establishment of permanent dwellings, whether tents or caravans. There will be increasing pressure by some regular visitors to plant caravans in pleasant sites and use them as week-end cottages. Camping as considered in this report is essentially a nomadic, largely unpremeditated business, appealing mostly to adventurous young people. It is their interest which we have mainly in mind here, as they were in the minds of the National Parks Committee when the Parks were originally established.

Fees for camping should be the lowest possible to keep the scheme as a whole solvent. People who get a holiday in Snowdonia should pay something for the privilege.

Something of this kind could be done. If it is left to the landowners and officials it will probably not be done. The B.M.C. is one body which can and should take this matter in hand as one of great importance and immediate urgency. If the public authorities seek to stop all camping in both Llanberis and Nant Francon after November 1st 1961, there will be trouble on a large scale. Those clubs who possess huts in these areas will have to choose between allowing non-members to camp on their property, or joining with the forces of reaction and expelling (or trying to expel) them. Tenant farmers will be placed in an impossible position. Mountaineers as a whole will suffer in reputation. And camping will still go on, but in much less pleasant circumstances.

The important thing is to recognise that mountain camping is an activity natural and proper in a National Park; but that heaps of rusty cans, flattened fences and polluted streams damage the Park's amenities for the campers themselves as well as for others: and that these unpleasant consequences are inevitable without the application of some kind of official policy designed to prevent them. The authorities must provide the necessary minimum of organisation and the campers must accept it. But remember always the importance of the word "minimum" in the foregoing sentence.

And let us remember that whatever is done in Llanberis and Nant Francon may well serve as a precedent for other districts not at present involved.

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The recent Lakeland meet produced something of a record: Welbourne and Wall were both there! Ken was introduced to John at 2am, John was asleep at the time.

We understand that R.G.P. will shortly become a land owner on the same scale as the Duke of 'D' - After the welcome home meet he departed to the Rhinog area hoping to acquire a private residence.

## WELCOME HOME FROM THE HIMALAYAS

About 50 Oreads and friends congregated in and around Tan-Yr-Wyddfa for the week end to celebrate the safe return of fellow Oreads from the "high hills".

Saturday was a day of very high winds, although the weather remained dry. Parties left for Tremadoc., Yr Arran, Moel Elio, and the "Goat" in Beddgelert. All were back early for an evening of grand celebration with two barrels of beer and plenty of eats. The lounge was packed to overflowing and when Panther and friends arrived the party had to expand into the hall.

Sunday was fine and warm. Groups were soon off to nearby crags (soon being about mid day, which is soon enough after such an evening). Cloggy, Cwm Silyn, Llechog, Yr Arran, Craigybera, had at least one party of Oreads performing on their rocks, in fact the Eastern Arete of Y Garn had four. The Meets Secretary had to have his special way of celebrating the welcome home - a wall ran into his motor on the Friday night, anyone wanting an A35 offside wing will find one in a field by the side of the road in Capel Curig. ( Rabbish! - Ed)

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The Chap with the "Vice Job" will be continuing his professional activities at the Winter Series of Lectures for the M.A. in London, having priced himself out of the Nottingham Winter Courses.

Dez Hadlum and Berly Turner recently made what appears to be a first ascent of a peg route on Willersley.

Although the Boy Scouts in the club may not agree, there will be more "Oreads in Shorts" in the next months Newsletter.

The cover photograph on the first page of this Newsletter is by kind permission of J. Ashcroft.

A lecture which should be of interest to oreads is to be held in The Art Gallery Derby, on Wednesday Evening at 7.30pm on 15th November. The Lecture is given by Cecil J. Allen, and is entitled "Switzerland - Across the Roof of Europe."

A further lecture on 7th February next year is called "Birds in Scandinavia". Intending visitors to Norway next year, may take the opportunity of getting clued up on this fascinating subject. We understand from Hayes that the Swedish Birds take a lot of beating!

This space reserved for your contributions which have not arrived yet.

O R E A D M O U N T A I N E E R I N G C L U B  
M E E T S C I R C U L A R

PLEASE NOTE.

The CADER MEET has changed dates with the PEAK HORSESHOE.  
The Peak Horseshoe Flog is now October 13/15th and Cader Idris Meet on  
October 20/2<sub>rd</sub>

PEAK HORSESHOE October 13/15th TOM FROST.  
ROACHES - EDALE - BULLSTONES - ROBIN HOOD INN.

Rendezvous 6.25pm bus to Leek from Derby Bus Station on Friday Oct 13th.  
This is the last bus from Derby. Those who cannot come by this bus but can make  
alternative arrangements please contact me, as we shall be moving straight off  
into the hills on arrival at Leek.

This year it is my firm intention to reach Bullstones Cabin on the  
Saturday night even if we have to cross Kinder and Bleaklow in the dark.  
To this end we shall spend Friday night as far up the Dane Valley as possible  
under shelter if previous reconnaissance proves successful.  
This is a hard man's meet - all are advised to carry minimum gear, polythene  
bivvy bags and torches (spare batteries). The meet leader will carry a Bleuett  
Stove (One Container only) in case of emergency, all other fire making equipment  
except matches, being frowned upon.

Due to Burgess making a mess of his social engagements we are even denied  
the comfort of a new moon, as previously arranged. So the odds are against us.  
However in the words of Alexander Burgener. "Voiwaets, Es muss gehen".

T. Frost.  
240, Kedleston Road,  
Derby. (41149)  
Work No. (42424 ex795).

CADER IDRIS. OCTOBER 20/22nd DERRICK BURGESS.

Camping will be at the campsite behind the public telephone box about 3/  
of a mile West of th Gwernan Inn on the lane running beneath the Northern slopes  
of Cader Idris.(Ffordd-Ddu, The Black Road!). (Grid Ref. 698152--against the "T"  
sign on O.S. sheet 116 Dolgelly). The farmer charges 2/- per tent, so fill them  
up! Cader offers excellent climbing, with many routes of all standards and  
plenty of scope for new exploration, also the walking is good - as is the Pub  
down the road, so let's have a good turn out.

Transport by private vehicles- report to the "Bell" the Tuesday prior the  
meet anyone wanting a lift - and those wanting passengers. (What with all the  
transport in the club It's becoming difficult to get passangers now! ).

D. BURGESS,  
34, Peach Street,  
DERBY.

FUTURE MEETS.

WORKING PARTY AT THE CLUB HUT - 27/29th October.

FIREWORKS MEET - 4/5th November.