

ACHILLE RATTI CLIMBING CLUB.

BULLETIN 72.

1979  
MARCH 1978.

Dear Members,

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held in Preston on Saturday April 28th, 1979 at 2pm in St Ignatius Church Hall, Pump Street. Many members do not know Preston, so find the bus station, cross the ring road at the rear, and there is St Ignatius Church with the Hall nearby.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sat. April 22nd, 1978.
2. Matters arising.
3. President's report.
4. Chairman's report.
5. Secretary's report.
6. Treasurers report.
7. Reports from the Hut Wardens.
8. Proposed changes to Rules.
9. Any other business.

DEADLINES TO BE MET FOR THE AGM.

1. The last day for submitting to the secretary, notice of intention to propose new rules, or alterations to existing rules ..... Saturday 31st March, 1979.
2. The last day for the Secretary to advise members of the said new rules or alteration to rules ..... Saturday, April 14th.
3. The last day on which any matters other than amendments to rules, which members may wish to discuss at the AGM, are to be received by the Secretary by ..... Saturday 21st April.
4. NOMINATIONS ..... There are no vacancies or nominations due for the Management Committee this year.

ALTERATION TO RULES

Subject to some clarification from the Club Solicitor on the effect or effects on Rule 10, the management committee may be recommending a change in Rule 19 to read... delete 1 month and add 2 months. Delete 14 days and add 1 month.

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### EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE JAN. MEETING

Work on fifteen new bunks for Bishopscale had started at a cost of £30 each.

The treasurer reported that he had made arrangements for Bishop Scale and Dunmail to be held covered at the new levels of £70,000 and £60,000 respectively. The question of members personal liability insurance whilst working on club premises was to be looked into. The Chapel was covered for £15,000 and Tyn Twr was covered under a separate policy, although some benefit in reduced overall premiums may accrue from placing all club insurances with one broker.

Tyn Twr: John reported that A Jones had been requested to proceed with work on the pillars. The estimate for the run-in walls was not yet to hand.

Two of the 'guests' using Tyn Twr without permission had been traced to Bolton Technical College and John was pursuing the matter.

After some discussion on dampness at Tyn Twr, John was requested to get an estimate for asphaltting the ground floor.

Dunmail Hut Fees: Tom circulated a detailed analysis of income for 1978 for Dunmail, together with a likely income for 1979 at different levels. He also explained that some of his more regular customers were anticipating an increase of around 10%. After discussion it was agreed the new weekly rate would be £140 and the new weekend rate £1.10p per person per night, with a minimum weekend booking of £20 per night, although Tom would retain the discretion to vary rates as he thought appropriate.

#### Polish Climbing Club Visit:

A letter was read out from the Stoleczny Club saying that their interest had declined because most of their members were already engaged for this year and because of the high cost of passports, visas and travel.

They had passed out invitation on to the largest climbing club in club in Warsaw and made an alternative proposal for any member of ARCC who wished to join them in a 2nd Ascent of Mount Sickle Moon in the Kishtwar Himalaya. It was decided that this invitation be circulated to members and anyone interested could apply to the committee for financial assistance.

Electricity at Dunmail: The question of a supply of electricity to Dunmail was raised and discussed and the secretary was requested to make initial contact with the Electricity Board.

Next Meeting 23rd. February.

### EXTRACTS FROM THE FEBRUARY MEETING

The Treasurer undertook to do some work on the income from fees, to be available at the next meeting.

Langdale: Harry reported attendances down due to bad weather. A number of burst pipes had been attended to and lagging would take place at some future working weekend. The cheapest reasonable



MINUTES Cont...

Langdale:

estimate received so far for mattresses was £14 each and H Harry was authorised to proceed on that basis if a cheaper alternative was not available.

Dunmail: Tom reported no cancellations, but the extreme weather had prevented work being done on the hut. Overall booking situation was very satisfactory.

Tyn Twr: John reported that the pillars were not yet repaired because of the frost. The estimate for run-in walls was £291. The run-in walls were specified on the original planning permission for change of use of property and this outlay was agreed. An Insurance renewal for Tyn Twr showed it to be under insured and the Treasurer agreed to look into the matter.

Polish Visit: One person was particularly interested in joining the Stoleczny Club on their expedition to Sickle Moon, but as he has allowed his ARCC membership to be out of date, he does not qualify for assistance or support.

Membership: Some discussion took place on the number of people who do not renew their membership by the 1st of July, and according to Rule 6 (iii) paragraph 2, cease to be members. It was agreed in future that a list of members (only fully paid up members) would be kept at each hut, and non paid-up 'members' would be turned away at the discretion of the Hut Warden.

It was reported that some usage of the huts had taken place by husbands and wives who were not members, but had paid members fees not guest fees. And also by children of members who had not qualified as Junior Members, and by children who did qualify to be Junior Members but whose parents had not paid the annual membership fee for them. Increased vigilance was requested by the Hut Wardens with the assistance of a list of members to be published by Nev Haigh.

Next Meeting: Friday March 23rd.

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WHAT'S HAPPENED TO DOT'S FILM?

I don't know. I only passed on the information given to me. Keep looking in the Radio Times, the film is in the series 'Of Men and Mountains', which was screened at 7pm on BBC2 on Friday evenings.

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The Junior Meet 9/10th based at Bishopscale.

No booking this year. Helpers and families turn up at the hut, to organise the meet themselves .... on the spot.



1979 LONG WALK ..... BUCKBARROW 12th MAY.

The rout will be THE WASDALE HORSESHOE starting and finishing at the Hut.

Whinrigg - Illgill Head - Scafell - Broadstand - Scafell Pike - Esk Hause - Styhead Tarn - Green Gable - Great Gable - Kirk Fell - Black Sail - Pillar - Haycock - Seatallan - Buckbarrow Crag.

It is possible to sleep 20 people in the hut, and providing that they don't all finish together it is possible to provide 30 evening meals. Will aspirant walkers please state whether they require accommodation at the hut.

Local volunteers have already been pressed into manning a fixed rope on Broadstand. More HELPERS will be NEEDED both in the hut and to man the butt stops on the hill, and it would be appreciated if the persons doing the teastall on Esk Hause could stay in Langdale, although this isn't absolutely necessary.

This is a catered meet, and the meals provided are Sat. breakfast, food on the hill, Sat evening meal, and Sunday breakfast. You need to bring Fri supper and Sunday main meal with you, and also any 'pet' go faster food for the hill.

As accommodation is limited it is advisable to book straight away to be sure of a place. There should be a reduction in the cost for helpers. Inclusive cost £3.50. - 1008

We met some of them at the junction, on their way down from the summit. It was bitterly cold, visibility only a few yards; so a brief visit to the trig point and back to the shelter. We met up with Frank Whittle, Mike Lomas and Nicki Skelton here, shared a few moments respite from the wind and then went quickly down to Wythburn. What a relief to drop down out of cloud and wind, the view opening out before us, the sun shining, and Joyce, Wilf and Lynn waiting with bacon butties and tea. Mickie Pooler had passed us in the mist and my Mike was just leaving for the long, long trek across to Esk Hause and Cockley Beck.

Feeling more human now, off we went. Hot and sunny with a lovely walk up Wythburn Valley; if only it didn't go on and on. A pale, lonely figure in the distance materialised into Harry Wiggins, who wasn't dead, just giving a good imitation! Last night's beer finally had the upper hand. Or was it time for the Cup Final? He had decided to go down to the hut. Cyril and Roy catching up with us on High Raise made me vow to be fitter for next year. The mist rolled in again like a well planned smoke screen, Cyril and Roy disappeared like geni and I wished I had a magic lamp. Out with the compass, the usual discussion followed by trial and error, and what is that crag doing on Stake Pass? It was of course Pike O'Stickle; as if we hadn't



THE LONG WALK .... MAY 1978.

by DOT WOOD.

The usual good intentions of an early night fell by the wayside. The late night revellers finally fell into bed at the midnight hour and the alarm clock went off far too early at 3.45am. The lucky ones, who had managed to sleep, stumbled downstairs eyes half-closed and boot laces trailing. The rest of us greeted the call with wide-eyed relief.

The cool, grey stillness of pre-dawn contrasted strangely with the bustle of activity in the kitchen. Breakfast, hard-boiled eggs accompanied by the smell of burnt toast, was soon over, and followed by a speedy departure to Grasmere. A few hard men walked from the hut ... Mick Pooler, Cyril Hodgson, and Roy Phillips and the harder men, Ted Southworth, Leo Pollard, Mick McGovern and Harry Hartley ran from the hut... and kept on running.....

A grey, misty morning, cool enough to keep one moving and higher up the fell a cold N.E. wind, thick clag and light drizzle. After what seemed to be hours I reached Grizedale Tarn. It was good of Janet to wait for me, I wasn't doing too well at all. The four runners passed me on the way up to Dollywagon Pike; super-human, bionic men I thought; and struggled on through the mist. Over on Fairfield hounds bayed and with thoughts of Conan Doyle lurking in my imagination a figure looming nearer was, thankfully Janet, waiting where the path levelled out. At least I hadn't been sick yet, but judging the remains by the path a good few people ahead had lost both breakfast and last night's ale.

We were not, after all, as far behind as I had thought. We met some of them at the junction, on their way down from the summit. It was bitterly cold, visibility only a few yards; so a brief visit to the trig point and back to the shelter. We met up with Frank Whittle, Mike Lomas and Nicki Skelton here, shared a few moments respite from the wind and then went quickly down to Wythburn. What a relief to drop down out of cloud and wind, the view opening out before us, the sun shining, and Joyce, Wilf and Lynn waiting with bacon butties and tea. Mickie Pooler had passed us in the mist and my Mike was just leaving for the long, long trek across to Esk Hause and Cockley Beck.

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### LONG WALK Cont....

far enough to walk. At least we knew where Stake Pass was now. Malevolent mist cleared, and showed three figures at Stake, Frank and Co again. The remarks were unprintable. The path to Angle Tarn showed up clearly now, but it looked far, too far. A last struggle up to Esk Hause and then tea, gallons of it. What a relief! Great stuff Tom and your helpers too. I've always said that what Esk Hause needed is a Tea Stall, and there it was.

Leaving Frank, Mike, Nicki and Janet I sneaked off to try and gain a bit of the time we'd lost earlier. The tail end of the rest of the walkers were at least an hour ahead. We made good time up to Scafell Pike, which we shared with a bus load of Geordies, their distinctive accent filling the air. A brief stop for Mars bars and oranges and then down the lovely track to Cam Spout. A quick glance up at the East Buttress showed it to be remarkably dry, probably the first and last time last year. No one climbing, but the sight of people on Esk made me slightly envious. Then across the Great Moss, T-shirts and rolled up jeans under a cloudless sky, and no sign of the others. The Moss was mostly dry and nicely spongy to walk on, good for the feet; but surely it can't be that far to the col. It never used to be so far to the road. There is Matt's van in the distance and the Honourable Chairman striding to meet us. The runners and two walkers had been back at the Hut for an hour and a half by this time. We were just in time to see Cherie, My Mike and three others vanishing over the crest of Grey Friar and we were still an hour behind. Frank and Co arrived to help us finish the soup and jam butties went with equal speed and tea, lovely tea. Janet decided to call it a day here, the thoughts of all the preparations required for tomorrow's big 'family do' at home, stopped her from carrying on. She had come to help and hadn't intended to walk at all, so she did doubly well and I for one was grateful for her company.

Frank finally came to the end of his sixth fag, and was ready to hit the trail. We were well and truly tail-enders now. Grey Friars passed reasonably easily after the hazards of the farm, highland cattle and a beautiful peacock. Over the ridge and onto the wonderful sweep of open fell, the beautiful curves of Swirl How and Brim Fell with Dow Crag looking a veritable Matterhorn in the distance; the walkers on the skyline gave an added dimension to the panorama. It was said later that some of the walkers were so enthralled by the view of Dow Crag that they went to its summit. It was difficult to find out whether this was intentional, but it was observed that the only non-obscene word uttered by Mr Pooler on the descent was 'Price'.

Coniston Old Man, peacefully deserted, the sign on the board said Teas, but it was lying. We settled for oranges and a quick injection of Dextrasol. It was just 12 hours since we



### LONG WALK Cont...

had stood on the top of Helvelyn. We could see it, Heaton-Cooper like in the far distance.

Time to go back along the escarpment-like edge, the far hills a medley of greys and mauves, the sun still some way from setting but the valleys preparing for the coming dark. Feet made themselves painfully obvious as we picked our way down Wetside Edge, hopefully someone would provide transport back to the Hut. Too close to closing time to even contemplate walking back via Blea Tarn. Anxious eyes scanned the road, there was Harry, all dressed up for the pub, telling us to get a move on.

Dinner and then time for a pint or two as well! A feeling of well-being and personal satisfaction and its over again until next year.

Forty-one started and thirty-one finished....not bad. Two Junior members, and seven female members. The men ranged in age from fourteen years to fifty-eight years, the majority around the forty-mark. Perhaps we all are trying to prove something, if only to ourselves. But the fact remains that without the helpers and its the same ones year after year, we wouldn't get chance to satisfy our egocentricism.

Thankyou too to the people who looked after my daughters and made it possible for me to try.

Dot Wood.

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### USEFUL ADDRESSES

Buckbarrow Hut Warden: Frank Whittle, Greengarth Hall, Holmrook, Nr. Seascale, Cumbria.

Dunmail Hut Warden: Tom Baron, 2, Azalea Grove, Bare, Morecambe.

Langdale Hut Warden: Harry Wiggans, 19, Burneside Rd, Kendal. Phone Kendal 24486.

Tyn Twr Hut Warden: John Foster, 29, Braeside Cres, Billinge, Nr Wigan. Phone Billinge 894512.

Bulletin Editor: Joyce Foster address as above.

Club Secretary: Tom Walmsley, 4, Ash Grove, New Longton, Nr Preston. Phone Longton 615421.

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### JUNIOR MEET

See previous page. The date is in your Meets Card, which you received with your last Bulletin. But here it is again June 9/10th. in Langdale.



PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AGM 1979.

RULE 19.

Line 4, delete 'one', substitute 'two'.

Line 8/9, delete 'fourteen days', substitute '1 month'.

Proposed by J.T.Foster, seconded by D.W.Price.

Rule 10

Line 3, delete 'June', substitute 'December'.

Line 5, delete '28 days', substitute '1 month's'.

Line 8, delete '31st March', substitute '30th September'.

Proposed by J.T.Foster, seconded by J.C.Liptrot.

Rule 13.

Line 13, delete '31st March', substitute '30th September'.

Line 15, delete 'April', substitute 'October'.

Proposed by J.T.Foster, seconded by J.C.Liptrot.



