



Lancashire Caving & Climbing Club

Newsletter No 440

May/June 2009

Cover photo: Jean Pot gives birth to Andy Homonnai (credit Nick Bennett)

EDITORIAL

The climbing year appears to have started well for a lot of club members. Good weather and good meets. We've managed a couple of very enjoyably, well attended meets with lovely sunshine (cool wind - but mustn't grumble), and nice social time after the climbing. I've ordered more good weather for the rest of the year, but I can't trust the delivery service nowadays.

You should find enclosed the 2009-2010 Handbook. Thanks to Brian and Aileen Evans for the work they put in getting this sorted and printed. . Note current graduates are included at the end of the address list. Please check your details and let Ken Tebay know if there are any errors. Incidentally if your Newsletter envelope address is wrong, please let me know, I'm incredibly good at copying badly. The Journal is at the printers and will be coming with your June Newsletter.

Finally a reminder that I intend to resign from editing the Newsletter in 2011 (or sooner if someone offers). I enjoy the job, but it is time consuming. I also think a new editor will have new ideas and enthusiasm. Talk to me if you are interested.

Newsletter Editor: Debbie Wilkinson e-mail rogeranddeborah@live.co.uk

Articles & letters are welcome on old fashioned paper, too.

NEXT ISSUE DUE OUT end of June, 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.

<u>April 26</u>	<u>Gratcliffe Wildcat</u>	<u>Mark Adams</u>
-----------------	---------------------------	-------------------

I've change the meet to Wildcat, lots of climbs of all grades there. Should suit everybody. Meet at the Café (as nominated in e-mails) at 10am. Or ring Sparky for details and to arrange lifts etc.

<u>April 26</u>	<u>Mongo Gill Hole</u>	<u>John Stringfellow</u>
-----------------	------------------------	--------------------------

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>
----------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------

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!

May 10	Northumberland	Karl Lunt
---------------	-----------------------	------------------

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 plodging around in the rain

May 10	Pipikin/Mistal Hole	Andy Homonnai
---------------	----------------------------	----------------------

Well known pot in Easegill, Yorkshire Dales. Meet at Bernies cafe in Ingleton at 9:30.

May 17	Wallowbarrow	Simon Fife
---------------	---------------------	-------------------

The Duddon Valley one of the most picturesque in the Lakes With enough crags to cater for every grade of climber. Camping will be at Turner Hall Farm which is very handy to all the crags and the pub. I intend arriving Friday evening pitching tent & will be found loitering in the Newfield Inn .

The weekend will be flexible upon attendees as to which crags are climbed though Wallowbarrow is a great introduction to the valley with many classic V.Diff to VS routes. Stonestar peregrines

permitting offers roadside harder climbing, while the likes of Burnt Crag for the very hard single pitch specialists eg Mr Lunt!

May 23-25	Skye/Neist (Bank Hol)	John Roberts
------------------	------------------------------	---------------------

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 on 01939 261252.

May 26	Otter Hole Ireby 2	Nick Bennett
---------------	--------------------------------------	---------------------

Geoff can't do Otter Hole. So the meet has changed to a repeat visit to Ireby 2. There is unfinished business there. Please get in touch with Nick for meeting details etc.

May 31	Roaches	Tony Madden
---------------	----------------	--------------------

Meet below Sloth around 10am. Ring Tony to arrange lifts etc and if the weather is dire.

June 7	Birchens	Sarah Little
---------------	-----------------	---------------------

I will be at the crag for about 10am. If the weather is looking good we will make a weekend of it camping at the farmer's field nearby, Eric's, (cheap and parking is by the Robin Hood). There is a good choice of crags from there which we can decide on nearer the time. It's not too far for us so we will just camp on the Saturday night. If the turnout and weather are looking good the Robin Hood will book a room for us all for eats/drinks after. I will look at this nearer the time. Parking and access: park at the car park by the Robin Hood on the A619. The food and beer at the pub is excellent. The crag is quick drying with plenty of climbing at lower and middle grades and bouldering for those that enjoy. I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible! (crag). I am on the forum email, or give me a ring on 01909 479505 or 07850562768

June 7	New Goyden Pot	Les Mottram
---------------	-----------------------	--------------------

New Goyden Pot is situated by the river Nidd, in Nidderdale. It is a grade 3 trip, 2,200m long, with two pitches. The pot is prone to flooding so the trip will be dependent on the weather. Please check with Les that the meet is going ahead and to arrange a meeting place.

June 12-14	Wasdale	John Shaw
-------------------	----------------	------------------

I plan to camp at Church Stile Farm site, at Nether Wasdale. Campsite is much quieter than the National Trust at the top end of the lake as it is a busy time of year. Nether Wasdale is at the south-west end of West Water, a tiny village with the campsite and 2 pubs both of which do food (*did last year anyway*). Approx 2.5 hrs drive from Manchester puts you in there with all the classics on Gable, Scafell etc. from diffs through to extremes. This valley is steeped in history, e.g. the Napes Needle VD which you can do handstands on to emulate the pioneers if you feel sufficiently brave/foolish.

I now discover that **due to planning restrictions you have to book in advance**. Ring either 01946 726 252 or via website <http://www.churchstile.com> Lots of pretty pictures and location instructions too. If you get there after 2100 let them know in advance because of child protection laws they have to lock the gates. I'll be in one of the pubs or my small green Terra Nova tent with bright yellow LCCC pennant on the Friday night, silver Subaru estate (sorry Karl). Please let me know if you are able to come.

<u>June 21</u>	<u>Dovedale</u>	<u>Ken Tebay</u>
----------------	-----------------	------------------

Meet at the car park at the South end of Dovedale at 10am. Please ring to arrange lifts etc and if the weather is doubtful as I will probably go to a climbing wall.

<u>June 21</u>	<u>Dale Head</u>	<u>Andy Homonnai</u>
----------------	------------------	----------------------

A deep pot on Fountains Fell with many short pitches. Meet at The Singing Kettle Café, Settle, at 9:00am.

<u>June 26-28</u>	<u>Ogwen/Transnowdonia</u>	<u>Phil Tucker</u>
-------------------	----------------------------	--------------------

This meet will be based at the Dol Gam campsite (SH745575) on the A5 East of Capel Curig. If the weather looks good then I was planning on attempting the Trans-Snowdonia trip, making an early start on Saturday morning and walking into Amphitheatre Buttress from Ogwen. If the weather looks mixed then climb/ scramble/walk/bike in and around Ogwen, with all of its attractions. I will be at the campsite on Friday night from about 8.30 onwards, or in the Tan y Coed. Get in touch nearer the time to let me know you are coming and whether you're interested in the TransSnowdonia.

<u>July 3-5</u>	<u>Borrowdale</u>	<u>Dave Wearing</u>
-----------------	-------------------	---------------------

No details available, but always a good spot for a meet. Lots of excellent crags and walking.

<u>July 5</u>	<u>Link Pot/Serendipity</u>	<u>Mike Hale</u>
---------------	-----------------------------	------------------

Interesting trip down part of Easegill system. Meet at Bernies cafe in Ingleton at 9:00am.

FUTURE PLANS / FOREIGN TRIPS

Mendips Caving Weekend July 24-26

I have booked 5 places at a hut near Priddy for July 24/25. I propose we set off early Fri morning arriving Priddy one-ish. Have a beer, do Swildon's Hole. Saturday we could do GB cavern. Anyone interested please phone Less Mottram (number above)

Summer in the Austrian Alps 8th-22nd August

Through the Silvretta & Oetzal. Peaks, Passes and Glaciers. If interested contact Allan Hartley

Caving in Spain in October

Fancy a long weekend caving in Spain? I am hoping to arrange a trip to the Nerja Cave 50Km from Malaga. There is a contact in Spain and I'm hoping to go in Oct., as this is part of a show cave and only open to cavers then. Please let me know soon, there are flights from Blackpool which go on a Friday, we could be back Sun or Mon. If interested please contact Les Mottram

Vets Meet at Tranearth Oct 9-11

Tranearth is booked, no meet co-ordinator as yet. This meet is open to all members, but it's general purpose is as reunion for longstanding members (and friends). *I can guarantee any members turning up will be made more than welcome and will have an interesting time* Ed

MEET REPORTS

Deniolen Feb 13-15

Thanks to Judith, Sandra, Ken, Bedsprings, Phil, Gerard, Yvonne and Tanwen for joining me in the romantic surroundings of Deniolen. Although the weather was grey and claggy, everyone had a pleasant time. Judith, Yvonne, Sandra and Phil walked over Elidir on Saturday, Ken and Bedsprings got lost near Gogarth whilst

Tanwen and Geoff went to the beacon wall. Sunday was even poorer but Judith, Sandra and Bedsprings walking somewhere near Cloggy, not exactly lost but ending up in Pete's rather than the Beacon as arranged. Ken, Gerard, Geoff, Yvonne and Tanwen met Steph and Robbo for some indoor exercise at the Beacon.

During the conversation one member suggested a navigation course might be arranged as an indoor meet! The clue is the newsletter somewhere. A good club outing, so thanks again to everyone for such a good meet.

Geoff Haigh
Very sincere apologies to Geoff. He sent this in time for the last Newsletter and I somehow failed to include it - Ed

Cavers' Booze-Up 28th Feb

During the morning, in typical Pennine conditions (mostly moist), ten members assembled in Bernie's café for the usual breakfast before a caving trip.

Then we arranged ourselves into two teams: John Andy and Geoff descended Marble Steps Pot via Side Winder route, whilst the rest of us, led by Bill Osborne, descended Ireby Fell cavern, depth 128m, length 4kms. There were 6 descents, which were mostly wet. Four of our party returned after seeing the conditions on the first two pitches. Bill, Tom and myself continued and eventually reached the sump. Bill had his SRT gear and descended a rope hung from a roof passage close by. He returned half an hour later and reported he had reached the sump by-pass. After a short rest we began our journey back to the surface. It was noticed the water level was a little higher, this made some of the climbs really damp. Another club had come down the cave on ladders, their gear hampered our progress. Eventually after a 4½hr trip we were back on the surface and wasted little time in changing and heading for the Marton Arms - now it was time to eat and get wet on the inside.

For the evening gathering, the food was good, the beer and wine excellent and accommodation first rate. Thanks to those who turned up : Bill Osborne, John Stringfellow, Andy Homonnai, Rick Pinches, Tom Towers, Rachel Fry, Geoff Dawson.

Les Mottram

Roaches 1st March

The day started well as I hurtled round the M60 earlier than planned, as the clouds were high and the weather looked good (Robbo was so keen that he insisted on meeting at the crack of dawn - well 9:30!) In the roaches tea room was Paul Burgess, bedspring, Ken Tebay, Paul Lewis, Jonathon Dorrington (a new member), Robbo and Steph. Once on the crag, it was a different story, unfortunately it was raining. Boulderering was impossible and greasy. As the rain got heavier there was a distinct air of procrastination as we decided whether it would clear - even though Banksy wasn't here, the weather was still bad!! Ged arrived however and seemed keen, so immediately set about climbing *Right Route*, a classic VDiff with Steph on the upper tier. Clearly perturbed by the weather, everyone else decided to cut losses and went for tea and cakes to mull the situation over. It was decided to head to Stockport wall and Ged and Robbo went ahead. Just as everyone else had started back, the sun came out! Alas, it wasn't to be. After Bedspring led us on a circuitous route around the peaks back to Stockport, indoor climbing was a poor consolation as the sun proceeded to come out for the rest of the day which added to the disappointment. As if to rub salt in the wounds, later in the afternoon another party arrived back at the Roaches after we had retreated to Stockport Wall - Simon Holden, Pete Nugent and Murray arrived at the Roaches for about 2pm and had a good day climbing. Routes included:

Right Hand Route HS 4c, Left Hand Route HS 4b, Calcutta Crack HS 4b, Gully Wall VS 4b, and an impressive lead from Murray of Rhodren (HVS 5B)

They managed to resurrect what started as a damp day, and followed it with a few pints. The rest of us headed our separate way after pulling on plastic. Thanks to

everyone who turned up for what can be described as a mixed day

Rick Ginns

Millstone 5th April

A large team assembled at Longlands Cafe, Hathersage. Typically, it was 30 minutes before a breakfast arrived. The weather was fine and sunny but with a chilly breeze from the West. Robbo and Sparky diverted to Higgarr Tor, to do battle with *The File* (VS 4c). They returned later reporting conditions to be freezing. The route in question had been subdued but not without the loss of significant amounts of skin and blood!

The rest of us arrived at the foot of the crag just after 11.00. This meant that the sun was just beginning to reach the more south facing aspects of the crag. However, Lawrence Jordan, denuded of his winter coat of blubber, was complaining of the cold. Accordingly, he and Graham Phillips went to the most shaded, gloomy parts of the crag so that they could get even colder! However, there was method in this madness...a ready made excuse for failing on a succession of routes...because of the cold!

In a light hearted exchange, most of us were relieved that hear that Roger Wilkinson had no intention of having relations with a dog! Some of our newer members (Jonathan Dorrington, Harvey & Catherine must have been wondering what type of club they were joining! Most of us had a really excellent day. The cliff reverberated with sound of Judith Cressey cackling her way up a variety of routes. Even Ken Tebay was able to shake off his "gremlins". At about 6 o'clock we repaired to the Millstone Inn and had a convivial discussion as we watched the sun go down. The post match analysis revealed that many of the 3 star classics in the VS-E1 range had been ascended. Jonathan had led his first VS. The conversation ranged from

future venues (Pembroke, Arran, Pabbay/Mingulay) through venues for club dinners. In the opinion of the MC, the Millstone has its attractions. Harvey and Catherine introduced us to some of their friends in the Lincoln Mountaineering Club and the idea of reciprocal rights was floated. They have a hut in Deiniolen and they would be interested in using Tranearth.

Thanks to everyone who made this an excellent meet: Harvey Bird & Catherine Holgate (new grads), Ken & John Tebay, Jonathan Dorrington, Roger & Debbie Wilkinson, Sandra Handcock, Judith Cressey, Roger Brown & Nikki..... Robbo & Sparky, Paul Burgess, Geoff Hibbert, Lawrence Jordan & Graham Phillips, Dave Ryder.

Pete Nugent

PS. I was nice to bump into Ian Selby in the café; he opted for Stanage thinking that Millstone was too tough a proposition...he should try to get out more often!

Ireby Too! 1st March

At the cavers' dinner on the Saturday night, we listened to the account of the descent of Ireby Fell Caverns that day by our club members. Also we heard news of a break through in the protracted dig to by-pass the terminal sump into the extension known as Ireby 2. This inspired Geoff, Andy and myself to visit the cave the next day, in the hope that we could follow the by-pass and explore some passages previously only accessible to cave divers. Donning caving gear, wet from the previous days trip down Marble Steps pot was an unpleasant experience, but once over with, we soon warmed up walking up the fell to the entrance. Descending the Traditional route, we soon reached Duke Street. This is the name given to the impressive large passage, which you can stroll down six abreast, and leads to the sump after about 400 metres. A short way

back from this, a rope hanging from the ceiling marks the entrance to the sump bypass. This is several hundred metres of crawling, ranging from hands and knees to flat out. If only I'd removed my SRT gear first, it would have been much more pleasant. About two thirds along this crawl, I heard a noise in front, and thought I had caught up with Geoff. Unfortunately it was another two cavers coming the other way. The problem of passing was resolved by them lying flat out, and me crawling over the top. Finally we emerged at a drop into a stream passage. Upstream led into a deep canal which we retreated from when the water reached chin depth. The other way leads to a junction with a passage known as Duke Street 2, an even larger and more impressive passage than Duke Street 1. We wandered up this huge passage for about 300 metres until it ran out, and ventured up a side passage in search of Neptune cavern, which we never found. At this point we decided to call it a day and head out. A great trip made even greater by this new extension.

John Stringfellow

Bar Pot 7th March

Four of us met in Clapham (Yorks) on a cold cloudy morning. Following changing into caving garb and carrying heavy sacks of rope (I was lucky there were only two), it was a hot sticky walk up to Bar Pot which is one of several entrances into the Gaping Gill system. Pitches of 17m & 33m using SRT landed us in SE passage. Following a short rest, we found our way into the main Gaping Gill chamber. Lee, our newest recruit was in awe and took several photographs. Later we visited Sand Caverns, then made our way out. The day was rounded off with a beer in Clapham.

Thanks to those who turned up, Matt Walker, Rick Pinches, Lee Tweedale.

Les Mottram

Langdale 21st-22nd March

The weather turned out well for an Early Lakes meet with a reasonable turnout with people coming and going through out the weekend. Notables were two new Grads Lee Tweedale and Colin Clayton.

On the Saturday teams went to Gimmer, White Ghyll, Pavey Ark and a walking party doing the Crinkles, with routes up to VS being climbed on a lovely clear day with Lingmoor burning on the other side of the valley. Phil Tucker and son and Jon Dorrington went and had fun on *Cooks Taur*. In the evening a group of us went to the Stickle Barn and then met up with Tony Madden and Ken Tebay in the ODG. A recurring theme of the weekend was what poor value the central Lakes is now offering eg the food in the Stickle Barn £8.50 for a very poor veggie burger and the cost of camping £7.50 for tent and car.

Sunday morning everyone was up bright and bushy tailed, except Ken (Ken, you're not a drinker, accept it) with Dave Wearing and Sandra going to Middlefell and Raven and the rest going to Raven Far East. What a tough spot that is, very sparse gear and a little polished. Alison Athroll did very well with some early season HVs but the star climb was by Tony Madden of the grottiest, crumbliest, flakiest and most weed infested E1 ever. It looked a horror show to me but he professed to have enjoyed it.

A special mention in dispatches must go to the young Sammy Peace age 8 (?), Grandson of Bert age having a crack at Middlefell Buttress. The Force is strong in the young Peace. So all in all a splendid weekend, great weather and better company.

Steve Crossley (aka Bedsprings)

Tatham Wife Hole April 4th

The weather was gloomy, but even so two brave hearts descended into the depths of Tatham Wife Hole. The walk in was grade 5 the Pot was grade 3. Rick and myself carried 3 bags of rope and a small bag of karabiners, but managed to keep a steady pace. The passage with climbs led to pitches of 9m & 12m, below a rift and crawl led to the third pitch of 9m. The ramp through a slot needed a 12m rope to descend, though free-climbable, beyond which along a hading rift leads to a duck. This short wet obstacle caused a little concern, but soon after we warmed up on a narrow traverse and climb down into bigger dimensions. The main stream passage led to the final pitch of 8m, this was particularly wet. We ventured a short way into a long wet crawl to the sump and returned to the base of the last pitch for a rest. The journey out was a bit tiring and the pitches a bit damp. Eventually we reached the surface into a cold grey day after 3 hrs & 40 mins. underground. The day was rounded off with a few beers at the Marten Arms. Thanks Rick for a good day out. Depth of pot 156m length 1220m

Les Mottram

Pembroke Easter 10-13 April

Thursday night and the Weather Gods are not smiling: Stephanie and John quickly pitch their small tent and seek refuge in The Old Cross where they bump into Roger and Debbie who had taken the sensible option by booking in for the night. Back at the camp site Ian and Alison arrive in the early hours and only just manage to avoid losing their tent to the gale before finding somewhere more sheltered to pitch. Ken and family had broken down and were busy being towed back to Bolton. John (Tebay) and Dave (Ryder) - alias the Brooke Bond Hill boys (work it out yourself) - meanwhile were trying to find the camp

site using one of Ken's hand-drawn maps - no chance! They camped they know not where all round, not an auspicious start to the weekend. The following morning dawned fine - though Roger and Debbie still had their problems, discovering they had left their tent poles at home! As it happened they were able to borrow a small tent which, though eminently suitable, deprived them of the expected luxury of their large tent. As for large tents, later that day John (Banks), Tracy & Georgia pitched a veritable detached house!! By the end of the day on Friday the numbers were swollen by the arrival of Gerard, Sparky, Geoff (Dawson) and Ken who had travelled down with Tony and Karl. Steve (Martin) and family were booked into the City Hotel and Blacky also joined the gathering on Saturday morning.

Once all the accommodation problems, etc had been resolved the weekend (other than Monday) was blessed with glorious spring weather it was even relatively warm for the traditional Saturday night BBQ. Over the course of 3



Photo: Karl Lunt on Sinecure (E1)

days the usual crags were visited - (for some it was their 1st visit to the area) - and many routes climbed. There were, of



Photo: Craig Caerfai from Steph's kayak.
course, some stand out efforts, though everyone was pleased with their route tally. Alison and Ian climbed a plethora of E1's with, perhaps, *Beyond the Azimuth* and *Be Brave* being their most satisfying climbs. Dave and John, on their 1st visit to the area, climbed *Sinecure* (E1) in the company of Ken and Geoff respectively. Tony and Karl excelled on *Uncertain Smile* (E2 - but more like E3) and *Kitten Claws* (E3) amongst many others. Steve, in the company of Blacky, pulled out the stops on *Orogeny* (E2) whilst the classic *Armorican* (HVS) was climbed by virtually all members present. John (Roberts), in the company of Sparky & John (Banks), overcame *Slab Happy* (HVS/E1) after, on the previous day, getting a thorough drenching and nearly losing his rope to the sea at the foot of it. Roger and Debbie, amongst many other routes, climbed the aptly named *Roger the Pigeon*. Stephanie, meanwhile, enjoyed 2 lengthy solo kayaking trips along various parts of the North and South

coastlines And there should be an honourable mention of Georgia's efforts on the small outcrops at the top of Porth Clais - achieved with the loan of a harness several sizes too big for her.

So after an inauspicious beginning North Pembroke again delivered the goods with good weather & fine climbing - as evidenced by the ruddy faces of all attendees and the numerous "E" numbers racked up. A great weekend thoroughly enjoyed by all - even the meet leader turned up for it!!

John Roberts

Campcraft Club Day

Club members may be interested in this offer: 20% discount on massive range of stock including new Spring clothing ranges. Thursday 30th April 9am -8pm (Newport St Bolton)

The BMC

You should all have received the Spring edition of Summit. The BMC magazine. As always I found it full of interesting articles. If you have paid the extra £15 to become a full member of BMC rather than the club grade you will receive 3 more Summits during the year and of course the added benefits of better insurance and services of the BMC You will also be contributing to all the work done by BMC on access/national representation/youth work etc. As a member of BMC we are part of the NW region. The most recent NW Newsletter is available on the internet though the link below. The Spring edition includes a lot of crag information and an article by Karl Lunt.

<https://www.thebmc.co.uk/Download.aspx?id=406>

NB if you are a member of more than one club you can arrange to have your second BMC subscription (paid by LC&CC and the other club) refunded or just leave it as a donation to the BMC. Contact BMC for information to do this.

Booking and Visiting Tranearth & Dan-y-Mynydd

Before visiting the huts it is a good idea to check availability. Details can be found on the club web site Tranearth is booked most weekends in the Summer (except school holidays) and has frequent mid-week bookings.

Please note in particular the rules listed below:-

- Dogs (excluding guide dogs) are not allowed inside the hut
- Members may not take more than 3 guests without permission from the hut booking secretary.
- Members may use the Members room at Tranearth when there is an outside booking. (*This means this room is not available for non-members. Members should not take any guests when there is an outside booking, without permission from the hut booking secretary.*)
- Members may not use Dan-y-Mynydd when there is an outside booking without permission from the hut booking secretary.
- Apart from official bookings, guests may not stay in either hut unless accompanied by a member.

A full version of the rules is available in the club handbook along with other information about the huts.

LC&CC website
www.lccc.org.uk

LC&CC E-MAILING GROUP
lancsccc

Keep up to date with club activities.
To sign up
contact Ali Sharman at
a.sharman@lancaster.ac.uk,

QUESTIONS FROM BEDSPRINGS

I am thinking of the indoor meets for next winter and would really like to know what the members want. This year is the 60th anniversary of indoor meets, would the members like special speaker. I'm thinking of people like:-Alistair Lee ? Mick Fowler? Gordon Stainforth ? John Dunne? I can get any or all of them

Do you want free, low key or small eg £5 cost & big time characters?

For other meets

Would the members like a more social indoor meet, maybe a quiz and just the opportunity to catch up with chums, no speaker just a social?

Would the members like me to get someone from the industry for a Q & A session, say from Lyon equipment?

A little feedback would be appreciated. People have been kind enough to say how much they have enjoyed the Indoor Meets this Spring, which is nice but, if people tell me what they want no matter what I will try to provide. Ian Athroll has requested Lap dancers and that will be next spring! So come on don't be shy.

Cheers Steve (Crossley aka Bedsprings)

Contact Steve on 01706 214032, or e1hvs@tiscali.co.uk or catch him at a meet.

GOING ELECTRONIC

A group of members regularly ask if we can save postage and printing costs by sending the Newsletter via the Internet. I have been putting off the effort this involves, but I think enough club members are interested to see how it goes.

The Newsletter is now available on the club web site in full colour pretty well as soon as it is posted. The version on the public area has no addresses and is arranged in two page format for easy viewing. The version in the Member's area is in booklet form to be

printed on duplex. It has full contact details. OR [I can email either version to individual members as a pdf.](#)

Please let me know if you want your name removed from my postal address list and/or added to an e-mailing list. Your membership fees pay for printing and postage and printing 10-20 copies less is not going to make much difference to my workload, so there is no pressure to opt for this system. It is simply your preference and I want to see how it works out.

CLUB BUSINESS

Notes from Committee Meeting March 10th 2009

- 9The new club web site is almost ready. The photo gallery and forums are working. Those members with current access are now checking to confirm if most issues have been addressed and photos and forums, etc can all be accessed. When this is done, the website will be made available to the membership.
- BMC is setting up a group to share hut information, Roger Wilkinson will be the contact.
- New windows have been ordered for Dan-y-Mynydd and should be fitted this year.
- Students causing a disturbance at Tranearth have written to the neighbours apologising. They were very apologetic and left the hut immaculate. Part of the trouble was not finding the hut late on Friday night. Hut access instructions have been re-written.
- Pete Nugent is looking for some new furniture (chairs) for the common room at Tranearth.
- The committee is discussing appropriate ways to recognise services given to the club over many years by members.
- Peter Jordan and Anne Pilkington wish to step down as trustees for the club. The committee is hoping to propose Lawrence Jordan and John Shaw as new trustees
- Committee members continue to work on various schemes to promote club membership. Contact is to be made with more local climbing walls and talks with Plas-y-Brennin are proceeding.
- There are 7 new graduate members. Total membership is 208

NEW GRADUATE MEMBERS

[Harvey Bird](#) [Catherine Holgate](#) [Christine Kennedy](#)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

[Sarah Little](#)

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.

Ap 24-26	TAG	June 8-11	Brathay
May 1-4	LC&CC available for club use	June 12-14	E Yorks
May 13-14	Impact	June 19-21	Sunderland MC
May 22-25	LC&CC available for club use	June 22-25	Brathay
May 29-31	Ex Leeds Uni	June 26-28	Dundee Uni
June 3-4	Impact	July 3-5	Surbiton & Kingston
June 5-7	Norwich Triathlon	July 17-19	Derby MC

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

May 1-3	Bristol Uni Caving	May 21-23	Wessex cave
May 4	Durham		

LC&CC CONTACTS

Chairman : John Shaw

Hut Booking Sec.: Phil Tucker,

Hon Sec: Alison Athroll

Climbing Meets Secretary: Pete Blackburne

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

Caving Meets Secretary: John Stringfellow,

Thursday Evening Outside 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 Murray Gallagher Simon Holden John Shaw

Ap 16	Denham	May 28	Witches
Ap 23	Wilton 3	June 4	Bridestones (bouldering)
Ap 30	Anglezarke	June 11	Edgerton
May 7	Wilton 1 and BBQ	June 18	Trowbarrow
May 14	Troy	June 26	Crookrise
May 21	Stronstey Bank		

Provisional Late Summer 2009 Meets List

(some 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

Aug 24-28	Families Tranearth	Hut	All sorts	Bernie Jordan
Aug 29-31	Lakes	Hut ?	Climb	
Sept 4-6	Wye Valley		Climb	Steve Martin
Sept 6	Long Kin East		Cave	Andy Homonnai
Sept 13	Crookrise		Climb	Lawrence Jordan
Sept 19-21	Dan-y-Mynydd	Hut	Climb	John Weale
Sept 20	Boundary Pot		Cave	Mike Hale
Sept 27	Attermire Scar		Climb	Karl Lunt
Oct 2-4	Dan-y-Mynydd WP	Hut	Climb	Phil Griffiths
Oct 4	Gingling Hole		Cave	Geoff Dawson
Oct 9-11	Vets Meet Tranearth		walk	
Oct 11	Gardoms		Climb	Matt Gordon
Oct 18	Stanage		Climb	Mike Hall
Oct 25	Dan-y-Mynydd	Hut	Climb	Mark Adams
Nov 1			Climb	
Nov 8	Bonfire Tranearth	Hut		
Nov 15			Climb	
Nov 22			Climb	
Nov 29	Dinner ?		Climb	

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
April 26	Wild Cat		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	Roaches		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	Dovedale		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	Sandra Handcock
July 17-19	Yorkshire	Camp ?	Climb	Geoff Haigh
July 19	Black Shiver		Cave	Geoff Dawson
July 24-26			Climb	John Banks
July 24-25	Swilden's Hole Mendips	Hut	Cave	Les Mottram
Aug 1/2	Tranearth		Climb	Jane Toothill
Aug 2	Long Drop cave		Cave	John Stringfellow
Aug 7-9	Llanberis		Climb	John Roberts
Aug 9	Long Drop Cave		Cave	John Stringfellow
Aug 16	Castlenaze		Climb	Phil Tucker
Aug 16	P8 Jackpot		Cave	Tom Towers
Aug 23	High Tor/Willersley		Climb	Ian Athroll
Aug 23	Jackpot		Cave	Tom Towers

Provisional meets on page 15