

THE YORKSHIRE MOUNTAINEER

Issue: 377

Spring / Summer - 2019



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The Yorkshire Mountaineering Club - Founded 1941



Welcome from your YMC Newsletter Editor

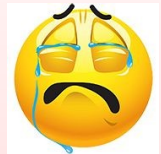
John Beacroft-Mitchell

(Yet another late) Edition of the Yorkshire Mountaineer

Firstly; a thank you to Philippa who had to step down as co-editor earlier this year for all her hard work in bringing the new(ish) look newsletter to fruition over these last couple of years.



Secondly; an apology from me as your remaining editor for long delays in getting the Yorkshire Mountaineering Club's exciting news, info and updates to you over the last year.



Lastly; Thank you to Andy Summerskill for his assistance in pulling together the articles for this belated edition of the newsletter.

As ever, email your news and piccies to:
ymcnewsletter@gmail.com



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John & Philippa



All by myself. Don't want to be all by myself...anymore!

Settle Walking Meet

Article by Henry Beevers

Date: 3rd February 2019

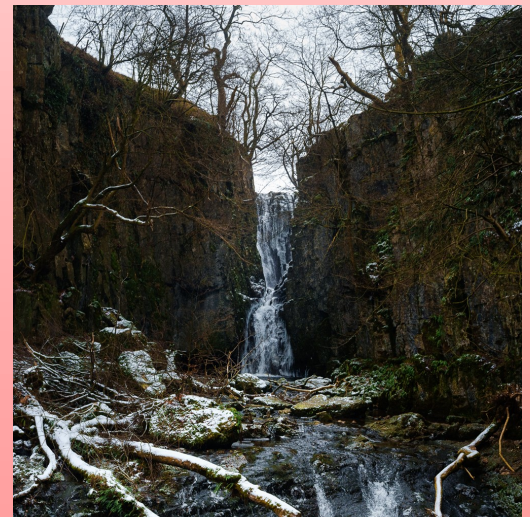
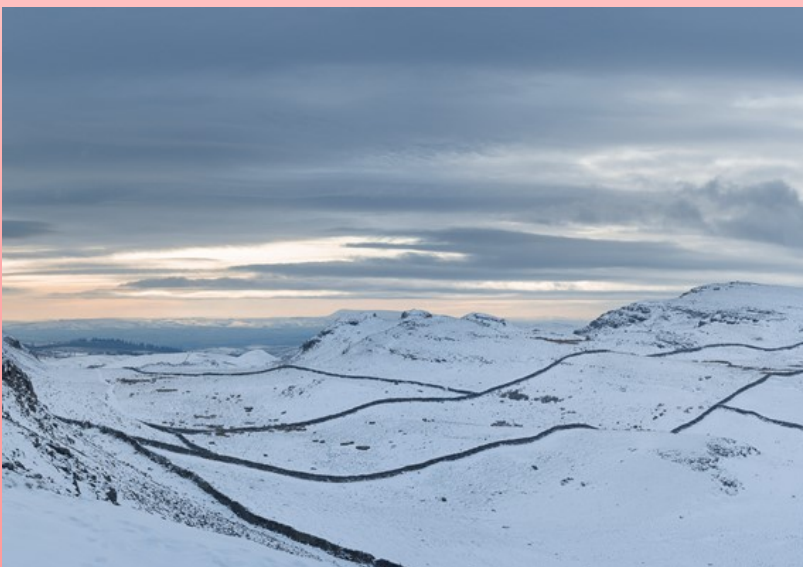
Attendees: Henry Beevers, Rebecca Hole, Damian Rose, Hannah Gooch, Chris Chester, Mike Cooper, Alan Marson, Peter Tennant, Jennifer Tennant, Kath Willis, Graham Willis, Robert Dracup & Becky, Dave Town, Mark Penny, Timothy Beevers, Mark Hole, Ray Wilson, Nabeela & Rucky

All gathered at 10am in the Whitefriars car park, Settle. 19 set off eyes averted as we passed the “Ye Olde Naked Man” cafe, making our way up to Scaleber Force Waterfall. A stream of sheep down Lambert Lane left the entire group patiently waiting for one straggler (sheep, not group member) before gaining 2 more at High Hill (group members, not sheep). There were murmurs but Scaleber Force was determined to be “not in” after the recent warmer temperatures, though some crampons still made an appearance!

Next, the group moved on to Attermire Scar and the caves therein. A variety of techniques were unveiled for ascending loose snow up to Victoria Cave, all successful if not graceful.

The award for bravery went to Alan who approached some highland cattle that may or may not have been able to actually see him through their long fringes but moved aside all the same. Lunch was dispatched in primeval fashion, sheltering within Jubilee Cave.

The final destination of Catrigg Force was reached as the weather started looking decidedly undecided. After a quick stop for photos we set off on the Pennine Bridleway back to Settle through wet, thawing conditions. The distance travelled was around 13.5km (8.5 miles) and 500m ascent, though the descent was most testing!



Thruscross Walking Meet

Article by Kath Willis , Photos by Laurie Morse

Date: 24th February 2019

Start Point: Roadside car parking on Blea Moor Road

Grid Ref: Thruscross Reservoir
Car Park – GR SE 153 574

Present: Steve Buxton, Robert Dracup, Becky Burrill, Mark Penny, (YMC Meetup Group).

Donna Johns & Julian, Kate Farrar (Guests). Rodger Goodall, Ken Tilford, Mairi Far-

*quharson, John Martin, Andrew Coleman, Laurie Morse, Peter & Jennifer Tennant, Alan Mar-
son and Kath & Graham Willis (YMC Members).*



When all the introductions were complete, we set off from the Yorkshire Water visitor's car park on what can only be described as one of the warmest and sunniest February days I can ever recall.

Crossing the road we headed down through the trees to walk on the reservoir path, which was relatively dry due to the lack of rain in the past few weeks. Lovely views across the reservoir were enjoyed before taking the track up to West End and the main road. A short distance along the road led us to Duke's Lane and we followed what started as a decent path at Hole Gate. However this soon disappeared and we had to pick our way through the vegetation across Hard Pitts until we finally reached a well maintained farm track.

On arrival at a gate by two shooting shelters, we continued on the track up Rocking Moor towards the stone building silhouetted in the distance. As it was too early for lunch when we arrived at Rocking Hall, we had a few photographs on and around the 'Rocking Stone' before following a thin beaters path going east. The path was good, despite being wet and a little

boggy in places and after passing some grouse shooting butts we eventually arrived at a wide track where it was decided to take lunch in the sunshine and admire the views.

Continuing on our walk we headed down past a quarry before leaving the track and following a path to the right, crossing several fields to arrive at Brays Cross Farm and Bramley Head Farm. After crossing more fields we crossed Whit Moor Road and followed the path which led us across Whit Moor and back towards the reservoir. Descending steeply we arrived at a bridge across the River Washburn and then climbed up to Far Comb Hill where we stopped for a breather before heading down to the reservoir. The path continued along the side of the water with the dam wall in view ahead and with the walk almost complete there was an opportunity to enjoy the bird life on the reservoir.

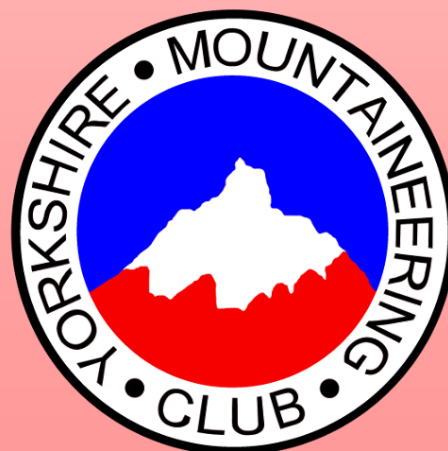
The path led us to the road which crossed the dam wall and we finally climbed the steep steps back up to the car park with the sun still shining!

BMC membership subscriptions

At the BMC AGM in March a resolution was presented to increase the BMC membership subscription by £6 for each all classes of membership. This resolution was passed.

The background here is that the BMC Combined Liability Insurance premium will see a substantial increase in 2020. The increase in the insurance premium is due to an ongoing claim relating to an incident on a student club meet at an indoor climbing wall in which there was a failure of a belay. However, the claim seems to be an ongoing matter.

The committee are considering whether there will be a need to pass on this increase in BMC subs in full to our membership.



YMC Winter Meet, Muir Cottage, Braemar

Article by Bill Stevenson

Date: Friday 15th-Tuesday 19th February 2019

The comfortable hut experience of the previous meet here was marred this time by the failure of the showers, not remedied by the handyman's visit on the day of arrival or while we were there. There were 10-12 of us, including a Fifth Column from South Yorkshire. The best weather was on the Friday when an ascent of Beinn á Bhuird with views was possible despite the wind. A vehicle had recently driven to the North Top. The view west from the summit plateau was of the main Cairngorm peaks which were not visible again during the meet.



On Saturday the main group of 9 bagged the namby-pamby Munros near the snowless ski slopes at Glen-shee. One notable feature was the great profusion of mountain hares, which were hardly seen elsewhere. The rain stopped later and some Baggers snatched a Corbett east of the road on the way back. A resolute grizzled group scorned the wind and rain to achieve starring roles in 'Carn á Mhaim – The

Hard Way', via Sgòr Mór. They were late back.

Undeterred, two of them opted for a sub-Alpine start and The Beinn MacDuibh Sanction (it's those Gaelic censors!) on Sunday, battling the wind and complete whiteout. The conditions forced them off NE just before the summit, and they escaped via Etchachan, where the bothy was warm because a large party with tents and numerous children had more than filled it. They were even later back. Various more leisurely starters turned back at different points, but another ascent of Carn á Mhaim was made. One victim's previous day Mhaim-Fatigue resulted in a supposed easy day's walk to Braemar on the south side of the Dee and a return on the north, all of which didn't prove suitably easy. There were cycle trips to Braemar and up the viewpoint of Crag Choinnich, and up Glen Ey to Altanour Lodge.

Several people went back early, but stalwarts remained to take advantage of the stove and am-

ple wood store. Tea Shoppe visits and a trip by bike almost to Geldie Lodge occupied Monday before the final exit on Tuesday morning led to another ascent of Morrone near Braemar, and a visit to the scenic Falls of Garbh Allt on the Balmoral Estate.



Beinn á Bhuid from the East



The Magnificent Nine near Glenshee on Saturday, minus the photographer



Giles, Damian and Andrew



Tooled-up Drury scouring the horizon for Big Ice





A rare materialisation of the ectoplasmic Old Grey Man of Derry Lodge- legend relates his mysterious reappearance every 50 years or so, telling tall tales of driving steam powered antique Bangers right up to the Lodge and staying in freezing bedrooms with streams of condensation running down the walls, all clearly incredible.



River Dee from Creag Choinnich near Braemar



Lofthouse and Ramsgill Walking Meet

Article by Kath Willis, Photos by Laurie Morse

Date: 10th March 2019

Start Point: Lofthouse Village public carpark—Postcode HG3 5RZ

Attendees: Nabeela Hafiz, Martin Girt, Robert Dracup, Eve & Steve Bartlett, Angela Moroney, Laurie Morse, Imran A. Khan and Kath & Graham Willis (YMC members). Steve Buxton & Rukhsana Azim (YMC Meetup Group). Becky Burrill (Guest).

Despite the terrible weather forecast 13 enthusiastic walkers turned up at Lofthouse to brave the elements and as it was raining from the start we left the car park promptly. Following a path down to a small bridge across the River Nidd, we crossed the reservoir road and a stile led us to the road to Middlesmoor and How Stean Gorge. Here we followed the Nidderdale Way path on the south of the River Nidd, passing Studfold Farm Caravan Park and West House Farm. The rain and snow made conditions underfoot very muddy but as we approached Ramsgill the rain eased off and the sun came out.

At the village we turned left along the road and crossed over Nidd Bridge, taking the right turn heading for Bouth-

waite. Climbing up the estate track there were superb views of Gouthwaite Reservoir behind us but after a short rest we continued upwards past Helks Wood onto Fountains Earth Moor. With Lulbeck Crags on our left and the wind picking up, we pushed on to a track junction and headed left to eventually arrive at a shooting lodge over a locked gate where we found enough shelter to have lunch.

Some of the party decided to take the short walk down to visit Jenny Twig and her Daughter Tib (two impressive wind eroded stones north of Speyland Crags), but the gusting winds meant that our stay was brief as we took a few quick photographs and retreated back to the Shooting Lodge to rejoin the rest of the group.

Crossing over the gate we continued along the track with the strong wind and hail in our faces, until we reached Pot Moor High Road, where we turned left before going through a gate onto Lofthouse Moor. This path led us to the Shooting House and then steeply down Thrope Edge to Thrope Farm where we rejoined the Nidderdale Way path back to Lofthouse.

Despite the weather it was agreed that a good time was had by all and some of us drove to The Crown at Middlesmoor for a well earned pint.

The total distance travelled was approximately 14.5k (9.1m) with 470m (1,541ft) of ascent .



Committee Meetings 2019

Peter Stott Honorary Secretary



Getting a broadband connection installed at the Coniston hut is still 'work in progress'. The main problem here is that the existing BT cable up the valley is at capacity (the existing cable can accommodate approx. 16 lines). We have placed orders with several suppliers but each supplier is informed (by BT Openreach) there is no capacity and a new underground cable would need to be laid – at our expense – to allow a connection. The cost associated with this is in excess of £10k. We have also considered a satellite broadband connection but there maybe planning issues with the optimum placement of a dish. Work continues, although advice from anyone with specific knowledge in this area would be appreciated.

A specific email account has been set up to accommodate all Hut Warden-related matters. This is:

ymchutwarden@gmail.com

It is intended to display this address at the hut in order to facilitate a speedier response to problems which may occur and to replenish any stocks which are running low.

Changes in the Meetup Group were considered because it was considered that a large percentage of the people who had joined were not active with the group. Only around 12% of the 750 who were registered had been on a meet so it was decided that the Group, currently a public one, should be changed to private in an attempt to attract only those who had a genuine interest in participation.

The Club's meets are regularly discussed and so far in 2019 reports are that they are reasonably successful, with attendances being encouraging. However, it was agreed that one aspect needed addressing - the small number of members coming forward to lead the meets.

Concern has been shown at the delay in publication of club newsletters this year. The club has been notified that one of the joint editors has had to stand down due to work commitments. However, there has been an offer of help to assist the newsletter editor in getting future editions of The Yorkshire Mountaineer out to members in a more timely manner.

The Club's Child Protection Policy had received its annual review and deemed to fulfil the necessary requirements though it was stated that some changes may be necessary at the next review.

A review of the Hut Rules and Regulations had been conducted and a number of items on it updated. A copy was to be displayed in the premises so that members could familiarise themselves with the changes.

The Club is providing the majority of the funds towards the production of the Wired Guide and as a result can expect to receive around 55% of sales income. It is anticipated that completion of the publication will be autumn/winter this Year.

New members

We would like to welcome the following new members to the club

Aspirants:

Steve Buxton, Nabeela Hafiz, Rukhsana Azim, Robert Dracup, James English, Sarah Blossom, John Martin, Emma Coyne, Penny Newell and Neil Goodall.

Full members:

Ben Gilbert, Mike Cooper, Bethany Sampson, Chris Chester and Sam Bennet.

And we welcome back Graham Exley.

Dove Stones Reservoir & Saddleworth Moor Walking Meet

Article by Kath Willis, Photos by Laurie Morse

Date: 24th March 2019

Start Point: Binn Green Car Park off A635 - OSGB Grid Ref: SE 017 043

Present: John Martin, Rukhsana Azim, Nabeela Hafiz, Robert Dracup, Eve & Steve Bartlett, Laurie Morse, Tony Raithby, Mike Cooper, Emmeline Dobson, Imran A. Khan, Ken Tilford and Kath & Graham Willis (YMC members).

Steve Buxton, Jan S, Yasin & Naheem (YMC Meetup Group).

Liam Kieswetter, Donna Johns, Becky Burrill (Guests).

Everyone managed to find space in the car park or the lay-by on the A635 and we set off just after 10am, taking the path down through the trees to arrive at a service road running down to Yeoman Hey Reservoir. This easy section of the walk following the reservoir path, allowed us to get to know some of the new Meet Up members and guests and although it was a cold, windy day it was dry and visibility was excellent. Arriving at Greenfield Reservoir our route took us across Greenfield Brook where we scrambled up a steep eroded gill side path, climbing over boulders towards Birchen Clough, before crossing the stream again and climbing steeply over grass for a short time. This took us up to the clough edge path which led us to the impressive Raven Stones, where there were stunning views of the reservoir below.

Continuing along the path we passed the Memorial Cross and Great Dove Stone rocks where we stopped for a while to take some photographs. However as the wind had picked up we didn't stay for too long, as we hoped to find a more sheltered location for our lunch stop. Unfortunately, Bramley's Cot (a derelict shepherd's hut), offered little shelter, but did provide a dry area to sit and eat. After a very quick lunch stop, we headed south crossing Charnel Clough, along a clear path, which was boggy in places, to arrive at Chew Reservoir embankment.



From here our return journey took us over the Wilderness past Chew Hurdles, Chew Green and Rams Clough, where there was evidence of planting and conservation work was in progress. A steep descent on a thin path then followed from Wimberry Stones to Chew Piece Plantation, reaching a tricky stile at a wall corner which most crossed in various entertaining fashions. We continued through the trees before climbing over two locked gates onto the sailing club road. Heading north we crossed Dove Stone Reservoir embankment and a pleasant walk along the waterside path eventually led us back to the start point.

The total distance travelled was approximately 14.9k (9.2m) with 556m (1,825ft) of ascent.

Although we had arranged to meet at The Huntsman pub for refreshments, unfortunately some of the party were advised to go elsewhere by the staff in the car park as it was very busy with diners and helicopter rides close by. Some of us ignored the advice and were able to get a drink and a table easily!



Edale Walking Meet

Article and photos by Laurie Morse

Date: 7th April 2019

Present : Imran A. Khan, Nabeela Hafiz, Rukhsana Azim, Robert Dracup, Nuno Neves, Mairi Farquharson, Steve Buxton, Mike Belk, Andrew Coleman, Laurie Morse, Kath Willis, Graham Willis.

Guests: Nuno's friend Maria and Robert's partner Becky Burrill.

A good turnout on what was a cool but promising day, or so the forecasters told us.

The main car park below the village was busy as usual in spite of the rather expensive £5.25 fee for over four hours parking. Having gained the status of England's most popular outdoor recreational venue, the Edale village car park at least, was living up to its reputation.

Our route took us through the village, over Grinds Brook then to follow the ever steepening path up Grindsbrook Clough, weaving and criss-crossing the stream until reaching the edge of Edale Moor. Here we gathered to look back down into the valley from a rather gloomy, cool and misty vantage point. The forecast was for the early mist to clear by midday and for a pleasant sunny afternoon. It didn't happen! We started our west to east traverse of the edge, hoping for spectacular views back down and across the valley to Mam Tor and along the ridge to Loose hill, but all we could see was a misty haze.

Thankfully the path was dry so the going was good underfoot. We met several parties doing D of E expeditions, some looking in better shape than others (oh, happy days!) with packs varying from very minimal to quite enormous. Without the views it seemed a long way to the end of the edge past Ringing Rog-



er, before dropping down to have lunch behind a wall. By this time, partly due to our lower elevation and some slight improvement in visibility, we could see through the haze to Loose Hill.

After lunch we had a choice of routes, either to cross the end of the valley then climb back up into the haze and on to Loose hill, or traverse the side of the valley via the Youth Hostel back to Edale. After a short pow-wow there was a consensus for the shorter more pleasant and less strenuous route back along the valley side. Through the Youth Hostel grounds we passed young-ish people enjoying themselves swinging on ropes suspended from trees and generally having a good time. The sun by now had managed to peep through and for the last mile or so it was quite pleasant. The lack of good visibility didn't seem to dampen the spirits of the group and we all ended up back at the car park, looking at least, that we'd enjoyed our ten mile walk.

There was the usual foray to the pub by some, while others left straight for home. All in all a pleasant day with good company.

Kettlewell – Great Whernside – Buckden Pike

Article by Henry Beevers

Date: 7th April 2019

A walk coordinator belated by a flat tire and the potential for the bogs of Great Whernside and Buckden to ruin everyone's day provided inauspicious beginnings. Fortunately, warm and bright weather carried the group through Kettlewell village and along the delightful Dowber Gill.

The group quickly reached Great Whernside summit and took cover from the increasing wind in the fantastically formed grykes. Eventually a move along the tops towards Hunters Sleets a wind break provided an opportune lunch break.

The bogs proved relatively harmless although the near miss of a member in yeti gaiters gave a taste of what could have been! Next, the approach to the top of Buckden Pike via the memorial cross and a tale of pilots saved by following a foxes tracks in the snow. After a minor detour (nav error!) the top was reached and we began the walk down through Buckden Lead mine.

A number of knees were complaining by the end of the descent into Starbotton along with their owners. Fortunately, the final leg of the journey followed the very pleasant, and flat, Dales Way alongside the River Wharfe. On a fine weather day with tired legs this was an excellent finish to a really pleasant round. Followed by another pleasant round at the Bluebell Inn!

Weekend Meets 2019

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.

Please check www.theymc.com for confirmation of start point details

Month	Date	Location	Coordinator
Sep	1	Urra Moor & Hasty Bank. North Yorks Moors.	Ben Gilbert & Graham Willis – gcw@dial.pipex.com
Sep	15	Conistone. Wharfedale. Yorks Dales.	David Girt - rdgirt@yahoo.co.uk
Sept	27/28	Wales – Tan-y-garth Hut, Capel Curig. Snowdonia. SH737567.	David Girt - rdgirt@yahoo.co.uk www.gwydyrmc.org.uk
Oct	4/5	Coniston Hut – Housekeeping meet.	Booking: ymchut@gmail.com
Oct	20	Pateley Bridge. Nidderdale.	Steve Bartlett - stevebarts@talktalk.net
Nov	1/2	Coniston Hut Bonfire Meet	Booking - ymchut@gmail.com
Nov	17	Roseberry Topping. North Yorks Moors	Derek Field - derek-field@hotmail.co.uk
Dec	1	Hebden Bridge. South Pennines. Town centre parking SD993272	Angela Moroney - apearler@hotmail.com
Dec	8	Barden Scale. Yorks Dales – Xmas Fuddle – Parking SE051568.	Derek Field - derek-field@hotmail.co.uk
Dec	20/31	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 or Derek Field - derek-field@hotmail.co.uk

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

Tuesday Lunches 2019

Month	Date	Location
September	10th	White Horse Inn Well Head Thornton BD 13 3SJ
October	8th	Stubbing Wharf
November	12th	Toby Keighley
December	10th	Christmas Dinner Drop Farm, Moorside Lane Oxenhope



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