

RIVELIN AND THE SNAKE

DAVE WESTON

Members on this meet, managed to see both sides of the weather in this really fine area. About twenty-five members and friends camped at Blackden Clough, one group called at Rivelin en route. Only Rusty had visited the crag before, and the rest of us found it a pleasant, but quite hard crag. Geoff was heard to say something about "!!!!" hard Biffs, whilst swinging from a tree at the top of the crag. The Rivelin Needle was looked at by most of the party, but none of our names got into the tin box on top.

Sunday morning was fine and dry and those who had just come out for the day, were at the camp site bright and early, even before some had finished breakfast. Yellow Slacks was the main objective for the day and the majority decided to walk over and the rest were bullied into doing so! Doug Cook and John Brailsford went via Doctors Gate as they were eager to 'get on the rock'. Later many thought it had been a good idea to walk over Bleaklow to the crag as they had sampled it at it's unusual best - fine and warm.

As we were setting out, Laurie, John and Lisa arrived. Lisa was sitting in a seat which took the usual place of John's heavy pack. At Higher Shelf Stones we did a bit of sunbathing before completing the treck over to Yellow Slacks. Wally Smith did a disappearing act here, muttering something about it being his "Sex night".

Unlike Rivelin, Yellow Slacks was not just a hard crag, but a very hard one. Part of the crag has been blown to pieces for some reason or other, perhaps because it was too hard, or climbers are not welcome there. As we left, Bleaklow showed it's other face, as the weather deteriorated. Big black clouds soon soon had us all making for the 'Snake' - for cuppas all round.

Other members, not mentioned above, on the meet were: Colin Hobday, Chris Cully, Barry Williams, Roger and Beryl Turner, Gordon and Doreen Gadsby, Mick and Celia Berry, Derrick and Janet Burgess, Guy Lee, Les Scrag, and a number of prospective members.

The club Hut is fully booked to the London Mountaineering Club on the weekend of November 15th/17th.

O R E A D S I N S H O R T S

Quot at a committee meeting. . "I'ts a good idea for the meets Sec. to give advice to parents. - what on, Family Planning?"

"If i give a speech at the dinner it's a matter of fantastic gaging, one pint under or one pint over I can't speak at all.

"Turner can give a lecture on his trip to the Alps" - "Yes if I can use ASHCROFIS slides"

Dave Weston was stopped by a passer by whilst leading the Snake Meet and asked if it was alright to cross his land - was this because of the Hat he was wearing? It is hoped that this same hat will be the first wxhibit in the Oread museum of horrors.

HUT MAINTENANCE WEEK-END 20th/22nd September 1963

The last working party to be held in 1963 was a complete success, that is to say all the planned jobs were carried out and a few more thrown in for good measure.

Members who next visit the Hut will receive quite a surprise. The partition on the first floor landing has been removed, this has given the landing a complete new look. To stop the hall (west wall) from dropping to pieces it has been necessary to cover this with a lining paper on top of which a strong wall paper has been added. The light switch has been removed with the partition and is now positioned on the west wall at the top of the stairs, I tell you this in case anyone misses the point.

The precincts of the hut were cleaned up, Trees, Bushes and Grass were subjected to a short back and sides and the Gates painted black. Facilities for hanging clothes in the drying room have been improved and much painting done in that area.

Constructional work was carried out by Messrs Hooley, Langworthy and Phillips, assisted by B. Williards and G. Barker (Guest). This work was done on Saturday in preparation for the Shouting, Transistorised team, who left Derby at 3pm arriving late Saturday night having lost their way and had to come to the Hut via Crib Goch and Snowdon. (in the dark!).

Barbara Hayes brought (Forman Painter) Gadsby to the Hut in Z Victor One and after a short sojourn in the bedroom he quickly slapped chinese lining paper all over the hall (west wall).

Sunday saw everyone busy painting and decorating, Doreen, and Geoff painted doors, Barbara and Chris Culley painted walls and doors. Dave Williams and G. Barker took on the mammoth task of painting the bannister stays, this tedious job was accomplished step by step.

M. Hooley assisted B. Williams to cut grass all day, this he used to build a huge bonfire which enabled him to send smoke signals across the valley to a young lady who befriended him in August.

All the windows were cleaned by T. Langworthy and R. Phillips the latter also scoured all the saucepans from the kitchen.

J. Corden and V. Leeson alias the (phantom painters) also Guests, left their mark everywhere as well as removing all the stains from the bath.

The people who attended the working party are listed below.

C. Hooley
M. Hooley
G. Hayes
B. Hayes (Guest)
V. Phillips
E. Phillips

J. Corden (Guest)
V. Leeson (Guest)
V. Langworthy.
L. Langworthy

D. Gadsby
G., Gadsby
C. Culley
D. Williams
B. Williams
G. Barker (Guest)

Sixteen people attended, most of whom are well known, those marked guest excluding Barbara Hayes are members of a Club who have used the Hut and to show their appreciation insisted on doing some work on the Hut.

My first thanks must go to the Phillips, who must undoubtedly hold the record for working party attendance. Secondly I thank the Hut Sub-Committee, without whose help and forbearance my task would be Ten-fold.

Hut maintenance week-end continued.....

Thirdly I must thank all the guests, their unselfish efforts helped to get the work done that much quicker. "History has been made".

Lastly I would like to thank once again all the Club Members who attended, mostly familiar faces, some new. You are slowly raising the standard of your Hut. We must not set our standard by those huts abroad or at home but strive to make our Hut the envy of all other Mountaineering Clubs.

By the way, I have classed the 'West Wall' as excess; in the hope that no one will attempt it. If anyone uses pegs they will be banned from all future working parties and chained to the Hut Bog.

C. Hooley.
Hut Custodian

Block Bookings

OREADS IN SHORTS

The Hut is fully booked on the following dates.

London M/C November 15th/17th 1963.

P. Janes & Rover Scouts, October 18th/20th 1963.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

it looks as though they have almost caught up with Ashcroft for the President of the Oread is on the move again!

Mr. and Mrs. J. Hebog Ashcroft's new address is:
118, Frilsham Way, Allesley Park, Coventry.
Telephone COV 73140

George Sutton's new address is:

18, Regent Road, Wallasey, Cheshire.

CLIMBERS CLUB GUIDES IN PRINT

The only North Wales Guide Book now in Print is Llewedd, but the news is that all the other popular editions in this series should be available within the next six months. The 3/- edition of the Noelwynian is available and lists some very well worthwhile routes easily accessible from Rhyd-ddu.

The Climbers Club guide Book to South East England @12/6 is a revised edition, and a new issue of the Cornwall guide will be ready by the end of the year.

The latest in the series of A.C.G. guides to the Alps is the Dolomites, the previous two are Mont Blanc and the Pennine Alps.

Climbers in Lakeland are more fortunate as most of the Fell and Rock Guides are available or about to be reprinted.

Roger Turner wishes it to be made clear that he did not wear out a pair of socks on his "bootless" walk in the Lakes. The socks in question were only worn thin, perhaps this was because they were best Quality Norwegian - or was he using Molly Slip?

BOMB DAMAGE ON YELLOWSLACKS

Recently a deputation made up of Peak park planning board officials, climbers and Ministry of Agricultural officials inspected the extensive damage at Yellowslacks on the West flank of Bleaklow. The Farmer has now blown up a greater part of this crag and left much of what remains in a dangerous condition to climbers. The scene below the cliff must be similar to that of an Alpine north face, and about as dangerous. Let's hope that some positive action can be taken soon against the person responsible.

The Gadsby party arrived at Tranarth at lam after spending considerable time trying to substantiate my quote that "cars could be driven right up to the hut". This year, however, everyone including Mick Berry in his Remarkable Renault was defeated halfway. (He did manage it on Sunday when the mud had dried a bit) but from now on it's Landrovers, Remarkables or walk.

The early morning peace was again shattered when the Hayes entourage invaded the hut at about 3am after doing a tour of Lancashire en route. The next morning we were delighted to welcome Stan Coats, Brian Cooke and Wally Richardson and the newly weds, Lloyd and Mary Caris.

Not deterred by the mist that enshrouded the Hut, the whole party (29) in all tramped to Dow hoping that it would be in condition, only to find to our dismay that it was the greenest ever. (Don't know how she knows that, - she never put foot on rock all day. Ed.) Nevertheless Gordon and Craigs, Murray's route and Giant's Crawl succumbed to those enthusiasts who were willing to brave the conditions while the rest of the group spent a very pleasant few hours cosily ensconced in a cave in which someone had very kindly left a transistor radio tuned in to Saturday club.

The glinting sun on Coniston Water was too much for John (Welbe) Colin and several others, so they said fairwell and beat a hasty retreat to the sun. We were later told Colin delightfully accepted an offer to try out some water skis (boat and blond thrown in!) and is now accepting offers for his climbing gear, (along with Wally Smith!) - the blond proved too much for him.

Saturday Club now over the remainder dragged themselves from their lethargy and decided to walk over Swirl How, several tackling Slingsby's Pinnacle on the way. By this time the weather was showing signs of improving and a fine afternoon was enjoyed by all.

On the return to the hut it was found that the newly installed electric water pump was refusing to pump any more water. Here was a job for Rusty and he threw himself wholeheartedly into the task of dismantling it. All parts however were found to be in working order and after much headscratching some genius found that I had forgotten to turn the ----- thing on.

A pleasant evening was enjoyed at the pub by several members, the rest decided that a game of cards would be more enjoyable, Eric as usual came up to scratch providing tea and toast for all who had stayed behind.

The next morning dawned, not bright as we had hoped, but even mistier than the previous day. Our spirits were a little dampened to think that once again fine weather had eluded us at Dow. Conferences were held and the majority decided to pay a visit to Tarn Hows. Apparently someone had read that it was well worth seeing and this seemed the opportune time. A few, still hoping the cloud would lift, returned to Dow, meeting on the way Roger and Beryl Turner who had come up with Tony Smythe. Suddenly the cloud lifted revealing a clear blue sky which remained that way for the rest of the day. This was indeed Dow at its best and the crag was attacked with enthusiasm. Two couples decided on Eliminate A. Eric led one Rope while Guy Lee, a new member of the Oread, very capably lead the other with Ian Flint, a prospective member, a reliable second. Paul Grainger and Mac did the Girdle Traverse which according to the Guide book is one of the finest expeditions in the lakes, this was quite an achievement to say the least. Brian Cooke and Wally Richardson had an enjoyable time on Necklace route and Gordon, Barry Williams and John Auty, (friend of Geoff's) did Arete, Chimney and Crack. The party who had visited Tarn Hows returned to the hut declaring it to be a wonderful spot, not to be missed, so in all everyone had a good day.