

# Carlisle Mountaineering Club

**NEWSLETTER September 2011**

**Phil and Sue have reported that a tree near the start of aberration, Quayfoot Buttress, looks like it is in danger falling on to the climb**

## **CLUB NEWS**

If you would like to get more involved in the club there's a need for some help on the committee. You won't get a job if you don't want one but a bit of input would be welcome. Also need to get the average age down under 150.

The next committee meetings are Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2011 at 18:30 and Wednesday 09 November 2011 18:30, both at Morton

The Members slide night will be held on Wednesday October 12th 2011 at Morton. 7pm start.

As part of the slide night there will be a

photo competition. There are three categories

- Best mountain
- Best person / people
- Best route

If you would like to enter, bring your photos along.

A provisional date of Wednesday November 9th has been set for a lecture on 'Preparations for winter climbing'. Venue at Morton. Full details in the October newsletter.

An early winter meet in Glen Coe has been arranged for Weekend 11<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> November 2011. The Independant Hostel at glencoe has been booked and we have the hostel to ourselves. Cost will be £25 per person, and there are 26 places available. Please send cheque or cash to Tim asap if you want to go.

The Club AGM will be held on Friday November 25th at Morton.

The Club annual dinner will be held on November 26<sup>th</sup> 2011. Full details in Octobers newsletter with menus, cost and booking form. Bookings are required by mid November

Dates for the Scottish winter meets for 2012 have been arranged as follows

## **Diary Dates:**

### **September**

#### **Events**

Wed 28<sup>th</sup> Chris Bonnington Lecture  
Cotswold, Carlisle

#### **Club Meets**

Sun 28<sup>th</sup> Buttermere

### **October**

#### **Events**

Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting Morton 18:30

#### **Club Meets**

Sun 9<sup>th</sup> Shepherds Crag  
Sun 23<sup>th</sup> Langdale

### **November**

#### **Events**

Wed 9<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting Morton 18:30  
Wed 9<sup>th</sup> Lecture Morton 19:00

#### **Club Meets**

Weekend 11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> Glen Coe

### **December**

#### **Events**

#### **Club Meets**

### **January 2012**

#### **Club Meets**

Weekend 27<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> Newtonmoor

### **February 2012**

#### **Club Meets**

Weekend 24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> Roy Bridge

### **March 2012**

#### **Club Meets**

Weekend 23<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> Glen Coe

Weekend 27-29th January 2012.  
Newtonmore. Bunkhouse has been booked

Weekend 24-26th February 2012. Roy  
Bridge. Tim hopes to get this booked shortly

Weekend 23-25th March 2012. Torren  
Cottages Glencoe. Cottages have been  
booked.

### **Lectures**

Chris Bonnington – Triumph and Tragedy on  
the Eiger **Free Lecture** at Cotswold in  
Carlisle Wednesday 28 September 2011

Club website at <http://www.carlislemc.co.uk>.

The Club also has a group on Facebook

Please send photos and details of your  
adventures to  
[sue.greenwood7@btinternet.com](mailto:sue.greenwood7@btinternet.com).

### **FUTURE MEETS**

All payments for weekend meets should be  
made to Tim, whose details can be found in  
the members booklet. All meet bookings  
must be accompanied by full payment to  
guarantee the place. Cheques payable to  
Carlisle Mountaineering Club.

### **CLUB MEET REPORTS**

Due to the joint effects of holidays and the

weather, there are no meet reports this  
month

### **FUTURE MEET REPORTS**

Sue is going to do an account of their  
ventures in Italy and France for the October  
newsletter. If you have any accounts,  
stories and photos that you would like to  
share with the club we would be happy to  
include them in the newsletters. We are  
always grateful for new material.

### **CLUB ARCHIVE**

Article supplied by Dorine Tinnion

An account by the young Dennis English,  
taken from the Club Journal 1967/8  
Welsh Weekend

The village boozier where I was 'well in' was  
opening for the summer season, my set of  
'doms' was incomplete having lost the 4:2  
and it had stopped raining. These together  
with the fact that having reached the age of  
21 my name was being mentioned in  
connection with senior posts on the  
committee, persuaded me it was time to  
start climbing again and prove I was not  
really finished.

Taking my P.A's out of storage and trying  
them on I realised something more drastic  
then cutting my toe nails would be required  
to make them fit. Consequently they were  
sold and another pair, laughingly described  
by others as wellingtons with laces' were  
purchased.

The next thing was where and how to start!  
The idea of a crash course in North Wales  
was suggested and one Friday night I found  
myself travelling down the M6 with a 6ft  
2inch, 14 stone muscle man uttering words  
like Vector, The Wasp, Leg Slip, Sunset  
Boulevard, Red Slab and the other odd  
H.V.S.

On the Saturday I was driven down to  
Tremadoc and taken up 3 climbs with a rope  
about as slack as high G on a violin string.  
The most gripping was the first pitch of the



Tremadoc

first climb called The Fang, which looked  
about severe and was probably only v.diff. I  
needed about 3 'Hail Mary's', a very tight  
rope and was pleased to be wearing brown  
climbing breeches before I succeeded in  
getting to the top of the pitch. After this the  
old joints stopped squeaking and a few  
whiffs of John's 'Hubbly Bubbly' gave the

picture a much rosier outlook – in fact I almost enjoyed the following two pitches to the top of the crag.

The next climb was The Plumb, also H.V.S, being a series of short hard pitches of 20 or 30ft. Either delicate or strenuous and sometimes a combination of both. I was so impressed by my improvement that I volunteered to lead the last pitch, but as soon as I was on the 'sharp end' I quickly discovered that the effects of the 'Hubbly Bubbly' had worn off and my most urgent need was either a tight rope or a pair of wings; consequently I graciously allowed "Mr Universe" to complete his lead of the climb.

Our final climb was Meshach with its final magnificent pitch with a long run-out on small holds, but not too strenuous. From below the pitch looked impossible but once one started to move up holds began to appear, some of which were almost large enough to accommodate the whole of your big toe-nail. The last move was a long stretch for a jug handle finished by 'cycling up the wall'. John of course led the climb and I found it rather easier than I had expected – there's nothing better than being on the 'blunt end' of long run-outs.

After this we called it a day and returned to the pass for a meal before running down to the 'Padarn Arms' where leaders of "extremes" are as common as hedge sparrows. Arms are extended in all

directions and fists are clenched, not in anger but in describing how some 40ft overhanging crack can be climbed.

As the next day, Sunday, was warm and sunny, our thoughts moved to a long walk with a good climb so we decided to attempt Sunset Boulevard on Clogwyn y Grochan, about 400 yards from the hut.



Clogwyn y Grochan

Having deposited ourselves in an exhausted condition at the foot of the climb we discovered we were about 15<sup>th</sup> in the queue of parties waiting to do Kaiserberg Wall, which takes the first part of Sunset Boulevard, and John decided we should climb Slape while we were waiting. I lost the toss and was directed to the first pitch, but unfortunately or otherwise I was directed in the wrong direction and all my previous day's training was undone as I vainly tried to climb an overhanging arête. I retreated in disorder while 'Guido' set off up a groove to the left and traversed back to regain the arête at a higher point, placed a

runner on a pinnacle and traversed left to a ledge and belay. I followed and struggled to the pinnacle where the next move had me really worried. The pinnacle was loose and a long step left had to be made from its top using small loose flakes for balance and pushing gently on the pinnacle with the right foot in case it fell off. The rest of the climb including the crux was about 2 standards lower.

We then adjourned to the hut for a brew and returned to attack Sunset Boulevard, well loaded with the usual cheating gear, John leading and me following in his footsteps. The first pitch shared with Kaiserberg Wall was pleasant and led to a poor belay, after which there was a difficult traverse protected by a peg. I could not see John when he was leading the pitch but at one point his curses together with the sound of falling rock puzzled me until he informed me that a foothold had come off but he was alright. I followed and was pleased to discover that the missing foothold was not essential, and I even had time to inspect and make suitable comments about the supermen who climb Hangover (over which I thought we had traversed) until I was told that the groove down which I was looking had not yet been climbed!

We then descended Slape and traversed across part of Brant to Sickle which proved quite hard and I felt I was on the wrong end of the rope. John offered to let me lead the

crux of sickle but I declined and was later pleased with the wisdom of this action when I came to follow as a hold appears to be missing , making the start of the traverse very hard. In addition, the last move, which is also quite hard is only protected by an old wobbly peg.

By now the sun was sinking slowly in the west and as we had a long way to travel we decided to call it a day. We retreated to the hut via Noah, a severe climb which requires a step off a pinnacle so polished by trampling hordes that the only suitable foot gear for it is ice skates.

A quick meal was called for followed by a nightmare dash to the border in order to get into a non-prohibition area before closing time. The return home was made via Manchester with a short overnight rest at Rochdale which completed a most enjoyable weekend.

I can recommend Wales as an area for a climbing weekend, and now with the opening of the Penrith by-pass, the journey should be possible in less than 5 hours.

Dennis English

<b>Carlisle Mountaineering Club, Weekend Meets 2011</b>			
<b>BST starts 27/3 and ends 30/10</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Tel.</b>
<b>September</b>	25 <sup>th</sup>	Buttermere	Tony Morley 01228 524767
<b>October</b>	9 <sup>th</sup>	Shepherds	John Holden 07776 296120
	23 <sup>th</sup>	Langdale	TBA
<b>November</b>	13 <sup>th</sup>	Rememberance Day, Great Gable	FRCC
	11 <sup>th</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup>	Glen Coe Independent Hostle	Tim Millen 07825 419666
	25 <sup>th</sup>	AGM	
	26 <sup>th</sup>	Club Dinner	Dorine Tinnion 07775 833226
	27 <sup>th</sup>	Hangover Meet	Phil Wilkinson 01228 522614
<b>December</b>	18 <sup>th</sup>	Pre Xmas Meet	Joe Miller 07990 680237
	26 <sup>th</sup>	Boxing Day meet	Carlisle Club
<b>January</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> - 29 <sup>th</sup>	Newtonmore	Tim Millen 07825 419666
<b>February</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> - 26	Roy Bridge (TBC)	Tim Millen 07825 419666
<b>March</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup>	Glen Coe Torren Cottages	Tim Millen 07825 419666

<b>Carlisle Mountaineering Club, Evening meets 2011</b>			
<b>BST starts 27/3 and ends 30/10</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Tel.</b>