

# THE YORKSHIRE MOUNTAINEER

Issue: 375

May 2018

**YMC Winter Meet  
Crianlarich**



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The Yorkshire Mountaineering Club - Founded 1941



## A Warm Hello from the Newsletter Editors

Phillippa Child & John Beacroft-Mitchell

It's been a long cold winter.

For most people and clubs this would be a bad thing but for the Yorkshire Mountaineering Club this has resulted in one of the best winter seasons in years.

As you will see over the course of the next few pages, fun was had in Scotland in the midst of the Beast from the East and on the hills of the Yorkshire Dales and Peak District.

Whether you're a new member or a member of just a few decades the club's Meet Calendar still provides a varied menu of delights - Which is why we've included the rest of the year's meets at the back of this issue.

Turn up and have fun and fresh air.

Any reports and photographs, as ever, should be sent through to us at:

**[ymcnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ymcnewsletter@gmail.com)**.



*Phillippa & John*



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## General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)



Members will probably be aware that the regulations relating to data protection are changing. The 1998 Data Protection Act will be replaced with an EU directive, the General Data Protection Regulation. This comes into effect on May 25<sup>th</sup> this year.

Many of the GDPR's main concepts and principles are much the same as in the current DPA, but greater emphasis is placed on the club to demonstrate its how it looks after the personal information of its members. Compliance with all relevant areas specified in the new regulations is important.

The committee is currently engaged in drawing up a policy which will cover all areas of the club's use of your data and will be in place when the new regulations become law. Further information will be conveyed to the membership in due course.

# YMC Meet - Kettlewell 18th February 2018

Article and photo by Kath Willis

Start Point: Pay & Display Car Park Kettlewell. Yorkshire Dales.

Grid Ref: SD 968724

*Attendees: Alan Marson, Anne Morse, Laurie Morse, Martin Girt & Roxy, Jennifer Tenant, Peter Tenant, Donna Johns, John Martin, Andrew Drury, Mairi Farquharson, Andy McDonald, Henry Beevers, Becky Hole, Sanea Floyd, Jezzy Floyd, Stephen Hampshire, Graham Willis & Kathryn Willis,*

Walk attendees, including YMC members, aspirant members, meet up members and guests, gathered at the main car park in Kettlewell for a 10am start. Crossing the bridge over the river Wharfe, we headed up the path through Gate Cote Scar and Knipe Wood to meet the ridge wall at the top. Although it was a dry day, there was plenty of snow on the higher ground with quite deep drifts in places making the going a bit laboured at times. The cloud was very low making visibility difficult on Old



Cote Moor, but the wall provided a good handrail to enable us to reach the summit of Firth Fell without losing anyone!

Although lunch was planned to take place at the trig point, it was decided to descend out of the cloud and take the path down towards Buckden. This proved to be the trickiest part of the walk, as it was quite steep in places with partially covered bogs, watercourses and snowdrifts, which sent some of the party slipping and sliding down the hillside a little faster than they intended to go! Needless to say, the party eventually regrouped above Water Gill Wood, where a late lunch was eventually taken (much to the relief of everyone) before heading down the track to Buckden via Dubbs Lane.

At the bridge we took the riverside path, which was boggy in places but devoid of snow, until we arrived at the foot bridge, which led us to Starbotton on the other side of the river Wharf. After crossing the road, we climbed out of the village passing through two fields before reaching a stile in the wall. This opened onto a good path with the benefit of the views looking down to the river Wharfe and across to Old Cote Moor. The group started to spread out on this stretch of the walk, which crossed several high stiles and passed through Gross Wood before heading down towards our starting point in Kettlewell. The total distance covered was approximately 19km (11.6 miles) with about 545m (1775ft) of ascent.



# YMC Winter Meet - Crianlarich 2nd-6th March 2018

*Present: Matt Crawford (MC), Andrew Drury (AD), Alan Marson (AM), Freddie Pedlar (FP), Caroline Phillips (CP), Bill Stevenson (BS)*

At least 10 people were booked to arrive from Friday at the Ochils MC hut and other venues in Crianlarich, but by Monday the long forecast Beast from the East storms from Siberia were looking increasingly likely to materialise. A few people wisely decided to abandon. On Tuesday I viewed the webcams on the M74 and decided to go up overnight when there would be less traffic to block



*Ben More evening - Photo by BS*

the roads. This nearly proved to be a serious mistake. It was pretty bad from Carlisle, but I thought I was over the worst at the M74 summit. However, Central Scotland was even more snowbound and remained so for the next few days. The deserted roads miraculously cleared from Dumbarton and the trusty Jazz arrived at the hut just before 4 am. I slept in the car until the remnants of the Craven Club arose for the pre-departure clean-up.

Later on Wednesday I walked from the hut for Ben More in clear, cold and very windy conditions. The first of several failures was caused not far below the summit by surprising moss-balling on my Microspikes preventing upward progress on new snow sliding easily over steep grass. There was a lot of



*Somewhere on Ben Lui (CP, FP, AD) - Photo by MC*

snow overnight and although an efficient operation kept all the main roads open, I didn't dare risk a trip in a small wheeled car without winter tyres. I travelled all the small trails around the village and environs, visited the station several times for the excitement of watching the trains arriving from Mallaig and Oban but unable to continue to Glasgow, and risked the £10,000 fine for furtively walking over the fine girder bridges carrying the Mallaig line over the road and river.

There was more snow on Friday, but it wasn't as bad as in Eastern and Central Scotland. The wind was the problem, so I resorted to walks shielded by trees including the surprisingly good West Highland Way towards Tyndrum. I hitched back and around teatime Alan's 4WD arrived with MC, AD and FP. Late on, another party from around Dewsbury arrived.

On Saturday BS did Central Gully on Ben Lui's North Face in a whiteout, after Alan helped the Jazz's 10 year old frost weakened battery with a jump start. There was much avalanche debris at the bottom of

the routes- as a result, no loose snow remained in the gully and it was safe. It would have been easier to descend the route than endure the shrieking wind during the compass traverse of the North Ridge. AM drove MC, AD and FP for some winter climbing practice on Stob Coire nan Lochan in Glencoe. They tried out crampon, axe and self-arrest techniques and intended to go on to the summit. However, they encountered the characteristic sound of windslab and decided to avoid the risk of avalanche on the final slopes. Alan exacerbated a longstanding knee condition with a fall on this unpredictable surface, and was put out of action for the following day. Caroline arrived in the early evening after a long trip from France via Manchester airport.

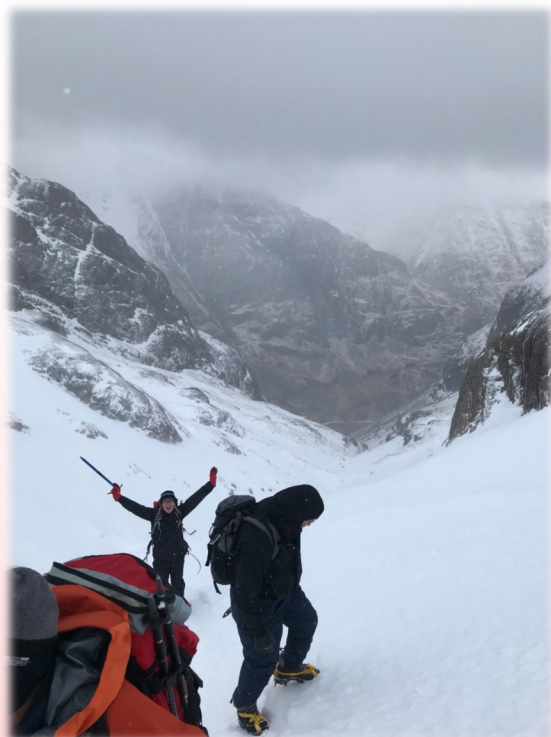
The Dewsbury party were not back by 9pm from their intended ascent of Ledge Route on the Ben,



*Summit Ben Lui (FP, CP, AD) - Photo by MC*



*Ascending Stob Coire nan Lochan (FP, AM) - Photo by AD*



Glencoe (AM, AD, MC) - Photo by FP

and we were debating what to do about it when they appeared. They had succeeded, which was a good effort with a large party, and had descended No. 4 Gully to near the CIC when they were hailed by a climber haring down towards them. His friend had slipped in No. 4 and knocked himself out on frozen avalanche debris despite his helmet. The rescue was called and a couple of the Dewsburyites ascended to help. The casualty had woken up by the time they got there and they all decided he could make it down to the CIC. He recovered considerably in the hut and thought he could get down himself. The rescue was called and stood down, but their vehicles were in the top car park when the entire party arrived, so everyone got a lift down to the main road and the casualty got a night on the NHS.

The weather was no better on Sunday, although there was little new snow. MC, AD, FP and CP ascended Ben Lui by what was thought to be Central Gully in another windy white-out, an experience invaluable not only for the navigation practice. Careful camera tilting and numerous exposures produced images of Point Five-like steepness. BS attempted an easy gully in the NE Coire of Beinn an Dothaidh, after an encounter with the farmer at Achallader: 'You should'nae be here at all, but the snow may have covered the footpath sign so I'll let ye off'. The sign was later found face down in the snow where it had clearly been for a long time. The intended climb was invisible in the whiteout and the wind even stronger- escape right to the north ridge brought even stronger wind so escape down the ridge was sensible, although it steepens alarmingly lower down when absent visibility prevents you from seeing the easier descent off left, to the NW. Alan opted for tourism to give his knee a rest, but found that the early March Fort William Mardi Gras was less colourful and spectacular than hoped. He returned with the Sunday paper.

The wind and low cloud persisted on Monday. AD, AM and CP employed the Two Car Trick to enable them to take the enjoyable West Highland way to the Tyndrum Tea Shoppe via the endear-



Summit Beinn Ghlas (MC, BS, FP) - Photo by MC



ing ponies in their shelter, and walk a different way back to the car at the spot used by Ben Lui climbers. MC, FP and BS had hoped for better weather for a first time visit to tourist mecca of Ben Lawers. They were almost thwarted by an unanticipated road closure just outside Killin, but gritted their teeth and added 5 miles each way of roadwalking to the itinerary. The Ben Lawers Visitor Centre is marked as a building on an old map, but proved to be now merely a car park with a couple of



*Scenic valley below Ben Lawers (MC, FP) - Photo by BS*

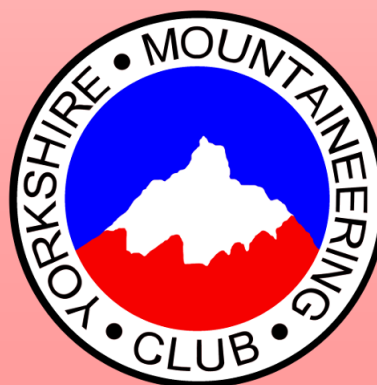
information displays. The initial route is on the shoulder of a scenic sparsely wooded valley, but the steeper route beyond proved harder work in the wind and whiteout. Eventually, the first summit of Beinn Ghlas was achieved and thought to be quite enough. Compass navigation returned them to the opposite bank of the scenic valley and the trudge back down the side road. BS tried to find a good hitching spot by walking a little way in the opposite direction along the main road, in order to return with the car for the others. They commenced walking the right way in the meantime and almost immediately got a lift from an empty school bus. BS was rewarded by having to walk the whole way back to the car.

Hopes of a route on the way home on the Tuesday were abandoned when the weather was unchanged. CP headed north for Spean Bridge, while fate and the M6 saved the final blow for BS. After an evening at his sister's in Carlisle, the badly signed night closure diversions were at least on snow and ice free roads. - **Report by Bill Stevenson**

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## **Meet Report – Dove Stones Reservoir & Saddleworth Moor Meet**

Following overnight snow from the 'mini beast from the east' all roads around and over Holme Moss & Black Hill to the reservoir start point were closed or were otherwise impassable early on Sunday morning so a decision was made about 7.30am to abandon the meet on safety grounds.



# YMC Meet – Arncliffe 29th April 2018

Start Point: Arncliffe village

Grid Ref: SD 932 718

*14 Attendees: Andy Coleman, Steve Hoyle , Bill Cordingley, Andrew Drury, Martin Girt, Martin Hirst, Geoff Hiser Donna Johns, John Martin, Sarah Jane, Jane Wainwright, Freda Williamson, Graham Willis & Kathryn Willis.*

Walk attendees, including YMC members, aspirant members, Meetup members and guests, gathered on the village green for a 10.00am prompt start. Walking through the village towards the church, we followed the riverside path through several fields of grazing sheep and lambs towards the village of Hawkswick. Taking the track up to Gang Lane, we headed for the main road turning right at Hawkswick Cote before going left up the track past Arncliffe Cote Farm. Despite the grey clouds and cool breeze, it was dry and conditions underfoot were good for the steep ascent onto High Cote Moor.

Lunch was taken behind a wall at High Linseed Head just as a light rain shower turned to hail as the cold wind picked up. Needless to say it was a short lunch as some of the party were getting cold, so we headed on towards Clapham High Mark and then down towards Middle House Farm. Here we crossed a stile and climbed up towards Middle House and followed the Monk's Road path back to Arncliffe. Despite the cold there were short spells of sunshine and the views down to Cowside Beck and across to West Moor were superb.

A short tea break by some of the party to admire the view above Yew Cogar Scar enabled the back markers to catch up, before the steep descent down to The Falcon Inn. Here the rest of the party were taking refreshments – some outside (hardy souls) and the rest inside in front of the log fire.

The total distance travelled was approximately 10 miles with 1,428ft (435m) of ascent.





# YMC Meet - Kinder 8th April 2018

Start Point: Pay & Display Car Park Bowden Bridge, Hayfield.

Grid Ref: SK048 869

*Attendees: Alan Marson, Anne Morse, Laurie Morse, Jennifer Tenant, Peter Tenant, Mairi Farquharson, Matt Crawford, Angela Moroney, Claire + Guest, Audrey, Natasha Cook + Clare, Martin Hirst, Ben Gilbert, Graham Willis & Kathryn Willis.*

The 17 walkers, including YMC members, aspirant members, meet up members and guests, gathered at the main car park at Bowden Bridge. Several people attempted to use the parking meter but to no avail as our coins were rejected, so we eventually abandoned our cars in order to get a prompt start. Crossing the bridge over the river Kinder, we followed a good track up past Tunstead Clough Farm and continued up to the ridge through several fields. Despite the poor weather we have experienced in recent weeks, the conditions underfoot were not as water-logged as expected and it was a surprisingly warm day. This resulted in several stops to shed layers of clothing, before hitting the trig point at Kinder Low (633m), where we regrouped for photographs and to admire the view. Although the highest point (636m) is a kilometre further on Edale Moor, we decided to leave that for another time. As planned we followed the Pennine Way path along the edge of the plateau towards Kinder Downfall. Although the 'Downfall' was a mere trickle, the impressive views and abundance of flat rocks made it an ideal spot for an early lunch.

From here we continued along the plateau, before heading down from the ridge and up on to Mill Hill (544m). Retracing our steps back to the footpath we began our descent down William Clough which was steep and very boggy in places. After crossing and re-crossing the water, to find the driest and least eroded paths, we climbed up again to White Brow looking down onto Kinder Reservoir. Descending once again we arrived at Kinder Road which meandered round to our starting point at Bowden Bridge.

The total distance covered was approximately 12.5km (8.0 miles) with about 565m (1850ft) of ascent. As promised, refreshments were taken by some of the group at The Sportsman's Inn, just up the road from the car park.

## 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
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
June	8/9	Wales - Beddgelert Hut – Joint Meet with West Bromwich (2 nights) MC - SH625502.	Jonathan Carter
June	15/16	Coniston Hut – Novice Members 'Progression to Rock' consolidation weekend.	Jonathan Carter
June	22/23	Coniston Hut – Housekeeping Meet	Booking - ymchut@gmail.com
June	29/30	The Roaches Climbing & Camping Meet. SK002628 (2 nights)	Matt Crawford
July	8	Alport Dale and Castles – Fairholmes Visitors Centre, Bamford. Hope Valley - Ladybower Reservoir - S33 0AQ. SK417 389.	Kathryn Willis
July	20/21	Coniston Hut – Joint Meet with West Bromwich MC (2 nights)	Jonathan Carter
July	29	Stanage Walking & Climbing Meet. Plantation car park SK237837	Walking Co-ordinator – Graham Willis Climbing Co-ordinator – Jonathan Carter
Aug	12	Yorkshire Wolds – Car park Thixendale Village SE841611	Laurie Morse
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 & Walking Meet. Roadside car parking SD717477	Walking Co-ordinator – Graham Willis Climbing Co-ordinator – Jonathan Carter
Sept	16	Kilburn. Meet at Village Hall – Roadside car parking in village SE513795 or in CP below the white horse.	Laurie Morse
Sept	21/22	Wales – Tan-y-garth Hut, Capel Curig. SH737567	David Girt - <a href="http://www.gwydyrmc.org.uk">www.gwydyrmc.org.uk</a>
Sept	30	Widdop – Climbing & Walking Meet. Reservoir car park SD937327	Walking Co-ordinator – Graham Willis Climbing Co-ordinator – Jonathan Carter
Oct	5/6	Coniston Hut – Housekeeping Meet	Booking: <a href="mailto:ymchut@gmail.com">ymchut@gmail.com</a>
Oct	13/19	Tenerife Climbing & Walking Meet (7 Nights)	Jonathan Carter
Oct	21	Brimham Walking & Climbing Meet. Car Park SE208645	Derek Field
Nov	2/3	Coniston Hut Bonfire Meet	Booking - <a href="mailto:ymchut@gmail.com">ymchut@gmail.com</a>
Nov	11	Scar House Reservoir. Car Park SE069766	Steve Bartlett
Nov	25	Pendle Hill. Car parking SD823403	Jane Wainwright
Dec	2	Hebden Bridge. Town centre parking SD993272	Derek Field
Dec	9	Barden Scale – Xmas Fuddle – Parking SE051568	Derek Field
Dec	21/31	Coniston Hut – Xmas & New Year	Booking - <a href="mailto:ymchut@gmail.com">ymchut@gmail.com</a>
Dec	26	Ilkley Cow & Calf – Traditional Boxing Day Meet - Car Park SE130467 Meet Time – 10:30am	Alan Swithenbank



## North Wales Meet 21-22 Sept 2018



Ten places have been reserved in the Tan-y-Garth Hut at Capel Curig (GR 734572), centrally placed in Snowdonia, for Fri/Sat nights 21/22 Sept. This is a modern hut with all facilities and only sleeping bags, tea towels and personal gear will need to be taken.

The charge is £10pppn with priority being given to 2 night stays (i.e.£20), first come first booked. Bookings may be made as from the date of this notice and will be accepted only with payment, either by cheque to "The Yorkshire Mountaineering Club" or by BACS to Sort Code 40-33-19 Account Number 01504614 using the reference "N.W.Meet".

Bookings should be made with, and cheques should be sent to Dave Girt

Further details of the hut are available at [www.gwydyrmc.co.uk](http://www.gwydyrmc.co.uk)

## Scottish Winter Meet Advance Notice

It's going to be at Muir Cottage, Braemar which is owned by the Cairngorm Club and will be for 4 nights Friday 15th February 2019 to Monday 18th February 2019, leaving Tuesday 19th February 2019. The cost will be £12.00 per bed space per night (£40.00) and we have initially taken 10 bed spaces. Bookings will be taken on a first receipt basis and if there is sufficient demand soon enough there may be the possibility to take additional spaces.

[www.cairngormclub.org.uk/muircottage/muircottage](http://www.cairngormclub.org.uk/muircottage/muircottage)

Contact: Graham Willis



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