



**Lancashire Caving & Climbing Club**  
 Newsletter No 439 March/April 2009

Cover Picture: John Shaw on Salamander Gully, Beinn Dotaidh, Bridge of Orchy (credit Murray Gallagher)

**EDITORIAL**

Thanks for lots of entertaining meet reports in this issue and Roger was quite spoilt for choice with some excellent photographs.

Please note the date change for the **Working Party at Tranearth - now Mar 14<sup>th</sup>**  
 The next Handbook is in preparation, to be included with the May Newsletter which incidentally will be about a week early. Please send any corrections for the Handbook to Ken Tebay or direct to Brian Evans.

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

**NEXT ISSUE DUE EARLY closing date April 19<sup>th</sup> , 2009**

**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.

<b>Mar 1</b>	<b>Roaches</b>	<b>Rick Ginns</b>
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Meet at Upper Tier boulders at 11am. Please ring in the week in case of inclement weather. The idea is to boulder if the weather is crisp and cold, if mild, to climb (roped) on the Upper Tier.

<b>Mar 8</b>	<b>Dales</b>	<b>Roger &amp; Debbie Wilkinson and Joyce Taylor</b>
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Meet in Bernies in Ingleton at 10 am for a council-of-war. If the weather is reasonable there will be climbing, probably at Twisleton or Chapel-le-Dale. Joyce Taylor is hoping to organise a walk, (a circuit of Kingsdale perhaps) but please ring her to confirm, alternatively Debbie will for a walking, unless it's tee-shirt weather. We won't be going if the weather is poor, so please watch the e-mail or ring to confirm the meet is on.

<b>Mar 13-15</b>	<b>Tranearth Working Party</b>	<b>Roger Wilkinson</b>
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The hut is looking a bit worse for the wear at the present time, so we could do with a good turn out for this meet so that lots of painting can be done. I don't have a lot of major or technical jobs on the wish list this time as so much has been done by the Telford AG (see elsewhere in this issue), but there will be plenty of semi-skilled tasks so why not turn up and help out? We'll be in the Church House after about 9.30pm Friday. Lunch will be provided at the hut on Saturday. Please let us know a day or so before if you're coming so we can cater for lunch.

Sunday will be given over to unbridled pleasure on the hill or crag. OR come and improve your Navigation. I will be conducting a navigation training course on Sunday. Bring a compass, sharp pencil and rubber, A4 clipboard, the course will be partly outdoor practical. *In a past life Roger was an Orienteering coach, he used to run navigation courses for the top orienteers. You can expect a professional standard course from him.*

<u>Mar 14-22</u>	<u>Scotland</u>	<u>Simon Holden</u>
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I will be going up on the Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> of March for 7 nights. I have provisionally booked 4 places at the Alex MacIntyre Memorial hut at Ballachulish for the 7 nights. It seems the hut has no booking until the Friday nights when 12 people arrive filling the hut, so its going to be first come first served for the Friday night, the other nights are fine.

<u>Mar 15</u>	<u>Jean Pot</u>	<u>Geoff Dawson</u>
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This pot, located not far from Gaping Gill, is described in Northern Caves Volume 2 as "An awkward hole, full of character". It also receives a fuller account in the recent guidebook. Not for the faint-hearted. So everything bodes well for an interesting trip! There are about seven short pitches. Meet at the Brookhouse café, Clapham at 9-00am.

<u>Mar 20-22</u>	<u>Langdale</u>	<u>Steve Crossley</u>
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At this time of year it will be very weather dependent. If weather clement I intend arriving in Langdale Bish Friday evening and will meet up in the ODG 8.30/9.00. I intend establishing a new club tradition that attenders buy the MC a beer on arrival. This will be an excellent meet for Old Lakeland hands to get their hands in for the new season, but it would be particularly nice to see newer members who have not experienced the Lakes before, with Middlefell Buttress on hand for a first multi and nearby Black Crag a cracker for the Lakes atmosphere without the seriousness. Also I have a topo for a couple of buttresses around Gaitkins such as Little Stand, which could be great for the club. This will be an E meet so, **check the Newsgroup for details on Thursday evening or you could always phone me.**

<u>Mar 29</u>	<u>Wilton 1</u>	<u>John Shaw/Pete Nugent</u>
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This is a BMC event organised by Les Ainsworth. His notes say "Wilton One any time from about 10 am with gardening gloves and something to clean up with. Check the BMC website nearer the time for more details".

<u>Mar 29</u>	<u>Deaths Head/Big Meanie</u>	<u>John Stringfellow</u>
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Please note date of this meet. Not 28th as previously listed. These are two pots on Leck fell with big pitches, which will be done on SRT. It may be possible to do an exchange as the two are linked. Meet at Bernies cafe in Ingleton at 9:30

<u>April 5</u>	<u>Millstone</u>	<u>Pete Nugent</u>
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Meet at Longlands Cafe (above the Outside Climbing Shop) in Hathersage at 10.00. Please let me know if you plan to be there.

<u>April 10-13</u>	<u>Easter North Pembroke</u>	<u>Ken Tebay</u>
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North Pembroke won the votes, but if anybody is going for the full week we could split with the second half in the Gower. I will be down Thursday evening on the camp site which is the first

site on the left down the road to Caerfai Bay, grid 758247 which is just east of St Davids. I will reserve a spot. You can look out for a white Merc camper van reg. FEO2 DZB.

<u>April 12</u>	<u>Little Hull Pot</u>	<u>Mike Hale</u>
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A classic pot, situated on the flanks of Penyghent. It has three pitches, which will be done by SRT. The pitches can become rapidly impassable in flood, so a descent will be dependent on stable weather conditions. Meet at The Singing Kettle café, Settle at 9-ish.

<u>April 19</u>	<u>Peak Grit</u>	<u>Murray Gallagher</u>
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April is a wonderful time of the year - all the joys of spring, sun and sometimes showers... so better give me a ring. Stanage is my first choice and I plan to meet under 'Inverted V' at 10 am. Will change the crag if the weather is not kind so please call.

<u>April 26</u>	<u>Willersley/Cratcliffe</u>	<u>Mark Adams</u>
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No information on this meet. Please contact Mark during the week before - or watch the Lancs e-mails.

<u>April 26</u>	<u>Mongo Gill Hole</u>	<u>John Stringfellow</u>
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This cave is near Stump Cross Caverns, between Grassington and Pately Bridge. It has a short entrance shaft which can be done on ladders. I have a description for a route, which apparently takes you around the best bits of the cave in around four hours. Please contact me to share transport or arrange a meeting place.

<u>May 2-4</u>	<u>Isle of Arran (Bank Holiday)</u>	<u>Pete Nugent</u>
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NB CHANGE OF CAMP SITE Robbo and Steph have recommended an alternative campsite. I have decided to switch the camping to: Seal Shore Camping & Touring Site (next to the Kildonan Hotel).Kildonan, Isle Of Arran, KA27 8SE, Scotland Phone: 01770 820320 or E-mail enquiries@campingarran.com

John Roberts & Steph Connor plan to arrive on Friday 1 May and will camp at Seal Shore Campsite which is 1/2 an hour from Brodick. Rod & Sue Campbell are thinking of arriving on Sunday. I have had expressions of interest from Phil Tucker, Gerard Conway and John Derbyshire. Please let me know if you are interested as ferries and campsite needs to be booked ahead!

<u>May 10</u>	<u>Northumberland</u>	<u>Karl Lunt</u>
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I suspect many of the newer members (plus a lot of the older ones) won't have been here before and this just has to stop. Northumberland is one of the major climbing areas and has a lot to offer most climbers - it's not all pumpy sandstone and ridiculous sandbags (although I can point these out if required). There are two crags very close to the campsite: Peel Crag and Crag Lough, both of which are dolerite and nothing like sandstone in style or execution - I always think it's like a cross between Lakes and quarried grit if you can picture that! There are some absolute classics in most grades: Jezebel D, Sunset MS, Hadrian's Buttress S, Main Wall HS,

Overhanging Crack (a slab actually!) MVS, Pinnacle Face VS, Crystal HVS and Rock Island Line E1 are all three star ticks and big pitches up to 100 foot long. We could spend the weekend just here but it would be nice to experience the sandstone too - Great Wanney is likewise sprinkled with starred classics (think more like grit with pocket pulling!). For the non-climbers the walk along the Wall is a must. Just because you don't have the guidebook, don't write this one off - I have the latest (plus the older versions to compare the sandbag grades!) - and it's not as far away as you think. Once you've been you'll want to go back. I propose camping at Winshields Farm which is a cheap and cheerful sort of place next door to Hadrian's Wall on the B6318 (the Military Road). Easy to find - leave the M6 at Jn 43 and head east on the A69 to Greenhead then follow the dead straight Military Road for about 5 miles to the campsite (on the left). The pub (The Twice Brewed Inn) is just beyond on the right - as is the hostel for anyone wanting a real bed. I may be going up on Friday eve or early Sat morning - I'll post on the yahoo. This may be too much for anyone piling off to Arran(?) the week before but it's on the way home and you'll be glad of a rest from plodding around in the rain .....

<b>May 10</b>	<b>Pipikin/Mistal Hole</b>	<b>Andy Homonnai</b>
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Well known pot in Easegill, Yorkshire Dales. Meet at Bernies cafe in Ingleton at 9:30.

## MEET CONTACT DETAILS

Caving For caving meets ring the organiser or John Stringfellow

Mar 1 Rick Ginns: 07815 413 550

Mar 7 & 14 Roger Wilkinson 01539 563760 mob 07826 125195

Mar 14 Simon Holden 01772 750581

Mar 20 Steve Crossley 01706 214032

Mar 29 John Shaw 01204 847404

Ap 5 Pete Nugent 01625 536348 or mob; 07736 8730079

Ap 10 Ken Tebay 01204 852768 or mob 07956 435554

Ap 19 Murray Gallagher 0161 3441109

Ap 26 Mark Adams Mob 07840 862494/home 01981 240402

May 2 Pete Nugent 01625 536348 or mob; 07736 8730079

May 10 Karl Lunt 01524 35601

Skills Course Steve Crossley 01706 214032

Walking Meets Joyce Taylor 01539 722750

## FUTURE PLANS / FOREIGN TRIPS

### Walking Meets

These seem to be in need of revival. If you have an opinion on this or better still would offer to lead a walk then contact Joyce Taylor (number above)

It's perhaps worth pointing out that mid-week walks could be considered and that caving, climbing and walking meets are not incompatible.

## Skye May Bank Holiday 23<sup>RD</sup>-25<sup>TH</sup> May

The meet leader is proposing to camp at the Kinloch Camp Site in Dunvegan. This means that if the weather is poor in the Cuillin we'll be on hand for the nearby Neist sea cliffs which generally enjoy good weather. If, however, the weather gods are kind to us then it is just a matter of awaking a bit earlier to make the drive to Glen Brittle, etc to gain access to the Cuillin. For those who have not climbed at Neist, the cliffs provide good, accessible climbing on good rock with a reasonable spread across the grades. They provide a different Skye experience though the main aim will still be to get on the "big stuff".

It may be advisable to book the camping in advance - here are some contact details:-  
Home: 01470 521210 Reception: 01470 521531 Mobile: 07879 082219 I've been told that it's a very pleasant, friendly site with good facilities - cost is £5 per person per night.

I'll hopefully be getting to the site in the early hours of Saturday (23rd) with a view to getting a route or two done at Neist during the day. If the weather is good I'll probably extend the stay throughout the rest of the week, possibly moving on to the main land at some stage. If anyone needs any more info feel free to 'phone me at home  
John Roberts

## Skills Courses MC Steve Crossley

### FIRST AID

I recently ran an outdoor first aid course suitable for SPA, ML and most outdoor organisations at Tranearth which was oversubscribed and a few people have shown interest in another course, I need circa 12 people to run a course so if you would be interested please contact me, and if enough interest is shown I will arrange one.

### NAVIGATION Sun March 15

Also I am rubbish at navigating so have arranged a Navigation Course. This will be done by Roger on the Sunday of the Tranearth W.P. weekend and based at Tranearth so if anyone would be interested in this please give me a shout. *See meet details*

## LC&CC 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2011

### PROPOSALS FOR SPECIAL TRIPS

1. Dolomites, 2 Australia (see last Newsletter for details) 3. THE ECRINS

Following the Winter meet in the Ecrins it was suggested that it would make an excellent summer venue for the proposed 75th anniversary meet, with low level cragging, high mountain rock routes, alpine routes, mountain biking and walking" *I'll second that. We've spent several years climbing and walking in the region. Two lovely valley bases to choose from with good camp sites. Lots of multi-pitch bolted climbing at valley floor level, good huts and easy peaks, and generally better weather than around Chamonix. Ed*

## MEET REPORTS

### CASTLE NAZE October 26<sup>th</sup>

I did not sleep well the night before. The rain hammered on my windows

LC&CC Newsletter 439

all night. It had rained since Friday evening and had not let up for two days. In the morning the flooded roads and streams in

torrents brought to mind white water rafting rather than climbing.

The wind howled as we braved the elements at the foot of Castle Naze. Paul had been to have a look ...we all knew already...it was very wet. Not a word was spoken, but I could tell nobody wanted to climb at Castle Naze. I opened up the debate for other ideas. Only the chatter of brave men trying to keep warm was the reply. And then a muffled sound ... a word... "Windgather-.oh yes Windgather"



Dave & Ken on Director. (M Gallagher)

A few nods of approval and moments later we were off. The happy band arrived, now quite cheerful seeing the nearly dry rock. Some (Blackie) had not been before and eyed up a rather handsome line, a fine looking HVS he thought, but was soon amazed to find it a Diff. Nevertheless, *High Buttress Arête* was a fine route and had several ascents (Blackie and Robbo, Dave and Ken). Meanwhile, Paul Lewis and I and Pete Nugent opted for the well protected, but damper than it looked, *Mississippi Crack* (S 4a), which to me would have felt like HVS, had I been able to feel my hands. Dave

Ryder and Ken Tebay boldly climbed *Director* (VS 4C), a good lead, in difficult conditions.

But the storm was gathering and the rain came. Some carried on climbing, (*Aged Crack* S 4a) while others ran for cover, but all too soon Windgather was finished. At the car park I asked Pete for directions to a place where we might warm up, have a 'brew' and a chat. We followed Pete's directions and for some reason found ourselves in the Black Bull.

A little refreshed now, but I think a little disappointed that we had had to abandon the crag, I suggested as the day was not over we could continue climbing at the wall. And so the now merry band set off for the Stockport wall, where we climbed till dark. (And met up with Roger and Nicky, who had made a stand at the wall from early that morning, having had the good sense to heed the forecast).

Many thanks to all that turned up and made a quite rubbish day a fine entertaining day out.

Murray Gallagher

#### CLWYD LIMESTONE November 16<sup>th</sup>

What price fame? One year an award for Best Meet of the Year, the next an award -if there were one - for the Worst Attended Meet of the Year. Limestone is not the best rock when wet and there was more than enough rain to ensure this particular set of crags was soaking. I waited at the prescribed parking space till 10:45 (a.m. that is) and then decided that no one was going to show. But all was not lost - I had a good session at the North West Face - there are no nearby viable alternatives - (Warrington) wall in the company of club members Roger and Nic (plus a prospective member). I'm not criticising anyone for not turning up - they would have been insane to do so. (Though the sun made an appearance in Warrington and I was slightly concerned that someone

would see this as an omen to hightail it to Trevor Rocks. My apologies if this was the case). I guess the moral of the story is: "Limestone is not the ideal venue at that time of the year, especially when .....

John Roberts

*Note to novice meet co-ordinators: another moral is to give yourself a 'get-out-clause' in your meet details. A lot of people say "ring if the weather is doubtful" for winter meets. Glad you got something done in the end John. Ed*

#### BURBAGE Jan 4

Ten hardy souls and the meet coordinator gathered in Outside café on a day that was cold but forecast to be sunny. We decided on Burbage North. It's short so you can get up the routes quickly and get the duvet and gloves back on! A winter's day is short so we left the café as soon as we were ready, leaving Karl and Tony still clutching their brews. It was trying to snow when we arrived but gradually brightened up so plenty of routes and bouldering (and a little flying) got done. People started to drift away around 3pm when it started to get cold again leaving the crag to Karl and Tony. Thanks to everyone who turned up and made it a memorable start to the year.

Lawrence Jordan

#### NOTTS TWO CAVE Jan 7<sup>th</sup>

Well, a few balls might have fallen off the old brass monkey, but that didn't deter six of the best from driving up to Leck Fell and baring all to the Dales! Notts Two was opened-up just over 5 years ago by some mammoth digging, so this entailed climbing down a 100ft rift held back by a variety of scaffolding tubes and breeze blocks. After a short 30ft ladder pitch you dropped into a sizable streamway, walking for quarter of a mile in each direction, luxury! Having just returned to the club after a few years absence, this was a fantastic cave to start with; the

formations are second to none, with fine displays of straws, curtains and calcite flows. It was also good to see some old familiar faces and my goodness, Les Mottram had got a new gaving suit. A fact which he kept reminding us of throughout the day, 'and it's got a reinforced gusset', seemed to be the favourite comment (and a good job too I say, with Les renowned for his 'morning after the night before' bottom exploits, a treat in the confines of a cave!).

A service was held for Les's old suit, his close companion for the past 20 years at Bolton Crem on 8th February. All donations to the 'Get Les a new harness for God's sake Fund!'

New passages are continually being found in this cave and I wouldn't be surprised if we didn't have a return visit here soon, just a little hint Mr Caving Secretary!

Matthew Walker

#### ECRINS ICE Jan 10<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>

##### LC&CC Ice Climbers Avoid the Clap-house

Nine of us (Blackie, Bill Stephenson, Chris Wheatley, Geoff Graham, Ken Tebay, Mark (Sparky, Me, Who Am I, Am I Gay?) Adams, Nick Bennett, Steve Martin and me) flew from Birmingham to Grenoble. At Birmingham Nick, or was it Bill, picked up a stray woman and her snowboard that was looking for a lift to Serre Chevalier. After dropping her off we arrived at the chalet at 2.30 on Sunday morning.

The chalet, hired via British guide Jerry (I'm a diabetic) Gore (who gave us a briefing on conditions as well as a slide show mid-week), was spacious, well equipped (once we'd found the bowls) and warm, though Sparky was disappointed that his double bedroom wasn't en-suite. The ice conditions were supposed to be very good and the weather forecast, which proved accurate, was for blue skies, no wind or snow and sub-zero temperatures.

So with the excellent ice and weather there was no excuse for not climbing. As a result some or all of us got out every day from Sunday to Friday. There is a huge selection of routes to go at; as a result it is nearly always possible to find routes that aren't occupied. In the week we really only scratched the surface of the available areas.

On Saturday we had a day off and went skiing at the local hill (Puy St Vincent), which provided an excellent day's skiing in beautiful weather on wide, quiet and well groomed pistes. Despite receiving instruction from Mark and Steve, Blackie ended up doing a competent snow plough on his first day of skiing since a half day on the Gressoney meet 4 or 5 years ago.

Due to the weakness of the pound as well as a lack of restaurants nearby we took turns in cooking for ourselves with the meals getting better and better as the week went on (stew, curry, chilli, roast pork etc) so we didn't go hungry.

On Friday six of us decided to go up into the Vallon de Claphouse to try some of the more remote icefalls. This involved snowshoeing about 6km up the valley. Geoff opted to try some approach skis but found them more trouble than they were worth, apart from on the last section of the ski out, and would opt for snowshoes in the future. We were heading for two cascades (Claphouse left and right) but spotted some ice (that wasn't in the guide book and hadn't been climbed) shortly before reaching the cascades. Blackie, Mark and Steve headed for the right hand section which Blackie lead. His comments on the route:- *I think the whole route from top to bottom was 30 metres with a 5 metre walk back to a tree (35 metres total) 1st 5 m consisted of tip toeing up a rock covered in a thin veneer of brittle ice, step across the shearing slab of ice onto the main pillar - 20m of brilliant vertical ice with a step at 2/3rd (probably WI 5+); unfortunately I*

*ran out of gear on the last third and made the mistake of side stepping onto easier graded choss. Then climb the last 5m via big steps and snow plough another 5m back to the tree belay. Abseil back down or deep snow plod around to the right. This eventually yielded a new route (Wet Panties). Bill, Geoff and I headed for what appeared to be an easier section of ice to the left which we were planning on naming *Avoiding the Clap*. However, the ice was dinner-plating very badly and all three of us backed off it so didn't make the ascent. Everyone enjoyed this day which took us out into a beautiful, remote and quiet valley (only saw 2 other skiers in the distance) and would plan on doing something similar in the future.*

Thanks to everyone who came and made it a great week. I'd definitely be interested in going back to the area again. In addition, as Chris suggested, it would make an excellent summer venue for the proposed 75th anniversary meet, with low level cragging, high mountain rock routes, alpine routes, mountain biking and walking.

#### Climbing highlights:-

- As far as I was concerned the whole week, given the weather and conditions. Shame it wasn't 2 weeks.)
- Geoff pushing his grade and leading the top pitch (40m of vertical featured ice) of *Capitain Courageux*.
- Blackie leading *Davidoff* and *Sombre Heros* and putting up a new route (*Wet Panties*) in the Claphouse valley.
- Ken deciding halfway up the first pitch of *Hiroshima* that it was too easy with two crampons, so he dropped one off!
- Climbing Low-lifes: the French climber who picked up a screw that Geoff dropped from a route but denied all knowledge when challenged.

#### Routes climbed:

*Capitain Courageux* (200m, III/4+) - Geoff and Phil, Blackie and Ken  
*Davidoff* (200m, II/5) - Blackie and Mark

*Sombre Heros* (100m, II/5) - Blackie and Ken  
*Les Formes Du Chaos* (300m, III/4) - All except Blackie and Ken  
*Fracastorus* (200m, II/3+) - Bill, Nick and Phil  
*Cascade du Bois* (25m, I/3+) - Blackie, Chris and Phil  
*La Vision de Marco* (100m, II/3) - Geoff and Steve  
*Beating the Retreat* (300m, IV/4+) - Chris and Geoff  
*Iznogood* (60m, II/3) - Chris and Steve  
*Sourire Kablye* (100m, II/3+) - Bill and Phil  
*Holiday on Ice LH* (250m, II/3+) - Ken and Mark, (Blackie soloed)  
*Holiday on Ice RH* (250m, II/3+) - Chris and Bill  
*Easy Rider* (70m, II/3) - Geoff and Nick  
*Hiroshima* (150m, II/1st pitch) - Steve and Geoff, Ken and Mark, Blackie and Chris  
*Wet Panties* (35m, III/5+) - Blackie and Steve

Phil Tucker

#### SILVERDALE Jan 25<sup>th</sup>

Although fine, the morning wasn't sufficiently appealing to tempt any of us into climbing so after coffee and second breakfasts for some at Leighton Moss we set off along the coast via Scout Scar and reached the Cove for lunch via the woods and the Silverdale foreshore. The day improved progressively, with the wind dropping and sun emerging, so some of us could pretend we regretted opting out of climbing. The return via Hawes Water (no, not that one) and the Leighton Moss causeway was enlivened by a good view of a kingfisher. Thanks to Joyce Taylor, Dennis Gower, Bernie Jordan and boys, Pete Nugent and guest Cheryl and Lucy Bennett for making this a sociable meet.

Rog & Debbie Wilkinson

#### CRANLARICH Feb 7-8<sup>th</sup>

This was originally billed as a Sunday Peak meet, however, with the continuing cold weather I decided to head for Scotland for the weekend. A total of seven (Gerard Conway, Murray Gallagher, Mike Hendrick, Chris Jackson, Dave Ryder, John Shaw and I) attended. We stayed at the Ochils club hut in Crianlarich courtesy of Matt Gordon. Matt was planning on coming up as well but was delayed on Friday on a route in the Lakes with Roger. Unfortunately we thought it would delay us too much to wait for him and, as it was, we didn't arrive at the hut till about midnight.

At Murray's insistence we were up for 6 and out for 7. On Saturday we headed for Beinn Udlaidh, with the corrie being pretty busy as most of the ice climbs were in good condition and the weather was good, mainly sunny but a bit windy at times. Routes climbed were *Quartzvein Scoop* (IV,4) and *Sunshine Gully* (III) with two failed attempts on *Zig Zag* (nominally a II but much harder in the conditions and with dodgy snow near the top).

On Sunday we split into two groups, with Chris, Mike and Gerard headed for Western Gully in the NE corrie of Beinn Dotaidh. Unfortunately the snow in the gully was not consolidated and heavily corniced so they opted to walk up on to the summit and over the top back to Bridge of Orchy, with Chris taking in Beinn Dorain as well. John and Murray headed up into the Western Corrie of Beinn Dotaidh planning on doing *Salamander Gully* (IV,4) with Dave and I opting for *Fahrenheit 451* (IV,3) which looked inviting as we walked in with lots of ice cascading down the corrie wall. Looks can be deceptive, though, as we had to swim up waist-deep powder to get to the bottom of the route. Just getting on to it was difficult as the step up got higher and higher as we sank into the snow. I then spent the scariest hour of my life on crappy ice and unconsolidated snow with my

best runner being a sling over a lump of ice in the snow until, gratefully, I found some ab tat and abbed off. Definitely a route to go back to though. We then walked along the crag and joined John and Murray in an enjoyable ascent of *Salamander*.

Thanks to all those who came, and to Matt for organising the hut which was warm and comfortable, shame he couldn't make it.

Phil Tucker

#### RIVELIN Feb 21

It was grey and cloudy to the west of the Pennines but it was clear blue skies to the East. Rivelin was sheltered from the fierce north westerly wind and was pleasantly warm in the sunshine.



Steve on White House Crack (J Shaw)

I arrived to find John Shaw, Murray Gallagher and Steve Crossley in the Birch Wall area which is at the extreme left of the crag. In fact, I had problems finding them as this area is not mentioned in my old edition of the Rockfax Eastern Grit Guide. About half a dozen routes were ascended, with John Shaw battling his way up with *Ray's Crack* (VS,5a). An excellent day out.

Pete Nugent

#### BEEESTON TOR Feb 22:

...."and a multitude assembled, speaking with many tongues"....well, Karl made the trip down from Lancaster and Tony Madden is from Wigan! We met at my place and made our way down to Beeston Tor, the weather improving as we headed south and east. We arrived at 10.30, and were the only ones there but the crag was dry and in the sunshine. *Central Wall* (VS,4b) was our first objective. The original first pitch is now bypassed by fixed ropes which lead up into the foot of *Bertrams Chimney*. From here a dodgy traverse left leads to a peg stance below the main pitch. This proved to be much more taxing than I remembered! Foolishly, I had not brought enough slings for the many threads. Eventually, I made the stance in Ivy Gash. Here, we abbed off from the in-situ chains to the foot of *Pocket Symphony*. It was Karl's lead and he took issue with my "pre-match assessment" that it was a "soft touch" E1. However, I was able to second it without too much difficulty so I feel my original assessment was correct! I decided to rest on my laurels whilst Tony led *Deaf Dove* (E2, 5c). This proved a wise move as Tony's leg tremble was visible from 100 feet below! We were satisfied with our efforts and enjoyed a pint in the Stanley Arms on the way home.

Pete Nugent

#### INDOOR MEET Feb 24th

A good turnout of around 30 members saw 2 inspirational talks, I will be looking to have a caving trip this year and Pabbay looked ace and is an attainable goal. We also got a bonus slide show from Pete Nugent, with death defying feats and some splendid photos. Thanks to Paul Lewis for stepping in at the last moment with speakers and saving the day.

Steve Crossley



#### **A Good Winter at Last!**

Top: Matt Gordon gearing up for a brittle-looking and thin Shoulthwaite Gill, V. (R Wilkinson)  
Bottom: Dave Ryder following Quartzvein Scoop, IV, Ben Udldaidh. (M Gallagher)

**LC&CC website**  
[www.lccc.org.uk](http://www.lccc.org.uk)

**LC&CC E-MAILING GROUP**

**lancsccc**

Keep up to date with club activities.  
To sign up  
contact Ali Sharman at

## ***Wilton One Appeal***

*John Shaw wrote about the BMC acquisition of Wilton in the last issue. The following paragraphs are from the BMC Wilton1 Appeal.*

NOTE the BMC: WILTON 1 CLEAN-UP has been made an LC&CC Meet.

Although access has now been secured, there is still a lot to do to manage the quarries and develop the climbing there. The BMC is formulating plans to manage the site for the benefit of both climbers and the general public, but these must be paid for. Therefore, I would like to ask all Lancs climbers who have had great days at Wilton to put their hands in their pockets and to send off a donation to the Wilton appeal fund so that future climbers can continue to enjoy the climbing at Wilton and the other crags in the North West. If there are any excess funds, these will be used to support climbing in the North West.

I can guarantee that every pound received will be used to improve Lancs climbing. So, don't leave it until tomorrow, or to someone else, but post off a cheque today. Payments should be sent to the BMC and cheques should be made out to 'BMC (Wilton Appeal)'. For those who have already sent a pledge to me, now is the time to send a cheque direct to the BMC.

### **AWESOME WALLS (Liverpool and Stockport)**

Following the successful club promotion last year concessionary rates have been arranged for all LC&CC Members.

#### **THURS NIGHT 50P DISCOUNT**

Just show your membership card. Any problems please contact John Shaw

## **CLUB BUSINESS**

### **Notes from Committee Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> Jan 2009**

- New Club T shirts are available. Similar logo as before. Colour Cardinal red. They are available from Ken Tebay, £5
- The new web site is making steady progress. A small number of members are currently trialling it and giving feedback as to what is good and what could be better.

- The committee is considering ways to recognise contributions made to the club by some long standing members.
- A biannual Fire Alarm check has been carried out at Tranearth. New windows are ordered for Dan-y-Mynydd.
- The following 8 members did not renew their membership (it may have been an oversight by some of them?) :- Jamie Bearman, Alan Broxton, Nigel Tabern, Robin Hodgkinson, Tony Mercer, Josna Patel, Dave Savage, Gill Tuddenham. Shaun Taylor has resigned as he no longer lives in the UK
- Current membership is 202 (the same as this time last year).
- A steering Committee has been set up for the 75<sup>th</sup> Celebrations to be chaired by John Hopkins. Current members, Alison Athroll, Steve Crossley, Ted Fry. Anyone interested in helping them PLEASE GET IN TOUCH.
- After many years of service, Anne Pilkington and Peter Jordan have indicated that they intend to stand down as Trustees for the club.

#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mike Salmon

Brian Evans' new email

#### NEW GRADUATE MEMBERS

Lee Tweedale,

Christian Kennedy,

Jonathan Dorrington,

Matthew Walker,

Colin Clayton

#### 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.*

Mar 6-8	Rugby MC	Ap 10-13	LC&CC
Mar 10	Impact	Ap 17	J Griffiths
Mar 13-15	LC&CC WP	Ap 21	Impact
Mar 17	Impact	Ap 24-26	TAG
Mar 19-22	Staffs Uni	May 1 -4	LC&CC
Ap 8	Lanehead	May 22-25	LC&CC

#### DAN-Y-MYNYDD BOOKINGS

*Dan-y-Mynydd has limited space and no members' room, so the hut is not available for members when there is an outside booking*

Mar 27-29	Bradford Pot Hole club	May 21-23	Prov. Wessex Cave
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#### LC&CC CONTACTS

Chairman : John Shaw

Hut Booking Sec.: Phil Tucker,

LC&CC Newsletter 439

15

printed 27/02/2009

Hon Sec: Alison Athroll

Climbing Meets Secretary: 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,

#### Thursday Evening Climbing Wall

Mar 5 <sup>th</sup>	Preston West View	Mar 19	North West Face Warrington
Mar 12 <sup>th</sup>	Awesome walls Stockport	Mar 26	Manchester Climbing Centre

#### Thursday Evening Outside Climbing

Ap 16	Denham	Ap 30	Anglezarke
Ap 23	Wilton 3	May 7	Wilton 1 and BBQ

#### Tuesday Evening Indoor Meets

**Tues March 24<sup>th</sup> Black Dog (Belmont) 7.30pm**

Geoff Hibbert will give a presentation on Climbing in Patagonia

#### Provisional Summer Meets List

(caving to be added)

Some of these MCs have been 'volunteered', all venues are just proposed.

If you would like to co-ordinate a meet **Please Volunteer** contact Blackie

July 17-19	Yorkshire	Camp?	Climb	Geoff Haigh
July 19	Black Shiver		Cave	Geoff Dawson
July 24-26				John Banks
Aug 2	Wimberry			Gerard Conway
Aug 2	Long Drop cave		Cave	John String Fellow
Aug 7-9	Llanberis			John Roberts
Aug 16	Castlenaze			Phil Tucker
Aug 16	P8 Jackpot		Cave	Tom Towers
Aug 23	High Tor/Willersley			Ian Athroll
Aug 29-31	Lakes			
Sept 4-6	Wye Valley			Steve Martin
Sept 13	Crookrise			Lawrence Jordan
Sept 19-21	Dan-y-Mynydd			John Weale
Sept 27	Attermire Scar			Karl Lunt
Oct 2-4	Dan-y-Mynydd WP			Phil Griffiths
Oct 11	Gardoms			Matt Gordon
Oct18	Stanage			Mike Hall

LC&CC Newsletter 439

16

printed 27/02/2009

# 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
Mar 1	Roaches		Climb	Rick Ginns
Mar 8	Dales		Climb / walk	Rog & Deb Wilkinson / Joyce Taylor
Mar 13/15	Tranearth WP/	Hut	Work	Roger Wilkinson
Mar 15-22	Scotland		Climb	Simon Holden
Mar 15	Jean Pot		Cave	Geoff Dawson
Mar 13-15	Tranearth		Climb	Roger Wilkinson
Mar 21/22	Langdale (Bouldering)	Camp	Climb	Steve Crossley
Mar 28??	Deaths/Big Meanie		Cave	John Stringfellow
Mar 29	Wilton 1		CLEAN Climb?	Pete Nugent/John Shaw
April 5	Millstone		Climb	Pete Nugent
April 10-13	Easter Pembroke	Camp	Climb	Ken Tebay
April 12	Little Hull Pot		Cave	Mike Hale
April 19	Stanage		Climb	Murray Gallagher
April 26	Willersley/Cratcliffe		Climb	Mark Adams
April 26	Mongo Guill Hole		Cave	John Stringfellow
May 2-4/10	Isle of Arran (B Hol)	Camp	Climb	Pete Nugent
May 9/10	Northumberland		Climb	Karl Lunt
May 10	Pipikin/Mistal Hole		Cave	Andy Homonnai
May 17	Wallowbarrow	Camp	Climb	Simon Fife
May 23-25	Skye/Neist (B Hol)	Camp	Climb	John Roberts
May 26	Otter Hole		Cave	Geoff Dawson
May 31	Clwyd Limestone		Climb	Tony Madden
June 7	Birchens		Climb	Sarah Little
June 7	New Goyden Pot		Cave	Les Mottram
June 12-13	Wasdale	Camp	Climb	John Shaw
June 21	Ravensdale		Climb	Ken Tebay
June 21	Dale Head		Cave	Andy Homonnai
June 26-28	Ogwen/Transnowdonia	Hut ?	Climb/scramble	Phil Tucker
July 3-5	Borrowdale		Climb	Dave Wearing
July 5	Link Pot/Serendipity		Cave	Mike Hale

July 12	Windgather		Climb	Ali Sharman
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Provisional meets on page 15