

Hot Rockzzz in Thailand

Sadie Renwick **Interview**

Who is Steve Bell?

gripped?

BMC

in partnership with:



Issue #12 - Spring 2001

Editorial

Hi climbers, me again!

Despite the foot and mouth crisis I hope you have all been cranking' on the crags (which are limited) e.g. Woodhouse Scar and Ravensdale. Or you may have been chillin' indoors with the slightly drier option of a training session. I know that team members such as Adrian Baxter, Adam Dewhurst and myself, have been hard at work training for international competitions. This weekend saw us through our first international competition this year in Italy where I managed to get placed third and climbers like Rosie Shaw and Bob Elliot climbed very well too. At least the weather hasn't been too glorious, because that would probably drive us into the temptation of climbing on the restricted crags. *"Tut tut tut, I hope u haven't!"*

Time seems to have been taken from us as already the BICCS are finished and we are preparing ourselves for this year's BRYCS.

For a large majority of people the Easter holidays mean getting out on to one of the best bouldering playgrounds in the world – Fontainebleau!!

Well, for those that are going, see ya there and for those of you who are not, have a great Easter and a smashin' summer. Hope you enjoy this season's **gripped!** See ya later!

[Jemma Powell]

Please send suggestions for content for the BMC website to anne@thebmc.co.uk

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HEY!

We want your news, views and photos for the next issue. Please send articles on disk or by E-mail to: anne@thebmc.co.uk before the end of June – all photos will be returned.

Risk and Responsibility

Parents and young participants should be aware that climbing, hill walking and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Parents and participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement. The BMC publishes a wide range of publicity and good practice advice and provides training opportunities for members. Additional advice and events are available to young members and their parents. Details about the BMC's training and youth programmes are available from the BMC website and office.

U1AA Youth Meets

This year the BMC are helping to support 10 disabled young climbers from Mayfield and Calthorpe schools in Birmingham attend the Adventure Camp run by OEAV in around Salzberg, Austria on 15-21 July 01. Other U1AA Youth Camps in 2001 include:

Climbing FEDME

29 July-4 August, Picos de Europa, Spain

Applicants 16-22yrs, 2/3 places per federation, climbing level minimum 4c in the high mountains.

Climbing FFME

5-12 August, French Pyrenees

Applicants 16-22yrs, 2/3 places per federation, Climbing level minimum 4c in the high mountains

Mountaineering and Climbing

4-11 August, Vitiopeno/Serzing, Italy

Applicants 14-17 years old 2/3 places per federation plus 1 youth leader.

Climbing UMF

17-24 September, Crimea, Ukraine

(No age specified)

Youth Leader Training Courses

OEAV 14-17 June

Mountaineering with children and families.

For further information and advice on application procedure contact office@thebmc.co.uk

Support for expeditions can be applied for from the **Andy Fanshawe Memorial Trust.**

Contact Sue Waring on E-mail afmt_admin@hotmail.com Tel 01768 881623

Cover: Photos: Alex Messenger on Vikings in Heat, Tom Sai Beach, Thailand © Alex Messenger Collection

News

Jemma Powell

tastes international VICTORY
at UIAA European Youth Cup 2001

Competing in her first UIAA International event TROLL BICC Champion Jemma Powell ended up standing on the podium with a fantastic third place in the Youth B category (for those born in 1986 or 1987).

Equal first at the end of the qualifying round Jemma missed out on second place by a smidge, Jemma touched a handhold that second placed climber, Austrian Angela Eiter, managed to hang. The winner of the Youth B Category was Tereza Kysilkova of the Czech Republic.

There are five rounds making up the UIAA European Youth Cup 2001. The first one was in Apatity (Russia) held over the weekend of 31st March. The overall EYC is decided on the basis of best four results from five. The EYC 2001 culminates at the Entre-Prises and BMC Festival of Climbing, held at the Birmingham N1A on 7-9 December 2001, where Jemma will hopefully be competing for the title in front of a home crowd.



British championships decided

Troll BICC and S7 BBC champions have now been crowned. The BICC champions were a seemingly invincible Lucy Creamer, the man who strives to be more like Elvis, Chris 'Biggles' Cubitt, Jemma Powell and Jamie Cassidy. Emma Twyford, Malcolm Smith, Lucy Creamer and Paul Smitton took the honours in the bouldering. See pages 6&7 for a full report.

Photo: Emma Twyford, Jemma Powell, BMC President Derek Walker, Sadie Renwick and Rosie Shaw at the Liverpool BICC. John Arran

Foot and Mouth UPDATE

The BMC crag access database has seen a fair amount of activity over the last few days, and news of access being reopened in several key locations including Gogarth, Millstone Edge, and Lydstep in west Wales is keenly awaited. It is understood that access to key crags such as Stanage Edge is currently in negotiation.

See <http://www.thebmc.co.uk/outdoor/access/fmd.asp> for confirmation of any restrictions.





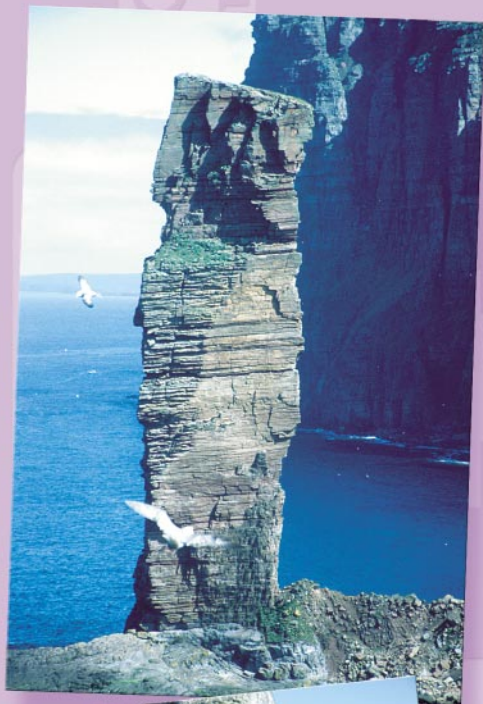
MIGHTY aphrodite

Lucy Creamer makes the first ascent of her new M9 in the Uncomparagre Gorge, Ouray, San Juan mountains, USA. This route had been eyed up by locals who had thought it best left for the next generation. Lucy had only been doing this style of climbing for a few days before using her considerable rock skills, limited ice experience and strong will to secure this tremendous line. The route starts up the Jeff Lowe classic **Dizzy With a Vision** and then takes a poorly protected flared crack to the left, finishing on ice at the top at around FrW14.

In comparison, she said of her own route 'it felt about the same as onsighting F7c'. Lucy had attended a Jeff Lowe masterclass before completing this climb and others in Ouray and it just goes to show how the training, skills and dedication required to be a top rock climber are transferable to this medium. Before you hike off out there just remember that Lucy has not only onsighted 7c but has also flashed E7, an entirely more daunting proposition in my book.

[Anne Arran]

Well done!



news

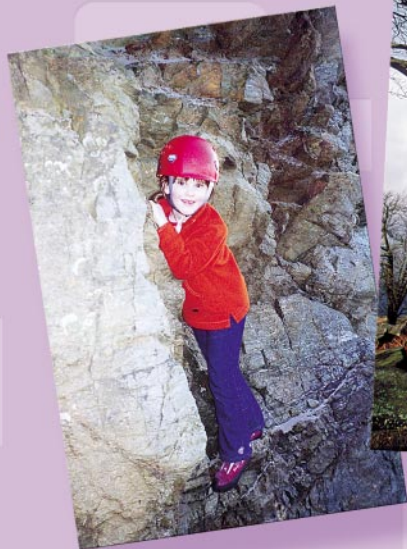
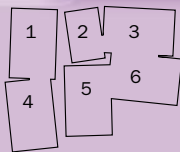


photo gallery



Last issue we asked you to send in your photos – here's just a small selection.

Why don't you send in your favourite photo of you or your friends out and about?

1. Old Man of Hoy

📍 John Arran

2. Maisie Fowkes at Cable Bay, Anglesey

📍 Steve Fowkes

3. Stu Ingram on the Green Traverse, Stangeg

📍 Alex Messenger

4. Gritstone Heaven – Anne Arran on The Sentinel, Burbage North

📍 John Arran

5. Buildering? :-)

📍 John Arran

6. Flying Buttress Direct at Sunset, Stangeg

📍 Alex Messenger

Hot Rock



Phra Nang has been the number one exotic climbing location for a number of years now, combining wild and varied climbing with a stunning beach resort. The climbing is best known for its outrageous stalactite formations that seem to drip from the cliffs like melting wax and add a novel third dimension to the climbs. It is easy to escape the crowds and not see a soul in the less frequented areas. The only means of accessing the Rai Lai peninsula is by long-tail taxi boats that run regularly from Ao Nang and Krabi.

The sports climbing ranges from Fr6a to 8c and can involve a wade to get there or a boat, particularly if you wish to try some new routing. There are surreal experiences to be had climbing on the superb multi-pitch **Thailand Wall** while listening to Christmas carols below.

Alternatively, hard core boulderers should check out **Phra Nang beach**, with its amazing sunset and bizarre Buddhist shrine nestled in the cliff. Most comfortable times for climbing during the day are 8am–11am and 4pm–8pm leaving lots of time for watery fun.

Local accommodation

- There are a great number of bungalows around Rai Lai Bay, ranging from extremely basic to complete luxury. Many climbers choose to stay at Ton Sai Bungalows which are cheap and close to the climbing. A log room with mosquito net can be less than £4 per night per person but beware of monkey invasions. More secure and luxurious alternatives are available.

At peak season (around Christmas) accommodation is in high demand, it is worth investigating staying in Surat Thani and 'commuting' by long-tail boat.



Top Nick Sellars on Café Anderman Fr 7b Ton Sai beach ▶ Adrian Berry

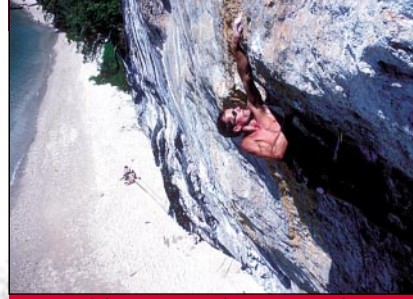
Above Deborah Wright jumps for it ... ▶ Adrian Berry

Left Miles Gibson climbing a tree ? ▶ Adrian Berry

- Follow in the footsteps of Leonardo Di Caprio
 - The ideal place to convince your parents to go to ...

ZZZ

out & about in Thailand



Adrian Berry on Jai Dum at Ton Sai beach © Adrian Berry collection

King Climber's Route Guide 1998

The guide uses a combination of hand drawn topo's with traditional descriptions. The descriptions point out useful tips such as using extra long quickdraws, or my favourite 'Nice if you're tall and your name's Tom'. If not then on about the 3rd clip, you've got to pull a 9D move!'

The guide has useful information on getting to the general area, and then finding not only crags, but also shops and things to do on rest days. The maps are clear and very useful, especially the one of the local town of Krabi. On the subject of finding crags, I will give this tip: when trying to find **Diamond Cave North Face** (area 30), don't hike for ages 'through the rubber plantation', as you will already be there.

The one aspect of the guide that caused the most delight was the over-grading. Some routes are graded two grades above what they really are, leading to the opinion that the system used is peculiarly local. This of course is not something that climbers generally complain about, it being more pleasing to attribute the dramatic surge in

performance to one's ability. However, just about every route at Ton Sai needs to come down a grade at least, but whilst it lasts get a quick onsight of Phet Maak (8a) or should that be 7c?

The best reason to buy this guide is that you'll need one and this is the only one that's up to date. Another good reason is that the proceeds help to maintain (i.e. replace) the rotting bolts. Lastly, the book provides income for locals, which translates as a vested interest in preserving climbing access – there is no 'Thai Mountaineering Council'.

Other fun activities

Tree climbing, elephant riding, snorkelling, diving and PADI courses, climbing instruction, jungle hiking, sea canoeing, deep sea fishing, caving, night swimming with the fluorescent algae, fire eating(?) bug crushing, dancing ...



Getting there

- An airport is due to open in the local town of Krabi, but the best bet is to fly to either **Bangkok** (most fun) or **Phuket** (closer). Flights cost from £189 (exceptional) to about £500.
- Once in Thailand, you need to get to Krabi. If you have a choice between coach and train, choose the train.
- From Krabi, a long-tail boat ride will take you Rai Lai bay.

[Anne Arran & Adrian Berry incorporating www.climbingmedia.com fact file]



I first met Steve in 1996 when he turned up at the Foundry Climbing Centre and bought the building next door to house his business **Jagged Globe**, then Himalayan Kingdoms Expeditions. **Jagged Globe** runs professionally led mountaineering expeditions throughout the world (nice job!). He has climbed the highest mountains in all continents. What's more, he can assist people like you or me in organising private expeditions to almost anywhere ... pretty cool huh!

who is Steve Bell?



The **Jagged Globe** website www.jaggedglobe.co.uk tells us that Training is what we are doing now when we go down the wall, climb outdoors, go on a Duke of Edinburgh expedition, go to the Alps, Scottish winter climbing etc. ... all in preparation to go to incredibly beautiful places like **Amadablam**, visit the **Dragon Mountains** in Africa, trek along the **Silk Road** or climb **Everest**. Good for some, it certainly helps to plan and gain the skills to get where you want to be, whilst of course having as much fun as possible.

Everyone has different needs and perhaps you are thinking, well what about me achieving my ambition to climb say **Right Wall** in **Llanberis Pass** or come first in a round of the **British Indoor Climbing Championships**. Well whichever path you take climbing is often about following your dreams and instincts. Steve certainly did this when he was 18 by taking the plunge to not go to university and just go climbing (very unpopular with parents). He hitched to the Alps and survived on £80 for 6 weeks – the money raised by selling his bike and guitar.

Where did you start climbing?

I went on a weekend climbing course on the 'Tors' on Dartmoor. Then I did a 26-day, all male **Outward Bound** expedition in Eskdale – and it rained a lot. I think it's very important that people get the chance to experience lots of outdoor activities when they are young.

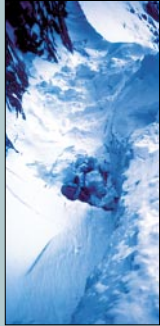


- Top L.** The north face of the Monch, Bernese Oberland, Switzerland
 Steve Bell
- Above** Learning Curve #1, retreating across a wet glacier without a rope ... NOT recommended!
 Pete Thekton

[interview by Anne Arran]

The Scene ... I climbed mainly in the South West and reached HVS / E1 level on rock pretty quickly before hitting a plateau. No one was really training at this time but the culture was to soon change when Pete Livesey transferred his training techniques from other sports to climbing in the mid 70's, but even in the late 70's training for climbing was something few people admitted to. In the South West, sea cliff climbing lends itself to new routing, but you often encounter loose rock and there were a few people interested in bold day-out climbing. Then, climbing seemed more adventurous – and dangerous – than it is now. Sometimes I'd be so gripped about the prospect of a scary route that I couldn't even eat my breakfast! We were certainly very aware of the risks, and falling off was something that you just didn't do, which no doubt held back my leading grade. Also, I was part of the 'clean hand gang' at this time, a group of mainly south west based climbers who refused to use chalk.

Improving After this the logical step forward was to move to Sheffield and lived in a squalid house with the likes of “Strappo”, Leigh McGuinley and Chris Gore. Once I started doing a few pull-ups (on the quiet!) my leading grade quickly progressed, but I reached another plateau at E3/E4. One hot August day in 1978 I did Vector (E2) at Tremadog. Making the moves up the ochre slab my sweaty palms nearly slid me into space, and the feeling spoiled the enjoyment of a fantastic climb. It was then that I defected to the “white hand club” and started using chalk.

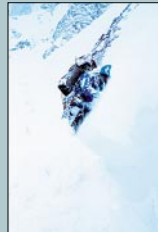


We Joked about oranges or ‘orages’ ...

‘Deciphering the French weather forecast was always a challenge. We knew that **Orange** was the French word for cloud, and we did our best to catch the good weather, but when it got bad we had an epic and we cursed the **oranges**.

I learned about using a rope on the glacier and avoiding objective dangers through hard won experience and a few lucky escapes. Later, I learned a lot from more experienced friends like Roger Mear who was older than me, a good climber and really organised. When we did the Eiger he planned everything meticulously, pre-packing the meals in separate plastic bags and assessing what equipment to take. It was a real eye-opener, as was the hoist he rigged up when an anchor gave way and I fell off our bivvy ledge. That was a laugh – I couldn’t move, trapped inside by sleeping bag like a netted fish suspended above a 3000ft drop. Even-so, it wasn’t until I started training to be an IFMGA Guide some ten years later, that I realised how little I actually knew about climbing.’

- Above L.** Learning Curve #2, falling up to your neck in Randklufft 📍 Jon Grubb
- Above R.** Real adventure, bivying in the glacier. 📍 Jon Grubb
- R.** On Bonatti Pillar 📍 Chris Gibson
- Next R.** Spindrift on Droites N.Face 📍 Pete Thekton
- Far R.** Steve Bell at 18



“I’ve always found it easier to climb bold routes than harder, well-protected lines”

The great escape – The Alps ... ‘There were no barriers in those days to going off to the Alps and just doing it. Seeing the scale of the place was extremely motivating. Selecting gear was a simple choice because there wasn’t any choice. I enjoyed reading the Rebuffatt book because there were routes to aim for and I was inspired by books written by top climbers like Messner and Joe Brown. The historical significance of the routes we were climbing was important to me and doing a challenging route to the Alps – and being in control – was an all-consuming experience. But I was more in tune with the technical difficulty of the climbing rather than basic Alpine skills. We often didn’t rope up to cross glaciers and knew very little about snow conditions and weather.’

But we were pretty self-sufficient, learning through necessity and by our mistakes. We learned how to place pegs, cut snow-bollards and abseil down routes without leaving any of our precious gear behind. Gradually, we got better at route finding and we got lost less often. They were great days, interspersed with boozy nights at the Bar National in Chamonix, listening to Hotel California on the Juke Box and fantasising about the girl in the Javelin advert which graced virtually every climbing magazine of the era.

When he was 20, Steve climbed the North Face of the Eiger in winter after spending a week on the route. ‘By then, I’d been climbing for nearly five years and was no longer a teenager. Perhaps I had grown up ...’

access news

foot & mouth

Over the past two months the foot and mouth outbreak has resulted in a hive of extra activity at the BMC office, from the people answering queries on the phone to Alex, our web guy, who has been busy setting up the foot and mouth 'Location Watch' on the web site. The 'chaos' in the office has been small compared to the big impact that the foot and mouth outbreak has had on outdoor education centres, outdoor shops and other people reliant on business from climbers, hill walkers and mountaineers. Many businesses in the Lakes, Snowdonia and other mountainous areas have seen a drop in business of 50%, with some experiencing an 80% decline. This has left many people struggling and has brought to the attention of the media the importance of the natural environment to the UK's multi-billion pound tourist industry.

In the BMC office we have been trying to regain access to many areas; in an attempt to alleviate the financial impact of foot and mouth on the outdoor trade, as well as the frustrations of many people who can't go out and enjoy the countryside. Over the last few weeks things have moved forward a bit with access established to some key climbing areas, particularly in North Wales, with climbing now available at Gogarth and Tremadog. Unfortunately there is still no access to many of the upland and moorland areas in England and Wales, but if you live in or near Scotland, many mountains are now open for you to enjoy in the Highlands and Islands.

Foot & Mouth answers to your questions ...

What is foot and mouth?

Foot and Mouth disease is an acute infectious viral disease causing fever, followed by the development of vesicles (blisters) chiefly in the mouth and on the feet. It is probably more infectious than any other disease affecting animals and spreads rapidly if uncontrolled. It affects cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, wild and domestic cloven hoofed animals (such as deer) and elephants, hedgehogs and rats are also susceptible.

How is the disease spread?

It can be spread by air, animals, car tyres, and of course climbers and walkers. But the people most likely to spread the disease are those who are in contact with livestock.

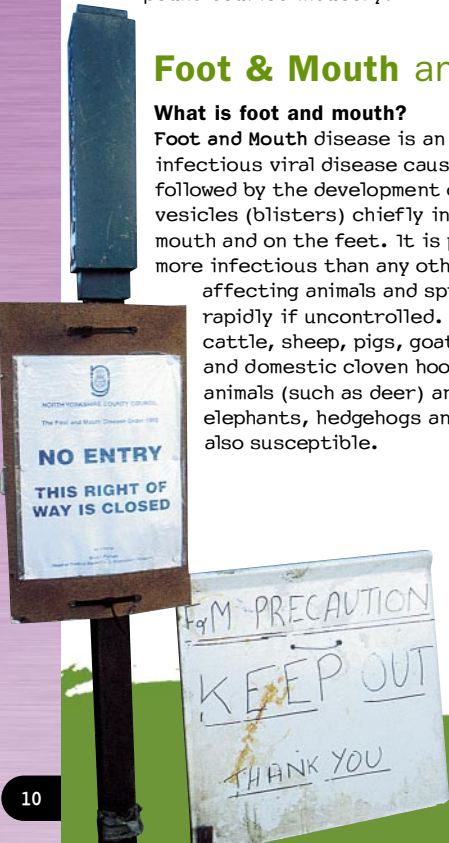
Can I not go anywhere?

There are some places where you can climb or walk at present, but many Local Authorities have made declarations under the Foot & Mouth Disease Order, prohibiting movement in the countryside except on public highways. Contravention of the order can result in a fine of up to £5000.

Is there a list of possible areas to climb?

At www.thebmc.co.uk there is a list of major climbing crags, which are known to be currently open. The list is kept as up-to-date as possible and at the moment the information changes on a daily basis.

[Claire Bond]



NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
The Foot and Mouth Disease Order 2001

NO ENTRY
THIS RIGHT OF
WAY IS CLOSED

F&M PRECAUTION
KEEP OUT
THANK YOU

Sadie & the scene

[An interview with Sadie Renwick by Katie McQuade]

Sadie Renwick is currently lying in a comfortable 3rd place in this years TROLL BICC and recently dropped a place to 4th at the S7 British Bouldering Championships (BBC).

She knew where she went wrong though! She is amongst an ever increasingly strong clan which includes **Jemma Powell**, **Emma Twyford** and **Rosie Shaw**. Emma and Jemma certainly proved their strength in the Edge **Lost Arrow Bouldering League** with an excellent first and third places in the women's event to no doubt surprise Lucy Creamer who seems to be head and shoulders above most of the women at the moment.

Sadie has been climbing for three years since she was twelve. She started at a kids' birthday party at **Alien Rock**, Edinburgh. Her favourite climbing place is 'any where where she has a laugh' but is looking forward to sunshine in **Buoux** in the South of France in the summer.

Buoux is a famous crag that sports many single and multi-pitch pocketed limestone classics such as **Rose de Sable 7a**, **La Jonction 6a+**, **Oscourt 7b+** and for the super fit and strong, **le Minimum 8b** and **Chouca 8a**. Buoux lies a short drive south of the town of Apt, north of Marseille in the South East of France. A car is essential to get the most out of this area. There is a

good train, and coach service but the closest you can get is Avignon to the west, from here it is possible to get a bus to Apt. There is a convenient airport at Nice with flights there from Easyjet.

Climbers like **Neil Gresham**, **Malcolm Smith** and **Ruth Jenkins** spent lots of time there around Easter in the mid 90's. The crag reaches up to 150m, and has over 500 routes covering steep pocketed walls, and utterly desperate sandbag slabs. The rock is a curious glaze of rough limestone over a sandstone base. There are a wide range of 'secteurs' making up the crag, a few of which are banned, but there is scope for an easy day with beginners, as well as many of the hardest sports climbs in the world. There are also other excellent crags near by including **Chateau Verte** and **Orgon Canal**. With a campsite at **Bonnieux** and many **Gites de France** in the vicinity it makes an ideal holiday destination for anyone into hard sports climbing.

Lynn Hill climbed **Orange Mechanique** at nearby **Cimai 8b+** in the early 90's and has gone on to do routes in the mountains including a hard free ascent of the North Face of the **Russian Tower** in Ak-Su valley, Kyrgyzstan. Sadie is inspired by Lynn's all-round ability and also by **Malcolm Smith's** ability to 'climb sick hard problems' – aren't we all?

Sadie is no slouch – she trains 4 times a week and enjoys toast butter and marmalade. Her ambitions are to get bigger muscles and pull harder.

Katie is the Area Youth Co-ordinator for South Scotland and has done a tremendous job helping the young climbers in her area.





Troll British Indoor Climbing Championships Results 2001

Yep, it's that time of year again...

... the time of year that means getting up at 5 in the morning and sitting for hours in freezing cold isolation. The 2001 British Indoor Climbing Championships had begun. The first round was in Liverpool, at **Awesome Walls**, a fairly new wall in a big old church.

Isolation (a place where you go so that you can't see other climbers) opened at 8.00 am, and climbing started at 10.00. I was first out and very nervous but did OK and reached the final. There were only 6 girls this year, which was a little disappointing, compared with 18 boys. In the boys' newcomer **Jamie Cassidy** went through to the final in 2nd place.

When the final came, the boys had to join the men and women on the back wall, which overhangs for what feels like forever (about 12 metres). **Jamie Cassidy** came through to finish 1st and **Stewart Watson** came in 2nd. In the girls' it took a super final to split **Jemma Powell** and **Emma Twyford**, but in the end Jemma won. In the women's, **Karin Magog** finished 1st, just

Next it was The Foundry's turn in Sheffield to host the B.I.C.C.

[we hand over to Graham Desroy]

Round 4, **The Foundry**, Sheffield, 17th March 2001

Nice to be back at the Foundry again decorated by all those nice images of myself, good to see they haven't lost any of their charm ... moving swiftly on to the action ...

In qualifying rounds, only the junior girls running to predicted form. The junior boys had a reachy mean groove exercise – only **Adam Mulholland** out-thought the route setters and snatched a sneaky no hands rest. To add insult to injury he then eliminated 4 nasty moves and topped out. **Paul Smitton** was the only other top out, but by the harder, planned route. The Junior Girls' final took them via the arête onto the edge of the steep headwall. Its slopey holds saw them all off but it was **Sadie Renwick** from north of the

border who put sassenachs in the shade to score her first BICC victory. However, **Jemma's** second place means she is already confirmed as the **Troll BICC 2001** champion.

In the junior boys', first out **Tom Lawrence** had route setters thinking that they'd boo-boo'ed as he cruised up to within a hold of the top. But Tom was on a flier – all the other finalists fell short until **Paul Smitton**, with grim determination, nailed the last move, clipped and took his second outright win this year. The scary, senior women's route offered dire consequences if you failed a crucial clip. Even after reversing into a 'safer' position, **April Marr** took the fall of the series. The rest made the clip to lead them up the arête and into a similar line as the junior girls. **Anne Arran**, **Abigail Egan** and **Alison Martindale** (*groovy shorts*) all fell within a move of each other with Anne just ahead of Abi on count back.

Despite very wobbly moments on the lower arête, and much *ooing* and *ahhhhing* from the crowd, **Lucy Creamer** won by a considerable margin.

The men's route took a direct line up the fierce roof and head-wall with gnarly moves right above the lip before a nasty lead to the top. **Kris Clemmow** was the first to experience the horrors but a fine effort left him fading fast at the top lip. Favourite **Gaz Parry** tried novel clipping positions but never got into the right gear. 'Lil' **Bob** proved that height was no handicap and impressed – all failing eventually at the gnarly moves right. **Adam Dewhurst** despite his best efforts made a good job of the route to finish above Bob, and **Steve McClure** gave the route a good savaging before being blown off the penultimate move. And so to **Biggles aka Chris Cubitt**, who even found time to wave to crowd en route. Chris cruised, stuck the top moves, and topped an impressive route.

beating Alison Martindale with superb performances from both. No one topped the men's final but Gaz Parry finished 1st and Adam Dewhurst came in 2nd.

So that was Liverpool ... the next round was at the **Welsh International Climbing Centre** where **Jungle Hallows** won the boys' (*You should have seen his grin!*) **Jemma** won the girls' (*again!*). **Steve McClure** matched last year and won, Gaz coming 2nd. **Lucy Creamer** won the women's.

Next, to **Bristol** – another church where routes are hard, isolation is cold and it all starts too early! All this didn't put **Paul Smitten** off, he went on to win his first **BICC** this season – in style.

Gaz Parry won again – with his other results he's in a good position to win the series. **Jemma** won again, to no one's surprise, with **Emma** coming in second. As in Wales **Lucy** won the women's and **Karen** came second.

[Rosie Shaw]

Well, it was all go at Leeds ...

The final positions were juggled once again with a few disappointments for some who lost out by a whisker, in particular

Gareth Parry for the men's title and **Emma Twyford** who narrowly lost out to a rapidly improving **Sadie Renwick**.

Senior Women

1 Lucy Creamer	400
2 Karin Magog	311
3 Abigail Egan	265
4 Alison Martindale	255
5 Anne Arran	243
6 April Merr	194
7= Lucinda Hughes	188
Abigail May	188
9 Katy Holden	171
10 Elinor Curry	148

Junior girls

1 Jemma Powell	400
2 Sadie Renwick	310
3 Emma Twyford	305
4 Rosemary Shaw	216
5 Victoria Hurley	208
6 Hazel Duff	200

Senior Men

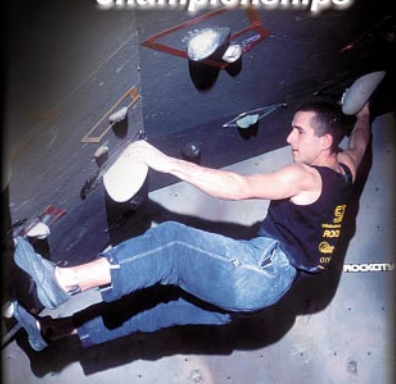
1 Chris Cubitt	335
2 Gareth Parry	327
3 Steve McClure	300
4 Adam Dewhurst	265
5 Kristian Clemmow	221
6 Richard Bingham	198
7 Robert Elliot	196
8 Adrian Baxter	189
9 Guy Dixon	185
10 Roddy Mackenzie	137

Junior boys

1 Jamie Cassidy	360
2 Paul Smitten	327
3 Stewart Watson	275
4 Ian Hollows	253
5 Adam Mulholland	226
6 Tom Lawrence	225
7 Ashley Clarke	210
8 Chris Whiteman	186
9 Aaron Natrass	145
10 Michael Reddie	142

S7

british bouldering championships



at Rockcity, Hull

Top Malcolm Smith cranking!
Above Paul Smitton cutting loose
John Arran

competitive

Malcolm Smith was hardcore strong. Those years of beavering away in his attic in Scotland certainly came off. *For all those of you who doubt this watch the Slackjaw Film short of Malcolm doing his hardest problem on a sick, steep board. Awesome!*

He entered what could have been a lacklustre comp and made it sparkle. Thoughts of how are you holding that hold and surely not spring to mind. After completing the hardest problem in the final I heard routesetter extraordinaire **Mr Vickers** say 'do you want to know how to do it the easy way?' Malcolm smiled and listened; it was good to see these tips being passed around. I went on a route-setting course with **Graeme Alderson** and subsequently came 2nd in the Foundry BICC, my best position of the series. It must have been good training, no seriously it probably was because it helped me to consider using the holds in all sorts of ways you wouldn't normally have the presence of mind to do on a route unless you lie in the natural whiz category of **Lucy** or **Jemma**.

A now familiar format saw climbers attempt twelve allotted problems at their leisure, collecting points for each top-out or bonus hold reached. The climbing in all categories was tough, with many problems going unclimbed. Full marks for quality though, as diverse and genuinely creative moves peppered the walls on all sides. **Gareth Parry** looked very strong in the final, pulling out all the stops to top three problems. Malcolm proceeded to dispatch all five, all on-sight save for one fall on the last when victory was in the bag.

I've rarely seen Malcolm so fired up (apart from last years S7 comp and the year before's!!) and rarely seen anyone anywhere boulder as well and as powerfully as he that day. It was magnificent.

Come the finals and **Emma Twyford** demonstrated great poise and technical ability on vertical problems, landing the Girls' title. **Rosie Shaw** finished a well-earned and no doubt confidence-boosting third place. It was good to see some new faces in the qualifiers like **Lucy Turner**, **Francesca Delvin** and **Lucy Griffiths** all from Sheffield giving it a go with serious determination.

Paul Smitton and **Jamie Cassidy** looked very strong and were fighting hard for success. The title eventually went to Paul but there was little to choose between them. Third placed finisher was **Jack Rowlands**, a name we may hear a lot more of in future and was apparently his first ever competition!

Lucy climbed tenaciously as usual to secure the title with **Claire** threatening to zip past on the final steep boulder problem but was faced with an unfeasible slap to finish second and **Katherine Schirmmacher** was very close behind in third. The nightlife of Hull was on offer afterwards but we made an escape to experience the somewhat limited outdoor options on Sunday.

[Anne Arran]

Want to try these events?

Why not enter BRYCS ...
try one round if you are not sure ...
it's fun!

competitive



Senior Men

- 1 Malcolm Smith
2 Gareth Parry
3 Nick Sellars
4 Tom Sugden
5 Neil Bentley
6 Neil Travers
7 Ian Bitcon
8 Stuart Littlefair
9 Mark Croxall
10 Justin Plumtree

Senior Women

- 1 Lucy Creamer
2 Claire Murphy
3 Katherine Schirrmacher
4 Jo Gordon
5 Alison Martindale
6 Rachel Seymour
7 Lucy Atkinson
8 Lucy Hughes
9 Anne Arran
9 Rosie Taylor

Junior Male

- 1 Paul Smitton
2 Jamie Cassidy
3 Jack Rowlands
4 Stewart Watson
5 Tom Lawrence
6 Ashley Clarke
7 Chris Whiteman
8 Mark McQuade
9 Glenn Wilson
10 Todd Cuthbertson

Junior Female

- 1 Emma Twyford
2 Jemma Powell
3 Rosie Shaw
4 Sadie Renwick
5 Lucy Alice Griffiths
6 Lucy Turner
7 Helen Crowther
8 Francesa Delvin
9 Laura Preston

BMC Youth Membership - what you get:

- The gripped? magazine All the news, information and gossip from the world of young climbers including up and coming competitions, approximately 4 times per year.
Exclusive gripped? members' events - Last year Plas y Brenin and others hosted a range of BMC gripped? events and a series of short drop in sessions on a variety of climbing and mountaineering related topics. Look out for regional youth meets near you.
Discounts on BMC Publications Discounts on BMC events including competitions like the 2001 British Regional Youth Competition Climbing series, festivals and Next Step training weekends visit our new shop on www.thebmc.co.uk
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How to Join

To become a member of Gripped? you should be under 18 and have a keen interest in climbing, mountaineering or hillwalking. Just fill in the slip below and send a cheque, payable to British Mountaineering Council to the address below.

British Mountaineering Council 177-179 Burton Road, Manchester M20 2BB

Name
Address
Post Code
Tel: (.....) Date of Birth / /

I confirm that I am the parent/guardian of the above named person and consent for them to become a junior member of the British Mountaineering Council. I also confirm that I am aware that climbing and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death.

Parent/Guardian's Signature:

Name: Date of Birth / /



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