



# Kichatna 2003 Expedition report

North Wales Team Stuart McAleese Mike Turner Olly Sanders

+ ++5

# **PHOTOS**

In presentation order:

An avalanche pours down a big wall in the Kichatnas, after a 3 day storm. Taken after our ascent, the mountain is opposite the Citadel, we believe there is a route on the wall and that the mountain is called The Cardinal.

The Citadel

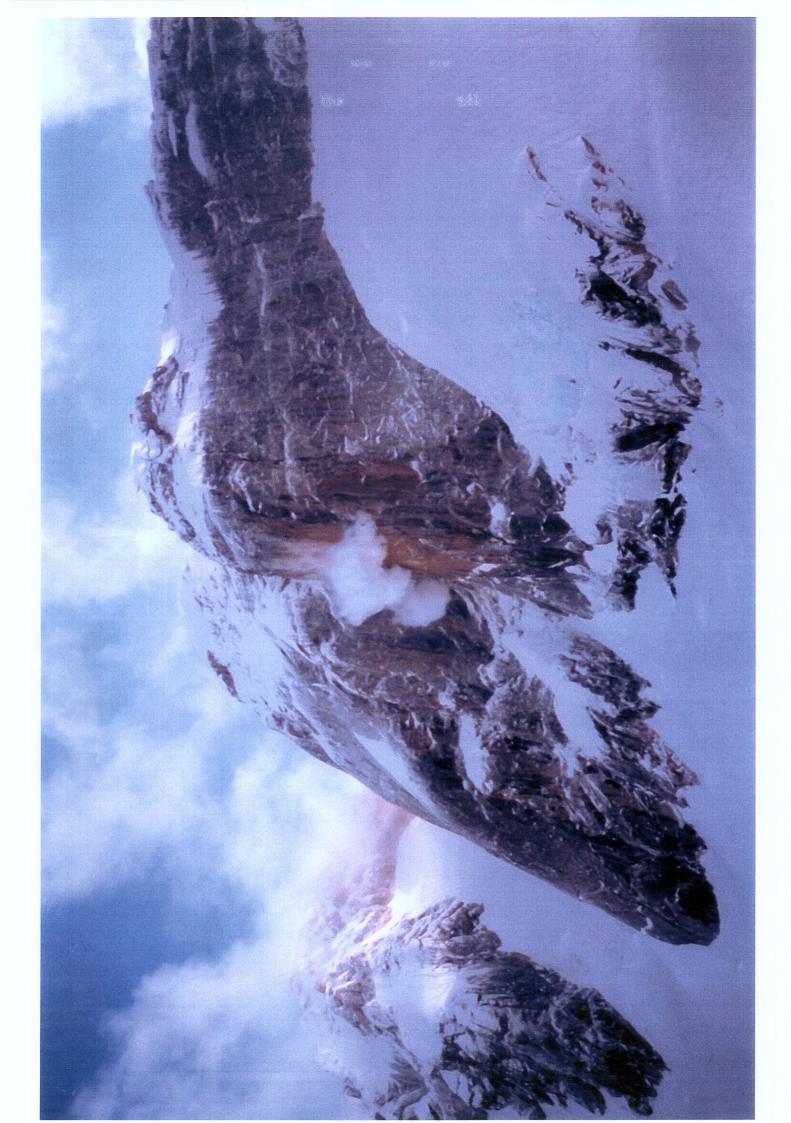
The Supa Dupa Couloir in the centre between the two pillars.

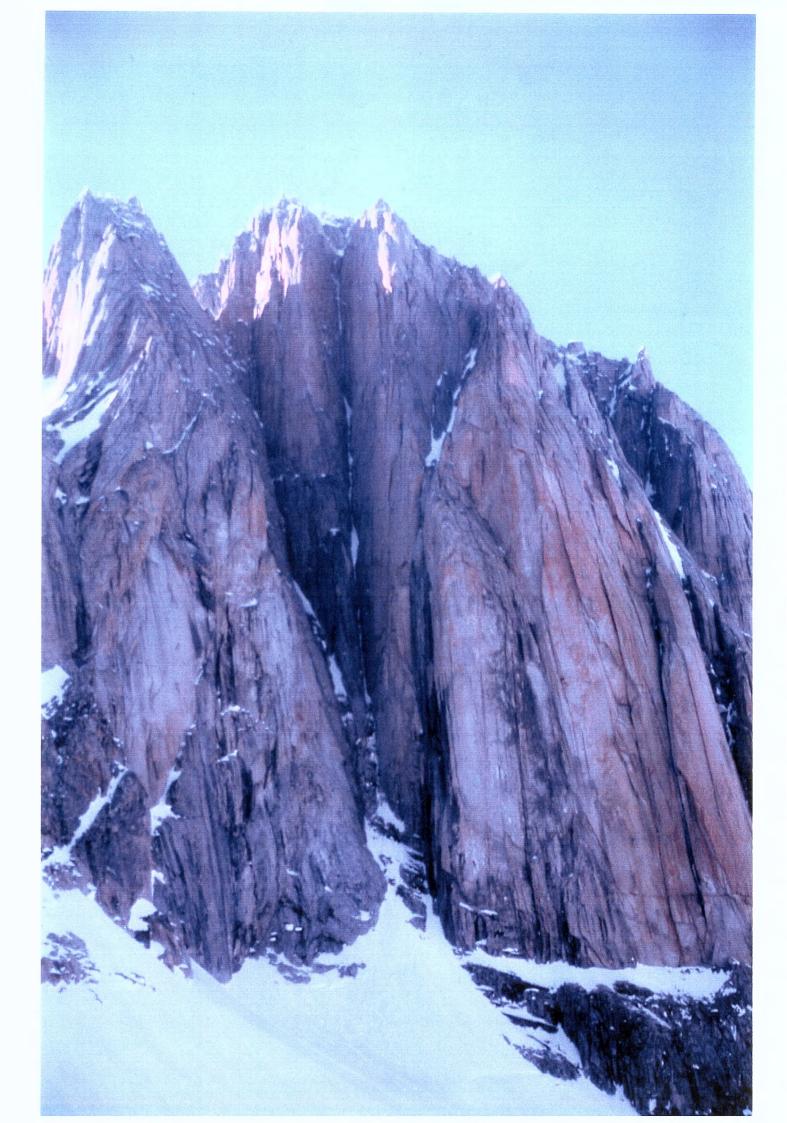
Steep ice

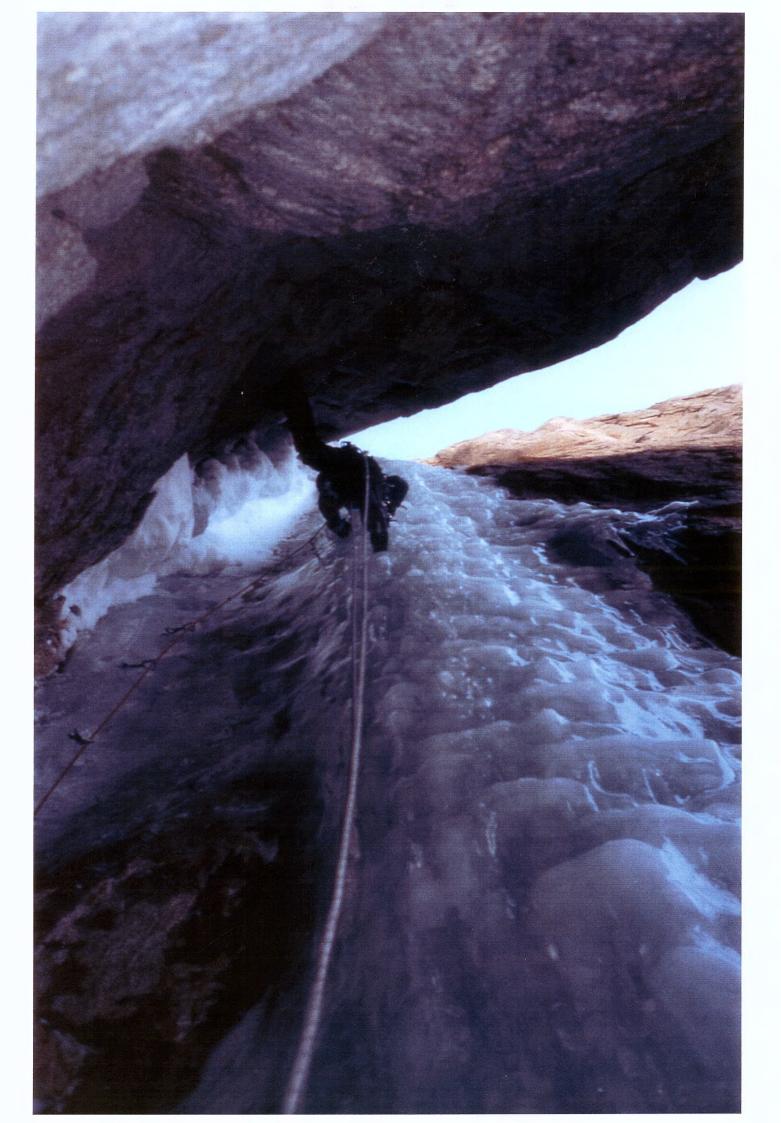
The gully was mostly arms width all the way. Mike Turner seen here leading one of the harder pitches.

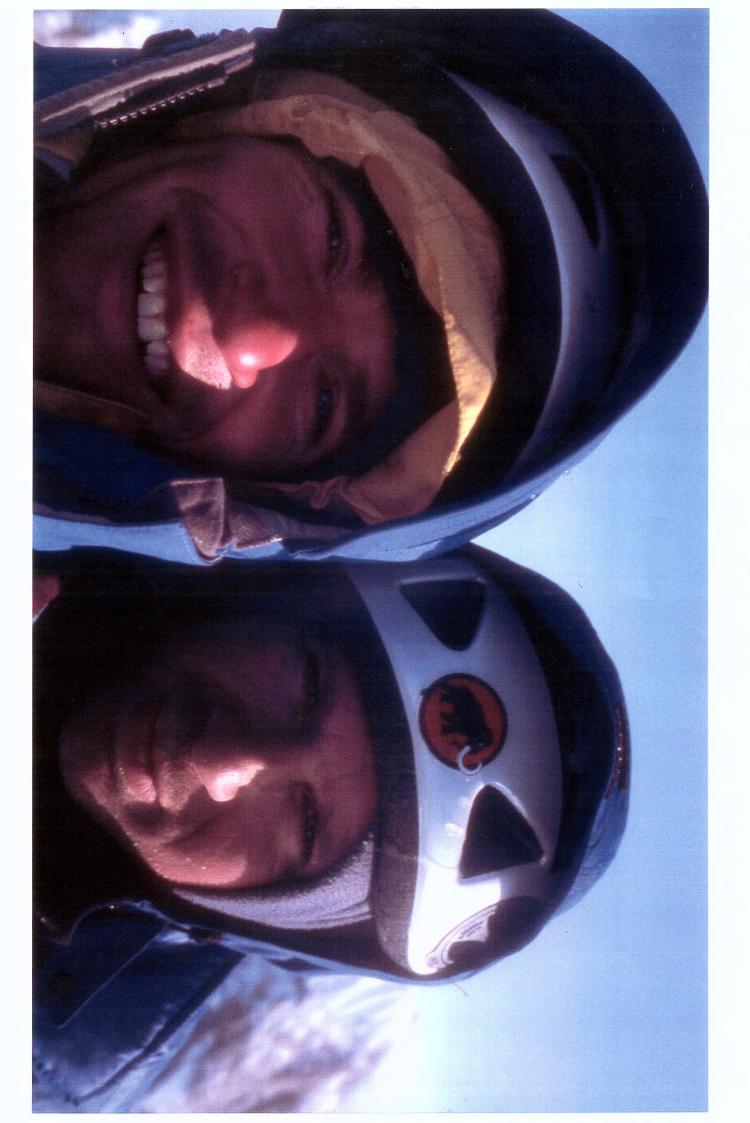
Summit shot

Around 8pm on the summit of the Ciadel. First British ascent. In the photo Stu McAleese and Mike Turner, Olly was belaying at the time.









# NORTH WALES EXPEDITION TO KICHATNA SPIRES 2003

# THE TEAM

Olly Sanders Stuart McAlease Mike 'Twid' Turner

The expedition would like to thank all those who helped to support and sponsor the expedition, without their help the team would never have made the journey. Special thanks to the Mount Everest Foundation especially Bill Ruthven, Ann Bevan and Lindsay Griffin of the Welsh Sports Council and the British Mountaineering Council respectively.

The team would also like to thank John Evans and all the Rangers at Talkeetna for their hospitality and useful advice.

Thanks to Paul Roderick along with all his office staff at T.A.T. for their help and the T-shirts.

This report is also available to individuals and future expeditions visiting the Kichatna Spires and we hope that it is of some use, good luck!

#### **CONTENTS**

The	Team
The	Objective

The Story

Topo

Travel

Accommodation

Food/Provisions

Equipment

Medical

Communications

Insurance

Costs

Other Objectives

Map

Weather

**Useful Contacts** 

Park Services/Rescue

#### THE TEAM

Mike 'Twid' Turner UIAGM Guide, MIC. Currently a full-time Instructor at Plas y Brenin. Enjoys rock and ice climbing having climbed extensively around Europe. Also climbed in Thailand, Argentina, Mali, Madagascar and the States. Expeditions to Chile, Argentina, Pakistan, Baffin, Borneo, Greenland, Alaska, and Caucasus.

Olly Sanders MIC. Freelance Instructor. Nine years as a senior Instructor at Plas y Brenin. Enjoys paddling, climbing and the odd cappuccino. Has climbed extensively in Europe, Norway, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the States. Expeditions to Patagonia, Peru, India, Kenya and Greenland.

Stuart McAleese MIC. Lives in Llanberis and currently working at Plas y Brenin full time as a Mountain Instructor. Climbing most of my time in Britain and the Alps, with recent expeditions to Alaska.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

Our objective was to leave the UK on the 27th April 2003 and travel to the Kichatna Spires in Alaska. There we climbed a new route on the Citadel, a Peak 2597m high. All the team made the summit (first British ascent) on the 4th May 2003. The colouir we called The Supa Dupa Colouir (ED3 VI). It took three and a bit days to climb with one bivvi at two thirds the height. The ice was steep and the gully narrow at all times. We thought it to be an instant classic.

#### THE STORY

Time Line: 27th	April 2003 Left the UK
28th April 2003	Arrived in Anchorage
29th April 2003	Arrived in Talkeetna
30th April 2003	Flew to The Shadows Glacier
1st May 2003	Reconnaissance of Col to Sunshine Glacier
2nd May 2003	Climbed lower 200m of gully
3rd May 2003	Climbed to Bivvi
4th May 2003	Summit of the Citadel
5th May 2003	Descent and Rest

6th May 2003 Rest

7th May 2003 Flew out to Talkeetna 8th May 2003 Travelled to Anchorage

9th May 2003 Flew home 11th May 2003 Arrived home

Without a shadow of a doubt what we were looking at was one of the most compelling and attractive ice lines the three of us had ever seen. On 4th May 2003 at around eight o'clock in the evening, Olly, Twid and myself stood on the summit of the Citadel having climbed The Super Dupa Coulior deep inside the Kichatna Spires. Behind us thirty hours of climbing and a 1000m of couloir, which for the majority was only an arms width wide.

This line was spotted during last year's expedition and Twid and myself were surprised to find no evidence of it having had an ascent. It became an instant objective for us.

At base camp on the Shadows Glacier it can be clearly seen as a thin white line leading to the top of the Citadel immediately left of it's golden pillar. As the clouds parted between blue skies what we could see of it wasn't to be easy. Already aware of what the Kichatna Mountains can throw at you we had to be prepared for anything.

Inspecting the gully through binoculars we could see blue ice on the steeper sections, but it was still hard to see any snow or ice in it's narrowest points, we just had to hope it would be there.

We decided to fix our climbing ropes on the lower section of the climb. One to give us a head start the next day, and two, time to monitor the weather and get a feel for the conditions in the couloir. The initial 150m of snow and ice was climbed un-roped from which point onwards we managed to stretch out our ropes 200m into the gully. Whilst climbing these first pitches we could not believe how lucky we were to be on such a route, technical and slimmer than we had first thought with the climbing around Scottish V and it looked like it was going to get harder. Blue skies blessed us with little wind, finding the gully to be in the shade until about one o'clock and then only for a few hours. Regardless of this good weather, spindrift persisted to pour down on us, but nothing that was going to get in our way, it only added to the effect. Having fixed our 200m of rope we felt well established on the route regardless of how the weather may turn over the next few days and if no sign of change the plan was to go the next day.

The weather didn't break overnight and was looking settled so early on the second day we left our tents and made a beeline for our fixed ropes. On our backs was alpine style kit, food for a day and a night, bivvi gear and a stove. Taking advantage of our fixed ropes we soon found ourselves back in the gully beneath what looked like some steep impressive climbing. That second day kicked off with one of the hardest pitches, steep and very slim. The next 60m became known as the 'no hips' pitch. A fight from start to finish this was the narrowest point on the route. With ninety degrees ice at shoulder width this was

The Kichatna Spires Supa Dupa Conloir E03/4 V+ W16 Olly Sanders A Mt McKinley Stu Myxleese 1 h 15 min WEST KITT Mike Turner \*\* 2nd Ice Diamond all live in WALES (2) A Kichatna Spires All stood on summit. O Talkeetna Grade - From pitch 2 to pitch 17 all Scottish 5 or above. Many sections of grade 6 or French/American Most pitches 60m. 1 Birvi - sitting on cut ledge. 2nd Ice Diamind Enow ridge Abserled down climb 1st Ice Onmone 100 m lengths. All abseil points (x) No Hips Pitch 1st day: Fixed 200m 2nd day: 10 hrs climb. 3) 3rd day: 20 hrs climb and descent. Mixed The gully is mostly arms width all the way. 550 \* 12nd Ice Diamond

to be a real crucial pitch to what lay ahead. Having been forced to leave my rucksack mid pitch time soon became consumed with sustained climbing at around eighty to ninety degrees. It wasn't until late afternoon that we arrived at the longer second ice diamond. From early recognisance of the route we could tell there were two open areas of the couloir, which held snow. They looked to be of an easier angle and because of their shape they were christened the first and second ice diamonds. On arrival at the second ice diamond, physically tired, mentally drained and with harder climbing above we decided to make the most of this wider section of the couloir. I guess a little like having to create a bivvi half way up Green gully on Ben Nevis. Four hours later we had created two comfortable ledges in the ice, if it wasn't for the consistent spindrift from above, it looked like the weather was going to hold. Dehydrated and hungry we ate as much as we could, our minds and bodies tired, we needed sleep.

The morning didn't arrive too soon, sitting on our ice ledge, getting going was slow. Our wake up call was 50m of thin ice at ninety degrees, needless to say it took some time being the crux of the route. With an impressive lead by Twid we were getting there. In the distance we could now see what looked like the last hard pitches. By this stage what became apparent was the real risk of being seriously injured by falling ice, due to the gully being so narrow. All the belays, as much as we tried to avoid were in the line of fire, the only shelter being the haul bag we brought along. This did make things quite stressful underneath and a few injuries were sustained.

The last hard pitches consisted of free hanging ice pillars, which provided some shelter when we were lucky enough to find a cave behind them. At around six o'clock in the evening we climbed out of the gully with all the hard climbing behind us and now opening out it looked to be only a few pitches to the summit. An hour and a half later we found ourselves on the summit in the sun with a view only a hand full of people have witnessed. With the wind picking up and bitterly cold we took pride in standing alone on a summit in the Kitchatna Spires for a moment. The three of us drained, we considered a bivvi but with storm clouds approaching it wasn't an option, unfortunately we settled for a long night ahead in descent.

As we knew the route well we decided that this was going to be the safest and speediest descent and as we pushed into the night it began to snow and the wind picked up. Half way down the gully and time was tight. It was dark around two o'clock in the morning, spindrift avalanches began to billow down the big walls either side of us. We couldn't help but feel exposed never the less we tried to concentrate on a smooth safe descent. In the early hours we stumbled back to the tents having retrieved our snow shoes and ski poles from the base of the climb. Thankful for not still being up there in the storm that was now surrounding us and with our one day food long gone it was time for a cup of tea and some beef jerky!

The snow continued for the next three days and didn't let up, resting and occasionally digging out the tents was the order of the day. With amazing ice climbing which goes straight to the summit, this route could become very

popular. We climbed the route with the bare essentials, it may be able with less thus light. However, we knew how unpredictable the Kichatna weather can be, so we took the heavier option.

#### GENERAL LAYOUT AND TOPOGRAPHY

The Cathedral Spires lies one hour ninety miles west of Talk Etna. The range stands proud from the main Alaskan range dominated by Denali itself. The area has been twinned with areas in Patagonia, like Fitzroy and Jones del Paire. The whole area is only twenty square miles and radiates out from its highest peak Kichatna Spire. The mountains are anything up to about 9000 feet high but have a far more serious feel way beyond their size.

Long flat glaciers, like The Shadows, Cul de Sac and the Tatina radiate out North from the mountains. On those flat patches of snow small light aircraft can land and transport climbers to the area. The cols to the Southern glaciers can be difficult to cross in poor snow conditions. The area is made up predominantly of very good granite with the odd bands of diorite poking through.

The area has seen relatively little traffic compared to the more popular area of the Ruth Gorge, which boasts similar objectives to the mountaineer.

#### TRAVEL

UK to and from Anchorage

About three months prior to the trip, leeway tickets where purchased from Trail Finders. A £75 deposit up front was required. We have constantly found Trail Finders to be an excellent company to deal with. As with all transatlantic crossings you are allowed a two-piece luggage allowance (30kg each) plus hand luggage.

We had problems with MSR bottles at Manchester. After much thorough cleaning we were allowed to carry the bottles on board in our hand luggage.

We used British Midland and United as air carriers, they did an admiral job. We toasted all who supported us on our trans-Atlantic flight.

Our flight went from Manchester to Chicago to Seattle and finally Anchorage.

On our return trip we changed our flights and were supposed to pay an extra £100 each. This we managed not to be charged.

Anchorage to Talkeetna

Denali Overland

The previous year we had used Denali Overland. Tom it's owner and Bill the driver were very amiable. A return per person is ninety dollars to Talkeetna. They use transit size vehicles to transport climbers too and from Talkeetna. We contracted them by phone from the UK to book their services. We also arranged

for them to pick us up from the Micro Hotel at about three o'clock in the afternoon. The journey to Talkeetna from Anchorage takes about two and a half hours, usually with a 10-minute break at Presilla.

Talkeetna to The Shadows Glacier

Talkeetna Air Taxis

Paul Roderick, an accomplished climber himself flew Stuart and Twid onto The Shadows Glacier the previous year. The team used him again for the same journey. Instead of the usual 3 person, the Beaver(4 person) plane was needed due to the extra weight of an additional person. We had in total five hundred pounds of gear to fly in. Generally each person is allowed a weight limit of one hundred and twenty pounds. We had been given an allowance of three hundred and sixty pounds plus an extra one hundred and twenty pounds for a price of one thousand five hundred dollars. Five hundred dollars per person.

As well as the flight Paul provides accommodation in Talkeetna. A Bunkhouse with an excellent shower and cooking facilities. Sleeping bags are required. He also provides sledges for hauling equipment up the glacier and wand's for making trails and helping hold tents down. We also brought three one-gallon containers of white spirits for our MSR dragonfly stove. We thought one gallon per week was a sensible amount of fuel to take. Especially since you have to melt all your water from snow.

The flight took approximately one hour from Talkeetna to the Kichatna Spires. We had amazing views over the Denali Park. On the return journey we came in for some stick from Paul as we hadn't built a runway sufficiently good enough for his plane to take of in the fresh snow. A quick stamp up and down the runway and we were off.

Flying into the Kichatna's is committing for Paul so he will only fly if he gets full visibility from Talkeetna. For this reason he insists that he has at least six days to pick you up to guarantee a pick up prior to your departure date. This can massively reduce the length of your trip. We recommend four weeks for a trip in order to get some climbing in and still get out. The previous year we waited fifteen days to be picked up. We had to hold an extra five to ten days of fuel and food just in case the weather comes in and the pick up is delayed.

To book you have to fill in the T.A.T form on their online site, T.A.T.com and give them your card number as a deposit. Paul has 2-3 office staff who are always on hand to answer any problems. It is also possible to leave some spare gear with Paul in his store while you are on the hill.

### ACCOMMODATION

#### **Anchorage**

As with the previous year we stayed at the Microtel Hotel in Anchorage. This is very close to the airport and excellent value. We got a room for three for ninety dollars. It is an excellent spot, clean, does a great all you can eat breakfast and has a lock up for your kit while you go shopping. It also provides

a free shuttle service too and from the airport. Beware, book early as it fills up really quickly.

It is easy to get taxis into down town Anchorage for about seven dollars. It is close to a sixteen screen multiplex cinema if you have time.

#### **Talkeetna**

We made use of T.A.T bunkhouse for free, but if you require more luxury and privacy then the roadhouse has bunks or beds and a great atmosphere. It also provides the best breakfast in town.

What to expect in Talkeetna

'Talkeetna is a small drinking town with a climbing problem.'

A local car sticker

A very friendly small town that has built up from its gold mining routes. You have a small store in town (very expensive). Do not expect to find much for an expedition their. Latitude 62 has the best food for evening meals. Roadhouse has the best breakfast in town. Sparky's the best daytime burgers. Carla in the Fairview serves the best beer in town and stays open till morning (late) as we can vouch! Watch out for the measures of spirits they are on the large size! Apart from this there are a few other gift shops and a post office and that is about it.

If you are in town with clear weather it is worth a walk down to the river as the views of Denali are fantastic. Fishing is also supposed to be legendary!

#### FOOD/PROVISIONS

From the UK we brought hydrated boil in the bag meals, which we had brought from Plas y Brenin. They are excellent, as they only need heating for five to ten minutes. They can also be eaten cold. Unfortunately, all the beef meals (half) were confiscated at US customs. All the chicken and vegetarian meals were not a problem.

#### The Big Shop

You can do all your shopping at Car's Supermarket, a short taxi ride from the Microtel. This is a huge shopping hall with all your requirements. Be sure to ask for a discount card as it gives you ten percent off all your food. We found the staff very helpful. We managed to fill three shopping trolleys worth of provisions. Things to especially watch out for, beef jerky, cheap cheese, cheap stacks, tang, noodles, mash, instant oats (strawberries and cream flavour), coffee bags, bagels, chocolate etc.

Next door to Car's is REI a master of an outdoor shop where we bought our gas. Four dollars fifty each. We also bought a camp bed as a make do portaledge. It also provided a perfect tanning bed on the glacier.

Next door to REI there is an excellent coffee house and on the opposite side of the road is the Alaska Mountaineering shop (AMS) the best other climbing shop in town. Top tip is the Pizzeria Olympia just opposite REI. Excellent.

If you forget anything you can kit yourself up no problem in Anchorage with whatever you need. Olly bought snowshoes (essential) in REI for one hundred dollars. You can hire ski's or shoes in REI if need be.

# **EQUIPMENT**

#### **Base Camp**

#### **Tents**

We used two tents, a two to three person tent and a Gortex Bibler which we could use on the wall. It is advisable to take a tent with snow valances as pegs are a waist of time. To peg the tent out we used wands or ice axes. Thick poly bags can also be used.

#### **Stoves**

We took a dragon fly MSR which was fantastic. It uses one gallon per week of Coleman's fuel. We also had two EPI gas stoves, one hanging, and took ten two hundred and fifty gram containers.

#### Pots & Pans

We had bought a frying pan the previous year, which was perfect for base camp food. We also had two standard trangia pans.

# **Sleeping Bags**

We had full expedition weight sleeping bags. With a mixture of down and fibre. It got down to minus twenty degrees.

We also had one karrimat each and one therma rest, bivvi bags, a small CD player with speakers and a repair kit which included superglue, cable ties, tape etc.

#### **Climbing Kit**

2 full 60m climbing ropes

2 half 60m climbing ropes.

200m of static - 9mm best lighter

50m of tat

Sit and chest harness

Jumars and Crolls

Ropeman

Pegs Blades 12, LA 4 of each 16, Angles 8

Bird beaks 6

4 sets of nuts

8 slings

20 quick draws

50 loose karabiners

2 sets RP's

Peg hammer

Set of axes each

Crampons

3 haul bags

Clothes

Shell top and bottoms

2 Thermals

2 thin fleeces

2 thick fleece jackets

Duvet

2 Fleece Bottoms

3 Pairs of Socks

4 Pairs of Gloves

1 Hat/Balaclava

Sun Hat

Goggles

Glasses x 2

Sun Cream

Lip Gloss

**Books** 

#### **MEDICAL**

We carried two first aid kits on the expedition to the Kichatna Spires.

The first main medical kit was taken for general use at base camp and in case of serious injury/illness, which would require care for an extended period of time. This kit contained dressings for burns and bleeding, bandages, plasters, tape, steri strips, thermometer, and other usual first aid equipment. To supplement this a selection of drugs were taken. This was stored in the base camp tent in a waterproof container, which also contained a first aid manual and a note in reference to the use of the drugs.

The second smaller first aid kit was taken for use on the mountain and away from base camp. Designed to be light and non bulky to use in an emergency to maintain an injury or illness until back at base camp. Obviously limited to what can be carried this kit contained large wound dressings, tape, steri strips, bandages, plasters and a mouthpiece in the case of CPR with facial wounds. To save on weight and bulk this was carried in a waterproof Ortileb A5 size bag. Fortunately no serious injuries or illness was sustained during the trip.

# **COMMUNICATIONS**

# **Sat Phone**

Having spent fifteen days waiting to be picked up the previous year we decided to take a SAT phone in order to get out sooner. This proved a wise choice, as it is difficult for the pilots to really know what the flying conditions are like in the Kichatnas from Talkeetna. It meant for us that we managed to fly out on the one clear day between two spells of bad weather. In case of emergency it is a wise thing to take. We hired the phone from Mike Sharp of Poles Apart,

Cambridge. It was an Iridium phone, which was very light and came in a compact waterproof box. The phone ran on two lithium batteries, which hold approximately 45 minutes each. We only used the phone to call for a plane and hardly touched the charge. The phone came with a charger attachment for our solar cell. For the phone you need to;

Hire the phone and insure it for one thousand two hundred pounds. Get a new SIM card from an account holder Get a PIN number for the phone.

Clear an account with account holder.

We paid a twenty-five pound charge for the monthly hire. The phone bill is about one pound to one pound fifty per minute. The phone does send text messages also.

#### **EPERB**

Olly has an EPERB for paddling so we took this along just in case. This is an emergency only device, which activates a beacon signal. These are cheap to hire and a good idea if you don't have a phone.

### VHF

We carried a VHF radio, which had the American marine 9-rescue frequency set on it. This would be line of site with high Aircraft overhead only. Not that reliable.

#### Radios

We also took two small radios for our own communication on the glacier. We didn't use them, but they are very light and work on double a batteries. A good idea if you are wandering around on the glacier un-roped.

We had a small wave radio for picking up the news and local weather forecast. Radio Anchorage was very good for the weather. It actually gives a climber's forecast once a day.

#### **INSURANCE**

All of the team took out BMC Worldwide Expedition Insurance.

As far as insurance for the T.A.T, they insure themselves as a business.

We had to insure our SAT phone plus solar cell, which was covered on one of our own house insurance.

There was no need to claim on any insurance policy.

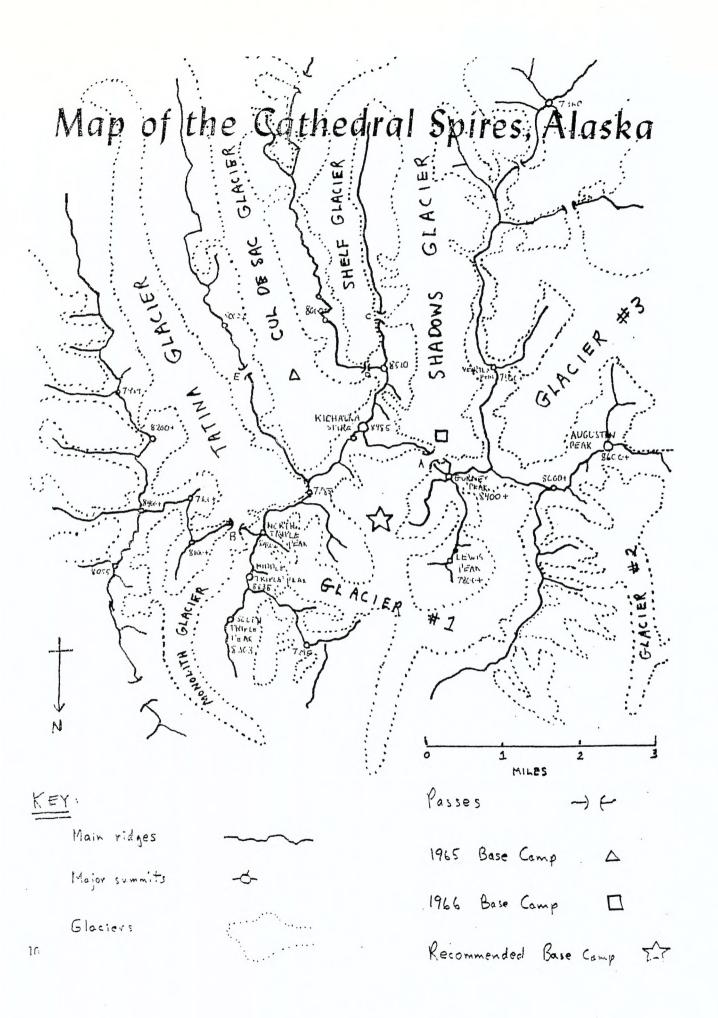
#### COSTS

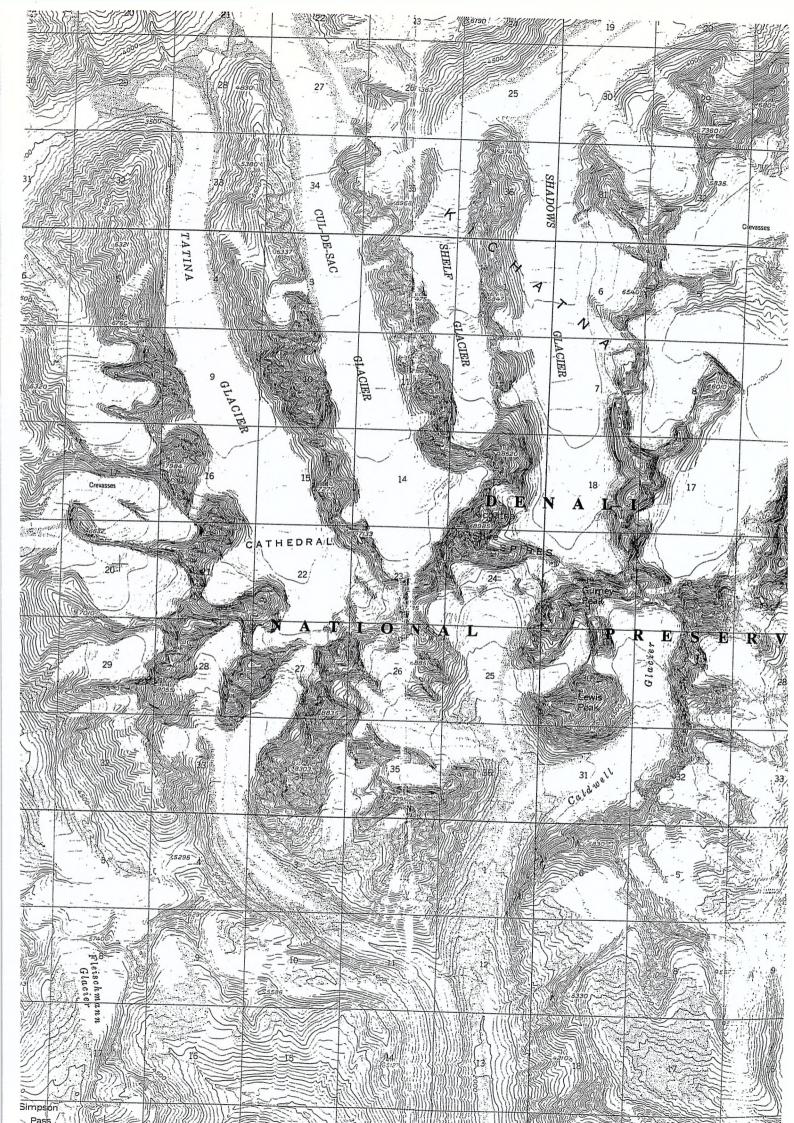
Income	
Mount Everest Foundation	£700
British Mountaineering Council	£700
The Sports Council for Wales	£1800
TOTA	
Expenses	
Travel:	
Airline	£1590
Talkeetna Air Taxi	£935 (\$1518)
UK Taxi	£80
US Taxi	£37(\$60)
Denali Transfer	£221(\$360)
Food:	,
UK	£96
Carrs	£431(\$700)
Alaska	£184(\$300)
Accomodation	£110(\$180)
Insurance	£480
Equipment	£450
Gas	£27(\$45)
Other eg. Batteries	£100
SAT Phone	£300
Report	£50
Film	£200
TOTA	L £5291
Team contributed	£2091

The main expense was the airline and the air taxi which was to be expected. However, with the speed and ease of access to the mountains little time was spent down town or waiting in travel.

#### OTHER OBJECTIVES

From the Shadows, Cul De Sac and Tatina plenty of routes have been climbed, but by no means, all possible routes. Once you make a journey to the South side of the range hardly anything has been climbed in comparison. This is due to the ease of access by plane to those glaciers. The area has as much potential as the Mont Blanc Massif with only a handful of climbs already made. There are some of the best big walls in Alaska as well as masses of ice lines if you go early enough. The rock on the whole is excellent and more reliable than that found in the Ruth Gorge. Enclosed is a list of what we think has been climbed, it is almost definitely not a complete list but a start. The weather in April and May is cold but you don't get rain or seepage on walls as in June and July. We think climbers have climbed in the area as late as August as the glaciers tend to hold snow late into the year. You can walk in or out from rainy pass(south of the mountains) Which will take you four days if the rivers are frozen.





# **BIG FACES**

Kichatna Spire East and West - Possible Big Walls

Middle Triple Peak

Geurney Peak

Citadel

Mt Nevermore

The Fang – Small big wall

The area would be fantastic for ski touring as long as the cols were possible.

#### **CONDITIONS**

We found windslab and bad depth hoar in the snow pack in places. Evidence of a cold and windy place. Be very careful when crossing the cols between the glaciers. The area is supposed to have some of the worst weather in the Alaskan Range. It recommends three out of thirty days fine weather in the new guidebook. Do not go to Kichatna's and expect blue skies every day!

#### WEATHER

27th April 2003 Cloudy

28th April 2003 Cloudy

29th April 2003 Cloudy

30th April 2003 Fine, cold and windy

1st May 2003 Fine, hot in the sun, freezing in the shade

2nd May 2003 Fine

3rd May 2003 Fine

4th May 2003 Fine, windy on top

5th May 2003 Started fine - snow later

6th May 2003 Heavy snow, very cold -15 degrees

7th May 2003 Fine

8th May 2003 Cloudy with rain

9th May 2003 Cloudy with rain

10th May 2003 Cloudy with rain

11th May 2003 Cloudy

# PARK SERVICE

The Kichatna Spires, or Cathedral Spires as it appears on the map, falls inside the Denali National Park. This area is managed by the park service based at Talkeetna. For areas around Denali it is mandatory to book two months prior to arriving at the park. You pay a fee and you must have a briefing. As it stands at the moment this is not the case for the Kichatna Spires. You need not tell anybody or pay anything, but this may change in the near future. It is advisable to sign an outback climbing form just to tell the Park Service who you are and where you are going. In the case of an emergency, it will be them who will come to your rescue if you are unlucky enough to need one. They are a professional service with strong mountaineers on the team. There is a gazelle lightweight helicopter especially for rescues in the mountains. The Ranger Station in Talkeetna is an excellent place to investigate your area of climbing. We found an excellent file on the Kichatna Range with many topo's and articles. They can advise on weather and snow conditions.

A friend of ours from Wales, John Evans is one of the Rangers whose work takes him onto Denali. He has been an excellent contact and is always keen to help out fellow countrymen travelling to these parts.

#### **CONTACTS**

Contacts we have used for climbing in this area;

Mark Charlton Kevin Thaw Jay Smith Mike Penning John Middendorf Jack Tackle.

# The American Alpine Journal 1982

# **ASCENTS IN THE KICHATNAS**

Peak	Alt.	Approach Glaciers	Route	Team	Year	Diff.	Refs.
	7270	Cool Sac Tatina	E face S ridge	DeMaria Geiser Hudson	1965	II	2
Sunrise Spire	C7900	Cool Sac Shelf	SE Couloir ?	Bloom DeMaria Suhl	1965	II	2
Whiteout Spire	C7700	Cool Sac Tatina Sunshine	NW ridgefrom N	Geiser Hudson	1965	III	2
Vertex Peak	C7300	Shadows Trident	W couloir S ridge	Millikan D. Roberts	1966	III	3
Vertex reak	C6500	Shadows Trident	N ridge from W	Johnston Meisler	1966	II	3
Cichatna Spire	8985	Shadows Cool Sac Sunshine	E couloiir N ridge	Davidson Millikan	1966	V	3
Avalanche Prong	C6900	Shelf Shadows	W face	Johnston D Roberts	1966	II	3
Rock Prong	C6500	Shadows	W face	Johnston Millikan D. Roberts	1966	I	3
Mt Nevermore	C8100	Tatina Monolith	NE ridge	Fitschen Raymond Robbins	1969	III	5,6
Mt. Jeffers	C8000	Tatina Cool Sac	S ridge from W	Fitschen Raymond Robbins	1969	IV	5,6
Sasquatch	8303	Monolith Sunshine	S face from W	Fitschen Raymond Robbins	1969	IV	5,6
Gurney peak	C8400	Shadows Trident Caldwell Sunshine	N buttress	Ferche Fredrickson Katra	1972	IV	8
Citadel	8520	Shadows shelf Cool Sac	N face N ridge	Ferche Fredrickson Katra	1972	IV	8
Peggy's Peak	7133	Tatina Cool Sac	S ridge from W	Black Graber	1975	II	11
Tatina Spire	C8200	Tatina	SE face	Aprin Black Graber	1975	VI	11
Sasquatch	8303	Monolith Sunshine	W face	Aprin Black Graber	1975	VI	11
Pollack Spire	C7500	Tatina	NW Couloir	Bocarde Denkewalter Sennhauser	1975	II	10,13
Three-o-Spire	6760	Tatina	E face	Crawford Hostetler	1975	II	10,13
Mt Neveragain	C7900	Tatina	SE Couloir	Bocarde Crawford Hostetler	1975	II	10,13
Whiteout Spire	C7700	Tatina cool Sac Sunshine	NW ridge	Bocarde Denkewalter	1975	II	10,13
Middle Triple Peak	8835	Monolith Sunshine	W face	Mclean Porter	1976	VI	14
Citadel	8520	Sunshine Shelf Cool Sac	E buttress	Black Embick Graber Long	1976	VI	15,17
Middle Triple Peak	8835	Sunshine Monolith	N ridge from E	Black Embick Graber Long	1976	V	9,15,17
Buff Spire	6885	Sunshine	S face	Black	1976	III	15, 17
Archdeacon Peak	C7300	Shadows Trident	E face	Reider J Roberts	1976	V	
Lewis Peak	C7800	Sunshine Caldwell	NW face	Reider J Roberts	1976	VI	12
Archdeacon Peak	C7300	Trident Shadows	W face S face	Coated Robbins	1976	III	
Middle Triple Peak	8835	Sunshine Monolith	E buttress	Embick Graber Long Schunk	1977	V	16, 19, 32
Flattop Peak	C8400	Tatina Monolith	NE face N ridge	Graber Long Schunk	1977	II	16,19
Augustus Peak	C8600	Gradient getaway	W face to N ridge	Graber Long Shank	1977	V	16,19
Miranda Peak	1	Trident Scorpion	E ridge from S	Grabber Long Shank	1977	II	16.19
?		Shadows Shelf	SE Couloir	Beauchamp Newren	1977	II	
?		Shadows Trident	N ridge from W	Beauchamp Bridgers Roybal	1978	II	
Steeple Spire	C8600	Shadows trident	NW ridge	Beauchamp Bridgers Roybal	1978	III	
North Triple Peak	C8400	Tatina Sunshine Monolith	NW couloir	Ellesworth Sennhauser	1978	IV	27
Riesenstein	C800	Cool Sac Shelf	W face	Kearney Newville Thomas	1978	VI	26,33
Citadel	8520	Cool Sac Shelf Shadows	W ridge	Kearney Thomas	1978	IV	26,33
Steeple Spire	C6600	Shadows Trident	NW ridge	Bartlett Black	1978	III	29
Mt Jeffers	C8000	Cool Sac Tatina	E face	Becker Embick Milne Tuthill	1978	VI	20,23,25
Sunrise Spire	C7900	Cool Sac Shelf	NW Couloir	Embick/Tuthill + Becker /Milne	1978	IV	20,23,25
Cemetery Spire	C7600	Cool Sac Shelf	N ridge	Becker Embick Milne Tuthill	1978	IV	20,23,25
Bastion	7475	Cool Sac Shelf	S ridge	Becker Tuthill	1978	III	20,23,25
Rook	C7400	Cool Sac Shelf	N ridge	Becker Tuthill	1978	III	20,23,25
Transition Peak	6337	Cool Sac Tatina	SE face	Milne	1978	II	20,23,25
Skuzerian Peak	C6700	Cool Sac Shelf	W face S ridge	Becker	1978	II	20,23,25
Peggy's Peak	7133	Cool Sac Tatina	E face	Becker Milne	1978	III	20,23,25
Grendal Spire	C8000	Ttident Caldwell Getaway	NW couloir N ridge	A. MannixC. Mannix Newville	1978	V	28
Mr John Bryan	C6900	Shadows Trident	SW ridge	Arts Flavelle Mitten	1978	V	24,30
Potlatch	C6600	Shadows Trident	SW ridge	Arts Flavelle Mitten	1979	II	24,30
	C7200	Shadows Cool Sac	E face	Flavelle Mitten	1979	I	24,30
	C7200	Tatina Cool Sac	W buttress	McDougail Pollack	1979	IV	22,39
Yahlto Peak	7295	Shnshine	N ridge from E	McDougall Pollack	1979	IV	22,39
Buff Spire	6895	Sunshine	SE ridge	McDougall Pollack	1979	IV	22,39
Pollack Spire	C7500	Tatina	E buttress	Hadra Oda	1979	IV	35,40
Kichatna Spire	8985	Cool Sac Sunshine Shadows	NW face	Bridwell Embick	1980	VI	21,36,37,3
Ptarmigan Spire	C7700	Cool Sac Shelf	S couloir E ridge	Bridwell Embick	1980	III	37
Serendipity Peak	C6800	Tatina Cool Sac	NW couloir N ridge	Embick Long	1980	I	42,46
	7785	Tatian Sunshine	W face	Embick Long	1980	II	42,46

# The American Alpine Journal 1982

Mt Jeffers	C8000	Tatina Cool Sac	W face	Cerf Schunk	1980	VI	42,46
Serenilty Spire	C7500	Tatina	E face	Embick Long	1980	IV	42,46
Plum Spire	C7300	Tatina	E couloir	Cerf Long	1980	III	42,46
Gverny Peak		Sunshine	SE face	Anker + Friers	1987	?	?
Trinity Spire	C8300	Tatina	NW couloir	Embick Schunk	1980	IV	42,46
Nightwind Spire	C8300	Tatina Sunshine Monolith	NW couloir	Cerf Long	1980	V	43,45
Gnomon Spire	C8500	Cool Sac Sunshine	NW couloir	McDougal Swedin	1980	V	43,45
***************************************	7200	Trident	NE face	Beilstein Woolums	1981	IV	47
Mt John Bryan Black Rose Spire Vug Tor Guerney Peak North Triple Peak Trinity Spire Whiteout Spire Serenity Spire Plumb Spire	C690 P6000	Trident Shadows Next to buff spire Sunshine	SE face  East Ridge	Beilstein Woolum Stock Chuts Stock Chuts Anker Shaw M. Penning	1981 1988 1988 1987 1993	IV	47
Flattop Peak Mt Jeffers Mt. Nevermore Middle Triple Peak		Tatina Tatina	Alaskan Rose Sea of Dreams W Face	M. Penning Hall Allen Hall Allen Thaw and Calder Thaw and Calder J Smith	1994 1996 1996 1997		

#### REFERENCES

- 1. "Riesenstein" hoax, Summit June 1962
- "Ascents in the Cathedral Spires, Alaska", A.DeMaria & P. Geiser. AAJ 1966, p 25-29 2.
- "Kichatna Spire", D Roberts & R Millikan, AAJ 1967, p 272-278 3.
- "Challenges in the Cathedral Spires", D Roberts, Summit June 1968, p 8-25
- "Californians in Alaska", R Robbins AAJ 1970, p 58-62
- "Up Against the Walls", J Fitschen, Ascent 1970, p 2-11
- "Cathedral Spires", D Roberts, AAJ 1971, p 328-329 7.
- 8
- "Guerney Peak and P 8520, Kichatna Mountains", W Katra, AAJ 1973, p 408-409 Middle Triple Peak, Kichatna Mountains, Attempt", A DeMaria, AAJ 1973, p 409
- "Cathedral Spires 1975", G. Bocarde, Climbing (34) Jan-Feb 1976, p 28-29 10.
- 11. "Ascents in the Cathedral Spires", M Graber, AAJ 1976, p 304-307
- 12. "Fakin It", J Roberts, Climbing (39) Nv-Dec 1976, p 16-19
- 13. "Kichatna Spires", G. Bocarde, AAJ 1976, p 435
- 14. "Middle Triple Peak", R McLean, AAJ 1977, p 103-105
- 15. "A Trip to the Kichatnas" A. Long, AAJ 1977, p 106-113
- 16. note, Climbing (44( Sept-Oct 1977, p 4
- 17. "Fear and Trembling in the Kichatnas", A. Embick, Climbing (40), Jan-Feb1977, p 6-14
- 18. note, New Mexico Climber, Fall 1977, p 2
- 19. "A Return to the Kichatnas", A.Embick & A. Long, AAJ 1978, p 370-380
- 20. note, Climbing (51), Nov-Dec 1978, p2-3
- 21. "Knife Edge In The Sky, Kichatna Spire's Northwest Face", A. Embick, Climbing (57), Nov-Dec 1979, p 10-15
- 22. note, Climbing (51), Nov-Dec 1979, p3
- 23. note, Mountain (66), Mar-Apr 1979; p 12
- 24. "The Kichatnas", Scott Flavelle, CAJ 1979, p110
- "Cathedral Spires, Kichatna Mountains", A. Embick, AAJ 1979, p168-171
- 26. "Citadel W Face, Riesenstein W Face and Kichatna Spire Attempt", A. Kearney, AAj 1979,p171
- 27. "North Triple Peak, Northwest Face, Kichatna Mountains", R, Ellisworth, AAJ 1979, p 167
- 28. "P 8000 (Grendel)", E. Newville, AAJ 1979, p171-173
- 29. "Steeple Spire", D. Black, AAJ 1979, p173-174
- 30. "Three First Acents", R. Mitten, AAJ 1979, p173-174
- 31. "A Slightly Slanted History of Climbing in The kichatnas", A. Long, Harvard Mountaineering 1979, p 9-20
- 32. "Middle Triple Peak East Buttress" in Fifty Classic Climbs of North America, ed. S. Roper & A. Steck, Sierra Club Books, 1979 p42-47 "Kichatna", A. Kearney, *Mountain* (69). Oct 1979, p24-29
- 34. "Cathedral Spires, Mountains to Marvel At", M. Wright, Alaska Magazine, Sept1979, p50-53

# The American Alpine Journal 1982

- 35. "Kichatna Mountains", Hiroshi Oda, The Iwa to Yuki (73), April 1980, p90-95
- 36. note, Mountain (71), Jan-Feb 1980, p 16
- 37. "Northwest Face of kichatna Spire", J. Bridwell & A. Embick, AAJ 1980, p473-480
- 38. "Kichatna Spire Nordwestwand", German translation of above article by E Hass, Alpinismus Sept 1980, p 53-57
- 39. "Cathedral Spires, Kichatna Mountains", S. Pollack, AAJ 1980, p 527-528
  40. "Pollack Spire, Cathedral Spires, Kichatna Mountains", AAJ 1980, p 527- 528
- 41. "Eighteen Years After the Riesenstein Hoax, A History of the Cathedral Spires", M. Graber, Ascent 1980, p 27-56
- 42. note, Climbing (64), Jan-Feb 1981, p3-4
- 43. note, Climbing (68) Mar-Apr 1981, p3
- 44. "Bird Lives", interview of J. Bridwell by J. Long, *Mountain* (79), May-Jun 1981, p 22-25 45. "Gnomon Spire", R McDougall, AAJ 1981, p160-161
- 46. "Cathedral Spires", G. Schunk, AAJ 1981, p160-164
- 47. "Cathedral Spires2, Scott Woolims, AAJ, 1982.

We are more than happy help and answer any questions;

# Mike 'Twid' Turner

Tyn Weirglood Penisarwaun Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 3DB

Tel: 01286 871679

E-mail: twidturner@aol.com

# **Stuart McAleese**

19 Snowdon Street Llanberis Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 4HE

Tel: 01286 871673

# **Olly Sanders**

Glanarfon Isaf Llanallgo Anglesey LL72 8NE

Tel: 01248 410877

E-mail olly.sanders@aol.com

# **Travel**

Trailfinders Tel: 0141 3532224

#### Insurance

BMC Tel: 0870 0104878 E-mail: insure@thebmc.co.uk

# Talkeetna Travel

Karey Larson Tel: (907) 738-8728

Karey will change your plane tickets for £10 per person- does an excellent job.

# Talkeetna Air Taxis

Paul Roderick – Owner www.talkeetnaairtaxis.com

#### **Denali Overland**

denalik@alaska.net Tel: 800 651 5221

# **Microtel Hotel**

www.microtelinn.com Tel: (907) 245 5002

# **MEF**

www.MEF.org.uk

# **BMC**

www.thebmc.co.uk

# **Welsh Sports Council**

Ann Bevan National Governing Body Services Officer Sofia Gardens Cardiff Wales