



May 2001

Welcome to the much delayed SHOT news letter, delayed mainly to foot and mouth disease, but partly to a lack of a computer, but now fortunately both seem to be on the mend! The first 'green' signs have been spotted, giving us all hope of finally working of those Easter Eggs!. Lets just hope it is not too long before we can dust off the boots, push aside the pot plants, and hit the countryside once again in search of a decent pint!

In the mean time please enjoy your quarterly newsletter, feeling free to contribute to it at any time what so ever.

Please remember:

THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER (so use it or you will just get me waffling on to fill space!!)

Donna

THE TRIPS

OFFICAL SHOT TRIP

27th Dec-5th Jan 2002

The New Year Trip

After a reasonably enthusiastic response. Tobermory YH is provisionally booked from 27th Dec until the morning of Sat 5th.

A long trip. Since you only have to take 3 days off to get the w/e in it's worth going for (well maybe?).

If too many people want to leave early I'll have to negotiate with the warden, or else we could move to the mainland for 3 days.

The hostel itself has 42 beds, we'll have it to ourselves and there are 8 rooms so we should be able to isolate families and couples who want to pay premium rates. I'm very willing to take refundable deposits of around £20 from anyone who thinks they're more than likely to attend. (Hopefully F&M will be over by then)

Be warned, to the best of my knowledge (based on last years timetable), you wont be able to leave the Island on the 31st or the 1st (fair enough).

Cheers
[Darren](#).

Can Mash be serious about not turning up, thus breaking a 15-year streak?

Chris's 30th Birthday Bash!

25th-27th Jan 2002, The Golden Lion, Horton in Ribblesdale

As some of you may know, I'll be becoming an Old Git on Christmas Eve this year. I think the only suitable way of celebrating this is to have a weekend in Yorkshire. Obviously Christmas Eve is a bit of an inconvenient time to have a birthday so I've decided to put it back a month to the 25th-27th January next year. This is a bit far off at the moment but Gus has found what looks like a good place so I've booked it already.

The location is The Golden Lion Hotel, Horton in Ribblesdale, near Settle, which is near Pen y Ghent and Ingleborough. I've booked their 15-bed bunk room (£7/night), and they also have double rooms as well. They have a web site: <http://www.goldenlionhotel.co.uk/>, and the place looks pretty good.

I like the bit about "Awards for the keeping of the beer include Camra Pub of the Season and Theakson Grand Master Trophy for winning the award of excellence on three occasions." Obviously it's a while till that weekend, so I'll remind you nearer the time.

Chris

Lake district trip, Blame it on Alfred

27th – 29th July 2001, Barclays Hut, Langdale

Wainwright wrote Seven Pictorial Guides to the Lake District and one for the Outlying Fells describing routes up all the peaks and other notable fells - a grand total of 316 summits, commonly known as 'Wainwrights'.

Although many people collect these summits relatively few people have been known to achieve all of them. Darren's parents, in a Blitzkrieg effort, were the first recorded couple at 69 and 70 respectively to achieve the 214 listed fells of the Seven Guides (the total of finishers was 181 by 31.12.99). Surprisingly low figures of only 25 have completed the grand total of 316 fells.

Gustav is one short of the grand total - Tarn Crag (1801ft), a small fell overlooking Grasmere. Tim has kindly booked the Barclay's Bank Hut in Langdale for 27th-29th July for a large contingent of SHOT members to help him bag it. Also in the party will be Dobrzynski Junior - his 8-year-old nephew David who will be getting his first Wainwright.

Let us hope that Foot and Mouth restrictions in the Lake District will not prohibit them in their attempt. See [Gus](#) for more details.

**And don't forget the June trip to North Wales see [Gus](#) for more details
June 22nd-24th June**

Any other trips going on?

Dates for the Diary

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Participation in the Club's activities shall only be open to individuals who recognise that hiking and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants shall be aware of and accept these risks and agree to be responsible for their own actions and involvement.

If you are organising a trip just email me the details and I will add it all in the next newsletter. If you are booking a trip, it maybe a good idea to send me the details so I can check dates of trips don't clash.

June 22nd-24th, Snowdonia
July 27th-July 29th Langdales
Xmas Meal 2001- TBC
27th Dec-5th Jan Isle of Mull
25th-27th Jan, Yorkshire Dales

The Grapevine

This section I intend to use for general information, exciting news, new members etc, so if you have anything to contribute, please get in touch.

Births/Marriages/Jobs/Social Events!

Well, it seems this newsletter I can start a whole new section!

SHOT BIRTHS:

Congratulations to [Mark & Karen Waddy](#) on their latest arrival and indeed our newest Shot member!

SHOT NUPTUALS:

Curly Chris, Mashy, Chris Turton, Howsey and Gustav will be representing SHOT when they travel to Cologne on 29th June for a 4 day weekend to help Steve celebrate his Stag Weekend. This promises to be an International event as other 'foreigners' will be arriving to sample the beer and the cultural experiences on offer. Fortunately for Steve, the Ball and Chain that usually comes out on these occasions will have to be left behind as it would be impossible to disguise as acceptable hand luggage for the flight and may even give the X-ray machine palpitations as normal hold luggage. Never mind, I'm sure some suitable treatment will be organised for Steve.

The wedding to Lisa a month later at Liverpool Town Hall also promises to be a grand affair. Sumptuous surroundings with a lavish celebration of eating and dancing in the evening seems to be on the cards. Talking football with Lisa's Dad, who used to play for Liverpool, could be a useful respite between puddings and beer.(GUS)

Midges, Kilts and Hairy Legs.

Richard and Caroline will be getting married on 4th August at Urquhart Church, on the Black Isle overlooking Cromarty Firth near Dingwall in Scotland.

The countryside location will be exploited if the weather is set fair as the wedding ceremony will be held at an outdoor preaching site in a field near a burn some 400 metres from the church. The temptation to turn up with rucksacks and boots and change behind the bushes into best clothes would certainly be one for the imagination and cameras.

Once the midges have satiated themselves on bare legs and delicate English skin the wedding party will reconvene at the Ben Wyvis Hotel in Strathpeffer to celebrate in the traditional Scottish way. The evening ceilidh should help digest the haqqis,

neeps and malt whisky, and identify guests from south of the border. Apart from seeing a different corner of Scotland some SHOT members will take the opportunity to travel further a field. Julian, for example, will be in island-hopping mode as he continues northward to visit the Orkneys for a holiday

I'm sure everyone in SHOT will wish both couples every happiness in the future.

Farewell Hiking Comrades

Well there it is the Spring/Summer Newsletter. Please feel free to now send me trip details etc for the next edition.

Please could you check that your address/email details are correct.

The next Newsletter will be due for release in August/September, (or whenever I have enough info to fill it!) so plenty of time to send me info.

Lynne's, Accounts of Japan

HIKING JAPAN - THE HYAKUMEIZAN CHALLENGE

One day in late April, I got an unexpected phone call from a dodgy-sounding British bloke called Tom, who said he was a former ALT on the JET Programme (had got my number from a friend's copy of a JET directory) and wanted to know if he and his companions could use my address to apply for alien registration cards. Needless to say I was taken aback at this, but after a bit of investigation including a look at their website, I was sufficiently convinced to agree to their request, provided that it wasn't going to get me into trouble!

Tom, Paul and Ben are part-way through a 4000km hike covering the entire length of Japan (excluding Okinawa) and taking in all of the Hyakumeizan, or 100 famous mountains of Japan. It's in aid of a landmines charity, and as far as they know they are the first people ever to undertake this challenge. In British terms, apparently it's roughly equivalent to doing Land's End to John O'Groats four times, and taking in most of Scotland's munros on the way. The number of mountains they're climbing is fewer than the number of munros, but the mountains themselves are higher.

They're covering about 40km per day, and the hike is taking them about nine months in total - they started in February, on an island off southern Kyushu, and are due to finish at the northernmost tip of Hokkaido sometime in November. The usual tourist visa is only valid for three months but they'd managed to extend theirs to six (they're going to have to leave the country for a few days at some point), and any foreigner who spends more than three months in Japan is legally required to register as an alien. This was difficult for them because, being constantly on the move and living out of tents, they didn't have an address at which they could register.

They arrived in Hikone on the Sunday; about an hour before we were due to meet up, I went out to Heiwado (my local department store) and there I found three very disreputable-looking gaijin with big rucksacks sitting on the doorstep having their lunch - which included heating the water for instant noodles on a camping stove! Back at my apartment, they showered and shaved and emerged looking (and smelling) a lot better. Most of the time they're camping wherever they can find a space, and having to wash as best they can in rivers, public toilets and the occasional sento (public bath) or onsen (hot spa), so the opportunity to stay in a real building, with a shower and a washing machine - their two loads of washing instantly turned the water black - is a rare treat for them! They were also able to check their email for the first time in over a month, and see their own website (being maintained by a friend in the UK) for the first time, so they spent a lot of time online. That evening, after another trip to Heiwado, we dined on nabe - meat, fish and vegetables cooked in broth at the table.

The next day, Monday, they'd been intending to go to the city hall to sort out their alien registrations, but it was a public holiday. So instead, they had another rest day (Sunday is usually their weekly rest day) with visits to the castle and Genkyu-en, several hours spent online, and a huge tabehodai (all-you-can-eat) meal at an Italian restaurant with Cat and Tim, two of the other local ALTs. It was good to spend some time with people of my own nationality - apart from my dad and sister, whom I'd just had a visit from, it'd been several weeks since I last spoke to even one fellow Brit, never mind three at once!

On the Tuesday morning I had to go to school, so we parted company. Their next mountain was Ibuki-san, Shiga's highest, and then it was on towards the Japanese Alps. Schedules permitting, I hope to be able to do Mount Fuji with them in July.

There's an ongoing account of their trip on their website at <http://www.japanesemountaintrek.org.uk>. The site of the charity they're doing it for, Adopt-a-Landmine, is at <http://www.landmines.org.uk>. You can also see some of the photos from their visit to Hikone - as well as all my other news updates - on my website at <http://lynne.50megs.com/jet24.html>.

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Or of course you can visit the web site

<http://www.shot.org.uk/>

Contact [Mark Hows](#) if you have any articles or pictures you would like to add to this site

Don't forget, to keep up with all the latest hiking club info, join the e-mail list at:

<http://www.egroups.com/group/shot>

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