

Dear Member,

May I wish you a belated Happy New Year. Sadly I could not publish a Bulletin before Christmas and so the proposed Meet at Buckbarrow in February may come as rather short notice for some of you. The Meets Card enclosed with this issue shows that some time and effort has gone into organising an interesting and varied programme throughout the year. Since there are more events scheduled it might be possible that more of you will be able to attend one of the weekends listed.

NEXT YEAR'S MEETS

You will notice from the enclosed Meets Card that the field of operations has included Yorkshire and Derbyshire which provide good walking and climbing and are within easy reach of most members. Also, some of the traditional meets now fulfil specific purposes. So, if you are a walker who wants to try climbing, a Junior Member who wants to get on the hills without Mum and Dad, or just a masochistic climber who wants to try gritstone, do come along to the appropriate meet or meets. The two Buckbarrow Meets and October at Tyn Twr remain as before; turn up and do your own thing. There is a tear-off slip at the end of the Bulletin to help the Meets Sec. to organise the Gritstone meet in March.

Jim Harding (Meets Sec)

"NATIONAL TRUST IS OFFERED SEVEN FARMS"

The following article has been reproduced since it affects Buckbarrow Hut.

"The National Trust, the biggest landowner in the Lake District, has been offered seven farms covering more than 2,000 acres and with extensive fell grazing rights.

The farms, in lower Wasdale, Borrowdale, Eskdale, Ennerdale, Hartsop and Loweswater, are owned by Lake District Farm Estates, set up in 1937 to acquire traditional farms when they came on the market and prevent them from being taken over.

The organisation has had close links with the National Trust and has decided that in view of rising costs its interests and objectives will be best preserved by transferring the properties.

National Trust policy in the Lake District is to conserve and encourage traditional agricultural practices and ways of life while acting as a normal landlord to tenant farmers."

THE MOUNTAIN CLUB HUT AT BRYN HAFOD

The above hut can be used by members from bona fide clubs affiliated to the B.M.C. and is covered by the Central Wales Guide Book.

## HARZ MOUNTAINS

If any member of A.R.C.C. is familiar with the above range of Mountains and has any information of limestone climbing would they please contact Rod Walsh,

3152 Ilsede I  
Adolfstrasse 4  
West Germany.

There are some sandstone outcrops also which Rod has been unable to place.

## ICELAND 1975

John Higgs and I visited Iceland for two weeks in June/July 1975. We decided to visit the Myrdalajokvll glacier region in South Iceland. Rekjavik is very expensive, coffee 35p per cup, soup 60p per bowl and Icelandic beer 80p per pint.

The mountain region around the glaciers is a remarkable place and full of surprises. The East and North East side of Myrdalajokvll consists mainly of black sand and shingle, making tiring walking over 1500ft sandhills. The Eldgile volcanic fissure has a spectacular waterfall at Ofaerafors. The fissure is 25km long and was formed as recent as 1000 A.D. The Kan Landmannalauger area 25m N of the glacier is an active volcanic area and is very popular. The Americans train their moon-men there. The rocks contain many colours including green, red and yellow. We walked for miles over snowfields above 1000m with the smell of sulphur in the air to find boiling streams melting the snow and forming huge snow and ice caverns.

The highlight of the trip for John and I was climbing a 1300m rock peak Enta in the middle of the Myrdalajokvll glacier. The views were spectacular and we enjoyed the solitude, knowing we were three days walk from the nearest road.

A few comments for anyone thinking of going; everything is expensive so take dehydrated foods with you. There are youth hostels at Rekjavik and at Flotsdalur (10km from the glacier) and there are refuge huts every 12km or so along the tracks in the area. There is a centrally heated mountain chalet at Llandmannalauger (if thats your scene). The mountains don't form chains or ridges and there is a lot of ascent and descent. The Icelandic Maps by the Geodaetisk Institut are not very reliable but there is an American Military map available for some areas. The rock is very unstable and not much good for climbing. Whilst we were therethe temp averaged 20C, it never went dark, and we only had two days bad weather.

The main problem when walking in this area are the river crossings. We crossed on average six rivers a day, about two feet deep and fast flowing, so take a pair of shorts and be prepared for continually wet boots. The snow line was about 750m; June was the coldest they had had for many years and the thaw had not yet started.

I am going again, it is a fascinating country well worth a visit. If anyone wants any more information drop me a line.

Tom Garner

59, Church Lane,  
SALE,  
Cheshire M33 5GW

PATTERDALE CHAPEL

Terry Hickey has arranged with Mick Crawford (Buckbarrow Warden) to go to Whitehaven on Sat 31st Jan to pick up some slate and stone for the Chapel. If any members are willing to help would they be at Buckbarrow on the Friday night to help load the wagon on Saturday morning.

Alternatively, if any members are at Langdale that weekend would they be at Hartsop Village on the Saturday afternoon at 3 - 3.30pm to help unload the lorry - many hands make light work folks!

OBITUARY

It is with regret that we announce the death of Bill Hornby, one of the original members of A.R.C.C. He had been ill for some time and will no doubt be well remembered by many older members of the Club.

Mrs Gass, who held the key for Buckbarrow Hut for many years, died on Christmas Day. The funeral service was held at Nether Wasdale and the Club was represented by Bishop Pearson who assisted at the service, Mr & Mrs T. Hickey, D & J. Ogden, P & H Charnock, M. Crawford, B. Melling, & J. Dickenson.

The key to Buckbarrow is still held at Gass's Farm at the time of going to press.

Many thanks to John Foster, Tom Garner and Jim Harding for contributions to this issue.

All the best,

Ted Southworth.

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BLACKBURN, BB2 2TZ.

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GRITSTONE MEET - BOB DOWNES HUT(FROGGART) March 13/14 1976

Before booking places at the Bob Downes Hut I need some idea of whether the meet would attract enough people to make it worth while. If you fancy the idea at all please return this slip to me. This is not a commitment to go, simply an indication of interest.

Signed. . . . .  
Address. . . . .  
. . . . .  
. . . . .

Send to: Jim Harding,  
23A Copgrove Road,  
LEEDS, LS8 2SP.

No. of places. . . . .

The Hut is fully equipped and sleeps thirty. It is situated at the head of Cwm Cowarch (GR. SH853194) near Dinas Mawddwy in Merionethshire and is about 20 mins walk from the car park. Anyone interested should write to:

DM Gilbert,  
66, Walton Way,  
The Coppice,  
Talke,  
STOKE ON TRENT, ST7 1UX.

#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Since despatching the last bulletin there have been no less than 20 changes of address to my knowledge. Please let either the Sec or myself know of any change address in order that bulletins and any other information can be sent to you.

#### TYN TWR

The rotten window frames in both bays have now been repaired and also the corner of an upstairs window frame, there having been grass growing out of them since before we bought the place.

For a climbing hut to be adequately equipped a drying room is essential. In order to utilise space available in what was No. 3 for this purpose, a new back doorway has been constructed where the old white porcelain sink was, and the old doorway on the side has been made into a window. In addition, the bottom section of the nearby stairs has been turned through a further angle of 90°.

Together these alterations make available a corner approx. 7' x 5' to be partitioned off as a drying room. Hot water from the boiler will be pumped round for this purpose as necessary. I am hoping to squeeze our Treasurer (he's very cuddly, really) for the necessary to continue with this project in the New Year, so that we MIGHT have a drying room in operation by the Summer.

There was good usage of the hut by members at half term, but distance still seems to be the main inhibitor for the weekends. Demand from other clubs and groups is steadily increasing so I hope that I might see more of members in the New Year - all the best!

John Foster, Hut Warden.

#### HIMALAYAN VENTURE - SPRING 1976

If any young ladies are interested in the above venture and are free from April to June and are also accomplished rock, snow and ice climbers write to:

CJM Burgess Esq,  
72, Sprules Road,  
LONDON, SE 4.

Please include a summary of climbing experience.