

ACHILLE RATTI CLIMBING CLUB

BULLETIN No 77.

JULY 1980.

Dear Members,

Hopefully you will receive your Bulletins in time, for those of you who are able to attend the Mass on Scafell Pike on July, 16th.

A letter from His Lordship

The Right Reverend Thomas Bernard Pearson, Ph.D.

BISHOP IN CUMBRIA

(Founder President of Achille Ratti Climbing Club).

The first Mass ever to be said on the summit of a mountain in Britain, was said on Scafell Pike on the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel July 16th 1940. It was said by Bishop Pearson, accompanied by a party of boys from Blackpool, to implore Our Lady to save us from the threatened invasion after the fall of France, and to bring us Peace. The party travelled from Blackpool through the night, and began the Mass at 8.00am.

To commemorate the Fortieth Anniversary of this Mass, to give thanks to Our Lady, and to intercede for Peace, Mass will once again be celebrated on the summit of Scafell Pike, on Wednesday 16th July, at 8.00am.

In the absence of Bishop Pearson, who will be attending the Bishop's Conference on the recent National Pastoral Congress, the Mass will be celebrated by Father Piers Grant-Ferris O.S.B., who has celebrated Mass on many mountain peaks in Europe, Africa and South America. The official Group will ascend Scafell Pike from Wasdale, but anyone is invited to attend, by any route they choose. Please, however, make sure that every party is accompanied by experienced mountainwalkers, and no-one should attempt the climb alone.

A photograph of the original Mass hangs in the lounge at Bishop's Scale, Great Langdale. Many of those on it were killed in action during World War II, but some few may be able to make the climb once again.

The sacrifice was worth it then, and no price is too high to pay for peace now. We invite all to join in this Mass on Wednesday July 16th, 1980 at 8.00am.

NEWS . . . NEWS . . . NEWS . . .

1. Lots of babies since the last Bulletin. . . . Congratulations to Ben and Sue Carter, John and Joan (Ashton) Jenkinson, Ailsa and Peter Donnelly and Ken Godfrey and his wife.
2. Advance Notice..... The Club Dinner will be at the Red Lion Hotel, Grasmere, on November 22nd 1980. No details yet.
3. The Bishops Sponsored Walk will be on November 8th, 1980. Helpers will be required and based at Langdale. Saturday evening meal is provided for the helpers.
4. Angela (Faller) Soper, lucky person is . . one of an eight-strong expedition from the Pinnacle Club to attempt an unclimbed 20,500ft peak in Lahul, Northern India this summer. They also hope to reach lower unclimbed summits in the Miyar and Gumbu Valleys. Angela says that they found Fr. Brigstock's recent article very useful when they were making their travel arrangements.
5. Joe Tasker is on a four-man expedition with Doug Scott, Pete Boardman and Dick Renshaw attempting the difficult unclimbed West ridge of K2 without oxygen. K2 is 800ft lower than Everest, and the hardest climbing is on the upper part where the air is thinner. "We are taking things another step further in testing the capabilities of man's physical ability," said Joe. They are taking thousands of colour slides and cine film for ITV. Do watch out for the Lecture tour.
6. The Glencoe Meet February 1981. . . . I had hoped to be able to have the dates for this bulletin, but I am still waiting for replies from huts. Hopefully the meet will be for one full week spanning two weekends during February half-term time. Please watch hut notice boards for advance notice.
7. There will be a caving meet in the autumn. But Stu Evans is still waiting for confirmation of dates at huts. So if you are interested, once again please watch hut notice boards. Stu will hire lamps for a small charge from Whernside Manor, but if you can borrow a wet-suit, do. It is great fun ! !
8. I will be selling raffle tickets shortly, in aid of Ann Cammacks D.E.B.R.A. Skin Blister Children. If you would like to help please contact me at Billinge 0744 984512.
9. Hut Fees. . . . are now 50p per night for members, and this includes junior members who are babies, £1 per night for guests, £1 25p per night for members of visiting parties.
10. Annual Subs are NOW DUE. This is the last reminder for 1980. NON PAYMENT OF ANNUAL SUBS MEANS THE LOSS OF A.R.C.C. MEMBERSHIP So send your £7.50 to Nev Haigh NOW.. .NOW. . . 852; Devonshire Road, Blackpool and please include a . s . a . e .

NEWS CONT.... NEWS CONT.....

11. All children using club huts must normally be Junior Members, unless there are special circumstances. Junior Membership only costs £2 from birth to 17 years when full membership may be applied for without the interim graduate membership period. So make your child a junior member now, and carry your membership cards with you at weekends.
12. Member Peter Durkin (trading address PEKO), 45 High St, Tarporley, Cheshire. Tel 082:93: 2639. Offers 20% discount to Club Members. He sells equipment by Helly Hanson, Karrimor G & H, North Cape, Mountain Equipment, Black Ice, Henry Lloyd, Belstaff, Vango, Saunders etc... Special Offer just now. . . 30% OFF Duvet Jackets (branded names)
13. FOR SALE . . . Papoose Carrier to suit child from 3 to 24 mths. Bargain at £8. Tel. Alban and Pat Gornall at Preston 718614.
14. Sorry about the spacing at the right hand side of these pages. As usual this is being done in a mad rush to beat deadlines, and now the typewriter has gone more wonky than usual. Normally it only types the wrong letters but now its squashing them up as well.
15. Now that petrol is approaching £1.50 per gallon people are just not getting to the huts quite as often as they did, and the regular users are not there to do the cleaning as they used to be. On recent visits to Langdale and Tyn Twr the huts have been DIRTY, especially the toilets and kitchen. When you pay a visit to one of the huts YOU must do your share of cleaning, the dirt does not magic itself away and why should a handful of members be slaves to the other 600 of you. Cleaning materials are kept either under the stairs or in the big cupboards.

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REPORT ON TYN TWR'S 10th BIRTHDAY MEET from Pat Partridge.

If the ARCC adopt a system of stars for their huts as the AA does for hotels, on Saturday March 8th, Tyn Twr qualified as a four star hotel for the twenty two people staying there.

Joyce Foster assisted by Dot Woods, produced a superb meal, embellished by juice of the grape, to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the opening of Tyn Twr.

In that 10 years John and Joyce Foster assisted by John Liptrot and Tom Finney have served the Club conscientiously, giving up a great deal of their spare time to building up the facilities at this Welsh Hut and I want to express my thanks and those I am sure of all Club Members, for their efforts.

The weekends good weather produced much activity, everyone out on Saturday to work up an appetite for that gargantuan meal, and then again on Sunday to work it off. 'The sun shone on the righteous'.

TROWBARROW QUARRY

I received a letter from member Tom Gater after Tony Brindle's Article in the last bulletin:-

"Further to the recent article by your 'Reluctant Contributor' in the Bulletin, concerning Trowbarrow Quarry, his article is now enshrined in the archives of Tarmac Roadstone Limited.

I took the liberty of sending them a copy, and attach their reply."

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Many thanks for your note relating to Trwbarrow Quarry. The sins we commit in the name of progress and profit are legion. Fortunately the routes referred to in the article still exist but are now horizontal rather than vertical and have been renamed. They now appear as a rapid transit route and are collectively known as the A590. It is essential that this route be attempted only with mechanical aids and then with extreme care.

Yours sincerely,

P Gwilt

Regional Commercial Manager, Tarmac Roadstone.

Tony's reply is that he is off to France, Yosemite and Alaska in that order; he leaves in early July.

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THE HIGH PEAK MARATHON (The Derwent Watershed)

by Ted Southworth.

The High Peak Marathon is a winter mountain marathon for teams of four in the Peak District National Park. The route is the Derwent Watershed, a 40 mile classic bog-trot first completed in 1918, it follows the highest contour and thus crosses some pretty uncompromising country. The race was first organised in 1972 and incredibly has been won every year by The Rucksack Club Team. For most people the aim is simply to finish, a feat which eludes many who have tried. Oh! by the way, I forgot to mention, it is run through the night.

The weekend of the 1st March 1980, saw the first of the competitive events for fell-runners and all the hard running on the roads on dirty winter's nights training sessions were about to be put to the test. Clayton Harriers entered two teams for the High Peak Marathon, A and Z. We were the Z mob since the A team had come close to winning on so many occasions and none of the Z team had completed the route before anyway:- Ted Southworth (ARCC), Will Grindley, Stan Bradshaw Jnr, and Mike Fawcett.

High Peak Cont....

Mention of the Derwent Watershed to one of Clayton's older runners is guaranteed to elicit much gnashing of teeth and clenching of fists, since the Club have a tradition of epic runs in this event over the years but have invariably finished second to the Rucsack Club hard men. On one controversial occasion the Clayton lads actually finished in front but were placed second by the organisers on a technicality of route choice. There is therefore more than a little needle in evidence on this night of self torture; no quarter is asked and none given, and there are plenty of ploys used by old hands to unsettle their rivals from other teams.

It was all the more surprising then that on a night of swirling mist on the high plateau, and with the mild winters weather having made the bogs as yielding as ever, it was the less experienced Z Team that most effectively took up the challenge from the other forty-odd teams. From the word go I was left in no doubt, we were in a race. Each team is set off at half minute intervals, we were the last team, number 42. By the Cat Gate checkpoint we had worked our way through to 7th position, and were quite elated by this, but we knew that our A team were up ahead. The other five teams were an unknown quantity, but some of their members were quite well known and had some form behind them.

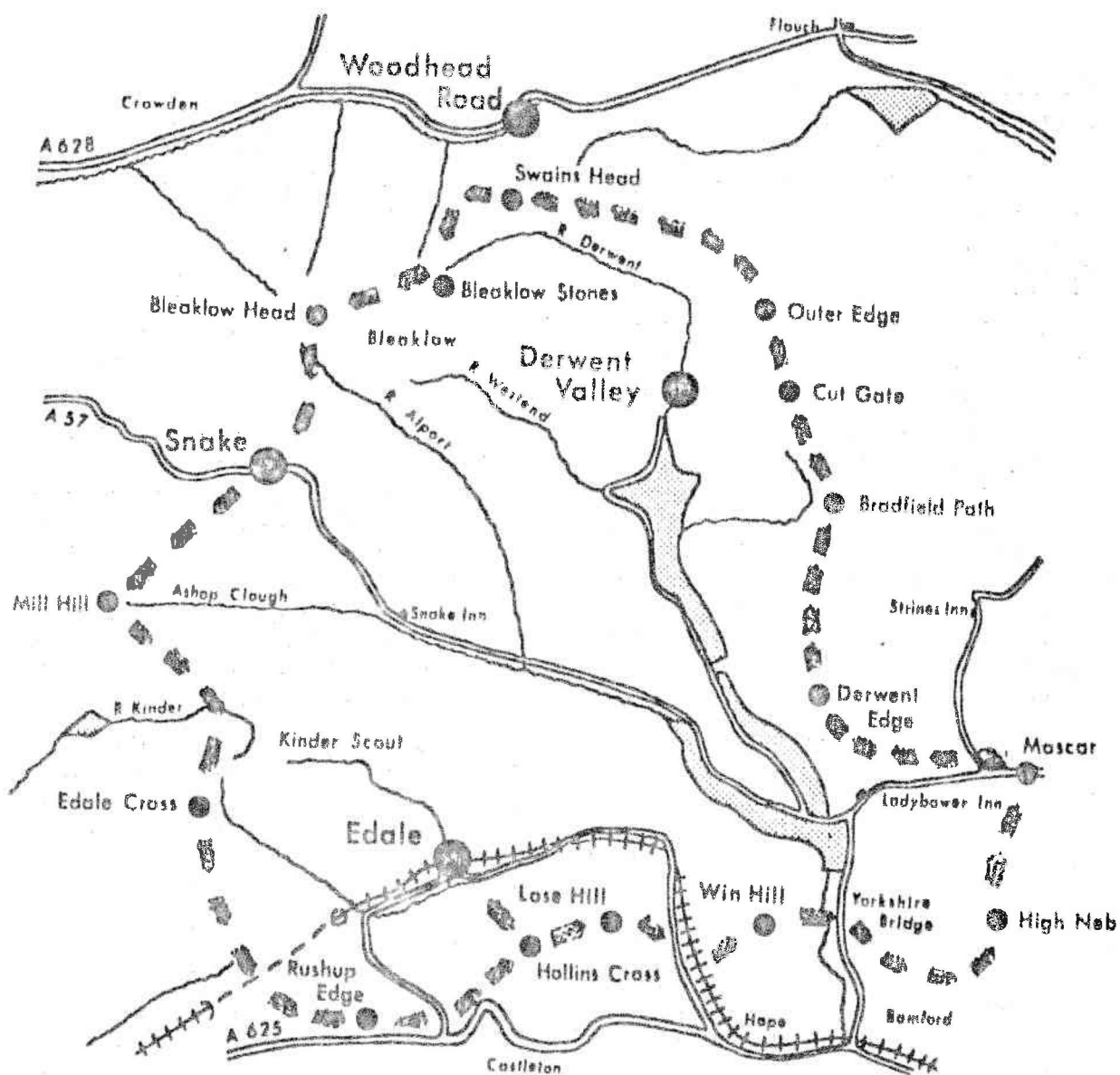
On to Outer Edge and Bleaklow - what hard going this is, especially at night. Endless peat hags making direct routes and compass bearings difficult to follow. Mercifully, there was an intermittent full moon which was extremely useful as it allowed us to pass two more teams without using torches and giving our position away. At Snake Pass we learned that we were in Second Position and had left the A team behind. By now it was sunrise and a beautiful day lay ahead - but also some hard running. Now that visibility was perfect we had to make progress, and at Snake they told us that Dark Peak International were 17 minutes ahead. Remembering that the start was staggered and they had left in 13th position, we had everything to try for.

But it was not to be, whilst we had convincingly laid the ghost of the Rucsack Club, Dark Peak stayed ahead and finally beat us into second place by 11 minutes, and this after 10½ hours of sustained effort. However it was a terrific experience for me and my teammates were excellent company, we were a scratch team who nearly came good. Saturday lunchtime was spent sitting in the strong warm sun shine outside an Edale pub. Meat pies and Theakston's bitter heaven on earth

(Another ARCC member also took part in the event, representing Bolton Colleges, Cyril Hodgson rumoured to be 62 years old this year)

High Peak Marathon

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CHECK POINTS

1.	Edale Village Hall	(123853)
2.	Hollins Cross	(135845)
3.	Lose Hill	(153853)
4.	Win Hill	(187851)
5.	Below High Neb	(227853)
6.	Mascar	(231878)
7.	Derwent Edge	(202880)
8.	Bradfield Path	(206934)
9.	Cut Gate	(185960)
10.	Outer Edge	(177969)
11.	Swains Head	(132983)
12.	Bleaklow Stones	(115963)
13.	Bleaklow Head (Mainstones)	(092958)
14.	Snake Road Top	(088929)
15.	Mill Hill	(062904)
16.	Edale Cross	(081861)
17.	Rushup Edge	(112835)
18.	Hollins Cross	(135845)
19.	Edale Village Hall	(123853)