

CRMC EVENTS UPDATE

DECEMBER 2007

If you plan to come on an event, then please make contact with the Event Leader beforehand. Please remember that a place on an event where the Club arranges accommodation is only firmly booked on payment of the full amount due. Camping events are generally more flexible although sometimes we book camping space in advance. Again, speak to the contact to find out whether you need to book a place or not. Cheques, payable to the "Christian Rock and Mountain Club" should be sent to the event contact after checking by telephone that a space is available. Your place will be held for 7 days. If you would like to share transport to an event, the contact will try to put you in touch with somebody who is traveling in roughly the same direction as you.

To avoid 15 people trying to use the same gas ring at once, we try to organise communal evening meals on some events. The Event Leader should be able to tell you all about the food arrangements. If you have a medical condition or special dietary requirement, or would just prefer to prepare and eat your own food, please let them know when you book. Accommodation at some events can cater for children – but please speak to the Event Leader first. We also like to include an informal service of worship and reflection during the weekend and this will often take place on the Saturday evening.

If you are interested in an event, please book early: if everyone leaves it until the last moment, the event may have already been cancelled by the time you make your mind up! Also, we can sometimes book additional spaces if we need them, but we do need to do this in advance.

PLEASE ALSO NOTE that the club is responsible for cleaning the cottages, huts and hostels we rent before we leave on the last day. Please do make sure that you do your bit when you are on an event – if everyone does a little then it need not take more than 10 minutes. If you don't, it will take two people a lot longer – and quite possibly cost them the day.

DOGS ON EVENTS If you hope to bring a dog on an event please check with the organiser beforehand to ensure that the hut owners are OK about this. If anyone is allergic to dogs please tell the organiser so that they can sort out suitable arrangements.

MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM CALL OUT TIME Cut-off time for this winter will be **7pm**, after which Mountain Rescue will be alerted if you're not back at base or haven't made contact with the Event Leader. If you expect to have a long day out in the hills, please pre-arrange this with the Event Leader.

CLUB POLICY & CHILD PROTECTION POLICY If you would like a read of either of these club policies, please contact Andy Elphinston or look them up on our website (www.crmc.org.uk).

NEWCOMERS An encouraging reminder to look out for newcomers on events and to give them the usual friendly CRMC welcome! Please do chat to them and invite them to join you on your activities, or introduce them to folk who they could join up with us.

CONGRATULATIONS to Andy Friend who has just won the Sean Gooch Award at this year's Annual Dinner with a photo taken near Ingleborough of winter trees after a hard frost. T-shirts were won by Gaye Senior-Smith, John Fleetwood and Ben Fleetwood for various achievements: well done!

CLUB DISCOUNTS We have arranged a number of discounts recently with several outdoor shops, just as long as you show your CRMC membership card. We have the following discounts:

Field & Trek 10%
Needle Sports (Keswick) 10%
Ultimate Outdoors (Keswick, Betws, Lancaster, Skipton) 10%
Joe Brown's (Llanberis, Capel Curig) 10%
Climbers' Shop 15% if you sign up to their on-line newsletter

NEWSLETTER We always need people to write articles on what they've been up to! Please email any articles (about club events, or other things you've been up to) to c_j_clayton@hotmail.com or r.h.clayton@sheffield.ac.uk.

EVENTS

BURNS NIGHT

Walking

Scrambling

BLACK SAIL, LAKE DISTRICT Youth Hostel 25 – 27 Jan

Contact: John & Alison Fleetwood (01539 823271 or johnfleetwood@phonecoop.coop)

Black Sail is probably the most remote and legendary Youth Hostel in England and Wales and we are really lucky to have got exclusive use for a weekend again. This will be a weekend to celebrate and to remember for years to come – just talk to anyone who came on last year's event! Be warned: Black Sail is basic (limited electricity supply, "background heating") and it's at least a 3 mile walk-in over a pass with all supplies. We'll celebrate Burns Night on the Saturday evening with the traditional haggis, tatties and neeps. 16 places at £35 each, inclusive of the Scottish feast. **This event is now full with a waiting list.**

FEBRUARY WEEK

Winter walking

Winter mountaineering

Ice climbing?

CRIANLARICH, SCOTLAND House 9 – 16 Feb

Contact: Simon Reed (0208 566 9879 or coa@talktalk.net)

Our annual week's holiday north of the Border will be heading to the southern part of the Scottish Munros this year, somewhere the club hasn't visited for a number of years. Our weather watcher has noticed that there has been just as much snow falling here as in Glen Coe over recent years! Excellent train links right to Crianlarich itself, numerous hills to climb, such as another Ben More, and why not try Y-Gully on Cruach Ardrain?

Previous winter hillwalking experience is essential, as is knowledge of how to use an ice-axe and crampons. We will be staying at Stob Binnein Cottage, part of Portnellan Highland Lodges in Glen Dochart. Contact Simon for more details – there are 8 places at approx £90 per head, but we may be able to book more if folk book on soon!

THE CIC HUT**Ice climbing****Winter mountaineering****The CIC Hut, Ben Nevis, SCOTLAND****29 Feb – 3 Mar (long weekend)**

Contact: John & Alison Fleetwood (01539 823271 or johnfleetwood@phonecoop.coop)

The CIC is legendary: a superb location, with the North Face of Ben Nevis on your doorstep. We've booked the hut for 3 nights (Friday to Monday) and have managed to get just 6 places. Previous winter mountaineering experience is essential as this is not a place for beginners. Good company in amazing surroundings is guaranteed. Accommodation cost will be £27, food will be organised separately.

SPRING WALKING WEEKEND**Walking****Scrambling****Climbing?****AMBLESIDE OR GRASMERE, LAKES****Youth Hostel 7 – 9 Mar?**

Contact: Jessica Friend (0113 268 5690 or jfriend2005@yahoo.co.uk)

Would you like to get away to the Lake District for an early spring walking weekend? Planning the year's programme, I was aware of a lack of the more accessible events between New Year and the AGM and wondered if a group would like to meet up for an informal event, staying in Ambleside Youth Hostel or one of the Grasmere hostels? Spring will be in the air and the fells should be quieter. This will be a parent-friendly event. Give me a ring if interested.

THE LAGANGARBH**Ice climbing****Winter mountaineering****Winter walking****The Lagangarbh Hut, Glencoe, SCOTLAND****28 – 31 Mar (long weekend)**

Contact: Graeme Walker (0131 447 8492 or graemewalker@blueyonder.co.uk)

A 10 minute walk from the road, the Lagangarbh is a comfortable hut, with a well-equipped kitchen, gas heating and a shower. Less intimidating than the Ben or Torridon, the immediate vicinity offers plenty of scope at all grades of climbing and winter hillwalking (presuming the weather is favourable of course!). Another minor point that may find favour with the non-pioneering types are the much-reduced walk-ins ... Always a much-enjoyed weekend with good company, the cost for 3 nights is £33, inclusive of two evening meals.

LANCASHIRE CLIMBING MEET**Climbing****LANCASHIRE****Camp or floor space****18 – 20 Apr**

Contact: Julie & Mike Parkinson (01995 670351 or ecclescake2@hotmail.com)

The Parkinsons are once again inviting us to join them in the first weekend's climbing of the season. Come and discover the joys of climbing in and around the quarries of Lancashire by day and join together for a meal at theirs on the Saturday evening, possibly a take-away. Accommodation is camping in their spacious garden or floor space in their house. This is a good event for beginners – chat to Mike or Julie to get more information.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Walking

Scrambling

Climbing

BRYN BRETHYNAU, CAPEL CURIG, NORTH WALES Hut

2 – 5 May

Contact: Andy Elphinston (01244 351619 or andrew.elphinston@bigfoot.com)

Join us over the Bank Holiday weekend for our AGM - a very important and always sociable event in our club calendar. We will this year be at the North London Mountaineering Club hut, a short walk up a track from the A5 behind the Bryn Glo car park. The surrounding area offers plenty of options for walking, scrambling or climbing and mountain biking. On the Saturday evening we will have our AGM which is your opportunity to have your say in the running of the Club. This is also the time of year when your committee is elected (we NEED people to volunteer to be on the committee!): if you feel you could help the club by standing for a committee post, please contact Andy.

Thirty places available at £20 each, including two evening meals. Last year's AGM was our best ever attendance at a club event: will we beat it this next year?

JOINT CRMC / SCOTTISH CHRISTIAN HILLWALKING CLUB MEET

Walking

Scrambling

KNOYDART, WEST HIGHLANDS

Bunk house 23 – 27 May

Contact: Julian Ridal (01355 279581)

This is a rare opportunity to visit one of the remotest mountain areas of Britain & stay in relative luxury! We have booked the White House near Barisdale Bay on Loch Hourne in the Rough Bounds of Knoydart. There are 12 spaces, 6 for SCHC members and 6 for CRMC members at a cost of £46 per person for 4 nights. The White House is fully equipped accommodation with bunk rooms, a living room & an equipped kitchen (take a look at www.barisdale.com/the_whitehouse.htm). We have booked a Bank Holiday weekend by popular request, staying from the Friday til Tuesday. Why not then spend the rest of the week exploring another part of the West Highlands?

We will need to carry in sleeping bags and food for 4 days in addition to other personal kit. It is a rough up and down 8 mile walk above the loch side from Kinlochhourne (where cars are parked) to Barisdale (I have done it before there & back on different occasions!), but there is the opportunity to arrange to be taken in by boat, which I will enquire about. The remote, rough mountains made more accessible from this Barisdale base include the Munros Ladhar Bheinn, Luinne Bheinn and Meall Buidhe, the Corbetts Sgurr a Choire Bheithe and Ben Aden and the Grahams Slat Bheinn and Meall nan Eun. Speak to Julian to get more details &/or book a place.

CRMC ALPS MEET

Alpine mountaineering

Walking

Climbing

Bernina & Bregaglia, SE Switzerland

Camping

12 – 26 July

Contact: Peter Langley (07882 676818 or peer@beeb.net)

There is a very enthusiastic group who have already put together plans for next year's Alps meet. It has been proposed to head to south-east Switzerland on the Swiss-Italian border, south of St Moritz. Bernina has one 4000m peak and several others just below 4000m with routes varying from F to PD and above. Bregaglia is a lower area, mostly 3300m and below, with more walking possibilities, and is well-known for quality rock routes on granite at PD- and recommended to Alpine novices. If you are interested, please contact Peter.

Some dates for your diary (further details to follow):

Climbing weekend Incorporating training in North Wales if there is a demand	6 – 8 June
Midsummer Party George Starkey Hut, Patterdale, Lakes	20 – 22 Jun
Climbing holiday in Cornwall	August
August Bank Holiday Family Meet	22 – 25 Aug

OTHER EVENTS

Any ideas for future events? Places to stay? Places to go? Do let me (Jessica) know if you have an idea or come across some good accommodation.

If you would like some training for climbing (beginners, transferring from a climbing wall to the outdoors or multi-pitch climbing?) then do get in touch and we'll arrange some more training for early on next season (Spring 2008). We have an excellent instructor based in North Wales who comes highly recommended by club members from previous training. A weekend's tuition costs about £50, depending on the number of folk learning. The club offers subsidised training once a year too.

Anyone willing to organise an informal climbing weekend over the summer? Please contact Jessica if so!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Many of you will remember that Jon Cox came to speak at our annual dinner in 2005 and that he runs Adventure Plus, a Christian provider of adventure activities for schools and youth group at a number of centres around the UK.

Would you like to use your skills and love of the outdoors to get alongside young people from a variety of different back grounds, and help an organisation like A+ in the process?

Do you know friends who are not climbers who might be happy to assist with other activities including: minibus driving, worship band, catering support...

If you want any more info - why not check out the A+ web site (www.adventureplus.org.uk) , or contact them on 01993 703308 or email Jon himself (jon@adventureplus.org.uk). You could be a real encouragement to them....

And from Gaye Senior-Smith's housegroup leaders -

**Are you a Christian Climber with a SPA qualification?
Do you have a free week 25th July to 2nd August 2008?
If so, would you like to join us in the Lake District for 'Lakeland Challenge'?**

It is a West Runton (part of Scripture Union) Christian activity holiday for 15-18s. Please see www.lakelandchallenge.co.uk for more details, or email us at lakelandchallenge@westrunton.org.uk. We'd love to have a chat with you to discuss it further.

**Peter and Helen O'Donnell (holiday leaders):-
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Tel: (0117) 907 0479**