

THE YORKSHIRE MOUNTAINEER

Issue: 386

Autumn 2021



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The Yorkshire Mountaineering Club - Founded 1941



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Cover photos:

Front: Rannoch Moor at sunset

Rear: The new bridge at Loch Leven

Taken several years and a few miles apart, from my collection



From the Editor.

Copy deadlines for input to this year's Newsletters is as follows, but please send your copy as soon as possible, don't leave it to the last minute.

Issue	Title	Publication date	Deadline for copy
387	Winter 2022	End March 2022	14 th March 2022
389	Spring 2022	End June 2022	14 th June 2022
390	Summer 2022	End September 2022	14 th September 2022
391	Autumn 2022	End December 2022	14 th December 2022

As always, material for the next newsletter can be sent to me at:

newsletter@theymc.org.uk

or

ymcnewsletter@gmail.com

or

my personal e-mail address, available to Members on the web-site.

It's disappointing that there is only one Meet Report in this edition given that regular Meets have re-started. However, thanks to Dave's celebration of Tony and the Meets List, it's a decent length, but don't forget, Meet Reports are the life blood of the Newsletter, without them it will not flourish.

New Members

I have been very remiss during my latest tenure as Editor in not welcoming new members to the Club, to all of you that this applies to, please accept my apologies.

Seven aspirant new members were accepted as full members following their proposal and seconding at the latest Committee Meeting, they are:

Abbie Lawson, Kevin Cook, Luke Riggs, Luke Ryan, Gary Colley, Rachel Carruthers and Ben Mayor.

Welcome to the Club.

Steve Bostock

Committee Matters

Members are advised that any proposals for committee posts must be received by the Club Secretary **no later than January 15th 2022**. Nominees for any post need proposing by a full member and agreement by the person nominated is also required. Online proposals to ymcsec2016@gmail.com. By post to 45 Oldham Road, Delph, Oldham OL3 5EB

A further four Aspirant members have converted to full membership and we welcome them to the Club:- Abbie Lawson, Kevin Cook, Rachel Carruthers and Ben Mayor.

A change in the design of club clothing has been discussed, with the effectiveness of the current design being queried. As a result, an investigation into tee shirts and hoodies with more prominent text/logo is being made.

Problems with the club website have been evident for some time, notably the updating of content. In the past, the Webmaster undertook updates upon any information submitted to him, which often has not been forthcoming. However, changes have been made which allow any text updates to be entered onto the website by the Club Treasurer, which means the website can be kept permanently up to date.

Attendances at the late September and October meets were reported as being satisfactory, with the Chop Gate (North York Moors) having the most attendees. Feedback from attendees has included comments such as *too fast*, *too far* or *too challenging* being the most common. Consideration is given to all comments. But advance route descriptions distributed to members via Mailchimp beforehand are intended to inform them what each particular outing entails and so decide the suitability for them. The Meetup Group has been a good recruiting tool for the club but during the pandemic YMC meets have not been included on the group's list of activities. However, it is intended to populate the Meetup Calendar with club events from January 2022.

Members may be aware that the club owns a considerable amount of climbing gear which is now in the possession of Rob Dracup. A policy has been introduced for regular checks of this equipment and any items considered unsuitable for use will be replaced. In this way those using the gear can be confident that it fit for purpose.

The Big Depot climbing centre in Pudsey has expressed its intention to continue building relationships with the local climbing community and has offered concessionary prices to YMC members [on production of a valid membership card]. Rob Dracup can be contacted for further information regarding this venue.

The Club Treasurer has reported that South Lakeland District Council has granted the application for a further 20% Business Rate Relief, which means that the club's Business Rates for 2022 will be nil.

Although the Environment Agency has acknowledged the club's application for a discharge permit relating to the septic tank, the cheque for payment has not been presented. The Agency had previously informed the YMC that there would be delays in processing the application but the 13 weeks time scale they originally quoted has been exceeded, presumably as a result of delays due to Covid.

The club has recently invested in Web Collect, an online membership and events management software package. This will modernise the way in which membership activities are conducted. Treasurer Andy Summerskill has offered to be temporary custodian of the membership elements of the club and by the time members receive their copy of TYM 386, notification of the relevant changes involved will have been conveyed to them. It is hoped that modernising the system will encourage someone to take over on a permanent basis.

CHOP GATE TO CARLTON MOOR MEET

SUNDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2021

Attendees: Ben Gilbert, Ann Morse, Laurie Morse, John Morse (Guest), Tony Raithby, Mike Cooper, Rosemary Beale (Guest), Yvonne Bartlett, Steve Bartlett, Kathryn Willis, Graham Willis.

The party set off from the Chop Gate Village Hall car park, past the Buck Inn, before taking the slightly hidden path past a Chapel that leads up to Cold Moor. After walking along the top of Cold Moor for a short distance we dropped down to the farm at Beak Hills and then walked north to the col between Cold Moor and Cringle Moor.

There followed a fairly steep accent up to Cringle Moor. From the top of Cringle Moor some less favourable weather could be seen approaching from the North. The Party descended from Cringle Moor and in view of the approaching weather decided to take an early lunch stop near to the Lordstones. However apart from a very few spots, the rain stayed off during lunch.

After lunch the route continued to follow the Cleveland Way up the steep accent onto Carlton Moor. As the party made their way up onto Carlton Moor it became clear that the bad weather that we had seen approaching from Cringle Moor, was not rain as had been presumed, but a bank of low cloud. The low cloud and mist soon began to swirl around the top of Carlton Moor making it appear higher and wilder than perhaps it really is.



Cringle Moor and Cold Moor, with Rosebury Topping in the distance

From there the route continued along the gently descending north-western edge of Carton Moor, gradually coming out of the mist and cloud. At the western end of Carton Moor the path dropped down through woods to arrive at a road near Huthwaite Green, where we met and chatted with a lone coast to coast walker resting on a bench.

The plan had been to mainly take footpaths through Scugdale but a recent reconnoitre had revealed that one of the intended footpaths was so overgrown as to be impassable, so a short stretch of road walking was required instead.



Climbing up towards the head of Scugdale

We turned off the road at the track leading to Holiday House (which is not actually a holiday house at all but a permanent residence), where several of the party chatted with the new owners of this rather remote dwelling. I suspect some of our party, all being outdoor types, were slightly jealous of the family that had moved into Holiday House, which is very well situated in glorious isolation towards the head of Scugdale.

The footpath continued behind Holiday House across a couple of fields and then through a rather overgrown stretch of bracken across a bridge (that no longer crossed the route of the stream!) and up to High House. From there the party climbed up to Barker's Ridge and then turned south-east along Bilsdale West Moor as far as Cock Howe. By now the low cloud and mist had lifted and good views were enjoyed from Bilsdale West Moor.

At Cock Howe a footpath led all the way down from Bilsdale West Moor back to the Chop Gate Village Hall Car Park. Laurie Morse clocked the total distance at 13½ miles.

Most of the party stopped for refreshments at the Buck Inn before heading off home.



The Group at Lordstones

Footnote:

Although many will be happy that Carton Moor has returned to a more unspoilt state, I miss the gliders that used to take off and land there when the Carton Moor Gliding Club was operating. Sometimes when walking along a stretch of the Cleveland Way a slight whooshing noise would make you look up and a glider would be gently turning in the breeze, often quite close by, having come silently from behind. Looking on the internet the Carton Moor Gliding Club still has a website, but it is clearly no longer going. It is not clear what happened to the club beyond the fact that it mysteriously stopped operating in about 2008. A little while later the hanger that was on Carton Moor, having fallen into disrepair, was demolished. Only a battered radio and anemometer mast remains as a reminder of the former gliding club. Still the updrafts that are clearly a feature of the north-western slopes of the moors are not wasted and were being enjoyed by many paragliders on the day of our walk.

Ben Gilbert

TONY CROSBY, 1943-2021: A CELEBRATION

Yes, that big quiet bloke with the ever-present smile, friend to all, has died. With considerable sadness I welcome this opportunity to write Tony's obituary – I'd rather call it a celebration of his life – as it was my pleasure and privilege to know him for over 70 years for most of which he was my close friend.

We met at infant school and played together in the junior school football team where he was the dominating centre half who covered for my inadequate right back skills. In those days, the early fifties, youngsters roamed free and Tony started his climbing career on trees in the local park and the woods surrounding Yeadon. Later he moved on to what is now called bouldering at Caley, Ilkley and Almscliffe all safely accessible by bike on the quiet roads of the time. We moved together to secondary school where Tony excelled as a second-row rugby forward, playing Saturday mornings for our school and in the afternoon for the local club Colts side. He always had boundless energy and would have gone on to greater things on the rugby field had he not sustained a back injury, not that that slowed him down a lot in other enterprises.

Thanks to an inspirational scout master I learned some basic rock climbing rope techniques which Tony was eager to learn. So, in our early teens, with a hawser laid hemp rope, a karabiner or two, and a few home-made slings we paired up to tackle many of West Yorkshire's crags, eventually managing some "V.S." routes. We once cycled to How Ghyll, camped in the woods, and spent a long day on the summit rocks of Simon's Seat. Result: very sore hands. In the same period, we were walking the Dales fells and as we grew older turned to thumbing lifts to the Lakes in the school holidays, evolving our mountaineering skills. After A Levels Tony's dad, in a mad moment, loaned us his new Ford Anglia and three of us made our first visit to Skye where we bagged a few ridge peaks.

Tony went off to Hull University where he joined the University Mountaineering Club. At his invitation I later attended one of their meets in the Lakes and found them to be a wild, hard bunch. With them, in 1964, he made the first ascent of a major fjord "wall" in Norway, a multi-day route. Back in Yeadon a small group of us in our late teens had decided on a two-week mountain walking holiday in Austria. Tony liked the sound of that too and didn't want to miss out. So, he navigated the trains from Norway to Innsbruck and we met up with him in a shop doorway where he had bedded down for the night. We had a wonderful fortnight and bagged a few modest Alpine peaks on the way.



Borrowdale 1963



Austria 1964

At Hull Tony met Mary and they married in 1967. Tony graduated and got a job with The British Geological Survey, then based at Crossgates, and they set up home in Swillington. Soon they had three lovely daughters, Helen, Katy and Lizi, and our two families met for local walks and expeditions, and socialising. Tony and Rob Everett shared the same office at BGS and Tony took Rob under his wing and introduced him to the delights of rock-climbing. Rob, with Shirley, went on to “greater things” so Tony must have been a good teacher! Tony and I continued occasional forays on to rock, as much as career and family responsibilities allowed.

BGS moved and Tony’s job took him and his family off to Nottingham. As part of the Marine Geology Group Tony was involved in the early days of offshore oil and gas exploration around the British coast. This involved going to sea for several weeks at a time, drilling the sea bed around Scotland, the North Sea and the Irish Sea. This was not without its danger and excitement. The drilling rigs made the ships a bit top heavy so at the first sign of bad weather they headed on the safest route for a sheltered anchorage. To avoid turning round in rough seas, this sometimes meant steaming right across the Irish Sea from Morecambe Bay, all the while the ship rolling menacingly. He became very knowledgeable about the geology of these areas and produced many published maps and reports which are still used today. He was often accompanied by fellow geologist Ceri and they became close friends. They discovered a common past history and interest in rock-climbing and so began another partnership. They bought a new climbing rope and started climbing in the Peak District, moving on to weekend trips to the Lakes and Wales; and every year for eight years they made a week’s climbing trip to Skye too.

In 2004 they discovered it was quicker to fly to Venice than drive to Skye so their attention switched to the sunny (sometimes thundery) Dolomites away from the damp and midgey Cuillins. Over several years they roamed right across the Dolomites and climbed over 44 via ferratas including the west ridge of the Marmolada twice though locals warned them it had the reputation of a death route. Tony had inspired his nephew Gareth, a one-time YMC Member, and he went on to be a strong rock rat. They did many hard routes in Britain and Italy together including the Tre Cime di Lavaredo which they had to descend in a snowstorm.

But Tony didn’t only enjoy mountaineering. He took up many activities he could more easily do with his girls, and excelled at them. He was a very strong swimmer and with that confidence he became an accomplished windsurfer. He once windsurfed from Portsmouth to the Isle of Wight and back in a day; well, he thought the ferry rather expensive! He cycled, and he skied, and was a good snooker player too. He took up yacht sailing and Audrey and I enjoyed three yachting holidays in the Mediterranean with him and Mary and Helen. He qualified as “Competent Crew” and would have had his “Inshore Skipper” Certificate too if the Irish Sea weather had not prevented him from leaving the harbour. And all the time he had some DIY project or other on the go: over several years he did a total renovation of a house for Katy.



Dolomites 2004



Gulf of Corinth 1999

Shortly after joining YMC in 2014, he volunteered to become Newsletter Editor and addressed the task with his customary energy, enthusiasm, imagination and skill. The format and presentation were updated, colour photographs were introduced; and Tony sought to widen the coverage and content by conducting interviews of some of the leading lights in the mountaineering world of the day. Today's Newsletter owes much to the advances he introduced, (*couldn't agree more – Ed*).

Unfortunately, fate did not look kindly on Tony in his later years. One of his daughters suffered a series of traumas and misfortunes which culminated in her being diagnosed with serious mental illness. Whilst this was going on Mary developed cancer and though apparently initially cured, it reappeared in terminal form. Though Mary fought bravely over several years sadly she passed away in 2018. At the same time one of his granddaughters became seriously ill. With all this going on it was no surprise that Tony resigned as Editor in 2016, and then from the Club. Tony was a changed man after Mary's death and then he himself had an accident which resurrected his old back injury and made it worse, severely restricting what he could do physically. With all this prolonged stress in his life it is little wonder that he succumbed to clinical depression, and despite the best efforts of the doctors, and oceans of love and attention from his family, Tony died on the 1 August 2021.

When I informed the YMC Secretary, Pete Stott responded "I liked Tony from the first time I met him". I don't know anybody who would say otherwise. We will all miss his constant smile and genial company.

Dave Girt, September 2021

2021 Photo Competition Results

The winner of the LW SMITH TROPHY for the Best Overall Score for 3 photos is:

- 1st Place - Peter Tennant.
- 2nd Place - Natasha Cook.
- 3rd Place - Jane Wainwright.

Best Landscape photo - The Dave Stott Trophy:

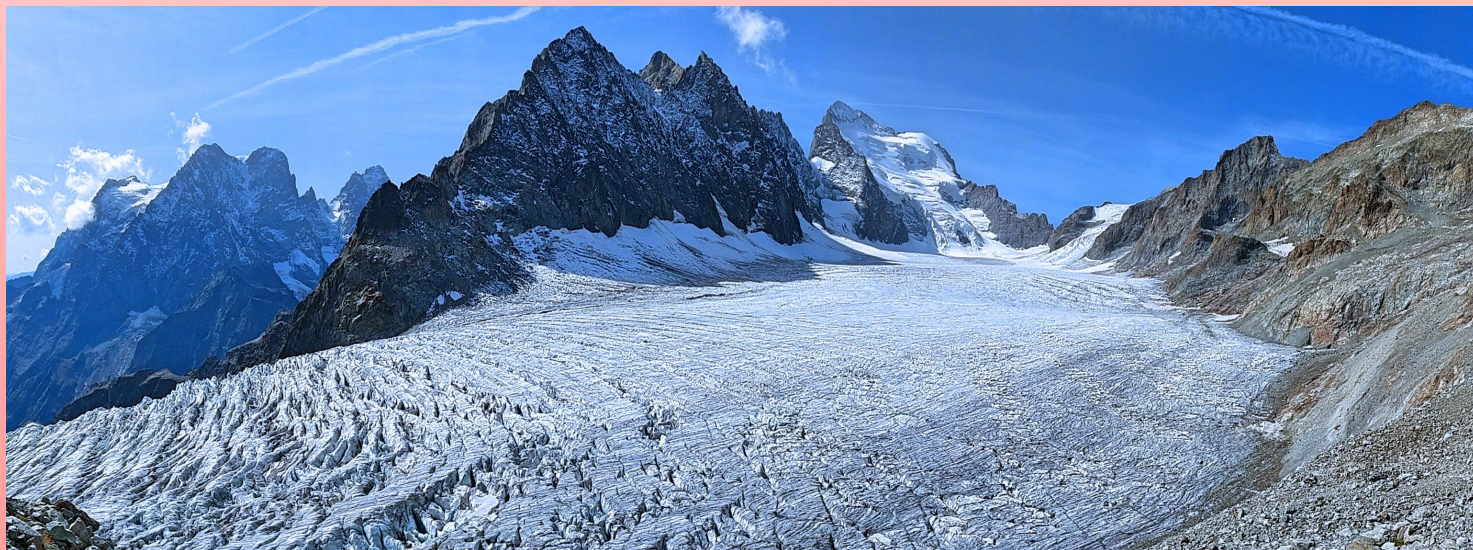
- 1st Place; Peter Tennant with "Ice Maiden in Summer" Barr des Ecrins.
- 2nd Place; Natasha Cook with "Chilly Start in The Dales".
- 3rd Place; Jane Wainwright with "Snowshoeing in Queyras Area" France.

The single best Climbing Photo for the Golden Peg Trophy:

- 1st Place; Abbie Lawson with 'Birdseye View'.

The Humour Section:

- 1st Place; Natasha Cook with 'I didn't think it was that wet when I stepped on it'.
- 2nd Place; Abbie Lawson with '2-Dimensional View'.
- 3rd Place; Luke Ryan with; 'Dogs do it better'.



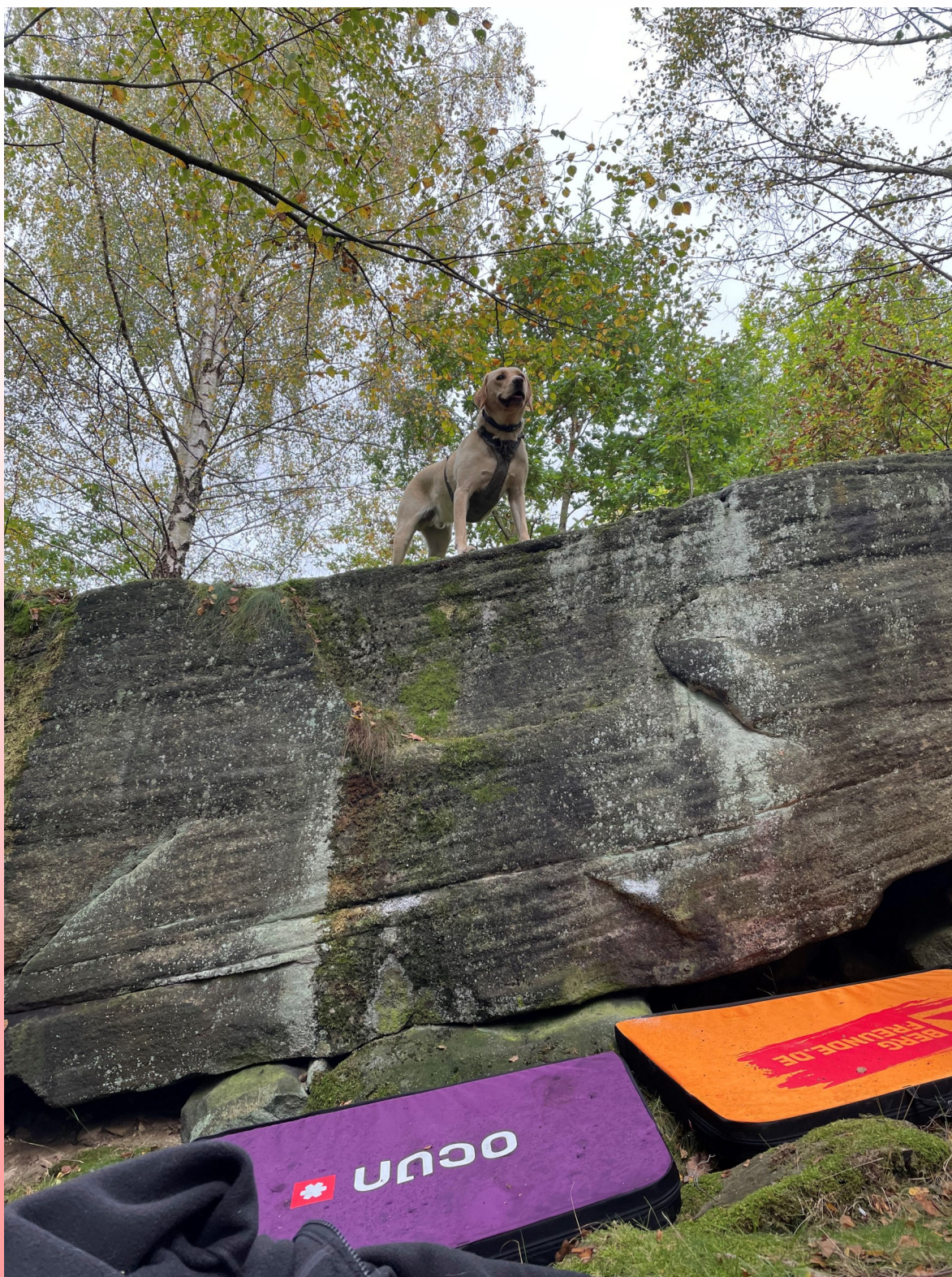
Ice Maiden in Summer - Best Landscape: Dave Stott Trophy winner by Peter Tennant



Birdseye View - Best Climbing Photo: Golden Peg winner by Abbie Lawson



I didn't think it was that wet when I stepped on it - Best Humour by Natasha Cook.



Dogs do it better - 3rd Humour by Luke Ryan.

Weekend Meets 2022

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

Please contact the Meet Coordinator if you intend to join a Meet or require further information.

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

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

Covid 19

Covid 19 national and local restrictions continue to be in a state of flux. Some meets may not take place, or may change at short notice. If you intend to attend a meet please check with the meets secretary and/or the respective meet coordinator prior to the meet that it is still going to take place.

All meets are to be conducted in accordance with the current government requirements (legal and guidance) for social distancing and some meets may have restricted numbers.

Attendance at any meet at the Coniston cottage including maintenance meets is by advance booking only through the hut booking secretary - ymchut@gmail.com

- | | | |
|-----|------------------|--|
| Jan | 2 nd | Hebden Bridge Environs. Hardcastle Crags & Blake Dean. South Pennines.
GR SD 988 291. National Trust public pay & display car park at Midgehole. HX7 7AA.
Kath & Graham Willis – meets@theymc.org.uk |
| Jan | 16 th | Langfield Edge & Stoodley Pike Environs. South Pennines. - GR SD 957 233
From Mankinholes. Roadside parking by Lumbutts Methodist Church on Mankinholes Bank
(Road between Mankinholes & Lumbutts). OL14 6JA.
Kath & Graham Willis – meets@theymc.org.uk |
| Jan | 30 th | Kettlewell. Yorks Dales.
Village centre YDNP pay & display car park SD 967 722. - BD23 5QZ.
Eve & Steve Bartlett - stevebarts@talktalk.net |
| Feb | TBC | Scottish Winter Meet ~ Venue & Date TBC.
Andrew Drury – andrew.drury@outlook.com |
| Feb | 11 th | Coniston Hut – Housekeeping Meet. (2 nights).
Booking - ymchut@gmail.com |
| Feb | 20 th | Scar House Reservoir, Nidderdale. Yorks Dales.
Main Yorks Water car park adjacent reservoir. HG3 5SW - GR SE 069 766
Kath & Graham Willis – meets@theymc.org.uk |

- Mar 6th Grassington. Yorks Dales.
YD National Park Car Park Grassington village. BD23 5LB. - GR SD 002 637.
Kath & Graham Willis – meets@theymc.org.uk
- Mar 20th Standedge & March Hill. South Pennines.
Roadside car parking on A640/B6114 at SE 018 136
Natasha Cook - ctasha@live.co.uk
- Apr 3rd Alderman's Hill, Pots & Pans, Cotton Famine Road. Peak District.
Bin Green Car Park, above Dovestones Reservoir. OL3 7NN.- GR SE 017 044
Kath & Graham Willis – meets@theymc.org.uk
- Apr 8th Coniston Hut – Housekeeping Meet. (2 nights).
Booking - ymchut@gmail.com
- Apr 15th Easter Club Meet Coniston Hut (4 Nights).
Booking - ymchut@gmail.com
- Apr 24th Thixendale via Brubber Dale from Fridaythorpe. Yorks Wolds.
Roadside parking near pond in Fridaythorpe village. YO35 9RT.
Ben Gilbert & Graham Willis - meets@theymc.org.uk
- May 1st Kinder Scout via Grindsbrook Clough from Edale Village.
Parking in Edale (pay and display). SK 124 853.
Natasha Cook - ctasha@live.co.uk
- May 22nd Ilkley Moor. Yorkshire Dales. Navigation Training Meet. Cow & Calf Car Park.
Approx. post code LS29 9RF – GR SE 130 467.
Derek Field - derek-field@hotmail.co.uk
- May 28th Skye Spring Bank Holiday Hostel Meet. Portree (7 Nights)
Natasha Cook - ctasha@live.co.uk
- June 5th Buckden Pike. Yorks Dales.
Buckden village car park. BD23 6RE - GR SD 942 773. Approx. post code BD23 5JA.
Eve & Steve Bartlett - stevebarts@talktalk.net

- June 24th Coniston Hut – Housekeeping Meet. (2 nights).
Booking - ymchut@gmail.com
- July 3rd Embsay Moor, Rylstone & Cracoe Fell. Yorks Dales.
Parking TBC.
Henry Beevers - henrybeevers@gmail.com
- July 8th Roaches Climbing Weekend. Whillans Hut. Peak District. (2 Nights).
Rob Dracup - rdracup@hotmail.co.uk
- July 17th Great Whernside. Yorks Dales.
YDNP car park Kettlewell. SD 968 724.
Kath & Graham Willis - meets@theymc.org.uk
- July 31st Alport Castles from Fairholmes Visitors Centre
Fairholmes visitors centre car park. Post Code S33 0AQ - GR SK172 893
Natasha Cook - ctasha@live.co.uk
- Aug 7th Weets Top & Winterburn Reservoir. Yorks Dales.
Parking in disused quarry on Boss Moor Lane. SD 957 619.
Kath & Graham Willis - meets@theymc.org.uk
- Aug 19th Borrowdale Climbing and Camping Weekend (2 Nights).
Rob Dracup - rdracup@hotmail.co.uk
- Sept 4th Bilsdale West Moor & Mast from Hawnby Bridge via Fangdale Beck. NY Moors.
Roadside parking in Hawnby Village. YO62 5QS
Ben Gilbert & Graham Willis - meets@theymc.org.uk
- Sept 18th Stanage & Burbage Edges. Peak District.
From Hathersage Village – Car parking in village centre. S32 1DU.
Kath & Graham Willis – meets@theymc.org.uk
- Sept 23rd Wales Hut Weekend (2 nights).
Natasha Cook - ctasha@live.co.uk
- Sept 30th Coniston Hut – Housekeeping Meet. (2 nights).
Booking - ymchut@gmail.com
- Oct 16th Penyghent from Helwith Bridge. Yorks Dales.
Parking opposite Helwith Bridge Inn, Near Settle. BD24 0EH
Kath & Graham Willis – meets@theymc.org.uk

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|-----|------------------|--|
| Oct | 30 th | Giggleswick & Smearsett Scar. Yorks Dales.
Parking TBC.
Henry Beevers - henrybeevers@gmail.com |
| Nov | 4 th | Coniston Hut – Club Bonfire Meet. (2 nights).
Booking - ymchut@gmail.com |
| Nov | 13 th | Hebden Bridge Environs. Pecket Well, Deer Stones Edge, High Brown Knoll, Cock Hill & Crimsworth Dean. South Pennines. GR SD 988 291. National Trust pay & display car park at Midgehole. HX7 7AA.
Kath & Graham Willis – meets@theymc.org.uk |
| Nov | 27 th | Castleton. Peak District.
Parking at PDNP in Castleton village. S33 8WN.
Kath & Graham Willis – meets@theymc.org.uk |
| Dec | 11 th | Xmas Fuddle Walk - Barden Moor, Skipton. Yorks Dales.
Barden Scale. Approx Postcode BD23 6AP- Roadside parking - GR SE 051 568.
Derek Field - derek-field@hotmail.co.uk |
| Dec | 23 rd | Xmas /New Year Coniston Hut Club Meet (11 nights).
Booking - ymchut@gmail.com |
| Dec | 26 th | Ilkley Cow & Calf – Traditional Boxing Day Meet.
Cow & Calf Public Car Park. Approx post code LS29 9RF – GR SE 130 467
Derek Field - derek-field@hotmail.co.uk
Meet Time – 10:30am. |

Graham Willis - YMC Meets Secretary

meets@theymc.org.uk

Landline: 0113-2520310

Mobile: 07731-122766

Evening Meets currently take place at the Depot, Leeds on Thursday nights. Information regarding outside meets next year will be made available when the nights start getting lighter.

Mid-week lunch meets are currently suspended.

Dates for Your Diary

The next Photo Shows are on 13th January 2022, followed by 10th February 2022

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all YMC Members

And finally.....

If there's anything more that you think the club should be doing please let the committee know: by speaking to a committee member or email the club Secretary - ymcsec2016@gmail.com



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to the mailing lists
newsletter@theymc.org.uk

Issue: 386

Autumn 2021

The Yorkshire Mountaineering Club - Founded 1941