

Spring 96

Dark Peak News



100th Anniversary Issue
20th

DARK PEAK NEWS - SPRING 96

20th Anniversary Edition

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20TH ANNIVERSARY

Ten years on the bog.....twenty years under a brown sky! The club marches on.....only eighty years to go now before someone digs up the founding fathers' coffins and celebrates the centenary. Convention would suggest we wait until the twenty-first year, or perhaps the twenty-fifth, before having our next knees-up, so in the best traditions of Dark Peak bloody-mindedness, we're saying "Bugger Convention. Let's have a piss-up now, while we're still around." So, we've got the excuse, we've got the logo, we've even got the tee-shirt! All we need now is a portfolio of off-the-wall events to make it a truly unforgettable year. The birthday itself comes in March, when the days draw out and the sap starts to rise, and people with short memories kid themselves they can have a good run in the Edale Skyline.

Another reason for celebrating this year is that's it's high time we had a new tee-shirt. Howard Swindells, our "equipment officer" has commissioned a new design which features a special "20 year" adaptation of the club badge, complete with commemorative slogan. The design is shown on part of the back cover though you may find the black and white reproduction renders the slogan even more obscure! Full details on page 37.

The social highlight of the year should be the summer camping at Thornbridge Hall, which by popular demand has now been extended to a three day affair. It will start with a short informal race on Friday night and continue with other special birthday events on Saturday and Sunday.

This is where we need your suggestions! We need ideas for the Thornbridge Weekend and, and for any other birthday events you may wish to organise. Club officials will meet periodically to consider suggestions and finalise dates. Ideas (preferably in writing) to Paul, who will be sorting out the agenda.

Two ideas which have already got the committees blessing are a one off reversion to the classic club championships course (Pete Dyke to thank for that one) and a "twenty-something" adaptation of the fifteen trigs (preferably to be run as a race).

Finally, we are looking for ideas to use the splendid "alternative Pertex" trophies, which people designed for the club dinner. We've already committed one of them... Rob Davison's splendid degree free compass begs to be awarded to people who make navigational cock-ups, so we have decided to use it as a "rolling Pertex" to be awarded for the best quarterly walkabout in club events through this birthday year. This should help point to potential winners for the main award. The recipient will be decided by the committee but as a decision for the winter award is needed now, would anyone mind if I award it to Colin Henson? His route on the Loxley Lollipop was mind blowing. Derwent Edge to Moscar was what was expected. Colin went from Derwent Edge to Malin Bridge!

Dave Holmes

March

Wed	13	18:30	Club run	Sportsman
Fri	15	19:30	Concert	Palatine Wind Quintet at Chadkirk, Stockport See below for further details
Wed	20	18:30	Club run	Sportsman: last of the winter runs
Sat	23	11:00	Local race	Thornbridge 20, Thornbridge Hall, Great Longstone. £6 in advance to Colin Henson
Wed	27	18:30	Club run	Sportsman: back on the fells
Sat	30		Local race	YHA Peak Marathon; Crowden to Ilam (50 mile) or Edale to Ilam (35 mile). Full details from Jon Cant (01629 636047).
Sun	31	10:30	Race/Help	EDALE SKYLINE, Entries to Dick Pasley; OFFERS OF HELP to Roy Small.

April

Wed	3	18:30	Club run	Sportsman
Wed	10	18:45	Club run	Cutthroat Bridge (SK216874)
Wed	17	18:30	Club run	Sportsman
Sun	21	11:30	Local race	Kinder Downfall, Hayfield Scout Hut 10m/2500' Entry £3 by 1st April to W. Harrison, 24 Spinnerbottom, Birch Vale, Stockport, SK12 5BL.
Wed	24	18:30	AGM	Grindleford (& AGM at 20:30), Grindleford Cafe.
Sat	27	14:00	Local race	Shining Tor, Errwood Sailing Club, Goyt Valley, 7m/1900'

May

Wed	1	18:45	Club race	Back Tor and Beyond, Foulstone Delf (SK221909) Once again, Back Tor will still be a compulsory checkpoint, but there will also be one (or more?) mystery checkpoint, which will be announced on the night. Be prepared to run for an hour or more. Navigational skill <u>may</u> be required for this race.
Mon	6	15:00	Local race	Penistone hill race, Show ground. 6.5m/1055'
Wed	8	18:30	Club run	Sportsman
Wed	15	19:30	Local race	Burbage, Fox House, nr. Sheffield. 5.5m/1000'
Wed	22	19:00	Club race	Some you Winn, Edale Road near Hope Start and Finish near the railway bridge over the road to Twitchill Farm. Route to include Winn Hill (twice - NO RUNNING ROUND IT THIS TIME!) and Lose Hill. Full details will be given at 6:45. Further details contact Jim Fulton (0114 2363430).
Mon	27	11:00	Local race	Ilam Fete Race, Ilam village cross. 4m/1100' Beautiful course (according to Jon Cant) up and down Bunster Hill with free entry to the fete for runners. Proceeds to the local school.
Wed	29	18:30	Club run	Sportsman

June

Wed	5	18:45	Club race	Kinder Springs (or similar 20th anniversary event). From Snake lay-by (Birchin Clough).	
Fri	7	19:30	Local race	Castleton, Castleton Playing Fields.	6m/1500'
Wed	12	18:45	Club run	Bar Dyke (SK246945)	
Thu	13	19:30	Local race	Grindleford, Grindleford Playing Fields.	4m/550'
Wed	19	19:00	Club race	Crookstone Crashout, Rowlee Bridge	
Thu	20	19:30	Local race	Totley, Cricket Inn.	5m/800'
	21-23			BOB GRAHAM WEEKEND (details - Colin Henson)	
Sun	23	11:00	Local race	Holme Moss, Brown Hill res., Holmbridge	6m/4000'
Wed	26	18:30	Club run	Sportsman	
Sun	30	11:00	Local race	Mount Famine, Hayfield Scout Hut.	5.5m/1600'

July

Tue	2	19:30	Local race	Hope, Hope Sports Field	4m/650'
Wed	3	19:30	Local race	Baslow, Village Green.	4.5m/800'
Sun	7	11:00	Local race	Kinder Trog, Scout Hut, Hayfield	18m/3490'
Sun	7	11:30	Local race	Peaker's Stroll, Devonshire Arms, Peak Forest,	25m/4000'
Mon	8	19:30	Local race	Hathersage, School Playing Field	4.5m/800'
Tue	9	19:30	Local race	Edale, Edale car park.	5m/1200'
Wed	10	18:30	Club run	Sportsman	
Thu	11	19:30	Local race	Blackamoor, Cricket Inn, Totley.	6.5m/1400'
Wed	17	19:30	Local race	Bamford, Bamford rec.	3.75m/600'
Sun	21	11:15	Local race	Peak Forest, Methodist Church	6m/650'
Wed	24	19:00	Club race	Cakes of Bread, Fairholmes.	
Sat	27	14:00	Club race	Loxley Lunge, Chairman's residence Time trial in association with the annual Holmes Garden Party, start anytime from 2pm-5pm	
Wed	31	18:45	Club run	Sportsman	

August

Wed	7	19:30	Local race	Bradwell, New Bath Hotel.	4.5m/600'
	9-11			THORNBRIDGE WEEKEND	
Wed	14	18:45	Club race	Alport, Snake (Birchin Clough) lay-by.	
Wed	21	18:30	Club run	Sportsman	
Wed	28	18:45	Club run	Longshaw	

September

Sun	1	10:30	Local race	Totley Terminator, Cricket Inn.	18.5m/3000'
Wed	4	18:45	Club run	Cutthroat Bridge	
Sun	8	14:00	Local race	Shelf Moor, Shepley St. Old Glossop.	5.9m/1500'
Wed	11	18:30	Club run	Sportsman	

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Trunce

More strange Monday night rituals in Greater Barnsley as the Trunce gets going for another 9 race summer series. Run every three weeks from Monday 25th March (with minor changes for bank holidays). It starts from Waggon and Horses, Oxspring (near Penistone) for a little under 4 miles around the Upper Don valley. Points are awarded for top 20 finishers in each class and for improvements on your personal best time (which is carried over from year to year). A good atmosphere and a great way to test your fitness over the same course.

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Foxtrot

"The Foxtrot" is a training race for fell runners starting and finishing at "The Sportsman", Lodge Moor.

The course is just over 4 miles long with more than 1000' of ascent and descent. It is the same as for 1995 with intermediate checkpoints at: 1 - Ranger's Grave, 2 - Wyming Brook Knoll, 3 - Waterworks Stepping Stones and 4 - Allen Syke Spring. You can get a map of the course from Mike Hayes or the club hut. It is quite tricky to navigate your way round the course (which is not flagged). Much of the terrain is through pathless heather, rocks, marshes and thickets.

As in 1995, there is a chasing start system. If you haven't done the course before you start at 7:00:00pm regardless of how fast you are. People who did the race in 1995 can get their exact time of start from Mike Hayes. Fastest go off last so there is a real chance for a rabbit to get back first and win a prize.

The first Foxtrot will start at 7pm on Monday April 8th. Further Foxtrots will be held at 3 weekly intervals throughout the summer (April 29, May 20, June 10, July 1, *July 22, *August 12, September 2 and September 23). dates marked '*' are provisional on someone taking over from Mike Hayes whilst he is on holiday. All these dates are usually on the Monday after the Trunce.

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WIND QUINTET

The next invitation concert by the celebrated Palatine Wind Quintet will be in Chadkirk, Stockport on Friday 15th March at 7:30. The previous such concert was enjoyed by, and indeed enhanced by the presence of, several members of DPFR. All are welcome at the next concert. Well, not literally 'all' as the venue, an interesting restored mediieval chapel, accomodates about 120. The music will be significantly different to that enjoyed (or not) at the club dinner and will again include a spirited redition of the quintet's own fantasia on 'Hail Shining Morn'. Programmes and directions available from Will McLewin.

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EDALE SKYLINE : 31 MARCH 1996

As all members of Dark Peak should know, the Don Morrison Memorial Edale Skyline Race is one of the major races in the fell running calendar. It is also the Dark Peak showpiece which needs to be organised and marshalled to a high standard if the Club is not to be judged incapable of organising a drinks party in a brewery, if you get my drift.

This year there will be a change in the start and the finish of the race which is likely, at the time of writing, to be in the field at the foot of Grindsbrook where the original Club Championships started. This change means that two or three additional marshalls will be required which brings me to my main point, at last.

This is a long race requiring many marshalls and the purpose of this article is to act as a reminder to all Dark Peak members that your help is needed. Over the last four years Roy Small (0114-2367549) has done a splendid job in gathering together a number of volunteers (that's the polite version, in reality it means beating and cajoling) but at times he does find the sensation similar to beating his head against a brick wall. How nice it would be if members would willingly come forward, why not rush forward, to offer their services. A few hardy, faithful, public spirited bods do come forward each year to help out and the Race Organiser is duly grateful, but more are needed.

When the call comes, please respond with enthusiasm (!) - note the date SUNDAY 31 MARCH 1996. Have a good day.

Frank Galbraith

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CHANGES OF ADDRESS

New members

Beverley Bean	c/o Ted Mangion	
Neville Bowler	53 Grasmere Close, Newbould, Chesterfield. S41 8EF	Tel. 01246 279109
Pete Brown	6 Oakhill Road, Sheffield. S7 1SH	Tel. 0114 2553324
Graham Burgin	21 Bushywood Road, Dore, Sheffield.	Tel. 0973 321075
H. Cochrane	14 Greystones Ave., Sheffield. S11 7AY	Tel. 0114 2669348
Phil Elliot	5 The Meadway, Sheffield. S17 3EB	Tel. 0114 2368199
David & Karen	Green 40 Woodstock Road, Loxley, Sheffield S6 6YG	
John Gunnee	2 Studfield Grove, Wisewood, Sheffield. S6 4SL	Tel. 0114 2340871
Dorothy Pelly	7 Hooper Ave, Ecclesall, Sheffield. S11 9SG	Tel. 0114 2621466
Kevin Saville	97 Driver Street, Woodhouse Hill, Sheffield S13 9WQ	
Martin Smith	7 Hooper Ave, Ecclesall, Sheffield. S11 9SG	Tel. 0114 2621466
Brett Stocks	230 Sicey Ave, Shiregreen, Sheffield. S5 0RP	
Guy Wright	c/o Ted Mangion	

their arrival on the scene.

After careful scrutiny of the scout's specimen and taking particular note of the characteristic brown furry tomentum underneath the whole party fanned out in a single file to investigate the nether region. Their intrepidity was soon rewarded and they excitedly gathered round a specimen the size of a small coffee table. There was much rejoicing as the creature was indeed confirmed as an authentic example of *Ledum groenlandicum*, known to exist only in about ten otherwisely dispersed locations in Britain. There was some discussion on the question of whether this was sub-species 'compactum' or the somewhat smaller stature was the result of the harsh environment. Further investigation yielded a much larger specimen, fully the size of a dining table. This discovery exceeded even the most optimistic expectations and all present rejoiced that their arduous journey into the frozen wilderness had been well and justly rewarded.

The expeditions stock of tables was now exhausted so a speedy return was begun at once, pausing just long enough for each member of the expedition to disappoint all the others by not falling through the ice on a small frozen pond.

Other members of the society, doubtless regretting their action from such a brilliantly successful venture, may wish to embark on a similar undertaking. They can take comfort from the existence of a well trodden path in the snow to lead them unerringly to the correct location. They may also wish to participate in a follow up expedition to examine these curious plants in flower.

Notes:

LEDUM - Ericaceae - Low growing, aromatic, evergreen inhabitants of swamp moors in Northern latitudes. All have neat foliage usually covered beneath with white or rust coloured tomentum, and terminal clusters of small, white flowers.

groenlandicum. 'Labrador tea'. The best known in the genus, a dwarf upright evergreen, occasionally up to one metre, resembling a dwarf azalea. Thick, dark, leathery leaves with incurved margins. Flowers white, produced from April to June in conspicuous terminal clusters. N. America, Greenland.

'Compactum'. A compact form developing into a neat shrub 30 to 40cm high, with broader leaves on shorter branches, and smaller flower clusters than in the type.

Ledum groenlandicum was first discovered in the Pennines in 1907. The Bleaklow site was not located until 1949. There is no evidence that these plants proliferate there so their continued existence must be regarded as very precarious so their continued existence must be regarded as very precarious. A crucial factor in their survival is their 'secret' location. This can be maintained either by all members of the expedition having their eyes and tongues put out or by their being discreet!

Will McLewin

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THE THREE AMIGOS

The "True" Story - How the Pertex was won.

How the mighty are fallen.

In the hope that, as catholics believe, the confessional can expunge terrible wrong doings and memories, this "amigo" is persuaded to reveal the true horror of the 2 hours and 43 minute Club Champs debacle.

Not surprisingly, you will find that things were going fine until I met the other two!! Just as we were coming into Upper North Grain I caught that well known seasoned fell running local, Graham Berry, full of local knowledge. We both agreed, "down the stream".

Then enter our third amigo running up the stream towards us, Bob Toogood and three or four others. "It's not down there we've been to the bottom". Major gaff - we believed them and ran up the stream. Five minutes later as we hit big groughs we realised the error of our ways. Turn round and all the way back down to the shooting cabin, 10 minutes gone.

Gamely the three amigos set off for the Wainstones (our Waterloo). Up into Hern Clough and up the Pennine Way. We already knew we had blown it but went on to make a proper job of it. From the edge of Bleaklow Plateau we headed south for the Wainstones and missed it. After more attempts than I care to confide Bob looked at his watch. We had been out for 1h40m!! After our third attempt at finding Wainstones I said to my fellow amigos, "This year we are lining ourselves up for the big one, the PERTEX TROPHY".

The ignominy of our position became apparent when Bob started asking DofE students, "Had they been to Wainstones?!" We were scared that if we didn't head back we would suffer the unspeakable humiliation of the other runners coming to find us! Bigger it! We agreed we were going straight back. Set the bearing, ran for 10 seconds and guess what - bumped straight into Wainstones. The marshals had gone home but we decided to finish the course.

John Track Well, no problem; to find that Andy Poirrette who had been at Wainstones hopelessly lost had gone through 15 minutes earlier. So note (a tip from this joint Pertex holder), IF LOST DON'T TRY TO NAVIGATE JUST RUN ROUND IN CIRCLES VERY FAST UNTIL YOU FIND THE CHECKPOINT.

Back to Glossop hoping everybody had gone home. Guess what, a very warm welcome for the amigos from the other cheering (or was it jeering?) runners. What a caring bunch.

I see you all smirking as you read this but be warned, the three amigos will have a great chance of clearing up at next years handicap.

As a part proud owner of the club's most prestigious award, I encourage any club member to provide incriminating evidence for next year's award in brown envelopes to any of the amigos. I suggest Rob Davison's wonderful "Pertex Compass" accompanies the trophy in future. The trophy for the mantelpiece and the compass for handy use in the hills.

An Amigo

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TIME OUT IN AFRICA

Part 1 - Kenya

In October a letter came round the staffroom to say that the school was giving us a third week's holiday over Christmas. The staffroom was immediately buzzing with excited plans: South America, Thailand, skiing... sleeping, said someone. By adding our normal holiday we could get five weeks in. Ecuador, I thought; I've plenty of unfinished business there, in fact I never really started the business of climbing the mountains. But as the plans unfolded it seemed that five weeks would not be long enough. Where else could we go? "Kenya and Kili", I thought; "Mombasa and game parks" said Paulette.

The morning after we finally tracked down tickets to Nairobi, we walked into school and found a notice advertising a three month contract with the British Council in Nairobi. The boss was happy to give us three months unpaid leave so I phoned: "We're arriving on the 18th", and they couldn't say no!

And so it was that we joined the mass pre-Christmas exodus, "up country" from Nairobi. Cramped into an old Peugeot with six others we raced northwards to the tiny village of Chogoria at the South Eastern foot of Mount Kenya.

The first day's walk was long and sweaty, almost 30km with 1,300m of climb but on a good track; at first through little shambas - small holdings - of maize and banana and past the wattle and daub huts where the owners lived. Then we plunged into forest with it's strange bird calls. Vervet monkeys leapt about the trees and everywhere there was evidence of buffalo and elephant. The latter made it a very tense walk. It would have been difficult to comply with the notice to 'give way to wild animals' on the narrow track. In the end we saw nothing fiercer than the monkeys. Climbing gradually we passed through a succession of vegetation zones that eventually gave way to bamboo. Above this we merged into more open country and camped at the Park Rangers' hut at 2,900m. After the heat of Nairobi it was mild and fresh here.

The rainy season was supposed to have ended and we could have expected some clear weather, at least at dawn and dusk, but the season seemed to have dragged on and the only clear moments we got were on that first evening when we saw the peaks as distant silhouettes with the evening sun on them.

The two main peaks, Batian and Nelion, are quite technical with pitches of grade IV and well beyond my powers of soloing. Most people, however, reach Point Lenana, the third highest point about 200m lower than Batian at 4,985m; an easy walk and a fairly insignificant wart compared to the rock architecture of the main peaks. Our plan was to spend two or three days circling the main peaks and then climb Lenana from the west.

Our second day took us through the last of the bamboo and scrub to the head of the track. Here we did meet a buffalo but our shouts and hand clapping drove him off into a thicket. A good path took us up a long gentle ridge and we started to encounter the classic East African high altitude vegetation: giant lobelia and giant groundsel, which look nothing like the lobelia and groundsel that we see in England but look more like giant cabbages and the candelabra cactus of Arizona. Also common was the rock hyrax, an animal unique to the area similar to the marmot but related, so scientists will have us believe, to the elephant.

We walked most of the day in thick clag and drizzle and got no views of the supposedly spectacular Gorges Valley below us. Although the mountain is well endowed with huts they are mostly rather squalid or rather busy so we opted to camp. Accordingly, we stopped about half an hour short of Minto's Hut by a little stream that pitched over the cliff into the gorge. Around us the lobelia loomed mysteriously out of the mist. We were at 4,100m, high enough for headaches and high pulses.

Next day the ridge merged into the upper part of a valley. We passed some boggy sections and eventually climbed above the last of the vegetation and came to the base of the main peaks. We laboured up to a col at about 4,700m where we met two German tourists with neither map nor compass. They asked us, rather pathetically, where they were. We hadn't bargained for the snow field on the other side of the col but with the weather at last beginning to clear we picked our way down easily enough, skirting above the head of the Makinder valley where Shipton and Tilman made their base camp in 1930. With poor acclimatisation progress at this height was slow and the next col was uninviting, a steep 150m on loose scree and rubble. As Shipton said,

"...at high altitudes... one must shut from one's mind all but the immediate task of making the next step. To start fretting about the slowness of one's progress or about the time it is going to take to reach the goal, would render the whole business unbearable".

And so we did, crossed the col and charged down the easy moraine on other side to camp between two small tarns, each graced by a black duck. We were further rewarded when the clouds almost cleared to reveal the spires of Point Peter.

Another col faced us in the morning and then a long contour across an improbable line that involved a certain amount of easy clambering and scrambling brought us to a tranquil sheltered outwash plain in a valley below the Lewis Glacier. It was Christmas Day we realised. It would have been neat to climb Lenana that afternoon, but I was

too lazy so we left it for Boxing Day.

From the camp I had a steep scramble up loose scree to the main track to the summit. The snow was still hard and the ice axe was comforting if not essential. That altitude now caused little difficulty and I was on the misty summit in a couple of hours. I could just about see my boots through the clag.

I was back at camp for a second breakfast and then we headed for home, down to the west on the usual tourist approach; off the rock and rubble and back among the groundsel and lobelia and then into a zone of huge knarled heather trees all draped in old man's beard, brought us to Mount Kenya's famous vertical bog. which is nowhere near vertical and no more boggy than Brown Knoll. Slowly we came down into lush forest full of flowers and damp fecundity. This side of the forest receives a lot more rain than the eastern or northern sides.

We camped at the track and headed for the Met. Station and had a nervous night with Buffalo munching around the tent. The descent next morning to the village of Naro Moro was a fiasco. We set off bright and early after doing battle with a troop of marauding vervet monkeys that plagued the camp. A moment's lack of attention and they grabbed the food bag but in the ensuing chase dropped everything except a packet of 'undigestibles' as we termed the local brand of biscuit.

Ten minutes down the track we came face to face with a lone bull buffalo who regarded us contemptuously and then continued his breakfast on the lush verge beside the track. Solitary bull buffalo are the worst tempered and most unpredictable of all Africa's animals and are always given a wide berth. We sat down and waited for him to move off. After an hour during which he advanced and we retreated 300m, we returned to the camp for reinforcements. A group of porters and three local climbers were about to leave so we teamed up and armed with stones set off again. We crept past the buffalo who regarded us sullenly from under a tree. A little further down we met a group trying to drag a lorry out of a ditch. They told us that a rogue elephant, that had been terrorising people on the road recently, had settled down beside the track and was in no mood for liberties. They suggested we wait until they got the lorry out and they took us down. And so we were saved what would have been a rather tedious plod.

Rick Ansell

Two days later, Rick and Paulette were heading south ready to try a bigger mountain; part 2 - "Kili" - in the next issue.

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THE MAGIC ROUNDABOUT

Having read with interest Mike Browell's article on the naming of routes, may I offer my own contribution to the catalogue of Dark Park outings - *The Magic Roundabout*. This is a line with a certain logic, albeit of a twisted and perverted nature. It combines a circuit of Kinder with just about as much climbing as is reasonably possible. The route encircles the Kinder plateau by repeatedly climbing to the edge, then descending as low as possible without leaving Access Land. It also visits each of the three Kinder trigs. Although not excessively long (13 miles), it does involve a disproportionate amount of climbing (2400m) - an average gradient of 1 in 4, and very little path running. In short, it is a line which requires an unswerving devotion to masochism for its own sake. It should therefore prove immensely popular. The route is detailed below. In keeping with the spirit of the route, the line between checkpoints should be fairly direct; it would be quite unethical to take a longer, though perhaps faster route by following a path. Grid references are given for completeness, but all the points are fairly obvious features.

Start	140866	Edale Youth Hostel
1	132872	Path/wall junction on Kinder South Edge above Rowland Cote Moor
2	129866	Access point in Ollerbrook clough
3	125872	Ringing Roger (top of rocks)
4	120868	Stream/fence junction - edge of access land in Grinds Brook
5	110868	Grindslow Knoll
6	122861	Stream/fence junction - edge of access land in Crowden Brook
7	095866	Spot height 564 (unmarked on ground)
8	088861	Stream/fence junction - edge of access land at foot of Jacob's Ladder
9	079871	Kinder Low trig
10	073884	Stream/fence junction - edge of National Trust land in River Kinder
11	077893	Sandy Heys trig
12	091906	Footbridge over River Ashop by ruin
13	096897	Fairbrook Naze (top)
14	114901	Footbridge over River Ashop below Snake Inn
15	116888	Seal Stones
16	129890	Stream/fence junction - edge of access land in Blackden Brook
17	129878	Kinder Eastern trig
Finish	140866	Edale Youth Hostel

The inaugural route was completed on 27th October 1995, in a fairly steady time of 5h22m. Four and a half hours (half an hour for each of the nine climbs and descents) should be feasible for a fast runner. Suggested standard times for the circuit are:

Over 7 hours	- Brian standard	- a snail's pace
Under 7 hours	- Dylan standard	- a laid-back trip
Under 6 hours	- Dougal standard	- a shaggy dog's day out
Under 5 hours	- Florence standard	- no sexism intended, second only to...
Under 4½ hours	- Zebedee standard	- with a spring in your step

And when you've finished - *"Time for bed!"*

Alex Pryor

GOING THE DISTANCE

COUNSELLING FOR KIMM REJECTS

A winter 2 day 15 trigs expedition

The report on the inaugural (1985) 15 trigs round made reference to the possible attractions of the challenge as a "two day winter exercise - perfect KIMM training". Disappointed at not getting an entry to the 1995 KIMM, Dave Lockwood and Alan Yates decided to fill the aching void of the 4th-5th November weekend with this as the local "next best thing". To our knowledge the successful completion sets the standard for this particular approach to the classic 15 trigs day out. It proved to be a thoroughly enjoyable and satisfying two day event. The experience is detailed here for the benefit of anybody who might be moved to have a go, either as KIMM training or to relieve the frustration of exclusion.

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Elapsed</u>	<u>Section</u>
Sportsman	07:16		
High Neb	08:14	0:58	0:58
Win Hill	09:28	2:12	1:14
Kinder East	10:38	3:22	1:10
Brown Knoll	11:45	4:29	1:07
Kinder Low	12:08	4:52	0:23
Kinder West	12:40	5:24	0:32
Harry Hut	13:19	6:03	0:39
Cock Hill	14:38	7:22	1:19
Higher Shelf Stones	15:45	8:29	1:07
Alport	16:42	9:26	0:57
Lower Small Clough Cabin	18:05	(10:49)	(1:23)
Lower Small Clough Cabin	08:45	(10:49)	(0:55)
Outer Edge	09:40	11:44	2:18
Margery Hill	09:55	11:59	0:15
Back Tor	10:48	12:52	0:53
Emlin	11:39	13:43	0:51
Rod Moor	12:49	14:53	1:10
Sportsman	13:29	15:33	0:40
Total Elapsed time: 15:33			

A fully loaded rucksack certainly affects progress from the very start. We carried full KIMM equipment and more in the way of provisions (absence of tent being amply made up for by a litre of wine and a modest supply of whisky). We opted to go over Bamford Edge rather than down the road to Yorkshire Bridge and this cost us 20 minutes on a notional 15 hour schedule which we never recovered. With hindsight we probably should have been more conventional, thus avoiding the strangling bracken and tree debris that impeded our descent of the edge down to the dam wall.

The day was as autumnally perfect as that enjoyed by those in the Brecon Beacons, and from Win Hill we made steady progress comfortably on the one hour per trig schedule. We bumped into Neil Goldsmith and Kath Harvey doing the Rucsack Club Fell race, just before Grindsbrook. After that our minds were on the anticipated pleasure of meeting up with Will McLewin. We'd arranged to meet "somewhere between Harry Hut and Cock Hill at sometime between 2:00 and 3:00pm". Overconfidence engendered by previous successful executions of similar pinpoint rendezvous arrangements was compounded by our early arrival in the meeting zone and Will's traffic problems with traffic in Glossop, which meant that he (setting off from Snake Summit and expecting to find us in the vicinity of Mill Hill) ended up tailing us in solitary splendour and a speculative mood similar to ours, all the way from Mill Hill to Shelf Stone (whence he rejoined his van). Unaware of Will's adventure, we just enjoyed the marvellous views, southwards from Shelf Stones onwards, as the light faded and familiar peakland shapes loomed gold-tinged in misty greys and purples.

With 10 out of the 15 trigs under our belt, a lapse of concentration took us into Black Clough instead of Raven Clough on the descent from Alport. This in itself probably didn't cost us much time, as we quickly rectified our route in the dying light to pick up the land rover track in the West End valley. Collecting water in the West End River, however, did delay us longer than it should and in that time we both suddenly were affected by cold and weariness. The up-and-over slog into Lower Small Clough was hard work, and it was dark when we reached the shooting cabins.

Our appreciation of the accommodation was increased by the fact that the gun's cabin had recently been 'spring-cleaned'. It took a while to change, sort out gear and start to get warmed up with the initial stages of a brewing and stewing, wining and dining marathon that went on for nearly five hours: the menu, interspersed with regular bars of tea with condensed milk, consisted of soup and sandwiches, ricotta and spinach pasta, stewed steak and corned beef with Smash potato, eccles cake and banana loaf with custard, perfectly accompanied by red Bulgarian and a light *vin de pays*. The temperature inside the cabin was slightly lower than that outside, where the bright moonlight lit up the thick frost that had already begun to form as we arrived there. Cooking and eating was all done from within sleeping bags pulled up to the neck, with legs and feet inside bivvy bags. Sleeping arrangements involved DL in making an underlay from hardboard discarded by the spring-cleaners, and AY using the table as a top bunk. We left the candle burning all night, creating a sense of cosiness in our bothie, while occasional calls of nature reminded us of the real temperature and of the crisp solitude of the Upper Derwent on a November night.

We arose and breakfasted, well rested. The morning's progress, improved by lighter rucksacks and by turkey sandwiches coming off Emlin, was that of a steady Sunday morning outing. Around Back Tor we still thought we might complete the round within 15 hours, but we weren't too bothered about this and allowed ourselves the luxury of coming back over Gibraltar Rocks, a line which recent refinements of the route have tended to avoid. The soup and beer at the Sportsman tasted exceptionally fine.

We've logged a notional standard time of 15 hours for this inaugural version of the 15 trigs with overnight camp. It would certainly have been a much harder challenge if the weather had not been as fine and the underfoot conditions not so dry. Perhaps this report of our experience might commend it to others: whether as KIMM training or as a KIMM substitute, or just as a very satisfying way of beating the local bounds in the off-season.

Alan Yates

An alternative view of the 'alternative'

Thwarted by the 'luck of the draw' this year (1995) for Karrimor entries, my intrepid 1994 partner, Alan Yates, suggested a 2 day venture in our very own Peak District would be in keeping with the usual autumn weekend bash. What could we do? Not being anywhere near as imaginative as MFB (well known contributor of egotistical c**p) [Ed. complaints to DL not me please!] we elected for a mountain marathon style 15 trigs; clockwise with an overnight stay in Lower Small Clough Cabins. The patter prerequisite enabled us to leave the tent at home and free up valuable rucksack space for a choice *vin rouge* or two!

The weather was perfect and with no immediate threat of change, the prospects for a good day ahead were favourable. High Neb to Ladybower Dam Wall direct was, we agreed, a crackpot decision but 'different' and 'entertaining'! Six foot bracken, dead trees and grabbing brambles are fun but time consuming. We crossed on the wall and climbed Win Hill. The views from it's rocky summit, overlooking the reservoirs below, were magnificent. The morning air was crystal clear and a weak sun gave the surrounding landscape a tranquillity of unsurpassed beauty.

The Kinder sections were duly traversed in perfect unison and by 1:45pm we were crossing the road at Glossop. We had expected to rendezvous with Wilf Magoogan somewhere around this point but he gave us the slip. He did, however, follow us all the way to Hearn Clough without seeing us, such was his stealth. So we missed him and that was a pity. We were deprived of his company and unforgiving humour.

The climb up Cock Hill was hard. We had sacrificed some of the usual lightweight food in favour of extra goodies. We would benefit later, no doubt, but just now the sack felt very heavy and our speed was down to a shuffle. A precautionary bearing across the morass of groughs brought us spot on to Higher Shelf Stones with its spectacular views of the surrounding wilderness now winter grey in the ageing afternoon.

It was now about 3:45pm and still some way to go. Distant objects beckoned and so it was in good heart that we descended towards Grains-in-the-Water with the temperature dropping considerably in the fading light. It's a nice feeling to be heading for 'home' at the closing stages of a long enjoyable day and this smug feeling was probably responsible for the minor navigational cock-up as we left Alport trig. Not to worry, a little extra dead bracken to contend with but otherwise no real disaster.

RACE REPORTS AND RESULTS

RIVELIN SKYLINE : 2 JANUARY 95

1	Tim Tett	1:14:05	9	Maurice Musson	1:31:45
2	Gavin Williams	1:19:05	10	A. Brook (SC Striders)	1:34:55
3	Roger Woods	1:19:17	11	A. Barnett (SC Striders)	1:36:45
4	Howard Swindells	1:21:04	12	Mike Browell	1:39:15
4	Rob Davison	1:21:04	13	Jeff Harrison	1:43:52
6	Dave Lockwood	1:28:48	13	Colin Henson	1:43:52
7	Hugh Cotton	1:28:58	15	Maggie Gallagher	1:49:39
8	Jim Fulton	1:31:41	16	Hilary Musson	2:02:10

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EDALE : 11 JULY 1995

This year the race went up the Nab and down off Grindslow Knoll, which was felt to be an improvement. Another difference; it rained.

Dick Pasley

1	M. Hayman	39:30	42	G. Clegg	48:10
2	A. Jenkins	39:45	48	A. Moore	48:25
4	P. Crowson	41:19	54	P. Sanderson	49:11
5	S. Bourne	41:24	63	K. Bryan-Jones	51:15
8	S. Oglethorpe	42:08	65	H. Cotton	51:17
16	A. Sealy	43:46	71	J. Herbert	53:08
19	B. Edwards	44:39	81	D. Pasley	54:59
20	R. Woods	44:57	83	J. Cave	55:17
40	J. Armistead	47:49	84	B. Moseley	55:48

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NOON STONE : 20 AUGUST 1995

9m/2300'

I still don't know where the Noon Stone is supposed to be but I did enjoy the race. It was extremely hot and many runners suffered as a consequence. Parts of the course would be a challenge in clag. Starts and finishes close to Top Brink Inn, Lumbutts; some good beer to choose from.

Dick Pasley

1	P. Sheard (P&B)	1:23:32
80	J. Smith [3rd FV35]	1:29:10
97	P. Dyke	1:32:44
99	D. Pasley	1:33:03
106	B. Thackery [2nd V60]	1:35:38
127	Colin Henson [3rd V60]	1:42:27
141	Jeff Harrison	1:52:18

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TOTLEY TERMINATOR : 10 SEPTEMBER 1995

1	M. Hayman	2:19:52	81	C. Elliot	3:10:08
5	A. Sealy	2:28:36	82	C. Barber	3:10:08
14	G. Desforges	2:33:11	85	J. Cave [3rd,2nd LV35]	3:11:13
18	G. Berry	2:36:02	91	B. Sprakes	3:13:59
21	B. Edwards	2:38:46	92	G. Bell	3:15:20
35	A. Yates	2:45:52	95	M. Poulter	3:17:52
40	R. Hakes	2:49:17	96	L. Bland	3:18:13
44	J. Armistead	2:51:54	99	M. Musson	3:18:47
45	J. Smith	2:52:27	105	S. Palfreyman	3:23:46
48	A. Moore	2:55:51	110	C. Henson [1st V60]	3:25:49
49	R. Davison	2:55:53	120	M. Browell	3:29:33
56	D. Pasley	2:58:36	121	A. Malkin	3:29:44
57	R. Small	2:59:42	128	J. Harrison	3:38:29
59	H. Cotton	3:01:33	152	J. Edwards	4:51:30
61	P. Dyke	3:02:15	161 started, 154 finished		
64	K. Jones	3:02:54			

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SIMONSIDE : 16 SEPTEMBER 1995

A nice little race from Thropton, Northumberland with a bit of everything in the 1000 foot ascent of Simonside Hill: water splash, fields, a short stretch or tarmac, woods and open moor. I thought this might be my chance to be first Dark Peaker back as you wouldn't travel up just for this race (I was visiting this area), an honour I have yet to achieve.

I only found one person in a Dark Peak vest and he was a "lapsed" member living in Durham just using up old clothes so I was quite hopeful - until the results came out and I discovered that Neil is no imposter, he is the real thing - well done Neil.

I will have to find a more obscure race (or run faster!).

1	Tony Chew (Clayton le Moors)	42:56
69	Neil Piper	56:41
84	Andy Malkin	58:09
169	ran	

Andy Malkin

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OTTER HIGH PEAK 40 : 23 SEPTEMBER 1995

1	P. Deauville (Glossop.)	5:18:25
33	J. Cave [1st F]	6:54:53

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ECCLES PIKE FELL RACE : 1 OCTOBER 1995

My first fell race and at 4.5 miles one of the shortest on the calender. Basically the race is an all out sprint up a hill and back down again by the same route. I quickly learnt that 2 hour plods over the moors with the 'warts aren't exactly great training for this kind of event but I tried to make up for my total lack of anaerobic fitness with youth and enthusiasm. However, the sight of a white haired gentlemen over twice my age coming back down the hill whilst I was nearly puking with effort and still only half way up only reinforced my idea that youth doesn't count for nout on the hills.

Ben Tye

1	A. Wilton (Mercia)	19:47
14	K. Harvey (Alt'ham) [1st F]	26:26
16	R. Marlow [1st V45]	26:32
21	B. Tye	27:32
29	B. Mosley [V50]	30:58
33	Started 32 Finished	

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LOGGERHEADS : 5 NOVEMBER 1995

10ml/3000'

Interesting race, well worth running. Excellent performance by Mark Hayman... and at least we had a team in.

Eric Mitchell

1	C. Donnelly (Eryri)	1:16:34
2	M. Hayman	1:17:24
86	J. Cave	1:49:54
103	E. Mitchell	2:02:59

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ROACHES : 12 NOVEMBER 1995

1	D. Neill (Mercia)	1:57:56	59	D. Allen	2:29:48
3	S. Ogletorpe	2:05:59	68	D. Lodder	2:34:05
4	P. Bowler [1st V40]	2:06:25	89	T. Westgate	2:41:10
7	M. Nolan	2:09:16	130	J. Myers	2:55:29
24	R. Wilson	2:16:34	135	M. Arundale	2:58:16
42	J. Lawrenson	2:25:07	170	started, 166 finished	

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WART'S REVENGE : 26 NOVEMBER 1995

It was nice to see a good turn out for this classic bog trot over Hallam Moors. Roy generously donated four places by getting lost in the quarry on the way back (i.e. in the last 800m). A break with tradition meant numbers had to be worn and announced by the runner at each control even if a marshall was not obviously there. The sight of grown men bellowing numbers at Stanage Pole surprised a number of rambles and has made the race organiser consider the introduction of compulsory dope testing. Also this year, for the first time, the 18 inch ladies prize was presented to the first married couple for their mutual enjoyment. The competition for the most impressive packet was intense. After a stewards enquiry, Mike (Lycra trousers) Browell won hands down and was awarded a new trophy. This race closed the James Fulton and Son 65 Years in Electrical Contracting Fell Race Series. I hope everyone has enjoyed the events and prizes, thanks for turning up.

Jim Fulton

1	Andy Harmer	1:13:46	
2	Mike Hayes	1:18:29	1st Old Pro
3	Paul Sanderson	1:18:36	1st Paul@Anorack/trainspotter.co.uk
4	Hugh Cotton	1:18:42	
5	John Lyon	1:18:49	
6	Roy Small	1:19:04	Sponsor's plug (13 amp)
7	Pete Lewis	1:20:48	
8	Billy Wilson	1:22:16	
9	Clive Last	1:22:50	
10	Jim Fulton	1:23:40	1st electrician (weekend in Amsterdam)
11	John Woodcock	1:25:10	
12	Andy Malkin	1:25:38	
13	Phil Smith	1:26:36	1st race for years (25w pigmy lamp)
14	Maurice Musson	1:33:53	1st married couple (large phallic thing -driven end)
15	Will McLewin	1:40:28	
16	Mike Browell	1:45:50	Most impressive packet (400w MBF lamp)
17	John Myers	1:45:52	
18	Hilary Musson	1:46:52	1st married couple (large phallic thing-driving end)
19	Maggie Lewis	2:15:44	Most enjoyment (60w pearl)

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MARSDEN to EDALE : 3 DECEMBER 1995

I don't really know what made me do this. I have never been one for the long day out. OK so I have done four Karrimors, but only when coerced by someone - never on my own volition. The thought of being out for 3 hours plus for the London Marathon fills me with dread (though I would like to have a go one day just to say I've done it). So why 20 odd miles and goodness knows how much climb doing 'Tankys Trog'?

I suppose it was Mike Pedley's fault really (if you are going to blame someone it may as well be Mike). Yes I said I would run the Calderdale Way relay and I did do the first leg last year, but to pair me with Jon (Local League Champion) Cant was not nice. So the summer had been a disaster, three months out with a virus. It therefore seemed a good idea to set some mileage under the belt, hence the entry into the trog.

Mind you it wasn't as easy as that. In true tradition I had not entered. So a telephone call to the organizer three days before the event to plead my case for a late entry. Not a chance says he. Its all on computer and cant be changed. OK so how about if I find someone who can't run and run in his place. Can't possibly do that, its all on computer see. Now I always thought computers were here to make things easier - silly me. Anyway, I found someone who was injured (not by me!) and took their entry.

The start was orderly. Well it was for everyone but me. What should I wear? On the drive over the clag was down on the tops but here in the valley it was mild. Anyway too late to change now and we were off. Mike Hayes saw me with a map and asked what it was for, silly bugger.

On the drag up past the reservoirs I noticed a Dark Peak vest just in front. I engaged in conversation and introduced myself. Turns out it was Rick Ansell, a famous 'name', I've gone off too fast again thinks I.

Up onto Black Hill and the first decision. Why was everyone cutting off too early? I lost about a minute here. Continuing up the clag enveloped us. Right, now for the master plan. Due South and pick up the path down the spur. I reckon that if I do it again next year, without hesitations and a pee stop, it is faster than using the valley.

Crowden came and went. By now I've been out for an hour and a half, about my limit, and the tanks empty. So from Tor Side on its an unremitting slog. See Neil Goldsmith just in front but can't make any impression on the gap, in fact it gets wider. Bear off right heading straight towards Hern Stones. Out of the mist appears some stones. Spot on, cocky bastard! Down into Hern Clough and around Alport Low. Rick Ansell goes past. What's he been playing at?

Rick appears to stay on the track but I go direct for the rain gauge (at least that's what it says on the map). Spot on again. Down the snake and up Gate Side Clough. Some silly buggers jogging back down. Vaguely recognize the shape as David Holmes who make some comment about me looking poorly, haven't the wits to think of a suitable reply. Continue straight up, learning later that that's the way Andy Trigg went. Everyone else cuts the corner here but no one told me.

Picked up the right gully and straight over into Edale. Going down the road only half a mile from the finish and cramp sets in reducing me to a walk (not that I was going much faster anyway). The pub looms in sight and the end of an epic (for me).

Facilities were good, drinks on course, food at the end. Good turnout. But due to the change in route, not as much of a navigational challenge as I had expected. If there's nothing else on that weekend next year, I might even enter properly!

Gavin Clegg

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CALDERDALE WAY RELAY : 10 DECEMBER 1995

First leg disaster leave veterans leading the challenge

I enjoyed the run last year. Running with my namesake Gavin Williams on the first leg for the B team. We were evenly matched and put a solid run together. This year Mike (or was it Neil Goldsmith?) put me on the same leg but with Jon Cant for the Vets. Very depressing. Not only that but the estimate for our leg was five minutes faster than last year. Bastard sprang to mind.

The Calderdale starts at 8.00am and can be very severe as those who tried two years ago will testify. Snow lay on the ground about 800ft but that apart conditions were good. Jon was moaning about having to start so early. He had never run the run first leg before so he was relying on me to tell him the way. At least that meant he couldn't leave me too far behind. He was also moaning about the light, or lack of it and wasn't convinced that it would get light just before we started.

Mike was his usual efficient self and sorted us out with baton's etc. Ready, go and we were away. 30 yds later and we stopped to squeeze through a gate along with 200 others.

Dark Peak had a record entry this year. An A team good enough to fight for the major honours. A B team laced with stars. A Women's team including international orienteers. A McLewin special super vets team and the Vets. Our aim in the vets was to stay ahead of the super vets Toogood and Berry and get as close to Roger and Rob as possible.

The first few miles passed well enough. We had overhauled Rob & Roger in the first mile and never saw them again. Rumour has it it was a the results of the previous 24 alcoholic hours! Fortunately Jon was suffering slightly going downhill so I was managing to stay with him. Then about a mile before Ripponden we passed a team stopped and swearing. It wasn't until Jon said that I realized it was our A team of Phil Crowson and Simon Patton. Phil having badly pulled a muscle. This now meant we were the leading Dark Peak team and up in the top 20.

Jon was pulling me up the hills but I was able to close along the flat and downhill, so we worked well together. The Slog up towards Manshead Hill saw us vying with Holme Pierrepoint. Both runners, Stewart Gregory and Matthew Moore, I knew and had debts to settle as they had been part of the team who won the annual Peak District footpath relay. (Why don't Dark Peak enter for this?). Over and along the top the snow got deeper and more slippery. Coming off the top and onto the lanes Matthew went a purler, 10 yds further and he went down again. Jon and I, having checked to ensure he was OK took the opportunity to draw ahead.

As we dropped down towards Cragg we could hear shouts of 'come on Phil and Simon'!!. Neil Goldsmith and Phil Wheatcroft, the pair we were to hand over to, had to do a double take before realising they were first Dark Peak Team. Disappointing for the A team but a great days racing even so. My thanks to Mike for all the hard work he puts in on this.

As a post script I am now extremely worried. I drove three people back to the start. Toogood, Berry and Cant. All past Pertex winners and proudly extolling there prowess at the Club Championships. I hope its not catching!

Gavin Clegg

Comeback and close finish

The A team had been 6th when disaster struck on the first leg and lost an estimated 40 minutes to trail in 94th. In fact they missed the mass start for leg two by 10 minutes. There must have been a few surprised runners from teams such as Clayton Ladies B and Queensbury Squash Club and Elvet Striders B team as Stuart Oglethorpe and Rob Hutton swept past and probably similar looks on the third leg as Al Sealy and Andy Jenkins recorded 3rd fastest time on that leg having from a start position of 77th.

Meanwhile the other mens teams were packing well with the B team extending its lead over the A team on leg 2 and becoming the first Dark Peakers by the end of leg 3. On the penultimate leg, 5, Dave Farquar and Simon Bourne brought the A team into their expected position as first Dark Peak team without seeing the vets and B teams as they overtook them! Later inspection of the route revealed they were the only one to have remembered that on one crucial short section the route does not follow the footpath and cuts out a small climb. With the star Hayman-Jubb partnership saved until last the A teams position on the road was not under threat. However, the 10 minutes still to

be added for the gap between the mass start for leg 2 and Simon and Phil finishing leg 1 was still to be added and this was to prove crucial. The V40 team had pipped the A team by just two minutes, probably the two minutes that Mark and Mike spent exploring the wrong walled lane on the descent to Brighthouse. After being locked with the B team for most of the last 25 miles, a storming finish by Neville Bowler and Graham Band had also brought them through in front of the B team by just 3 minutes after 7 hours of racing.

In the women's event the opposition gets tougher every year and after a good start the team finished a little disappointed with their sixth place out of the 12 teams. Once again the importance of a recce, or very good map reading, was emphasised as top orienteers Kim Buckley and Karen Dalton missed a turning and added about 1km a few hundred feet climb to their route. The time they lost made the difference between 1st and 4th fastest time on their leg. They weren't the only ones, nearly half the pairs on most legs reported making minor errors, even if some were only a few seconds lost. If you get the chance next year, recce the route!

More importantly, come back, have fun and, if you are in the A team, win a top three place. The organisers, influenced by the enthusiasm and performance of a certain Dark Peak team have now said they will consider a new prize for next year so...

M.P.

...Let us now praise dirty old men and their drivers that do not forget them.

Dark Peak over-50 vets team in the Calderdale Way relay did quite well, but could do better. To finish 54th out of 98 teams sounds reasonable, 15th out of 17 vets teams less so. Analysis of the results should not be overdone but one clear pointer emerges. The three pairs who repeated the leg they ran last year all significantly improved their time. The legs (route, not runners') are fussy and irritating and almost absolutely prescribed. There is very little scope for cunning route choice but a few seconds to be gained in many places by knowing your legs well (route and runners'). This complete reversal of what he is best at reduced Mike Hayes to a stunned, speechless frustration, a rare event. Watch out for a high class performance from him and Billy next year!

The team's star performers as expected were Graham and Bob on the first leg, 27th place and over 3 minutes faster than last year. Jeff and Colin put in a brave effort. They had the short straw in leg 3, and not the leg of their choice. I would not choose their legs either. Despite having the most 'fell running' leg John and Alan did not excel. John was not fully fit and the Chaplain was probably preoccupied with his mantra of "It's not chaplain it's champignon". They will doubtless be keen to redeem themselves next year. Hugh and Roger astonishingly improved by seven minutes on leg six despite being in the mass start.

My run with Barry on leg 5 was satisfying enough. Our great disappointment at not beating the mass start for leg 6 was balanced by a two minute improvement and by

giving Clayton Ladies (Wendy Dodds and Janet Sullivan) 200 metres start and beating them by half a minute. On the climb up from Holmfield Wendy and Janet overtook me, and my suffering included verbal abuse for 'leaving poor old Barry behind'. I was able to retort that "It will not be long before 'poor old Barry' comes sailing past me and after that he will come sailing past you!". And he did, bless him.

Looking ahead, there may well be an official over-50 vets team prize next year now that Dark Peak have shown what can be done. Several other clubs will fancy their chances. It would be nice to demonstrate the futility of such ideas. Anyone interested in such a lauditable venture please let me know. It will not be simple however, Clayton over-40 vets were 9th overall this year.

And start training for the over-60 team in 2005.

Will McLewin



And finally...

Another view from the pencil of Julia Barber.

I hope, for his sake, that the pursuing runner is not modelled on her father, Chris!



CHRISTMAS CRACKER : 17 DECEMBER 1995

A popular little multi-terrain race with almost 200 crackers going around and over the Roaches. Starting at Upper Hulme (as do all the races I have ever done in the Roaches!) the route follows the road for a mile before turning up past Rockhall and thence along the top of the Roaches all the way to Bearstone Rock at Roach End. Along the top the vicious easterly wind was attempting to through everyone off the edge. Turning East onto the roads for the next two miles then off road again descending though Blue Hills down the muddy valley towards Upper Hulme with a short sharp climb at the end back to the 'camping field' and the finish. It was along the top section that my right contact lens popped out. From there on I only seemed to have 2D vision so had no idea where the rocks were beneath my feet. I managed to pick up four places along the road but lost them all again pussyfooting down the valley.

Gavin Clegg

1	K. Bowditch (unatt.)	42:03
3	P. Bowler	44:39
15	G. Clegg [3rd V40]	49:55
97	B. Thackery [1st V60]	1:00:33
175	E. Mitchell [1st V70]	1:11:33
194 finished		



BOXING DAY BOGTROT : 26 DECEMBER 95

This new event was designed to replace a club run that used to happen on boxing day and included running backwards up Jacobs Ladder. This event started at Oxstones on a glorious day with a very hard frost and brilliant sunshine. The start was delayed by the late arrival of the organiser with a group who ran up from Bents Green. There was a further delay because the start official had forgotten the maps and clipboard. The field decided that they knew the way so we set off (in several directions). The best was yet to come. The competitors were told to expect marshals on the checkpoints and to pick up tokens from said marshals. At the Cioch boulder competitors were presented with fresh eggs to carry back as proof of their visit. With the leaders getting more eggs as a handicap (4 eggs to Paul Sanderson he! He!). I knew I had a good scheme when I was passed on the green drive by Neil Bowler with egg yolk dripping through his fingers. This turned to immense satisfaction at the finish to see Mike Hayes using snow to clean out a horrible mess from his bum bag. Nice after all the indignities heaped upon us in Mike's mad races.

26 runners finished and one retired hurt. Thanks to the marshals on a cold day.

Roy Small

1	Andy Harmer	36.44	14	P. Hayes	45.03
2	Graham Berry	40.04	15	Phill. Elliott	45.21
3	Mike Hayes	40.31	16	Alan Yates	46.07
4	Dave Holmes	40.44	17	Dave Markham	46.38
5	Rob Hutton	40.55	18	Maurice Musson	47.27
6	Neil Bowler	41.05	19	Jez Myers	49.00
7	Andy Moore	41.14	20	Keith Wiley	49.29
8	Bob Berzins	41.26	21	Jeff Harrison	50.45
9	Paul Sanderson	41.28	22	Dick Pasley	51.45
10	Hugh Cotton	41.28	23	Will McLewin	52.20
11	Dave Lockwood	42.32	24	Pete Dyke	55.20
12	John Myers	43.04	25	Jim Fulton	56.04
13	Roy Small	44.47	26	Hilliary Musson	59.00

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TURKEY TROT: 26 DECEMBER 1995

My excuse for not visiting my parents, my brother and his various sprogs for Christmas was a Boxing Day Fell race on the mountains of Mourne in Northern Ireland. I took the opportunity of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day to practise my pronunciation of "Power Bar" and other important running vocabulary and warmed up with a Christmas morning jaunt up Slieve Donard where we met another group of fell runners (keen these Irish).

Relieved that I wouldn't have to refuse another of Ron's mum's mince pies until at least 5pm, we set off for the race. The Mourne were covered in snow and the weather sunny and clear (a rare event). A field of almost 40 lined up at the start which led onto a track resembling an ice rink. Having been assured I was in with a good chance of winning (as probably the only woman there!), I was disappointed to see there were five other women there, all wearing tee shirts from other impressive running events.

We skated the first few hundred metres then up a snow covered track followed by heather and later, at the col, knee deep snow. I was in about 19th at the time, so there were plenty of footprints to follow (thanks Ron!). The view from the col at 520m was stunning and as usual I forgot I was supposed to be racing until someone took my photo and shouted, "You're first woman".

The descent was superb. The deep snow meant that even I got up some speed as all the ankle twisting rocks and slippery grass was under soft snow. My nearest competitor in the 'ladies' class told me she walked all the way down!

It was a great event which despite being short had a real mountain feel about it, added to by the weather and a big turnout of spectators, all walking part of the route to burn off some Xmas pud and ensure everyone got back safely.

Prizes and refreshments followed with more sandwiches and (you've guessed it) mince pies than we could eat. I made the most of my 5 minutes of fame and they were so short of sports news that the results were even in the local paper.

Lynn Bland

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|-------|---|
| 1 | D. McGonigal (Newcastle) | 43:02 | |
| 7 | R. Caves | 51:21 | [1st overseas visitor...with Belfast accent!] |
| 19 | L. Bland [1st F] | 58:33 | |

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WARTS NIGHT RACE: 17 JANUARY 1996

The race that often catches people unawares did it again! The weather looked quite good from the Sheffield valleys; even at the Sportsman, the visibility was fine. But once past the Ox Stones, you realised that the mist did give an unfair (!) advantage to those who came equipped, and you may as well just enjoy the scenery. Many thanks again to Chris and Di Worsell and to Mike Pedley, who checked people out & in, and marshalled in the cold.

Andy Malkin

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|---|--------------|---------|---|
| 1 | Bill Edwards | 1:05:50 | Should have had 1st prize but sadly wasn't in the pub to receive it, sorry! |
| 2 | Roger Woods | 1:08:35 | Fine photo of the hut |
| 3 | Rob Davison | 1:08:36 | |

IN GEAR

20th Anniversary gear.

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of Dark Peak we are having new sweatshirts and T shirts made bearing the proud logo 'DARK PEAK FELL RUNNERS 20 years under a Brown Sky'. The designs form part of the back cover of this newsletter. Those club members who find this slogan somewhat strange, should look at the original club badge designed early in the club's history. This badge portrays the yellow sun going down behind purple and green hills beneath a sky, which for reasons lost in the depths of time, is brown.

This fine badge is to be incorporated into the new posing clothing. To allow for individual colour preferences (and to stop them looking like a compulsory school uniform in the pub on Wednesday nights), there are a number of colours on offer for both sweatshirts and T shirts. There is also the option of either long or short sleeved T shirts. The logo on the sweatshirts will be embroidered (a discrete logo on the left nipple). The logo on the T shirts will be screen printed and will be big and brash (on the centre mid chest). Knitted acrylic hats can also be ordered in a range of colours. These will have the embroidered badge but not the 20 years slogan however.

Anyone wishing to order any of these things should contact me as soon as possible, either at the pub, on the phone or by post stating size, colour, sleeves etc. Please don't send any money with the order. I'll collect money when I give them out or send them to you. All the shirts are heavy duty and good quality so they are a bit more expensive than previous shirts we have had made. Approximate prices will be:

T shirts.....short sleeved.....	£7.00
.....long sleeved.....	£8.00
Sweatshirts.....	£16.00
Hats.....	£7.00

T shirts

sleeves... short/long sleeved.

colours... natural(creamy) / bottle green / light grey / navy / black .

sizes..... small / medium / large / extra large.

Sweatshirts

colours... burgundy / navy / black / purplish (like the Arrochar KIMM sweatshirt) /bottle green/ light grey / dark grey .

sizes.... small / medium / large / extra large.

Hats

one size only

colours....black / navy / bottle green / burgundy .

To ensure the best possible price please order BEFORE 31/3/96 if possible.

DARK PEAK NEWS - SUMMER 96

In the next issue of Dark Peak News:

The 3 Peaks Race

The 5 Pikes Race

A literary disaster (postponed from this issue - sorry Mike)!

Weight training with a difference.

The loneliness of... the Crookstone Crashout.

Contributions by:

29th May 1996

Publication date:

19th June 1996

Articles may be hand written, typed or submitted on a 3.5" IBM compatible disk. I can read most word processors but not all - so please include a text file and a print out as well. If using a disk please virus check it if you can. Although I virus check everything it is still a pain when one crops up.

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FRONT COVER

To celebrate our 20th year, the front cover comes from one of the original member Bill Bentall. As Eric mentions in his opening articles, Bill could be called the club's original (and only?) sponsor and is also designer of the club logo which itself is making a welcome comeback on the 20th anniversary sweat shirts. The club logo was actually designed in a hotel room in Moscow, with the idea for the colour scheme reputed to have come from Don Booth after a Kinder run under a brown sky. Bill still remains a club member with many friends in Dark Peak. A few years ago Bill's cartoons used to liven up the pages of The Fellrunner and he makes a welcome return to print here. He has also attempted some forays into literature with mixed success! Mike Hayes reveals more in the next issue together with more drawing from the Bill's pen.

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Dark Peak News Spring 96 was produced with thanks to: Rick Ansell, Julia Barber, Bill Bentall, Lynn Bland, Mike Browell, Gavin Clegg, Andy Collinson, Jim Fulton, Frank Galbraith, Mike Hayes, Dave Holmes, Dave Lockwood, Andy Malkin, Will McLewin, Eric Mitchell, Dick Pasley, Alex Pryor, Roy Small, Howard Swindells, Tim Tett, Ben Tye, Alan Yates.



20 YEARS

Under a Brown Sky

