

OUTSIDE NOW!

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The New Plough, Leicester Road, Hinckley, Thursday 9.00pm

Mon 28th latest

Sad news for our old mate John Trow. He had a mini-stroke on Saturday and is currently in LRI. I won't go into details here, suffice to say, his spirit is good, and despite some obvious problems he thinks he'll be out at the weekend!!! He's on Ward 25 (Windsor) should anyone like to visit him. Take him some earplugs for him "to cut out the moaning b....d in the corner" (JT's words). Looking forwards to getting him out of there and back on the hill...Ed.



Christmas greetings to all club members.

As the year end draws near, the weather, in the main, continues to be relatively kind for those of us out enjoying our chosen pursuits and I hope that this holds true for the Pudding Walk on the 28th Dec. The winter months gives a chance for gear to be checked over and maybe some things that need replacement could be added to Santa's list! I should be so lucky! When ever I go out, much to the bemusement of Annette, I always take a shelter, a 1st aid kit and too many tops. Perhaps it's the Boy Scout in me (once a scout, always a scout) or I may have OCD but you can never have too much kit, you never know when you will need it.....



Anyway, a few weeks back at a Committee meeting, Annette did suggest that instead of club members sending Christmas cards too each other, a donation is made to one of the mountain rescue teams. I am happy to coordinate this for the club if anyone wishes to do this. So if you do not

receive a card from us it's because the card money will have been, in our opinion, have been put to a better use.

For those of you that attend hut meets and put some money in the chocolate box tin, I am pleased to say that £55 had amassed since the last time it was opened. We plan to send this as a donation to the Search & Rescue Dog team this time. I will endeavor to keep the chocolate box stocked again this year for hut meets

Ian, Nettie, Jane and new treasurer Bob count the contents of the sweetie box.



The last meet of the year in Trecastle was well attended and another great success, although one member did sustain an injury Friday night, which I hope she has now recovered from.

The winter months provide some great opportunities to enjoy the hills & mountains around the country, especially whilst covered with the white stuff. Remember to take care, take that extra top (just in case) and take some great photos to make every one else jealous of you being there. I wish you all a great Christmas and New Year and that Santa brings you lots of new kit.

take care,
Ian

Christmas Nibbles at the New Plough Dec 8th Pud Walk Dec 28th

STOP PRESS By popular request, we have secured places for 3 nights at the George Starkey Hut, Patterdale on Tues/Wed & Thurs.. Dec 6/7/8. Interested? Contact yours truly asap. Thanks Ed (See Back Page for Meets List

Presidents Meet



Another stonking good meal by HMC Catering Corps. Sadly numbers were down this year and there was room for another 6 members at a splendid centre in Edale. Sue, checks the menu, Vicky is the waitress and Nigel looks confused. right, G&T for Jane as Ian and Ed check the cooking.



Bethany gets her first (of many?) TAT award after taking a mud bath on last years Christmas Pud Walk. And becoming the youngest ever recipient. In the meantime, Also in the picture, Ed, Brian G, Geoff, Carol, Kate, Mark, Jane, and Brian K. Missing, but not for long, Harry, Bruce and Ted.



Chairman Ian gives his sermon to the congregation at Edale



Carol gets the Presidents Shield (for keeping Ted in Order! From President Dave.



Trowie gets the Don Ward Ice Axe

Presidents Meet, Edale.



Alport Castles.



Roger, Alistair, Phil, Pete and Brian K set off for the round of Kinder.

Friday

Met Phil and Pete at the Robin Hood. Decided to go to Hayfield to get better weather. Hayfield – Ashop Head – Kinder Downfall – Swines Back – Hayfield. Drove to Edale and had to wait to get into Centre so went to Pepper Pot Cafe which closed on us so it was the up to the Nags Head.

In the meantime Ted and Carol visited Alport Castles, starting from Derwent Water and making an eight mile circuit.



Saturday.

With Cookie, Roger, Alistair Pete and Phil. Edale – Jagers Clough– Ringing Roger – Grindslow Knoll – Nags Head (again)

Ted and Carol started from Ringing Roger and did the circuit finishing at Jacobs Ladder. Also guided some attractive young women across the peat hags to the Kinder River...they were most grateful. Also met Bruce, walking the circuit God's way...ie clockwise and then Phil who like most of us were doing it anti clockwise...ie The Devils Way.



Carol meets Bruce half way round the Kinder Circuit and then bump into Phil by the Downfall.

Sunday,

Longshaw – Grindleford Station – Froggatt Edge – Curbar Edge – Baslow Edge to White Edge and back to Longshaw. Just me Phil and Pete. Large Scout event on Baslow Edge and Stags rutting on White Edge. A quiet walk until we were mobbed at the end on White Edge by a party of HMC'ers aka Geoff, Kate, Alistair, Carol and Ted. Never let Ted know where you are going –he will always turn up.



Froggatt Edge, a near mass ascent of some of the edges starting from the National Trust Car Park at Longshaw. Alistair has a scenic lunch.



Brecon Beacons



Excellent bunkhouse at Trecastle and as usual The Catering Corps provided Saturday dinner. Brian G and Trowie did a six mile walk, starting from the bridleway by the hut and make a circular walk to the River Usk.



Friday



A beautiful sunny day, climbed Hay Bluff, right on the border of England and Wales and to make it clear there was a Welsh Dragon painted on the trig point. Cracking short walk once we had found the right road which is the Gospel Pass single track road from Hay on Wye. Short steep ascent then miles of flagged paths on the tops.

Nuttall walks :- Brian K and Phil

Friday Fan Fawr – only met one other walker on our route

Saturday Carmarthen Fan. Poor weather in morning but good in late afternoon. Bumped into Ed and co on the way and Ed kindly carried my poles for 20 meters (22 yards) for me. DEEP stream crossing on way back –Boots off for a refreshing Paddle. 9 hours!!

Sunday Met very few people. Hoped to get to the Canadian Air Force bomber memorial for a Remembrance service but were just a little late

Sat, Ed, Jane, Nettie, Ted and Carol.

Drove to Llanddeusant where there is still a YHA and took the narrow road to Blaenau where there is a large car park on the Reservoir Road.

Raining, claggy and very boggy underfoot, path very indistinct so needless to say the final hike to the summit of Fan Foel was nearly vertical on very loose scree. But we made it just in time to see Brian and Phil, who had come from the opposite direction disappear into the mist. We continued only to meet up again with Brian who had left his poles for Ed to carry. Onwards to the main summit of Bannau Si r Gaer 2236ft, meeting fell runners in a race. Finally the clag lifted for good views to the reservoir, Llyn y Fan Fach and our route back. The hill side was now getting crowded although most folk were walking only to the reservoir along the rough private road.

A good walk about 8 miles. It was hours before we met up with Brian and Phil again, Understand that they went paddling!



Sun Ted and Carol with the sun shining started Brian and Phil's route of Sat from Tafarn y Garreg. After an initial steep climb it is then a gently ridge walk along the edge to Fan Hir (left) . Then the clag came down but we continued to Fan Brycheiniog 2633ft (right) before descending to Llyn y Fan Fawr, coming out of the cloud returned under the ridge and back to the car returned under the ridge to the car park. 8 miles.



Long Mynd Sun 20th



Sadly no one turned up to join Carol and me for the first snow walk of the winter despite the accurate weather forecast of snow on the hills.

Must admit it rained and sleeted for the first hour but it stopped giving a fine walk. Left the Cardingmill Valley car park, cut diagonally uphill to cross above Church Stretton to get to Ashes Hollow which gave a great walk onto the top near to the summit of Pole Bank. A bit blowy, had lunch, but nowhere to sit. Descended a very icy, slushy and slippery

path back down to the Cardingmill Valley, the car, loos and cafe. 8 miles. Lots of walkers, runners and cyclists.

A party of 50 walkers from Worcester couldn't believe their luck at the conditions although the steep descent challenged some of their group.

NOTE Mr hut meets sec, their weekend accommodation was in the the Long Mynd HOTEL.



Membership secretary Jane will await with pleasure everyone paying their subs...still only £20. And she now has an enforcer, the new treasurer Bob Tilson. Don't forget 15% off at Cotswold and 10% off at other shops.

from Brian C and Stacey D,

On Saturday, Nov 26th

Stacey D and I did another mega walk over the high Bleaklow moors out past Outer Edge. Alpine skies and no wind. Cloud inversions etc. Awesome day to be in the hills.

THIS SPACE LEFT TO FILL IN YOUR EXPLOITS, TRIPS, EXPLORATIONS, ETC

HMC Meets & events so far for 2016–2017

Dec 6/7	Patterdale, Mid- weeker – 2/3 nights. Contact Brian K/Phil
Dec 8	Nibbles Night at The Plough...free buffet as usual
Dec 28	John Trows Xmas Pud walk
Jan 8	Daywalk, Peak District – see Ed
Jan 20	HUT MEET – Beddgelert
Jan 26	Jo Jones “The Dolomites” at The Plough, 9pm
Feb 12	Daywalk, Shuttlingsloe, Staffs – see Ed
Feb 23	Lea Leatherbarrow “Mt McKinley” at The Plough, 9pm
Feb 24	HUT MEET – Keswick
Mar 12	Daywalk, Peak District, see Ed
Mar 14 (3)	Mid-week hut meet, 3 nights, Dartmoor
Mar 29	Ted Cottrell – subject tbc at The Plough, 9pm
Feb/Mar	Skiing – Three Valleys, France (See Bruce)
April 27 (3)	HMC Event, Llanberis, awaiting confirmation.
May 27	Ullapool Hut Meet – 1 week
Aug 11	HUT MEET – Gower
Sep 8	HUT MEET – Patterdale
Oct 6	PRESIDENTS MEET
Nov 3 (3)	HUT MEET – Bellingham (Northumberland)

From Ed

Next year's events so far include Beddgelert, Keswick, Ullapool, Gower, Patterdale, some mid-week meets!! 3 x multi-media presentations, a skittles night, daywalks, Wed evening walks **and more!** Note: As I'm mostly having only UK based trips next year, we're looking for someone to take on, and organise, our summer trip to the Alps – please get in touch if you think you can help. Most other dates should be finalised in time for the AGM. Looking forwards to seeing you all sharing in our activities. Don't wait - the time will never be just right!

If you are out with non-members please encourage them to join the club. It's the strength of our membership that helps us to put on such a varied meets programme, and it's essential that we continue to inspire both old and new members alike.

Feb – Skiing. Bruce is trying to organise a ski trip late Feb, and interested parties should get in touch directly, or via me. (Not going on the bus either!)

From Dave Gair: Les Williams is a supplier of Cotswold gear that has been used in photo shoots for their brochure, and he has all sorts of stuff at 50% off (Garmins/Boots/Jackets/Poles etc). Call Les on 078424 558059 for more info.