

ACHILLE RATTI CLIMBING CLUB

JANUARY 1978

BULLETIN 67

Dear Member,

I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year. I am sorry that this bulletin did not go out before Christmas, but I held it back hopefully awaiting articles.... and also time was in short supply. Due to meets and working weekends I was only at home for one weekend between September and Christmas.

NEWS

1. CAVING MEET. The Caving Meet held in Oct. 1976 was such a success (apart from the grotty hut that we stayed in), that it was felt that these should become at least an annual event.

Stu Evans has arranged for a meet on the weekend of Jan. 28/29th and due to the hospitality of Harry and Cherie Wiggans it will be run from their home 19, Burneside Rd, Kendal. (Go through Kendal on the Windermere Rd and at the bottom of the big hill turn right, the house is next to a shop on the right hand side). Food and accommodation is available for approximately 12 people, so ring Kendal 24486 to book.

The Saturday Trip will be Ireby Cavern, a splendid long trip with short pitches in a huge stream passage. Sunday will be dependent on consensus request.

Please book for lights if you haven't one of your own, with Stu, phone Malpas 214. Ensure that you have a change of clothing and woollens next to your skin if you cannot get a wet-suit. You will need two lots of gear for two days caving as you will be unable to dry Saturdays lot.

2. Enclosed with this bulletin are the meet cards for 1978. Please keep them in a prominent place and note that only the long walk is catered for.
3. I received a letter from Dog Holden this week, from Rothera Base in Antarctica. He says that was shortly going to work in the Shackleton Mountains with geologist Pete Clarkson who is also an A.R.C.C. member. These mountains were only discovered in the mid-fifties by Sir Vivian Fuchs during his Trans Antarctic Exp., and that if anyone would like to know more about them before he gets home in the spring, to ask Harry Wiggans, as he has visited them too.

4. WORKING WEEKENDS

TYN TWR Unfortunately the three working weekends at Tyn Twr didn't have 80 eager folk wanting to join in as the 14 Peaks weekend did. However 12 members helped at the first one, six at the second one and only four at the third one. These numbers include the regular workers at Tyn Twr. Quite a lot was accomplished and I was grateful to those members who did boring

Working Weekends Cont...

cleaning jobs and certainly the hut now looks smart and clean. THERE WILL BE FURTHER WORKING WEEKENDS TO DO SHOWERS AND UPSTAIRS TOILETS ON January 28th/29th. and also February 11/12th. If you have plumbing experience you will be more than welcome.

LANGDALE

Harry reports that the working weekend there went off quite well. About 13 members attended, most of them new members and a lot of work was done. THERE WILL BE A FURTHER WORKING WEEKEND ON FEB 4th

5. WARNING Non-members have been arriving at the huts making themselves at home and comfortable and when questioned have given members names. These members have not appeared and the non-members profess concern for their absent 'friends', and are allowed to stay the weekend. Sometimes the non-members are really hard faces faced and clear off on Sunday without even paying. There will be lists of members placed in each hut for reference, but as these these will be out of date quite quickly it would be a good idea if you all began to carry your membership cards with you, particularly less well known members and newish members.

Our huts have begun to be known as an easy place to doss, probably these people first stayed as a member of a visiting party, so be on the look out for them.

6. FAMILY QUARTERS KITCHEN

Is now complete and much more convenient for use as well as being safe. Contrary to rumour Harry didn't make that built-in furniture himself, it was done by an Ambleside firm Peter Stotts, and the tiles were donated from Dunmail. It is worth a trip round the back just to see it.

7. CHILDREN IN THE HUTS

The Management Committee have asked me to remind you of the rules which apply to children under the age of 16 years using Club Huts

- a. They must be junior members.
- b. Children born to Full Members are not automatically Junior Members.
- c. One parent must have been a Full Member for five years before junior membership is granted.
- d. Junior Membership costs 25p per child per year, and children are not eligible to use the huts until the membership fee for that year has been paid.
- e. When junior members reach the age of 16 years they may use the Huts unaccompanied by their parents or other Full Member.
- f. Junior members under the age of 16 years may use the huts accompanied by and under the care of any other Full Member, with the parents permission.
- g. Junior members apply for full membership on reaching the age of 17 years.
- h. Non-members who are 16 years old may apply for graduate membership but full membership will not be granted until they are 17 years.

CHILDREN IN THE HUTS Cont....

- i. In very special circumstances other children may use the huts, but at the discretion of the Hut Warden.
- j. There is no booking system for families using Bishopscale or Tyn Twr, but parents must apply to the Hut Warden of Buckbarrow for permission to take children there.
- k. Children up to the age of 10 years must use the family accommodation at Bishopscale, and not sleep in the main part of the Hut.

8. PRIESTS FOR SKYE

The parish to which the islands of Skye, Rhum, Muck, Canna and Eigg belong to also includes a large part of the north-west mainland, and not surprisingly is the biggest parish in Britain. This vast area is covered by one priest from Glenfinnan, by Fort William. The Catholic population of Skye is increasing, mainly due to incomers, or 'white settlers', but although there is a new Church in Portree, Mass is only said there about once every eight weeks. There is accommodation provided, but this is self-catering, and for one person only. ~~??~~ Private transport is essential, but Portree is only 10 miles from Sgur nan Gillean.

Any priests who fancy a holiday on Skye this summer, are welcome to stay with us in Sconser, 12 miles from Portree and at the foot of the mountains. If you are seriously interested, please write to Father Cameron, Catholic Church, Glenfinnan, by Fort William, Invernesshire., and also to John Foster, 29, Braeside Cres, Billinge, Nr. Wigan Lancs, for dates between 22.6.78 and 10.9.78.

- 9. CARAVAN TO LET The Fosters have a 5 berth caravan to let for two weeks at Easter, the week before and the week after Easter weekend, and also between the dates 1st July and 10th September. The caravan has twin beds in a separate room, a double bed and a further bed in the kitchen. There is calor cooking, electric light and the caravan is on a croft on the south bank of Loch Sligachan, it is fully equipped except for linen and costs £25 per week all inclusive. Write to Joyce Foster.

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Reading through old bulletins I have found the following;-
From Harry Wiggans in Antarctica in 1969.

I am leaving base tomorrow on a short trip of 170 miles and when I return I will be airlifted by American aircraft, with five others and three dog teams to the Shackleton Mountains for the summer. This summer I will become the first man ever to do a complete traverse of this range. Just imagine a mountain range as big as the Alps where no one has ever been, all to yourself. Last summer I did some 30 odd first ascents and well over a thousand miles of dog sledging around the range. These dog teams of ours are really wonderful. The only reward they expect for working their hearts out is a pat on the head. They live for three things; pulling, fighting and The name of my team is the Beatles!

ANNUAL ORIENTEERING EVENT, SUNDAY 27th NOVEMBER.

Excellent weather once more graced the day for the orienteering. The venue was the High Dam area on the South West shore of Windermere, kindly made available to us by the National Y.M.C.A. Centre, North Camp, Lakeside. The staff at the centre were most helpful and I must express my thanks to them and Centre Director John Naylor.

The course was 2.5Km with 8 controls, short but over steep fairly open deciduous woodland and open fell.

First out and back was Wilf Charnley, whom I reckoned at evens; close on his heels came Jim Harding. However, victory went to Mickey Pooler who returned a very impressive 30 mins 30 secs. I had anticipated a winning time of about 35 mins. I saw Mickey on his way to control No 1 and was very impressed by his speed uphill, particularly following on his five route pre-dinner outing on White Ghyll. Keep taking the pills Mickey!

Daughter Elizabeth, returning to the annual dinner weekend after a years break, finished sixth overall and took the Ladies Trophy. Unfortunately title holders Paul and Helen Charnock could not get along to defend their joint titles.

Spare a sympathetic thought for newcomer Geoff Billington a newcomer to orienteering who virtually went round twice, once in each direction!

Thanks to everyone who came along to help and cheer and congratulations to the trophy winners. I think everyone enjoyed the day, a large number of people tried their hand on the mini-O-course in the centre grounds, maybe some will try 'the Big-One' next year. We could use the same basic venue again next year. If you have any views for or against let us know. One suggestion is to have the start and finish on the forecourt of the Langdales! Editors note: That sounds like a good idea, why not have it in Basebrown wood?

FULL RESULTS

1.	Mick Pooler	time 30.00	Mens Trophy
2.	Wilf Charnley	39.00	
3.	Jim Harding	39.50	
4.	Dave Harding	42.00.	
5.	Chris Farrell	46.10	
6.	Elizabeth Partridge	46.50	Ladies Trophy
7.	Clive Millard	47.50	
8.	Peter Donnelly	49.30	
9.	Dave Ogden	53.30	
10.	Andrew Morrison	61.00	
11.	Mick Crawford	62.00	
12.	Sean O'Hagan	66.00	
13.	Mr & Mrs Rod Whittam	72.00	
14.	G. Billington	88.00	(Went round twice)
15.	Ailsa Donnelly	92.00	
16.	Mr & Mrs Donnelly	126.00	

FARWELL TO DUNMAIL by WALTER THOMAS.

(A non-member who uses our huts as a member of a visiting club)

The hot water gushed obediently from the chromium plated tap. I eased myself into the pristine white bath and soaped myself with an expensively perfumed soap, kindly left by a thoughtful previous occupant. I gazed pensively at the pine-clad walls and the tiled floor. I dried myself and padded across to my bedroom, pausing to admire my elegant bed with spring interior mattress and combed my hair in front of the mirror of the dressing table. The pleasant warmth of the gas radiators greeted me as I sat down at the cafeteria type table on a chromium plated chair. The gas central heating boiler purred away in the corner Dunmail 1977.

But it will be with nostalgia that I will remember the other Dunmail. The Dunmail where the mattresses looked as though they had been abused by a thousand down and outs, and where you felt that massed armies of bed bugs were waiting ... eagerly. The grimy, greasy pots and pans, the home of a million unspeakable and virulent germs. The general overall dust that blanketed person and property with a uniform density. The insidious cold that seemed to be built into the walls and floors so that it was of little importance that there were gaping holes in the windows. The rickety beds that had to be buttressed to prevent total collapse during the night.

Ah well, that's progress I suppose, but the good old days are the ones I shall remember.

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FELL RUNNING SCENE

The last lot of notes that Leo Pollard passed onto me had written on the back which I missed out. He says that if anyone is interested in the routes of the fell races he will write detailed descriptions of the courses for them. Write to 2, Redway Close, Stocks Park, Horwich, Bolton.

Ted Southworth being ex- bulletin sends me piles of stuff on fell-running.

Langdale Race on Sep 17th. 1977

Club results out of 210 competitors, total entry of 275.

4th. Mike Short	1hr	56mins	03secs.	
75. Ted Southworth	2	30	13	(12 mins faster than
88. Pete Chapman	2	33	00	last year.)

Rossendale Horseshoe Fell Race Sep. 1977

This was a fast race on a very hot day, and quite a few competitors were overcome by heat and pace and retired. 300 runners.
Pete Chapman 93rd in 76mins 19 secs. Ted Southworth 112th 78.19.

PELL RUNNING Cont...

Three Towers Race was in Oct. 20 miles including Rivington Pike, Darwen Tower and Holcombe Tower.

3rd Mike Short 1. 59.02.
 83rd Ted Southworth 2. 24.03
 146 Pete Chapman 2.83.03.
 last man out of 269 runners was 3.37.31.

The following weekend was the Karrimor 2 day Mountain Marathon on the Howgill Fells.

Ted was entered but I haven't heard how he did, also Cyril Hodgson. A couple of years ago Cyril and his partner Jeff Woods had the highest number of years between them and had an article written about them in I think the Sunday Times.

Pete Chapman with partner Clive Wilson was third in the B Class in an entry of 300 teams.

There are six classes from the Elite to the Expedition class and teams have to carry camping equipment and food for two days. This year the weather was kind with sunshine and only isolated showers.

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There is another bulletin due out before Easter, and I would be delighted to receive any news births, marriages etc.. and particularly information and articles. I have been reading old bulletins in search of material and the quality of the articles ~~was~~ really good, Lots more climbing. So new, young members how about putting pen to paper?

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THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will take place on Sat April 22nd in Preston.

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