

ACHILLE RATTI CLIMBING CLUB

BULLETIN No 98

SEPTEMBER 1985.

Dear Members,

After the last wet, wet, and more wet recent weeks, Annual general meeting time of year is here. This is an important news bulletin, so please make a note of the dates, and all the new members that we have now, please make notes of the dates and come to the events.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of ARCC, will be held on Saturday 2nd Nov, at 2pm prompt at Marion House, Knights of St Columba Hall, Beech St, Preston.

Members approaching Preston from the North, East and South leave the M6 at intersection 31, The Tickled Trout, Salmesbury Island. At the island at the top of the Hill, nr the Telegraph Petrol Station, fork right following ring road A5085 to Blackpool. After crossing the A6 by the park, cross four further sets of lights, and at the fifth set turn left into Tulketh Rd, then left again into Beech Gr. Marion House is on the left and the bar should be open.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the last AGM, held October 1984.
2. Matters arising.
3. President's Report.
4. Chairman's Report.
5. Secretary's Report.
6. Treasurer's Report.
7. Reports from Hut Wardens
8. Election of Officers and Committee Members.
9. Any other business.

Members are reminded that nominations for vacancies on the Management Committee must be received by the secretary not less than fourteen days prior to the AGM.

Management Committee Meetings are usually held at two monthly intervals either an evening in Preston or more usually at one of the Huts, often Bishopscl. Those nominated should be prepared to work and to accept responsibility. Nominators should be prepared to introduce the nominee to the AGM if that is required.

There are vacancies for the positions of Chairman, Vice -Chairman and for one ordinary committee member.

All Hut Wardens and the Bulletin Editor are appointed by the Management Committee for a period of three years, and members willing to serve in these positions are at liberty to offer their services.

Matters to be considered at the AGM other than those on the Agenda, should be notified to the Secretary by any two members within the seven days prior to the meeting.

ONLY FULL MEMBERS AND LIFE MEMBERS, not graduates or juniors are eligible to vote at the AGM.

PLEASE ATTEND; IT IS YOUR CLUB.

NOTICE OF AGM Cont.

Proposed change to Number 9 of Amendment. ' No children, except those who are Junior Members, may stay at any of the Huts without special written permission of the Hut Warden. Permission will be granted only in exceptional circumstances.'

It is proposed to change this to: ' No children, except those who are junior Members, may stay at any of the Huts without permission of the Hut Warden, or his representative.'

Changes of Rules proposals, must reach the secretary by Sat Oct 5th.

Secretary: B Ayre, 23, Low Rd, Halton, Lancaster. L23 6AZ.

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ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE OCTOBER 1st.

SUBS SECRETARY Nev Haigh, is eagerly awaiting wyour money. So please send it pronto: 752, Devonshire Rd, Blackpool, and please include a SAE. But its all together easier to pay at the AGM. Cheques payable to ARCC please.

Annual Subscription for Full Member £12.

Intermediate Youth Membership (17-21yrs)...£3 Please include date of birth.

Members own children can be made Junior Members by paying a fee of £2. This covers the period of birth to 17yrs, and is extremoly good value. Unless members children are junior members, they are not allowed to use the huts. Please notify Nev of each child'd date of birth when making application.

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MEMBERSHIP LIST

An up to date list was compiled in July and is displayed in each hut. But it is already out of date. All Members are requested to carry their membership cards, we still have uninvited guests, of the two-legged variety; and it is difficult to know all the members in a club the size of ours. BE WARNED CARRY YOUR CARDS.

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LANGDALE HORSESHOE FELL RACE. Sat. 12th October.

A main event in the fell-running calendar, main supporters are members of ARCC. A few runners are also members of ARCC. Helpers are needed to man the mountain check points. If you can help tell Alan Kenny, he is holding the list. Telephone 0524 414615. Or write to 27, Rochester Rd, Morecambe.

SPONSORED WALK

5th October.

BISHOPSCALE.

This is the day that ARCC help organise a sponsored walk to raise money for Lake District Churches. About 1,500 children usually take part, and the route is 10 miles around Grisedale Forest. A meal is provided for all the helpers at Bishopscale on Saturday evening, and it is a good social occasion.

About 40 helpers are needed, route markers, marshalls, hall- helpers sweepers up and litter pickers. A cook at Bishopscale is needed and also a helper for the big order to be collected that day from Frank Davies Shop.

Derek Price is in charge of the marshalling and helpers should arrive in Langdale on Fri Evening.

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THE ANNUAL DINNER 9th NOVEMBERRED LION HOTEL, GRASMERE

The Annual Dinner is once again at the Red Lion, Grasmere. A coach will run from Bishopscale, please book the coach when ordering tickets.

Menu: Leek and Almond Soup.

Roast Centrefilet of Beef, Horseradish and sweetcorn fritter.
New potatoes, carrots vichy, button brussel sprouts.

Pineapple cream cheesecake.

Coffee with cream and after dinner mints.

THE GUEST SPEAKER is at the moment unfortunately stuck in the pipeline, hopefully we will extract him, and his name will be announced later.

There will be music, dancing, raffles and who knows what else, and the tickets cost £9 each. Available from Barry Ayre, 23, Low Rd, Halton Lancaster. Please include an SAE (Stamped, self-addressed envelope) or your tickets may not be returned to you. Cheques payable to ARCC and don't forget to book the coach.

Mass in Langdale will be early that evening, probably 5.30pm.

Those who don't wish to rough it in Langdale, may find accommodation at the Red Lion. Slightly less pricey than the special cheap rate at the Red Lion is The Thistle Grove Guesthouse, Grasmere 445; Bridge End Guesthouse Grasmere 358. But Bishopscale is 60p.

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RAIN

Well, so we have all developed webbed feet.....
 The rain records for the Lake District fell spectacularly last month. In Grasmere more than 21 inches of rain fell, surpassing the previous highest rainfall in 1891 of 17.94 inches. Rain fell in Grasmere on every day of the month.
 Ambleside also had the wettest July and August of this century, but is bragging that one day in August although cloudy and grey, rain did not actually fall into the measurer.

WEDDING

Congratulations and best wishes to Alan Kenny and Clare Sutton who were married in September in Grasmere Church. They are honeymooning in Italy, by the Adriatic as a change from mountains.

DID YOU SEE FELL Tiger on TV. The guess the crag game was quite good, and the spot the scenery wasn't bad either. There was one superb shot of Buckbarrow Crag and then the Hut, must have been from a helicopter.

DO NOT MISS The Julie Walters Film "She'll be wearing pink pyjamas". It was filmed in the Lake District, about six women on an Outward Bound Course at Eskdale. One recent Saturday night all the nine people staying at Bishopscale went to Windermere to see the film, and voted it the funniest film we'd seen in years. Women particularly will enjoy it, do make the effort to go.

HAVE YOU READ in one of the major climbing magazines recently that Michael Fanning, son of Brian and Pat is being hailed as Cumbria's most promising young fell-runner.

LANGDALE

The new showers, loos, baths and new floors in Langdale are by now completed. All the blankets there have been to the laundry, and the mens mattress covers have been washed. The downstairs dorm has been emptied, cleaned, decorated and new beds, mattresses and covers fitted. So now everything is clean again, and members have absolutely no excuse for not washing at weekends.
 Thankyou to Austin, John, Patrick and his mate (non-member) for all the work.

Please send something for the next bulletin. Hows about a funny, tongue in cheek article for a change, but send something, anything ... please..... to.....

JOYCE FOSTER; 19, TORQUAY AVE, BLACKPOOL telephone: 0253 692221.
 (Please note change of address).

1949

In cities, towns and villages all over the world the New Year is being welcomed in. The strains of "Auld Lang Syne" and shouts of "Happy New Year" will be filling the air in the crowded dance halls below. Toast after toast will be drunk and New Year Resolutions will be made - but I wonder how many of them will be kept? There will be the annual scene of the bleary-eyed drunks, prancing crowds and in contrast the quiet homesteads where mum and dad sit around the warm fire, rising only to open the front door and listen to the bells heralding in the New Year. They will remember the Happy times they enjoyed together during the passing year, and smilingly, they will turn, close the door and return to the living room, the bright fire and 1950. How different is this scene from the one around me.

No warm fires are to be seen, no bells to be heard here; only the ceaseless flapping of the tent roof as the wind makes its presence felt. Outside small icicles fall from the guy-ropes and tinkle as they break up on the rock. The mist swirls past, and all is dark. Inside my two companions lie fast asleep. Opposite, Bert stirs, groans and then returns to noisy snoring. Futsac, my other friend is a comparatively new acquaintance, I was only introduced to him a couple of hours after camp was pitched. He is lying in between our two sleeping bags, body curled, head on outstretched paws, a very contented fox-hound.

If you have read Wordsworth's "Fidelity", you will appreciate the significance of Futsac's arrival. The poem, based on a true incident, tells of the faithful dog that watched over the body of his dead master for three months, until a wandering shepherd discovered the tragedy; and here we are on the same mountain that Wordsworth wrote of. Two hours after our arrival we heard a dog barking, and minutes later the mournful face of a hound muzzled its way through the tent flap and stared almost enviously, at us lying warm and dry in our sleeping bags. We couldn't let this soaked, half-frozen creature spend the night on the open mountain under the prevailing conditions so in he came, and now, after a meal of bread and oxo he lies, dry and contented, fast asleep. We have Wordsworth's mountain and his dog; what of the hound's master?

Amidst the howling wind, our New Year's Party consisted of a toast made in sherry, "For better things to come in 1950", and an unsuccessful attempt to launch a rocket heavenwards; gravity, and Mr Newton (or did he invent the steam engine?) ruled that it should go valleywards. In a somewhat unmelodious manner carols were sung. Futsac barked his greeting to 1950 and even if it was rowdy, it was a remarkable and unique New Year's party, which I for one shall smile at and remember in my old age.

We gossiped away the first few hours of 1950. In the village, 3,000 feet below, people slept. Here time means nothing to us. All we are waiting for is the dawn; lightness and darkness are our only concern. We talk of places where we have spent previous New Year's Eves, and of what our friends would be doing at this time in their homes. They would not be envious of us in our situation, but we are quite comfortable and content. Futsac lies impassive with his nose snuggled underneath my sleeping bag. He too, is content.

I appear to have dozed, for the early morning light is creeping in from around the tent. Futsac and Bert sleep on as I rise and untie one side of the tent flap. Here is the first morning of the New Year; no enchanting valley scene, no radiantly blue sky with picturesque clouds - and yet here is beauty. The wind still blows the mist over the summit of the mountain, the rocks are still frozen and over the edge, the beginning of a cornice, that means snow-climbing later on. I retie the flap and regain my position, Futsac stirs. I lean over and give Bert a good shaking. . . "A Happy New Year"!

(First printed in Preston 'The Young Citizen' 1950).
Bert Maddock disappeared on Himalchuli East Face 1953.

Winter, and at weekends lots of talk of humming birds (axes), ice-climbing
And

THE BEN

As the majestic swirling clouds roll back
Leaving eagles nest and crags crest
Naked in the midnight air.
Moonlight stares through old buildings glare,
And memorials of the dead.
Now after dark sadness fills the air.
How does it feel to be the largest hill in Britain,
And have to bear wrecked buildings.
Which were once tired mens lair.
All the lovely ponies that climbed your lonely peak,
Oh what a brave mountin Ben Nevis is asleep.

Thomas Wiggins, Junior Member. 7th September, 1985.

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PLEASE SEND YOUR ARTICLES? NEWS ITEMS?

FOR SALE AND WANTED? ADVERTS? LONELY HEARTS? AGONY COLUMN

TO. . .TO. . .TO. . .

Joyce Foster-Kent, 19, Torquay Avenue, Blackpool. Tel 0253 692221.

MORE DETAILS OF THE LONG WALK IN THE NEXT BULLETIN?

Hut Wardens

Wasdale 265.

Buckbarrows: Frank Whittle, Old Strands, Nether Wasdale, Gosforth, Cumbria

Tyn Twr: John Foster, 29, Braeside Cres, Billinge, Nr Wigan 0744 894512

Summer Months 13, Sconser, Isle of Skye. 047 852 302

Langdale: Alan Kenny, 17, Rochester Ave, Morecambe 0524 414615

SUBS ARE OVERDUE send to Nev Haigh, 752 Devonshire Rd, Blackpool 54505.