

Note: See O.S. May 1962



O R E A D M O U N T A I N E E R I N G C L U B  
N E W S L E T T E R  
O R E A D S I N S H O R T S E t c . . .  
SEPTEMBER 1962.

This month's quote from Doreen Gadsby while wrestling in the grass at the Roaches with Wally Smith. "He thinks I'm a woman".

Before going on this year's 14 peaks walk Phil Falkner practiced pitching a tent at home on the lawn. "In case I had forgotten how it was done".

Norman Dobson's new address is 11 STANLEY DRIVE, LEICESTER. Tel. 67443.

The Grampian Club of Dundee announce that their climbing hut has been opened in Glen Etive and is available to members of B.M.C. member clubs (that includes us!) but not their guests. The address of the new hut is Inbhirfhaolain, Glen Etive, Ballachulish, Argyll. Situated 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> miles from junction with Tyndrum-Glencoe road and 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> miles from Loch Etive pier. The hut accommodates 11 plus dry rough accommodation in outhouses. It costs 4/- per night to stop there and bookings are made with Donald Green, 9, Frederick Street, Downfield, Dundee, Angus.

The Nature Conservancy for Wales have opened negotiations with the Snowdonia National Park Authorities and owners of the high land containing the Snowdon Horseshoe with a view to declaring appropriate parts of it to be nature reserves. The Conservancy does not propose to alter the present position as regards access, and there is no reason to suppose that climbing and walking will be interfered with (any more than they are in the nature reserve near Llyn Idwal. It will then be possible for Wardens to protect the nature reserves and the access areas from damage caused by thoughtless and bad behaviour.

The Pettigrew family have just set sail for India. We wish them a good voyage and every success

Bob says that he will be closer to the Himalaya than we are from the Alps, so you can bet he has something in mind for the next year or so.

You are reminded that the Grouse Shooting season is now in full swing and that access to the Moors in the High Peak is restricted during the next month or so. Meet leaders are advised to have a look at the Secretary's list of restriction of access to Kinder and Bleaklow. I expect a number of Oreads remember almost being shot up on one Marsden Rowsley walk, particularly Burgess who was left to do the talking.

The club has purchased a Latrine tent for use on meets, together with the necessary trenching spade and bog seat! It is rumoured that Fred Allen will be running an evening class for would be users and meet leaders. This includes how to erect in a high wind at night and on stony ground. Harry Pretty was recently heard saying what he thought about the idea and that he would like to be the first to perform. It is true that Geoff Hayes has been banned from using the tent after saying at a recent Committee meeting that if the committee agreed to purchase he would take great delight in ..... up the tent wall!

## NEWS OF A FEW RECENT MEETS

**BUTLERMERE JULY.** The best attended long distance meet for some time with about 30 Oreads and friends. Saturday was warm and dry and Pillar Rock was covered with climbers - all Oread, many fine routes being done. Sunday was wet but a small party had a go at a route on a local crag while the others had an expedition round the lake, this was made possible by a long stop for refreshment at the "Fish". Highlight of the week end was the outburst by a very angry French gentleman who took exception to our late arrival at the camp site on Friday night. The french students in our party are still trying to translate his five minute non stop sentence which contained many choice words. Many of us lay awake all night expecting him to charge the tents with his little Citroën.

**MILLSTONE AND LAWRENCEFIELD.** From all accounts a poorly attended meet due no doubt to the fact that many members were on holiday in the Alps Etc. Paul and Rod Craddock joined the Meet leader and friends doing some fine routes on Lawrencefield.

**PRESIDENTS MEET SNAKE PASS.** The Barnsley Club Hut was taken over (That's the correct word for it). Many spent Saturday afternoon on Stannage in the rain before retiring to the hut and later to the 'Snake'. The idea had been to move round to Jaddow on Sunday morning but the weather put a stop to those plans and it was almost dinnertime when a few brave types moved off for a walk over Kinder and Bleaklow soon returning wet and cold after a fierce hail storm. Many moved further South to better weather on the edges so managed to do a few climbs when the weather improved in the evening.

### FOR SALE

A pair of ski with edges and Bindings, also Ski boots size 8½. Skis £5. Boots - any offers?  
Paul Gardiner,  
Birdina,  
Cagwith Drive Darley Abbey, Derby.

A copy of "Blacks Bulletin" just received tells of an expedition to the Ober Monchjoch area (without Sherpas!) and tells of a two man expedition carrying all food and supplies for ten days. The two members were R.F. Whitaker and J.Bury, and if my eyes tell me correctly the photographs show it to be Jim Bury. Please let me know if I am wrong Jim!

### FIRST BRITISH ASCENT OF THE NORTH FACE OF THE EIGER

A lecture on the above will be given by Chris Bonnington and Ian Clough at the Central Hall Derby on Thursday October 11th at 7.30pm. Tickets for this interesting talk and slide show can be obtained from Foulds (Sadlergate) Ltd., Derby. All seats bookable @ 2/6 3/6 and 4/6d.

THE 14 PEAKS WALK - SEPTEMBER 1962

GEOFF HAYES

"It is essential to get an early start if you want to complete the 14 at this time of year" were the words I had been shouting out for weeks. "Must get away from Aber about 5.30am." Well, at 6.15 am we all awoke to a rather unsettled Welsh morning, hardly light, low cloud and slight rain. There were only nine of us, (very disappointing) at Aber. We moved off in groups, three prospective members, can't remember their names, Myself and Brian a prospective member from Beoston, Mick Berry and Gordon Gadsby, complete with bivvy bags and food for two days as they intended to do the walk in that time, and the two veterans, who along with myself were on the first "Welsh Walk in 1956 I think it was, Dave Pennlington and Phil Falkner. They planned to walk direct to Rhyd ddu missing out one or two peaks.

The weather was wet and cold on the Carnedd's and thick cloud made route finding difficult. Most of us got a little off route on some part of the ridge, but all arrived at Glan Dena in The Ogwen Valley O.K. After a welcome cup of tea, I set off with the three prospective members Brian dropped out here with pulled muscle in the leg. We were certainly pleased to see the weather improve and the clouds lifted from the peaks for the first time that day, no one looked forward to a days walk without a view. We realised that if the walk was to be completed before nightfall we would have to stop on it, now. The late start and conditions on the first part of the route had made us very late. I went ahead of the others up Tryfan and did not meet anyone until Crib Goch later in the day. Here Dave and Phill had arrived just before me after having had a good cup of tea at Pen-y-Pass. It was at that time I had hurried through Nant Peris not daring to stop for a drink in case I were benighted! I did however get a drink on Snowdon, and arrived at the Club Hut just as it was dark. The other three arrived a bit later.

Mick and Gordon, after a bit of an epic on the Carnedd's, spent the night in a hole in Llanberis. Sunday was wild and wet and they had a rough time getting over Crib Goch to the hut.

The following times may be of interest to anyone interested in having a go at the 14". The total summit to summit time for me was 10 1/2 hours, and the walk from Aber to Rhyd-ddu took 14 hours.

Many thanks to Chook and Margaret Hooley for motoring round to Aber on Saturday to fetch the transport back. I hope a few more Oreads will have a go next year, the more the merrier on this kind of meet.

THE 14 PEAKS - N. WALES - SEPTEMBER 1962 - SEVERAL GROUPS - GEOFF HAYES TIMES

START. ABER.	7.00am	Y GARN.	2.40	AS FOLLOWS:-
FOEL FRAS.	8.30	ELIDER FAWR.	3.40	
FOEL GRACH.	8.50	DEPART.	4.00	
LLYWELYN.	9.25	NANT PERIS..	4.30	
Yr ELEN.	9.45	CRIB GOCH.	6.10	
DAFYDD.	11.00	CRIB-Y-DDYSGL.	7.00	
PENYROLEWEN.	11.15	SNOWDON.	7.15	
GLAN DENA.	11.45	DEPART.	7.30	
DEPART.	12.15	RHYD-DDU.	9.00	
TRYFAN.	1.00pm			
GLYDER FACH.	1.40			
GLYDER FAWR.	2.00			

CONTINUED ON BOTTOM PAGE

The Committee have received the following letter from Stan Coates and decided to have it published.

" I wish to protest to the committee concerning the alteration of the date of the Buttermere meet and the cancellation of the Cwm Eigiau meet this year. As I understand the position, Margaret Lowe was unable to lead the Buttermere Meet on account of a long outstanding previous engagement, which had been overlooked when the meets list was prepared. This is clearly a matter of human fallibility and well understood. The reasons for the Cwm Eigiau meet are to me obscure.

It so happened that about two months prior to the 14th July, Jack Leeson and I had arranged to attend the Buttermere meet together. We both received notice of the alteration of the date of this meet on Monday 9th July and the arrangements had to be hurriedly cancelled. Jack was unable to attend the Buttermere meet at all and I was deprived of the opportunity of going on the Cwm Eigiau meet.

By dint of the good offices of Geoff Hayes and Brian Cooke and the kindness of Tom Frost in providing transport, the Buttermere meet was possible for me.

Your committee will appreciate that for many of us, attendance at meets necessitates arrangements being made sometime in advance. The position is accentuated for out of district members where personal contact with other club members is limited. How many other members may have been affected adversely by these alterations in the meets list is a matter for speculation.

Could not the difficulties have been avoided entirely by the provision of substitute meet leaders? Surely it would have been an easy matter to do this at the Bell, or by telephone, however limited the time available.

I suggest this is a matter worthy of the committee's earnest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Stan

(Stan Coates).

Although a member of the committee I was not at the meeting when the letter from Stan Coates was discussed, so this letter in reply to Stans is my own view and not necessarily the view of the Committee.

I do agree with Stan that plenty of notice should be given if the date or venue of a meet is to be changed, but on this occasion owing to a number of events it was not possible. Originally the Buttermere meet had been planned as a hut meet using the Fell and Rock Hut. This was not available on the date which was fixed at the beginning of the year on the meets list. The hut was available the following week end but after a few enquiries at the Bell Margaret decided that two long distance meets together would not get enough support from members. Margaret also found that she would be unable to lead the meet on the week end arranged, and also that Bob Pettigrew, owing to an impending addition to the family, would not be able to lead his meet at Cwm Eigiau. Rather than have to find new meet leaders for both meets, and be very keen to lead the Buttermere meet Margaret decided to take the date of Bobs meet and so the Cwm Eigiau meet was cancelled.

CONTINUED ON BOTTOM OF BACK PAGE.....

THE 'ODE OREAD.' (ANON.) - EXTRACT FROM  
NEWSLETTER, SEPTEMBER 1962

Once upon a time - we're told  
All stories thus begin -  
But many, many years ago  
Is this one's origin.  
Pretty, then, was in his prime  
And even Faulkner used to climb,  
And as we gaze around the 'Bell',  
We see the others there as well,  
The Druids and the Climbing Bard  
With faces weather-worn and scarred.  
The mainstay of the club they are  
The ancient bearded crew  
Who rest on laurels earned in days  
When mountaineers were few.

Concerning Harry Pretty, / ~~Too~~ Too many sordid tales /  
Of barns and doubtful ladies / ~~are~~ are whispered through the dales /  
His pornographic photos ~~are~~ numbered by the score /  
And members at the Photo Meet / confessed their eyes were sore.

A name among the famous few  
Is that of R.G. Pettigrew.  
It wings our thoughts to distant lands  
Of turbanned chiefs and Sherpa bands.  
"What's in a name?" new members ask,  
"Who is the man behind the mask  
Of legendary and talked-of feats,  
Why ~~didn't~~ we see him on our meets?"  
But now they find to their dismay  
The Pettigrew of yesterday  
Is busy climbing social routes  
Hard V.S. in dinner suits!

~~There's~~ There's that ~~oldtimer~~ oldtimer  
~~Hebog~~ Hebog Crampons Jack.  
He used to be a climber  
In countless ages back.  
Though now alas, from all reports  
We face the bitter facts -  
Old Hebog went to Scotland once  
And left behind his axe.  
Old Hebog went to higher peaks  
And trailed around for many weeks  
Searching - as so well we know -  
For his lost crampons in the snow.  
But Hebog hadn't cooked his goose,  
He made it all a good excuse  
To stay at lower altitudes  
For photographic interludes.  
While hard men struggled ever upwards  
Hebog's plans were all laid cupwards!  
Old Jack is now beyond all hope -  
In Glencoe ~~he~~ forgot his rope.

1 / ~~↙~~ Type as separate lines

The Orcad holds ~~at~~ its arms/to friends from far and wide,  
Among its members/proudly claims a real Italian guide.  
His name is 'Guido' Gadsby/ his fame has spread abroad  
For taking swims while fully dressed/-a cure for feeling bored!  
A menace to the club, one fears,  
For circulating mad ideas  
Like bivouacs on Christmas Eve  
With only frostbite to achieve,  
Or quite unnecessary feats  
Like Alpine starts on Ogwen meets.

Let's have some 'sense'- let us return  
To where the fire does brightly burn.  
Take off our boots - let us go in  
~~and~~ Join the familiar scene within.  
Before the fire is placed a chair  
With Ernie Phillips seated there  
Deep in thoughts of bygone days,  
Drifting through a blue smoke haze  
From the depths of a deep arm chair  
The sounds of grievance fill the air -  
When Welbourne's made his presence known  
The voice takes up its former tone  
And we are now all set to hear  
A lecture on our shoddy gear.  
But if his words are pretty grim  
And we've had quite enough of him....  
Whose voice could ~~be~~ <sup>possibly be sweeter</sup> sweeter  
Than that of dear ~~what?~~ <sup>old Peter?</sup> old Peter?  
Whose jokes more obscene  
Could there ever have been?

But this will be ~~an~~ <sup>costly</sup> expensive joke,  
An ~~expensive~~ <sup>costly</sup> lecture too -  
Our presence has been noted  
~~and~~ a day ~~fee~~ <sup>fee</sup> now is due. Sep. lines  
We stand up to attention/and give our best salute/  
~~While~~ The solemn bearded figure, is collecting in the loot.  
And ~~But~~ now we learn to our dismay  
We cannot stay another day.  
The beds are full, and what is more  
We may not sleep upon the floor.  
The hut rules say you must reserve,  
Or marching orders you'll deserve,  
And if you wish to be quite sure,  
The wardens ~~will~~ <sup>take</sup> bookings now, for 1964!

The president himself appears,  
A climber still, though many years  
Have not quite ~~left~~ <sup>gone</sup> without a trace  
Of household cares upon his face.  
But still the twinkle in his eyes  
Conveys that keenness never dies.

Herr Turner gazes past them all,  
Dreaming of the Trolltind Wall,  
... And ~~with~~ the great new routes ~~that he will do,~~  
With pale- straw filtered photos too.  
And Wond'ring how the holds will grip  
When boots are cleaned with Molyslip.

If your name does not appear  
Within this weird epistle here,  
Take heart - you're either in your prime  
Or else I just can't make it rhyme.

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The writer of the above (poem?) naturally wishes to remain anonymous, the only clue being that she is the only single female in the club - and is likely to remain so if she continues to turn out stuff like this!

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OREAD SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

Applications (or nominations) are invited for the Post of LATRINE ATTENDANT. Duties include the cleaning and airing of the tent after each meet, for a period of not less than twelve months. The attendant may also be required to supervise its use on a Saturday night between the hours of 10 and 12.

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Publication of this Newsletter has been delayed mainly because of lack of news from members. Please let us know how your summer holidays turned out, or better still let Tom frost have a longer report so he can get enough interesting articles for another edition of the Journal. Tom reports that a Journal has gone to press and should be available soon, it is a 'Gadsby/Cullum' production. Meet leaders please let us have your meets report as soon after the meet as possible.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR. Continued.

Under the circumstances this proved to be the right move for most members as over 30 Oreads attended the meet. One of the reasons for such a good turn out was, I believe, the meet leaders enthusiasm for the meet, and the belief that it was far better to have one good meet than not so well attended with meet leaders who were perhaps not so keen in the areas. The Oread has more meets per year than any other mountaineering club and as these meets are arranged many months in advance there are bound to be some difficulty for leaders with other engagements coming up, usually an alternative leader is found. The delay in change of meet which is Stans main complaint was in this case caused by the time taken corresponding with another club, well as other members, and finally just missing a meets circular, which had only just been posted to members

Yours,  
Geoff Hayes.