

Inaugural Stag Committee Meeting

The purpose of the meeting was to initiate the arrangements for the forthcoming stag doo to commiserate the loss of the Bachelorhood of Mr E. Ridge due to his impending nuptials. The meeting took place at Ponkies in Freckleton on Thursday 2nd February 1995.

Present :

Mr E. Ridge - impending groom (stag) & Chairman/minute taker
Mr S. Eagles
Mr A. Senior
Mr V. Hind

Apologies :

Mr B. Morris
Mr S. Hunt - caught the wrong plane back from Germany
Mr A. Powney - lost somewhere in the south of England

Note : Mr E. Ridge apologised for being late (which all agreed was totally out of character) and promptly blamed his work obligations.

1. It was agreed that the chosen bride was, on the whole, acceptable to the committee. It was agreed that the bride would be fully acceptable pending an improvement in her curry/chilli making. It was felt that a bit more spice was required. A tasting session for the committee is to be arranged. - ACTION E. Ridge.

A further question was raised by Mr Eagles concerning the gleam on the finish of the back step. Mr Ridge pointed out that this was not a viable point as neither the bride nor the grooms abode had a back step. However, the brides cleaning ability was considered to be acceptable to the groom.

No mention was made of the sexual acceptability of the bride as clearly the proposed bride and groom live at separate addresses and are not yet married.

2. Mr E. Ridge proposed that the wedding date should be 15th April 1995. This was agreed by all.
3. Mr E. Ridge proposed that the wedding venue should be St. Nicholas Church, Wrea Green. This was carried by the committee.
4. Mr E. Ridge proposed that the Best Man should be Mr A. Powney and that Mr S. Hunt, Mr V. Hind and Mr S. Ridge should act as ushers. This was carried by the committee.
5. Some consideration was then given to the date of the impending stag doo. The 1st of April was not acceptable to some members of the committee (they felt that we would be fools to have it on such a day!) and it was therefore ruled out. The 8th April was proposed and agreed by all at the meeting.

Post meeting note - upon reflection it may not be possible for people travelling from afar to make the journey on successive weekends. March 25th is therefore proposed as an alternative date.

6. Tradition dictates that (Fat Belly Gut Bucket) stag doos take place in the Lake District and that the customary accomodation consists of a tent (some with holes in them burnt through by exhausts and some without). However due to the climate during March/April in the Lakes, and the advancing years of the participants, the venue and accomodation were questioned by the committee. The committee felt that feather beds and a large log fire in a plush hotel would have to be regretablely ruled out on the grounds that everybody

is skint!

Two possible alternatives were forthcoming from the meeting. Both involved accommodation in a large barn with primitive facilities and camp beds/ mattresses. The first alternative was Eagle Quest outside Keswick. Mr Senior was actioned to investigate suitability, availability, cost etc prior to the next meeting. The second alternative was a place near Hope in Derbyshire. Mr Hunt was actioned, in his absence, to investigate as above. - ACTION Mr Senior & Mr Hunt.

7. Various activities for the weekend were discussed as follows (discussion about any possible stag doe was of course strictly off the record!) :-

Go-carting and paintballing were ruled out again due to everyone being skint!
Pot holing, rock climbing etc were ruled out on grounds of cowardice by the committee.

Walking or mountain biking were the only acceptable options forthcoming.

Note: An attempt at the three peaks was suggested for Friday. The chairman could only assume that this was in order that a failed three peaks might be achieved.

8. Possible themes for the Saturday evening were then discussed at length. The discussion is summarised below.

Pilsbury Doughmen, Chefs & Star Trek were mentioned as is traditional. The Life of Brian was also mentioned, as is traditional, and ruled out as not having a theme, as traditional!

Traffic Wardens, Lolly Pop Ladies & Bag Ladies were all proposed by Mr Eagles and were ruled out as just an excuse on his part to dress up in womens underwear.

Nuns & Monks were ruled out as having been done. This also goes for Blues Brothers, Vikings & white boiler suits.

Ballerinas & synchronised swimmers were also proposed (again by Mr Eagles?) and were rejected due to the cold weather.

Lumber Jacks were proposed (possibly by Mr Eagles again!) and were ruled out for being too butch.

Train Spotters was proposed together with a libelous allegation against the Chairman to do with his having some previous experience in this pursuit. The Chairman would like it stated on the record that he does not know what a Class 47 is and that he will see any such libellers in court, unless they can come up with some actual evidence!

Scousers & Jimmy Saville were proposed and are considered strong runners.
Max Wall & Onion Sellers were also mentioned.

All committee members are actioned to give this further thought. - ACTION All.

9. Provisions for the outing were then discussed. The traditional barrel of Bods was ruled out in favour of the more 1990's crates of draught flow Bods. Mr Eagles was actioned to investigate plastic pint pots. Mr Hind mentioned sticky buns and therefore obtained the action to find a possible source of buns to rival those of the legendary Brian.
- ACTION Mr Eagles & Mr Hind.

10. The next meeting is arranged for 18:15 on 16th February at the same location.

11. AOB. The 'Men night' is likely to be on 1st April at The Viking in Blackpool. Any-body wearing trousers is warned to stay well away from this vicinity between the hours of about eight o'clock and the early to mid morning of the following day or risk death through sexual exhaustion!

2nd Stag Committee Meeting

The purpose of the meeting was to further the arrangements for the forthcoming stag doo to commiserate the loss of the Bachelorhood of Mr E. Ridge due to his impending nuptials. The meeting took place at Ponkies in Freckleton on Thursday 16th February 1995.

Present :

Mr E. Ridge - impending groom (stag) & Chairman/minute taker
Mr S. Eagles
Mr B. Morris
Mr V. Hind

Apologies :

Mr A. Senior - Car hunting in Skem.
Mr S. Hunt - caught the wrong plane back from Germany again!
Mr A. Powney - regained communication but whereabouts still unclear

Note : Mr E. Ridge didn't apologise as he was only marginally late.

Note 2: In a break with tradition there will be no mention of the word 'tradition' in these minutes.

1. Outstanding actions.

Chilli Tasting.

No tasting session has yet been arranged for the committee. Action continues - ACTION E. Ridge.

Stag Date.

25th March was proposed by Mr Ridge as the stag date and ignoring all protests carried it unanimously himself.

Stag Venue.

Gob smackingly !! Mr Hunt completed his action to provide information on the Pinedale Farm Outdoor Centre! (This would be a first for Mr Hunt and the Committee suspect that it was in fact Mrs Hunt who actually did all the work). The details were faxed to the Chairman prior to the meeting and were distributed for the Committees perusal. The details are attached.

Several points in favour of this venue are that Mr Eagles knows the Landlords of two pubs in Castleton thus guaranteeing a lock in! Its amazing how far Mr Eagles drinking prowess does stretch. Mr Eagles guarantees that Castleton is a very quaint town (even Southerners will be tolerated) with about eight pubs (ideal for a crawl) and that everyone who wants to cop off will do so! (for money back guarantee see Mr Eagles).

On a slight down side there is no curry house.

Less gob smackingly, Mr Senior failed to complete his action prior to the meeting. The Eagle Quest at Keswick remains a strong contender. ACTION Mr Senior.

Since the last meeting a third option has come to light in the Langdales. Further details are being sought. ACTION Mr Ridge.

A vote on the venue will be taken at the next meeting.

Essential Provisions.

It has proved impossible to track down Brian 'the sticky bun man' and an alternative must be found. Mr Hind suggested Morrisons and this was heartily backed by Mr Ridge who has considerable experience from the Cockpit Group of their sticky doughnuts.

At this point Mr Eagles proposed himself as the Sticky Bun Security Officer and was promptly voted in, although not unanimously as some Committee members remembered the last time Mr Eagles looked after the sticky buns when they mysteriously disappeared. Mr Eagles was the first back to the camp site that night but could not account for the whereabouts of the buns as his mouth was strangely malfunctioning and there were smears of jam and sugar all around his face! It was therefore proposed that a lockable box be found requiring at least two keys.

The finance for the provisions is yet to be decided but it may be £5 ahead for boddys and buns.

2. The morning after Yellow Van breakfast has had to be cancelled this year as it has changed hands and some very reliable sources have stated 'its crap'. Possible alternatives are being sought. The Keswick Climbers Cafe was one forthcoming. Mr Senior is actioned to speak to his HGV mate. - ACTION Mr Senior.

The meeting was temporarily adjourned at this point for more beer.

3. At this point a late fax from a Mr A. Powney was tabled. The details are attached. For Mr Powneys benefit I would like to state that 'Ponkies' is actually the Coach & Horses although this did raise the question of why it is so called. Mr Eagles was actioned to ask the Landlord, with whom he is unsurprisingly acquainted!

On Mr Powneys other points - As already stated an alternative to the Yellow Van is being sought. Mr Ridge is progressing the booking of a round of golf on the wedding morning. The final point has been censored from the minutes.

4. Some discussion of the 3 peaks broke out and Mr Ridge stated that it was irrelevant whether it took place or not. Mr Hind raised pot holing again and was slapped! Mountain Bikes require investigating. ACTION Mr Eagles for Derbyshire and Mr Senior for Keswick.
5. The theme was again discussed at length.

French onion sellers is proving popular - beret, tache, string of onions, blue/white hooped t-shirt.

Star Trek is still an option.

Max Wall ruled out as some Committee members didn't know who he was!
Pilsbury Dough Men and Chefs were ruled out as too expensive.

At this point a very sad Mr Morris suggested East 17 and was nearly barred from the meeting.

Train spotters is popular - anorak, thick glasses (with plaster), satchel across shoulder, greasy hair, John Major voice. A draw back might be that everyone will have to act shy and not talk to anybody else unless about trains.

Scousers was ruled out as not original.

Jimmy Saville is probably too expensive.

A vote will be taken at the next meeting. Postal votes will be accepted.

6. The next meeting is arranged for 18:15 on 2nd March at the same location.

To: Mr Edmund Ridge
Fax: 01772 858104

From: Mr A Powney
Fax: 0491 573903

Fat Belly Gut Bucket Stag Doo: Meeting 16/2/95

Sorry I can't make it tonight, but I am still lost in the south of England!

I did receive the minutes from the first meeting and must say found them hugely amusing. However, after reading them one or two questions do beg to be asked. Firstly, as is tradition, why was the meeting not held at what was the traditional venue when I was last involved in Stag Doo organisation process, namely the Coach & Horses in Freck? If the venue for subsequent meetings is not to revert to the C & H can the committee make assurances that the quality of the Boddingtons is satisfactory. I think a serious tasting with little fingers raised and vote might be in order.

I am in full agreement with the proposal for draught flow thingy cans of Boddingtons for the Stag Doo, and do not mind if we break with tradition and head to Derbyshire. I have one concern and that is that it is a long way back to the lakes to the Yellow van for brekfast on the Sunday morning. Can alternative arrangements be investigated? The idea of French Onion Sellers going mountain biking also appeals.

This next point may not be appropriate for discussion at a Stag Doo meeting, however, in my absence I would also like to nominate Mr Ridge for arranging a round of golf on the morning of the wedding. Could a tee be booked in advance, say 8.30-9.00AM and if possible could we play one of the better courses on the Fylde (Poulton-le-Fylde will not be acceptable!) Alternatively, if the inevitable "failed" attempt to do the Three Peaks is not progressed on Good Friday then the golf could take place then instead.

Yours with a fat belly



Andy Powney

Final Stag Committee Meeting

This was the last meeting at which to finalise the arrangements for the forthcoming stag doo to commiserate the loss of the Bachelorhood of Mr E. Ridge due to his impending nuptials. The meeting took place at Ponkies in Freckleton on Thursday 9th March 1995.

Present :

Mr E. Ridge - impending groom (stag) & Chairman/minute taker
Mr S. Eagles
Mr V. Hind

Apologies :

Mr A. Senior - yodelling in the Austrian Alps (allegedly!).
Mr S. Hunt - failed to catch any plane back from Germany.
Mr A. Powney - still in exile in the South of England.
Mr B. Morris - was attending an alternate wedding.

1. Outstanding actions.

Stag Venue.

The proposed vote on the stag venue was made some what redundant by the fact that the Eagles Quest the Pinedale Farm and a similar place at Langdale were all fully booked for the proposed weekend (and any other suitable weekend). This left the Dub-cote Barn at Horton-in-Ribblesdale in the Yorkshire Dales as the only viable option. This was promptly booked for 14 people on the 24th and 25th of March. See details attached.

It is likely that accomodation will be required for more than 14 people (Latest estimate is for about 20). Camping and B&B are both available in the village. Alternative arrangements will be made once the exact number of attendees are known (Comfy B&B will be provided for southern poofs especially large bearded cockneys!) In the mean time it was suggested by the Committee that Mr Senior (in his absence) and Mr Ryder were extremely (no pun intended) hardy chaps and might prefer to camp. The Chairman would like to state in the minutes that this was not suggested by him.

All attendees are requested to bring a sleeping bag.

2. The Chairman together with his now fully sanctioned Bride-to-be went on a recon mission to the Yorkshire Dales on 5th March. There are two pubs in Horton which is about 1/2 mile from the Bunk House. However the two pubs are about a mile apart! Friday night is likely to take place in one or both of these. Settle was slightly disappointing as it only contains 3 or 4 pubs. More pleasing was that it has a Tandoori (pointed out by the fully sanctioned bride-to-be).
3. Eight mountain bikes have been booked from Studfold at Horton for Saturday afternoons entertainment. Two womens bikes are also available if required. This is not going to be enough and another source is required. Mr Hunt recommended that a football was taken - he is actioned to provide such.
4. The activities for Friday are still in dispute. Mr Eagles is still harping on about the 3-peaks on the Friday. This would mean starting from Horton at 7am!! Mr Hind is not able to participate as he doesn't 'wear the trousers' in his household!

Small beers are to take place in Horton on the Friday night at the Golden Lion.... Everyone travelling up Friday evening can meet here. (Its the first of the two pubs in Horton on the left as you drive in to the village). Mr Eagles requested that 'small beers' be defined. The committee decided that this constituted anything other than Blastaways

or any other whacky beers. (There will be no yodelling belches!).

5. Transport - make you're own bloody way!

Taxis have been organised to Settle (and back) on the Saturday night.

6. A map of how to get to the Bunkhouse from Settle is attached.

7. Mr Eagles is to provide beer and buns.

8. Before the long awaited vote was taken on the dress theme for the Saturday night Mr.Ridge demonstrated his French Onion Sellers costume. This was well received by the committee. No rival costumes were forthcoming. The results of the vote were as follows:-

	Committee	By proxy	Total
Star Trek	0	0	0
Train Spotters	0	0	0
French Onion Sellers	3	2	5

After several recounts, it became clear that we had a winner.

All attendees are requested to bring a suitably 'gaelic' hooped shirt. The rest of the costume is to be provided by Mr Ridge. Attendees are also requested to bring their own BO and to eat plenty of garlic the night before (no brushing of teeth please!). Oh, and bring your own silly accent aswell.

Mr Ridge is actioned to bring a thick black marker pen, to provide those special little taches, and song sheets for Alouette and Ooh Ahh Cantona.

9. Mr Eagles failed in his action to find out why Ponkies is so called.

10. The plan for the Sunday is - be ill, have a greasy fry-up, be ill, go to the Snooty Fox (Kirby Lonsdale) for lunch, be ill, drive home, be ill.