

avoid attracting their attention and carried rifles to protect against attack. However, musk ox are widespread throughout North East Greenland; these large herbivores were abundant in the Grejsdalen Valley.

During July the region has continuous sunlight and is dominated by relatively stable high-pressure systems, though occasional storms did occur. Temperatures ranged from -10°C at night to +10°C during the day. The Danish Geod-tisk Institut produces the best mapping, at a scale of 1:250,000 with a contour interval of 50m; two map sheets cover the region.

It took 45 minutes to fly from Mestersvig to Andrees Land in a privately chartered Twin Otter, arranged through Air Iceland. This carried all expedition personnel, equipment, and freight, and constituted the bulk of our flight costs from the U.K. We established base camp in the Grejsdalen at N 73°35'22.6", W 26°01'23.1" and an altitude of 468m.

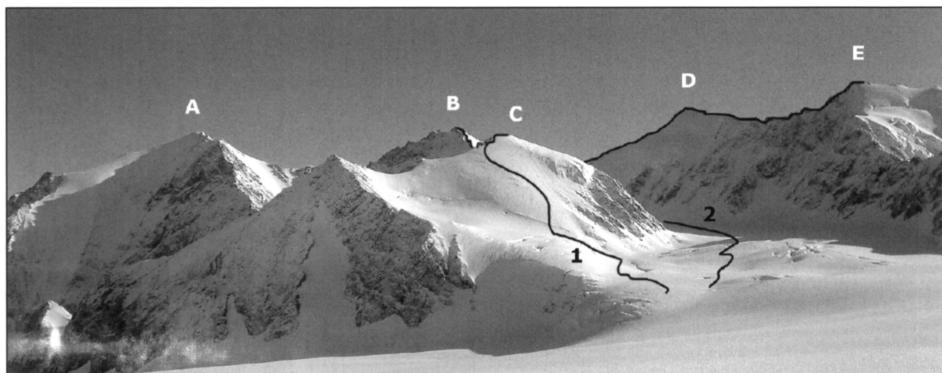
To single out a few of our first ascents, on July 11 we climbed Dionysus (2,180m) from the Monte Bello Glacier via the east ridge, 500m of good ice on the north face, finishing on the west ridge. It was a 15-hour day, at an alpine grade of AD. On the 15th we climbed Jacobis Bjerg (2,188m) via the south ridge. This involved first climbing 2,162m Idwal Tooth, a large tower on the ridge that we climbed via a wide central chimney (AD). The continuation to the summit of Jacobis Bjerg involved numerous gendarmes. The grade was again AD, and we descended by the northwest ridge. On the 22nd we climbed Lizard Peak (1,404m) via the north ridge—Golden Sunlight Buttress (AD). Once on the crest, we climbed a three-pitch pillar at British V Diff, after which easy scrambling led to the summit. The following day we climbed a rock spur to the left of the Lizard; Reptile Rib (D) gave 11 pitches on good granite, with two crux pitches of British VS 4c. On the 28th we returned to the Lizard to add The Fabulous Bikini Boys, a seven-pitch rock route with a fourth-pitch crux of British HVS 5a.

Despite the numerous ascents, our expedition only scratched the surface of mountaineering objectives in Andrees Land. During the flight out we noted that the area to the south and east of the Monte Bello Glacier contained a number of interesting looking peaks, some of which appeared to be guarded by multiple rocky gendarmes. There is a fork in the western end of the Grejsdalen; we did not explore the southerly branch, though we could see it during the ascent of an unnamed 1,948m summit close to Stenmanden (1,970m). It is extremely steep-sided and has the potential for significant mountaineering challenges. To the north and west of the Grejsdalen are numerous steep-sided peaks, a large lake, a further large valley (Eremitdal), and an area marked on the map as unexplored.

SAM MARSHALL, Army Mountaineering Association, U.K.

*Central Stauning Alps, various first ascents.* Laubie Laubscher, Mark Litterick, Ken Moore, Stephen O'Sullivan, Heike Puchan-Whitworth, Brian Shackleton, Brian Whitworth, and I comprised the Scottish Mountaineering Club expedition to Scoresby Land in North East Greenland National Park. We departed the U.K. on April 29 and were flown by a ski-equipped Twin Otter from a very warm Akureyri in Iceland on the 30th. Traveling via Constable Point to collect fuel and freight, we arrived at base camp early that afternoon, making an exciting landing on the huge Lang Glacier (Stor Gletscher on some maps) at 1,390m (N 71°59'43", W 24°48'44.2"). The nose wheel and skid buried themselves in the soft snow, so we disembarked from a jaunty-angled fuselage and were handed shovels for the excavation needed to free the plane.

On May 1 we climbed our first new peaks; Drumglas Beag (2,060m) via the north face



Looking more or less south from the upper Lang Glacier into the lower Wuss Glacier (right). (A) Margeretabjerge (2,430m). (B) Drumglas (2,330m). (C) Drumglas Beag (2,060m). (D) Cordulaspids (2,430m). (E) Jobjerge (2,330m). (1) North face of Drumglas Beag connecting to the north ridge (Biancograt) of Drumglas. (2) East ridge of Cordulaspids via the north face (250m, 60°) of Lola col (hidden) leading to the southeast ridge of Jobjerge. All five peaks were climbed by the 2007 SMC expedition. Colwyn Jones

from the Lang Glacier at AD+, and the main peak of Drumglas (2,330m, N 71°58'41.5", W 24°52'49.5") via the north ridge at AD and descent of the west ridge. Snow and low cloud restricted activity from the 2nd to the 4th, but during this period four members did a 12-hour ski tour to dump half the food and fuel at Crescent Col, which they could reach avoiding avalanche-prone slopes. This cache was strategically placed for the return ski journey to the coast.

On the 5th we climbed a consolation peak close to camp on the west side of Lang Glacier, at F+, naming it Mollytinde (1,670m, N 71°59'21.1", W 24°50'47"). Next day we made ascents of Cordulaspitze, (2,430m, N 71°58'41.9", W 24°54'28.1"), via the north face (AD) and east ridge from the Wuss Glacier, and of Jobjerg (2,330m, N 71°59'0.3", W 24°55'17.1") via its southwest ridge at AD. This crest is the continuation of Cordulaspitze's north ridge. We also climbed Juliasbjerge (2,058m, N 71°59'35.8", W 24°55'16.6") via its south ridge, approaching up a couloir on the west flank.

On the 7th we climbed Puchwhitstinde (2,339m, N 72°00'38.8", W 24°45'39.1") and Hasentinde (2,376m, N 72°01'24.5", W 24°47'08.4"), on the east side of the Lang glacier. We reached the col between the peaks, then climbed the north flank of Puchwhitstinde and the south ridge—Igel (Hedgehog) ridge—of Hasentinde. The following day a party repeated Puchwhitstinde, this time via the newly explored O'Sullivan-Moore Glacier and a couloir on the south face (Snowbunting Couloir, AD). That same day the dominant, shapely Margretabjerge (2,430m, N 71°58'34.7", W 24°50'58.0") was climbed by two different routes: the southeast flank and southwest ridge at PD and the southeast-facing Presidential Couloir (AD with an exciting exit from the previously unnamed Witches' Cauldron Glacier).

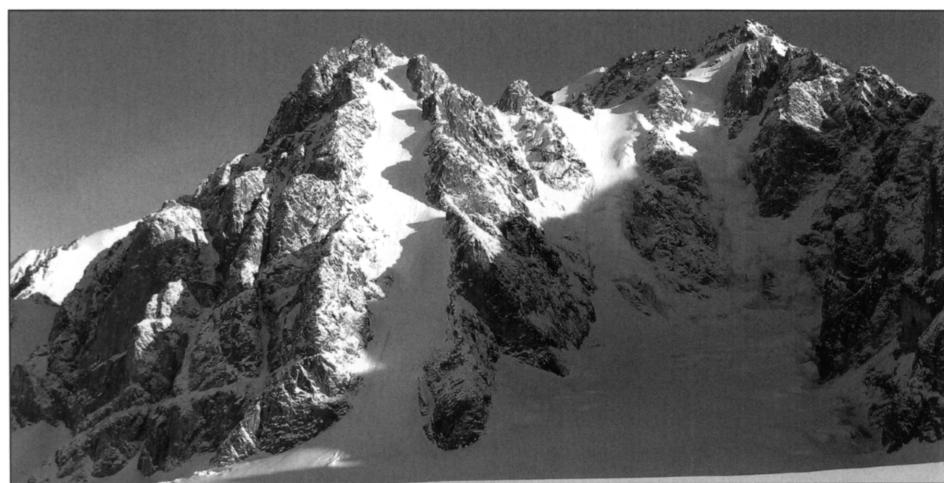
On the 10th we crossed Crescent Col and relocated base camp in the upper reaches of the Gully Glacier, which lies in the real heart of the Staunings Alps. On our way we climbed Skartinde, to the east of Crescent Col. We ascended this 2,400m peak via the easy northwest flank (F). We believe the peak was first climbed in 1996 by a Norwegian expedition, but we think our ascent may have been only the second. The following day we climbed Himmelstinde (Heaven's Peak, 2,492m, N 72°04'51.8", W 25°05'22.5") via the south ridge (AD) and the col between it and adjacent Archangel Peak. On the 12th we retraced our steps to the col and made

the first ascent of 2,558m Archangel (N 72°04'31.5", W 25°05'23.5"), following the east ridge at D+. We descended onto the glacier to the west; finding it very crevassed, we named it Devil's Own Glacier, and were forced to re-ascend to the summit and go back down our ascent route. That same day members of the expedition climbed Cold Shoulder (2,450m) by the west ridge (PD). This point lies on the west ridge of C.F. Knoxtinde. We also climbed the shapely Hjorne-spids (2,870m) by a new route, the 600m Laubscher-Litterick Gully on the southwest flank at a grade of D. We believe this to be the sixth overall ascent and fourth independent route on the peak.

Farther east we climbed An Caisteal (2,614m, N 72°03'31.9", W 24°59'52.6") by a face and gully on the east flank, then up north ridge at a grade of D/TD-. We climbed two other peaks on May 15th: Crescentinde (2,455m, N 72°03'38.0", W 24°57'15.0") via the northeast face at PD, and Ebensbjerg (2,510m, N 72°03'34.9", W 24°58'05.8") by its northeast face at AD. We think our route on Crescentinde is probably new, though the peak may have been climbed by the 1996 Norwegian team. Three members also made the probable third ascent of Skartinde, repeating the route of May 10.

On the 16th we moved our base camp to a stunning location at the top of Col Major and next day climbed the only true rock routes of the trip: the already established south ridge (British Mild VS) on Ian's Peak (2,607m, N 72°07'13.3", W 24°55'01.3") and a new variant to the ridge that we named Accessory Rib (British VS 4c). Our ascent of the original route on the south ridge is most likely the second, the first dating from 1960.

Moving down enormous Bersaerkerbrae Glacier on the 20th, we made the first ascent of Skotsketinde (Scotland's Peak (1,775m, N 72°07'36.6", W 24°45'20.4"), via the east ridge at PD+, and a summit noted on the map as Panoramic Peak. We climbed the latter, the most shapely of the surrounding peaks, via an avalanche-prone couloir on the southeast flank and the shattered south ridge to the summit pinnacles (PD+). We found a cairn on the lower pinnacle and constructed another on the higher. Altimeters showed 1,988m, considerably higher than given on the map. The following day we skied down the glacier and made a safe exit from the



One of many unclimbed peaks on the south side of Mål glacier, which flows east into the Lang (Stor) Glacier in the Stauning Alps. Colwyn Jones

snout. On the 22nd and 23rd we continued skiing to the coastal plain and over sea ice to the gravel airstrip at Mestersvig, where we were collected on the 25th. Apart from snow and poor visibility from the 2nd to 4th and again on the ski out from the Bersaerkerbrae, the weather was sunny and cold. Superficial frostbite was diagnosed in three members of the team. However, the expedition was very successful, climbing 16 new peaks and naming four new glaciers. All coordinates are GPS readings.

Of note is that three of our five MSR stoves did not work properly with Jet A1 fuel. These were the Whisperlite 600, a Whisperlite International, and a Dragonfly and cannot be recommended with this fuel, despite our carrying a full complement of different jets. Fortunately, two older MSR GSK II stoves worked very well. The expedition gratefully acknowledges the financial support received from the Mount Everest Foundation, the Gino Watkins Trust, The Mountaineering Council of Scotland, and SportScotland.

COLWYN JONES, Scottish Mountaineering Club

*South Liverpool Land, Kronen northeast pillar (not to summit); Peak 800, south face to southeast ridge, first ascent.* Climbing solo my goal was to make first ascents of mixed faces, ridges, and buttresses in the southern part of Liverpool Land, a little north of Scoresby Sund (often described as the largest fjord system in the world). The rock is friable and rotten, so although parties have traveled through it during the summer, and parts of Liverpool Land have been visited during the winter and spring for ski mountaineering (see AAJ 2005), little climbing has been achieved.

I was taken from the village of Ittoqqortoormiit, which has around 600 inhabitants, by a young Inuit hunter, Esajas Arqe, and his 10 dogs. On the sled we had all our provisions, camping and climbing equipment, plus a rifle to guard against polar bears. There was much fresh snow, which made it difficult for the dogs, particularly as we approached the mountains and the terrain became steeper. We only traveled 13–15km northwest from the village, but once at our destination it felt remote and isolated. Esajas stayed while I went climbing.

I went in April. May would probably be alright too for mixed climbs but June and July too warm. The temperature in the mountains was often -6 to -10°C dropping to -15 to -20°C during the night. On some days there were strong winds. Between the 13th and 23rd I made two climbs. The first was on the northeast pillar of Kronen (1,140m), which gave 50–60° snow/ice, UIAA IV rock and mixed climbing up to M3. I stopped on the top of the pillar after 500m and descended the way I had come, leaving one piton in place. The route, which I named Arctic Passion, starts from near the head of the Nissedal Valley.

The second climb was the south face and southeast ridge of unnamed Peak 800m, which is directly south of Kronen and northeast of the Tvaedal Valley. I climbed the middle of the south face for 350m, then trended right to the southeast ridge, where I followed the rocky crest to the summit. The total vertical gain was 500m and the difficulties UIAA IV+ M3 and 45–65° snow/ice. I left one piton in place at the end of the traverse. I called the route Light and Loneliness. From the summit I downclimbed the east face over 45° snow, ice and, rocky sections. I found no evidence of previous climbers during my visit but didn't feel there was much scope in this area for worthwhile mixed climbing, nor for routes much harder than I did.

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