

EDEN VALLEY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

www.evmc.co.uk

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Newsletter – December 2015

2015 is drawing to a close – what a great year – lots of climbing and getting out and meeting with new members and folk.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Firstly, thank you for voting me in to my 2nd term as President. I take it then, that you enjoy my harassing, my rudeness and my bad language? Great. More of the same to come..... As I said at the AGM, it's great to see that EVMC has been revived this year with an influx of enthusiastic newcomers supported by a posse of elders. Let's all remember what it felt like to join a club and reach out with the hand of friendship. The wall in winter is a great place to chat to potential members and offer a rope. So do it! Enjoy Ron's fabulous newsletter which is a great reflection of the active year EVMC has had. It brings back good memories of warm sun and proper rock to help us through the winter. Lastly, have a great Christmas! Hope you get what you deserve and not what you want.

Belinda

MINUTES OF AGM - WEDNESDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2015

PENRITH LEISURE CENTRE - following free climbing for members at the climbing wall.

1. Review year by

- President Belinda recalled a very active year with a lots of new members (18); with wall to crag course; visits by many to new crags and areas; 70 members in total (17 inactive ?); thanks to Phil for organising weekend meets; thanks to routes setters at the wall and highlighted introduction of new club rule to wear a helmet when climbing outdoors

2. Accounts for Year

- Jane presented papers. Currently £1029.18 in bank account. Main extra costs were £250 to Bram Crag Quarry bolt fund and £122 for shortfall on Welsh weekend.
- Accounts agreed

3. Subscription

- Agreed to stay the same at £15.00

4. Annual Dinner and Fell Race

- Date agreed - 6th February 2016 – at Queens Head - Tirril

5. Election of Officers

- President - Belinda Lloyd
- Secretary - Al Davis
- Treasurer - Jane Meeks
- Website - Ron Kenyon
- Lectures - Ron Kenyon / Steve Goodwin

6. Meets

- **Evening Meets** – see list to follow
- **Wall Night** – agreed on Wednesday Night
- **Weekend Meets / Day Meets** - see list to follow

7. Lectures / Social Events - watch this space !

8. Website

- Agreed to look at the website system created for clubs by BMC
- RK to contact BMC re website system

9. Climbing Wall

- Eden Climbing Wall Group - base on regular route setters – with reward of a free pass to the Wall.
- Hold change dates - next one 6th December

10. AOB

- Alastair Rutherford had been first aider for Eden Runners race and received £150 which has been given to the EVMC – look to use for bolting new routes at Coudy Rocks.
- He is also involved at the Haweswater Marathon with a further payment going to the EVMC and consider this going to bolting of Bramcrag Quarry. Thanks to Alastair for all he has done for the Club this year.

WHAT'S COMING UP !!

Sunday 13th December 2015

EDEN ROCK – CARLISLE

Monthly meet at bouldering paradise in Carlisle

Meet at NFU building (space permitting) at 11.30am or at Eden Rock from 12.00pm



Sunday 20th December 2015 - 11.00am

PENRITH CLIMBING WALL

Festive Frolics at the Wall

Fun and quirky competition for everyone – come to the Wall and join in



Saturday 6th February 2016

DINNER AND FELL RACE

FELL RACE

The Royal Dockray – 1.00pm

CLUB DINNER

Queens Head Tirril – details to follow



EVMC CLUB LECTURES

PROVISIONAL LIST – Further details to follow of venue and dates -

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| January | HIMALAYAS |
| February | ROCK AROUND AMERICA |
| March | SCOTTISH ISLANDS ROCK |



WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING !!

JULY MEET – ESKDALE - 19th JULY



It was raining heavily at 10.00am as four gathered in Penrith. The weather was improving from the west and there was fine weather forecast for the afternoon in Eskdale – so “Go West” became the objective. After some coffee at the Woolpack Inn it was up, through the bracken, to eventually find Bellstand Crag. Rather damp in places but generally dry granite was there to climb on. The classic VS, appropriately called Plumline, was climbed, followed by others to give an excellent afternoon

CRAG LOUGH (2) 22nd JULY

Two meets in one month to Crag Lough !! Weather looking doubtful – but the sunshine was about and six made their way to Northumberland (1 hour to car park) . There was a rather loud bull in the field so carefully made our ways to the crag. Though busy there is plenty of choice and a good number of routes climbed – Hadrian’s Buttress (good value HS); Route Two (VD); Route One (HVS – useful having legs which can come up to your left lughole !); Bracket (Good value for VD); Tarzan (VD ***); Jezebel (D***); Face Route (S) and Pinnacle Face (VS). A “must return” place with a pint in the One Brewed to finish a great night.

SLIPSTONES – 9th AUGUST



The monthly meet was going to be to Esk Buttress however after a glorious Saturday, Sunday dawned grey and cloudy (400m) and Esk Buttress was not the place to go with better weather in the east – so where – Brimham or Slipstone !!. Rather murky over Stainmore but soon blue skies and sunshine were in abundance. Slipstone was agreed upon

and we were made our way to Colsterdale and the crag. What an area ! Moorland to the skyline, lots of bilberries, very few people and the crag itself – not big (max 10m) – but each route, VD upwards, pack something to test one. We set to and solo easier routes – a mat would have been useful but we felt safe on the most delightful rock. A rope was used to lead some of the harder routes. Bit of a breeze but after 4 hours (it was only about 3.30pm) and about 30 routes each we felt we had had enough. More bilberries picked and off to the Black Swan for some refreshment at Healey then back home and the gloom of the Lakeland fells.

Great day – well worth a repeat visit – and not that far away.

CASTLE ROCK – 12th AUGUST



What an evening – glorious sunshine and members just seemed to keep arriving (many for the first time) to enjoy the delights of the South Crag at Castle. A good selection of routes done – *Direct Route, Gazebo, Klienne Rinne, Slab Route, Wall Climb, No Name, Via Media, Yew Tree Climb* – ascent of the night probably goes to Dorothy when she seconded Slab Climb (Sev).

SCRATCHMERE SCAR - 19th August

After a wet day only optimists turned out for the Scratchmere meet, despite the President's summons. Belinda and Steve G searched out the drier rock, climbing Out of the Dark (MS) and Leyline (VD) before being joined by Dorothy who gamely slithered up Choke and eventually over the chockstone to join Steve who decided he would do it next...his way...posting himself through the chockstone letterbox. New route? Belinda followed; squeezing shoulders and cursing hips until eventually popping out. Don't do this version if you are over size 12! The evening was completed with The Arete (S) on top rope and a pint in the pub.

CUMREW – 2nd SEPTEMBER

Despite the torrents of the day, Cumrew welcomed 5 club members, including Richard Hardaker, on a dry evening. Belinda led Richard up Grey Yaud (D) and The Cauldron (VD), proving he could still climb and Steve cajoled him up Black Magic (MS). Jonny tackled Tabby (S) and Eric sauntered up the Croglin Vampire (VS). Deciding to pack up, we realised the wall had turned pink as it reflected the glorious sunset over the Solway and rushed back up the rock in walking boots to soak up the colour. Some say we lucked out but Belinda says you make your own luck.

PRESIDENT'S MEET – BUTTERMERE - Sunday 6th September



Buttermere was shimmering in the sunshine when we arrived and by the time we reached the high crags we could have dived in without a second thought. Al moaned that he could have got in 4 routes already at BCQ (blah, blah) while Russ was bemoaning not having joined the club sooner (that's more like it). Eric and Ron went to Eagle Crag to do battle with Carnival – not an “easy E1” with four

layers including light insulated tops - and the rest to Grey Crag – to enjoy the delights of sunkissed rock. Al and Johnny got busy on Fortiter (MVS) while Steve led Belinda and Russ up one of his tried and tested routes up to the top of the fell. After climbing up Harrow Buttress (D) and Chockstone Buttress (Slabs Ordinary VD), we arrived at the foot of Oxford and Cambridge Buttress where we met Al and Johnny scaling Dexter Wall and at last we gave the couple the slip up O&C Direct (MS), a lovely exposed arête. For Johnny and Belinda there was time for another quick route on O&C (D), then up onto High Stile before heading back down to Gatesgarth. The President had a quick dip in the lake (bliss) before carting everyone's gear (it felt like) to the pub. A great day – thanks to all who came.

DOROTHY'S 80th – HEADEND QUARRY – 9th September

Age creeps on us all – however when you are called Dorothy Spence you meet it and deal with it and carry on living – and in with that living is climbing.

Dorothy is 80 this year and continues to come along to meets, with enthusiasm. To end the series of 2015 evening meets for the Club we met at Headend Quarry to celebrate her 80th year.

Suitable decoration was made of the Quarry.

Ropes were set up and Dorothy appeared and climbed three routes. The rest of the Club also had a good evening climbing a good selection of routes before we all retired (very suitable) to the Old Crown to sample the new brew “Dorothy’s 80th” and enjoy the birthday cakes.



Happy 80th birthday to Dorothy

CROOKRISE – 13th September 2015



The Club headed to Yorkshire to get a taste of grit and Crockrise. The crag is complicated by the amount of vegetation (bracken, heather, bilberries (yum yum)) and hidden holes – we eventually set up camp below the crag. Just above us was Diagonal Crack – only VD – good to start with but these VD grit routes do not give in easily – similarly with Octopus (used to be VD) – but seemed very good value for S. On and on and a good selection of routes climbed over the day including - Arsenic Slab (S); Old Lace (VS); Buster (S); Face; Arête and Wall Climb (S); The Shelf (E2 – top roped – sort of !); Craven Mantel (Font 5+); The Sole (HVS); Tiger Rag (HS); Rushlight (S); Flake Wall (VS); Hovis (E1); Crease Direct (E1 6a) Takes a bit of getting used to – this gritstone !

DERBYSHIRE – 9/11th October 2015

The Pondsides at Thorpe Farm above Hathersage was, again, the base for the weekend. Stanage was again the aim for the Saturday – however to get away from the crowds (we made our own crowd !) we headed to the Crow Chin area left of High Neb. Some determined members headed further left ! Great area – not high but plenty of challenges – October Crack is graded Diff but gives its moments; Harry Kelly lefts his mark with Kelly’s Crack (V Diff) and Eliminate (HS) ; Feathered Friends (VS) gave some flutters and October Slab (HS) was a must. A bit further left is Right-hand Tower (HVS) – well worth seeking out – but take three (!!) big cams ! The team worked right with a final flurry with High Neb Buttress (VS) – Top 50 Classic finished today.



Sunday saw most aim for Burbage with David Jones and Johnny Wilson going back to Stanage. At Burbage the mods of Monkey Wall, Overhanging Buttress Arête and Burgess Buttress created their moments (these mods carry a punch !) ; Monkey Corner (HVD) stopped some; Overhanging Buttress Direct (Sev) was a must and Wednesday Climb (HVS) stopped all – even with Belinda with her helmet on for belaying. Attention moved further right to Amazon Crack (HS) and Greeny Crack (VS) – with some encouragement from Rob – and a sweaty ascent of Top 50 Classic – Long Tall Sally (E1)



Thanks to Phil and Rosie for bringing the weekend together and all for going to make a great weekend.

CLIMBING APPS FOR LAKE DISTRICT

The FRCC, in association with the CC, have produced a number of Apps for crags in the Lake District. Al Davis has been heavily involved with these.

Current availability as follows;-

- Castle Rock South
- Wrynose - Black Crag/Long Scar
- Raven Crag - Langdale
- Shepherd's Crag
- Bramcrag Quarry - including The Fun Factory - new sector

Link to order the apps is

www.climbers-club.co.uk/shepherds-crag-available-on-the-guidebook-mobile-app/