

May 2007

LOMOND MIC

www.lomond-mountaineering.org.uk

75th
Anniversary Dinner
Saturday
24th November 2007

See Website for
details



NEWS FROM ANTARCTICA

We are now on our own. The last ship left 3 weeks ago, leaving just the 22 wintering team behind. Our next supply and physical contact with people will be in October sometime – 6 months away!

Seeing the last ship go was not a weird as I thought. It felt more meaningful when the penultimate ship left, as this saw the departure of all of the BAS staff and our friends. The last ship just had the contractors who are constructing the new building on base, this ship left about 3 weeks after the first.

It is traditional that upon leaving Rothera all the departing staff play a load of practical jokes on the winterers. This season was no different, we had no spoons for a few days, the Bonner Laboratory was tied up with a 500m long cord totally knotting the interior – it looked like the laser beams out of Mission Impossible, several items of clothing went astray and Roger had his whole room moved into another. We managed to leave Carvajal on day 4 along with the other sledge team that was out (Sledge Delta) and camped about 30 minutes

from Rothera. The next day the contrast was not good enough for skiing as we intended so we climbed a nearby mountain. The sky cleared at the summit affording brilliant views of ‘our kingdom’.

It had been quite windy all day but almost as soon as we reached camp it got stronger and stronger. By 9pm it was gusting 44 knots (55 mph – Gale force 9) and the next morning it was gusting about 55 knots (65 mph – Storm force 10). This did make trying to do anything outside (even standing up) quite interesting.

Having learnt from previous experience we took a toilet tent with us, which provided slightly more comfortable premises for squatting. Going for a piss was still good value though, it really didn’t seem to matter which way you were facing most of it ended up on you. I had an unfortunate incident when, braced against the wind, in full flow, the wind suddenly dropped and so did I, luckily I was wearing waterproof trousers.



New Trip Reports

The website has new accounts from trips to:
Cogne,
Raeburn Hut Meet,
Hawkcraig,
Peak District,
Tower Gulley.

MEETS 2007



Late May Camping

26/05/07 - Skye

Arran Camping

23/06/07 - Glen Rosa

Cairngorm Adventure

21/07/07 - Cairngorms

Northumberland Cragging

18/08/07 - Camping

CMTE 07

President - Matt Bridgestock

Meets - Alasdair Farish

Members - Chris Husbands

Treasurer - Catherine Sibley

Secretary - Jules Hearne

Hut - Russell Salisbury

Newsletter Editor required

Contact Matt

The weather did calm a bit the next morning and we (both sledge teams) started to pack up, I however was less than convinced about the weather staying good and elected to stay put (correct decision), but we helped the other team get ready.

Overnight sledge Delta lost the tarp covering their Skidoos, this meant that the engine compartments of the skidoos were completely jammed full of snow and had to be cleared by hand. The best bit was to come when Drew (the other GA) was fighting to get one of the doos into gear and get it moving – the gear lever came off in his hand! much to the amusement of Jim and myself. Incidentally our Skidoos were fine!

On the climbing front I have managed to get out and do a bit, only doing easy stuff, but the routes I have done have been good. There is not much 'in condition' at the moment and all of the local rock is choss. There will hopefully be more scope for climbing later, however we are very tied as there always have to be 2 GA's on Search and Rescue Cover, and when 3 are out in the field or you are preparing to go out in the field

there is little time to get many routes in. Also most of the time were 'guiding' on routes taking some of the other winterers out so this limits what we can do.

My next and final winter trip will hopefully take in some climbing as the guy I'm with is a climber, so conditions permitting (and as long as I'm not too much of a wuss) we should get some routes done.

So what else have been going on? – Well Kenny (the generator Mechanic) has been waging war with the Generators, more so the fuel going into them, and I've been celebrating old age with my 30th birthday.

My birthday was celebrated by all on base with a Top of The Pops theme fancy dress party. It was a really good night; everyone put loads of effort into their costumes. We had a very impressive Gene Simmons (Kiss), Derrick Smalls (Spinal Tap), Noddy Holder and Madonna amongst others. Tris and myself



went as Smashy and Nicey. We collected together all of the funniest pictures we could find, put song titles to them and gave a top 30 chart rundown in a Smash and Nicey kind of way. It was very good fun, only tempered mildly the next day by my hangover, good weather and a very excitable French Chef who wanted to get out on his winter trip.

I hope everyone is well,

Cheers for now.

Mark Gorin

75TH

A dinner to mark the 75th Anniversary of the club will be held at St Vincent Bowling Club on Saturday 24th November 2007.

Tickets will cost £28 and include meal, band and wine.

Contact Chris (0141 xxxxxx) or Catherine (0141 xxxxxx) for tickets