

ACHILLE RATTI CLIMBING CLUB

NEWS LETTER

MAY 2012

BISHOP'S SCALE HUT WARDEN CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Arthur Daniels the hut warden at Bishop's Scale, Langdale has moved house. Arthur and Beryl's new contact details are as follows:-

**14 Cross Lee Road, Todmorden, OL14 8EH.
Tel. 07845125077**

CHAIRMANS RAMBLINGS MAY 2012

We can now put the crampons and ice axes away for another year – or can we! After a May weekend in Scotland with sub zero temperatures at night maybe I am being a little bit hasty in thinking Spring has arrived.

Can I first of all thank the subcommittee for all the efforts in regard to the ongoing works regarding Dunmail, please read the report by Paul Charnock elsewhere in the newsletter.

The Old County Tops and Harrison Stickle Races are taking place 19th May if you feel you can help in any way please contact Chris Lloyd and Bill Mitton respectively.

Following the successful completion of the Lakes and Mears Challenge Dave Makin and Andy Pooler are organizing a relay event around the course. Information has appeared on the website and notices in each of the huts if you would like to participate in a section of the event please contact Dave 07801025437 dave.makin@sky.com or Andy 07799418427 andrew@m-p-a.co.uk The event takes place on the weekend of the club's annual BBQ at Bishop's Scale please contact Arthur if it is your intention to join the celebration BBQ. A lot of planning has gone into the weekend a great social gathering should be had by all.

Thanks to Terry and his team for organizing the Long Walk from Beckstones unfortunately I was unable to be there but I understand it all went well a report is elsewhere in the newsletter.

Can we please remember in our prayers Freda Pollard who is currently not very well; our thoughts are with Leo and family. John Nixon has left hospital and is now in sheltered accommodation and visited regularly by friends from the club.

Finally during the light summer months in the Blackburn Preston area we have a small posse of active climbers if you would like to join us please phone me on 01254 265574. Let's hope that this summer is not as damp as last year and everyone can get out on the hill doing!!

John McGonagle

UPDATE ON DUNMAIL.

It was agreed at the AGM on 12 November 2012 that Dunmail would be put up for sale with the aim of using the proceeds of the sale to fund the purchase of a new hut. Here's an update on what has been happening since:

Following lengthy negotiations to secure the best possible terms and conditions an estate agent has been appointed sale for the Michael C.L. Hodgson of Kendal. In the first month of Dunmail being on the market there have been 12 viewings and more than 60 'hits' on the property details on the agent's website and over 4,000 'hits' on the national Right Move website. According to the estate agent this is double the level of interest that they usually get on a newly advertised property which is both extremely positive and exciting. Feedback from the viewings was that most people who were interested in buying Dunmail were usually from outside the area and talked about a seeing the property as part of a special project or a personal dream. In contrast one of the viewings was by a company that wanted to open another backpacker's hostel, already having one in the area, but they felt that the cost of the modifications to bring it up to a good basic standard would be too high to make it viable.

Dunmail is currently on the market for £395,000, knowing what we are looking to sell Dunmail for gives us a helpful guide when looking for replacement. As part of the search members had found a property in Eskdale near to the Outward Bound which appeared ideal. Mick McGovern visited it and wrote a report for the committee which rated it highly. Over a period of time other members visited along with the Chairman and had the same opinion –it had a fantastic position for the best mountains in Lakeland, looked very promising through the windows and was in our price range! Unfortunately when the estate agent was finally contacted we were informed that an offer had just been made that day. The moral of this story is that when properties like this one are found we need to ensure we move swiftly and decisively. Looking ahead, the working group that has been put together to search for a new hut will continue to

monitor the market and would welcome any suggestions about suitable properties that members may have come across, please email Chris Farrell on chris.farrell2@virginmedia.com

It is becoming obvious to the people involved in purchasing a new hut is that it is not going to be like a normal house sale and purchase. As those of you who've experienced that will know...it can be frustrating, sometimes disappointing and usually downright lengthy and drawn out. But the end result will have been well worth the effort and a new hut will be the start of an exciting new chapter for our club.
Chris. Farrell

Details of the hut and the sale details can be viewed on the web sites below. The hut is listed on these estate agents sites under the name Raise Cottage. Its original name.

www.michael-cl-hodgson.co.uk

www.rightmove.co.uk

ENGAGED TO BE MARRIED

It is with great pleasure that James Lurati and Joanna Lee wish to announce their engagement to be married. As regulars to Bishop's Scale in recent years, they continue to spend many hours together "on the hill", where they first met. The wedding is planned for this October 20th in Jo's home village of Carlton-Le-Moorland, Lincolnshire. They look forward to continuing festivities with many of you the weekend after, at this year's club dinner & dance, as the new

Mr. & Mrs. Lurati.

FELL RUNNERS MEET & PRESENTATION JANUARY 2012

The Presentation



Family and friends at Freda and Leo's Presentation

Following the presentation of my Honorary Membership and Freda's Life Membership we would like to pass on our kindest thoughts, deep appreciation and our best wishes to the members of The Achille Ratti Climbing Club. Over many years I have been exceptionally lucky to have had the opportunity to enjoy countless days in the hills running with friends from Achille Ratti. I see the presentation of my honorary membership as a formal way of celebrating those days of friendship and I thank the committee for organising such a great honour and surprise! When I look back over 40 years of hill challenges it shows, to me, the Achille Ratti operating at its best. Some of these challenges have required detailed organisation by many people. People who have reced routes over previous months, who have worked together in small teams to make big events happen. Members who are non-fell runners but who have joined in and played their important part – driving, putting a rope up, feeding the team, communicating or minding the kids. Then when the wind, rain or sheer bad luck have been hurled at all of them they have had the tenacity, skill and quick mindedness to adapt the plan to ensure overall success. I do hope that these thousands of hours of working together and supporting one another have contributed to the ideal of Bishop Pearson which was to promote fellowship in the hills. When I looked around the kitchen at Bishop Scale during the presentation, it was apparent that that goal had been achieved. I know I was joined in that celebration by friends whom, for whatever reason, could not be there. We are now, after 40 years of training, in a very strong position. The recent Lakes, Meres and Waters success

demonstrates that. We now host some of the most classic Lakeland fell races and we have a history of Bob Graham Round successes that is the envy of all. The knowledge, fitness and bond of friendship in the Achille Ratti is immense and is something to be proud of.

During the next forty years I plan to be there to support the next generation of fell runners and I hope they can enjoy as much friendship as I have. So Ad altopia! You never know – one day I may see you up there!

Leo

The Meet



The Hills Are Alive

Once again a large crowd gathered at Langdale on the Friday evening for this increasingly popular meet, with the attendees including some non-runners who had come to see Leo Pollard being awarded his honorary membership of the club and Freda life membership, which was to take place on the Saturday evening.

The runners assembled at nine in the morning and the planned route was to go over the Langdale Pikes, Rossett Pike, Bowfell, Esk Pike and Allen Crag and then return for liquid refreshment at the Old Dungeon Ghyll. Fortunately the weather was good and there was a decent amount of snow on the fells; the prospect of a wintery day on the fells was particularly appealing to those of us that don't get out so often these days.

We split into two groups, due to several runners being keener to set off than others. Steady progress was made up Stickle Ghyll. Jakes Rake was avoided due to it looking a bit icy; "you'll be fine up there" Dave Makin told a couple of walkers and then he ran off in the opposite direction.

The Saturday morning arrivals - Tony and Kath Shanley, Jo Lee and James Lurati plus dogs - caught us up by the time we were on Harrison Stickle and the larger group continued with the fitter members breaking tracks through the rather deep snow. The not so fit amongst us (me included) were very grateful for this. During a brief butty stop on Rossett Pike we were caught up by Oz Kershaw. Oz had left the hut early in the morning to go for a run with another friend but he had been stood up. We were pleased to see him as he then led the route up Bowfell, albeit not by the most conventional route. We all made it to the top, well all except for the small group who thought they would get ahead by skipping the summit. They were soon caught up! Besides losing a dog or two, the rest of the day was relatively uneventful and everyone eventually made it back to the pub for a well earned pint. We even had the same number of dogs that we set off with.

The evening meal of soup followed by Wigan pie, mushy peas and baked spud was almost ready by the time we got back to the hut and there weren't many pies left at the end. Leo and Freda were then awarded their honorary memberships by the club Chairman; this being both a very joyful and sentimental occasion. The rest of the evening was spent finishing the barrel and any other alcohol that could be found.

Thanks must go to Dave Makin for organizing this meet once again and for ensuring that everyone had a great time. Special thanks go to Janet Makin and those that helped her prepare the evening meal. We look forward to next year's meet

Chris Lloyd

WORKING WEEK END

BECKSTONES

MARCH 24/25



Club members taking a break on the working weekend at Beckstones

The Beckstones hut warden Terry has been notified that the council has received a complaint from a local farmer that a club member (members name supplied) has recently blocked the field gate that gives access to he's field. Consequently the farmer was unable gain access to the field to feed his stock.

Terry is in negotiations at the moment with the local farmers to allow the club to gate-off the parking area we use to stop sheep from fowling it. The farmers are reluctant to grant this and the talks are at a delicate stage. Inappropriate parking by members and guests aggravates the locals and stalls the negotiations.

It is essential that the gate adjacent to the cattle grid on its south side, the short bit of road leading the field gate opposite leading into the field are left clear of our vehicles.

BECKSTONES BOOKINGS

WE. May 19/20th Mersey O.C. 18 places

WE June 30/July 1st Mersey M.C.

WE Sept 15/16th Hinckley M.C.

August Bank Holiday week. There are members and their older children in the main hut.

Terry Kitching

LONG WALK WEEK END

BECKSTONES

MARCH 24/25

The meet was a great success with 15 walkers and a large contingent of ten helpers. A minibus took the walkers to the start of the walk at the seaward end of Ennerdale Water. Starting at 8 a.m. we walked along the southern shore. Shafts of sunlight glistened off the water and brightened the fells all around. At the other end; turning due south up a steep boggy fire brake lead on to the open fell side on Lingmel. We then contoured round by Mirklin Cove and up on to Steeple. Here the wind had freshened and with snow flurries it was too cold to linger although the air was clear and the views superb. On over the rocky ridge to Scoat Fell being knocked about by the wind all the while. Here a small party of runners past us, one of whom was doing the Bob Graham Round. We continued on to Wind Gap and descended the scree shoot into Mosedale. As we descended Tash gave us a lesson in scree-running, leaving us all behind as she dropped like a stone to the valley floor. Out of the wind the afternoon was balmy and warm for our stroll down Mosedale to the butty-stop at Wasdale Head. Here bacon, tea, coffee and cake were cheerfully dished up by Frances Mercer, Alwyn Cooper and Dot Wood and very welcome it was too.

The next, shorter stretch took us into Eskdale via Burnmoor Tarn along the route of the old corpse road between Wasdale and Eskdale and to afternoon tea at the foot of Stanley Force. This was ably supplied by Dot Wood, Dug Blackett, and Barry Rogers (acting as manager).

From here we climbed up the side of the force and onto the fell to Birkerthwaite. From here to the road we took the very wet, little used path that cuts the Ulpha road near Crosbythwaite. Then continuing onwards, we took the path over the col between Hest Fell and the Pike and down to the road-head at Hole House near Biggert Mire. Then down the lane, through Loganbeck farm to the hut. Having thus completing twenty three and bit miles.

Mick Mc Govern



The brew-stop crew at Stanley Ghyll

EDITORS NOTE

This news letter is a little disjointed. I've been keen to get it out as early in the month as possible, so that the Flier and the Dunmail Update are with members as early as possible. Several things have conspired against this happening. For one the computer is misbehaving and it's taken longer than usual to get the N. L. arranged. Now I'm out of any more time for the printers. Etc. Etc. Apologies to the L. W. and M relay team.

Mick Mc Govern

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Membership numbers remain more or less the same as at the AGM last November, the biggest increase being junior members. Please can I remind members if they have any change in their contact details to let me know. Also please will any members who have been sent a direct debit form to return it to me ready for renewal date 1st October. Any probationary members who are coming to the end of their 12 month probationary period please let me have their application letters for full membership before the next management committee meeting which will be 13th June, stating what club activities they have taken part in during the last 12 months to support their application. As everyone will be aware postage has now risen sharply so please can I ask any member who writes to me and requires a response to please enclose a stamped addressed envelope for their reply that will also apply at membership renewal time for those members who pay by cheque for their new cards to be posted to them. If you are on email and haven't yet advised me please let me have your email address so that your newsletters can be emailed to you, a postage cost saving! Thank you. My contact details are: email: susan.d.carter@hotmail.com address: 214 Rochdale Road Shaw Oldham OL2 7JA Tel: 01706 842978

Sue Carter.



26 LAKE, MERES AND WATERS



RELAY

In celebration of the 30th Anniversary of Leo Pollard's successful challenge a relay of the route is taking place on July 13 & 14 2012. (Bishop's Scale BBQ Weekend)

The route covers approximately 100 miles with 22500 feet of ascent.

If you would like to take part running or walking a section of the route or simply to be on the hill during the day to be part of the festivities, please contact

Dave Makin 0780 1025437 (dave.makin@sky.com)

Or

Andy Pooler 07799 418427 (andrew@m-p-a.co.uk)



Dave Makin

TYN TWR BOOKINGS

There are still places available on Climbing and Curry meets 2nd June: Midsummer Madness weekend of 30th June and Kayaking Capers 8th September contact John McGonagle – catered meets.

Visiting clubs: 6th – 8th July – St Helens Mountaineering Club
12th – 15th July – Highdown Hill Walking Group
27th – 29th July – Parker family
28th-29th Sept. – Triplex
12th-14th Oct. – King James fell walking group

Ann Mc Gonagle