



York Alpine Club Newsletter

January 2004

AGM Report

The YAC AGM took place on Thursday 13th November 2004 at the Brewery.

The following were elected to the Committee:

- Simon Caldwell (Chair)
- Peter Evans (Secretary)
- Jonathan Moffet (Treasurer)
- Debra Halcrow (Meets Sec)
- Carmen Elphick (Social Sec)
- Simon Fox (Newsletter Ed)
- Richard Guest (Ordinary Member)

The other significant outcome on the night was the decision, in the light of increased BMC costs, to raise the subs to £8 p.a.

Chair's Walk: 11th January 2004

We'll meet in Keld, Swaledale (893013), there's a car park marked on the map. Lunch will be at the Farmers Arms in Muker, it's only a small pub so we need to aim to be there by 12 or 12.30. The choices are pork or beef, price £5.95, and they can do veggie on request so please let me know *by Friday evening* if you want this option. They also do baps, toasties and other light snacks for those with smaller appetites.

I've worked out a couple of routes. The longer of the two goes via Crackpot Hall and an optional scramble up Swinner Gill then along the top of the valley and down to Muker. It's about 4 miles. The shorter route, 2 1/2 miles, simply follows the valley path to Muker. There are a couple of options for the return, between 2 1/2 and 3 1/2 miles, or if anyone's feeling organised we could drop some cars in Muker or Thwaite to make for a shorter alternative.

Can you let me know if you intend coming, they're expecting 15-20 so if it's more than that I need to warn them.

See you on Sunday

Simon C

PS Forecast is still for wind and showers so wrap up warm!

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Mobile: 0777 1691218

Email: simonjcalldwell@ntlworld.com

Official Paperwork to be completed.....

You may have noticed another piece of paper included with your newsletter this month. Although this is a membership application form, this needs to be completed by ALL current members and needs to be returned to me, Peter Evans (Secretary) as soon as possible. We need to have the information from the two forms for the following reasons:

1. Allow us to update our records (especially regarding Emergency Contacts)
2. Enable us to comply with the DPA (Data Protection Act)

N.B. If people choose not to return the form, their consent to the use of their data for the purposes described in the form will be implicitly assumed.

Peter Evans - Club Secretary



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Sunday Walks I

At the YAC committee meeting before Christmas we discussed the lack of a Sunday walks programme, and I volunteered to co-ordinate the activity.

The proposal is to organise a walk on the first Sunday of each month, after the Chair's Walk on Sunday 11th January. In order to do this we need volunteers to organise and lead them. please contact me with your offers and opinions about this.

I feel that the appropriate length for a walk is between 10 and 16 miles (4 - 6 hours actual walking) and they should not normally be more than 1 1/2 hours drive from York, i.e. usually in the Dales or the North York Moors, though we have had successful walks on Ilkley Moor and wild Boar Fell, and less successful attempts to see (rather than merely reach) High Cup Nick.

If you are interested, please tell me. If you will organise a walk, better still. If you are doubtful about your ability to lead a walk, that need not stop you organising one, as there are plenty of people in the club willing to help, who have YAC's unique brand of navigation skills!

Jonathan

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Email: jdm@ieee.org

Social Events

Sat 24th January: York Pub Crawl
Venues to be announced

Tues 3rd February: Touching the Void at City Screen, York. Please contact Simon C. if you are interested in going to see the film as he will pre-book tickets.

Sat 28th February: Ice-skating and Curry

It's ice-skating time again at the Ice Cube (outdoor rink) in Millenium square Leeds. Ice-skating 5.30-7.30pm. £6 admission (inc. skate hire) discount available if you have your own skates. Skating to be followed by food at a nearby location. Event will be subject to weather conditions.

Saturday 20th December

Annie's finishing work/Christmas booze up!

A range of members from the club met in the Old White Swan to be bear-hugged by a strange lady sporting a St. George's Cross hanky/hat and glasses that Elton John would have been proud of. This lady did not limit her greetings to members of the club but also extended it to random members of the public. We also visited a heaving Ye Olde Starre Inn and then some more hardy members of YAC queued to enter the Lowther. Tom and Rich were last spotted on the ground in the middle of St. Helens Square.

Carmen

Tel: 01904 416663

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Forthcoming Meets

Stair Hut - Newlands Valley, the Lakes.

Dates: the nights of 30th - 31st January 2004
Coordinator: Rich Guest/Simon Caldwell

Booking Commences: Thursday 8th January

We have 21 places booked. Assuming a full turnout the cost per person per night is £3 but this may rise depending on numbers.

Hut Grid Ref: 237211

Feshiebridge - Scotland

Dates: the nights of 18th - 20th February
Coordinator: Tom Shepherd

Booking Commences: Thursday 29th January

Hut Grid Ref: OS Sheet 35 - 844047

The hut sleeps 14 (we have booked the whole hut) and there is also permission for 8 people camping if the hut fills up.

A webpage for the hut is here:

www.mountaineering-scotland.org.uk/huts/millcott.html

Spanish Climbing - March 2004

YAC seems to have developed a tradition of a quick spring break in the sun come the Spring, with lots of climbing thrown in! This year it is proposed that the trip is to Morata de Jalon, but this can easily change depending on the participants.

If you're interested then Peter Evans is the man (of La Mancha?) to talk to.

Hut Booking Rules

As meets are getting fully subscribed these days, members should be aware of the following rules for booking onto Club Meets.

1. Unless otherwise stated, bookings for all meets will open from the Thursday that is 3 weeks prior to the start of the meet.
2. A place on the meet is not guaranteed until the full fee has been paid. It is non-refundable unless someone else wants the place. the full fee is subject to change depending on the numbers attending.
3. In the event of a meet being fully subscribed with multiple members attempting to book onto a meet at the same time: a) people booking for the whole meet have priority over those booking for part of it; b) A lottery will be held for the remaining places.
4. All disputes will be adjudicated by the Committee.

As these rules have not really been required in the past, they will be discussed at the next Committee Meeting to ensure they are fair (any comments to the usual suspects). In the first instance disputes will be handled by the Meet Coordinator, then Debra H (Meets Sec) and then the Committee.

Hut Etiquette

The use of other Club's huts is an enormous privilege, particularly as we do not have a hut of our own to offer to other Clubs.

Without the use of Club huts our meets programme would not be as successful as it is. Please bear this in mind when using huts and have the courtesy to respect the rules laid down by the Club owning the hut.

Generally, these will include:

1. Leaving the hut in a clean and tidy state at the end of our stay (even if the hut is a tip when we arrive)
2. No animals in the hut
3. No smoking in the hut



Climbing News

Until late March, Wednesday climbing will alternate between Leeds, Hull and Newton Aycliffe walls, in that order of regularity and according to popular opinion.

I will also be starting some basic leader skills sessions at the Brewery from February onwards, aimed at covering all aspects of belay/anchor fixing which is possible away from rock.

e.g. Tying into and equalising anchors from single & double ropes.

These will be aimed at those who are looking to begin leading in the coming summer season and will probably be scheduled an hour or so before the regular Thursday meetings at the Brewery. Details will be sent out via email, or contact me by one of the methods shown below.

Rich

Tel: 01904 781216

Email: guest30@ntlworld.com

Mobile: 07947 138979

Sunday Walks II

Jonathan will lead a Sunday Walk on Sunday 8th February. The route will take in Barden Bridge, Simon's Seat, Troller's Gill and Appletreewick, and will be approx 10 miles.

Meet at Old Gray Mare, Clifton Green at 9 am or Barden Bridge car park GR: SE053574 at 10 am.

Other proposed dates are: 7 March and 4 April (or 28 March). Details will follow in due course.

Climbing lectures

There are two lectures on climbing coming up in the near future. They will take place at the Adelphi Hotel, starting at 7.45pm, and will cost £5 (£4.50 if bought online).

The speakers will be Ben Heason on Jan 20th and Steve McClure on Feb 17th.

More details here:

<http://www.planetfear.com/heasonevents/>

Contact Simon C if you're interested and there might be a club trip in it.

Caption Competition



Damn. I think I just sat on my other ice axe....

Photo: Rob Stone