

Meets outside the Lake District are an attraction to many members, for they give an opportunity of exploring places and hills which are often new discoveries; thus, the meet on the Howgill fells, above Sedbergh, led by Neville and Betty Morton in late January 1961, was an introduction to most interesting country, and the walks—particularly the descent by the side of Cautley Spout, in snow conditions—were greatly enjoyed by the dozen members who attended.

In June, at Gilsland, the meet called for the purpose of exploring Hadrian's Wall provided an opportunity to walk along the Wall, and to investigate the Vallum, mile-castles, ancient roadways and camps, plus an interlude to watch Hilary Simmons climb one of the steep routes on Crag Lough. Hilary and Joan Newby had camped literally 'on the Wall' and had chosen their site well, for they were on a natural drainage area, and were not flooded out.

A similar 'away' meet, and one which was vastly better supported as regards numbers, was that held on the gritstone of Stanage Edge, preceded by an excellent dinner served at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Baslow. Certainly on the Sunday, in the sunshine and on the steep, rough rocks, fully fifty of our members were seen at work—at times, this was interpreted by sleeping in the sunshine in a sheltered spot!

The March meet in Eskdale, the Easter meets at the huts, the Whitsuntide meet in Borrowdale and the July meet at Conistone followed the usual pattern and the climbing books at the huts show that there is no falling away in energy or ability. At Whitsuntide, particularly, the weather remained glorious throughout the weekend; Gillercombe Buttress was swathed in ascending and descending people, while Birkness Combe, the Napes and Combe Gill had their own devotees.

A small select party at Glenbrittle in September found themselves on a not very familiar beach where, through the generosity of Dame Flora Macleod, they enjoyed for the first time the luxury of piped water, proper sanitary arrangements and dustbins—all for 2s. 6d. per night (shades of the pioneers). The week began with a fine day, but the weather then degenerated. One day was spent on Rhum looking in vain for Askival; another day the Dubhs were 'done' but with escape into Coire a'Ghrunnda in atrocious weather; and some climbing was found in Coire Lagan.

An interesting innovation for the November meet was a mountain rescue demonstration, laid on by the Keswick Mountain Rescue Team. To the thirty-five members assembled in the Salving House John Lyth spoke about mountain rescue for the ordinary climber, while John Foster, with the assistance of a prospective member as 'casualty', demonstrated simple ties and splints, including the invaluable Thomas splint, and also gave a most enlightening account

of the general hospital set-up in the Lake District. There were many questions, which showed—as indeed did the large attendance—a healthy interest in the subject.

On the Sunday morning, in the Quayfoot quarries, with an even larger audience, the Keswick Mountain Rescue Team staged an impressive demonstration of equipment and techniques. Members watched, and then took part in, various types of rescue, including the 'tragsitz', or 'pickaback' harness, and the 'barrowboy' method. Two lady members acted as stretcher cases, while another even took a stretcher down Woden's Face. Thanks to the two medical members and the Keswick Team this was a very good meet.

Late in December 1961, when the smoothly frozen tarns provided skating of rare character, there was an unofficial meet at Tarn Hows, where, on two days at least, over a dozen members of the Club showed their prowess on skates. Not since 1947 have we had such superb ice. Just before New Year 1962 there was a heavy snowfall which prevented some members reaching Langdale for the official meet. But the large number who got there enjoyed crisp, frosty, sparkling weather with good snow; and those who climbed, walked or skied were rewarded in relation to their energy output which, in turn, was related to the excellent meals provided by the 'Inmates'.