

A happy New Year to all Oreads and Friends. Heres hoping that 1965 will be a successful and safe year for all Mountaineers. I look forward to hearing and printing news from all members.

This New Year sees the departure of Brian and Marion Cooke and family to the North East. Although we know that the Cooke's will still be keen Oreads and attend meets when possible their presence in Derby will be greatly missed by all their club friends. Since 1953 they have become an essential part of the Oread and in their eleven years as members have always done all they can to help the club. From the early days when Brian and Mari on worked together as secretary to quite recently when Brian became a most popular President and , the name "Cooke" has always been associated with the Committee of the O.M.C. I am sure that all those who have served on those committees will agree with me that Briar's helpful advice and comment has always been forthcoming at just the right moment and many a meeting has been saved from complete disorder by this advice!

We look forward to seeing the Cookes as often as possible and I'm sure that Briar's meet in Langdale in a few weeks time will be very popular indeed.

The social season has now passed . Unfortunately this season also coincides with the busy business season of the Editor which accounts for a lack of Newsletters for quite a time. May I assure you that the Editor is just as keen as ever and trusts that his New Year Resolution to get something in the way of a Newsletter out once a month will succeed! Please help you members by sending in a bit of news.

gh.

SOME RECENT AND FUTURE MEETS

Cadder Idris in late August was a highly successful meet. Although there seemed to be two distinct groups in two separate fields divided by a stream there were a number of courtesy calls at various tents and a big get together at the "Local" on Saturday evening made it a very happy and friendly meet. Most parties ascended Cadder by various routes and the Cwfr y Arette was very popular. On the Sunday Cadder was again Popular and others visited the Rhinogs with Janes and Gadsby leading a strong contingent down to the beach for a ride on the toy train and a game of ball. Although the weather was mixed it did not rain and towards the end of the meet clouds over Cadder cleared and most of us were disappointed to leave the few lucky members who were taking advantage of the "Rolls Royce long week end". Ray Handley was the leader on this meet.

Roaches Sept 12th. Perfect climbing conditions and a good attendance although mainly on the Sunday. The Rock was dry and warm. Both Roaches and Hen Cloud were popular with almost all routes of most grades of difficulty being climbed.

Chris Culley lead this meet.

Oct 10th Marsden Rowsley / Stange Leader Jack Ashcroft. Unfortunately Jack was unable to lead this meet owing to illness. And despite writing up the 16 Stones walk no one actually turned out, as far as I can gather. But quite a number of members were at Stange on Sunday

and a party traversed the Mam FourRidge on Saturday evening.

WORKING PARTY Oct 17th. This was a great success, so much so in fact that there are two meets reports of this week end in this Newsletter.

PHOTO MEET Oct 24th.

We were again fortunate in obtaining that notable personality Douglas Milner to Judge the Competition. He once again excelled himself with a flow of cutting remarks which were both helpful to the competitor and to the point. Milner certainly made the evening and although crowded into a small room without seating for most, everyone showed their appreciation after the distribution of prizes to the winners. Lets hope that the A.G.M. will be held at Baslow as usual, at least there is a little more room in the "P.O.". The results of a very good entree in the colour section are:

1. J. Ashcroft 9 Points.
2. R. Handley 8 Points.
3. D. Burgess 5 Points.

A disappointing number of competitors in the Black and White section, but "Great Gadsby" (Milners words) did it again!

- Black and White:
1. G Gadsby. 9 Points.
 2. R. Pet igrew 3 Points.

FIREWORKS MEET. - ILAM NOV 7th.

Wally Smith lead this grand social week end, of course. It followed the usual magnificent form comencing with the great Bonfire in the Youth Hostel grounds on the Saturday evening. There was keen competition for entry to the Pantomime in the hall and seats were very scarce. A queue started quite early and those waiting in the cold outside for the doors to open were entertained by Jean, or at least by the record player in her fabulous car. The Oread were well represented in the Pantomime with Pete Janes, R. and B Turner W Hayden, D. and J Burgess. A really great performance was the coment of the evening. Burgess, a little the worse for Ale and Janes as "Long John" complete with parrot supported by Wes were the comedy act complete with water when there ship went down. This was too much for Handley who knew the plot in advance and retaliated with his own water spray from the centre of the audience! Those sitting close to the stage felt as they must have gone down with the ship as well. They certainly looked wet enough! The title of the Pantomime "It's rough on the bottom" was very apt and most people agreed that it was the most polished performance yet.

No Ilam meet would be complete without the "Dash". The 5 mile gr was once again won for the Oread by George Rhodes in a record time. Oreads also featuring in the placings were B. Williams C. Cully (both well up) G. Lee. J. Ashcroft. R. Craddock. P. Janes. D. Burgess (sober at the end) R. Handley Terray Staley (Prospective Member). They did not necessarily finish up in that order. If I have missed anyone else it is because they were going so fast there faces did not register! Rusty was one!

Those who were still able to walk went walking and climbing. The Dove Manifold valley walk was popular with the Scragg family (3) Hayeses, Lol Burns and dog (mainly in rucksack, and one or two friends. Ilam Rock was peged by a small band of runners who completed the climb in the dark recovering equipment the following week end! Parties also climbed at Brassington on both Saturday and Sunday. A very good week end.

THE WORKING PARTY OCTOBER 16/17th

What a weekend! The weather on Saturday was fabulous, the sort that one never seems to get enough of on climbing meets. But this was a working weekend and work started early with a large team attacking the exterior painting jobs. How heartbreaking for the chap next door to see Ian Yr Wyddfa undercoated in one day when he's been painting his house for the last 18 months and still never seems to get much further!

Anne and Doreen spent an engrossing hour or two on the two gates - Doreen hardly finding time to raise a smile for the several photographs taken (No doubt for next years photo competition. Terry Staley (Prospective Member) Bill Kirk and Nedl (Pros memb) did a grand job on the dining room stove, lounge ceiling and bathroom walls. Margaret Hooley and Ronnie Langworthy were chopping sticks for hours on end. Ronnie Phillips and Susan cleaned most of the windows inside and out.

Geoff Hayes cut out a new pinnacle for the west gable and also did much of the painting outside together with Barry Williams, Paul Craddock, Erni Phillips, Leni Smithurst (Prosp Memb) and Gordon Gadsby. The dining room was given two coats of damp proof paint - on the affected walls as was the lounge wall near the back window.

On Sunday we were greeted by a typical Welsh day - drizzle and mist. Even so a coat of gloss paint was applied to much of the outside and only the more exposed parts had to be left until the next meet. Gordon had a strong ladies team at work helping him in the Dining room, with Doreen and Leni painting, Margaret and Ron sandpapering Annemarie scrubbed everything in sight as well as entertaining us with a dozen or so songs. Les Langworthy was busy on jobs all over the hut with his usual expert touch.

The whole hut was a hive of industry, presided over by our Hut Warden complete with dungarees and onion sellers hat. He was always in the thick of the work but towards Sunday afternoon he had begun to lose that worried look.

He's had it since the last working party when only 4 people turned up!

Thank you all for coming, hope to see you and mor next year.

Hut Sub Committee Member.

It is always nice to receive reports from members who are living away from the Midlands and don't get out on club meets regularly. Our old friend Panther has sent in the following report. I do trust that this may encourage other distant (in milage!) members to drop the editor a line or two.

22 Onslow Gardens
Grange Park,
London N21.

As you know, I don't see the Oread very often, living and working in London.

Apart from the dinner, (I will be present this year) and at odd times in Wales I seldom meet Oreads.

This absence from club meets does not mean that I have lost my enthusiasm for climbing. This year inspite of my absence from Oread meets I have climbed more than ever before. In fact I have only missed climbing on two weekends this year.

At the New Year, Peter Sorrell and I went to Glencoe in my dormobile (Pixy), hoping to find the North Face of Aonach Dubh plastered in ice from top to bottom. Alas, there was hardly any snow at all and it deluged with rain and blew horribly without let up at all. We scrambled up a local bump then lost a rear wheel from Pixy - quite exciting while it lasted. However I brought it to a safe halt in the middle of the road by Loch Leven. We bivouacked in the wagn for two days until something could be done about it.

At Easter and Whitsun, Peter Sorrell and I with several other London Climbing friends and Peter Clews from Birmingham climbed in Wales.

This summer, five of us went to Glencoe in Pixy. It rained ceasslessly. We went to Langdale - same again! so we moved to N. Wales for four weeks. Mainly splendid weather.

Apart from these major holidays, young Peter Sorrell and I have climbed on Harrisons Rocks near Tunbridge Wells, every week end. Between us we have done almost all the hardest climbs of the 6A category. The gradings there are numerical but roughly correspond to the following:- 3a - difficult. 3b - Hard Difficult. 4a - V. Diff. 4b - Severe. 5a - V.S. 5b - Hard V!S. 5c - Extremely Severe. 6a - Hard Extreme.

About two months ago I pushed up another 6a on Harrisons called "Thingamypops". Two people have repeated it so far, Peter Sorrell and Roy Stephens. A group of us also climbed at Swanage one week end.

In our long stay in Wales this Summer, Peter Sorrell and I climbed with John Fisher, Tim Lewis, Peter Clews, George Sorrell (Peter's father) and Doug Chase. Many fine routes were done in the Pass, the Gwynant and on Craig yr Isfa. Most noteworthy of these were probably two new routes - The Girdle Traverse of the Wenallt and a direct up the great overhang on Craig Bach in the Pass. I have recorded them here in Guide Book style.

Clogwen Y Wenallt

The Heifer (Girdle Traverse) 250 ft. V!S. (extreme on pitch II).
Start 30 ft rike of Shake.
Pitch 1. 50ft. Straight up for 30ft. then left for 15 ft. to avoid vegetation
Back right to gras ledge. Belays.
Pitch 2. 35ft. The Crux. Up the corner behind a small tree for 15ft. The corner ends in a thin crack below an overhang. A piton at the top of this gives good protection. Traverse left across the steep wall on small holds to the grass ledge above. (20 ft).
Pitch 3. 60 ft. Walk along the ledge for 60ft to the bottom of the last pitch of Bovine.
Pitch 4. 85ft. Up the easy slab of O.X.O. then up the steep crack of O.X.O. for 15ft. Step down and round to the left to a pocket. This is awkward to enter and more difficult to leave. Traverse slightly left and up, until further progress is barred by smooth walls and ivy. Steeply up now and slightly right. Hard. Then into a steep crack leaving up left. It is possible to make a stance in the crack but better to continue to the large ledge at the top. Belays.
Pitch 5. 20ft. Up the corner easily on large jugs to the top.

1st Ascent 16 Aug 1964. T. Lewis. P. Clews. D. Chase.

P. Sorrell. T.S. Panther.

T. Lewis and T.S. Panther shared the leads.

Craig Bach. The Diamond shaped cliff below Craig Beudy Mawr.

DIAPAISON. 100ft. A2 and Vs.

The route takes the only weakness up the overhang of the great hanging flake which is the most prominent feature of the cliff.

Start. Immediately below the Hanging Flake at its bottom left edge.

Pitch 1. 10ft Up a wall, easily for 15ft to the bottom of a corner. Up the corner (VS) for 15ft. which is well protected by thread belays. Lean out on the top thread of the corner and place a piton upwards in the roof, which is an horizontal overhang for eight feet. Standing in a sling from the peg a nut runner is swung into a crack on the outside of the overhang. Pull out on this, and onto an exposed outward sloping ledge, which rises to the right for 6ft. Along the ledge to its right end, to the foot of a very steep and thin crack. Up this, only very thin pitons can be inserted, but the angle eases gradually. Continue slightly leftwards to the top.

1st Ascent 23 Aug 1964. T.S. Panther J. Fisher S. Sorrell.

Apart from all this climbing I have built a Motor Cycle for young Peter Sorrell who lost his Mother so tragically this Easter. I have and still am engaged on building another special monster a 1000cc Ariel square four in a Norton Racing frame. It has taken me two years so far!

Incidentally, John Fisher will soon have in his possession a 12" X 10" photo which I took during the first ascent of Diapaision.

Trevor S. Panther.

OREADS IN SHORTS

The Gadsbys and Paul Cradlock and Leni Smithurst who are teaming up for a three week holiday in N. Norway this year were unable to find the Scout Hut in the Dane Valley despite Paul and Leni having been there the previous year, and despite driving to within 15 minutes easy walk from the hut. Mind you it was raining at the time. Full details are of course hard to come by. The all kept away from other Oreads and the Borrowash meet, hoping that people might forget. From what I can gather they sat in the van for a considerable time discussing if they were up to surviving getting a bit wet, decided against it and drove to the otherside of the Peak District so not to be seen by any Oread!

The Pettigrew family are all keeping well out in India. As you know they are returning at the end of this year. By that time the family will consist of four, Bina is expecting a baby in March. Bob reports she is "Bulging significantly".

Glencoe Bunkhouse Accommodation. Sleeps 20. Gas Burners. Hot Water. 5/- per night. Phone Ballachulish 256 Apply H. MacColl, Leacantuin, Glencoe Argyll.

Adjacent to Youth Hostel on old road.

BE WARNED. A small group of Oreads and friends had spent the day (saturday) skiing near Bakewell and went into a cafe in the town for a cup of tea. After twenty minutes they returned to the cars and to their horror found a new pair of ski and sticks had been stolen from the roof rack of a car. The town was searched and police informed but there was no trace of the missing gear. Keep your eyes open for a pair of Blacks Snowsport ski and Metal sticks!

Considering that there were so many people at the hut this weekend a remarkable amount of work was done. On the Saturday morning, which was glorious, the outside of the hut looked like a live version of a Giles cartoon, with people everywhere; hanging one handed from guttering painting windows so that they would not open again (ever), pouring concrete into holes in the roof only to find that it was landing with a splash on the floor (Chuck remarked that it's a good job cows don't fly in Rhyd-Ddu.) Inside, they also had a ripping time, ripping out the dining room stove, ripping down the lounge ceiling, ripping the plaster from the bathroom wall and ripping out the light switch in the bathroom. By the way, you can now have fun by switching the bathroom light out whilst some poor unsuspecting soul is having his annual scrub. All this ripping work was made good by the end of the weekend. More constructive work done in and around the hut consisted of treating the damp areas in the dining room (from now on will offenders please go outside - even if it is raining!), repairing the bargeboard and pinnacle on the roof, painting the dining room, washing curtains, cleaning windows, chopping sticks and washing the walls and floors in the kitchen. The latter had to be done twice because people stampeded in with filthy feet at the call 'Tea Up!

During the day the painting squad discovered a new species of spider round and about the hut. This insect, it was subsequently realized, is the Lesser (or Greater) Blue Kneecapped Working Party Paint Stopper. Just like a working party member, this insect is very rare and ought to be protected by law. Everyone has heard of the wild dogs of Cowarch. Well their ferocity is mere simpering compared to the wild owner of dog at Rhyd -Ddu. This Welsh gentleman graced us with his presence when things were begining to drag on Saturday afternoon. He stomped up to the hut in his size 10 'Weillier' and duffle coat, hooked his errant working dog with his walking stick, lifted the animal clean into the air and stomped off. At this point Chuck came to the rescue and after a bit of a slanging match during which the farmer showed his true colours he, the farmer, strode off, dog under his arm, with cries of "go back to your own country" and "learn the language". How can you beat arguments like that?

Saturday evening was taken up by going to the boozer (where Paul Craddock had to prove his age to the local constable), playing monopoly or looking at the Nudes in the photo' magazines. Billy Kirk had a good night. He did his little bit of homework (no- maths).

Unfortunately, on Sunday the Welsh weather returned to normal and so most people went inside the hut to either work at the jobs left to do, or to get in the way of people doing them.

The people at the hut were as follows:- P. Craddock, G & D Gadsby, G & A Hayes, C & M Hooley, S. Kirk, L & R Langworthy, E & R Phillips, L Smithurst Ferry and David (Neddy) from Sutton, S Chawner and B illiams.

For Sale. One Bergan Rucksack (Good Condition) 80/- .

Apply Chris Martin,
19, Aylestone Drive,
Aspley Park,
Nottingham.

schi and myself left Innsbruck on the Stubai-Tal train, changing to a bus at Fulpmes, on up the valley changing buses again at Neustift to a smaller one and up to the village of Ranalt. Here a jeep was waiting and we were soon traveling up the valley again to the Grawaalm which saved a two hour walk. The further two hours saw us at the Sulzenauer Hütte 2191 m, which was up to the usual good standard of Austrian huts.

The next day was spent traversing the ridges of some of the lower peaks, but giving an excellent view of the Wilde Freiger, which we were to climb the following day.

We left the hut in perfect weather at 4.30 a.m. following the path past the Grüna Lache and up the moräne and up a snow field onto the ridge of the Wilde Freiger which gave a further 1 1/2 hours scrambling before reaching the final snow arete and another hour to reach the summit 3418 meters. From the summit we had very good views of the Zuckerhütl and the rest of the Stubai range. However we were not able to linger long on the top due to an approaching thunderstorm, and were just able to reach the ridge before being enveloped in a loud and a hail storm. The ridge proved quite difficult to follow in one part, having to retrace our steps to get back on route.

Back at the hut we celebrated our first peak of the holiday with beer and a good meal. With rucksacks fully loaded we said goodbye to the Sulzenauer Hütte and took the path for the Peiljoch and Dresdener Hütte.

The path climbed steeply up the crest of the moräne and proved to be hard work in the sun (25° C). At the Peiljoch 2676 meters magnificent views were had of the Zuckerhütl and Wilde Pfaff. Leaving the rucksacks on the col we set off on the rock ridge of the Aperer Pfaffengrat only to be turned back after an hour climbing by a difficult rock pitch. Collecting our sacks we descended to the Dresdener Hütte 2302 meters.

With it being the weekend the hut was very crowded with people from Innsbruck, so an early start was decided on for the next day.

In the morning many people also had the same idea, so there was a mass exodus from the hut, upon reaching the Fernauf glacier we roped up and crossed the glacier finishing with a steep snow climb onto the ridge at the Lange Pfaffennieder. Along the ridge for 3/4 hour before going onto the Sulzenauer glacier, here we had trouble crossing cravasses, but this was overcome by jumping across them. Then a steady uphill plod over the Bergschrund and onto the Pfaffen-Joch. A half hour climb up steep snow and ice slopes brought us to the summit of the Zuckerhütl 3498 meters just 3 3/4 hours after leaving the hut and well worth the effort with views of the Zillertal to the east and Ötztal to the west. The descent proved tricky the snow sliding of the ice underneath. Back at the Pfaffenjoch we set off up the Wilde Pfaff being a mixture of snow and rock to the summit 3458 meters.

By this time it was 11.00 a.m. and with the sun shining down mercilessly the snow was in a terrible condition. We crossed back over the Sulzenauer glacier and down the ridge where it was nice to be able to sit in the shade for a while before returning to the hut.

With the weather still good the next day was spent sunbathing at the Esengrat Lake before walking up to the summit of the Esengrat 2635 meters and another small peak which turned out to be an epic in crossing the glacier stream resulting in wet feet.

The weather was still good, so the Stubai Wildspitze was next on the list. Up the Moräne and across the glacier avoiding cravasses to the Bildstöckl-Joch. Leaving the ice axes and crampons at the Joch, the ridge ahead looked very impressive and for the next 1 1/2 hours we had some excellent rock climbing to the summit 3340 meters with the usual fine scenery.

Stubai Alpen 1964 continued

Back at the Bildstöckljoch and the weather being so good, we decided to climb a further peak the Schaufelspitze 3333 meters. The first few hundred feet were very loose but things soon improved and in 3/4 hour we were standing on the summit.

With the climbing of the Schaufelspitze this concluded the holiday in the mountains. On returning to the valley we found the track, which we used at the beginning of the holiday by jeep, blocked by a landslide. This caused an extra hours walk before catching the bus back to Innsbruck, then to Munich and the night life.

CHANGE OF ADDRESSES.

Please keep your new handbook up to date by noting the new address of members.

Brian and Marriion Cooke
"Wenduyne"
Long Rigg,
Riding Mill,
Northumberland.

Jack Leeson
57, Monk Ings,
Birstall,
Nr. Leeds.

Mrs. June Walker.
38, Ball Road,
Holleston on Dove,
Burton on Trent,
Staffs.

Tim Ward.
"Kilmeridge"
Taxal
Whaley Bridge,
Via Stockport,
Cheshire.
Tel Whaley Bridge 2415

Just to remind you the editors address is: 18 Endsleigh Gardens,
Beeston,
Notts.
Telephone (Business)
Nottingham 255920

OREADS IN SHORTS

Proposed for next meets list - A Rod Craddock Memorial meet!

The (Great) Gadsbys knowing that the hut would be full one week end decided, because they would be late arrivals, to send their sleeping bags with friends to be placed on beds thus making sure of a place to sleep and to force the editor and others to sleep on the floor. However justice was done, it turned out to be a foggy night and halfway to Wales they were faced with the decision to turn back or risk a night in the van without Bug Bags - they returned home. Everyone else had a good time in Wales!

Colin Hobday has been sitting at home with his skis on for the last few week ends awaiting the snow. He is going on a ski-ing honeymoon soon and wants to get a bit of practice!

There is to be a married mans meet in the Carngorms once again this year but details are being kept very secret - Details from Janes if you are lucky.