

ACHILLE RATTI CLIMBING CLUB

Monday 11th. June, 1963

Bulletin 9/1963

Dear Member,

The Annual General Meeting of the A. R. C. C. was held on Sat. 27th. April at St. Ignatius Hall, Pump Street, Preston. Over 70 members attended. His Lordship Bishop Pearson presided.

Election of Officers

Vacancies on the Management Committee were filled, and the present committee now is:-

President	His Lordship Bishop Pearson
Chairman	R. Rogers Esq., 122, St. Annes Road East, St. Annes.
Treasurer	A. Rose Esq., 92, Ingleway Avenue, Blackpool.
Secretary	W. F. Carter Esq., 'Millfield' 4, Meadow Drive, Bolton-le-Sands, Nr. Carnforth, Lancs

Committee Members J. Gilmour Esq., L. Brown Esq., F. Fenlon Esq.

Wardens for each hut were appointed at a later Management Committee meeting. They are:-

Langdale	Terry Hickey, 92, Dickson Road, Blackpool.
Buckbarrow	Eddie Kelly, 5, Scottforth Road, Preston.
Dunmail	Derek Price, St. Mary's Cottage, Station Lane, Barton, Preston.

Capital Debt.

It was reported that a further £200 had been repayed off the Capital Debt, which now stands at £2,450. It is hoped that all members will strive to wipe out this enormous figure.

Amendments to Constitution

The only amendments received were adopted, and are:-

Rule 5 Paragraph 1 Line 2 should now read; 'A Candidate for election must be proposed and seconded BY A PRIEST AND TWO MEMBERS etc (this applies to Catholic Applicants), and not 'by two members' as printed in the Rules circulated with the last Bulletin.

Rule 5 Paragraph 3 Line 3, the word 'elected' should be substituted by the words 'CONSIDERED FOR ELECTION', to read 'Graduating members shall be considered for election to full membership etc.

Members are requested to amend their copies of the constitution accordingly.

Subscriptions

Members are reminded of Rule 6 which states, 'ANY MEMBER WHO HAS NOT PAID HIS OR HER SUBSCRIPTION ON OR BEFORE THE 1st. JULY? SHALL CEASE TO BE A MEMBER.'

Bill Carter the new Secretary, tells me that he has received almost 200 subs to date. It was reported at the A. G. M. that there were 278 paid up members last year, and 33 Life Members. Have YOU renewed your membership? If not, it should be sent to W. F. Carter Esq., 'Millfield', 4, Meadow Drive, Bolton-le-Sands, Nr. Carnforth, Lancs.

-NOT LATER THAN JULY 1st.

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Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner to celebrate the Coming of Age of the A. R. C. C. will be held at the Skelwith Bridge Hotel, Langdale on Sat. 9th. Nov 63. The cost of tickets will be 21/-d. and will be strictly limited. They will be available on a 'First come, first served' basis. A Dance will follow the Dinner, and the Sub-Committee making the arrangements are hoping to have a speaker of note to address the Club.

Reservations can now be made with Miss V. Flynn, 14, Greenfield St. Haslingden, Rossendale, Lancs. John Gilmour and Jack Case are completing the arrangements, which will be available later.

Mass at Club Huts.

The Bishop of Lancaster has granted facilities to any Priest saying Mass at the Club Huts, to hear confessions, provided that he holds facilities for hearing confessions in his own Diocese.

Pope John.

Referring to the death of Pope John, Bishop Pearson comments: "along with all members of the A.R.C.C. grieve the loss of our beloved Pope and I am sure all will remember him in their prayers."

News from the Huts

Dunmail The Chapel at Dunmail Hut is to be converted to a Wardens room in order that the Hut Warden can stay at weekends and other times when parties are there.

The Chapel is being dismantled and is to be erected and used in the lounge when required.

Derek Price the New Warden tells me he would very much appreciate offers of books for the hut similar to the collections at both Langdale and Buckbarrow. Any offers?

Dunmail incidentally has recently been completely re-decorated. Many repairs and replacements have also been seen to after the very severe Winter. The Club are extremely grateful to the many volunteers responsible, including St. Aidan's School, Widness and St. Trindan's School.

Langdale The redecorating of the Chapel is now almost complete. Mass will be held there each Sunday through the Summer at 10-0a.m. until September.

Members are reminded of the new signing in procedure at Langdale which is:-

All Members and guests MUST sign in on arrival. At the end of your visit enter details of your stay and fees due in the appropriate columns. The above information should be written on one of the envelopes provided, enclose Hut fees and place in box. A party of members may use one envelope, provided they enter all relevant details. REMEMBER it is your responsibility to have the correct money available.

No disinfectant or detergents must be used at either Langdale or Dunmail huts to avoid breaking down the action of the septic tanks. Use materials provided only.

More news from Langdale later

A. G. Bradley, a member from Kent, who is also a member of London Mountaineering Club has offered to assist members of the A.R.C.C. who might want to use the L.M.C. hut in Llanberis. The hut can sleep 16, and members interested can contact 'Brad' direct, the address being:- A.G. Bradley Esq., 50, 'Martin Dene', Bexley Heath, KENT.

Club Journals

I have received copies of several journals which I intend making available at Langdale Hut. It is virtually impossible to reprint parts of them without making this Bulletin into a Journal itself.

The Journal of the Lancashire Caving and Climbing Club 1963. An excellent job containing many articles by members, including a 79-mile walk from Grassington to Langdale to commemorate the L.C.&C.C. Jubilee. The walk took 36½ hours, and accounted for 15,000 ft. of climbing. There is also an account of 'The County Tops'. (Conistone Old Man, Scafell Pike, & Helvellyn being the highest peaks in Lancashire, Westmorland and Cumberland) being climbed in well under 24 hours. I would be pleased to hear of any similar feats to commemorate our 21st. Food for thought, how about it?

Mountaineering March 1963

Contains details of Expeditions during 1963, news of several clubs and huts, an article on 'Making and using your own pitons' etc. A rather interesting point is made by J. McIntosh in the Rockhoppers Newsletter. He says 'It is true that a whistle should be standard equipment, but this is no help when unconscious or asleep from exhaustion and the obvious course seems to be marking action (by self or companion) at the first possible moment. I suggest that everybody in the mountains should carry a small bell, a piece of string, and one of those highly coloured beach balls. These can be bought very cheaply in Woolworth's, and carried in the pocket ready marked with the owners name and address. When blown up and tied to a rock, ice axe or even a part of the body, it is obviously a sensible aid to any search.'

The following information has been contributed by Derek Price, to whom I am most grateful.

A SUMMARY OF CLIMBS ON EAST RAVEN AND FAR EAST RAVEN CRAGS IN THE LANGDALE VALLEY

The idea of this and the following articles is to pass on first hand knowledge of good climbs 'close to the ground' for wet day climbing or otherwise

D. W. Price

Far East Raven (Nearest to the N.D.G.) heading from left to right.

Pianissimo. S. Lies at the extreme left of the first buttress walking from the N.D.G.

Climb the corner on a series of sloping ledges. Has no problems, but could prove difficult if very wet.

Babylon V.S. Starts 40ft. to right of Pianissimo.

P.T.O.

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This climb was attempted by the writer last October with the result of a 40ft. free fall. Apparently a fall of rock from the overhanging last pitch removed footholds and handholds. Ascents since the fall are rumoured, but these are only rumours.

Pitch 1 30ft. Starts at the left-hand side of the main overhang. Climb up the groove for 20ft., move round the corner to the right, and belay to holly tree.

Pitch 2 45ft. Move up left on small holds onto a pinnacle. Traverse diagonally right on extremely rotten rock to a holly tree. (The original idea was to climb up over the tree onto the overhang, but since the fall of rock, the tree is in such a position that it is necessary to climb the overhang from the left.) However it is possible to climb onto a sloping ledge and put oneself in a position that only quick moving will prevent a fall. In the case of the latter, a good running belay round the holly tree should prevent injury.

Ninevah V.S. Starts 30ft. to the right of Babylon. An interesting climb with character, but of no great difficulty.

Pitch 1 30ft. Move up the shallow groove for about 20ft., then move right on good holds for 6ft. Follow the gangway above diagonally left until a ledge with holly tree is reached. Pass behind the tree and belay on a stump at the end of a ledge.

Pitch 2 60ft. Climb up above the stump slightly right, until it is possible to reach a large flake on the left. Mantleshelf this, and move into the corner (tree running belay). Follow the line right up a sloping slab to the belay point.

Damascus V.S. Consists of 3 pitches. I should rate the first pitch as the most difficult. Starts 20ft. to the right of Ninevah

Pitch 1 20ft. A 15ft. strenuous groove requiring finger work. Finishes on good holds and belay.

Pitch 2 25ft. A slightly easier pitch with an awkward move about half way. (good runner before this move)

Pitch 3 25ft. A tricky start with a semi-mantleshelf on a small sloping ledge. Straight forward finish.

Peascods V.S. Starts at the extreme right of the crag. A two pitch climb, probably the easiest of its classification.

Pitch 1 80ft. Straight forward climbing of V. Diff standard - no complications.

Pitch 2 25ft. A rather strenuous, slightly overhanging corner - can be very frustrating. The move is very well protected, but if no success after three good attempts - retire gracefully.

Far East Raven Girdle V. S. Starts about one third the way up Pianissimo. A good climb of several pitches requiring good climbing technique.

Pitch 1 60ft. Climb up Pianissimo as far as the mantleshelf. Traverse right down the sloping ledge and make an awkward move around the corner onto a ledge (it is wise to move up about 10ft. to place a runner before this move) Move along this ledge for 8ft. then climb down 3ft., and make the long step across the groove (crux) Carry on this line to the belay point at the top of first pitch of Babylon.

Pitch 2 40ft. Move down 3ft. behind the tree and step onto the small ledge on the slab below the main overhang. Make a long step across a shallow groove (running belay beyond this), and follow the obvious line across the slab. Climb down and belay at the top of pitch 1 on Ninevah.

Pitch 3 30ft. Again follow the obvious line at the same height for 30ft. to belay at the top of first pitch of Damascus.

Pitch 4 As 2nd. pitch of Damascus.

Pitch 5 As 2nd. pitch of Peascods.

East Raven (Nearest O.D.G.) From left to right facing the crag.

Mamba S. 60ft. Starts at the extreme left of the crag.

A one pitch climb of no great difficulty, rather on the short side to be really interesting. There is now a direct start which gives harder climbing.

Jungle Wall V.S. 90ft.

Starts below a large sloping shelf, about 40ft. to the right of Mamba.

Pitch 1 50ft. This pitch may prove tricky for the shorter man. In general, it has a good standard and requires thought.

Pitch 2 50ft. The large slightly overhanging flake is climbed by the crack in the corner. It requires a few quick unorthodox moves and a great deal of strength. It is helpful to use the right wall for the outer edge of the right foot to gain height. Once over the flake it is straight forward climbing.

Rowan Tree Grooves V.S. 90ft.

A magnificent climb, probably the best of both crags. Starts 10ft. to the right of Jungle wall. May be climbed as one run-out, otherwise:--

Pitch 1 30ft. Climb up the shallow groove and surmount the semi-manifeshelf with the aid of pressure holds for hands. At this point place a runner to cover the next tricky move round the corner to the left. Move up to the bottom of the overhanging groove and belay.

Pitch 2 After a rather awkward start in the groove, climb on good holds to a small Rowan tree (running belay) Traverse out right to an airy corner and climb the arete above to the belay.

Casket V.S. 60ft.

Starts 20ft. to the right of Rowan Tree Grooves and follows a vertical crack up the crag. This route is reputed to be the hardest on the crag. The crux lies about 18ft. up on the overhang.

Baskerville V.S. 60ft.

Starts 15ft. to the right of Casket and follows a line up the crag starting at the lowest point on the corner. It is advisable to a jammed nut below the crux for a running belay, otherwise there is no protection.

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Watson Wall S. 80ft.

Starts about 20 yards to the right of Baskerville or 30ft to the right of a large detached boulder at the foot of the crag.

This is an excellent little climb of good standard, the only difficulty being the overhang at 15ft., and this may be climbed with a manfleshelf.

Any other climbs on the above crags will be published when full information is obtained.

The following list of B.M.C. huts was published in B.M.C. Circular No. 338 Dec 1962. My apologies for the delay in printing it. It should be compared with Bulletin 6 1961, and the following amendments made:-

HUT (AND CLUB)	SITUATION AND ACCESS	ACCOMODATION CHARGE PER NIGHT AMENITIES ETC	WARDEN/ CUSTODIAN/ HON. SEC. & REMARKS HON KEYS.
<u>LAKE DISTRICT</u>			
Dale Bottom (Yorkshire M.C.)	Dale Bottom Farm 2½ miles SE of Keswick on Thirlmere- Keswick road G.R. 296218	12: 2/- No Blankets	M. Lomas 12, Leopold St. Moorend Cleckheaton, Yorks
Traneath (Lancashire Cave & Climbing Club)	Coniston 2 miles SW of Coniston 1 mile from Torres	21: 3/-	M. Dawson 97, Bishop St. Manchester 16.
<u>OTHERS IN ENGLAND</u>			
Ilkley (Yorkshire M.C.)	Cow & Calf Rocks 400 yds SE of Rocks G.R. 134465	8: 2/- No utensils No blankets	J. Wilson 10, Cottingley Green Leeds 11 Keys from Highfield House

B.M.C. Hut list (continued)

WALES & SNOWDONIA

Bedy Mawr (rucksac Club)	Nant Peris On the road from Llanberis Pass to Llanberis	17: Men only 4/- Parking	L.T. Roberts Four Winds, Brooks Drive, Hale Barns Cheshire.
Fronwydyr (London M.C.)	Nant Peris up path to West of Post Office G.R. 605587	16: 4/- No blankets	J. Guthrie 14, Slades Gardens Enfield, Middx.
Tan-Y-Celyn (Manchester University M.C.)	Ty'n-y-Maes Farm Ty'n-y-Maes Halfway between Ogwen Falls and Bethesda	13: 3/6 Parking	Hon. Sec. Manchester Univ. M.C. University Union Oxford Road, Manchester 15 Vacations: J.P. Cooper Hillside, Langham Rd Bowden, Altringham Cheshire
Tan-y-Wyddfa (Oread M.C.)	Outskirts of Rhyd Ddu, 4 miles from Beddgelert on Beddgelert Caernarvon road	20: 4/- No blankets	C. Hooley 24, Bridgen Ave., Allenton, Derby
Tynhon (Ceunant M.C.)	Nant Peris Next to Church of St. Peris	26: 3/6 No blankets Camping Parking	W.H. Yale 68, Grace Road, Tipton, Staffs.
Tynyffordd (wolverhampton M.C.)	Dinas Mawddwy Bwlch-y-Groes to Bala road, 2 1/2 miles NE of Dinas Mawddwy	7: 2/6 Parking	Miss C. Moore 20, Merridale Road, Wolverhampton, Staffs

The rest of the B.M.C. huts and the Secretaries are as printed in Bulletin 6

Tom Hemingway tells me he has got the use of the Ceunant Mountain-
eering Club Hut in Nant Peris village N. Wales, for the use of
Club Members over the week-end, 21st., 22nd., September. Directions
on how to get there appear above. Please contact Tom if you
are interested at 52 Greystock Avenue, Fulwood, Preston.

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More News from Langdale Hut.

At the last Committee Meeting held on 9th. June, the following points were raised:-

Guests Members are reminded of their responsibility for guests signed in at the hut. Any one guest may only stay at the hut 3 times in one year, and only when accompanied by a member. Recently guests have been known to stay during the week after their sponsors have left.

Behaviour The washing up problem has arisen once more at Langdale during past months. Unless members wash up pots & cutlery, and clean down stoves after use, strong action may have to be taken - even suspension.

This applied to lights out and silence in the dormitories after 11p.m. No boots should be worn upstairs after 10p.m., and members are reminded to use sheet sleeping bags, or their own sleeping bags at the hut. (Recently all the blankets have been cleaned at the Laundry)

Members may be interested to know that Harry Robinson, a member of the A.R.C.C., is the Proprietor of the 'Mountaincraft' shop in New Road, Lancaster.

The schools referred to earlier in this Bulletin, in Dunmail news should read:- St. Aidan's School, Widness & Trumdon R.C. School Durham.

From the Secretary to all Members

This is the time of the year when many people join the club. Graduate Members should not be backward or shy in introducing themselves to other members when they arrive at the huts. Full Members have a similar duty to make new members feel at home and show them the ropes. If this is done, it will foster the spirit of friendship and unity which is essential to the wellbeing of the club.

Remember, whether we be Graduate or Full Members, whether we prefer one hut to another, we all belong to the A.R.C.C.

Thanks are due to Valerie Flynn for getting the addresses duplicated for the envelopes, thus saving me a considerable amount of work on future issues.

No further Bulletins will be sent to members failing to renew subs by July 1st.

My usual apologies for the mistakes in the typing, and in some cases the poor quality of the duplicating

Yours sincerely

Barry Ayre

17, Scafell Avenue,
Morecambe, Lancs.