

End of July 2009 Bulletin.

Note from myself, Madam Chairman.

Hi everyone,

Recent weeks have seen lots of people doing lots of things, both with the Club and elsewhere. New member Katie Harris has been out in the French Alps staying near Briancon kayaking 'some awesome rivers' – luckily it was hot weather as apparently the water temperature was 'freezing'.

Allan et al took a 26-hour coach ride to Chamonix and got searched for drugs at the Swiss border (Surely not....since they are such a mature and sensible bunch). They stayed in the Gite Vagabond – owned by a Welshman from Colwyn Bay. It sounds like they made the best of the weather – having some glorious weather and some wet stormy weather. The group consisted of Allan, John, Carol, Neil and Phil, some of the group getting their first glacier experience, and there was much activity including on the Aiguille Du Midi and Valle Blanche, ascents of Petit Aiguille Verte and The Index – 'a cracking little route of five pitches at about hard severe'. Allan achieved his wish – to climb the Cosmiques Ridge - 'The obvious mixed ridge rising from the Cosmiques Hut to the viewing platform of the Midi station. The crux is a short rock wall of about hard severe standard (4b) though there were several section of v-diff and severe and a couple of exciting abseils to boot.' – they 'felt like proper little Alpinists at the end'.

They even had time to visit the Mer De Glace Caves and the Alpine Museum. It sounds like the weather and the travelling have not put them off – they are already looking forward to ? the Austrian Alps next year.

Dave's Dent camping weekend went ahead on 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> July 2009. A select group of four people attended, doing an ascent of Whernside one day and Ayegill Pike on another. Dave had some extra time there and did Aranthaw (in the Howgills) and Mallerstang Edge.

Mike Mac's Thursday walk on 9<sup>th</sup> July was a local Wirral walk – still 13½ miles though. It was very well attended with there being fifteen in number, all rewarded at the end of the walk by a barbeque at Mike's place.

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July saw six people going on the Morecambe Bay crossing. A number of us attempted this last year only to get to the start and for the weather to be too bad for us to start. The coastguard put a stop to it, and I remember us placating ourselves in the café with bacon butties before driving back down the M6. The weather this time, I understand, was better, the walk took place and a good day out was had by all.

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The middle weekend of July saw twelve people camping at Rhoscolyn on Anglesey. This included prospective member Kevin McEvoy and his wife (He apparently has bought a copy of Huxley's book on the club history – the first thirty years – Hux has a couple more copies left if anybody else would like a copy). I wonder if another one could be in the offing! The weather was not too good and the barbecue on the beach did not happen, but everybody enjoyed the weekend nevertheless.

Paul and I are off to Canada for three weeks soon – we've looked at the 14-day forecast and it seems they are having the same weather as here – so not much tan for us!

I hope everybody enjoys the summer holidays, despite the weather.

Regards  
Christine