

Fylde Mountaineering Club Adventures...and more

Spring 2022

DEEP DARK TUNNELS

MISTY WATERS

*BIG ROCKS AND
TRIFFIDS*

MUG ATTEMPTS

BALTIC WEATHER





With life increasingly getting back to normal I have noticed members becoming more and more active over these past few months, and therefore I am looking forward to reading this latest edition to see what you have all been up to. Members having been coming up with ideas of how to encourage more of us to get out and get together and there will be more information very soon about a club challenge to help us achieve this. I hope you are all keeping well and I hope to see many of you either on the hill, at the crag or socially. Enjoy your read, and many thanks to our editor for producing another great magazine.

Dave

Cover page-Chris at Uzes France. Photo Chris Fry
Opp page-looking out at Nichol End. Photo-Chris Fry.

Contents

- 4 INTRO MEET
Woodland and crags
- 8 JOBS DONE
a working weekend
- 10 SPLASHING ABOUT
a wild time
- 16 FYLDE FOOD
dinner at the Dalmeny
- 19 A STAIR SESSION
more jobs done
- 20 SPELEOTHEM
going underground
- 26 CRAGS AND BEER
evening climbing
- 32 SUN, SEA AND CRAGS
Kool Kalymnos
- 38 CRACKED IT
crossword answers
- 39 AND LAST
info and reminders



Hi all,

I hope you are well and raring to get out and about now that Spring and Summer are coming-I know I am! Thankfully restrictions seem now at an end and hopefully we can really enjoy ourselves! Though the weather has been rough lately with storms and flooding, the daffs are coming up in my garden which is always a good sign!

It's been a treat reading about your adventures, and in this issue we have watery tales, Baltic weather, new crags, sun and sea, tunnels and horror of horrors-pubs shut!

As Dave mentions we have a club challenge coming up and I am so looking forward to it!

As always my thanks go out to those of you who contribute with articles to the magazine.

Anyway, I hope you enjoy your read, and a happy New Year to you all.

Christine

**Walking,
climbing and
Home brew on
the Intro meet
at Little
Langdale-9th/10th
Oct**

As recalled by Jen Chambers.

Willing partners-Andy Chambers, Chris Bell, Ali Eley, Caroline Webb, Steve Clark, Chris Fryup and Craig Hargreaves.



This was the first time of running an intro meet for myself and Andy, and the first time that we have managed to spend a whole weekend away together since the baby (now a 2.5 year old) was born, so what better way to spend it than with a bunch of FMC members!



The weekend got off to a great start with a lovely vegetarian lasagne on the Friday night cooked by the 2 intros (Ali and Chris), finished off with Christine's famous (and very yummy) lemon drizzle cake.



was attempted. I got out for a very nice low level run first thing, whilst Andy, Christine, Caroline, Ali and Chris headed off to Coniston via Tarn Hows.

It was misty and very atmospheric walking towards Holme fell and then Hodge close and eventually arriving at Tarn Hows where lunch

was had. The group then ventured on to Coniston through woodland rain on and off where I met



Saturday brought more drizzle, although not of the cake variety, meaning that nothing too strenuous





them in The Black Bull for a few local ales!

The return journey took us back through Tilberthwaite, at decent pace due to yet more rain! Saturday evening we were joined by Craig and a few more local ales were tasted at the Three Shires Inn plus a few of Andy's homebrew ales back at the hut!

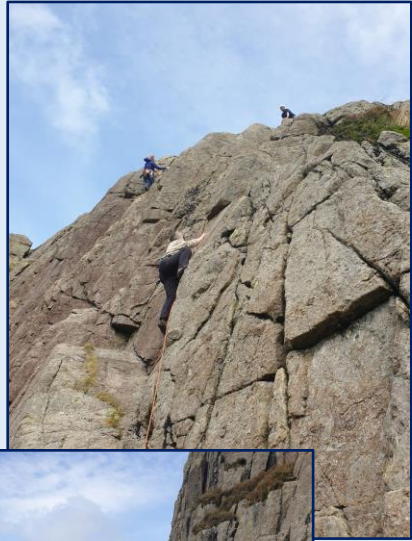


Sunday dawned bright and clear with Steve joining us. The majority of us then headed off to Long Scar for a bit of Trad climbing (the first that both Andy and myself had done in a very very long time!).

One member (you know who you are!) put themselves forward as an



entrant for Mug of the Year by leaving their rock boots in the van. Needless to say they proved their



climbing prowess by leading a few routes in their trainers to show us all how it's done.

The conditions were perfect and the view incredible, clear skies and glistening sun shone over the valleys, a fantastic way to spend a Sunday and an amazing introduction in to the world of trad for Chris and Ali.



Overall a fab weekend was had by all, and we are looking forward to the next time!



Jen & Andy Chambers



Deep cleaning, heavy rocks and Triffids at the Little Langdale Working Weekend 11th September

Starring Caroline Webb, Ali Eley, Chris Bell, Jill Hodge and Howard Barrowbreaker-sorry Shaw.

With the ending of the Covid restrictions this was to be our first proper working weekend at Little Langdale, though it didn't go totally to plan as at the last minute our illustrious hut custodian Andy Hird tested positive and had to isolate for 10 days. So it was that a small but eager A team assembled to tackle the heavy lifting jobs that appeared on the work list now that Andy couldn't come.....not suspicious at all.



Whilst Jill and Ali set to work deep cleaning the kitchen and toilets and painting the shelves, the rest of the team set to work on the first big trial to remove a "small number of rocks" from the field below our car park which were apparently damaging the meadow and it was all our fault.

A brief inspection showed a few rocks and a quick job, but after removing some undamaged meadow from on top of the rocks it soon became clear that there

were a lot more, and they were a lot bigger and heavier than expected (think 3ft by 2ft slabs). This threw the original plan of removing them to the river into disarray, so an alternative plan was formulated to rebuild the fallen wall by the gate into the field which was now obviously the source of the rocks. By lunchtime a new wall was in place and all of the rocks removed.



After lunch we set to work weeding the car park and removing the rainforest of weeds that had overtaken the back of the hut. Thankfully we were soon joined by Jill and Ali as it was a mammoth task to clear all of the weeds, though some seemed to be sitting down on the job...



Vast numbers of triffids and man-eating nettles were removed from behind the hut at great physical risk to the gardeners, but at least we can get out of the backdoor of the hut now.

Other minor tasks completed were attaching the fire blanket to the wall and putting the notice board back up.

Caroline

Water, Water everywhere on

Karen's Wild Swimming Weekend

from Stair, with lots of fun and

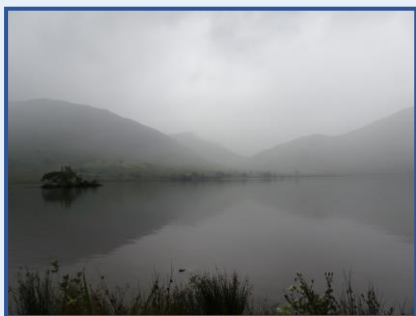
a BBQ too!

With Karen Hicks



It was a great turn out with Andy, Liz, Ed & Jess Hird, Ali & Chris (intro members), Hal, Caroline, Fry Up, Dave and myself turning up on the Friday night. We tried an abortive trip to the Swinny but we were not made welcome and had to settle for refreshments at the hut (probably had a better time). As the parking is very restricted at Crummock Water, it was agreed that we needed an early start in the morning and a sense of apprehension grew as the evening went on.

A club record was probably made as we were all on the road by 7:45 on Saturday morning. The weather wasn't great and as we approached Crummock Water dramatic rain and mist



enveloped the lake – very moody. We parked up in our



favourite spot and the kit was soon unloaded and ferried down to the lake by excited volunteers. Chis and Ali had the paddle boards blown up by the time most of the group got down and they were out on the water – “marvellous” I thought. Drew, Liz and Jess were ready to go but Edward had his own more laid back ideas and he stayed on the beach as we all entered the water (he then went to the car for a kip). The water was 13C so it was quite chilly.

Fry up was determined to swim across to the Island (christened Poo Island by Liz due to the

duck poo everywhere) and after 2 years of trying and at the age of 70 she succeeded on the 3rd



year! She was absolutely delighted as was I because she really had to overcome her fear of the dark deep water. Hal, Ali, Chris and I with a safety back-up-Dave on the paddle board decided to swim to the far side of the lake (about ½ mile) but before we got the whole way the heavens opened and pelted the lake with enormous raindrops which bounced dramatically off the surface. I chose to turn the group around at this point to keep everyone safe, and also with the knowledge that Sunday was going to be better regarding the weather. We would also have a second safety boat, as Simon and Carol were coming up with their Canadian canoe. It

really was spectacular and moody though.

Everyone had had a grand time and were ready to call it a day. We went back to the hut and had hot drinks and some lunch. Folk did their own thing with some retail therapy going on, and a mass trip to the Coledale where Ed fulfilled his mission of buying a round of drinks in a pub as he had not had the chance since his 18th birthday.

Caroline, Dave and I got back to the hut early to prepare for the BBQ. We had brought our Gazebo up as we knew it would rain. Simon and Carol, Tony and Becky, Howard and Jill arrived and helped with the preparations. Simon had brought a tarp and so some





creative pole making and tarp erection skills were deployed.



A cracking evening followed with much merriment and tales of derring do, and again a sense of apprehension for the following day. Another early start was planned although it turned out to be an hour or so later than the previous day. There was one notable absentee in the shape of Fry Up as I think she had celebrated her previous day's achievements a little over enthusiastically. Sadly Ed and Jess could not be there either as Jess had to work.



The morning arrived and the weather was good. Drew announced that he "wasn't feeling it" and didn't fancy the swim across the lake, and Hal

was feeling similar so they decided to “island hop” their way around to the other side with Simon and Tony as safety crew in the Canadian canoe. Ali and I decided to swim straight across with Chris on the paddle board as safety back-up. Caroline,



Carol, Becky and Liz decided to swim to the island and just be “floaters” staying close to the shore. They ended up bobbing around and performing some very strange synchronized swimming performances as well as plenty of synchronized nattering.

Big achievements for Tony,

Becky, Hal and Drew as this was their first experiences of open water swimming in fresh water. When Hal had reached the opposite side of the lake she said that she had had enough. Tony, out of the blue said that he would swim back and Hal could go back in the canoe. Tony gave a magnificent display of long distance doggy paddling and made it across much to his (and Becky’s) delight. Drew was smiling from ear to ear and had an impromptu lesson from me on his crawl technique in the middle of the lake.



Ali loved it and put her fear of dark open water to rest (too

many sharks down there!).

Back on the beach Becky was “loving it”, so much so that



she has since acquired a wetsuit, as was Carol who originally didn't fancy the idea of swimming at all (Tony hijacked her place in the canoe because he didn't fancy it either!) but she thoroughly enjoyed being in the floating group and showed much potential for the synchronised swimming.

All in all a grand weekend was had by all, and here's to next year.....



Karen

Willing participants and BBQ lovers-Drew, Liz, Ed and Jess Hird, Chris Bell, Ali Eley, Dave and Karen Hicks, Christine Fry, Hal Rzadkiewicz, Tony Hulme, Becky Hicks, Simon Fenna, Carol Williamson, Caroline Webb, Jill Hodge and Howard Shaw.

DINNER AT THE DALMENY 2021

After our dinner being cancelled in 2020 it was a welcome relief to be able to go ahead in 2021.

There had been many times of uncertainty during the lead up when I thought we might have to cancel again.

Boris reassured me that it'd be fine to go ahead and if anyone asked we should blatantly deny any knowledge of it.

Breaking with tradition this year's dinner was on the Fylde at the Dalmeny Hotel. After many conversations with the events team at the hotel I managed to sort the food pre order and the logistics of being able to serve our members real ale.

Unfortunately on the evening of the dinner I didn't account for the traffic in Blackpool and was late.

By the time we arrived 20mins late Mike Howe had already stepped in and was organising the beer and Dave Hicks was asking guests to choose their seats.

The rest of the evening went along without any further hitches.

50 members attended from new to the long standing.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the excellent food and service, also it was fantastic to get together again.

The awards ceremony was a bit on the light side but I think we will be able to remedy that this year.

I would like to thank everyone who attended, it made the effort worthwhile.

TONY HULME





2 'Bells', rain and rain, but lots of jobs done on the Stair Working Meet – 4th – 6th February 2022

Attendees were Howard and Jill, Neil, me (Ali) and a double helping of Chris Bell. One of the Chris's being the custodian (I didn't realise the custodians were supposed to be there from previous experience at last year's working meet at Langdale?), and the other being my feller.

It rained and rained so the outdoor jobs were limited to cleaning of walls and windows and a little bit of tidying and collecting wood. A beautiful job was done of the kitchen. I don't think I've ever seen it that organised and was told that it probably won't stay that way for long!

Chris provided the food – some delicious “homemade” soup and warm bread for lunch and after finishing the jobs we all pootled off to the pub. A few pints later we made our way home, nearly losing two of the party who had walked past the gate to the hut and carried on. A search party was sent out and they were soon retrieved. We all got back and tucked into the chilli that Chris had prepared earlier.

The next morning was still a bit grim, weather wise but we got out for a bit, Chris for a run, other Chris and Neil for a rather blustery walk up Catbells and me for a lovely walk into Keswick with some tree identification on the way. A good time was had by all!

For anyone that feels as though they have missed out and would like to get involved next time, there will be a lot more jobs to do after the planned work has been completed.

Ali



UNDERGROUND.....WITH NARROW TUNNELS, DEEP WATER AND LOTS OF MUD



(ARE THEY ALL MAD?!)

Adventure recalled by Ali Eley

Fellow adventurers-Carol Wilkinson, Nick Hepburn, Ali Eley, Alan Blackburn,(kneeling), Glen Brookes, Stephen Clark, Steve Wrigley, Graham Callander, Martin Bennett, Daniel Huxley-Blythe, Donnie Domville, Neil Baines and Simon Fenna (who took the photo) .

It was a gloriously sunny day in November (you may remember the one) when I decided to crawl into a dark muddy hole with a bunch of cavers. Said hole was accessed via Committee Pot, a shaft of about 50m that took over 15 years to dig. Our adventure took us from inlet 13, upstream near inlet 1 and the sump, then back with a visit to inlet 5 and curry inlet. Although I have learnt new words and bits about cave geology, most of my reading was done after the event so this is about as geographically knowledgeable as it's going to get on this occasion!

Armed with clean undies and a towel I was ferried to Ingleton by Neil and then Steve. Thirteen of us met at the Inglesport café, a well-known spot amongst the cavers, for buckets of food and tea before heading to Lek Fell and the entrance to the cave. Suited and booted we set off on the very short walk down to the manhole cover, that protected stray sheep and wanderers from an unexpected drop, where we received a brief from Simon and Steve.

'a ravine'

Saying goodbye to the sunshine we began the descent, which was impressive in itself. The folks that dug the hole had



installed a system of scaffolding, breezeblocks and ladders that facilitated much of the route down. The trickiest part was getting across a ravine, which required making myself big (pushing on the sides of the slimy wall) and taking a big step (from one slimy rock to another). With a helping hand from Simon, I made it across. This was followed by a bum slide over some more strategically placed scaffolding poles, with a bit of rope somewhere along the way, then a squeeze (probably not a REAL squeeze) down through a hole at the bottom. The thought crossed





the appearance of a melting surface. Shallow water flowed past our feet in the opposite direction and even out of the wall overhead. Some of the tunnels became wide

my mind at this stage that this was also the way out. Having confidence in my determination to see sunlight once again I put this thought out of my head and continued on.

We emerged somewhere near Mincemeat Avenue and made our way upstream through a series of tunnels. The first few tunnels were fairly narrow and the calcite-rich water had dribbled down over the walls giving them



enough to allow a few people to walk abreast, elsewhere some careful crawling and crouching was required to make sure that we did not damage any of the delicate decorations that had taken thousands of years to form.



‘wiggly worms’

Straws dripped from the roof in a lot of the caves and tunnels and formations that looked like tiny wiggly worms branched out in all directions. I later found out that these are called helictites. Larger caverns boasted stalactites that fell from the ceiling like giant lacy curtains, with dark bands throughout and in places, the stalactites met the stalagmites and formed columns. One of the new words that I have learnt is speleothem, which is the collective word for these formations, and quite a nice word I thought.

‘water was up to my chin’

Walking past one outlet I noticed a sign which indicated an exit route in case of flooding. Total panic did not set in though, as the water level rose over the top of my wellies. It started

to get a bit chilly as we approached the sump and the water was up to my chin. The group opted out of a swim on this occasion and we headed back to the previous cavern. It was suggested that we pay a visit to the garden of Ganesh. I’m not sure what images this conjures on your mind; the reality is mud – a lot of mud. Getting completely caked in mud was unavoidable. I mean why would you want to avoid it anyway? Crawling through a muddy tunnel we emerged into a modest cavern that was... you’ve guessed it... full of mud! This seems to be where the cavers enjoy basking and making piles of mud, particularly upon the helmets of the newbies. This seems to be some kind of ritual and caused much amusement. After ample basking we slid back into the tunnel and headed back to the larger, less muddy cavern. At this point I



gracefully tripped over another rock and landed on my bum in a pool of water. I stayed where I was and started to clean the best part of the mud off. The other cavers seemed to enjoy rubbing each other up and down. Further observation may be needed to ascertain if this is another ritual or a one-off. It was here we met the other group and all made our way back to the shaft. One more welly purge and we began the ascent, a helping shoulder from Steve on the way back

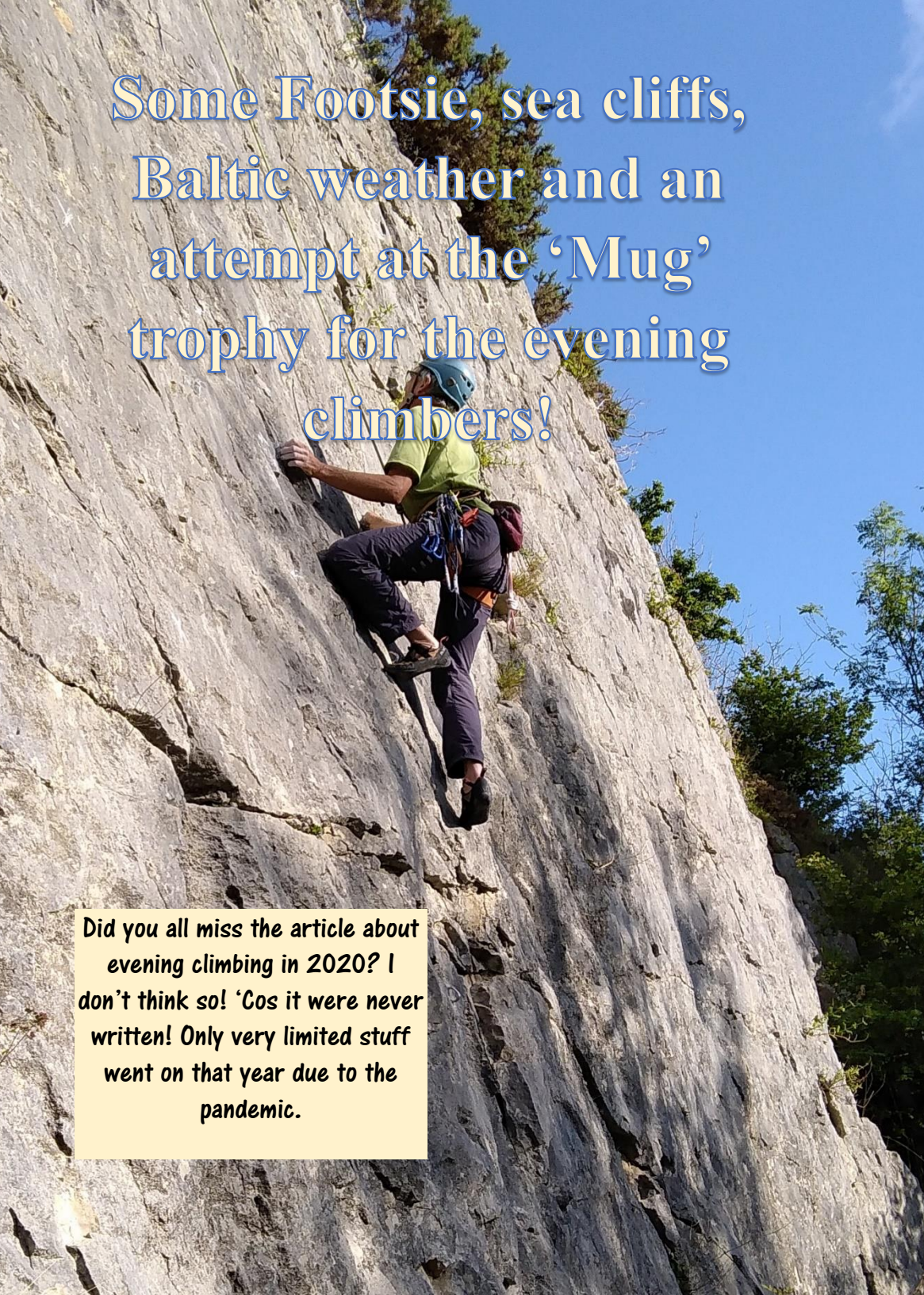


up and over the ravine and the rest was a doddle.

Later on I heard stories of emerging from caving trips into the freezing rain and cold. This was not at all like that. We were greeted by a magical sunset over Morecambe Bay. When everyone was out we walked back up the hill to the van for a very slimy group photo before getting changed and heading to the pub. In an early conversation with Carol I had been fairly non-committal about whether I would do it again but one pint in and enthusiasm improved! We were then treated to a delicious hot pot at Steve's (courtesy of Kathryn, Steve's wife), more beer, and feeling very spoilt I was then driven home again by Neil.

All in all I had a great day, which is thanks to the people that spent their time organising it and the great bunch of people that were there. Probably the beer too! Perhaps it was splashing around in ancient caves like an explorer in a Jules Verne novel, the spectacular sunset, the beer, the ensuing reading on the topic of cave formation... and the beer... but I am keen to go again!

Ali

A photograph of a rock climber in a green shirt and blue helmet climbing a grey rock face. The climber is positioned in the center of the frame, with their body angled towards the left. The rock face is textured and shows signs of weathering. The background is a clear blue sky with some green foliage visible on the right side.

**Some Footsie, sea cliffs,
Baltic weather and an
attempt at the ‘Mug’
trophy for the evening
climbers!**

Did you all miss the article about evening climbing in 2020? I don't think so! 'Cos it were never written! Only very limited stuff went on that year due to the pandemic.

Thankfully, we were allowed to party a bit more in 2021! First off was Trowbarrow, and what a turn out! 16 members were keen (no, desperate) to climb! It wasn't a bad night. I climbed with Terry Robinson and we managed 3 routes, including the classic Assagai. We had to sit outside at The Woodlands but the beer was wonderful. It was great to be out with friends again! Denham next with 15 members! Another good attendance.

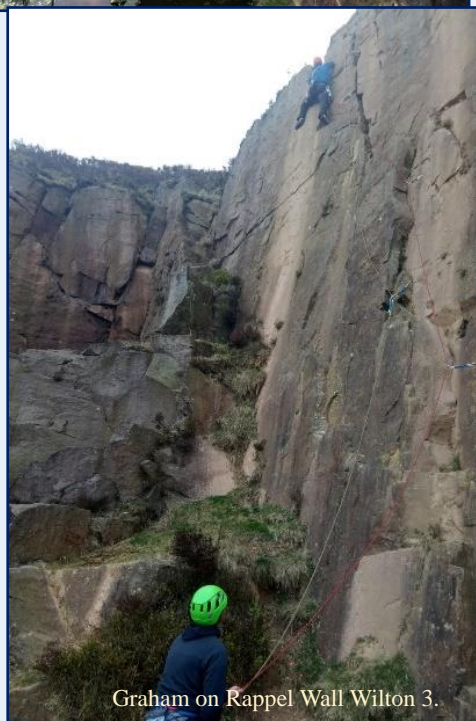
'mug' attempt

Mohammed was happy anyway and got a few ascents. Beer outside again in the Red Lion, Wheelton. This is where I made my "Mug" attempt. I thought I'd lost my wallet. Unbeknown to me it had just dropped out of my pocket and was on my chair. I drove back to the quarry and wandered about with head torch. No wallet! So, back at the pub and Martin Bennett had already spotted it sat there but had decided not to tell me! Panic over!

Wilton 3 next. *Bloody freezing*, however the ever keen Tony Jackson was there with new member, Graham Callander. Now Graham is a Scot and hard as



Martin on Time-Denham



Graham on Rappel Wall Wilton 3.

nails! Neil Baines was also there, as was Steve Wrigley. I get the



Martin on Kay at Wilton 3.

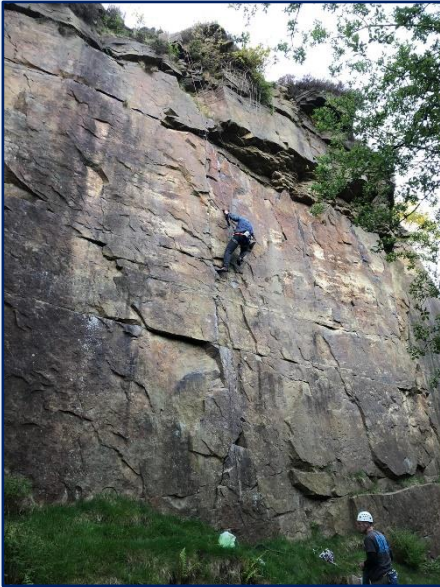


Martin Bennett on Right Foot Eliminte at Crag Foot.

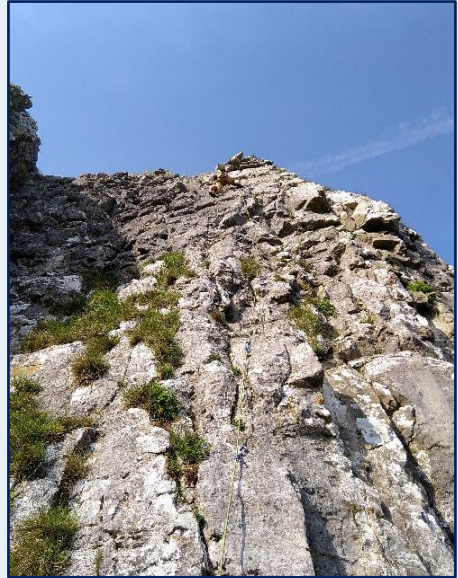
feeling that if Steve hadn't been there, I'd've just gone to the pub! It was baltic! The Black Dog in Belmont was closed, so we nipped back to the Red Lion at Wheelton where we were able to commandeer the heater! After a cancellation due to rain, we were back on at Crag Foot. A new venue for us! It had recently been cleaned by the locals. 5 members found the grades a bit stiff, especially Footsie which turned out to be more like E1. Martin Bennett wasn't keen on Ryan's gung-ho style when he managed to kick out his only runner high up on the route and struggle over the crux overhang protectionless. Then we all went to the Woodlands.

I didn't attend Anglezarke, but I heard it did go ahead. Next for me was Attermire, where a good team of 5 of us enjoyed a sunny evening on the recently bolted routes at the left hand end of The Escarpment. We had beer in The Talbot, Settle after finding The Harts Head at Giggleswick shut! A team did visit Jack Scout Cove and crossed The Onedin Line, then there was another trip to the popular Attermire, starring Stephen Clark. This time the Harts Head was open!

I had other things on my plate in



*Someone on First Finale Anglezarke
Steve W at the bottom.*



John H at Attermire



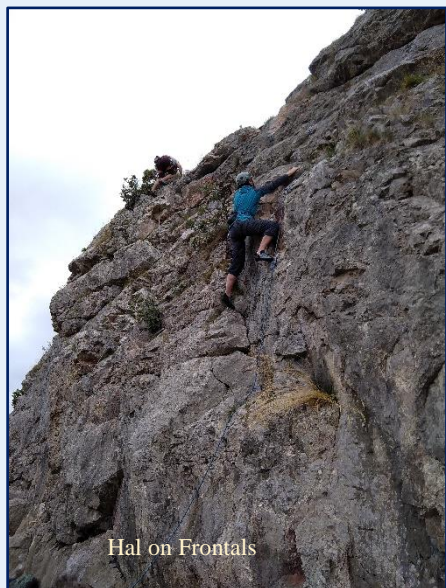
Steve W and Simon F at Attirmire.



Ryan and John on Attermire

the summer so didn't get on many of the meets for a while.

Finally, despite some dodgy weather a meet took place to a new venue for us! Silverdale Sea



Cliffs! A good team of us assembled at the beach, ready to be given the tour by local crag activist, Mark Harding. He, and some of the locals have bolted up the sea cliffs just north of the beach at Silverdale. And very pleasant it was! Nearly all the routes at the Frontals sector were ascended before the drizzle intensified. We then shifted further north to the Hueco sector where some rather steeper stuff was tackled. Again drizzle eventually ended our evening so we had little choice but to head to The Woodlands for shelter. (*Not a bad second choice Martin!*) (Ed)



bolts to a lower off. Later at Trowbarrow, I actually managed to do an E2 I had not done before. Eclipse Direct proved to be just one reachy move to a borehole. Easy for me to locate, as it had a small plant growing out of it. Not so easy for John as I'd removed it! The ever popular Assagai finished off the evening. Guess where we ended up afterwards? The final meet of the summer is always Denham, with a curry to follow but shock horror! The Red Lion had stopped serving curry! After the obligatory ascents of Mohammed, some of our party did have burgers and Empanada's in the Red Lion. The rest of us managed a few pints of quality ale. So endeth the FMC Evening Climbing season 2021.

As the evenings begin to draw in, we are forced closer to home. So, it was myself and John Hickman that hit Warton Main first on the Trowbarrow meet. We managed ascents of the two newly bolted routes at the far right of the quarry. Moonshine proved to be a difficult proposition with very thin sequential climbing low down before easier reachy moves lead past more



Martin

Kalymnos 2021



*Sun, sea, crags and great company-what
more could you want!*

Remembered by Dave Hicks

Enjoying themselves too-Karen Hicks, Dave Wood, Hal Rzadkiewicz, Ron, Mark Harding, Judith Swift, John Hickman Claire Addy, Martin Dale and Martin Bennett.

For those who have already been before – just a reminder of how great it is here, and for those who have yet to visit the island, I hope this will prompt you get your fingers out and get booking.

Karen and I booked 24 days in October at the Pegasus apartments in Massouri where we stayed in our “usual” room (4th time in the same room!). Mark and Judith came for the same length of time staying in their usual room below ours which was a great arrangement as we had many days where we would have nibbles and an aperitif on one of our balconies before our evening meal. Woody and Hal had arrived a few days earlier and were staying a couple of miles away in their favourite Myrties above Hal’s private beach.

Karen and I had decided from the start that this trip would be a relaxed one with a mix of climbing, swimming and rest with more rest days than on previous trips as we were there for almost 4 weeks. The plan was to spend the first 10 days in Massouri and then go over to the little island of Telendos for 3 nights and walk/climb over there for a change before returning to Kalymnos again. This mini break to Telendos was thwarted by a spell of stormy weather that lasted for a couple of days and whipped up some big seas, but produced some amazing sunsets



and cloud formations (expect multiple entries in the photo comp.).

Anyone who knows Karen will know how much she loves open water swimming, this holiday would be no different to any other and she had an eye on swimming across to Telendos again but this time wanted to with a bit of extra company. She put a post on the Climb Kalymnos Facebook site stating when and where she would be setting off and received a couple of potential swimmers responding, as did a lady with a paddle board who offered to be the safety boat. We did our checks on the tides and currents and arranged the day. That morning we turned up at the agreed time and over the next 10 minutes or so a dozen folk turned up which made us a group of 14. One of the group was a self-nominated tourist information rep who had done some art work on a Tee shirt and presented this to Karen for resurrecting the mass swim idea.

The group was a real mix of age and nationalities, and some had only seen the post the night before while out drinking where they made their decision whilst under the influence and were questioning their decision now. The event was a rousing success with everyone managing to get to the other side without any incidents, although your intrepid Chairman did hitch a lift on the paddleboard for the last 50 metres. We all had a celebratory drink at one of the port side restaurants before heading back on the ferry. Karen being Karen swam back! The swim was the talk of island for a while and the Tourist Board wrote an article on their website so Karen became a minor celebratory for a while.



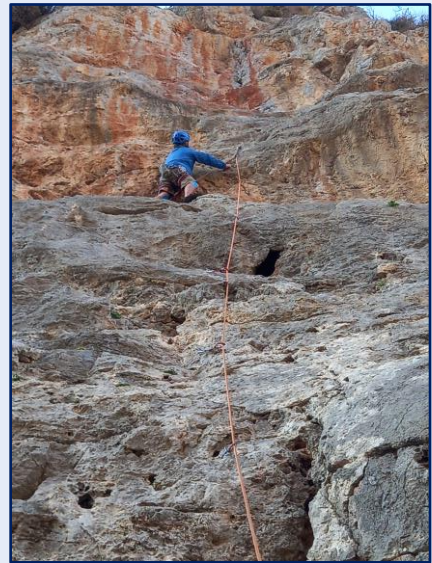


(Well done Karen for organising what sounds like a successful enjoyable community swim!) (Ed)

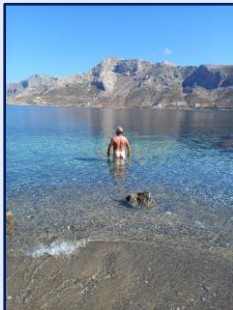
she minded us being there and getting our kit off as well. We set ourselves up at the other end of the beach and enjoyed a couple of hours doing our new past-

time of swimming and sunbathing with our kit off.

On our next visit to Telendos a few days later Karen and I visited the official nudist beach and did what is expected on a nudist beach. It is in a beautiful setting and we enjoyed the swimming and the sunbathing (a little more sun cream required!). There is another beach on the opposite side of the island so we had a walk over to it only to find a naked lady walking out of the sea. She was the only person on



the fairly large beach so Karen asked if



For the first part of the trip Woody, Hal, Karen and I climbed together at some of the more remote sectors which were much quieter than the easier to get to crags, and the longer walk-ins helped to get the fitness up early

on. Mark and Judith used the “get there early” technique to avoid the crowds and would be at the crag by 7:30am. Our plans worked well and we would



generally climb until mid afternoon and then go down to the beach for a swim and then back to the apartment for aperitifs. We bumped into a couple from Hebden Bridge that we had met on previous trips and our afternoon swims became quite a ritual and for us and became known to us as Rick and Linda Time. The aperitifs could have been known as Mark and Judith Time because they became a regular occurrence as well. Although Karen and I ate quite regularly at our apartment

we would also arrange to meet the others for a drink later and sometimes join them out for a meal.

Our group size grew as the trip went by as John and Clare turned up after booking a bargain deal with Jet 2 at the Elena Village Hotel, and then the two Martins (Dale and Bennett) arrived out of the blue one evening and stayed for a week. Another of our friends, Rocket Ron arrived and Woody and Hal had a few days climbing with Ron but we would all still meet up in the evening to catch up on our exploits.

For the second half of our stay Karen and I adopted Marks “get there early” technique on our climbing days which is a good tip for members who prefer a quieter time at the crags. We also explored parts of the island that we hadn’t visited before and relaxed and swam on beautiful beaches.

As many of our members will say, Kalymnos is the most amazing sport climbing that most

of us have been to, and there is a core of us who have been ten to twenty times and still find new stuff to do. The climbing is really accessible with almost 70 crags and 3,500 to 4,000 routes available on such a small island, the weather is fantastic, scenery amazing and the people are so friendly. For those who love sport climbing and have not yet been I would



urge you to put Kalymnos at the top of your must do list. Karen and I have already booked for May 2022 and would welcome anyone to come along.

Dave



Answers to Gillian's Crossword in the Autumn 2021 Magazine

Across

1. Walks
4. Boulders
8. Ingleton
9. Dolomite
11. Builder
13. Excalibur
15. Rises in cable
car
18. White berg
21. Eye smut
22. Climbers
24. Come on in
25. Breast it
26. Texas

Down

1. Whitbarrow
2. Leg lifts
3. Spenders
4. Band
5. Le roll
6. E climb
7. Safe
10. On charge
12. Reindeer
14. Rerouting
16. Le Decent
17. Chamonix
19. Icicle
20. Embers
22. Club
23. Scot

The FMC is a member of both Friends of the Lake District and
The Snowdonia Society, why not check them out at:-
www.friendsofthelakedistrict.org.uk
www.snowdonia-society.org.uk

Don't forget.....

If you have any nice photos of wildlife or nature you have seen whilst out and about, and you would like me to include them in the magazine, just send them to me at the usual mail address :-

chris.paddy61@gmail.com or magazine@fyldemc.org

Also, just a reminder about sending me articles for the magazine. Could you send me the photos in a separate email please-if they are in with the body of the article, by the time I have resized and maybe introduced columns the photos will move somewhat anyway. If you have said to me you will write an article, could you please send me it as soon as you can. I know everyone is busy, but it will be fresh in your mind and if you are going to write it anyway....I am finding that although some people do get the articles in fairly quickly, most people leave it till the last minute! This puts pressure on me to try and get them sorted quickly, and I feel I can't produce as good a mag as I would like to do.

You are naughty you know.....Ha Ha Ha.

On saying all that, I am very grateful to all who take the time and effort to write the articles. As I have said before-without you we wouldn't have a magazine which would be a real shame.

Many thanks

Christine



Steve Wrigley on Mohammed, the mad monk of Moorside home for the mental misfits at Denham. Photo-Martin Dale

Fylde Mountaineering club

is associated to the British Mountaineering Council



www.fyldemc.org

