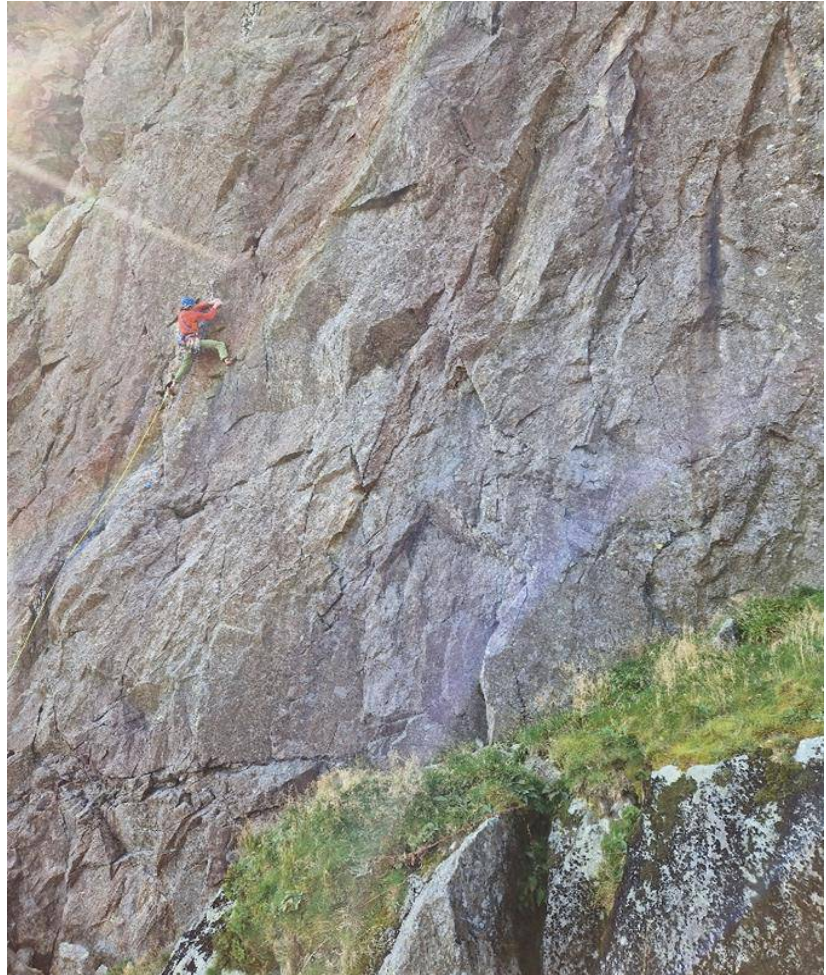


Oread Mountaineering Club Magazine

November 2024

Climbing through the rainbow – Holocaust on Dow Crag – see page 9 for the story. Photo Roger Gibbs.



Editorial

Coming up soon a curry meet in Wales, a variety of local walks then our Anniversary Dinner and of course the Post prandial Walk. And then it will be December with the challenges of the Bullstones and night climbing to keep us on our toes as we reach the dark nights of the year.

The first of our winter evening lectures coming up on Tuesday 5th November then bonfire night fun on 9th.

Looking forward – the 2025 meets list is in here – is there a meet you would like to lead? Have a look and see what you can do.

Lots of Meets reports in here, Lake District fun, local walks and more.

Sadly also notice of the recent death of Don Chapman at the age of 93.

It would be really helpful if all future newsletter correspondence could be sent to newseditor@oread.co.uk.

Copy Deadline 20 November.

Meets List 2024 Ed Bloomfield

Ed Bloomfield: email: xxxxxxxxxxxx Tel xxxxxxxxxxxx

N o v e m b e r	1st/2nd	Curry meet - Tan yr Wyddfa	N. Wales	Tony Howard
	4th-18th	Morocco	Anti-Atlas	Gill Radcliffe/Ed Bloomfield
	9th	Bonfire night Heathy Lea	Sausage, marshmallows, fire	Kasia Sajdok
	23rd	Oread 75th Annual Dinner with guest speaker Johnny Dawes	Maynard, Grindleford	
	24th	Post prandial walk	Grindleford	Chris Radcliffe
	24th	post dinner climb with Johnny Dawes	Froggat	
	27th	Notts Climbing Centre 7PM	Midweek climbing chat	winter wall
D e c e m b e r	4th	Wednesday walk		Rob Tresidder
	4th	Awsome walls Sheffield 7pm	Midweek climbing chat	winter wall
	11th	Black rocks evening (wirksworth for the less brave)	Midweek climbing chat	winter wall
	12th	Thursday short walk		Ruth Gordon
	18th	Notts Climbing Centre 7PM	Midweek climbing chat	winter wall
	24-1 Jan	Christmas & New Year	Tan yr Wyddfa	Snod Helliwell

Meets List 2025 - Edward Bloomfield

The meets list is out for 2025, and now I need you to fill in some of the blanks... Any meet that doesn't have a leader needs a volunteer to step forward and lead it.



All meets need attendees, so please put some place holders in your diary for 2025.

There is no greater joy than leading a meet that gets people out doing the things they love doing and bringing us all together at home or abroad!

Leading a meet is simple, your main responsibility is to organise the weather and the fun!

There are some very minor details like hut access, but myself and the hut secretaries will be on hand to make sure you have the information you need to lead your meet

successfully.

To get good huts in the diary we have to book them in 6-12 months in advance. If we want to continue to see good huts in the meets list to give access to the UK's best climbing, walking and mountaineering we need to fill the huts come rain or shine! Which means we need to have well coordinated meets with detailed plans which are inspiring and desirable.

Thought should be given to wet weather alternatives - we can't always guarantee the conditions but we should be able to guarantee a memorable time with friends. Be a part of your club's success, volunteer to lead a meet and be a part of your club's future.

2025				
	Dates	Hut/Location/title	Description	Leader
J a n	1st	Ashover	new years day walk	peter amour
	8th	Monsal Head	Wednesday walk	peter amour
	10th-12th	Karn House Aweimore	Winter climbing in the Cairngorms	Rob Beck
	16th	TBC	thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	18th	Whatstandwell	Saturday walk	Steve Booth
	25th	Stanage	Peak district bouldering meet	??
F e b	1st-8th	Rjukan Hytteby	Ice Climbing in the Rjukan valley	Ed Bloomfield
	5th	TBC	Wednesday walk	Christine Paice
	3-17th	Benidorm	winter sun sport climbing	Ruth Gordon
	15th	Wetton Mill - Upper Hulme	Saturday walk	Stuart Firth
	16th	Cratcliffe	Peak district bouldering meet	?????
	20th	TBC	thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	21-23rd	TYW	weekend Scrambling & walking meet	?????
M a r c h	1st	Curbar	Peak district bouldering meet	???
	5th	TBC	Wednesday walk	Chris Mather
	7th-8th	George Starky Hut Patterdale	walking and climbing in Patterdale	Stuart Haywood
	14-16th	Waters Cottage Kinlochleven	Scottish winter climbing	Mick Hayes
	20th	TBC	thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	22nd	TBC	Saturday walk	???
	22	Matlock FC???	Saturday AGM???	Jan wilson
	23	TBC	Sunday Post AGM Walk	Committee
	28-30th	North Yorks moors	Climbing and walking in north yorkshire	Wilson's
A p r i l	2nd	Wednesday climbing outdoors starts	Harborough Rocks	N/a
	9th	dimmingdale alton	Wednesday walk	peter amour
	4th-6th	TYW hut meet North Wales	Walking and Climbing in North Wales	????
	17th	TBC	thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	18th-27th	font camping meet	bouldering meet in font	Nuno Gomes
	17-21st	Cornwall camping meet	climbing and camping meet cornwall	??
	26th	Upper Hulme - Flash)	Saturday walk	Christine Paice
	27th	Millstone	Crack school climbing with a focus on coaching crack climbing skills	Simas Jermosenka
M a y	2nd-5th	Gower camping meet	camping, walking & climbing	??
	7th	tbc	weds walk	?
	15th	TBC	thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	16th-18th	New members' meet Heathy Lee	Climbing and bbq at the hut	Kevin Raisin Moss
	24th	TBC	Saturday walk	?
	23-31st	scotland	climbing and walking west coast scotland	mike moss
	4th	Dovedale	Weds Walk	Rusty (Clive Russell)
	6th-8th	low stern north yorkshire	walking & climbing meet north yorks	Peter Amour
	15th	Peak district women rock	Local meet for Oread women to celebrate women in the club climbing	???
	19th	TBC	thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	21nd	Geo Walk - Flash to Brierlow Bar	Saturday Walk	Peter Amour
	23rd	TyW	climbing and walking north wales BBQ Meet	Tony Howard?
	26-28th	Little Langdale (Fyde hut)	Climbing and walking meet	Snod

J u l y	2nd	TBC	Weds Walk	Christine Paice
	04-6th	Rock Hall Roaches	back by popular demand climbing at the roaches	Charlie T
	12th	Peak district pinacles meet		???
	17th	TBC	thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	18th-20th	Anglesey camping meet	Sea cliff climbing & camping	Lianne/Dave
	26th	Shuttlingsloe	Saturday Walk	Rusty (Clive Russell)
A u g u s t	1st-3rd	MAM Coniston		???
	6th	TBC	Wednesday Walk	Stuart Firth
	8-10th	Heathy Lea family meet		Rob Beck/Nuno
	16th	Geo Walk - Brierlow Bar to Tideswell	Saturday walk	???
	21st	TBC	thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	22-25th	Pembroke camping meet	sea cliff Climbing pembroke	???
S e p t	3rd	TBC	Wednesday Walk	???
	12-14th	TYW		???
	18th	TBC	thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	20 th	peak district barmy comp	barmy competition camping meet	???
	21 st	TBC	weekend walk	Chris Paice
	26-28th	Stair cottage(keswick)	Climbing and walking	Snod
O c t	1st	TBC	Wednesday Walk	Christine Paice
	11-13th	High house Lake district	walking & Climbing meet	Nigel Briggs
	16th	TBC	thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	18th	Geo Walk - Tideswell to Edale	Saturday Walk	???
	19th	Froggat Slab School	peak district slab workshop on slab climbing technique	???
	24-26th	TYW - North Wales	Curry meet - T an yr Wyddfa	Tony Howard
	5th	TBC	Wednesday Walk	Stuart Firth
	7-16th or	desert rock	Destination to be confirmed red rock , wadi rum or tafaroute	Kev/Ed
	20th	TBC	thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	23rd	Annual Dinner	?	?
	24th	post prandial walk		?
	24th	post dinner climb ,		?
D e c	3rd	Goyt	Wednesday Walk	Rusty (Clive Russell)
	6-7th	Bullstones		Mike Mowbry
	13-15th	Mannood dry tooling	Dry tooling meet hut to be confirmed	Rob B
	18th	TBC	thursday short walk	Ruth Gordon
	20th	Geo Walk - Edale to Birchen Clough Bridge	Saturday Walk	?
	24-1 jan	T an yr Wyddfa	Christmas and New Year hut meet	??

Evening Meets - Rob Tresidder

Here are the dates for our Ockbrook meetings. All start at 8.00 pm. I have opened a WhatsApp page in the Oread community so you can keep an eye open for updates there.

05 November Mike Parsons;

03 December Chris Wilson;

07 January 2025 Carrie Beadle;

04 February Emma Hayes;

04 March T.B.A.

Please be in touch via the WhatsApp group or direct with me

Rob Tresidder tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxx email:xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Forthcoming Meets

Monday 28 October Climbing Unit Derby

The clocks have gone back so it's time to start meeting up for weekly bouldering, fun and chat at the Unit from 7.00pm. Unit 5, Mason's Place Business Park, Nottingham Road, Chaddesden DE21 6YZ <https://theclimbingunit.com/>

1-3 November Tan yr Wyddfa Curry Meet North Wales Tony Howard

If you decide at the last minute you would like to come along please let me know ASAP.

Tony Howard: Home: xxxxxxxxxxxxxx Mobile xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Tuesday 5 November 8.00 pm Lecture Royal Oak Ockbrook

A life in rucksacks and much, much more.



Mike Parsons, ex C.E.O. Of Karrimor, will be entertaining us. As well as Karrimor Mike has been instrumental in setting up the K.I.M.M. and then the O.M.M. Mountain Marathons. He now runs an outdoor equipment consultancy: Outdoor Gear Coach. Over the years he has worked alongside many of the greats of British mountaineering. A tale or two to tell!

Admission £3.00 Guests £5.00.

Rob Tresidder email xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx tel xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Wednesday 6 November Derwent Edges Walk Rachel Walker

Meet at the last lay-by before the Fairholmes carpark for free parking at 10.00 for a 10.15 start. SK 17370 88929. (Derwent Overlook car park- Satnav 53.39717, -1.74054. postal address Car Park, Overlook, Hope Valley, S33 0AQ).

Directions: To get to the Derwent Edge Trailhead by car, turn off the A57 Snake Pass road at Ladybower Reservoir following the brown signposts for Derwent Valley Dams. There is paid parking at the visitor centre or, if we are lucky, a lay-by with free car parking just before the main carpark.

This stunning Derwent Edge Walk takes you from the Ladybower Reservoir up steep, wood-lined ravines to emerge on top of the moors. On a clear day expect phenomenal views of the Derwent valley and its unique "gritstone (sandstone) tors".

From Fairholmes we go in the direction of Derwent Dam then shortly take the steep path that climbs Hollins Clough. Crossing the heather moor we head towards Lost Lad and Back Tor. Heading south along Derwent Edge we pass several unusual rock features by the path with unusual names; Cakes of Bread, Dovestone Tor, Salt Cellar and Wheel Stones. From Wheel Stones the path drops off the edge and back towards Ladybower reservoir down the side of a plantation and to a collection of old barns at Grindle Clough.

Distance 8 miles. Elevation 1,575 ft

Rachel Walker: tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx, email: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

9 November Bonfire Night Heathy Lea Kasia Sajdok

A family – friendly bonfire night at Heathy Lea. Marshmallows, sausages and fireworks are encouraged.

Kasia Sadjok email: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Thursday 21 November Short Walk Beeley Chris Radcliffe

Meet 11.00am at the junction of Beeley Lane and Beeley Bar Lane (track) at SK 2866 6805. There is sufficient parking either on the edge of the track or side of the road. Note that Beeley Lane is a closed road and not accessible from Beeley Village, only from Darley Road or Wirestone Lane/ Screetham Lane from the top of Slack Hill.

We will descend through Hell Bank Plantation and along the track to Fallinge, before turning north to Beeley Village (possible café stop at The Old Smithy). Then a steady climb to Beeley Hilltop, continuing up to the Rabbit Warren. An optional extra is to visit Hob Hurst's House for the views from Harland Edge, before returning to the start. About 10km/+-250m elevation.

Chris Radcliffe: email: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx Tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Saturday 23 November Oread 75th Annual Dinner

Arrive 6.45pm for 7:15pm at The Maynard, Main Road, Grindleford S32 2HE

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at this celebration of the OREAD and reaching its 75th milestone.

Overnight accommodation: Tony Raphael has booked a twin room at the Maynard and would be happy to share it with anyone looking for accommodation. It would cost £80 including breakfast but no travelling involved after the dinner! If this is of interest get in touch with Tony on xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx or email xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Sunday 24 November Post-Prandial Walk (Autumn Stride) **Chris Radcliffe**

Following on from the 75th Anniversary Dinner at The Maynard, we will meet at 10:30 just down the road at Grindleford Bridge, SK 245 778. There is usually adequate parking on the side of the road.

We will follow the Heritage Way north, climb up to Bole Hill, under Lawrencefield and then Millstone to Hathersage Moor and Carl Wark, turning south here to Toads Mouth and down to the river and along to Longshaw. The cafe is just over half-way at 7.5km, so could be a lunch stop. Leaving the cafe we head south out of Longshaw and onto White Edge Moor descending to The Grouse, where those so inclined can visit as well, before dropping down through Hey Wood to the cars. Distance 12.5 km +/- 350m elevation.

Chris Radcliffe email: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx Tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Wednesday 4 December The Little Grey Rabbit Walk **Rob Tresidder**

Departure: from Cromford Station as soon as the train arrives from Derby, a few minutes after 10.00am.

Getting there:

- by train from Derby, departs at 0935 and stops at 4 stations on the way
- by 6.1 bus from Derby, departs bus station at 0850, alight outside Greyhound Hotel, Cromford at 0947, cross A6, walk along Mill Lane to station or follow R bank of river below Willersley crag.
- plethora of buses (and train) from the north. Ask me if you need to know more.
- by car to Cromford Station CP. Parking charges apply.
- on foot, if you are holidaying in the delightful old waiting room (NB. No discount for Oasis fans).

The walk is short (6.2k) even by Wednesday short walk standards but steep. We will climb to Riber Castle then descend through Starkholmes to Matlock Bath, where the walk ends. I will probably have had enough by this stage but if some feel only lightly exercised I am happy to continue Northwards along the L bank of the river by the BMC approved "climbers' path" (flotation devices advised). Returns to start can be made via train, bus or on foot.

Rob Tresidder email: xxxxxxxxxxxx Tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

6 – 8 December Bullstones 24 Jan Wilson

Team Oread - we need to have a dose of real Bullstones in our 75th Anniversary year!!! So for a full immersive experience I propose using some of the area close by Bullstones Cabin.

If you want to join the fun the plan is to gather on Friday night 6 December at the Strines Inn. They are happy to have a few cars left from Friday to Sunday. They will do food but it must be pre-ordered so let me know and I'll send you the menu. I anticipate some car sharing so we don't offend the landlord.

Friday night sleep out high up on the route to Lost Lad. On Saturday morning we will either find the site of Bullstones then head back down the reservoirs, crossing over Ladybower, then back through Bamford Mills and up to Thorpe Farm (total 21 miles) or the route can be shortened to as little as 10 miles. This is weather and fitness dependent. I hope to create a bit of the old, mildly anarchic, process we used to enjoy and to see some valiant route finding.

We will finish the day at Thorpe Farm Bunkhouse for an overnight stay on Saturday 7th. Food can either be self-catering or delivered from Hathersage or we can walk into Hathersage (about a mile).

On Sunday the return to Strines can be by short 7.5 miles trails or made longer depending on the weather and the mood of the party.

Places are limited so I will need firm bookings and payment in advance for the bunkhouse (around £23) by mid November please.

Jan Wilson: email xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Wednesday 11 December Black Rocks Night Climb

This annual madness involves climbing at Black Rocks in the dark early evening – or Harborough for the not quite so mad – and Wirksworth wall for the boringly sane – followed by a get together in a local pub – more details next month.

3 – 17 February 2025 Sun Rock Benidorm Ruth Gordon

It's a long way off but some of us have already booked our annual trip to the Costa Blanca in search of sunshine, bolted limestone and beautiful mountain walking - or just enjoying a change of scene and not having to cook for a couple of weeks!

We have booked a Jet2 holiday from Manchester or East Midlands at the Aparthotel Terralta, Benidorm, with Half Board Plus but you can also self cater if you prefer. Car hire is essential for getting to the crags but we will organise that nearer the time when we know how many are coming. Any questions please be in touch.

Ruth Gordon email: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx tel. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx and leave a message if I'm not at home.

News, Articles and Reports from Meets

Birthday Party on Dow Roger Gibbs

A double birthday bash in Coniston and the weather forecast is amazingly good! Off up to Dow (pronounced Doe, I'm reliably informed) with varying degrees of gung ho – C, loads; G, plenty; me, none! The light was a strange, milky translucence. As we slog up the scree, the wind whips around us. I suggest Catacomb, E1 5b, to warm the lads up for bigger things. We scramble up the gully to the start and rack up. The first pitch was pretty exciting, but very good. A slightly awkward, constricted wriggle up the wide chimney-crack with not a lot of gear. Bomber runners, then a committing swing (on massive, juggy flakes) onto the traverse line. There is one more move, which puts you a disturbingly long way away from the gear, before you get a more relaxed position to cold weld in a good wire. C commented afterwards that it was a bit of a harrowing belay (he couldn't see the jugs I was hanging off), I would most likely have decked with the swing. The rest of the traverse is ok, if exposed, to haul around onto a comfy belay on Giant's Crawl. The boys came across.

"Who's doing the second pitch," I asked, knowing the answer. There was some more spice at the start of the second pitch, with another potential Desmond from tricky moves. The gear and the moves both improved after that until you reach the righthand side of a little grassy ledge. This is supposedly an optional belay, but I pressed on. A chunky layback allows you to step up onto a good foot ledge. There's an old, jammed wire under the overlap. How old is that? I clipped it anyway. A positive left hand layaway/gaston and a good foot edge offered a fairly obvious way to get committed on a righthand layaway and a stretch for an undercut. Hmm. E1? I stepped down and added a low wire. Another rusty, jammed wire beckoned. Switching hands, I found a decent crack and slid a decent small cam into it. Better.



Holocaust after the crux.

Summoning the required commitment, and trying to time the moves with a lull in the buffeting wind, I stepped up. Of course, the delicate foot swap was required just as the strongest gust so far blasted past me. Both hands into the undercut and feet on to big holds. It's still steep though. A final stretch and my hand finds the prize of a huge bucket. A massive cam is duly whacked into a big slot and suddenly the slopy feet are much more positive. A few more feet of butch but positive flakes and cracks and I arrive at a nice little bay with bomber runners. Now where? A shouted conversation over the wind doesn't really help. I bash on for 20 or 30 feet but the rock changes to grass and grot and no sign of the down climb to Easy Gully. Bugger. I engage reverse gear and drop back down to the pleasant bay to bring the lads up. A long, exposed but easy pitch takes us across and down to the descent. What a belter! Don't expect an easy ride though, I seconded Holocaust later (E4 6a) and it didn't seem much harder! The rest of the (large) team had all had multi route, multi star days with lots of grins. A fine old party in the hut ensued.

Elton Walk 4 September Janet Briggs

Having agreed to lead a walk a decision was needed on where to go. Looking at a map I spotted Gratton Dale and Long Dale near Elton, we have never walked there so it seemed a good starting point. Whilst there is no official car park in Elton there is enough on road parking to make that a reasonable starting point and the route could take in the 'Sheep Dip' at Youlgreave for a late summer dip in the river, always a bonus! Nigel and I did a recce beforehand and it seemed a nice route, finishing over Robin Hood's Stride. Some of the route was new to us, but would everyone else be saying 'Oh yes, we have been here loads of times', it was a gamble we had to take.

The day of the walk arrived, we assembled as a team of 11, including relatively new member Debbie on her first walk with the club, and long standing member Chiz back after a long layoff with back problems. We were also joined by Chris' four legged friend Woody. We set off in reasonable, but far from scorching conditions; we stopped to chat with various groups of youngsters doing their D of E expedition and then had a coffee break at the junction of Gratton Dale and Long Dale. Here we were intrigued by a carved stone, clearly a fairly recent piece of art work. As we proceeded to our lunch stop in Middleton the murmurings were more of 'nice interesting route in a familiar area' rather than 'been here lots before' so that was good.

At lunchtime a leaflet told us that the art work was one of a series of pieces put at each road or footpath entrance to Middleton parish. Maybe visiting them all in a day would make an interesting future walk. After lunch we dropped down into Bradford Dale, the sun was out enough to tempt four of us into the icy cold waters at the Sheep Dip whilst the remainder watched. We then headed back to Elton, firstly via the Limestone Way, which clearly does not go over limestone at Robin Hood's Stride, and thence via quieter footpaths back to Elton.



Thank you to Michael, Nick, Chiz, Sue, Stuart, Judy, Charlie, Nigel, Debbie, Chris and Woody for your good company.

Rowsley-Bakewell walk 19 September Chris Paice

On a dampish Wednesday eight Oreads and friends assembled at the Peak Village car park for a steady walk to Bakewell. Chris R, Rusty, Reg, Ruth, Heather, Sue, Stuart dutifully followed me on roads, over and through stiles and some wobbly wandering in the fields as I strayed a little from the path.

Ancient pathways trod, deep quarries with blue, blue water passed. Haddon Hall seen from a different perspective throughout the walk as was the distant Derwent valley and moors beyond.

Lunch eaten as the sun shone, conversations varied (as always). Cows successfully passed; odd looking sheep discussed (chubby Texels). Very good for the meat, so we were told by Rusty. As for the bus ride back, it was 10 minutes late, then two arrived! But a bus did come, and we hopped on and hopped off back at the car park. Well, maybe not hopped!

Despite the challenges of wonky knees, wonky hearing (they always walk on further because they can't hear the shouting to come back!) and some short steep slopes the group supported everyone (including me). An Oread group at its finest. Thank you all for joining me.



Enjoying stunning views on the Rowsley – Stanton road. Photo Chris Radcliffe.

Geo Walk Parsley Hay – Milldale 21 September Nick Evans

There were ten of us out on the Geowalk. The weather before the start was not good, with fog and rain, but it improved to a pleasant sunny afternoon. We were slightly delayed at the start by a half marathon involving hundreds of runners. The walk was mostly downhill so not at all strenuous. We saw several varieties of limestone and a sand quarry near Hartington with some of the newest deposits in the Peak District left by recent glaciers.

Churnet Valley walk 2 October Charlie Taylor

Maybe it was the weather forecast, but just four of us gathered at the village of Oakamoor for my Churnet Valley walk, on a warm but slightly damp early October morning. I have a personal fondness for the Churnet valley, having walked and cycled the area from a young age. With its River, ancient woodland, old railway line, Historic Villages, and an abundance of Pugin's architecture, the area is only spoilt (in my opinion) by the ever-expanding Alton Towers resort! With the forecasted rain still lingering, the hardest decision was deciding on what clothing to wear, the typical walkers dilemma! The four of us set off up Star Bank woods in the general direction of Whiston. The rain soon stopped and the upwards trend towards Whiston meant we soon started to overheat. A brief stop ensued to admire one of the many sculptures

that can be found scattered throughout this wooded valley.



One of the sculptures that adorns Star Bank wood.

Our progress became impeded by a fallen tree that appeared to completely block our way. However, Chris managed to bash a way through for us all to follow and soon we were crossing the golf course at the village of Whiston. At this point our route dropped steeply back down into the valley and as I had suspected, given the amount of rain we'd had over previous days, the path was a mud fest. As we headed south by the river the path briefly improved before a return to yet more mud.

Lunch was taken at Hawksmoor wood, an ancient woodland, now a nature reserve founded by John R.B Masefield a local Naturalist and now managed by the National Trust. A picnic bench was kindly provided for us all. Lunchtime

conversation revolved around damages of processed food and the merits of home cooking.



Masefield Memorial Gateway, Hawksmoor Nature Reserve.

Fully refreshed, we carried on down through Greendale, then back up towards

Threap wood and the old Youth Hostel at Dimmings Dale. Dimmings Dale is a splendour at any time of the year, but more so as the trees were just beginning to display their autumn colours. We continued past the quaint mill ponds and down to the Ramblers Retreat pub. The sun was just starting to make itself felt and it was soon becoming a very pleasant day.

The final leg dropped us on to the old Churnet Railway line part of the old North Staffordshire Railway and back to Oakamoor with the sun now blazing through the trees.

Thanks to those who attended, Chris Mather, Chiz Dakin, Alan Bower and me. I hope you enjoyed the route.

Ashover Walk 17 October Ruth Gordon

A glorious sunny morning after a miserable Wednesday saw a record short walk turnout – 12 plus a dog.

The walk was not as advertised in the newsletter - fortunately I had done a recce of that route and found the field path to Alton required full length waders, plus the final stretch from Span Carr to Rattle featured a disgusting combination of copiously muck-spread grass and newly ploughed clay!



My hasty revision saw us plod steadily up the steep path to Farhill trig point then down to Nuttingfield Farm before rising gently to follow a fine ridge via Broomy Wood and Britton Wood. Great views to both sides before going back into a characterful mature wood where lunch was taken while Steve entertained us with acrobatics on a fragile-looking rope swing. Rachel did a Cinderella at this point – leaving at a brisk pace to get back in time for her hair appointment. The rest of us ambled back via Press and Alton – the meet leader leading her team astray just the once – and assembled for a photo call at The Fabrick rock before descending to Ashover. This is an unusually quiet area, on all my three recce walks and today we saw very few other walkers, well worth exploring.

Thanks for your company, Pete Amour, Steve Booth, Heather Clifton Smith, Nick Evans, Cathy Luffman, Chris Paice, Chris Radcliffe, Reg Squires, Pam Storer and Hamish, Sue Todd, Rachel Walker.



Photos Peter Amour and Chris Radcliffe.

Little Langdale 18-19 October Snod Helliwell

Despite the poor forecast earlier in the week the old faithfuls had a good time in the Lakes.

Derek Pike, Bott (Irwin Bottomley), Simon Pape and myself arrived Friday afternoon. The dampness precluded any climbing but it wasn't raining so we went for a walk via the cake farm and up the path to Lingmoor Fell. Once on the ridge we descended towards Chapel Stile before cutting back over towards Elterwater and picking up the track to Dale End from which a path fortuitously led us to the Three Shires inn.

After a few drinks and banter with the landlady we returned to the hut. Gandalf (Larkam) arrived late in the evening in a monsoon.

Next morning, after overnight rain, the sun came out but Langdale was off limits due to the Langdale half marathon.

The south crag of Castle Rock of Triermain dries quickly so, after a slow journey avoiding runners, we arrived at the crag. The very south part was still damp but the south east was dry and a good afternoon was had.



We went to the chippy at Watersmeet and sat in the last of the evening sun overlooking the lake and scanning the sky for the elusive comet. Of course, being in Ambleside, we had to go to the Golden Rule before returning to the hut. As predicted Sunday morning was greeted by heavy rain so, after a leisurely breakfast, we returned south and into the sun. Thanks to all that came and to those who didn't - you missed a good weekend of banter and glorious autumn colours.

Middleton by Wirksworth Walk 19 October Rob Tresidder

We were 13 at the beginning of our walk in spite of bus cancellations etc. We started at the Stone Centre near Middleton and soon got lost amongst the brambles to the west of the cricket club. Someone deftly recovered things so that we were able to groan our way past the eponymous tor before descending to the entrance to Hellicar mine.



Several started but most were sensibly discouraged by a short crawl and nearly knee deep water. Nick, undaunted, felt for stepping stones with his toe and found edging holds on the side walls of the tunnel.

Image: Firth Media.

We nearly reached the final choke and then rejoined the patient waiters and proceeded past a couple of mills, through Cromford and up into the Babes in the Wood wood. Then steadily along the promised *balcon est*, pausing only to admire the jams and honeys on sale, before stopping for a brief lunch and photocall.



Standing: Pete, Pippa, Sheila, Richard, Nick, Rob, Sue. Sitting: Stuart, Mike, Steve, Kathy. Missing: Rachel. Image: Radcliffe snaps.

We had already lost one who preferred to party (twice) on a Saturday rather than stay with the walking party. Coming in sight of Matlock we lost a further three

deviationists to tea and cakes. Stung by this, the rest of us paused in Hall Leys park for the same (or the remains of lunch). Fortified, we continued up and over High Tor with the more reckless preferring the splendid Giddy Edge to *le vrai sommet*. The walk ended in Matlock Bath where we variously made our way home or back to our vehicles except for a trio of hardies who chose to close the loop by walking to Black Rocks.

I believe a good time was had by all. I tried to recruit someone other than the meet leader to do justice to this splendid day. None were stepping forward, somewhat to my relief since the last time I did this the writer upper likened me to Herr Hitler.

75th Anniversary Press Release

After the Anniversary Camp a press release reporting on our Anniversary year was sent to the BMC Summit Magazine, the Derby Evening Telegraph and Burton Mail and the Bakewell based free newspaper, the Peak Advertiser. Each version was tailored to the interests of the target publication. It was received very positively by the editor of Summit so we hope it will appear in their next issue. The Peak Advertiser published it with two photos in 21 October issue. The online news service of the Derby and Burton papers In Your Area published it in full on 4 October. You can access it via this link:

<https://www.inyourarea.co.uk/news/oread-mountaineering-club-celebrates-its-75th-anniversary>

The printed papers take their stories from this website but is not known if it was used in the printed papers.

This is the version that appeared in the Peak Advertiser.

Oread Mountaineering Club 75 years young!

On 21 April, the first warm sunny spring day of 2024, a happy group of climbers gathered at Apple Buttress, Gardom's Edge to celebrate the 75th birthday of one of the oldest Peak District climbing clubs. Ages ranged from 10 to 93 - founder member Paul Gardiner still fit and eager to join the throng. Apple Arete, (first ascended by founder member, Dave Penlington in 1952) was the route of the day.

From Burton on Trent and Derby origins the Derbyshire based club has grown to a UK wide membership of almost 200. Members enjoy the use of our two bunkhouses, one below Snowdon and one in Baslow.



The Oread offers activities for all: gentle walkers, tough mountaineers, winter and summer climbers, cyclists and even wild swimmers! This summer some of us explored the Peak District geology on a series of Geo walks while others drove thousands of miles to the midnight sun on the Lofoten islands, Norway for this year's big trip.

Celebrations continued with a hugely successful Anniversary camping meet in September at Chatsworth. The sun shone and over 100 people camped each night. Activities included a B.A.R.M.Y.

Competition (Best All Round Mountaineer of the Year) with points gained for climbs plus reaching designated checkpoints - stone circles, trig points and so on. 26 teams took part, the winners gaining 960 points for climbing 32 routes plus 590 for visiting other features as they dashed from crag to crag. Meanwhile the youngest

competitor ascended Trafalgar Wall on her dad's back!

We are celebrating 75 years of fun on Peak District crags, in the hills and mountains, at home and away,

Come and help us celebrate: <https://www.oread.co.uk/membership/>

Archive photo of an Oread team at the Snake Inn in the 1950s. Heading from Marsden to Rowsley over the moors.



Hut Bookings.

Hut bookings are now made online at the Oread website 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

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.

Information on Member Activities

Welcome to new Provisional Members Miles Fisher and Nigel Harrison. We hope you will enjoy many happy days with the Oread.

Current Provisional Members Yuriy Arlachov, Cathy Ayton, Maxwell Dean, Steph Jimenez, Lydia Nowak, Dave Ward, Richard Ward and Steph Ward have applied to upgrade to full membership, for approval at the November committee. Trevor Stevens, Sue Lancaster and former member Richard Freestone have also applied for full membership and we have a new full membership application this month from Cathy Luffman. If you would like to comment on any of these applications, please contact a member of the committee.

Jack Ashcroft

Laura Burnet writes:

Just seen your obituary to Jack, I hadn't heard about his death. I know Dad was a great admirer of Jack and would have written a piece for the newsletter. I have gone through the files I still have and am sending some images of Jack, some better quality than others, but good memories nevertheless. Please feel free to use any you want to. My condolences to Jack's family.

Kind regards from Laura Burnett,....Harry and Molly Pretty's daughter.



Between Berwyn and Alirant — Burns, Ashcroft, Kershaw, Webb, the "itinerant" (?) and Welbourne.



Dave Weston, H.P., Diggs, Williams, Ron Chambers, Andy Oakden, Brian Royal, Peter Jones, Don Cowen, Jack Ashcroft

Note: Burgess & Appleby, of course the photog., Geo Reynolds are missing, An ~~early~~ enlargement of this photo is framed and hangs on the wall of the bar in the Carriage at Stonefield.



Outside Wood Cottage - Snake Pass - Snowing,
Ted Brown, Stan Moore, Digger Williams, Jack Ashcroft,
Bob Gill, Peter Jones

Winter 64/65.

Before the days of Goretex.

Don Chapman

A member since 1958, Don Chapman died peacefully in hospital in mid October, aged 93. His funeral is to be held on Monday 11th of November at Markeaton Crematoria at 1.30pm. followed by a gathering at The Hanging Gate, Shottle, Derbyshire.

Oread Mountaineering Club 75th Anniversary T Shirts and Hoodies:

We have club t shirts and hoodies available with a brand new design created for us by Bryony Lancaster printed on the back and the club logo embroidered on the front.

The t shirts are available in traditional cotton, female and unisex fits, and in 'climate cool' polyester breathable fabric in men's and ladies fits, all in a wide variety of colours.

The hoodies come in single colour, unisex and ladies fits, and two colour with a contrasting hood lining, again in a wide range of colours.

To order your garments go to:

<https://ipmteamwear.com/collections/oread-mountaineering-club>

and place your individual order. The garments can be posted to you with a delivery charge, or collected from Tutbury, **please note the instructions at the top of the web page to remove the delivery charge for collections.** Orders can be collected for you by Janet and Nigel Briggs (live nearby) or Jan and Chris Wilson (grandchildren live nearby) if you let us know you want them collecting.

Please note:

- The ladies sizes come fairly small so unless you like a 'body hugging' garment order up a size or go for unisex.
- For the cotton t shirts and the single colour hoodies the colour range is split over 2 menus, if the colour you want is not on the first menu look on the second one. Confusingly there are slight variations as to what colours are available between the ladies and unisex ranges.
- The club logo is embroidered on the front of all garments. The rear design will be printed in a light colour on dark garments, and a dark colour on light garments.
- You can order individual garments at any time, now or in the future.

If you have any questions or if you need help with ordering please contact Janet Briggs: email janet.briggs@me.com

Rusty's Puzzle Corner

This month's puzzle:

Two devolved areas of UK and a further one possibly aspiring to be so were fed up with climbers, hippies and the like and decided to screw them for funds. The attached table shows the resulting decline in visitor numbers and also the total revenue raised for the three areas in the first three year period following the inception of the scheme.

What were the different amounts of the charges levied per person in the three areas.

	visitors year1	visitors year2	visitors year3
wales	11	10	9.1
cornwall	7	6.5	5.9
highlands	12	11	9.9
Total revenue	2390	2190	1984

(The table shows the number of visitors in thousands and the total of the revenue is also in thousand pound units. These multiples of course cancel each other out and so the figures on the table may be used without adjustment).

For clarification, no changes were made to the charges during the three year period.

This is of course a somewhat tedious calculation to perform by hand but the spreadsheet facility in Microsoft Excel, which many purchase and do not use, enables this exercise to be carried out very swiftly.

Last month's puzzle solution:

We were asked to identify the Peak District reservoir which has a landscape feature named after a human feature to the North West, and another named after a vegetable to the South?

The reservoir shown in the photo was Trentabank in Macclesfield Forest - Teggs Nose being the human feature to the North West and Leek the vegetable to the South. Our esteemed editor solved the puzzle but took me severely to task over the distance from the second clue (Leek).

Another extremely formidable lady, far larger than myself and swifter over the hills, reacted in a similar manner (she is not an Oread member but shares an occasional puzzle with me).

Against joint opposition of this calibre I have to concede that there is an exception to every rule and I could be at fault.

At the 11th hour an alternative solution was presented by Snod. He picked Tittesworth Reservoir which has White Lee **Head** to the NW and Leek directly to the south whereas it is slightly S.E. of Trentabank. I cannot fault his logic but it is not the one in the photo.

*Editor: Ruth Gordon, 4, The Terrace, Upper Lumsdale, Matlock, Derbys. DE4 5LB
Tel. 01629 56636 07999 857 922. Email newseditor@oread.co.uk*