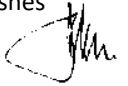
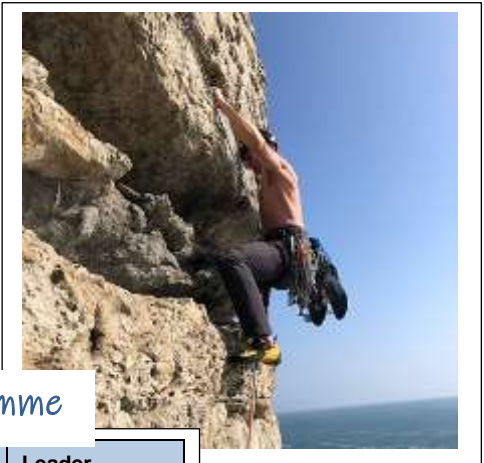


Hi everyone. I can hardly believe it's almost November and time for another newsletter. Here's all the latest news from the club, including the hot-off-the-press Winter Hut Meets Programme. Many thanks to Roger for getting this organised, and to those who have volunteered to lead meets. The **AGM and Dinner weekend** is almost upon us, and if you've not already booked, there's still time to give Al a shout. We're very much looking forward to seeing everyone there next weekend. So make yourself a drink, sit down and read about what we've all been up to over the last couple of months. Who knows, it might inspire you to send me a few words about what you've been doing... Best wishes



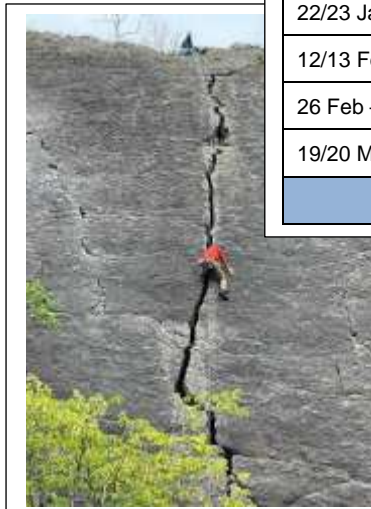
In this issue...



Winter hut meet programme

"...we hadn't considered what effect six pints of beer would have on our progress"  
Roger

Date	Venue	Leader
6/7 Nov	AGM Peak	Al
20/21 Nov	S Lakes High Gowan	Ian J
8/9 Jan	N Wales Capel Curig	Al
22/23 Jan	N Lakes Patterdale	Jonathan
12/13 Feb	N Wales Nant Peris	Roger
26 Feb – 5 Mar	SWM Kinlochewe	Col
19/20 Mar	S Lakes Coppermines	Sip



Clockwise from Top L: View from World's End crag, Llangollen; Jim cruises Silhouette Arete, Swanage; a crowd gathers to admire Phil's new BMX bike; Heather at the end of her 950 mile bike ride; Steve, Liz and Susan in Purbeck; Roger recalls Kinder night hikes; Al follows Col up Aladinsane, Trowbarrow.



### A note from our President

Hi all, I hope everyone is well. Snow has started falling on the tops across Wales, the Lakes & Scotland and folks have been out getting their first winter routes done. For me this is one of the most exciting times of year. Uncertainty about what the upcoming season will bring. Will it be primo conditions all winter and onwards into spring, or will it be a frustrating year with everything in & out of condition and generally not what you want when you're there. An early start is often a good sign, but a deep freeze before the snows usually keeps winter around for longer. Fingers crossed as the nights pull in.

We have the first proper AGM since COVID to look forward to in two weeks' time. I'm expecting a good turn out for this and it will be great to see as many of you as possible and share a beer and tales of what we've all been up to. Beyond that it's the start of the hut meets, again we're hoping for good attendance on these. I'll be hoping to climb somewhere local to the venue (if weather allows), on the Saturday. Anyone of any level is welcome to join in or just accompany us to take photos, walk, chat and catch up. Kind regards, Col

## Forthcoming Meets

### AGM & Dinner weekend, Peak District

[Travellers Rest Brough – Brough Lane Head, Brough, Bradwell, Hope Valley. S33 9HG \(travellers-rest.net\)](#)

6/7<sup>th</sup> November

The AGM and Dinner weekend is nearly here! If you've not already done so, there's still time to give AI a shout and get booked in.



It was 2017 when we last held the dinner at the Travellers Rest; it's the pub on the Hope Road at the traffic lights opposite the turn to Bradwell next to the Hardhurst Farm campsite. We had a great time last time we stayed, and this year looks to be shaping up the same way. We have managed to keep the price very reasonable at £24 pp, despite all that's happened over the past two years.

There are a few folks (including us) staying Friday night too, so doubtless a number of possibilities for a day out on the Saturday, walking, cycling, climbing, (or climbing wall), tea shoppes in Castleton etc. And every chance for a full day out too, as the AGM doesn't kick off until 16:30 – they have reserved the raised area at the rear of the pub for us for the AGM.

Dinner will be at 19:30 with the usual gathering from 19:00 for drinks and the club photo.

After a year off, we are REALLY looking forward to seeing everyone again for a top weekend!

**For more information please contact us using the links at the foot of page 1**

### Lakes - High Gowan, Staveley

[www.lakeland-cottage.co.uk](http://www.lakeland-cottage.co.uk)

20/21<sup>st</sup> November 2021

Once again we are happy to welcome the Polaris to our cottage in Staveley for a meet so why don't you come and join us. We have reserved the cottage for Polaris use from 3.30 pm Thursday 18th to 10.00am on Tuesday 23rd November. Give me a ring to get your access instructions. We have 2 double beds, 5 singles a blow-up airbed and lots of floor space, so be in touch to book your space. Normal hut fees will apply.



Although dates had to be swapped with the dinner we will still try to have a BBQ/token bonfire with fireworks and sparklers on the Saturday night as well as a communal meal. **Please let us know in advance to agree what contribution you can make to any of this.**

As far as the mountaineering goes there are endless possibilities locally. There is also a pub at the bottom of the drive – The Eagle & Child, a brewery in the village, as well as a shop that opens 9-9 every day, indeed every possible facility close at hand!

The address is High Gowan, Kendal Road, Staveley LA8 9LP, Grid Ref. SD472980. To the right of the Eagle & Child in Staveley is an archway leading into its car park, go through here and up the steep drive out of the back of the car park, sharp left, sharp right round end of adjoining bungalow and you are there! **Please park in front of the pub first and walk up to the house to check that there are still parking spaces available before coming up the drive.**

Looking forward to seeing you. Ian & Liz

**For more information please contact us using the links at the foot of page 1**

### **North Wales New Year Party, Capel Curig**

<https://www.gwydyrhc.org.uk/Hut/Location>

**8/9<sup>th</sup> January 2022**



Well, this will be the first time we've been in a hut for the best part of two years – crikey!!

This year's party meet will be at the Gwydyr Mountaineering Club hut in Capel Curig (the 'chapel in Capel') which most of us know and love but directions attached here:

<https://www.gwydyrhc.org.uk/Hut/Location>

Plenty of options for walking, cycling, climbing and mountaineering, along with a committee meeting to agree next year's meets programme, a Jacob's Join type feast and an evening of gentle (and possibly not so gentle if I can persuade Lucy to organise them) games on the Saturday.

We have often had a fancy dress theme but rather than bringing tartan lederhosen or a superhero's cutlass and peg leg, I thought we'd keep it simple this year. Instead, just bring your good self (and any partners or mates obv's), ice axes and crampons, road, gravel and mountain bikes, walking poles and boots, rock boots and full chalkbags, ropes and gear, waterproofs and thermals, and let's get some stuff done whatever the weather.

I'll take along some veggie chilli, jacket pots and a fruit cake (no, not Steve) as well as lashings of beer and wine. Please give me a shout to a) let me know you're coming and b) let me know what food so that we get a good mix eh?

The committee (and top marks to TT in particular) has agreed a "Covid Hut Protocol" for ratification at the AGM, largely along government guidelines and common sense. The Gwydyr hut sec has confirmed that our proposals conform with their current requirements. But in view of the seemingly ever changing Covid situation, I have said I will contact him again for an update around Christmas time which I will share with you all in good time.

It's a great hut in a fab place (my first PMC hut meet ever) and I do hope we can re-start the winter meets programme with a bang! Look forward to seeing y'all there... Moel Siabod anyone?

**For more information please contact us using the links at the foot of page 1**

## Tales of past activities

### **Lancashire September 2021**

*Our international jetsetter just gets back in time for his meet*

I think this is the third Lancs meet that I have organised, all of them from the comfort of my own home. I really look forward to being able to show PMC around the great area that we live in and share some of my favourite climbs with all attendees. A reasonable weather forecast meant there was lots to look forward to.

Fri was a hectic day for me, I had a train ticket booked for 1245hrs to get to Preston and then back in time to meet Al, TT and Steve S at 1500hrs at my house. Prior to that I had to fly home. I was on a tight timeline. Flying



back from Marseille after working away for 2 weeks, I was up at 0315hrs to get my first flight to Paris.....it was delayed, meaning a bit of rush through CDG and onto the next flight.....which also delayed. Adding to my problems some idiot put a bottle of water in the overhead luggage bins without a lid on! Bags wet and water leaking on me and some fellow passengers, only 3 laptops in my work bag, no worries! We landed late at Manchester so were behind another flight into border security, 45 mins later I was able to get through and for a (pointless) COVID test. My taxi driver picked me up and Google showed that I would miss the train, thank you Air France! We managed to make a little time on the way up (vroom vroom) and the train was back on.....it was delayed by 30 mins for a signalling issue. So train made I also made the appointment in Preston, just. One last public transport leg home, TT and Al were going to meet me at the train station.....my last train was also delayed. Steve was stuck in traffic somewhere on the M4, M5, M6 traffic jam. Finally home to meet TT and Al at Carnforth train station 12hrs after I woke up. Phew.



A plan for Fri evening, Jack Scout by the sea TT said, tides against us. Let's go for a walk around Warton Crag and visit 4 different crags and tick off 9 of the 20 routes in the Arnsdale and Silverdale VS challenge I said! Mission on. The Grauch first, at Warton Pinnacle in trainers I slipped off the first move, what a start! The climbing on these small outcrops is all graded for the height of the routes (on the stiff side). Dispatched second go and a team send, onto the next crag. Warton Pinnacle Main Buttress, a bit of gardening and some more hard pulls off the deck, 3 more routes in the bag. Next up is Warton Upper, a lovely buttress with 50+ routes in a great setting. 3 more routes in the bag and the circuit

is almost complete. Finally to Warton Small Quarry as it's beginning to get dark, lights from the pub alluring, up Leaning Tower I went. Down into the darkness, only 1 route left. The Great Flake proved a bit of tussle as it's under an overhang which made for sandy holds and no light. Some huffing and puffing, back at the car for 2000hrs. 9 routes on 4 buttresses all with a totally different character, ace evening out. Steve finally arrived. Tea and bed around 2230hrs, knackered.



Next day a visit to Trowbarrow had to be done. Ryan arrived and Karin, Lindsay and Alistair were joining us. Teams split and got a warm-up route in, Alistair climbing Barrier Reef with Ryan and Karin, Al & TT on Jomo and myself, Lindsay and Steve on Sluice/Night All. Lindsay followed his first E1 on limestone. A shuffle of teams for the next route. 1 group on Aladdinsane and the other on Harijan. Then the (not forecast) rain came! Ryan dug in and completed Harijan (top effort on polished limestone), I chickened out and lowered of Aladdinsane. We had 3 more showers till climbing could start again. I huffed and puffed up Aladdinsane, Al followed with far more style, then Lindsay also managed it. A hugely overhanging and reachy start followed by an off-width for 25 solid meters, I was massively impressed by him completing this. Well done. Ryan had also climbed Hollow Earth. Time to call it? We did. Another great day.

For the last day it seemed fair to head somewhere south for the guys travelling home. Anglezarke, never been. Only Al had climbed there before. After some confusion in finding the crag (none of this looks familiar) we got on with it. What a great location. Awesome lines on (mainly) solid quarried grit, none of that slopey nonsense from the natural edges. Haha. Line of the day for me was First Finale, just great climbing. Terror Cotta a close second. Definitely somewhere I need to visit again. An earlier finish to allow for the drives home wrapped up the meet.



I love running these meets, there is so much to do where we live. We hardly saw any other climbers on each of the 3 days, most folks drive straight on by heading for the queues in the Lakes. I would also like to say that anyone who wants to climb more or wants to push their grades should come to this meet. It's an ideal location for beginners or those with less leading experience. Some of the lower grade routes are 3\* routes, even if the guidebook doesn't agree. Cycling, walking, running and walking also really high quality and all from a really convenient to access location. There are still crags here that I am yet to visit, and places we haven't been. 2022 Lancs meet? Hoping to see you all there. Thank you to the guys who trekked up.

Col

### **Cycling Land's End to John O'Groats**

*Heather's notes from LEJOG, June 2021*

Days 15 days 950 Miles 57,705 Ft of ascent Sunshine 15 days Rain 0 days

Bob and I followed two different routes, the Cicerone route from Lend to Runcorn with only a few diversions off this route to avoid traffic, by taking in a railway line to link over Dartmoor and a few other minor diversions. From Runcorn to JOG we followed 'A safer way' route by Royston Wood where we followed some of the canal system and lots more cycle ways around towns. A few northern sections on the A9 were not as pleasant as I would have liked and could have been avoided if we had a bit more time on our hands to detour. On the whole for a first time attempt it was a good route and the weather was superb.



1 Best roads: A few closed roads which proved to be open to cyclist - well we kept on going anyway and didn't face any battles with workforces.

Over the moor to Tintagel onwards to Monmouth one of the closed roads with a great descent into Tintagel and an excellent cup of tea in the café. Biggar to Livingstone just excellent cycling roads over the moors with bends and twists ups and downs just a joy to ride with very little traffic, only cyclists heading out from the city. The final turn off the A9 onto miles and miles of single track heading north through the Camster Forest, roads littered with wind turbines on every brow and as far as the coast line in the distance.

2 Hardest Hill Climb: A couple of sharp inclines in Cornwall and across Dartmoor. By the time I hit the Shap it was just a steady climb to the summit and not too tough. Not forgetting Scotland one of the last long climbs 'Helmsdale Climb' although shorter than the Shap it was relentless followed swiftly by another 150m climb.

3 Best descent: Well it had to be riding off the summit of Shap, just wonderful what a ride. I don't think anything else could beat that on this ride. Scotland the descent after the Helmsdale climb, down the Berrisdale Braes from 170m to near sea level, what a descent with terrific views when you dared to look.

4 Worst area to ride: Around Runcorn where all the motorways meet very heavy with traffic and a few main roads to cross although cycle ways came in very handy. Cycling in lots of traffic through St Austell in

Cornwall. Stretches of the A9 on the far northern coast just busy and narrow. Reverse cycling off the closed western side of the fourth road bridge only to find the diversion took us unwittingly in the wrong direction.

5 Best Fish & Chips for a coeliac? It had to be in Marazion in Cornwall they were just excellent - need to go back! Rib eye Steak in the Castle Inn at Monmouth made up for the worst accommodation in the Queens Head which needs a bit of work although the staff were very pleasant.

6 Best views: Land's End and John-O-Groats and the view of Sullivan in the distance from the A9 and finally the view of the northern coastline on the last road to the finish post.

That just about sums it up for me. An excellent trip and the cycling was just superb, day after day under beaming sunshine, what more could you ask for. My claim to fame is I managed to ride every hill I encountered; can't get better than that. Excellent. H

**Heather**



## Llangollen September 2021

*Ryan*

I received a text a few days before the meet date from Roger who was keen to get out, with a mixed forecast and low cloud first thing we decided to meet in Llangollen at 9am on the Saturday morning to make a plan. We pored over the OS map inside the car as the drizzle had started, but quickly decided on a walk into the Berwyn's from Glyndyfrdwy taking in a section of the North Berwyn way.



Roger, Hazel & myself and Duke (our dog) drove and parked up in the lay-by beside the A5 crossed the road and headed south along tracks, footpaths and streams gradually uphill before some heather bashing landed us on the North Berwyn Way, phew! Relief! Rain again, so jackets on and a quick bite and some bilberries, a much flatter scenic path took us west in the direction of Moel Fferna 628m and the day's objective.

Following a section of the Llangollen round - a 30 mile circular run/ walk which is held once a year and takes in the summits which surround Llangollen - we arrived on the summit of Moel Fferna. Sitting in the cairn offered little shelter from the persistent drizzle but did help against the breeze while we tucked into a few more snacks before following a path down and north which overlooked Carrog, the railway and views of

the Llantysilio mountains in the distance. 15km and 5 hours after we started, we were back at the cars and the sun finally came out!! Perhaps we should have left 3 hours later... Oh well, still a great local walk.



Sunday

Steve got in touch and seemed keen to visit, he was heading back home from a week in Sardinia, sea kayaking and after flying in earlier that day he texted to say he would be with us at 8:40pm. As the road up the hill is a bit tricky to negotiate in the day, let alone a night with a new campervan, I met Steve lower down in the village to lead him up. As we made the first bend (a series of shunting manoeuvres) we came head-to-head with a Merc already committed to the downhill and a driver not only clearly unsure what to do but creeping forward in a way which told us reversing was not an option!

I try to explain through the glass that we can't move but the Merc keeps moving forward. At that point I manage to jump out and we proceed to guide the driver past Steve's van, me at the back, Steve at the front, one inch at a time. Touch and go but it worked, just. Welcome to Froncysyllte!

Next morning we headed to Worlds End, this is the farthest crag on the escarpment but does have the best setting, sitting at the head of the Eglwseg valley and has plenty of trad routes to go at.



Steve kicked things off with Open book S 4a the classic of the crag, an interesting corner with some good pro, I climbed the variation with breaks out right at half height Slapalong VS 4c, next I pointed out ivy groove VS 4b which until recently had become overgrown but a recent crag clean up and it was climbable again, a technical groove climb which although short pack a lot in, a crux at around half height passing a roof to the left leads to a another corner and crack thankfully the top arrives just before the pump, a great lead by Steve, cool all the way.

Next was Whim HVS 5a a real interesting route with great gear passing cracks and ledges finishing

at the pine trees. We ended the day at the far-left end of the crag with an ascent of 'Cathcart got a brand new Brodie' E1 5b, a narrow crack feature with limited gear and holds but probably the best crag top belay position to take in the amazing view.

**Ryan**

## Swanage, October 2021

*"it seemed more like mid-summer than mid-October"*

"Hello, Tom's Field? Yes I need to cancel a couple of the campervan pitches for the weekend; one person has broken his foot, the other's van door has fallen off." You couldn't make it up. Added to that was the worry of not getting fuel due to media-induced panic buying, so just a handful of us were in Dorset this weekend enjoying the fabulous autumn weather.

We arrived early Friday afternoon and stretched our legs with a walk across the fields to Dancing Ledge; back via Seacombe and Worth, filling a sandwich box full of sles on the way. Lovely to be back on the Dorset coast again. Meanwhile, Georgi and Jim had arrived, pitched and headed off to Guillemot Ledge where they met up with Jim's cousin. There they climbed Mistaken Identity VS and True Identity HVS, finishing in the dark (!) and arriving back with headtorches and big grins at 8pm. Liz and Steve arrived around 9 after an epic journey down from Witney. At least they didn't need to pitch a tent, as they'd hired a shiny new T6 camper for the weekend 😊

Saturday morning dawned misty, a heavy dew on the grass and a watery sun trying to break through. Breakfasted and packed, the eager boys set off to Durlston Head for a day's climbing at Boulder Ruckle, thirsty for some two-pitch trad adventures. The Parkers and Thompsons caught the bus to Corfe and headed up onto the chalk ridge towards Old Harry, keen to distance ourselves from the enormous party of walkers on our bus with similar intentions.



By the time we were up onto Nine Barrows Down the sun had burned away all the mist and we were treated to fabulous views as we headed east along the ridge. Every now and then we'd hear the shrill 'peeeep' from the Swanage railway and see the magical plume of steam chasing along the valley. We walked and chatted and marvelled at the weather; it seemed more like mid-summer than mid-October, but for the bushes groaning with hips and haws and berries.



The chalk cliffs and stacks of Old Harry were as breathtaking as ever, as was the climb back up onto the ridge, squinting into the bright sunshine and sweltering in shorts and T shirts. Then down and back along the beach into Swanage, pausing for a quick swim and a cuppa at the only beach café still open. A fab day.



We caught up with Georgi and Jim – and, later, Jim's cousin – when we all gathered that evening in the Kings Arms. There was a band playing and pizzas or hog roast on the menu. The boys ordered pizza and were told there was a 90 minute wait, so they had the hog roast while they were waiting! They'd had a fantastic day's climbing after a bit of faffing with abseils and tides, ticking off The Ramp, Thunderball E1 and Jo HVS, both of which were very steep, intimidating and hugely enjoyable.

Sunday was warm from the word go. The boys struck camp and headed back to the Ruckle, hungry for more trad adventures. They had another superb day, climbing Silhouette Arete ('the VS that thinks its an E2'), Aventura HVS and dark side of the sun E1.



The four of us walked from the site to Dancing Ledge then followed the coast path past Seacombe and Winspit and on to St Aldhelm's Head, where we lunched in the sunshine. Our backrest / windbreak was the impressive sculpture dedicated to the pioneers of radar who worked in Worth Matravers during the war. More information [here](#)

The afternoon leg of the walk featured tea and amazing home-made cake in Worth then a wander along the Priests Way, making a detour to check out the very impressive 145-million-year-old dinosaur footprints in Keates Quarry, well worth a visit. More information [here](#)

All too soon we were back at the site and it was time to unplug the hook-up, pop the roof down and head home. Another wonderful weekend in Swanage. Many thanks to Georgi and Jim for making the long trip south, and to Liz and Steve for their most excellent company over the weekend.



**John & Susan**



## Kinder night hikes in the late 60s

*“We convinced ourselves this would be just a stroll on a trod path with no need for head torches”*

During that late 1960's era we made frequent visits to the Kinder area. We had tried out many different combinations of ascent routes and crossings of the summit plateau and somehow thoughts were voiced about completing the perimeter walk in moonlight and completing this with seeing the sun rise near to the Downfall. This would certainly be an “added” interest outing. The vast array of lights surrounding the Hope Valley cement works would light up the southern flank and make it easier along that part of the path.

So we convinced ourselves that this would be just a stroll around on a trod path with no need for head torches and if undertaken in the late spring there would be only about five hours of darkness.

On a suitable Friday night near to a full moon and with a reasonable (for those times) weather forecast, four of us arrived at The Nags Head, Edale, about 8pm. The plan was to have a drink and set off at closing time (which was 10.30 p.m. in those days) So myself, Geoff Moss, Dave Riley and Val Vickers duly started up to Ringing Roger. The moon was up and the weather fair – what hadn't been considered was the effect that six pints of beer made to our progress! So we staggered upwards, stumbling and stopping, until we eventually reached the top of the edge. We then discovered that the cement works floodlights, being below us, didn't illuminate the perimeter edge path! Undeterred we carried on, hoping for the best, to Jaggars Clough. Then another problem occurred – the moon was setting (we hadn't anticipated this). Head torches were then retrieved, and we carried on over Crookstone Knoll and cloud and drizzle then came in, but we continued as far as Blackden Edge from where we headed south back to Ringing Roger. It was just starting to get light back at Edale so we piled into the cars for a nap. Later, after breakfast, we stopped off at Burbage North Edge and pulled in a couple of climbs before heading home.



Polaris portrait 1969: Jim Cullen, David Evans, Alan Reece, Val Vickers, Pam Summers, Dorie Andrew and Sharpa the sheepdog.

This failed attempt didn't cause us to abandon the idea, but only to think that we needed a bit more luck. We tried again in early September, making sure that this time the moon would not set during the night. We also limited the beer intake! The forecast had been ok so we set off again. This time things seemed to go better but when going along Seal Edge the weather closed in and it turned wet, so we abandoned the trip and headed south over the plateau to Grindsbrook.

We still hadn't given up hope of doing this so a new idea developed over the next couple of months – why not



Kinder Gates 1970. Tony Hutchinson, Roger Kingshott fending off a UFO with his ice axe; Dorie Andrews in the foreground with Sharpa.

try it in winter conditions? The nights were longer, but with a good covering of frozen snow the going would be easier as all the boulders would be covered up and not be there to trip you over. The moonlight combined with the snow cover would make it really light to see. Snow usually started in December and could last until March/April, such that on one amazing occasion we found Roger Turner (of Roger Turner Mountain Sports Shop in Nottingham) skiing along the bottom of groughs at the beginning of May – he had just started selling ski equipment and was out practicing!

So late in February we tried yet again. This time it was myself, Geoff Moss, Tony Hutchinson and Dave Riley. Our plan was well established now – don't drink too much, make a steady ascent in the moonlight and enjoy the

sparkling snow at the top. The going was mostly solid with some soft bits and you had to stay alert as shadows could either be depressions or hillocks. We knew we'd reached the north edge of the plateau when we could see vehicle headlights moving along the A57 Snake road below us. At this point we were in good spirits. Alas

yet again the weather proved fickle and by Fairbrook we were in a snowstorm. We took shelter behind some boulders and waited until it started to get lighter. Yet again we retreated to Edale.

After this attempt it probably would have been a good time to abandon this project, but word had now spread within the club, so another larger group organised and determined to succeed where we had failed. Obviously we couldn't let this happen so we joined with them for yet another attempt.

On another suitable moonlit night with a reasonable weather forecast (late April I think) we gathered at The Nags Head. This time myself, Geoff Moss, Tony Hutchinson, John Chapman, Dave Higgins, Jo Makin, Chris Hinton and Sid Newton and by now we followed the usual routine. This larger group tended to straggle more, but this could be advantageous to those at the rear as you didn't need to do much route finding! Yet again the weather proved fickle with wispy cloud developing. By the time we had done Blackden Edge and arrived at Seal Stones at around 2 am. the promised clear moonlit night was fast disappearing, so we stopped for a break. The weather was not getting worse, so we resorted to head torches and continued, but unfortunately by Fairbrook rain had set in. We sought shelter behind suitable boulders and debated what to do. The consensus was that we were too far into the trip to give up so we would wait until dawn broke. As it got lighter around 5.30 a.m. the rain had stopped and we decided to carry on to Fairbrook Naze and Edge then head south to Kinder Downfall. By now the sun was up, but not in the form of the glorious sunrise we had been hoping for because of the low cloud. However, our spirits had been raised and we made the crossing to Grindsbrook feeling much better. Back at the cars the general consensus was "never again".

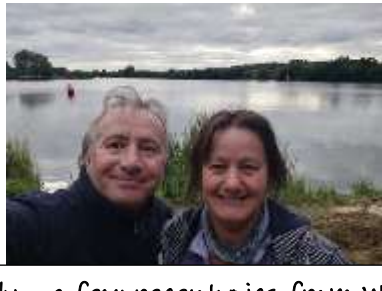
The idea obviously had had some merit but to succeed and be enjoyable it needed perfect conditions and the ability to make a spontaneous decision, which only seemed to be likely if you lived locally and could go out on the spur of the moment.

It just showed that we were always looking to become more adventurous and do something different. The best example of this that I can remember was on a Scottish Winter Meet at Ballachulish during a period of unsettled weather. When we came out of the pub one night it was moonlit and frosty, so John Parker and John Chapman decided to have a go at an overnight traverse of the Aonach Eagach<sup>1</sup> and succeeded. By lunchtime the following day the rain had set in. It shows that seizing an unexpected opportunity can give wonderful results.

**Roger**

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<sup>1</sup> See write up in Polaris newsletter July/August 2021



And finally... a few recent pics from WhatsApp



Dave's picture of Martin at the end of a Stanage day; Karin and the boys out climbing near home; the Burley Boys do Great Knoutberry Hill; Sip out in the Peak District; Kevin and Christine after a covert wild swim near Nottingham; John's picture of his mate in the Dorset floods; Phil S and Lucy on the Sannox Horseshoe, Arran; AP lifts a tree out of the way for TT on a Cheadale walk; The Ice Cream Team - Georgi & Jim, Swanage; Jim on the Cioch, Skye; three generations of Dennehy's out on their bikes; Steve S and Al on Stanage; Phil S and Lucy on the Cock of Arran; AP and Martin modelling this year's colours; Dave demonstrating his back and foot technique; Liz and Steve on Pendle Hill, Forest of Bowland; Steve S and Ryan climbing on the Llangollen meet.