## THE YORKSHIRE MOUNTAINEER

Issue: 373

December 2017





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The Yorkshire Mountaineering Club - Founded 1941



#### IN THIS ISSUE



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#### A Warm Hello from the Newsletter Editors

#### Phillippa Child & John Beacroft-Mitchell

We have recently taken on the role of Newsletter Editors and this is our first edition, so we hope you enjoy the new format. We welcome any feedback and encourage you to send any articles and pictures through to us at: ymcnewsletter@gmail.com.

A lot has been going on over the last few months, with members making the most of the limited good weather we have had over the summer. The club has seen many new members join this year, which has been exceptionally positive.

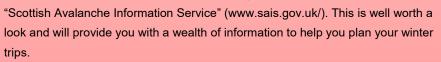
The weekly evening outdoor climbing meets have been really well attended, with most seeing a real improvement in their skills. Thank you to Jonathan for co-ordinating these meets, he has really been a star driving this element of the club forward. Thank you also to those more experienced climbers who have taken the time to coach and support inexperienced members.

There has been the very successful joint meet with WBMC, which the YMC hosted at the cottage. Full article in this issue and it's worth a read, even if it's to see Lawrence's shoes!

There are also some committee member vacancies - have a look to see if you feel you could contribute to the running of the YMC.

There are lots of exciting meets planned for the new year, which are featured in this edition. So get out the 2018 diary, sit down with a mince pie and enjoy what the 2018 holds for the YMC.

Winter is well on it's way now, with a very cold and snowy December forecast. As complete novices to winter mountaineering, we attended the BMC Winter Mountaineering lecture in Manchester. This was a great input showing what kit to take, how to efficiently pack your rucksack, how to use kit and how to effectively interpret weather forecasts. The overall message from the evening was to make sure you stay safe whilst testing those winter skills. A useful website from the evening was the



Please remember that membership fees are due by 31st January 2018 - so put it on your new years resolution list to be nice and early with your payments.

Finally all that is really left to say is that we wish you all a very Merry

Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year!

See you next edition!

Phillippa & John



## 2017/18 Climbing Meets Still to Enjoy

Now winter is fast approaching, our evening climbing meets have moved indoors. Whether new to climbing or want to keep your skills up during the winter months, feel free to join us.

Kit can be provided by the club (with the exception of shoes) and most climbing walls have equipment you can hire. There is a entry cost to the indoor walls and we usually meet around 6pm.

- Wednesday 6th December Leeds Wall
- Wednesday 13th December Leeds Wall
- Wednesday 3rd January Leeds Wall
- Wednesday 10th January Leeds Wall
- Wednesday 17th January Leeds Wall
- Wednesday 24th January Leeds Wall
- Wednesday 31st January Leeds Wall

### Coordinator: Jonathan Carter



Find out more on the 'MeetUp ' App



#### YMC Climbing & Walking Meet - Stanage 16th July 2017

#### Article by Phillippa Child

Stanage Edge - glorious gritstone in the Derbyshire Peak District, with over 690 climbing routes for all grades and abilities.

We stayed in the nearby campsite the Friday and Saturday night, so had the opportunity to climb for two days. The location of the campsite is superb - however, take midge repellent to avoid being bitten to death. We had to make an emergency visit to the local Spar! It rained all Friday night and most of Saturday morning, however, the guide book assured us that the rock would dry quickly. We persevered and by lunch time (after a cheeky bacon sandwich) the sun came out and we were ready to try some of the routes.

The Sunday was the club meet and it was great to see so many people there. Some had come for the walking and some had come for the climbing, but we had super weather. The climbing group was split up on this meet, in order to make the



most of the skills and time we had available. Those who were confident lead climbers, were paired with those who were comfortable seconding. Feedback with this arrangement was positive - we all climbed

more routes and tackled more complex climbs than we had before. Some climbed the very snug chimney - which I would recommend doing prior to lunch if you don't want to get stuck!

It's fair to say that I didn't want the weekend to end. It was a place where there is climbing for all grades, skills and abilities. There is so much to climb, that if you're willing to go to the less popular areas, then you would have the rock to yourself. A simply stunning location, which I hope to spend a lot of time at next year.

## Joint West Bromwich Mountaineering Club Meet - Part 2 - YMC Coniston Club Cottage 21st & 22nd July 2017



#### **Article by Jonathan Carter**

Present: YMC - Jonathan Carter, Phillippa Child, Nicola Fan, Leah and Leo Thompson, Ken Tilford, Damian Rose, Lawrence Farndell, Sean and Marie Kelly, Bernadette Cook, Chris Marshall, Ali and Soraya Homayoonpoor. WBMC - Dave Jones, Ian Merther, Pete Poutney, Rob Cox and Charles Brecknell



Thanks to the YMC paying for Sean Kelly and I to attend a BMC training course at Plas Y Brenin in May 2016 we met Graham and Dave from West Bromwich Mountaineering Club. During the weekend we sat and chatted about the various issues within our clubs and tried to come up with new ideas for recruiting and retaining members. We decided to try and hold two exchange weekends at our respective huts. So after various texts between us over the following months we managed to come up with a couple of dates one at their hut in Snowdonia and one at ours.

The meet at their hut in June in Snowdonia was a huge success and as seen from Graham's write up in the previous newsletter we were treated to a fantastic weekend of walking, scrambling and climbing. We were all treated like royalty and we knew we would have a task on our hands to reciprocate that when hosting them when they came to our cottage in July.

Friday night saw everybody arrive and the drinks began to flow and once the introductions were completed we settled down to a nice game of 'WHO'S YOUR FA-VOURITE BRIAN?'

Saturday morning we all woke to rain and a few hangovers. I led a small group including Leah, Leo, Damian, Nicola and Ken up the scramble of Levers Water

Beck and then up Raven Tor onto Brimfell and then the Old Man Of Coniston before descending via the tourist path back to the cottage. Sean led the remaining group up through the mine workings under the Old Man of Coniston.

### Joint West Bromwich Mountaineering Club Meet - Part 2 - YMC Coniston Club Cottage continued...



Dinner that evening was a Mexican meal very kindly and expertly prepared by Head Chef, Phillippa, and her Army of helpers.

Following dinner there was another session of drinks with many of us admiring Lawrence's shoes and Chris's Wellies.

Sunday we woke to sunshine but it was a little more of a relaxed start and after breakfast and the customary clean up we all went down to Coniston Water where we had various kayaks for us all to play around in on the water.

Overall, another great weekend with our new found friends from West Bromwich. Already we have starter to plan next years exchange trips











#### YMC Meet - Meugher 17th September 2017

#### **Article by Dave Girt**

Present: Members Jane, Kath and Graham, Steve, Martin, Alan, Patrick and Dave, and Guests Wendy, Terry, Helen, and John.

Most of us had woken to teeming rain, and driven through it to find Skipton and surrounds unaffected by the downpour. A good omen: nevertheless gaiters were a popular choice in anticipation of bog trotting the moors after a particularly damp Summer. We got away from Yarnbury in broken cloud just after 10.00 picking up the clear track then the obscure footpath to the ruins of Gill House where a brief snack was enjoyed. From there we exercised our "right to roam" following the wall boundary of High Allotment, crossing the unmapped track, and on over the escarpment of Black Edge. A thin sheeptrack in the heather by the fence lead us on, crossing Black Edge Dyke without wetting our feet, and eventually on to the plateau where we diverted to the Mossdale Cave Memorial to pay our respects and acknowledge this year's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the tragedy.

Back then, past Priest's Tarn, surprisingly small given the season's large rainfall, and descended the clough to the northwest where we found a grassy picnic spot in the developing sunshine for an early lunch break. Refreshed, we dropped in to Mossdale and picked up the Bycliffe Road bridleway to the col at Sandy Gate, passing the intriguing beehive stone shelter on the way. Resisting the temptation to head straight to Meugher's summit, now in view, we contoured round to the east to the watershed to avoid clambering in and out of the many cloughs which rend the moor in this area. Eventually the summit was "bagged" but the flag and celebratory champagne had been inadvertently left behind so we settled for a group photo instead. Our next objective was due south, but conscious of some verbalised unhappiness at unremitting tussock grass, our trusty guide magicked up a track in the middle of the moor which roughly went our way for half a mile before we were forced back on to open moorland; but at least it was all downhill now across Featherbed Moss.

Before long we struck the recently created shooter's land rover track in the Blea Beck valley, and after a late second lunch stop continued along the gravelled track through the ruins of the abandoned lead mining area, up the "Duke's New Road", and back to the cars.

John's watch told us we had done 10.33 digital miles- my legs said it could have been more! Thank you everybody for your company.

#### 2017 Meets to Still Enjoy

## Xmas Fuddle - Barden Scale - 10th December 2017

The traditional Xmas Fuddle to round the year off. Everyone brings some tasty treats to share and warm up with a glass of mulled wine.

## Boxing Day Meet - Cow & Calf likley

Over indulged on the turkey again? Kids new toys driving you crackers? Have no fear the traditional Boxing Day meet will be taking place at 10:30am, to give you a break and some exercise.

Don't forget to wear that Christmas jumper and your new socks from Santa!



Find out more on the 'MeetUp ' App



#### YMC Meet - Brimham 1st October 2017

#### Article by Kathryn Willis

Present: Graham Willis, Kathryn Willis, Steve Barlett & Alan Marson

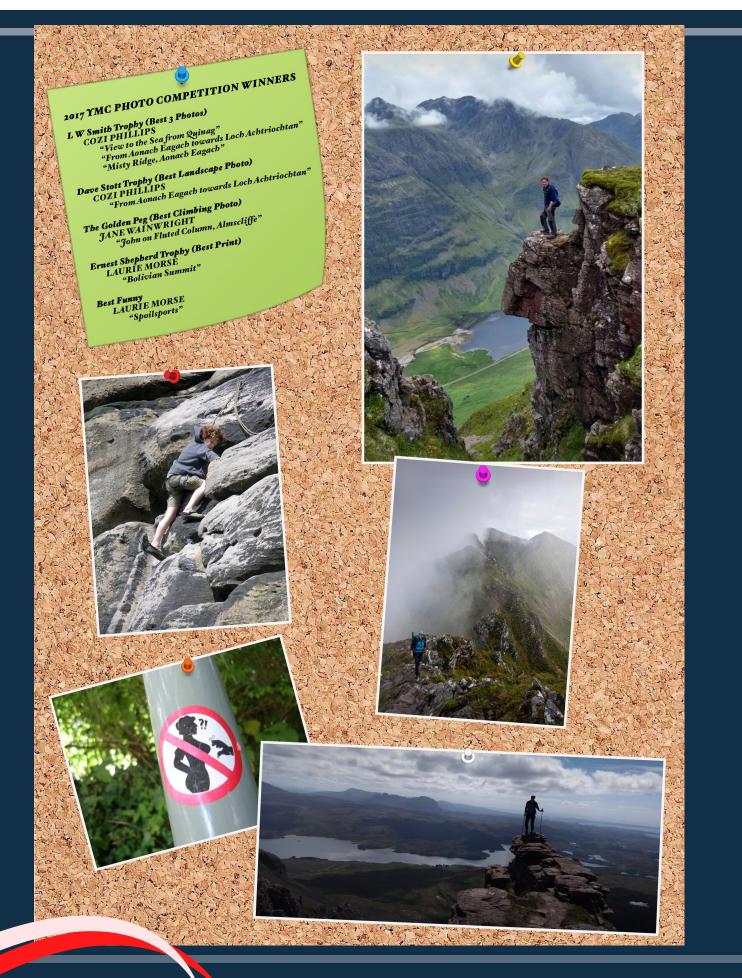
Start Point: Brimham Car Park

Grid Ref: SE208645

After a late damp start from the National Trust car park and a visit to the trig point, we headed down past High Pasture Farm crossing fields and a footbridge, before climbing to join the Nidderdale Way path. Despite the poor forecast it was a dry day and there were good views across the valley, but the footpaths were very muddy throughout the entire walk. After passing through Blazefield, we continued on towards Pateley Bridge – a welcome sight for the two people who had left their sandwiches in the car!

After lunch, the return journey meandered along the banks of the river Nidd, before taking us across the footbridge and main road to climb past Knox Hall and the hamlet of Smelthouses. From here we followed the path through High Wood towards Brimham and back to our starting point. Liquid refreshment was taken at the local hostelry in Dacre Banks to round off a very pleasant day.

Apologies to Ken Tilford who turned up on the day but we managed to miss each other in the car park!





# YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOUR CLUB NEEDS



## New Committee Members Wanted - Help Shape the Future of the YMC

#### **Article by Jonathan Carter**

The Yorkshire Mountaineering Club Committee is currently seeking to fill the following roles and also recruit new committee members.

These are exciting opportunities for members to get involved in the running and future of the club.

Ideally you would be willing to attend regular committee meetings which are held at Thornfield House, Bruntcliffe Road, Morley in January, March, May, July, September and November.

Should you require any further information or wish to be considered for any of these roles please contact any current members of the committee.

#### **Club President**

The role of the President is to provide the principal leadership and responsibility for the Club and the Committee. You will Chair Committee meetings ensuring that they are run efficiently and effectively and act as a figure head for the club externally. Ideally you will commit to the role for two years.

#### **Club Vice President**

The role of vice-president is an important one. Sometimes it happens that the Club President is prevented from carrying out the duties of his/her office for various reasons. Therefore, as vice-president, you are the right hand of the president. You can and should assist the president and other officers with their duties. Ideally you will take over as President when the current presidents tenure comes to the end of two years.

#### **Photo Show Co-Ordinator**

In this role you will be responsible for coordinating the four annual photo shows (November, December, January and February) along with the annual photograph competition in October. You will be responsible for ensuring the club projector and screen is made available for the shows and publicising the events along with the winners of the competition.



#### **Media Secretary**



In this role you will be responsible for the running of the club Website supported by Webmaster. You will also have responsibility for promoting the club and meets through the Clubs Twitter and Facebook accounts.

#### **Committee Members**

Committee members of the Club consider a wide range of issues and collectively make decisions as to what actions must be taken to ensure that the Club is being appropriately managed.

#### **Lunch Meets 2018**

Tuesday lunches for members past and present (and well behaved grand children).

9th January - Calverley Arms, Rodley Lane, Calverley.

13th February - Toby Carvery, Keighley.

13th March - Three Horseshoes, A642 at Oulton.

10th April - Hare and Hounds, Menston.

8th May - Stubbing Wharf, King Street, Hebden Bridge.

12th June - The Hermit Inn, Burley Woodhead.

10th July - Calverley Arms.

14th August - The White House, Blackstone Edge.

11th September - Stubbing Wharf.

9th October - Hare and Hounds, Menston.

13th November - Toby Carvery, Keighley.

11th December - Christmas Dinner, Drop Farm, Moorside Lane, Oxenhope.

For more information, please contact Derek - 01132351332 or 07779658349.

#### **Committee Changes**

#### **Article by Pete Stott**

Members are informed elsewhere in this issue of the vacant posts that need filling in order to ensure the smooth running of the club. One of these vacancies has arisen following the standing down from the general committee of Laurie Morse.

It is appropriate that mention is made in these pages of the contribution Laurie has made to the club Laurie since 2003. In that year Laurie joined the general committee and then in 2005 agreed to become President Elect. What followed was a situation unprecedented in the club's history – a period of six consecutive years as President when the normal term of office is only two.

After relinquishing his role as President Laurie chose to remain on the committee and has served the club until November 2017. Laurie has been keenly involved in club affairs, notably in the refurbishment of the club hut at Coniston, a project not without its problems. He has also organised club dinners and served as our representative at the BMC. Fourteen years is a long time to serve in an official capacity and Laurie deserves the gratitude of the club for having contributed in such a positive way over such an extended period.

We would like to pass on our thanks for all your work and support towards the YMC.

#### **Our Thanks to Pete Stott**

#### Article by Phillippa Child & John Beacroft-Mitchell

John and I would just like to pass on our since thanks to Pete for all the work he has contributed to the YMC Newsletter over the past couple of years. Pete has been instrumental in guiding us through the design and publication of this new edition and has always been on hand to support us.

We only hope we can continue his super work.



#### **Toubkal Trip January 2018**

John and Lawrence will be enduring an eight day trip to the summit of North Africa's highest peak Toubkal (4167m) in the High Atlas Mountains of Morocco. The planned itinerary is as follows:

- Meet at the group hotel in Marrakech.
   Airport transfers are provided.
- Morning sightseeing in Marrakech before transferring to Ait Souka in the High Atlas.
- Acclimatisation day in and around the charming Imlil Valley.
- Trek through Valleys of the High Atlas to the Neltner Refuge (3207m).
- Summit attempt on Mount Toubkal (4167m).
- Optional ascent of the spectacular peak of Ouanoukrim (4089m).
- Descend from Neltner Refuge to Ait Souka and transfer to Marrakech.
- Departure Day. Marrakech Airport transfers are provided.

We wish them a safe trip and look forward to hearing about their adventures in the next edition. Let's hope Lawrence invests in some more appropriate footwear!

#### Walking and Climbing Meet - Tenerife - October 2018

#### **Article by Jonathan Carter**

Following a successful 2018 Meets meeting it was agreed that we would run an overseas trip next year.



A number of members have suggested Tenerife, so it's my job to try and put something together. The initial plan is fly out from Leeds Bradford Airport on Saturday 13th October to Tenerife. Hire a car / cars and travel to Tenerife Climbing House in Arico and use this as our base for the week. (http://tenerifeclimbinghouse.com/en/).

There is an option of a two day trip to climb Teide the highest peak in Spain (3318m). During which there will be an overnight stay in the mountain hut.

From my early costings I anticipate the following:

- Accommodation at Tenerife Climbing House between 15€ and 37€ per night
- Car Hire around £35 each for the week
- Mountain hut for 1 night 25€
- Flights between £150 and £200 each return including a case.



I estimate we could do this for around £300 - £350 per person with only food and drink to buy over and above this.

The climbing in the area is amazing with Trad, Sport and Bouldering. We can use the club climbing kit so you won't

need to go out and buy any. And best of all the weather is sunny generally all the time.

So, I need to know if you are interested ASAP so I can get on with booking things. So please email me your interest.

## Message About BACS Payments

#### Article by Andy Summerskill

BACS payments for member's annual subscriptions, hut fees or meet deposits/payments are welcome (indeed encouraged!).

However, BACS payments should normally be paid from the member's personal account so the payers name will appear on our bank statement together with the reference. If a payment is made from any other account you MUST email the treasurer with the details otherwise we will not know who has paid. *Anonymous receipts will be treated as donations!* 

Please **begin** the reference with what the payment is for, e.g. "hutfees\_ddmmyy", "subs", "wintermeet2018", etc. For hut fees, adding the date of the stay is useful to allow easy reconciliation with entries in the cottage log book.







#### New BMC Representative for the YMC - Jonathan Carter

#### **Article by Jonathan Carter**

Most will be aware now that I have recently taken over the role of BMC representative for the YMC after Laurie stood down at our last committee meeting. I attended the BMC Yorkshire area meeting in Ilkley on 11th September and a full copy of the minutes from the meeting are available at www.community.thebmc.co.uk then select Yorkshire from the drop down list at the top.

A fantastic presentation was given by Paul Clarke and Will Hunt on wild Bouldering and their latest website named "unknown Stones"

A few Points to note from the meeting that may be relevant to our club members.

- There has been an increase in issues of parking at Almscliff Crag recently.
   The farmers have asked that people are respectful when parking. The Police have had to be called a number of times due to vehicles causing an obstruction. The BMC will soon be putting signs up around the area.
- The use of Drones is NOT permitted around Almscliff as it is scaring the farmers livestock.
- Recent parking issues at Kilnsey Crag appear to have been resolved. Please continue to pay attention to the signs.
- There has been a recent theft of motor vehicle at The Depot climbing centre
  Pudsey whereby a customer had placed their vehicle keys in an open locker
  and the offender has entered the centre taken the keys and left in the car.
   Please ensure your valuables are secure when using climbing centres.
- Snow and Rock and Cotswolds Outdoors have been announced as the BMC retail partner and all BMC members will now get 15% off when shopping at these stores.
- On 27th November the Yorkshire area BMC AGM will take place there will also be a presentation from, arguably one of Britain's best climbers, James McHaffie following the meeting.

These area meetings are for any club members to attend and are very informative with a different guest speaker each time. AND they feed you! They are held at The Wheatley Arms, Ben Rhydding, Ilkley.

If you would like any further information or you would like me to raise any issues on your behalf please do not hesitate to contact me via email

#### **Weekend Meets 2018**

All Saturday and Sunday Meets start at 10.00am unless otherwise stated.

Please contact the Meet Co-ordinator if you intend to join a Meet or require further information.

Meet Co-ordinators' personal email addresses and phone numbers can be obtained from the Membership List or contact the Meets Secretary.

Month	Date	Location	Coordinator
Jan	14	Pateley Bridge – Old station car park in town centre SE159655	Dave Girt
Jan	26/27	Coniston Hut – Housekeeping Meet	Booking - ymchut@gmail.com
Jan	26/27	Langdale – Rawhead Cottage – Joint Fell & Rock Club Meet. (2 nights)	Martin Tetley or YMC Meets Secretary
Feb	4	Mytholmroyd - Village Community Centre car	Derek Field
		park. HX7 5AF SE011259	
Feb	18	Kettlewell – Village centre car park SD968724	Steve Bartlett
March	2/5	Scottish Winter Meet – Ochils MC Hut at Crianlarich (4 Nights). NN392250	Graham Willis
March	18	Dove Stone Reservoir & Saddleworth Moor – Binn Green car park SE017043	Graham Willis
March	29/1	Coniston Hut – Easter Club Meet (4 nights)	Booking - ymchut@gmail.com
April	8	Kinder Scout. (Kinder Low & Downfall) Bowden Bridge car park SK048869	Kathryn Willis
April	13/14	Coniston Hut – Housekeeping Meet	Booking - ymchut@gmail.com
April	15	Almscliff Crag – 'Introduction to Rock'. Road- side parking SE268490	Jonathan Carter
April	29	Arncliffe. Roadside parking in village centre - SD932718	Laurie Morse

Month	Date	Location	Coordinator
May	11/12	Introduction to Mountaineering Meet - Wales (2 nights)	Jonathan Carter - jonathan.carter1973@hotmail.co.uk
May	20	Ribblehead. Roadside parking near road junction SD765792	Jane Wainwright - wainwrightjj@yahoo.co.uk
May	25/27	Coniston Hut – Club Meet (3 Nights – 8 Bed spaces).	Booking - ymchut@gmail.com
May	26	Skye. Glen Brittle Hut. (7 nights) NG412216	Sean Kelly - sean@phukawi.com
June	8/9	Wales - Beddgelert Hut – Joint Meet with West Bromwich (2 nights) MC - SH625502.	Jonathan Carter - jonathan.carter1973@hotmail.co.uk
June	15/16	Coniston Hut – Novice Members 'Progression to Rock' consolidation weekend.	Jonathan Carter - jonathan.carter1973@hotmail.co.uk
June	22/23	Coniston Hut – Housekeeping Meet	Booking - ymchut@gmail.com
June	29/30	The Roaches Climbing & Camping Meet. SK002628 (2 nights)	Matt Crawford – matthewcraw- ford6@gmail.com
July	8	Alport Dale – Birchen Clough car park on Snake Road (A57) SK109914	Kathryn Willis - ksw@dial.pipex.com
July	20/21	Coniston Hut – Joint Meet with West Bromwich MC (2 nights)	Jonathan Carter - jonathan.carter1973@hotmail.co.uk
July	29	Stanage Walking & Climbing Meet. Plantation car park SK237837	Walking Co-ordinator – Graham Willis - gcw@dial.pipex.com
			Climbing Co-ordinator – Jonathan Carter - jonathan.carter1973@hotmail.co.uk
Aug	12	Yorkshire Wolds – Car park Thixendale Village SE841611	Laurie Morse - lauriemorse@hotmail.co.uk
Aug	17/18	Coniston Hut Club Meet – Wainwright Bagging Meet (2 nights)	Booking - ymchut@gmail.com

Month	Date	Location	Coordinator
Sept	2	Twisleton Scar – Climbing & Walk- ing Meet. Roadside car parking SD717477	Walking Co-ordinator – Graham Willis - gcw@dial.pipex.com
			Climbing Co-ordinator – Jonathan Carter - jonathan.carter1973@hotmail.co.uk
Sept	16	Kilburn. Meet at Village Hall – Roadside car parking in village SE513795 or in CP below the white horse.	Laurie Morse - lauriemorse@hotmail.co.uk
Sept	21/22	Wales – Tan-y-garth Hut, Capel Curig. SH737567	David Girt - rdgirt@yahoo.co.uk - www.gwydyrmc.org.uk
Sept	30	Widdop – Climbing & Walking Meet. Reservoir car park SD937327	Walking Co-ordinator – Graham Willis - gcw@dial.pipex.com
			Climbing Co-ordinator – Jonathan Carter - jonathan.carter1973@hotmail.co.uk
Octo- ber	5/6	Coniston Hut – Housekeeping Meet	Booking: ymchut@gmail.com
Octo- ber	13/19	Tenerife Climbing & Walking Meet (7 Nights)	Jonathan Carter - jonathan.carter1973@hotmail.co.uk
Octo- ber	21	Brimham Walking & Climbing Meet. Car Park SE208645	Derek Field - derek-field@hotmail.co.uk
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Nov	2/3	Coniston Hut Bonfire Meet	Booking - ymchut@gmail.com
Nov	11	Scar House Reservoir. Car Park SE069766	Steve Bartlett – stevebarts@talktalk.net
Nov	25	Pendle Hill. Car parking SD823403	Jane Wainwright - wainwrightjj@yahoo.co.uk
_			
Dec	2	Hebden Bridge. Town centre parking SD993272	Derek Field - derek-field@hotmail.co.uk
Dec	9	Barden Scale – Xmas Fuddle – Parking SE051568	Derek Field - derek-field@hotmail.co.uk
Dec	21/31	Coniston Hut – Xmas & New Year	Booking - ymchut@gmail.com
Dec	26	Ilkley Cow & Calf – Traditional Boxing Day Meet - Car Park SE130467 Meet Time – 10:30am	Alan Swithenbank - alanswithenbank@btinternet.com



## Membership fee deadline 31st January 2018!



Issue: 373

December 2017

The Yorkshire Mountaineering Club - Founded 1941