

## Next Meeting

### Monday 20 October, 7.30pm

The next Lakes Area meeting will be at the Hawkshead Brewery Beer Hall (in Staveley Mill Yard), starting at 7.30pm on Monday 20 October. Martin and the BMC will be there to update on all things relevant to climbing in the Lakes and chips. The meetings are a great social event and Martin assures us there will be chips. You can learn about the latest news, guidebooks, the bolt fund, bird bans, bolting workshops, and anything else you'd like to add to the meeting. We may even have a mystery speaker (any volunteers?).

## Previous Minutes

### Thursday 5 June 2008

1. Lakes Area News: Carissa Lough and colleagues urge you all to come up with contributions to the Newsletter. This is your chance to share your knowledge of any exciting climb, walk, scramble or great weekend backpack with the rest of us. We especially need photos!
2. Access News: New bird restrictions, for example Raven Crag, Thirlmere, and peregrines on upper tier of Buckbarrow (Kendal). Keep an eye on the website and local notices at the crags, and don't fall foul of the voluntary restrictions. Use common sense and steer clear if a rare bird is seen around, looking like it's probably got a nest.
3. Bolt Workshop: Dan Robinson reported that a great time was had learning about bolting techniques, at a session at Scout Scar. Bolts are to be replaced, like-for-like, where they are old or in a dangerous state. Money has come in from various sources, including the F&RCC and the BMC, to help fund the mission. There was a lengthy debate over the morals of increasing the number of bolts on some routes for safety reasons, and whether the first ascensionist should

be consulted. Donations to the bolt fund are welcome: contact Dan ([dan@real-adventure.co.uk](mailto:dan@real-adventure.co.uk)) or Ron Kenyon ([ron@jaggedlakes.plus.com](mailto:ron@jaggedlakes.plus.com)).

4. The Lakes Festival of Climbing, Duddon Valley, 13–15 June: A lot of hard work has gone in to making this event a success, so let's have plenty of support. As well as a fun-packed weekend on sunbaked rock, you get subsidised food (voucher system), a friendly pub, portaloos, quiz, band and topos of local crags (small charge).
5. Thieves are stealing rucksacks and gear from the base of crags. Consider ways to combat this, whether to hide your gear up on a ledge, chain it to a tree, or borrow the neighbour's Rotweiler.
6. Abseil Chains: Should chains be installed to replace unsightly and dangerous build-up of old tat, at established ab points? Would such a move be deleterious to the current status quo regarding trad routes, or a sensible and pragmatic step forward? Much discussion ensued, but the jury is still out.
7. Buttermere & St Bees: The new guidebook is now available, price £16.

*Marian Parsons, Secretary*



## Access update

The BMC and our access reps would like to say a big thank you to all climbers for making the bird restrictions a success this year. Respecting the various crag agreements is good for the birds and it helps future negotiations on access issues. The Lake District National Park Authority would particularly like to thank the two climbers who reported a pair of nesting peregrines at Raven Crag, Thirlmere after retreating from the crag when they spotted the birds.

### Access problems at Badger Rock, Kentmere

Potential access problems have arisen at this popular bouldering venue in Kentmere. Despite the excellent description of the approach in the current Rock Fax guide, some people are missing the right turn in the small hamlet of houses at the foot of the Garburn Pass track, and are continuing straight on along the wrong footpath. This track drops down left to Kentmere Hall and does not allow access to Badger Rock.

Instead of re-tracing their steps, people with mats have been climbing the stone wall. This has now collapsed on a number of such occasions, and the residents are understandably getting tired of rebuilding it. The BMC is in the process of having a sign made to put on the Garburn Pass signpost to assist the navigationally-challenged to take the correct route. In the meantime, would all visitors to Badger Rock please take care with their approach. We do not want to jeopardise access to this valuable venue.

*Max Biden*

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**Inspired by the new FRCC Buttermere & St Bees guide, Chris King and Sally Baxendale check out Pedagogue's Chimney (HS) on the little visited Striddle Crag.**

(Photo: Stephen Reid)

## Climate change & Reducing your impact

As climbers and walkers, we often travel to different crags or fells, whether it's for a month-long holiday or a quick evening bouldering session. With rising fuel costs, increasing traffic congestion and the challenge of climate change (is this summer a sign of things to come?!?), we could all start to think about how we get to where we're going and the impact that our trips have.

Public transport to many places in the Lakes isn't always convenient or frequent, but there are regular bus services to Langdale and Borrowdale.

Car sharing is probably the best option. How many of us meet up with a couple of friends at the crag car park, having each driven in a separate car because 'I might want to leave a bit earlier' or a similar reason? It makes sense to take one car, even if it means that it takes a few minutes longer to pick each other up and being a bit more flexible about our day out.

So next time you're out for a day bouldering or a wander up Scafell, think about how to reduce your carbon emissions and save on fuel costs. Giving a friend a lift means that they'll want to return the favour on your next outing!

*Carissa Lough*



**Stu Huddleston on-sighting Needle Arete (E3 6a) at Black Crag, Wrynose Pass. (Photo: Dylan Carline)**



## Lakes Festival of Climbing

**13-15 June 2008, Duddon Valley**

If you measure success by the number of smiley faces in the pub, at the campsite, and on the crags, the first ever Lakes Festival of Climbing was a huge success. A sunny weekend, friendly locals and the enthusiasm of climbers from as far afield as Scotland and Wales all guaranteed lots of fun and a lot of routes done over the two days.

Based in the Duddon Valley, the first 'event' for the weekend was Chris Plant's pub quiz in the Newfield Inn with quiz master Des doing a fine job of making sure everyone heard the questions. After a few more pints, everyone headed back to Turner Hall campsite hoping for sunshine the next day.

The BMC provided tea and chocolate biscuits on Saturday morning. Al Phizacklea's handy mini guide to the Duddon was on sale. Helpful local climbers gave suggestions on crags and routes to anyone who'd crossed the border into Cumbria. And the sun was out.

Saturday night's highlights were great music in the garden bar from local bands The Dead Letters and Supacuba, more beer, and a big crowd. The midges were out in force too, but it wouldn't have been a proper Lakes climbing weekend without them!

A huge thanks to everyone who came along for all or part of the weekend – everyone's enthusiasm and friendliness were what made it such a success. A big thanks to the organising team, and to Climber magazine, UKClimbing.com, Noddy from DMM, Ed from Boreal, the F&RCC, Lakes Climber and Needlesports.

We look forward to seeing you all and your friends again next year for Lakes Festival of Climbing 2009!

*Carissa Lough*

**Action from the Lakes Festival of Climbing:** Bob Curry close to topping out at Brandy Crag in the Duddon Valley. (Photo: Mick Ryan)





## Cumbria Bolting

Bolting workshop - 17 May 2008, Scout Scar  
Dan Middleton (BMC Technical Officer) organised a very interesting and practical bolting workshop at Scout Scar. A good dry day and a fine turn out saw 10 routes at Scout Scar with new bolts by the end of the workshop.

Dan started the day off with a show and tell, followed by demonstrations by the handy chaps from Yorkshire. We looked at the pros and cons of each type of bolt available on the market, contemplated various resins, learnt about the grades of aluminium and talked about corrosion. We then placed an expansion and resin bolt.

It was then time to put into practice all that we had learnt. This included the fine art of where to place a bolt in the right place so that you can clip when holding onto that crimper, ensuring that ensure the spine of the quickdraw does not bend over rock and that the rock is sound!

We re-bolted several routes, including the classics A Fistful of Steroids, Crimes of Passion and Ivy League.

At the end of the day Ron Kenyon announced that he was happy to stay as treasurer for the Cumbria Bolting Fund and asked for a new Chair. Dan Robinson has taken up the challenge of this role.

A huge thanks to Dan Middleton for organising the event, to the Yorkshire Lads that helped train everyone and to all the volunteers that turned up.

### Cumbria Bolt Fund

The Cumbria Bolt Fund was created many years ago to help pay for re-equipping bolted climbs in Cumbria. We have resurrected the Cumbria Bolt Fund, after the Scout Scar bolting workshop.

A huge thanks to the F&RCC for a donation to get the project up and on the way. To re-equip all the bolted crags in the area will cost from £4000 to £6000. Ron Kenyon is on the case trying to accu-

mulate funds from various sources.

Each bolt costs around £5, and, for each bolt placement, you need to include the cost of the bolt, resin, drill and drill bits. So if a route has a lower off (£15) and, say, 6 bolts then you are looking at around £45 per route.

If you would like to keep on clipping bolts in Cumbria at great crags like St Bees or Chapel Head (amongst others) please help with donations. Make cheques payable to the "Cumbria Bolt Fund" and send them to Dan Robinson, 24 The Old Shambles, Highgate, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 4TA, or look out for the donation boxes at Lakes Climber (Ambleside), Kendal Wall and Needle Sports (Keswick).

### Future bolting

Bolting still remains a controversial topic. There have been many BMC meetings in the past where bolting has been discussed. It is important to control the use of bolts on our

crag and keep bolts away from trad climbs. We have drawn up a list of crags throughout Cumbria that require attention, including finishing Scout Scar and beginning the huge task re-equipping St Bees Head. We will move onto other crags as and when money and motivation prevails.

If we fail to remove old bolts and instead place yet another nearby it will slowly lead to a situation where there are no more sound placements to be found, and very untidy routes covered in old and new bolts. We intend to use resin bolts where possible. These can be removed and replaced when they are no longer safe. Expansion bolts can only be cut off and filled in, but we are investigating a way of coring around the old bolt to form a new hole for the resin anchors.

*Dan Robinson,*  
Real Adventure (Kendal)



**Matt Thompson of Sheffield enjoying one of the unsung gems on Helm Crag (photo: Mark Davies)**

**The Dunnerholme traverse in the evening sun** (Photo: Dylan Carline)



## Crag of the Mag

### **Dunnerholme Rock, Furness Peninsula**

A lonely and beautiful outcrop in the Duddon Estuary, Dunnerholme Rock nestles in a coastal golf course slightly north of Askham-in-Furness. Away from the swingers, the west-facing and overhanging limestone faces offer tough, endurance-based bouldering amid a truly stunning setting. A perfect destination for evening bouldering, the grassy landings give way to sand, then sea, and eventually the silhouetted outlines of Millom and Black Combe.

Thanks to a lack of traffic, the rock itself is unspoilt, and in some places ridiculously sharp. Problems litter the smaller faces lower down, and there is something for most abilities. The V0 "Arete" is a great introduction, while "Traverse" (V3) offers an interesting challenge. But the king of the problems, the real reason for a visit, is the gargantuan V5 "Full Traverse"

on the longest section of rock. Spanning about 80m, it is a supreme test of endurance. "Sloper Traverse" (V4) slightly to the right is also well worth a go. And for climbing heroes, the V7 "Green Dot Traverse" follows a low line on the main face, using handholds marked with green paint.

Down below the bouldering on the sea-facing wall is a zawn with a number of trad and sport routes. "Power Windows" (E2 6a), the furthest left, is hard work for the grade but well bolted and worth a go. There seems to be an ongoing issue about the anchor posts that are in the land above. I have spoken to the landowner about this and they are happy with the posts being there.

To get to Dunnerholme, drive north from Askham-in-Furness until the road dips, and turn left down a narrow lane opposite a solitary house. Follow this lane until it becomes a track, and park at its end, next to the boats by the railway crossing. The track is private property and there is no right

of access. The owners have kindly allowed parking here to continue, as long as cars do not block access to their home. Continue on foot over the railway line and onto the golf course, following the path to the obvious rock promontory. The bouldering faces out toward the sea, so circumnavigate the rock on either side, or walk up and over. Fairways cross the path on both sides here, and the rock itself has a pin at its summit, so please take care of low-flying missiles, and give the golfers right of way.

Dunnerholme remains a vastly underestimated venue and will keep you guessing for quite some time, but for me, its most perplexing aspect is that it is almost always completely deserted.

All the problems are in the Rockfax Lakes Bouldering guidebook, p200. An aerial map showing the parking and some of the problems is at <http://tinyurl.com/69dtrg>.

*Dylan Carline*



## Barrow Mountaineering & Ski Club

Barrow Mountaineering and Ski Club is an active, friendly and informal club with over 100 members. The club membership has climbers and mountaineers active at all grades.

The club hold regular outdoor meets throughout the year in locations such as the Lake District, Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Wales and also an Alpine meet in the summer and Scottish winter and summer mountaineering meets. During the winter there are also indoor social meets usually at the Black Dog in Ireleth.

The club owns a cottage in the Coppermines valley, Coniston, where an outdoor barbecue is held every summer. The cottage is in a quiet location and is ideally placed for walking on the Coniston Fells and climbing in Coppermines valley and on Dow Crag.

If you are interested in joining Barrow Mountaineering and Ski Club check out their website at [www.bmasc.org.uk](http://www.bmasc.org.uk) for more information.

*Ellie Fowler*

## Articles & photos wanted!

Lakes Area News could be your chance for fame and fortune! Send us an article or your best climbing or walking photos. Thank you to everyone who helped with this issue. Get in touch with the newsletter team by emailing

[lakesareanews@googlemail.com](mailto:lakesareanews@googlemail.com)

## Goodbyes & welcomes

We say goodbye and thanks to Tim Fish, our newsletter designer, who is emigrating to Sheffield. And a welcome to Jim Unwin, who has kindly offered his design services.



**Neil Cooper trying to stay warm on a winter's day at Thorn Crag**  
(photo: Carissa Lough)