

ACHILLE RATTI CLIMBING CLUB

Friday 22nd. March, 1963. Bulletin 8/1963.

Dear Member,

My apologies for the delay in sending this bulletin out since taking over from Jack Thornton. The main reason being that the Management Committee have been drawing up Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the Club, and they have only just been completed. A copy is enclosed.

Any amendments must be received by the Secretary not later than 14 days before the A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday the 27th. April, 3.30.p.m. at St. Ignatius Hall, Pump Street, Preston. Refreshments will be provided free of charge.

All members are requested to make a special attempt to be present.

Agenda

1. President's Report.
2. Financial Statement.
3. Election of Officers.
4. Amendments to Constitution.
5. Any other business.

Nominations are requested for the following vacancies on the Management Committee:-

Secretary.
Vice Chairman.
One Committee Member.

and must be received by the Secretary:- Miss E. Smith, 1, Lowrey Terrace, Blackpool at least 14 days before the A.G.M.

A special word of thanks to Eileen Smith, who is relinquishing the post of Secretary, after holding the position for many years. She deserves a very hearty "Thank you" for coping with the correspondence and everything relating to a Club of this size.

Thanks also to Jack Thornton, who until this issue, has produced the Bulletin, and made an excellent job of it. Having taken over from him, I realise how much work it involves, made doubly difficult by the absence of articles from members.

HOW ABOUT YOUR CONTRIBUTION?

Send it to: Barry Ayre, 17 Scafell Avenue, Morecambe, Lancs.,

Members are reminded that subscriptions are due on the 1st. April. The name and address of the new Secretary will be published in the next Bulletin. Until then, subs can be sent to Eileen Smith.

New Membership cards are mauve, Graduate Members Cards are white. These must be produced at the Club Huts when requested.

The following items of gossip have been received. Being second or third hand I accept no responsibility for the accuracy of the following:-

Births To Mr. & Mrs. Jack Whiteside a daughter.
To Mr. & Mrs. Neville Haigh a second daughter.
To Mr. & Mrs. Mick Cray a second child.
To Mr. & Mrs. Ted Russell a second child.

Marriage Tom Hemingway and Ann Richmond married in October.
Janet McIntyre and David Crabtree married February 23rd.

Coming
Wedding Ron Hughes and Dorothy Derbyshire on Whit Monday.

Engagements.

George Cammack to Ann McWatt.

Travel Chris Vasey has gone out to the Sudan for 18 months.
George Cammack is out in Bahrain for 2 years.

Search parties can now be recalled from the Langdale area as Bill Carter has found his dog which was lost for 28 days!

John Britt has taken up a temporary post as Assistant Warden at the new Dufton Youth Hostel near Appleby, due to be opened in April. If the snowfall of this last winter can be relied upon, Dufton could become a minor ski-ing resort as it is quite close to Cross Fell, highest of the Penine Hills.

Terry Clitheroe is back in circulation once more after breaking a leg in Langdale last August Bank Holiday. Scout Crag beware!!

Frank Wilson, member from Blackpool, is at present in Elswick Sanatorium. A visit from a Club member would probably be greatly appreciated.

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Members are asked to submit ideas for the Annual Dinner. This year is rather special being the A.R.C.C. 21st. Year.

The "Win A Gold Watch For One Penny" Competition, run in October, was won by Jack Case from St. Helens. The effort raised £62. 4.11d. for the Club. Pete Durkin and I would like to thank all who helped in selling the seconds.

Going Ski-ing?

Members going abroad ski-ing may find the following information of use. I recently spent a couple of weeks in Austria, and managed to finish up on the injured list on the last day. It involved being brought down the ski slope about 1,000 ft, by stretcher, a service which can prove rather expensive, particularly if not insured. I was, but was still faced with a bill to be reclaimed on my return. However, on production of my A.R.C.C. membership card, the fee was waived. Apparently British Clubs are recognised by the Alpine Clubs, and the only expenses I had to claim were for Medical treatment and extra travelling expenses.

Hut News Langdale

Several visiting clubs have been accommodated in the past few months. The Hut has been quite busy almost every weekend during the winter months.

A working week-end on the 9th. & 10th. March was most successful, about 20 members being present. Work done included repairs to dormitory floors, painting in the Chapel, and general cleaning.

Langdale Hut is particularly short of knives and teaspoons. Any offers?????

Dunmail

Dunmail is now closed to members until further notice due to party bookings. A working week-end was spent there on the 16th. & 17th. March and a lot of cleaning up was done in preparation for the summer. The very severe winter had caused considerable damage to the plumbing and central heating systems. Any member who can get up there to finish off the cleaning-up operation will have the blessing of Norah Parkinson, the Hut Warden.

I am publishing details of the party bookings, as I think that some members may quite well find friends included in these parties whom they would like to visit during their stay.

DUNMAIL 1963 BOOKINGS AT 15th. MARCH 1963.

W/C SATURDAY

13th. April	Cardinal Newman School, Liverpool.
20th. April	St. Bedes School, Manchester.
3rd. May	St. Ambroses School, Rawtenstall.
10th. May	" " " " " "
25th. May	St. Aidans School, Widnes.
1st. June	De Lisle School, Loughborough.
15th. June	St. Aidans School, Widnes.
6th. July	Larette High School, Manchester.
13th. July	St. Bedes School, Withington.
20th. July	St. Christopher's Cycling Club, Manchester.
27th. July	Trumdon R.C. School, Durham.
3rd. August.	St. Cuthberts, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
10th. August	St. Josephs, Blackpool.
17th. August	Salescar College, Battersea.
24th. August	Lambert Road, Preston.
31st. August	St. Josephs, Blackpool.

BUCKBARROW HUT

TENANCY Members will be pleased to learn that the uncertainty of tenancy of this hut, due to the death of Mr. Gass, has now been resolved. A tenancy has now been agreed with the owners.

HUT MEETS

11th.-12th. May 'A Disorganised Meet', Members attending will be expected to provide their own food, and to do their own cooking.

31st. Aug.-1st. Sept. 'An Organised Meet', Charge 1gn. per person inclusive of hut fees. This meet is intended to be in way of a celebration on the Club attaining it's majority. In view of this, perhaps members will attempt to commemorate the occasion with some outstanding achievement. Did someone say "Three 3,000 footers within 24 hours?"

Applications for bookings should be made in ample time to the Hut Warden, Bill Carter, 4, Meadow Drive, Mill Lane, Bolton-le-Sands or to any member of the Buckbarrow committee

SUGGESTIONS FOR OFF DAYS

Members will be aware that at Buckbarrow Hut there is a Bushman's saw. Recently a tree has blown down near to the hut, and members wishing to obtain exercise in inclement weather without the risk of ascending greasy rocks, may do themselves and the hut good service, by sawing the said tree into logs. I hasten to add that permission has been granted by Margaret Gass to do this.

SKYE MEET

A party of the A.R.C.C. will be going to stay during the second week after Whit. This is a repeat performance for most of the

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party who were there last year.

Unfortunately accomodation in Glenbrittle is very limited due to the Glenbrittle Lodge not being open.

HUT REPORT Year ending 31st. March 1963

In order to save time at the A.G.M., Hut Wardens will publish their reports via the medium of this Bulletin

This being my 1st. year as Hut Warden at Buckbarrow, I am keeping this report as brief as possible.

Members will be aware that Leo Brown was Hut Warden for many years till vacating the office last year, I would like to pay tribute to Leo in this report, as it was during his term of office that all the improvements to the hut were carried out, and due to his hard work in the past, my 1st. year as Hut Warden has been made comparatively easy.

Fortunately there has been no major catastrophe, such as roofs falling in.

In common with other huts, Buckbarrow has had a good year ~~financially~~ financially, and it is hoped that the increasing use of the Buckbarrow Hut will continue.

I am pleased to say that I have received no complaints regarding any members mis-using the hut, and they have kept the hut clean and tidy during their stay.

Members have also been conscientious in using wood instead of coal, which keeps costs down.

One matter which I would like to draw to members attention, is that 'Where non-members have been invited to use the hut by a member; then it is the responsibility of that member either to attend himself with the guests, or to make other arrangements that another member will be there at the hut at the same time as the non-member, to sign them in.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all members who have used Buckbarrow Hut, for their co-operation during the past year, and trust this state of affairs will continue. I also wish to thank my Hut Committee who have during the past year, more or less run the hut for me, as due to business and other commitments I have not been able to get up there as often as I would have liked.

Sincerely Bill Carter

Bill sends his report in on tape.

His Lordship Bishop Pearson has contributed the following tribute to the late Tom Donnelly

TOM DONNELLY R. I. P.

When I came to Blackpool as a curate to St. Cuthberts in 1934 and it was discovered that I was an Alpinist, I was quickly introduced to Tom Donnelly. This was the start of a long friendship and in a sense a cause of the founding of the A.R.C.C., because it is true to say that without Tom I should not have had the opportunity in the early days to go to the Lake District, and later on without his advice and backing to have embarked on the ambitious enterpriss of buy ng the Huts

The great love of Tom's life was his wife Mary, and after that the Lake District. He was a convert to the Faith, and by his reading had a very deep grasp of it. He supported me wholeheartedly that our activities should not be mere escapism, but recreational for the responsibility of Christian life. I never knew him to put pleasure before his duty to his home and his business. This is surely one of his deepest contributions to the Club, because the spirit that makes it is the soul "that goes marching on".

Tom was not a rock climber, but a fell walker and a tireless one in any weather. Snow, ice, mist never held him back from a long day over the Crinkle Craggs, Bowfell and Scafell, and it was to these heights that he was attracted in the early days, well into his fifties. His great passion was photography and with his Leica he ruthlessly disciplined Father Bamber and myself into being faceless foregrounds for the beauty of the hills. Of course we revolted, but since Tom had usually provided the transport and could seldom be persuaded to let us share the entertainment when the grind was over, our revolts were stifled from the outset. The memory of those long days is a happy one indeed, because Tom was a good conversationalist and had a very cultured and wide appreciation of music and art, and could converse intelligently on almost anything. He did not like dangerous places, but love conquered fear and he traversed Jake's Rake many a time or roped up with us in the gullies on Pavey Ark in order to get dramatic shots with his camera. When we climbed the Needle Tom would be in more perilous places than us to get his views. He was particularly proud of the photo that he took of the Mass on the summit of Scafell Pike in that darkest hour of 1940 when France had fallen and we were waiting for Hitler's invasion. It was on July 16th, the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, and Tom will now know whether the Battle of Britain victory that followed, was contributed to by the effort and fervent prayer that went up that day from the first mountain top Mass in recorded English History.

Tom was a careful man. I provided the venture, perhaps at time too much venture, and Tom was the brake. Certainly he became apprehensive after the buying of Bishop's Scale. At one time it really looked as though we had exceeded our borrowing power in spite of the generosity of the Diocese. He had need to fear because he was a Trustee and the only one who had any money! He was very patient and he never let me down. I shall ever be grateful to him for his support and his calmness, and for his example.

The members of today who only knew Tom in the days when his health was failing, can have little idea of what they owe to him. He was the rock in the early days, and the sage in the later days. But he was a fine catholic, a true gentleman in Newman's sense that he never hurt anyone's feelings, and he was a real lover of the hills and the Lake District in particular.

It is the human beings that make a Club and I am happy to recall his memory to you and offer him my gratitude and my constant prayer for his peace with God.

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Footnote

It would be a rewarding experience to have a talk sometime illustrated by Tom Donnelly's slides of which there is a large collection, and I should be only too happy to give it. We might discuss after such a meeting the idea of some memorial to perpetuate his memory as a Founder of the A. R. C. C.

Finally a few lines about the articles I haven't been able to include in this Bulletin due to the time factor and the increased postage which would be involved for further pages. Besides, my one finger method of typing gets rather tiring.

I have some B. M. C. news on various huts, also an article by Catherine Hickey on an Outward Bound Course for Girls. I hope to include these in the next issue.

If any member could supply me with new addresses, or corrections to the addresses I am using at present, I would be most grateful. Also the names and addresses of any member who is not receiving the Bulletin.

I am endeavouring to keep down the cost of publishing, by sending only one copy to members of the same household. If those members who would prefer a copy of their own would let me know, I will make a note of it for future reference

Yours Sincerely

Barry Ayre

17, Scafell Avenue,
Morecambe,
Lancs.