

ACHILLE RATTI CLIMBING CLUB

NEWS LETTER

MAY 2011

Chairman's Ramblings April 2011

DUNMAIL -I am happy to inform you that we now have in place a replacement team for the care and running of Dunmail. Michael Crawford and Joan Ogden's effort over the years has been Herculean and as a club we are grateful that members do stand up to the plate to take on these tasks. The new warden is Peter Noble who will be ably assisted by his wife June. Dot Wood will be the local "minder" and Michael Crawford will be available to give expert advice and assistance when required. The new booking secretary is Brenda Loxham brendaloxam@hotmail.co.uk Tel. 01274 617385 and she is now up and running on the web site, the calendar is on view and contact can be made direct to Brenda, thanks to Alex Erwin for his help in this matter.

Once the last ramblings I was asked to approach the Climbing Club, who had shown an interest in possibly acquiring Dunmail for their club. A meeting was set up which included our President, Hut Warden, Secretaries, Ordinary member and Trustees and the full Committee of the Climbing Club. The viewing went very well but a decision was reached that they would not pursue the matter. A sub-committee has been set up to look for premises in the west of the lakes. I will continue to keep you a breast of the events

We are very grateful and give a big thank you to Arthur and his team of helpers for the magnificent work that has been carried out at Bishopscale. The ladies dormitory is complete and in use.

There was a very good response to the working week and the hut looks good. Work is to commence on repairing the roof in late spring, early summer, scaffolding will be erected and your patience and parking skills will be needed. The clothing emporium is currently being set up and information can be obtained from Pauline McGovern. (01254 851176) See elsewhere in the News Letter.

Can I give a gentle reminder to members that if a maintenance weekend is happening and you are not taking part helping with the jobs in hand at that particular hut, and you wish to spend time on the fells that weekend, please as a matter of courtesy use one of the other huts.

I have just spent a few days at Bishopscale and was pleasantly surprised to find that I was not the only climber at the hut! Does this constitute a revival!

Have you remembered to take those stunning photographs to send to Phil Hodgson for publication in next year's calendar? phil@todharriers.co.uk (Tel 01422 844936) (See Below)

Can you please remember in your prayers John Nixon who had an accident at work and is seriously ill. He has been a member since 1985 and a fine ambassador for the club on the fell running scene.

After spending a lovely few days in the Lakes in glorious sunshine may I take this opportunity of wishing all our members a warm and pleasant sunshine filled summer

John McGonagle

LATE NOTE.

Long Walk Meet Dunmail 7/8 May.
Please use Chris Lloyds contact details for place bookings and enquiries.
Tel. 01695 623768 chrisandtash@talktalk.net

Editorial

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the meet reports and wrote comments on the hut's working periods. Keep them coming.

Stoves and Fires

There has been a fire recently in the lounge at Bishop's Scale. It happened after the open fire had been misused and then left unattended with no fire guard in place. To reduce the risk of this happening again with all the possible bad consequences, a stove has been installed to replace the open fire. The advice note below applies to all the club's stoves and fire.

Please use them safely:

- 1 If in any doubt about operating a stove or fire, don't use it. Get someone to show you how to light and operate it properly.
- 2 Use only the correct fuel for the particular appliance.
- 3 Don't over fill the stove or fire with fuel.
- 4 Don't dry anything on or near the stove or fire.

5 Ensure that nothing combustible is near the stove or fire when the room is unoccupied (i.e. chairs, newspaper, coffee table, kindling & fuel bucket etc)

6 Close down the stove draft controls when the hut is unoccupied.

7 The stove can be very hot even if there's no sign of it being alight. Don't lean on it.

8 Don't prop open any door anywhere in the hut that has a self-closing mechanism on it.

9 Put the fire guard in place when the room is unoccupied.

10 Always use any fire guard provided.

Work at the huts

As can be seen elsewhere the working week at Bishop's Scale and weekend at Beckstones have been very successful and productive. Many hands made light work and there was time always to get out on the fells. They were jolly social gatherings and good fun.

Re-roofing Bishop's Scale

The main building is being re-roofed in the next few weeks. Outside contractors will be working at the hut from Monday 9th. May. See the 'Chairman's Ramblings'.

Phone Arthur, the Hut Warden (017068197060) before coming to Bishopscale

Club Library

The Achille Ratti has a club library, the main parts of which are held at the Lancaster Diocesan Library. Adjacent to St. Walburghe's church in Preston. Club members are at present cataloguing the books held there and at the club huts. The next job will be to document and archive the club records. These are incomplete and efforts will be made to fill in the gaps. There are many photos and we'll be attempting to put names and locations to them. It's all very interesting. Thank you also to Frank Lord who has donated several books to the club

Club Reunion Meet

Don't forget the clubs second annual reunion. It's on the

Finally

For any missing or misspelt names in the lists below, sorry.

Club website

Visit the ARCC website to view a selection of pictures taken at the various Meets and hut working periods and for news updates between News Letters.

Club Journal

As you see the Club Journal for 2011 is posted with the this News Letter. The 2012 is now being produced. As the saying goes, when you've nothing to say, stop speaking. The same could be said for the clubs Journal and News Letter content. When I've nothing to print I'll have to stop printing. To produce an interesting and vibrant journal depends on members contributions. So please put your mountaineering activities down on paper for the pleasure and interest of fellow club members.

11 May at Bishop's Scale. Bring your photo's and other memorabilia.

Mick Mc Govern

Fell Runners Meet Jan. 29/30

Since it first started 3 years ago, the fell runners' meet has become more and more popular. This year 18 runners and 5 dogs piled out of 2 vans at Dunmail Raise into a beautiful, frosty and sunny Saturday morning and, led by Dave Makin, began the ascent of Steel Fell. With plans for the spring in mind Dave was killing 2 birds (and most of us) with one stone and had set the day's route to be a recce of leg 3 of the Joss Naylor Challenge. The route also covered parts of leg 3 of the Bob Graham Round and so was a good choice for the future BGR hopefuls and supporters amongst us.

Going up Steel Fell is a bit of a brutal experience particularly when you've not warmed up. We did see a very handsome fox which took my mind off my screaming leg muscles for a few moments. Unfortunately for the fox it was frozen solid, but it was nice to look at. Once we had reached the ridge the going was lovely; firm underfoot, fabulous views in all directions and a superb undulating trot to Rossett Pike where we stopped for a bite to eat.

Patches of rock hard nevé snow made the climb up Bowfell quite exciting in places, and at the top we looked down on a few wispy clouds drifting in over the Crinkles. From there it was a blast down the grassy trod to Ore Gap, up over Esk Pike, a trot down to Esk Hause and then up Great End. Dave had planned to descend the direct route to Styhead Tarn, the changeover point for legs 3 and 4 of the JNC. However ice climbers had commented on the excellent condition of the gully involved so this part of the plan was put off for another, warmer and less slippery, occasion.

After stopping for a drink at the spring at Calf Cove the descent to Angle Tarn and then down Rossett Gill was a lot of fun. It was good to hear one of the younger runners

declaring that he wouldn't be road running again now that he'd had a taste of the fells! At about 3.30 we finished the Mickleden slog and rounded off a fantastic day with some light refreshments at the Old Dungeon Ghyll. The evening meal really hit the spot; spicy butternut squash soup (so good that Steve Schofield is a convert) followed by good old pie and peas. My only regret is that I couldn't fit in another pie! Many thanks to Janet and her helpers, and to Dave for a great run. See you all again next year!

Tash Fellowes

Leo Pollard then said a few words about the importance of club members wearing club 'colours' when competing in races (See the note elsewhere in the new letter about the new arrangements being developed for provision of club kit).

Photo Mick Mc Govern



Bishop's Scale Working Week 14 to 20 Feb

Following on from the note in the last news letter about the hut needing a through spring clean. There was a tremendous response from members. During the week over 40 came for varying periods of time to work, many from far afield. Arthur and Beryl kept us busy with a multitude of tasks and we kept them busy supplying the means to do them, tools, materials, advice, cake and bacon butties. The hut has been transformed, from top to bottom; inside and out. By the time you read this, the new first floor women's dorm will be in use. It's a fantastic place, light, airy, comfortable and well appointed. It reflects well the multitude of skills brought to its construction by the members.

These are just some of the members on the meet.



PhotoAnon

ARCC 2011 Bishop's Scale Working Week participants.

Julian Mosses	Beryl & Arthur Daniels	Pat Haley	Mark Chadwick	John & Chris Neate
Norman Duffin	Sue & Ben Carter	George Partridge	Stephen Clancy	Maria Connolly
Peter, John, Ann Mc	Alyn Cooper	Andy Poole	Andy Scaife	Trish Wilson
Gonagle	Ray Miller	Clive Worthington	Mick Seed	Mick Heaton
Mick & Pauline Mc	John, Ian, Christine	Joe Giblen	Tom Roberts	Ian Costello
Govern	Smith	Julian Mosses	Dot Wood	Chris Lloyd
Kath & Chris Farrell	Dave Reynolds	John Rowbottom	Ruth Price	Mike Donnelly
June Mc Kenna	Dave Hugill	Alf Short	Sheila Anderton	
Ken & Joan Jackson	Mo. Kelly	Jim Pitcher	Leo & Freda Pollard	

Mick Mc Govern

Membership Secretary's Report

Current adult membership total of ARCC is 784 of which 64.8% are catholic and 35.2% non-catholic. In addition there are 55 associates, i.e. non-catholic applicants for membership who are on a waiting list for membership, when the ratio allows. Meanwhile they have use of the huts and play a very active part in many of the events and working weekends. I have written to 6 previously junior members, who are now over 18 to ask if they wish to apply for full membership, but to date none of them have replied, so I remind parents of junior members that when their child is 18 that child can then apply for full membership.

Please can I remind members who have requested a direct debit form to pay their annual fees, to return the forms to me. If their forms are mislaid please contact me and I will send another. Also please remember if you change your address, email account or bank details let me know, even if the bank say "we will sort everything you don't need to do anything". That doesn't seem to always work out!

Thank you all for being such lovely people to correspond with.

Sue Carter

Yorkshire Dales Meet 12/13 March



Photo Dave Hugill

Eight members enjoyed a weekend of good weather on Dave Hugill's traditional early spring Yorkshire weekend, this time at Ellergill Barn at Halton Gill,

Littondale. On the Saturday Jean, Dave, Doug, and Ray walked by way of Foxup onto Plover Hill, then PenyGhent top for lunch. Descending past Churn Milk Hole and onto the Pennine Way around the flanks of Fountains Fell, the broad ancient track dropped then into Litton, where refreshment was taken at the Queens Arms. Following the Skirfare upstream, and braving the aggressive geese at Heselden, the barn was safely reached for a brew. Ben, Dave M, and Terry, enjoyed a similar but shorter route, and we all regrouped for an excellent evening meal in the Queens later on the Sunday, Ray, Dave H, Jean, and Mick, walked from Arncliffe over the ridge and down to Kettlewell, had tea and cakes etc. and then took another route back. In anticipation of a long journey home, we all had another refuel in the Craven Arms at Stainforth, before going our own ways.

Dave Hugill

Beckstones Working Weekend March 26/27

Working weekend Great!

That seems to be the view of most of the members attending the working weekend at Beckstones. Due to a really good turnout of 21 members and good weather a good many jobs were attacked. Including outside and inside painting, ongoing electrical work, window replacements, muck shifting (none wasted, it'll be on a couple of gardens by now) to name but a few. All the work was done under the friendly, watchful eye of Terry. Of course the usual camaraderie was experienced over the weekend and the traditional strong social aspects of the Beckstones Meets came to the fore.

Bacon butties and cake were provided during Saturday dinner. Then of course the three course meal was up to its usual high standard in the evening and was much enjoyed by all – thank you ladies.

Stuart from Loganbeck farm was our guest and he enjoyed the evening, particularly the female company. The weekend soon passed by with pleasant weather with some sunshine. Roll on next year.



Photo Barry Rodgers

ARCC 2011 Beckstones Working Weekend Participants.

Dave & Joan Ogden
Wilf Charnley
Terry Kitching
Paul Charnock
Ann Gaitskell

Barry Rodgers
Sue Carter
Doug Blacket
Paul & Rachel
Harding

June Mc Kenning
Kath Farrell
Mike Foster
Mick Hopley
Jo Coppack

Chris Martin
Lucy & Sean Gibben
Brian & Martin
Atherton

Ann Gaitskell

ARCC Clothing Update

I have been investigating what members want in Achille Ratti branded clothing. After talking to members by telephone and at a couple of ARCC events, I attended the Management Committee meeting in March 2011 to update committee members on progress and to ask for advice about how to proceed.

It became clear, as a result of this investigation, that there is a great diversity of opinion among members about what clothing should be available but little clear direction from which to make changes. At present, we have t-shirts, sweatshirts and tracksters for members (in a range of colours), and ARCC competition singlets and long-sleeved vests. We also have some buffs, which members do not seem to like.

These are the conclusions:

1 Jean Lohead has been busy, finding a new supplier for the competition singlets and long sleeved vests. The good news is that these will be available soon and will be kept at Bishop's Scale For an update on progress ring me on 01254 851176

2 All ARCC branded clothing will be navy, from now on. This is the colour of the competition singlets and vests, so

the other clothing will tie in with this. The present clothing is in a range of colours, some of which have not proved popular. Note that most other clubs only offer one or two colours of clothing.

3 Members like the t-shirt and sweatshirt that we have at present, so these will continue (in navy only).

4 Little enthusiasm was expressed for the tracksters so no more will be ordered.

5 There was, generally, a negative response to a new, embroidered logo and so the printed ARCC logo will remain.

6 All ARCC branded clothing will continue to be held at Bishop's Scale as there was little positive response to the idea of mail order. The reason that members gave is that they felt that they needed to try on clothing, before buying. I will create an advert to be put in all the ARCC huts so that everyone knows what the range of stock is and where it is held.

7 The present clothing will be sold off at half price. Please see the flyer with this newsletter for details. When it's gone, it's gone!

Pauline Mc Govern

Achille Ratti Calendar 2011

I will be compiling and Achille Ratti calendar in 2011- to be printed in time for the AGM and Annual Dinner, Oct/Nov 2011. **I would therefore appreciate as many photographs as possible from members by the end of September 2011.**

Traditionally our calendar has consisted of mountaineering and climbing pictures – so if you're out there on a crag, or in the hills or the Alps, get that camera out and record the action. And I would hope to include a

few photos of the other outdoor activities pursued by many of our members. Get snapping, or revisit your photographic archives, and send me those stunning or artistic photos that capture the spirit of the Achille Ratti in the great outdoors. All photos will be credited and you will retain the copyright. Photos should be emailed to me in jpeg format to: phil@todharriers.co.uk (Tel 01422 844936) Thanks.

Phil Hodgson

Mick Mc Govern