



Lancashire Caving & Climbing Club

Newsletter No. 435

July/August 2008

Cover: Eddie Jordan performing the Indian Rope Trick on Heather Wall, Froggatt meet. (Credit: B. Jordan)

EDITORIAL

I started my last editorial wishing for some summer. We've been blessed with a beautiful May and half of June this year and a lot of excellent meets.

The latest BMC Summit dropped thought my door recently and I've hardly been able to put it down. It reminded me that it is sometime since I got on my hobby-horse about BMC. For all sorts of reasons - access, insurance, national voice, and not least an excellent magazine, I think the climbers in the club should be considering upgrading their club membership to full BMC membership. (Details in the last Newsletter) Similarly cavers need to consider joining the BCA, see note in the committee minutes.

Lots of lovely photos sent in again this month. Thanks for all of them and the others we could not use (they have gone in the Wilkinson photo store). Thanks also to Roger who has spent a lot of time fitting them into the Newsletter and as always doing some essential proofreading.

Newsletter Editor: Debbie Wilkinson, Mob 07919 021106 e-mail rogeranddeborah@live.co.uk
Articles & letters are welcome on old fashioned paper, too.

NEXT ISSUE DUE OUT Sept 1st 2008

Please send material for inclusion in good time.

I can add small items until the last minute,

It is editorial policy to correct obvious errors in submitted material but in case of doubt articles are copied as they are received. Errors of spelling and grammar which often occur in e-mails and hastily written articles will be corrected if noticed. If you do not wish this to be done, please add "no editing please" to your contribution.

FORTHCOMING MEETS

All contact details are listed at the end. This is because when the Newsletter goes on our web site I remove such information from the 'public section', but it is available on the club section.

<u>July 6</u>	<u>Grange Rigg Pot</u>	<u>Nick Bennett</u>
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This pot is located 400 metres from Gaping Gill, and has about six short pitches. Now also has a connection to the nearby Paysank Pot. Meet at the Brookhouse café, Clapham, at 9-00 am

<u>July 6</u>	<u>Chew Valley</u>	<u>Rick Ginns</u>
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I plan to hold the meet at Dovestones Edge (SE 027040) in the Chew Valley, classic mountain grit and one of the less visited of the valley crags. Lots of routes to go at from mod to the high extremes. Due to the apparent lack of a nearby cafe (if anyone knows any differently let me know!) I'll be at the Binn Green picnic site off the A635 at 10am from where the crag is reached in 30 minutes or so - or meet at the crag at 11am. My mobile is 07815 413550. There is scope for walking or scrambling - indeed an ascent of Wilderness Gully East is always a possibility in the case of inclement weather - a 150m mod - with a pack it would make excellent alpine training!

<u>July 13</u>	<u>Millstone</u>	<u>Gerard Conway</u>
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I'll be at Outside Café (Hathersage) at 9.30 (Yes he did say 9.30am - but perhaps check before getting there that early: Ed)

July 20	Cherry Tree Hole	Mike Hale
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This cave is 41 m deep and 1200 m long. As it has only a couple of short pitches and is Grade 4, I suspect there may be some tough going. The cave is on Darnbrook fell to the north of Malham.

July 19/20	Not Clapham, Peak	Geoff Haigh
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A change of venue for this meet to the Derbyshire Dales. I have made enquiries at the Bull 'i' th' Thorn pub, six miles south of Buxton on the A515 Ashbourne road, as a camping base for the weekend. This 15th century pub has a campsite attached but members wishing to camp will need to book places directly with the owners. Just turning up may not be an option.... Contact details are phone 01298 83348 email amaltby-baker@tiscali.co.uk and the website is www.bullithorn.co.uk It is ideal for families as there is a rare breeds farm on site and a play area, the High Peak and Tissington Cycle trails are just down the road and Harborough Rocks, the worlds most family friendly crag, are not far too. So bring the kids. The site is handy for most of the crags in the southern limestone area, eg Manifold and Dove dales, and not far from the Roaches.

Old World charm, real ale, and food available within yards of your tent! The family and I will be there on Friday night, look out for a maroon Kia Sedona YE55ZRY and a grey/blue Hymer caravan. Please visit the website for a better picture of this stunning location....

July 26/27	Mid Wales / Tanat Valley	Pete Blackburne
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I'm trying to revive the once popular Mid Wales meet. Staying in the village of Llangynog on the B4391 in the Tanat Valley at the most southerly point of the Berwyns. I've made arrangements with Dai at the Tanat Inn 01691 860479 to stay in the village at his cottage/barn & surrounding grounds. There is also another campsite, static caravans, B&Bs. Me, Sparky & Steve Martin have climbed on the excellent evening crags of Craig Rhiwarth above Llangynog village, lots of other crags in the Arans, Rhinogs & Cadair Idris. I will be in the Tanat Inn Friday night 9 o'clock ish.

August 3	Cloggy	John Roberts
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The Chester MC hut - Pen Ceunant Uchaf - is booked for 12 places. The hut is situated on the tourist path some 300m above Llanberis & the cost is £3 per night. Since there are a limited number of places, allocation will be on a first-come-first-served basis. Due to word of mouth, etc there are already 5 places booked. Should the required number of places exceed 12, the unlucky ones not to get a place will have to camp in the Pass or wherever - no camping is allowed outside the hut. Though this is not ideal, (& hopefully not divisive), the campers will be able to drive up to the hut to park before the walk in to the crag. There is space for about 12 cars at the hut. I hope to be at the hut by early evening on the Friday night; failing that you may find me propping up the bar in the Vaynol.

What can be said of Cloggy? A Mecca for many climbers, it holds many classic routes. Whilst it is true that anyone climbing on the main buttresses should be operating comfortably at the VS level, it is possible to enjoy the Cloggy experience on a few long, easier routes on the Far West Buttress. (This is probably where you'll find me!!). Anyone wishing to book a place in the hut should contact me on 01939 261252 or 07791 310638. Do not miss the chance to visit this magnificent crag. Fine weather is booked but should the gods be against us there are many wet weather alternatives within reasonable driving distance.

July 31-Aug 10	Jersey A	Lawrence & Bernie Jordan
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We're travelling by ferry and staying at the Beuvelande camp site. We've checked tide times and these dates are ideal for climbing. We also hope to do some cycling.

August 3	Dow Cave/ Dowber	Andy Homonnai
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I am hoping to do Dowbergill passage. This provides a link between Providence Pot and Dow Cave, and is perhaps the most celebrated and notorious passage in the Yorkshire dales. No equipment is necessary, though there are many difficulties and route finding can be difficult. Hopefully a good route description and past experience will sort out the latter. Dow Cave is a pleasant Grade 2, if anyone fancies something easier. Meet at the café across the road from the main car park in Kettlewell, at 9:30 am.

August 9/10	Gogarth	Mark Adams
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Lots of classic climbs for all - seacliff climbing VS upwards on the main cliff of Gogarth and VDiff upwards on Holyhead Mountain. Camping will be at the usual site (The Valley of the Rocks also know as the Anglesey School of Sea Canoeing) Please check as SPARKY NEEDS TO CHECK AVAILABILITY! of the site. Take the A5 into Holyhead then turn back on the B4545 towards Trearddur & then take the next right, follow this minor road for 3/4 of a mile, campsite on the left. (if you arrive at the coast you've passed it!). GR 237806 OS map 114

August 17	Black Rocks	Phil Griffiths
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I'll be at the upper Black Rocks car park, far end (ie nearest point to the rocks) 10.15-10.30 am. Probably move on to Willersley later in the day.

August 17	Diccon Pot	Les Mottram
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A very good SRT trip to the sump of Alum Pot. There are other options here, including an exchange trip with Alum Pot, and also upper and lower Long Churn Caves are very good for beginners. Meet at The Singing Kettle café, Settle (Next to Cave & Crag shop) at 9-30am.

August 23-31	Families Meet / Tranearth	Bernie Jordan
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We're looking forward to spending the last week of the summer holidays at Tranearth. We had a great time last year, just enjoying the freedom of Tranearth and the company of good friends. The hut is booked from 22nd Aug (Bank Holiday weekend) to 31st Aug. so there is plenty of time if you can only make a few days. Hope to see you there. Phone us on 01204 693473 or just turn up.

August 31	Burbage	Gerard Conway/Rick Ginns
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Meet at Outside at 10am. Good bouldering and short climbs at Burbage.

August 29/31	Lakes Mines/Tranearth	John Stringfellow
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There are several worthwhile mines to explore in the Lake District. The meet will be based at Tranearth. I will be in the Church House Inn from 10 pm Friday, or see you up at the hut.

August 30–Sept 7	Jersey B	Pete Nugent
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Details as in last Newsletter. We can re-organise tent sharing if others want to join us, but please get in touch soon. The tents are prebooked, units of 4 or 6. Basic travel and camping costs are coming in at under £200/pp for the week.. Please contact Pete for further info.

Sept 7	Laddow	Ken Tebay
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A long approach is rewarded by a selection of grip & pull classics such as Long Climb, Tower Face plus more, all out of sight of the towns & traffic. Park before the village of Crowden off the A628 Stockport to Barnsley The crag is in an exposed situation, meet at the crag if dry otherwise contact Ken for wet weather option.

Sept 13/14	Dan-y-Mynydd	John Weale
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I'll be at the hut at around 9pm to open up, then probably go on to The Kings Head. Please get in touch to arrange lifts etc.

Sept 14	P8 (Jackpot)	Tom Towers
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This Derbyshire cave makes a fairly easy and popular trip, with only two short ladder pitches. Meet in the pub car park at Sparrowpit, (don't know the name!) at a sharp bend on the A623 (Grid Ref:SK107817), at 10:00 am.

MEET CONTACT DETAILS

Caving For caving meets ring the organiser or John Stringfellow or Les Mottram mob 07968 285620

July 6 Rick Ginns Mob 07815 413550

July 13 Gerard Conway

July 19/20 Geoff Haigh

July 26/27 Pete Blackburne 07801 435027

Jersey& Families Bernie & Lawrence Jordan Aug 31 Gerard Conway 01254 665156

June 28/29 Steve Martin Mob 07870 968843

Jersey Pete Nugent mob: 07736 8730079

Sept 7 Ken Tebay 07956435554

Kalymnos Alison Athroll

Winter Climbing Phil Tucker

FUTURE PLANS

Kalymnos October MCs Ian & Alison Athroll

We are planning on going 2nd/3rd week .Will be looking at booking in May some time. Probably staying at Philoxenia. . 01282 693673 email:alison_athroll@hotmail.com

October Half Term Sat 25th Oct – Sat 1st Nov MCs Bernie and Lawrence Jordan

We're hoping to organize a climbing holiday during half term week, somewhere sunny and sporty (possibly Kalymnos). Anybody interested give us a call. 01204 693473

Winter Climbing/Skiing Trips (from Phil Tucker)

I know that summer isn't over yet but it's never too early to start thinking about some proper climbing, so I'd like to get some idea of what people would like to do this coming winter, and possibly next. I'd probably be interested in doing two trips (plus Scotland) this winter. The following is intended to give some ideas with a view to promoting some discussion. Ideas from people I've spoken to are:-

- Norway icefall climbing (probably end Feb beginning of March), has the advantage of more reliable ice than the Alpine venues. Hemsedal looks like a good alternative to Rjukan, hopefully a lot less crowded climbing wise and with a good ski area. Getting there looks to be about the same as Rjukan (fly to Torp then about 3 hour drive). Accommodation, haven't got any details yet but can't see why it should be significantly different to Rjukan. Last year the Rjukan trip cost about £300 - £350 for flights, accom, car hire, petrol.
- Alps icefall climbing (Ecrins, Gressonney, Cogne, Kandersteg, Chamonix, La Grave etc), probably in January. Most of these have been visited in the past, ice probably less reliable than Norway. However we had a good trip to the Ecrins a couple of years ago in what was supposed to be a lean year and found enough to do although access would probably be more difficult in a snowier year. Broadly speaking will cost about the same as Norway, but the beers are cheaper.
- Alps higher altitude gully lines. Chris Wheatley suggested this trip a couple of years ago, end of April time I think, but it never got off the ground. Suggested venue was Mont Blanc area with lines on the Tacul (accessible from the Cosmiques hut), ridge between Petit Verte and the Verte (accessible from the Grand Montet) etc.
- Scotland. In the last two winters at least there have been very good conditions at the end of March but its been difficult to get enough people together to make a trip viable. My view is that we should be flexible rather than put a definite entry in the meets list so that we can make the best of conditions as they arise. For the last few winters I've relied on the email list plus a few phone calls for contacting people and trying to get a trip together. Would it be worth setting up a list of people who are interested and could potentially get away for a weekend or a few days at relatively short notice?
- Canada, flights from Manchester to Calgary currently cost about £460, could then stay in the Hostel at Carnmore/Banff/Lake Louise (~£17 per night for non-members, may be able to get a group booking). Using hostels would give us the freedom to move round a bit which may be an advantage. So a 2 week trip would cost about £700 for flight and accommodation, would need to hire a car as well. This gives access to the whole range of winter climbing from roadside single pitch to full on alpine, with excellent downhill (Sunshine/Lake Louise) and cross country skiing thrown in as well. Alternatively we could go for a ski package deal. At present can get flights from Manchester to Calgary, transfer to Banff plus 14 nights accommodation in Banff for £550 room only (would need to eat out at night) or £725 self catering. The only issues with this are that the rooms have 2 double beds to sleep 4 so we'd have to be friendly and we would be a bit more limited in where we could drive to. This would probably have to wait till winter 2009/2010 to give people time to book holidays etc. According to Will Gadd the best times for ice-climbing are November and late February to the end of March. 'The snowpack is generally more stable, the days are longer and the temperatures reasonable.'

All of the above (even Scotland at a pinch) could be extended to include skiers as well as climbers if that makes any difference.

MEET REPORTS

Ogwen Ap 26th/27th

Blacky, myself & a running friend Steve Littlewood left Hereford in fine weather & high spirits, but the further north we travelled the damper the weather got & so did our spirits. By the time we got to Bettws-y-coed it was raining heavily & we arrived at the Dol Gam campsite in a full scale hurricane, running around the campsite trying to find a pitch where the water level was below 2 inches!

The rain & wind had not relented for Ken & Steve Crossley ½ hour later & continued with it's might for Sarah Little, Dave Wearing & Phil Tucker another ½ hour later, so once all the tents were up to a fashion we all ran to the safety of the Tyn-y-coed inn where Darryl & Heather joined us, they had decided to go straight to the pub & if it was still raining later they would sleep in the car. During the night the wind could be heard coming down the valley like a fighter jet & amazingly Blacky's £30 tent (shelter) was still standing in the morning, (in fact it fared better than some of the more expensive tents)!

In the morning after surveying the battle site Steve Crossley had encouraged most members enough that it was going to be a good day, me & Steve Littlewood weren't fully convinced & decided on scrambling up the *Northern Ridges* instead of doing *Amphitheatre Buttress*. The others full of Steve's enthusiasm went to *Idwal Slabs*. Steve & Ken decided on *Tennis Shoe* HS joined by Blacky & Phil via the *Direct Route* HVS 4c, Sarah & Dave climbed *Geography* VD. Darryl persuaded Heather (with the help of Ken, telling her the descent path "awl reet") to do her first multi pitch climb of *Ordinary Route* D. The guide book describes *Original Route* VS 5a as a rather tough proposition, the bottomless groove at the start is a (bit of a tussle) some can either do it others cannot, Blacky couldn't!

& the chimney above required a thrash, again Blacky decided on the 4c variant on the wall to the left. Their humiliation continued on the next route failing to solo *Upper Stairs* Diff. At the descent they met Darryl after lowering Heather down, "Ken told us", "the descent is awl reet!" Ken didn't hang around for a bollocking off Heather; he joined Steve, Sarah & Dave on a mass ascent of *The Ordinary Route*. From the bottom of the slabs Blacky & Phil were able to watch a leader fall out of the chimney of *Original Route*, before running off to the pub!

Me & Steve came off *Glyder Fawr* down past the slabs & watched the members for a while before climbing *Direct Route* VD on *Milestone Buttress*. Later we arrived at the pub to find all the members joined by Gerard Conway who had been up on *Tryfan* with Bob Bowdler plus John & Nigel two prospective members. Murray & Simon, had been to Tremadog climbing *Poor Man's Peuterey S* & *Scratch Arête* HVS 5a & arriving after a day at home doing chores Robbo, Stephanie, Roger & another potential member Bev (Gerard seems to recognise her as his instructor at *PYB*).

Poor weather Sunday morning & some over indulgence of too much ale from the night before resulted in most members going home, Gerard, Bev & Sarah joined Dave on a walk up *Moel Siabod*, Dave struggling to match the slow pace as he kept disappearing in the fog!

Thanks to all those who turned up on a poor weather meet.

Mark (Sparky) Adams

Marble Steps Pot April 27th

Mike Hale should have led the meet but unfortunately he could not attend. Andy Homonnai and myself were the only two who turned up. The weather was showery but we decided to carry on

with our plans. We descended *Marble Steps* Pot via the *Side Winder* route which is found on the opposite side of the normal route. Andy rigged an obvious line of bolts with rope, into the passage with climbable descents to the head of a pitch requiring 40 metres of rope. The last section from a ledge was a steep ramp and had two deviations to avoid the rocky surface. Below we had landed in the main chamber and from here we followed the *Normal Route* via *Stink Pot* (with a narrow take off), 8m of rope was used. Below we made our way along a narrow rift with a hole in the floor which traversed over (this is the start of *Intestines Route*). Beyond was the narrow entrance to *The 90 Foot Pitch* (29m). Andy rigged this with difficulty and descended. I soon joined him with our last rope bag. The last couple of short pitches soon followed: 10m & 8m and the sump was reached in a low narrow streamway. There wasn't much water down the pot, which surprised us. The journey out was hampered by another club. Getting off the 29m pitch was awkward and getting the bags out was tiring.

Finally we reached the surface after 4 hours to be greeted by Tom Towers who had missed us and had forgotten his SRT gear. Tom had enjoyed a ramble in *Kingsdale* so his journey was not wasted. Thankfully he helped us carry the gear back to the cars.

The day was rounded off with a beer at the *Marton Arms*. Thanks to Andy and Tom for turning up.

Les Mottram

Froggatt May 11th

It was a fine sunny morning. There were about 9 or 10 of us who met up at *Cintra's* in *Hathersage* at 9:30. Enough to make a decent meet, I thought. Since most of us couldn't quite remember where the crag was, we headed off in convoy to *Froggatt*. *Matt G* claimed to know the way

and took on the task of navigating the 8 minute journey, which I'm sure would have been uneventful had he actually navigated. Somehow, we managed to take a wrong turning, not once but twice, and made for a comedy convoy causing havoc on the country roads.

At the car park - others began to appear. Must have been about 20 or so in total now - a really well attended meet. We headed off to the crag and met more club members there. Must have been about 30 by then. A little later yet more club members arrived - over 40 - at which point I stopped counting. What a difference a bit of sun makes!

Somehow though, our large numbers were absorbed and the crag was busy but not crowded. I pity the unfortunate few who weren't LC&CC- their day would have been blissfully peaceful if it weren't for us.



Murray Gallagher on the crux of Tody's Wall

People began to disperse along the crag and I tried to keep a mindful tally on who was where, doing what - all in vain. We had older (in age) members and younger

members, new members, soon to be members, long standing members and guests. Also there were a few 'not-been-to-a-meet-for-a-long-time' members (Mike Nugent, Geoff Duxbury, Cath Brannighan). We had members from near and far - Cumbria, Lancaster, Wales, Shropshire and probably other far flung places.

Luckily for me, Ken T pointed out that rather than trying to play Mother Hen, I'd best just let people get on with it and get some climbing in myself - "they'd be reet", he said. So that's what I did.



Photo: Meet leader in classic pose on Chequers Buttress.

Unfortunately, that means I can't name everyone's highlights of the day. Apologies for that. Here are a few mentions though:- Blackie buried a few demons from the past - amongst other things, he led *Three Pebble Slab E1 5b* and along with John Weale led *Valkyrie HVS 5a*. Cath got onto the rock after a long term injury. Matt did an ascent of *Chequers Crack*, supposedly HVS 5b, a real sandbagger - horrendously strenuous and polished. Robbo and Lucy B were whizzing up classic routes, left right and centre. John Shaw felt the prickles on

Holly Groove VS 4c. Simon Fife grappled with the classic jamming of *Hawks Nest Crack VS 4b*. Murray, Matt, and quite possibly others, led the improbable and entertaining *Tody's Wall HVS 5a*.

I think I heard too that Linda (climbing with Simon) did her first outdoor lead. Tony Madden and Karl spent a lot of time sparring with the crag and its greasy holds. Eventually they won a round or two with some good leads. Karl did *The Big Crack E2 5b*, Tony did *Armageddon, E3*. There was also a little bit of drama when Tony attempted a solo of *Great Slab*. To quote Karl, "...I ran around below trying to spot him with a mat - eventually sanity prevailed and John Roberts lowered a rope before he killed himself." I'm just glad he didn't try to better the 'Best Lob of the Year'.

All too soon, it was the end of the day and many of us dropped into the Grouse for some refreshment. It got a bit chilly as the sun went down on a gorgeous summer's day (as someone pointed out!?).

Alison Athroll

Eskdale May 17th/18th

We arrived on Saturday morning in time to avoid the 'which crag will be best debate'. It was my day to climb and the venue for our group was Heron Crag. Roger and Pete climbed the 4 pitch *Bellerophon VS 4c* while I climbed *Sidetrack VS 4c* with Gerard. Both routes had their joys and challenges. Ours had a loose, overgrown start and finish but an excellent middle pitch. Theirs had a difficult top pitch. After tea (*cream tea! I hear - Ed*) we went to explore Hare Crag. That proved a complete contrast to Heron. We bouldered on the granite slabs and enjoyed the evening sunshine. Sandra, Ali and Debbie did some big scrambles, Brian explored some mountain biking routes, and Dave was in his element on the high crags.

Sunday's weather was perfect. It was a day for high crags and long routes. I lost touch with what every body did. (Ed: four of us walked in to Esk Buttress - Simon & Gerard did *Bridge's* and Rog & Debbie did *Bower's*)

Eskdale is a beautiful and relatively unspoilt valley. We spotted a red squirrel and on the climb I was belayed next to a pair of smooth worms. They didn't take much notice of me and they were still there when we got down. Fisher ground camp site proved a good choice. It was close to the pub and there was plenty for the kids to do (fire lighting, scrambling, punting and tying each other to trees!). Thanks to all who came for a good weekend.

Bernie Jordan

Glencoe May 23rd/26th

My previous visit to Glencoe was in the heat wave of Aug 1995 - we had been talking to some fed up Australians trying to escape the heat back home & jocks were walking around with sun tans! Thirteen years later while the rest of Britain was suffering a month of rain in two days we basked in glorious sunshine.

Myself, Sparky, Darryl & Heather travelled through the night to arrive early hours Saturday morning to a very busy Red Squirrel campsite. After a couple of hours shut eye we travelled down to Etive slabs with Bill Stephenson & Geoff Graham. On arriving at the Coffin Stone we joined the mass of people who had also seen the weather forecast, so we chose *The Pause (HVS)* while Geoff & Bill queued for *Spartan Slab (VS)*. We soon went off route with all the zigzagging about the slabs & listening to ill advice plus the usual crap guide book description (apparently the jocks did that to mess with the English!). At one point I was told to go up *Swastika (E2)*! Back onto our route - after the crux 5b traverse across the blank looking slab with amazing friction, the rest of the slab

continued much the same until the perfect 5a corner pitch with gear & holds. Bill & Geoff cruised up *Spartan* and moved across to *Vein Rouge (HVS)*. The 1st pitch 5a was straightforward, but the next two 4c pitches were best described by Geoff while trying to find a belay "Bill, I hate to tell you this but it's pretty crap!"

Phil Tucker, Steve Crossley & Gerard Conway had a great day on the Rannoch Wall & the Jordan family went Munro bagging on Creise including glissading. Can't remember what Ali Sharman, Sandra, Roger & Deb did but you know I said it was hot, Ali & Ian Athroll found a crag that was freezing cold!

John (Banksy) Banks & Ken gave up queuing on Saturday & Banksy having never climbed on rock in Scotland decided Ken should go to Glen Nevis with half the other group & chose me to climb with him on *Crowberry Ridge (VD)*. While waiting at what I thought was the start of our route Steve & Phil appeared over yonder. "Hey keep off our route" they shouted. "What route is tha??" "*Shackle Route*, where you're standing" (I did say it was thirteen years ago!) So looking at the difficulty of

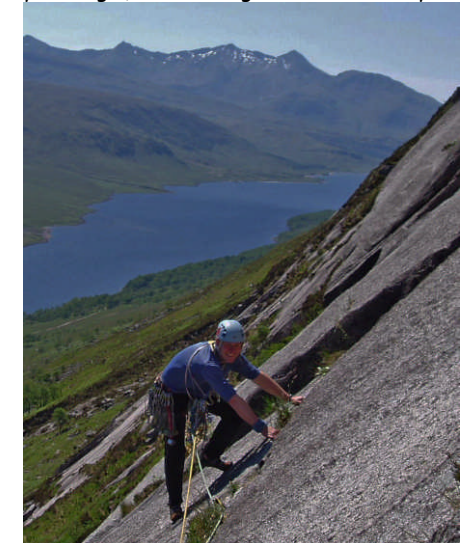


Photo: Steve Crossley on Spartan Slab

crossing the rift between us we decided on swapping routes. We were able to watch Ali & Sandra, Lawrence & family weaving their way up *Curved Ridge* (VD), sensibly roped up but not fazed as the masses pushed their way past the boys, & we were all able to pause in awe as a golden eagle soared overhead. In my old guide *Shackle Route* is given VD & I'm glad after doing the crux mantelshelf move on the 1st pitch it has been upgraded to Severe. The 2nd pitch led by Banksy was equally rewarding and followed by a scramble to the top & then across the ridge to the far Munro making it a perfect day. On the way back we met Ali, Sandra, & the Jordan family (Eddy Jordan made note of the fact he had done more Munros than Banksy!). Again not sure what the others got up to in Glen Nevis apart from Geoff & Bill getting totally 'SPANKED' on *Vampire* (HS).

Bank holiday Monday (thankfully not in Scotland) saw Geoff & Phil blazing up *NE Buttress* on the Ben, Ken & Sparky getting totally lost on Rannoch Wall "Oh naw, I don't remember", a mass ascent of *Aonach Eagach Ridge*. Me & Steve cruised *Spartan Slab* (without the masses). Lawrence got totally phased when the rope ran out just short of the top belay on *Vein Rouge* (I'll say no more) & watching Gerard au cheval for ¼ of an hour on the hard moves of *Spartan Slab* was priceless. The rest of the week saw Steve & his family touring around Skye, Ali & Sandra also climbed the *Dubh slabs* on Skye. Thanks for all that made this a great meet.

Blackie (Pete Blackburne)

Tranearth June 7th-8th

This meet was originally billed as a joint meet with the Climbers' Club but as their Spring newsletter didn't come out till the end of June no CC members knew about it. However, a good turnout from LC&CC members made for a successful meet. The weather was obliging, and so most people

took the opportunity to climb on Dow both days. Your correspondent was surprised to find that he hadn't climbed on Dow this century. Whether this reflects more on the Lakes' weather or the MC's moral fibre need not detain us further.

Saturday dawned rather cloudy but mild. While Ken T. and Ian A. settled for a midge-infested grovel in a big hole in the ground (Hodge Close) the rest of the climbers headed up to Dow. Most had not left the hut before Blackie arrived with Sparkie and Darryl House, who had driven up from Hereford on the morning! Obviously the Glencoe trip hadn't dulled their ardour for hours on the motorway.

Sparkie and guest Steve Littlewood settled for *Arete, Chimney & Crack* (S) while Darryl and Blackie kicked off with *Murray's Route* (S), followed by the MCs (Debbie led all the hard bits). Before you could blink Blackie and Darryl were on *Murray's Direct* (VS) and then *Hopkinson's Crack* (HS). Darryl was now begging for mercy, so poor old Blackie was reduced to soloing *C Ordinary* and *Giant's Crawl*. The MCs had an easy afternoon ticking previous omissions, *Southern Slabs* and *Giant's Corner*.

The evening saw a pleasant barbeque at the hut and the arrival of four more members, Sandra H., Steve Crossley and grads. Simon Fife and Lucy Bennett. Strict monitoring by the beer police ensured no-one had a hangover in the morning and all were keen (fairly) to trog up to Dow for a second day. Steve and Blackie had a pre-arranged date with *Eliminate A* (VS) - both were suitably awe-struck - before the Hereford mob made an early departure. Darryl and Simon relaxed on *Giant's Crawl* (VD), followed by Sandra and Debbie. Steve and Sparkie did *Murray's Route* while the other half of the MC team helped Lucy bag six stars on *Arete, Chimney & Crack* and *Giant's Crawl*. A deliberate mistake by the MC - purely for training purposes, you understand -

whereby Lucy only tied into one of the two ropes, was, of course, observed and subsequently spread all over the internet by someone who the MC thought was a friend. I've almost forgiven you, Blackie. Come to think of it, I haven't seen Lucy since then....

I hope you all enjoyed the meet as much as we did, and, as ever, thanks for coming, especially the Hereford mob who made such a commitment of time and petrol. That includes Blackie.

Roger (& Debbie) Wilkinson

Sandside Gathering June 13th

A Get-Together to remember Jean and David Llewellyn

This was a great occasion. The weather was good so 12 of us enjoyed a morning walk before meeting up with others arriving at the Ship Inn by car. We wined and dined, looked at photographs and chatted and laughed as is usual when club members meet.

There was of course a sad reason for us being there and we all felt for John when he took the floor to talk about Jean and David his brother. In turn, he touched and amused us and brought home the value of friendships in many cases started over 50 years ago. The fact that 31 members and friends were present speaks for itself.

Joyce Taylor

Girls Rule OK! (Wasdale, June 14th/15th)

23 members, grads and guests (and Jess the dog) were seduced and only partially disappointed by my (rash?) promises of superb weather. The walkers had a splendid time as it was broadly dry, while the climbers should perhaps have had full winter gear.....on Saturday at least. Despite much debate as to suitable destinations to avoid the very cold northerly wind a visit was made by your Chair and children to climb on Scafell was aborted. Instead, an Alpine Style ascent (boots, sacks but fortunately crampons

were not necessary) of *Grooved Arete* VD on Pikes crag was made.

Several parties also visited Kern Knotts, and Gable/Napes over the weekend on both days. All the lower/mid grade classics had ascents, while the hardest lead of the weekend went to our esteemed Secretary of *The Buttonhook Route*, Kern Knotts. This is HVS+ in the new selected Lakes guide and even harder given the cold on Saturday. My daughter, Rosie, led the same route on the Sunday.



Photo: Rosie Shaw on Buttonhook Route.

The camp site rules and booking procedure were a fuff, unfortunately necessary in this day and age to enjoy an undisturbed night, for which I was grateful. A big improvement on some nights at Nether Wasdale in the past.

Thanks to all who attended, it was great to see so many, I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did.

John Shaw



YOUR JOURNAL EDITOR NEEDS YOU.....

to write something for the 2008 edition, because if you don't, who will? Editing the Journal is fun, but it's a lot more fun if the editor has some material to edit. A story (true or not), a poem, a picture, an account of your doings - anything welcome.

FOR SALE

Possum Child Carrier by MacPac

Including Sombrero Hood, excellent condition

Price new: £129 + extras for sale £50

or e-mail

Geoff@snowdoniadivers.freeserve.co.uk

Boreal "Aces" UK

size 9 (Eur 43), hardly used. They are very stiff soled compared to my other boots. Any reasonable offers:

Karl Lunt ()

Lowe Alpine Alpamayo sac 70l+20l

Excellent condition, only used on a couple of trips, surplus to requirements

£60 ono

Phil Tucker (ptclimb@googlemail.com)

DOUG ANNAN

Members who remember Doug will be saddened to hear that he died in April. Doug a member of LC&CC in the 70's, was at one time club secretary. Recently he has been living in the South of England. John Derbyshire writes "He sadly died today, had a heart attack alone on his boat putting his sails on for the season. We have been regular sailing companions for many years now and had big plans for this season, he was just waiting for a heart operation which he was confident would restore his fitness. At least he was in his favourite place at the end" Please contact John if you want any further information.

USEFUL WEBSITE: www.ukcampsite.co.uk

There are lots of 'warts-and-all reviews' of popular sites and also good search facilities for local beaches, pubs etc. Appears to cover France, but beware sites do pay to be featured. Sent in by Gerard Conway.

CLUB BUSINESS

Committee news from meeting 10th June

New Website for LCCC

Work is ongoing but there is a delay in progress due to business demands of ExtremeRock.

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BMC Liability Insurance and impact on covers

The BCA Handbook describes the Public Liability Insurance and who is covered. Landowner Liability is the only cover available to the members of a 'Members Club'.

Third party liability, Cross Liability and Club officer's liability are not included. BMC are going to be approached to enquire about the possibility of linking BMC and BCA insurance for cavers.

Tranearth Hut

- The hut fee will be increase for commercial organisations, in October 2008 to £8pppn.
- A minimum hut booking fee was suggested at the AGM in 2007. After consideration it is not considered to be an issue as it is rare that we receive less than £50 for a group booking.
- Work has just been completed to install a linked alarm at a cost of £4,500.
- Following on from problems with commercial organisations, a Tranearth Conditions Report Sheet has been developed that is designed to have a check-in and check-out list to encourage good housekeeping and damage control. The list would be required to be returned with the key. It is going to be trialled to see if it has the desired effect with commercial groups that book the hut.

Dogs at Tranearth

The question was asked as to whether the old coal bunker at Tranearth might be used as an overnight kennel for dogs. The current hut rules state that dogs are not allowed inside huts (section 3(f)). It was suggested that if any members feel strongly enough about the current rules on dogs, that it be raised at the AGM for discussion.

Letters of thanks

Received from the rescue organisations to which LCCC made recent donations.

Promoting Membership

- Plas y Brenin have been approached about endorsing the LC&CC as a climbing club. They will be sent an updated club flyer, containing general information about the club and its huts. It is hoped that this will increase the numbers of people joining LC&CC, who have recently had an introduction to the sport.
- The UKC have a section for advertising climbing clubs. Nick Bennett, who lives fairly centrally will be placing an advert here. The hope is that people reading the advert will be prompted to get in touch with him about joining the club.

Club T-shirts

Ken Tebay now has the remaining club T-Shirts, available at £5 each.

Library

A suggestion to offer the books for auction to the membership was added to the list of possible actions. This is under review for the next meeting.

75th Anniversary celebrations

The 75th celebrations are in November 2011. The committee are looking for ways to celebrate this occasion and are asking the membership for ideas. If you have any good ideas, please let one of the committee members know.

Date of Next Meeting 9th September at the Black Dog, Belmont.

NEW FULL MEMBERS

Darryl House,

Roger Brown & Nic Bassnett

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REJOINED

Ian Davenport

NEW GRADUATE MEMBERS

Simon Northcott,

Lucy Bennett

Gary Schofield

TRANEARTH BOOKINGS

Tranearth is often booked at short notice by commercial groups (especially mid-week). Please do not assume Tranearth will be empty. Bookings can easily be checked on the club web site.

July 1	Impact	Aug 8-10	Martin Evans
July 9	Impact	Aug 22-31	LC&CC families & cavers
July 15	Impact	Sept 2	Mostyn H

DAN-Y-MYNYDD BOOKINGS : No bookings for July & August

LC&CC CONTACTS

Chairman : John Shaw

Hut Booking Sec.: Phil Tucker,

Hon Sec: Alison Athroll

Climbing Meets Secretary: Pete Blackburne, e-mail blackymounts@yahoo.co.uk

Offers to co-ordinate meets and ideas about future meets are welcome at any time

Caving Meets Secretary: John Stringfellow,

WEDNESDAY EVENING CLIMBING NORTHERN PARTS

Details are on the club e-mail or phone Karl Lunt on 01524 35601

THURSDAY EVENING CLIMBING

One or more of those shown on contact list (below) should be there if the weather is fine, usually from 5pm to dusk. For unsettled weather definitely ring around 3:30pm on the day to check that someone will be turning out. Grades from V Diff upwards. All welcome.

Ring to ensure your favourite local crag is listed in the next newsletter.

Bob Bowdler M 07960 978874

Murray Gallagher M 07886 310389

Simon Holden 07736 572417

John Shaw

July 3	Heptonstall	Aug 7	Wilton 1
July 10	Trowbarrow	Aug 14	Stronstrey Bank
July 17	Wilton 2 & 3	Aug 21	Anglezarke
July 24	Houghton	Aug 28	Denham
July 31	Farleton	Sept 4	Brownstones & Curry

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MEETS LIST

Meet venues may be changed in the event of bad weather. Please ring meet co-ordinators to let them know that you are going on a meet.

DATE	TITLE/VENUE	Accom	ACTIVITY	MC
June 28/29	Llanberis	camp	Climb	Steve Martin
July 6	Grange Rig Pot		Cave	Nick Bennett
July 6	Chew Valley		Climb	Richard Ginns
July 13	Millstone		Climb	Gerard Conway
July 20	Cherry Tree Hole		Cave	Mike Hale
July 19/20	Clapham	Camp	Climb	Geoff Haigh
July 26/27	Mid Wales Tanat Val	Camp	Climb	Pete Blackburne
July 31-Aug 10	Jersey	Camp	Climb/cycle	B & L Jordan
Aug 2/3	Cloggy	Hut	Climb	John Roberts
Aug 3	Dow cave/Dowber		Cave	Andy Homonnai
Aug 9/10	Gogarth	Camp	Climb	Mark Adams
Aug 17	Black Rocks		Climb	Phil Griffiths
Aug 17	Diccon Pot		Cave	Les Mottram
Aug 23-31	Families Meet	Hut	Climb/play	B & L Jordan
Aug 30-Sept 7	Jersey	Camp	Climb	Pete Nugent
Aug 31	Burbage North		Climb/boulder	G Conway/R Ginns
Aug 31	Lakes Mines		Cave	John Stringfellow
Sept 7	Laddow		Climb	Ken Tebay
Sept 13/14	Dan-y-Mynydd	Hut	Climb	John Weale
Sept 14 North	Great Close Scar			Alison Athroll
Sept 21	Froggatt		Climb	Phil Tucker
Sept 28	Birchen		Climb	Sandra Handcock
Sept 28	Aquamole		Cave	Andy Homonnai
Oct 4/5	Dan-y-Mynydd WP	Hut	Work/ Climb	Phil Griffiths
Oct 5 North Alt	Northumberland			Karl Lunt
Oct 12	Stanage (bouldering)		Climb/boulder	Dave Ryder (Rick)
Oct 12	Dale Head		Cave	Mike
Oct 19	Ravensdale		Climb	Bernie Jordan
Oct 26	Castlenaze		Climb	Murray Gallagher
Oct 26	New Goyden Pot		Cave	Nick Bennett

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