

ACHILLE RATTI CLIMBING CLUB

June 1974

Bulletin 53

Dear Member,

The Annual General Meeting was held last month and Dave Ogden was elected Treasurer and Nev Haigh Ordinary Member of the Management Committee. A.R.C.C. Junior Membership was well discussed and a vote taken, the result was 37 for the proposal and 9 against with two abstentions. The proposal to hold Management Committee Meetings at Bishop's Scale or one of the other Huts was defeated and the proposal to elect the Chaplain as full Management Committee Member failed to attract a sufficient number of votes. I have been asked to inform all members that wherever they may live they are still able to stand for any vacancy that may occur on the Management Committee - no doubt there will be further proposals in the future as to the venue of meetings! The Chairman - Terry Hickey - mentioned that the appeal for subscriptions for the Founder President's Silver Jubilee as a Bishop should be strongly supported by members since without Bishop Pearson's foresight there would be no Achille Ratti Climbing Club. All subscriptions should be sent to:

T. Hickey,
36, Fleetwood Road,
Carleton,
Poulton-le-Fylde,
BLACKPOOL.

I made an error in the last Bulletin when I said that a club history would be sent to members subscribing to the fund, a history will be published in the Bulletin later this year.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Just a reminder to those members who have not yet paid their dues. The fee is now £3 and should be sent to:

N. Haigh,
752, Devonshire Road,
Norbreck,
BLACKPOOL.

Members who pay by Bankers Standing Order should inform their bank of the increase in fees, (I forgot!)

FROM A RECENT 'NORTH WALES CHRONICLE'

"Mr Hughes mentioned the house at Tyn Twr, known locally as 'Ty John Iorc', where John Williams, a member of the Cochwillan family who became Archbishop of York, is reputed to have sought refuge during the Reformation. The house is supposed to be haunted by the ghost of the Archbishop riding a white horse, and legend has it that a treasure is buried in the garden".

Fear not and sleep sound in ye old canvas bunks, 'cos the house mentioned is just over Afon Ogwen from our place, it's the one with the boarded gable end.

On the other hand, I have seen hoof prints some mornings at the back of our Tyn Twr! Treasure seekers beware.

JOHN FOSTER (HUT WARDEN)

SNOWDON HORSESHOE CHARITY RACE 5th May '74

John Foster (he pops up everywhere) sent in a report of the above race and has asked me to inform those members who were at Tyn Twr on 5th May of the results:

- 1st. RAF Valley 'A' - Oldham, Walkington, Owen. 2hrs 55mins
- 2nd. Ogwen MRT - Binyon, Hulse, Lindsay. 3hrs 30mins
- 3rd. Asscn. 'B' - Gordon, Hartley, Hunter. 4hrs 01mins
- 4th. Asscn 'A' - Costello, Cross, Buchanan. 4hrs 05mins.
- 5th. RAF Valley 'B' - Hardman, Pritchard, MacKay. 5hrs 21mins.

Five teams competed in the race carrying bicycles round the Snowdon Horseshoe calling at checkpoints on Crib Goch, Snowdon Summit and Lliwedd. The bicycles had to be complete within sight of the start and finish and at the checkpoint on Snowdon Summit. John sought donations for this charity race from some of his colleagues and members of A.R.C.C. at Tyn Twr and sent a donation of £6 from A.R.C.C. Tyn Twr to Ex-Valley Mountain Rescue Team Association. Over £100 has been collected so far and will be sent to the Accident Unit, C & A Hospital, Bangor.

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP.

As a result of the proposal for Junior Membership being accepted at the A.G.M. the position is now as follows: Junior Membership may be granted to the children of ALL existing Life Members and Full Members on application. The form at the end of the Bulletin must be returned to the Hon Sec by the 1st November, 1974.

The Management Committee have set the annual subscription at 25p per child and it will be due to be paid on the 1st April, 1975. NO fees will be necessary before that date.

On acceptance as a Junior Member your child will be issued with a Junior Membership Card which will be re-newed annually.

All children under the age of 17 years will require Junior Membership. N.B. Only parents or legal guardians may sign in children under 16 years of age. You MUST NOT sign in other members' (or guests') children.

After the 1st November, 1974, you will not be able to take your children to any of the huts unless they are Junior Members.

Derek Price (Hon Sec)

A.R.C.C. HUTS - GUESTS

Just a reminder that the Hut Rules allow one member one guest at all the A.R.C.C. Huts - it seems that the privilege is being abused especially at Bishop's Scale. Also guests are allowed three visits per year - April to April.

Hon Sec.

THREE (OLD) COUNTY TOPS WALK

Saturday May 11th saw the annual long A.R.C.C. walk. This year it was decided to have a bash at the old county tops, Helvellyn - Westmorland, Scafell - Cumberland, and Coniston Old Man (once our own in Lancashire but now taken away from us). The route as published in the last bulletin was from Mill Bridge in Grasmere (Travellers Rest) to Bishop's Scale for all participants, with the exception of five hard cases who called themselves the "sweep party" who started and finished at Bishop's Scale.

There were 29 starters, five dropped out at Wythburn, three more from the fells behind the hut - the magnetic pull of hot baths and brews proving too strong - but once past this temptation no one else cried, "enough".

The first home, arriving at about 4-30pm and the last - two stalwart and fresh looking young ladies (sisters - it must be in the family) together with two members of the sweep party at about 11pm. No doubt all slept well that night. I would like to thank all concerned who made it a very successful weekend.

Matt Bennett (Hut Warden)

Sweep Party Report

4-30a. Saturday morning - Matt Bennett had just loaded the last contingent of walkers to be transported to Mill Bridge.

The Sweep Party stirred and proceeded rather leisurely up the road towards the start of the Silver How path near Harry Place. By far the friskiest of the party at that time being Rusty - Cyril's Red Setter, he must have covered a good five miles for our first two - this was to be the overall pattern throughout the walk.

As if by some pre-arranged signal, the first rain began to fall just as the last member of our party stepped over the stile off the road and the ascent to Silver How began with us reluctantly caped up. Half way up the fell a cuckoo called (probably awakened by the rain) which prompted Cyril to the classical remark that "It must be coming Summer". We proceeded (still leisurely) through Grasmere and began the ascent to Grizedale Tarn, here, Leo moved to the fore and injected some life into the pace - thus bringing all conversation to an abrupt halt. There was little to see on the up-slope to Helvellyn, apart from the boot-heels of the chap in front of you, so it was a pleasant relief to exchange waves with the rear-guard of the first party at the path junction near Nethermost Pike, with Rusty providing further light relief nearer the Summit, by 'pointing' a rock in the time honoured manner mistakenly for a sheep. However, we were soon merrily descending to Wythburn, arriving at the control amid the tantalising aroma of frying bacon - soon to be eating bacon butties and drinking hot sweet tea. The most striking thing to us (apart from the delicious fare) was the sudden rise in temperature, for it had been pretty cool on Helvellyn with snow liberally plastered on the slope between the summit and Red Tarn.

The walk up Wythburn began in rain, but, the signs were right for improvement and on reaching the higher part of the valley the cloud cleared dramatically making the approach to High Raise most pleasurable with uninterrupted views.

- 4 -

It was in the Wythburn Valley that we encountered that redoubtable pair of walkers - Mary and Ann Conlan. Any doubts that I had as to which was the weaker sex were completely dispelled by their tremendous effort in completing the walk. Also I take off my hat to young Keith Foster (12 years old) for his really 'gutsy' (for want of a better superlative) performance. This young man must have a great future as a member of the walking fraternity (if he decides to start fell running - Joss Naylor watch out).

A mistake that I made on leaving High Raise resulted in Cyril, Ann and Harry walking a couple of extra miles. It so happened that in error I pointed to a path leading to Three Tarns and described it as the track from Angle Tarn to Esk Hause. Cyril, (head down) made a bee-line for it, passing close to Thunacar Knott, followed by the others - a modern Pied Piper. However, the mistake was rectified and we were eventually re-united at Esk Hause. All was forgiven after a few cups of lovely tea. From hereon Scafell Pikes fell easily and quickly, it seeming a relatively short time before we were drinking tea at Cockley Beck. On the point of starting the last good ascent of the walk - Grey Friar, large portions of fruit cake appeared - this latter item must have added fifteen minutes to our ascent time - but it was worth it. The weather deteriorated on the final ridge to Conistone Old Man, the return route via Swirl How to Wetside Edge being made in heavy mist and failing light, so that we arrived at the Three Shires Stone (and more tea) just as darkness fell. The remaining token miles slid easily by and we were back at Bishop's Scale, and rounded off a wonderful day on the hills with a veritable feast.

Truly a day to remember. Our grateful thanks to all the support parties without whose help these events would not be possible. ANYONE INTERESTED IN A WINTER CROSSING?

Roy Phillips (Route Organiser)

OBITUARY

The death is announced of Sir Arnold Lunn - a co-founder of the Club. Bishop Pearson will say the 6-30pm Mass (Saturday) at Bishop's Scale on the 21st September, 1974, and makes an appeal to all earlier members to attend.

GENERAL NEWS

Mike Crawford has been appointed Hut Warden of Buckbarrow his address is:

24, Mansfield Road,
BLACKPOOL, FY3 7AE.

Mike has asked me to say that a number of families are booked in at Buckbarrow on the 21/22/23rd June.

To Matt & Janet Bennett, 349, Haslington Rd, Blackburn, a daughter, Fiona Janet, 7lb 6ozs. A welcome sister for Ogwen (dog) and Henry & Emily (cats)
To Dave & Viv Parker, 6, Ludovic Terrace, Wigan, a daughter, Judith Marie, 9lbs 2ozs, a sister for Ian & Michael.

Many thanks to John Foster, Matt Bennett and Roy Phillips for contributing articles to the Bulletin.

All the best,

Ted Southworth.

Bulletin articles to: TE. Southworth,
15, St Francis Road,
BLACKBURN. BB2 2TZ.

APPLICATION FOR JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

Use Block capitals.

Name of Parent

Names, ages and number of children

Address

to be returned to the Secretary before 1st November, 1974.

D. Price (Sec)
615, Blackpool Road,
Ashton-on-Ribble,
PRESTON, PR2 1LH.

s.a.e. appreciated.

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