

# ACHILLE RATTI CLIMBING CLUB

## JANUARY 2012 NEWS LETTER

### CHAIRMAN'S RAMBLINGS

#### DECEMBER 2011

We are almost at the end of the year and looking back over all the events and activities of the club it has been another cracking twelve months. I hope you have purchased your calendar with the excellent views submitted by the membership. (*See third page of this News Letter*) and you are ready to mark up the club events you intend to take part in and that are listed in the enclosed meets card. Thank you to those members who completed the Dunmail pro/con sheet that was issued prior to the AGM, from these the Management Committee were able to summarise the views of participating members and presented them to the AGM in November. 65 members felt that Dunmail should be replaced with another hut and 26 members felt that Dunmail should be kept and up graded. 54 members attended the AGM and a good discussion took place. The Management Committee agreed at the December meeting that Dunmail would be put in the hands of an estate agent to try and effect a sale. If after a period of 12 months there has been no interest or offer made the premises would be taken off a sale register and the club would look to refurbish the premises. Meanwhile the committee will continue to look for suitable premises to purchase, if any member knows or becomes aware of properties they feel will fit the bill for the club to purchase please contact any member of the committee. As stated previously the membership will be kept informed of the progress of the situation and any deal would be brought to an extraordinary general meeting. Bookings will continue to be taken for Dunmail and essential upgrades (new windows) and

#### Editorial

The new club-wide email system is up and running as those who have received this, the first News Letter to be delivered this way will know. Alex Erwin the Club's Web-master has spent a lot of time, effort and diligence to enable this facility. It will allow club members with access to the internet to be contacted in a swifter, cheaper manner. Talking of which, the last posting to members in late October cost about £940 to produce and post! Or £1.25-ish per Member or Family. Because it had an unusually large News Letter of 12 pages, the Dunmail Survey, the AGM agenda and previous minutes it required a Large Letter postage rate. In future, with emailing, this level of cost will reduce, as there are of course not printing

general maintenance will go on in the usual way. A maintenance meet has been arranged in February and I would urge you to play your part and contact the warden, Peter Noble, and offer your services.

The dinner dance in October was a great success and the singing and dancing to Bodgers Mate was well received. I understand the music continued back at the hut I had taken to my tent by this time! The Mass for the deceased members, after the AGM, was well attended and the gathering for the buffet tea was a time for members to get together and socialise. A raffle at the dance and the collection from the Mass raised a total of £243 which has been sent to CAFOD on your behalf – thank you for your generosity. The club journal I found to be a very good read, as I hope you did.

We welcome Sean Makin, Ordinary Member, to the Management Committee and thank Mick McGovern for his time as Ordinary member. Mick will continue as Newsletter Editor and he would welcome any contributions.

My thanks to everyone who has taken part in any club activity, a massive amount of time and effort is put in to organising and putting on events and publications and without this effort we would not be able to enjoy the friendship and camaraderie that makes up the whole heart of the club. May I wish you all a very happy and contented Christmas and that 2012 will bring you good health, good luck and the means to get out and enjoy the great outdoors.

**John Mc Gonagle**

and postage costs. To reduce costs further will those who can, please consider forwarding their email address to the Club Membership Secretary, Sue Carter for inclusion on the club website-address emailing list. Sue can be contacted on:- [susan.d.carter@hotmail](mailto:susan.d.carter@hotmail) 01706 841978,

There are 235 members so far who have done so. The more the merrier. If anyone experiences any problems with the new system, duplication for instance, please let me know.

**Mick Mc Govern**

#### Beckstones Hut - Visiting Clubs

January 13 <sup>th</sup> 14 <sup>th</sup> . 2012	Bedford M. C.
March 16 <sup>th</sup> 17 <sup>th</sup> . 2012	Leeds M. C.
April 5, 6, 7, 8 <sup>th</sup> 2012	Gentian M. C.

Bookings made so far this year.

June 29 <sup>th</sup> 30 <sup>th</sup> 2012	Merseyside M. C.
September 14 <sup>th</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup> 2012	Hinkle M. C.

#### VISITING CLUB AT BECKSTONES

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January Bedford Mountaineering Club have booked Beckstones for their winter meet. The hut will be full. Any members wishing

to use Beckstones that weekend please contact me; they may stay in the family bothy where there are 5 beds.

**Terry Kitching**



## Dales Weekend

Location:-

Oysterber Farm Holiday Cottages and Pottery, Low Bentham, N Yorkshire. 3 peaks country, close to Ingleborough. Ideal for walking, climbing, mountain biking etc.( climbing wall in Ingleton to ) Pubs nearby do food. Three cottages are booked for Fri 9th & Sat 10th March. See website 15 places in Ingleborough Cottage (7beds), Whernside Cottage (6beds), Gragereth Cottage ( 2 beds ). Fully equipped, just bring

### Reunion Meet. Bishop's Scale May 9<sup>th</sup>

We hope to set up a digital projector and present a rolling slideshow of members pictures.

### Langdale Junior Meet.

The weather forecast, which included the remains of hurricane Katia, wasn't enough to discourage a band of Ratti juniors and their parents from meeting up at Bishop's Scale over the weekend of the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> September. The usual suspects -

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Saturday's activities were limited to low levels because of strong winds that chased even gnarly adult fell runners off the hill. So we went to Tarn Hows and walked around the tarn with the children taking charge of GPS devices to find some of the geo-caches located around there. We found 2, logged our discoveries on the notepads inside and left some sweets in the one that was big enough to hold any. The heavens opened frequently but it was very warm and sheltered there, and was an enjoyable short walk for all. We finished off the day out with a 'swim' in the plunge pool of Stickle Ghyll behind the Stickle Barn pub and then some refreshments inside it. Back at Bishopscale we were blessed with a perfect barbeque weather window to cook and eat outside. Later on some of the older kids took their parents to the pub to see a band.

#### 2011 Achille Ratti Junior Fell Race

On Sunday there was plenty of heavy rain but it did lighten up perfectly for the duration of the Annual Achille Ratti Junior Fell Race which, due to the weather conditions, was temporarily moved back onto the fellside at the back of the hut. Eddie Kelly won the under 5s trophy while the awesome Dearden duo scooped a trophy each; Cara won the under 10 girls and Leo the over 10 boys. The boys under 10 winner was

#### **2011 Achille Ratti Junior Fell Race results**

##### Under 5

1. Eddie Kelly

##### Under 10

1. Cara Dearden
2. Harry Sanderson
3. Isabelle Kelly
4. Daniel Sanderson

## Saturday/Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> March

towel, and food ! To book, £ 31.50 per person, per weekend to Dave Hugill, 41 Main St, Warton, Carnforth, Lancs., LA5 9RA. Cheques payable to ARCC. See Oysterber Farm website for layout of accommodation etc. and directions. Phone Dave on 01524-734467 for any queries

**Dave Hugill**

### Early Notice

So get out your pictures, digitalize them and bring them along. More, about this in the next News Letter

**Barry Ayre. Mick Mc Govern.**

### 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> September

the Lloyds, Pollards and Deardens were joined by Tom and Ellie with their Mum Carolyn Appleton, and Annie with her dad Mike Reynolds. Ceri Wood, with Dot and the Kelly gang with some pals also joined in on the Sunday, making a grand total of 15 kids ranging in age from 3 to 14.

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Harry Sanderson. A full set of race results is given below. We look forward to seeing you all again next time.



Photo Garry Pollard

5. James Kelly
  6. Ceri Wood
  7. Annie Reynolds
- Over 10**
1. Leo Dearden
  2. Jack Lloyd
  3. Alex Pollard
  4. Owen Pollard

**Tash Fellowes**



## An Autumn Amble 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2011

### A Peek In To The Past



Photo. Arthur Daniels?

The eve of my first attempt as a walk leader with the club had arrived, sadly there were only 3 names on my list and it was raining, but as members started to arrive at the hut later in the day it became clear that a further 5 people were going to join us, very encouraging. On the morning having set a leisurely start time of 9.00am the mist was clearing to reveal a very pleasant day, with departure looming we all gathered in front of the hut for a group photo very kindly taken by Arthur, Dave Makin and his bikers had just done the same and set off on their ride. We set off along the road before heading right on the track across the valley floor and passing Baysbrown campsite, soon after the camp another right took us up a short climb over Howe Banks and on towards Little Langdale. Here crossing the road to find the track that leads to Slater's Bridge (always well worth a short stop to ponder about its age) after striding across it we reached and swung left along the bridleway (3 Shires Race comes to mind) that leads to the ford, after a short distance took a diversion left into magnificent Cathedral Cavern, once inside it was time to take a picture or two and again we have a peek into the past, how did they do it? I then led the group out of the back of the cave to locate the old tunnel which

passes right through the hill, here we stopped to hand out the torches, with a bit of a scramble the tunnel was entered and keeping heads down we ventured through the darkness, it's great to explore and imagine the effort that must have been put in using picks and shovels in years gone by (health and safety?) Soon daylight could be seen as the end was approached, after a quick head count to make sure no one had strayed off in the dark, I was surprised to discover that five off the group had never been there before and judging by their comments had thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We then continued on down the trail through Moss Rigg wood passing numerous heaps of slate spoil, remnants of its busy industrious past, to reach the farm at High Tilberthwaite and on to have lunch sat by the bridge over Yewdale Beck at Low Tilberthwaite. When fed and watered we continued down the road to reach the Coniston road, here it was left and left again to go back up the other side of Yewdale Beck. (Earlier on the way down the plan was to cross the beck following the a path on the OS map but the flow was too strong) Onwards up the hill passing through Low Coppice and Bakestone Barrow Wood to reach Hodge Close, here again we could marvel at the size of the old flooded quarry workings (another photo stop) proceeding along the trail dodging the mountain bikers to arrive at Stang End, from here it was a short hop to the Three Shires Inn for a well earned refreshment break. We headed back towards Bishops Scale via Elterwater (Britannia) following the Great Langdale Beck to reach Chapel Stile (Wainwrights) and back to base via the track below Baysbrown. I was happy that we all had had a great day out, 12 miles of walking or more truthfully an amble, enjoying the scenery, great weather, and the bonus of very good company. I am already looking forward to organizing the 2012 autumn Amble look out for the date on the 2012 meets calendar, I hope to have the pleasure of your company.

John Smith

### ACHILLE RATTI CLIMBING CLUB CALANDERS 2012

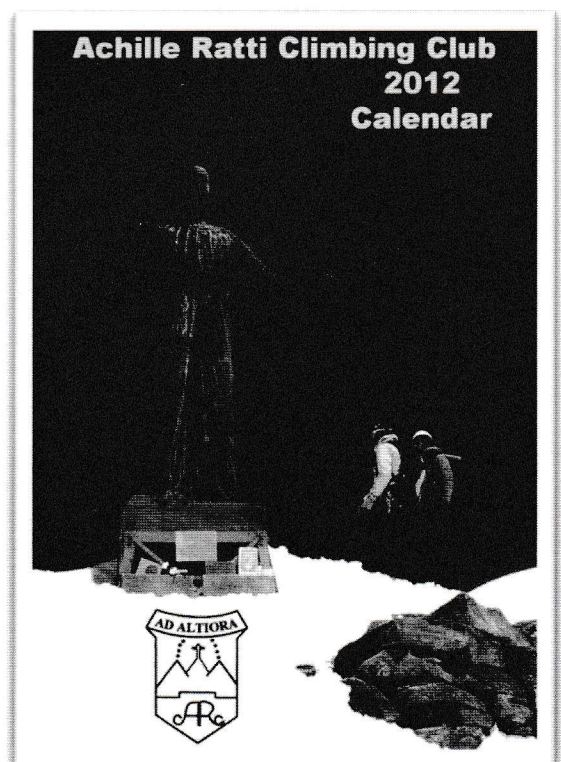
Phil Hodgson has produced the calendar for 2012. It has a series of colour photographs, one for each month, sent in by club members. The photos range from one taken within two miles of Bishop's Scale and others from the other side of the

world. There's space on each day for a short note. There are plenty to go round and are now available for £5. They are in stock at all the huts or directly from Phil. whose details are below.

Philip Hodgson, Brookside, Stubbin Drive, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, HX7 6LX.

Tel. 01422 844936

phil@todharriers.co.uk



## Membership Secretary's Report

Thank you to all those members who collected their and families/friends membership renewal cards at the dinner weekend and the AGM weekend, saving a considerable amount of cost on postage. I have had to write/email to at least 50 members to remind them to pay their annual subs and at the time of writing this report there are still 36 members who have not paid, and they risk having their membership cancelled.

Please can I ask those members to whom I have sent new direct debit forms for

October 2012 to return them to me as soon as possible so that they do not get forgotten.

Thank you.

### Current membership numbers:

Life members	84
Full members	676
Probationary	28
Total membership	788
Catholic	512 = 65%
Non Catholic	276 = 35%

Junior members 166

Associates 52

(not included in above numbers)

Please remember to advise me if you have any changes to your name, address (postal or email) or bank details so that my records are accurate. **Sue Carter**