

Committee Snippets

Andy Dumhill has replaced Jack Jowett as a Trustee of the Stair Hut.

David Ward has been accepted as a full member of the club.

The committee would like to remind members that notice for the Annual General Meeting has to be sent out to members at least two weeks prior to the meeting. Any motions that members wish to be put to the AGM should be with the Secretary, Mike Penn, in plenty of time for this notice to be prepared. Members are urged (gently) to submit motions for consideration before Christmas and the New Year if possible.

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE?

Lot's of meet reports—keep 'em coming!

Martin Bennett on the Tolleys' trip to the Dolomites and Italy

The booking form for the Annual Dinner and the menu accompany the newsletter. If I've forgotten it please contact me and I'll send one on.

Next Social p.14

ORIENTEERING

MEET

Weekend of 2nd/3rd

November

Little Langdale

Sharpen up your navigational skills by taking part in a little informal orienteering event I am planning at a wood called Colwith, just across the ford from the hut

Saturday afternoon seems like the best time and Jenny Tolley has offered to provide a hot-pot supper in the evening.

For those who would like it, an insight into the mysteries of orienteering has been arranged (in the pub on Friday Night?) with a reigning British Champion. He will be on hand at the event for guidance, and to have a laugh!

This event need not be taken seriously but I'm trying to think up a suitable trophy for the winner.

Numbers attending would be very useful for Jenny and I. Please contact :

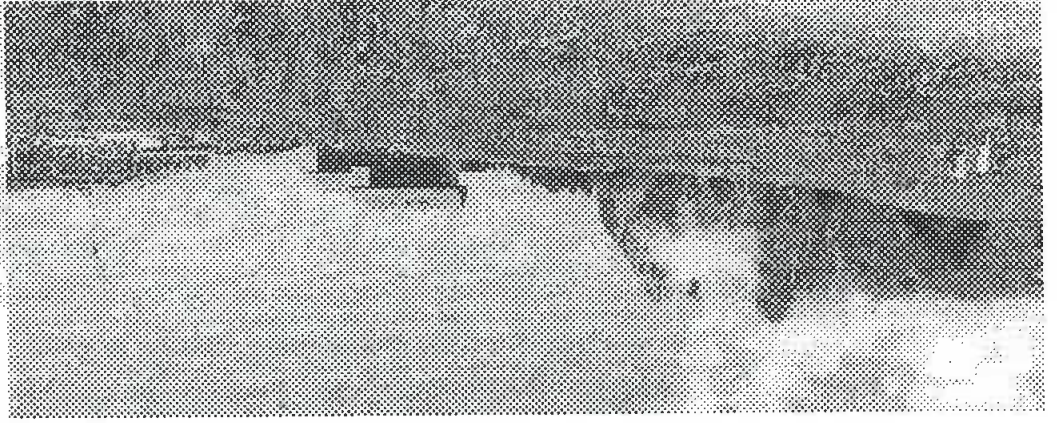
John Denmark on 01772 700327

(Continued on page 4)

A couple of piccys from the Dolomites as I had a spare page.

Can you guess the location?

(NO PRIZES!)



struck by lightning. We were deaf for a couple of minutes until our ears recovered from the noise.

We legged it down the mountain as the storm abated slightly, passing a farmer out tending his cows until we reached the telecabin station. This looked deserted which was a bit depressing until I spotted a kiosk with a B+W tele showing a motorbike racing. Huddled in the kiosk was the operator and he said that the cabins would be running when he got the word from below. During the next 45 minutes or so, several bedraggled walkers were deposited with us, being brought off the mountain in 4x4's. Eventually we got down for a large, stiff drink!

The next week we moved slightly north-east to Sieseralm and had a memorable time on a campsite with stunning views and private bathrooms.

Naturally, I had a bike with me and did some memorable climbs, feeling quite fit having just completed a trip across the Pyrenees from Biarritz to Perpignan. But that's another story.....

John Denmark

Sue has had the knee operated on, and a lump of torn cartilage removed. The knee is healing nicely and viewings of the offending cartilage can be arranged! (I've got it in a little pot!)

Date for your Diary

WEDNESDAY 17th
NOVEMBER

RAIKES HOTEL BLACKPOOL

Next Social is on the 17th November at the usual place—the Raikes.

Unfortunately Andy Kirkpatrick can't make it but Henry is actively pursuing a top quality replacement.

KATHLEEN FIELDING



a slight navigation error on Crinkle Crag. She also went on some of Heywood's Happy Holidays including a superb week we shared in the Dolomites.

The FMC was just one of Kath's many and varied interests. Although golf has lured her away from the mountains in recent years, she was a regular at our socials and the pub on Thursdays. She was formerly a netball player and referee, a squash enthusiast, and more recently a member of Fleetwood Camera Club, the RSPB, and 2 golf clubs where she was a valuable member of their committees.

Luckily Kath has indulged in some amazing trips in recent years including the USA, Iceland, whale watching off Canada, Jordan, India and Nepal. Her charity work for the children of Nepal was ongoing. Last but not least she shared the family obsession with Burnley FC. She leaves her husband Harold and two children Catherine and Richard and three grandchildren to whom the club express deepest sympathy. Her family would like to thank the many club members who were there at Carlton and who sent messages of sympathy and donations. A life lived to the full and ending far too early.

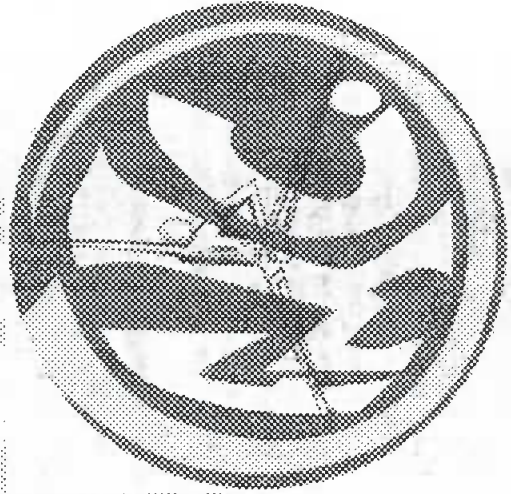
Chris Ikin



1939-2002

Many of us will sadly miss Kath, a dear friend who died on June 25th. The club was well represented amongst the overwhelming number of mourners who attended the funeral service at Carlton.

Kath, who originated from Burnley, had been an FMC member for more than 30 years and was an active participant in club meets including ladies meets for many years. She was a hard working committee member and did her fair share on but working weekends. I have many happy memories of Kath as far back as 1972. Some of us remember our adventures on Suilven and the Fiddler on our first trip to Ullapool in 1980 and on the first Cluanie Lodge meet. Like all good FMC members Kath achieved the coveted mug of the year award with



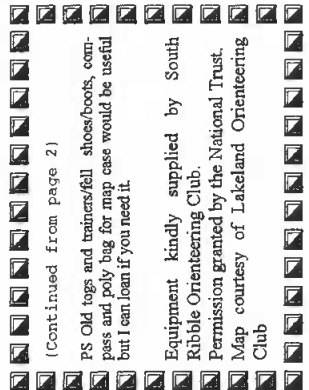
Healthy Lea 6-8 September 2002

Members: Joanna Goorney, Martin Dale, Melissa Bock, Phil Lee, Paul Flux (Saturday), Kevin Stephens (Saturday), Martin Bennett (Sunday), Simon Fenna (Sunday)

Guests: Helen Pattinson, Justine Stiedle, Steve Swindells (Saturday)

Saturday saw a trip to the popular end of Stange which initially looked as though it was going to end rather abruptly early afternoon when the heavens opened. After a trip to the Grindford Station Cafe, though, the sun came out again and we were able to return to the crag a couple of hours later for some excellent late afternoon climbing. In the evening, the Little John in Hathersage provided a suitable venue for Martin to celebrate Birthday Eve. The mention of new routes at Horseshoe Quarry attracted the team onto the bolts on the Sunday. In fact, Mr Gibson (the bolter) had put a new route up in the quarry that very morning. After a damp start, the sun came out and provided another day of enjoyable climbing.

Joanna Goorney



(Continued from page 2)

PS Old togs and trainers/fall shoes/boots, compass and poly bag for map case would be useful but I can loan if you need it.

Equipment kindly supplied by South Ribbleside Orienteering Club.
Permission granted by the National Trust.
Map courtesy of Lakeland Orienteering Club

Brian Nelson has a:

Clearance of Family Gear

I have a number of pairs of high quality boots for sale including:

Size 43 Scarpa Fitzroy, B2, fully shanked, high mountain boots, never been worn.

Size 42 Austrian high mountain winter boot ~ B2, fully shanked, very little used.

Size 41 French Alpine boots, B2, fully shanked, hand-made by

Richard Pontvert of Galibier never been worn.

Size 41 Gáber Alpine boots! B2, fully shanked, red reversed hide, outers and white leather lined, never been worn.

Either of these size 41 would be excellent for a lady.

Size 4 1/2 Hawkins Highlanders walking boots, greasy calf outers and leather lined, very little used.

Size 6-Klimbers lightweight Italian walking boots, suede and leather lined.

There are also others, lightly used, mostly walking boots.

I also have a GEL Wetsuit, 38/40 inch chest, height 5ft 8/10 inch with bolero jacket and wet boots, for sale

I am willing to agree a price for each and every pair.

Please ring me on 01253 874111 and come and see them at:

57 Princes Way, Fleetwood.

Brian Nelson

boulder in particular has yielded some excellent problems. Another has a rather desperate overhanging arête which is still holding out, as of last weekend.

The other area where I have been active is in the Trough. You will have to read the article to get the gist but as far as I know they have not all been done before. One newbie that I can report is a sit down start to Jacksonville on the Cold Stone (page 431, Lances guide) called Going down to Jacksonville, V3 6A. This is OBSCURE in the extreme but there's more there if anyone's interested, including new lines!

I have had an injury this summer so have not been able to get on my big project, but maybe next year? The area around the Cold Stone has got some potential for some good quality new stuff just depends how far you would like to carry that matter.

Martin Dale

Storm in the Dolomites

Four days before we set off for Northern Italy to compete in the "5 Giorni del Forti" orienteering event (Italian 5 Days or, literally, 5 Days of the Fortresses as the area around Lavarone has a lot of fortifications from the time of WW1), Sue managed to damage a cartilage in her knee. This stopped her running, but we managed to get some walking in the following two weeks. We were in the Dolomites at

roughly the same time as the Tolley Lovett Bennetts, but logistics didn't allow us to meet up.

After a great week in Lavarone we moved to Riva del Garda for three days in the sunshine, doing the touristy bit with a trip on the hydrofoil (well, we wanted to go on the hydrofoil but it wasn't running) to Sirmione on the peninsula that sticks up from the southern end of Lake Garda.

We then had a week in Molveno and tried Sue's knee out on a small walk in the Brenta. It was obvious that she was better at ascending than descending and we decided on an ascent of the Cime di Paganella. A bus ride to the bottom to start, with the strategy being - walk to the top, then descend gently to the telecabin station and ride down the rest of the way. A beautiful day to start, and, near the top in an isolated valley, we saw an Ibex run across what appeared to be a sheer cliff face! About 100m from the summit large raindrops began to fall and by the time we reached the summit the sky was back and we were in the middle of an electrical storm. The view from the top was supposed to be a 360 degree panorama of the Dolomites, all we saw was lightning around and below us! We sheltered under the eaves of a restaurant which was closed for about half an hour while the storm raged around us. This restaurant had a metal roof, gutters and downspouts and there was a deafening crash as, I presume, the roof was

Or

The Loneliness of the Long Distance Meet Leader

I suppose that it had to happen sooner or later, where the only person to turn up was the meet leader. This was originally John Wiseman's meet, but with true administrative ability he had managed to organise himself onto another holiday at the same time, and just to compound the problems I was working away for the week before.

Friday night was spent in the Slatters' Arms drinking Banks's Ale, chatting with Mike the landlord, and wondering where the rest of the meet had got to. Saturday drove round to Cader Gates and wandered up as far as the lake below Cader Idris. The cloud was right down with intermittent rain. Enough character building for one weekend I thought, and promptly bailed out to the seaside at Aberdovey for the afternoon.

Saturday night was spent drinking Adhams Ale, and chatting to some ramblers who invited me to go with them to the Arrans for the Sunday. In the morning, much to my surprise there was brilliant sunshine, and drove round to Cwm Cowarch with rambler group. Now people usually have the mental image of ramblers

Mike Penn

For Sale

Pod Black Ice 50 litre Rucksack

Used one week. As new. Was £129

Silly offers refused!!! How about £80

Phone

Martin Bennett on
01254 664249

Talking about projects getting knocked off, Woody (that's Stuart from Rock and Run, not our own) has claimed some routes over the back of Pavey in Bright Beck Cove. So, I've had to come clean that I soloed a couple of lines there in 2000 but did not record them as I fully intended to go back and clean up. One is very good and I think he's graded it E2. You will have to wait and see the results on the FRCC website, but there is still much to do there if anyone is interested, also some good bouldering!! Anyone who fancies carrying loads of mats up there for an attempt on THE line, let me know.



I also soloed three new lines on crags above Cockley Beck on the flanks of Grey Friar. I'm not telling you exactly where they are as I do fully intend to return and do some more, however one's a slab at about HVS 5A, a wall to the right with a boulder problem start is HVS 5C, and the pick of the bunch is a rib on the higher crag that goes at VS 4C and is over 30 metres long!!

Andy and Christine's new routes from last year are now on the FRCC website, as is Golden Rule. One of my old projects on Pavey has also been picked off. Both myself and Al Phizacklea had "abbed" this groove and thought it a bit blank and devoid of useful protection, however the first ascensionist climbed the wall to the left and then stepped into the groove above the blank bit!! OK!! There's a picture on the FRCC website. It still gets E5!!

Lots of other action has taken place on boulders, sorry. Wrynose Pass has seen some action from myself working on my own as usual. One

Ullapool

This was supposed to be a camping meet. Some people did camp, but the majority stayed in a house conveniently situated next door to the Celdih Bar!

The weather started off poor and this did send Kevin Stephens and son home early but those who persevered were blessed with incredible weather for Scotland. The tele was given some stick mainly due to the weather and the World Cup much to the annoyance of Mr Dunhill.

The first couple of days dawned wet and, although the afternoons were better, it was a little poor. Teams visited Reiff and others went walking. Gruinard Bay was also visited by the climbers, the day most notable for the midge experience. It wasn't till Wednesday that the weather started to really improve. A big team traversed An Teallach in perfect conditions, whilst myself and Melissa went and did the Old Man of Stoer. Melissa did the swimming and I got a wet bum off a rather sloppy Tyrolean traverse.

The whole experience was, however, unforgettable. Thursday was incredible. Andy Dunhill, Christine, Dave Ward and Chris Thistlethwaite went climbing on Stac Polly (Pollaidh) whilst others walked elsewhere. We went in on mountain bikes and knocked off Suilven. The next day we climbed on Loch Tollaich crags and did

perhaps the best route of the week in Buena Vista E1. We even managed to avoid hearing the England/Argentina score. Andy and Christine did the Fiddlers Nose. The week was rounded off with an idyllic afternoon at Reiff. Most folks sped off south on Sunday, whilst me and Melissa had another week, however the usual Scottish weather returned and, although we covered some miles, the activity level never reached the previous week's level. Many thanks to Andy and Christine for organising the accommodation, and to the Tolleys and Lovetts for keeping us fed and watered.

Alstonefield

A fair turn out saw us avoid the threatening rain on Saturday on obscure grit. Mike Tooley picked out Turning Stone Edge from the guidebook. It was just about sticking out from the jungle of rhododendrons. Numerous quality routes were done although Mike Sissons might well not agree. The first one he tried ended up in machete country. Hugo De Vries E1 was perhaps the best of the bunch, named after a species of - you guessed it!

Joanna Goorney also led Overton Arête HVS which was tough for the grade. We finished the day off with an ascent of the Cyclops Eye on Cocking Tor. A very impressive route which required a certain amount of levitation from all the seconds to attain the top from the Eye.

(Continued from page 7)

Trevor went on slate. Phil performing his famous facing out rest on Pull My Daisy again!!!! Others went to Tremadog.

North Wales Chester Swap August

We retired to the Vaynol in Nant Peris which now sells proper beer, to be entertained by Preston old gits Marsh and Frank Pearson.

Another meet I took over leading for someone or other. This was a monster meet attended by some 19 members and guests. Some folks managed routes on Friday night in the quarries and up the Pass. Saturday was fine but very windy. Most people headed up the Pass to the Grochan. Here we were blown about by warm winds 'til 5pm when it rained. Hal managed to lose a trouser leg (of the zip off variety). Phil Lee and his mate

Martin Dale

Doug Scott Lecture - Yeadon Town Hall - Friday 1st November, 7.30 p.m.

As the current President of the Alpine Club, the most prestigious climbing club in the UK, Doug Scott is recognised as one of the best ever. He was the first Briton to reach the summit of Everest by the South West Face Route on Bornington's expedition in 1975. He has taken part in 45 expeditions to some of the wildest places on earth and has climbed the Seven Peaks - the highest mountains on the seven continents of the world.

The idea of climbing the Seven Continental Summits was first publicised by American Dick Bass. His book, "Seven Summits", described his ascents of the eponymous peaks. Canadian Pat Morrow was the first to complete all Seven Summits with Carstenz in 1986. Four months later Reinhold Messner followed suit. The first Briton to climb all seven was Hong Kong based businessman Keith Kerr in 1992. Rebecca Stephens (the first female) finished them in 1994 and David Hemplettier-Adams in May 1995, followed only days later by Doug Scott.

Doug's latest 2V2 hour lecture "Sacred Summits" is being given in the Leeds & Bradford area on Friday 1st November at Yeadon Town Hall, starting at 7.30 p.m. Tickets for this will be on sale from 1st September at a price of £3.00 (Balcony) and £7.00 (Main Hall). Student price is £6.00 for Balcony and £5.00 for Main Hall tickets. They are available by telephoning Wayne & Sons at 01943-463244. Yeadon Town Hall is approximately 1 mile from the Leeds/Bradford International Airport and V2 mile from the main A65 Leeds to Ilkley road and the A658 Bradford to Harrogate road.

Any party of 10 or over will be eligible to a 10% discount.

J D Burland
01943466884

other teams gathered behind us! An hour later there were but 3 ropes on the climb. The Italians in front of us abseiled off after about 6 or 7 pitches; The Italians behind us, whose average age surpassed even that of me and Mike, gave up after pitch 1 - the 70 year old made heavy weather of it! And the last team gave up without starting in the face of the sheer numbers. So that was it for the day - Me and Mike followed by 2 Dutch ropes of people half our age putting the pressure on.

That first pitch was a bit of a test first thing in the morning with an audience of people willing you to get on with it. Felt like E1 but maybe only HVS. This, being a new route, was bolt protected. But don't think Spain! These bolts are an average 30 feet apart - you need a rack as well. After that it eases off but the route finding is never straightforward since you can't always see the next bolt and this is a BIG wall covered in features invisible from below. Lots of features but few ledges, which means draping the rope over the belay on 12 out of 14 stances! There's a technical crux at about pitch 7 which I thought might get E1 at home, then several more pitches leading ever rightwards toward the nose. The final two pitches up the arête are

completely exposed to the 400 metres below. I knocked a rock off and Mike says he watched it all the way and it touched nothing before disappearing from sight.

And that's it really. A final 100 metres of easy ground leads to the horizontal at last, eat butties, change shoes, stow hardware, and look around for the way home. And what a way! The meadow you finish-up in is directly under the North Faces of the Tre Cima di Lavaredo - one of the most famous views in the Alps. Spectacular or what? The walk across this grassy Alp (it even has cows, with bells) and descent down a steep path back to the main valley and down it to the car is very enjoyable and in our case was finished in the dark after a 14 hour day! I felt completely drained after the climb, but very happy in the knowledge I'd added another great memory to the store.

Rest day the day after and then, just as the weather deteriorated, it was Goodbye Cortina and goodbye to one another. Mike and Jenny jumped on their bike for the next phase of their romp through Europe whilst the workers among us (and Laura!) headed for home.

Martin Bennett

**Working Weekend
Little Langdale
October**

A very select meet with Jenny and Mike arriving on the Friday, myself and Les Ward on the Saturday. None of us could stay for

the Sunday but a good deal of work was carried out on the inside and out. New pillows provided, ladies' dorm painted, flags re-laid and pointed in outside and weeds disposed of.

John Denmark

tin Bennett and Terry Robinson did some gardening. Woody and Hal watched the World Cup final and arrived just in time to do nowt.

The rain came as predicted and a retreat was made to the pub.

Martin Dale

Obscure crags
Poor attendance and funny weather (drizzle) put paid to any high crag activity, the meet myself, Melissa, Woody, and Hal went to Little Stand Crag above Cockley Beck on Saturday. It was still a bit wet but we did manage a few things. Sunday saw more drizzle but also more people. We ended up down the Duddon at Stonestar where numerous classics were done, particularly the one chosen by The Woodster. So, not a great weekend weather-wise, mind you Alan Blackburn did turn up.

Pembroke

Again, a small team turned up not including the meet leader. Perfect weather greeted us and the pub in St Florence was as good as usual with a selection of northern ales for our delectation. Saturday saw us down Stackpole, at least those of us who dared abseil off the very thin stake and thread deep in its hole. Stackpole Cracks proved tough for the grade. Later on the

East face of Mowing Word Lagos
was done as well as a couple of routes on the hidden wall. Sunday saw us down Mother Carey's Kitchen. This proved to be excellent with ascents of Rock Idol, led by Dave Cuddy, and Strait Gate by myself and Woody. The day ended with the team doing their international-rescue thing, heaving an Argentinean woman up Deep Space. She had probably only done V Diffs before!! The lass who was leading was five months pregnant to, as it turned out, Crispin Waddy. So, later in the pub, I got to do some hero worshipping for he is one of my all time heroes.

Monday turned into another stonker weather wise but a bit chilled out route wise. We ended up sat with the who's who of British rock climbing at Huntmans watching another notable trying Souls. These notables included Johnny Dawes who'd been rollerblading across the tops of the crags on the grass!!! Madman or genius???

Martin Dale

(Continued on page 11)

JOLLY HOLLIES WITH THE TOLLEYS IN THE DOL- LIES

I wasn't sure at first that it would prove to be a good idea, but when Magi, on learning the Tolleys were going to be cruising around Europe on their "grand tour" this summer, suggested we meet up with them somewhere. I jumped at the chance. Of course the "somewhere" would be in the mountains. And this would mean that in between the days walking via ferrata-ing, chill-ing etc that the whole team could enjoy, Mike and I might get a couple of routes in.

Family type camping gear was bought or borrowed and the trip was on. Magi, Laura and I arranged to meet Mike and Jenny at a campsite in Cortina in the Eastern Dolomites. And despite their having left 3 weeks before us, and enjoyed several adventures in between, we met on the day planned, arriving within hours of one another.

In a fortnight various combinations of the team members enjoyed a wide assortment of days out in weather that by this summer's standards in Europe was mainly pretty good. This is the tale of the "full-on" rock climbing days Mike and I had. Our first route was a must - recommended in all FOUR guide books we'd borrowed (thanks to Messrs. Dale and Hird). Called "Via del Drago" (The Way of the Dragon) it sounds dramatic and it is. Situated on a 1200 foot west

facing wall of the Piccola Lagazuoi it's approached by the exhausting means of a cable car ride and a thirty minute downhill stroll!

The start is fairly inauspicious. After a hard 25 feet in a little corner it crosses a terrace and enters a gloomy wet chimney gully. From half way up this Tol was encouraged by my shout of "This isn't what we came all this way for!" We persevered and the route opened out to climb a rope length or so of slabby featureless limestone before the first crux. Graded VI - this is a steep yellow (a colour usually indicative of poor rock in these parts) crack with a few pegs for protection, followed by the first of two long traversing pitches. Dolomite walls are renowned for their traverses - it's a good way of encouraging you onward in the upper part of the routes - once past them there's no quick abseil to the ground so retreat seems very unappealing! This wasn't the worst aspect of these traverses though. As I moved out on the second of them, passing a very awkward move at the start it became obvious there would be no protection before the stance about 70 feet away. OK for me, I could see the rest was easy, if on dubious rock. But what about Mike, having to do that awkward move with a massive pendulum the reward for failure or a broken hold? Looking down I saw I was now above a very large roof. Mike was not encouraged by the following dialogue:
"Mike"
"Yeah?"
"Have you brought prussik loops?"

He hadn't but encouraged me on in any case, and made a great job of following the pitch in very harrowing circumstances.

At last we were away onto the main part of the climb on perfect grey limestone in a massive corner groove that splits the face. But 200 feet up it we came to the 2nd crux. Here the rock turns yellow, becoming quite loose, and the runners dry up. It feels very run out at about HVS until a half friend then a solid rock 8 have you rushing upward to easier ground. Two easy pitches get you to the summit ridge which is descended to a col from which a gully leads to the foot of the wall and an easy walk home.

Recommended in every guide book to the area eh? I wouldn't send my worst enemy on it! It's a good line on an attractive wall but fails in the execution. We had a good day out nonetheless - memorable experiences are not confined to the days spent having it easy on sanitised rock with protection every 3 feet. To quote the 'Climbs in Colorado' guide book - "this ain't no sport area, Pilgrim!"

There's an arête above Cortina that you can see from everywhere in the town. In fact there are many. But this one, the "SE Ridge of the Punta Fiammes", grew on us as the week progressed until we knew it would be our next climb. It proved a completely different experience from the Via del Drago. The approach is more traditional - a lengthy walk up wooded slopes

with a final half hour of steeper scrambling. And it's as popular as you might imagine given it's obvious presence and attractiveness. We were the third of 4 teams on it that day, German, Austrian, British, Dutch.

The Austrians invited us past them on the easy ground at the start but it made little difference - the Germans in front proved to be the weakest team and soon we all caught up and took our pace from them. Any time they faltered or knocked down a stone the girl leading the Austrian rope would mutter "Germans! Huh, they can't climb" - no love lost there then! That apart there was a very enjoyable atmosphere on the route, the weather was nice and not too warm, the climbing very good and sustained at about VS (5 they call it), the stances comfortable and the summit reached in good style. The descent is brilliant - a pleasant stroll off the summit leads to a gully which provides the best and longest scree run imaginable, which leads straight back to the car. A brilliant day out - pure enjoyment.

Our last route was like neither of these. For a start it doesn't go to a summit but is situated on a huge 400 metre nose of rock which falls from an alpine meadow into a valley. We don't even know the name of this "crag" but the route, first climbed in 1997 has the name "Spitogoras" and is graded V+. It seems to have quickly acquired a reputation for quality - we were 2nd party on it that morning and four