

# ACHILLE RATTI CLIMBING CLUB

September 1975

Bulletin 59

Dear Member,

I hoped that you managed to catch the best of a very good Summer; looking through the Langdale Log Book I notice that some good climbs have been done as well as long walks during the past two months. I notice also that quite a few members managed to get abroad to the Alps and Dolomites.

The main purpose of this issue is to inform members of forthcoming events in November; mainly the Annual Dinner and Sponsored Walk.

## ANNUAL DINNER

The Annual Dinner this year will be held at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Grasmere, on 15th November, 1975. The cost per person will be £4.00 this to include music and dancing. Bed and Breakfast at the Prince of Wales is available at a special rate of £2.50 per person, £1.50 for children under 3yrs. Bookings for accommodation MUST be made through the Club otherwise the special rate will not be charged. A form is attached at the end of the Bulletin to help with the administration of Booking etc. A deposit of £1.00 per person must be included for each person requiring accommodation. Forms to be returned to Ginger Hickey - address on form.

Diners should arrive at the Hotel at 6.30pm for 7pm start.

## BISHOP'S SPONSORED WALK

The Annual Sponsored Walk this year will be held on the 29th November, 1975. The arrangements are the same as last year except that there will be no Marquee - very few people used it. Volunteers should try and meet at Bishop's Scale on Friday evening if possible, in order that jobs/positions can be allocated. Route - same as last year.

## BOOKINGS AT BISHOP'S SCALE - LANGDALE.

October	18 - 19th	Birmingham M.C. (Graduates)	15 places
November	4 - 6th	Outward Bound - Eskdale	28 places
December	9 - 11th	" " "	" "
December	13&14 th	Bolton Tech	12 places
December	20&21st	Lincoln M.C.	12 places
<u>1976</u>			
March	29&30th	Outward Bound - Ullswater	6-8
March/April	30 - 1st	Outward Bound - Eskdale	14
February	21st	L.C. & C.C.	15

### BOOKINGS AT TYN TWR

18th	October	Kendal M.C.
1st	November	Lincoln M.C.
8th	November	Foley College M.C.

### 1976

10th	January	L.C. & C.C.
24th	January	Foley College M.C.

### MOUNTAIN PHOTOGRAPHY

Glencoe is a lovely place, full of light. In May, last winter's snow still lies three feet deep, high up where the sun has not reached it.

While staying there, I tried photographing mountains, using an Instamatic which, being simple to use, is the only camera for which I am fit. It is also very light to carry. I worked on the non-photography principle that, if you take enough photo's, a few are bound by the laws of chance to be good. This principle proved true, at least I thought so and the few successes adorn my wall, giving a pleasant boost to the Ego. But I have since been wondering what exactly it is that makes a good mountain picture.

In so far as a non-photographer can have any theories about this, here are mine:

1. Mountains are high. The top of the mountain must therefore be not far from the top of the picture, unless one is already high up oneself.
2. A picture must be "about" something, not just a view. Cloud shadows dappling the land is a good subject; or a hail storm approaching; or a beautiful shape. There must be no doubt in the mind as to what the picture is about.
3. The picture needs to be balanced. When judging the layout, I found it useful to divide the frame into thirds, more or less. But this balancing needs "feel", I find it doesn't always come off.
4. If one is at a height, the mountains around stand up and make a better picture.

I had really no experience of photography, and was highly elated at the success I think I had. So you too, dear reader, can have your own pictures on the wall - or perhaps you already have.

R.O. Jackson. O.S.B.



## TYN TWR - SEPTEMBER MEET

The turn-out for the September Meet was less than the Spring Meet, but was reasonable. There were 17 in all, including 7 Junior Members. The Carneddws were walked on and rock was climbed in Llanberis and Ogwen. As usual ale was supped in Bethesda and also Llanberis. The weather was rather cold but only one brief shower on Saturday dampened an enjoyable weekend.

Notably, five members made the effort to come down from the Lakes and one from Yorkshire. This illustrates how feeble is the excuse of so many dying members in the Fylde that Wales is too far for a weekend. Or maybe just too far.

Since June, upto the meet weekend, there have only been forty members in Tyn Tyr. Income is still preponderantly from visiting clubs, apparently indicating that more non-members appreciate Tyn Twr than do A.R.C.C. members.

Development is not proceeding yet, only a dozen or so windows having been repaired after the local kids had enjoyed target practice. Work on a drying room is expected to commence this Autumn.

John Foster (Hut Warden)

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 20th Sep, LANGDALE

Present: T.Hickey. G. Partridge. B. Carter. D. Ogden. N. Haigh  
D. Harding. J. Harding. J. Foster. C. Millard. M. Crawford.

Non-committee members present, Fr D. Elder - Club Chaplain.  
T.E. Southworth, Bulletin Editor.  
Apologies from E. Kelly.

Graduates accepted: Mark Tootell. John Williams. David McLaughlin.  
Stephen Friswell. Patricia Doherty. Susan Morrissey.  
Valerie Lomas. Rev Dermot Mills. Alan Kenny.  
Sean O'Hagan. David Simpson. Rev David Foster.

Graduates to Full  
Members:

J. Bibby. M. Rogerson. EG. Harrison. Rev L. Heakin.  
S. Foord. Rev P. Gibson. S. Bolton. D. Parrish.  
G. Billington.

Chairman's Report. The Chairman spoke about the Sponsored Walk and asked that a notice be published in the Bulletin.  
(Notice on page I)

Secretary's Report. The total membership is now as follows:

Life Members	137
Full Members	297
Graduate Members	38
Junior Members	137
	<u>609</u>

Non Catholic Membership is 121 of total above or 19.9%

Correspondance. Lake District Mountain Accident Association - Persons taking part in a rescue are volunteers and cannot claim expenses.

J. Britt. re Langdale Family Quarters - Overflow Dormitory. The Management Committee say that: "Families need not be split before Family Quarters are considered full and the downstairs overflow dormitory is used."

A. Mathews. re Junior Members' Meets.

D. Price. List of Youth Clubs in Salford and Liverpool Dioceses.

General.

Six double bunks and spring interior mattresses have been purchased from Underley Hall.

The Club Chaplain Fr David Elder, has now left Underley Hall and can be reached:

c/o 44, Greenwood Avenue,  
BLACKPOOL,  
FY1 6RQ

Treasurer's Report. A detailed list of income and expenditure was read out; Hut Fees/Rates/Fuel etc, the accounts are as follows:

Deposit Account	£1034 . 91
Current Account	£ 555 . 95
Total	<u>£1590 . 86</u>

Nothing has yet been spent on the alterations reported in the last Bulletin.

Hut Warden's Reports. Dunmail Lino has been laid upstairs by the Morecambe group.

The Septic Tank has been emptied.

Discussion took place on replacing the hot water boiler with a gas water heater. A lot of coke is being wasted. Also the possible purchase of an incinerator to burn refuse.



Buckbarrow. The Hut is being quite well used by parties of members and visiting clubs.

Mick Crawford (Hut Warden) sends his thanks for a Guide Book - Climbs in Wasdale - donated by the "Langdale Lot"

A discussion took place on dogs at the Huts. Members are reminded that pets are not allowed on Hut premises, they are to sleep in their owners' cars and all utensils - bowls etc, are to be brought from home.

The Hut key is held by Mrs Gass, at Ghyll Farm. If any member is going to arrive late at Buckbarrow could they please ring Mrs Gass, Gosforth 250, who will leave the key on her front door. She has been 'knocked up' in the wee small hours on a number of occasions.

Tyn Twr.

(Meet reported on page 3)

The essential maintenance and alterations reported in Bulletin 58 are to go ahead and an estimate for £800 was accepted in principle. There was a detailed discussion on the alterations; moving window to create a door, changing a doorway into a window, and turning a staircase, also included was the possible dampproofing of a wall.

Langdale - Bishop's Scale

Drainage to rear of Chapel had been carried out and there had been no dampness so far. The outside metalwork had been painted. Many mattresses needed replacing.

There is to be a meeting of all Hut Wardens and Jim Harding at Langdale on Oct 11th to fix a Calendar of Events for next year; hopefully to be included in the next Bulletin.

Any other business

The Annual Orienteering Event is to be held on the day after the Dinner - possibly at Chapel Stile.

The next meeting of the Management Committee is to be held in Preston on 7th November. Venue to be arranged.

Included with the Bulletin are the new amendments to the A.R.C.C. Rules regarding Junior Membership.

## AWAY TO WALES

It occurred to me that most A.R.C.C. members regard Wales as Central Snowdonia, and reading through Tyn Twr Log Book adds to that impression, with the possible exception of the Anglesey sea cliffs. Perhaps you have done enough motoring when you get to Bethesda, but believe me it is worth while in a crowded holiday period or a hot weekend to seek out some of the more unusual climbing scenes in Wales. There are two ways to avoid the crush, go to the out-lying areas or to unfrequented crags in the popular areas.

Let's start with that centre of activity, Idwal, despite all the good routes in the slabs area, the best climb I have ever done in Idwal is on Devil's Kitchen Cliff. Many years ago, too long to tell, Dickie Morsley tried to con my brother and I into doing his favourite route, Advocates Wall. Thank goodness we did not fall for his smooth patter as I found it exciting enough in 1971 with modern gear. The starting pitch, just to the right of the Boulder Pitch is a bit vegetated but nice and steep. The second pitch is a wonder, good protection, huge drop over the stream and curious but impressive exposure, with the opposite wall only fifteen <sup>feet</sup> away at one point. A further long grassy, but exposed, chimney completes the routes.

For those of more modest aspirations Devil Staircase and the Kitchen itself make a great day. Paul Sidoli found the Kitchen very impressive and exciting, after years on an exclusive diet of extremes. Incidentally, Devil's Nordwand, is hard and not on good rock as James states in his book. On the other side of the Cwm, the Central Arete with the direct start, and Grey Slabs are as good as anything in the lower Cwm.

The Main Cliff on Glyder Fach is unaccountably neglected particularly early in the day, we had it to ourselves on a warm autumn Sunday. JM Archer Thompson knew a good climb when he saw one and the Great Arete and Tower Ridge on Creigiau Gleison are great V-Diffs, and with Craig Cwrwgl (Pillar of Elidar) the nearest to our hut.

In the Llanberis area once one gets past Cynr Las with its popular Main Wall, possibly the best V-Diff play ground in North Wales is on Clogwyn y Person with Rectory Chimney the best of an excellent trio comprising Black Gates and Gambit. Try finishing the day with Reade's Routes finishing on the top of Crib Goch Ridge, the stride off the pinnacle on to the main buttress is one of those moves that sticks in the mind. Further West is a Cliff called Craig Cwm Bychan With the best mountain arete, as a penultimate pitch, in Wales. An added bonus, is the trackless approach over beautiful heather, incidentally this is the cliff which shows up so well from the ramparts of Caernarvon Castle.

Going further West you come to a really unique cliff on the seaward side of the Rivals. Approach the cliff, which is about 500ft high, from the Deserted Village at the level of the lowest shoulder above the sea. If climbing above or about the sea suits you, try the very sound granite quarries at the East end of the Warren Beach at Abersoch.



It has all the attractions of the seaside with wonderful water for swimming - the climbing is just around a quiet corner on excellent granite, with all grades catered for. You will probably not raise more than twelve climbers on the whole of the climbs mentioned even on a Bank Holiday. (try proving the contrary and they are better than many classics on the more well known crags.)

Those who really wish to get away from it all and climb in the style of the days of old, should come with those of us who have discovered Central Wales. Come to remote Cwm Cowarch and find out what it's like to climb on cliffs with heather on the ledges, before it's too late. Do not be put off with the initial impression, the lines of the climbs are clean if you stick to the recommended routes in John Summers' excellent guide book, published by West Col. The exposure on the cliff is incredible because the vegetation can be vertical, as well as the rock, which is a superb pink in places. It is big mountaineering in the Scottish sense, the scale is deceptive. George Partridge who has climbed a few in his time, found it distinctly exhausting mentally, due to its atmosphere. I hope that we can arrange a Meet at Cowarch and there are numerous other cliffs in the area including Gist Ddu on the South Face of Aran Benllyn which has the best rock outside Skye I have ever climbed on. It has three tremendous H.V.S. and about five other routes that are great in the lower grades.

The North Face of Cader has 6 miles of cliffs with many fine crags, remote and isolated the area is a natural for walkers and the peaks are just under the 3000 ft contour.

The pubs are friendly and very emotional musically, but you have to get in early as they soon get full. Don't forget when you are in the Red Lion, that the Stafford Club Hut has a walking only approach over rough ground. ( $\frac{3}{4}$  mile)

Perhaps this article has induced you to try the different places in Wales and find the Principality is more than the Pass and Tremadoc. It is not to be forgotten that Central Wales is nearer to Merseyside and Manchester than Snowdonia, in fact Gist Ddu is only 3 miles from the top of Bala Lake.

MERLIN (Stew Evans)

GENERAL

The space left at the bottom of page seven is there so as not to spoil the article on Wales should anyone wish to keep it.

There has been a rock fall on the Plaque Route, Bowfell Buttress, Pitch Five has now been drastically altered, some lower pitches have loose blocks on the ledges.

To Matt and Janet Bennett a son, born 27/9/75, a brother for Fiona.

The Langdale Fell Race was run on the 20th September, 1975, and five members of A.R.C.E. took part; Leo Pollard, George Partridge, Roy Phillips, Alan Holmes and Ted Southworth. The course starts at the O.D.G. then to Stickle Tarn, Thunacar Knott, Esk Hause, Bowfell, Crinkle Crag, Pike O'Blisco, Blake Rigg End, O.D.G. The winner, Mike Short, stayed at Bishop's Scale for the weekend and won in the amazing time of 2hrs 05mins. Leo Pollard had a particularly creditable time of 2hrs 40mins. Distance 14 miles.

Many thanks to Stew Evans, John Foster and Fr Jackson for articles in this issue. See you at the Dinner and Sponsored Walk!

Best wishes,

Ted Southworth.

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Please fill in the form below if you require Dinner Tickets and/or accommodation on the 15th November, send with S.A.E. to:

Mrs G. Hickey,  
16, Fleetwood Road,  
Carleton,  
Poulton-le-Fylde, BLACKPOOL. FY6 7NL.

Name . . . . .	<u>Number</u>	<u>Total (£.p)</u>
Tickets at £4.00 each . . . . .		
Accommodation requirements . . . . .		
. . . . .		
. . . . .		
£1.00 deposit for each person staying at Hotel . . . . .		
Address to send tickets . . . . .		
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		<u>Final</u>
		<u>Total</u>