

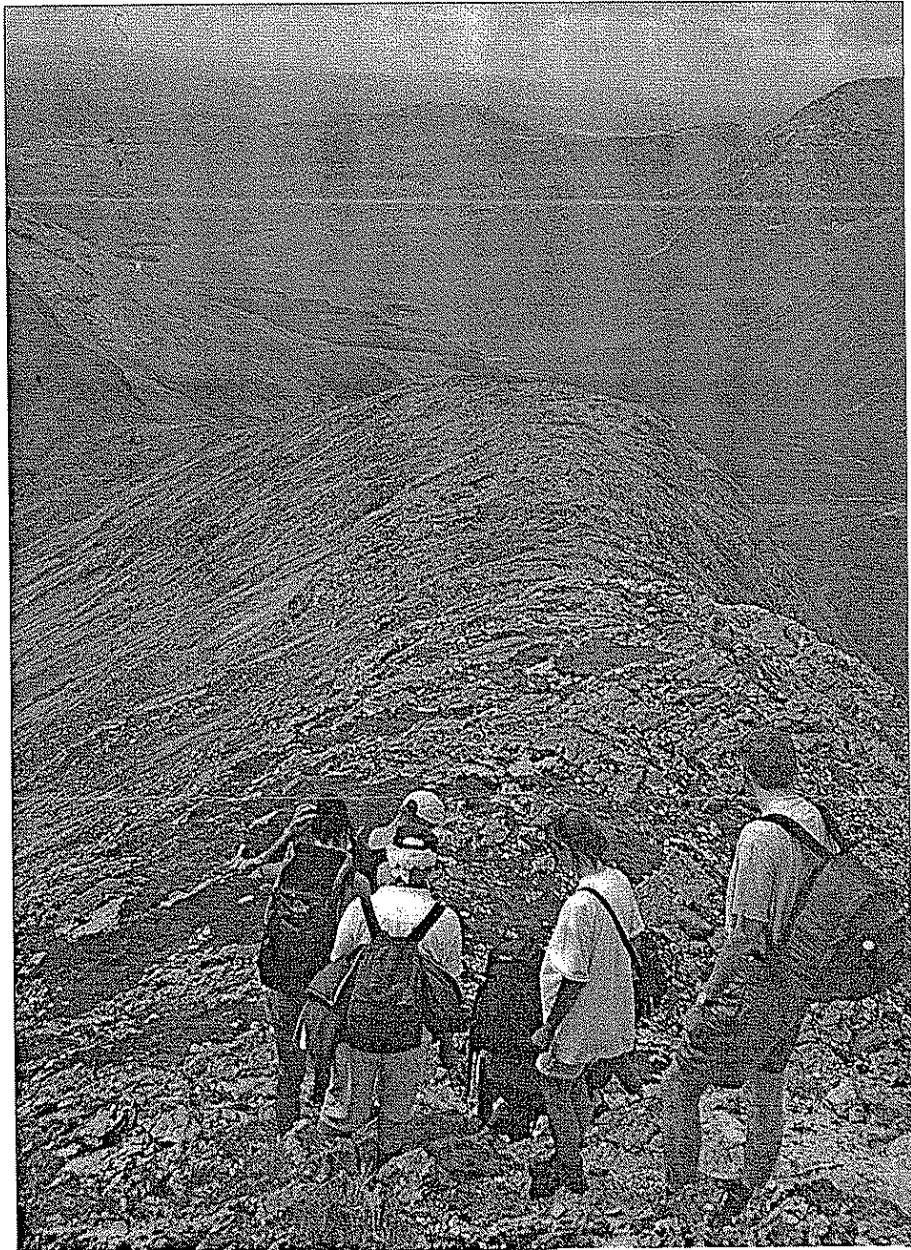
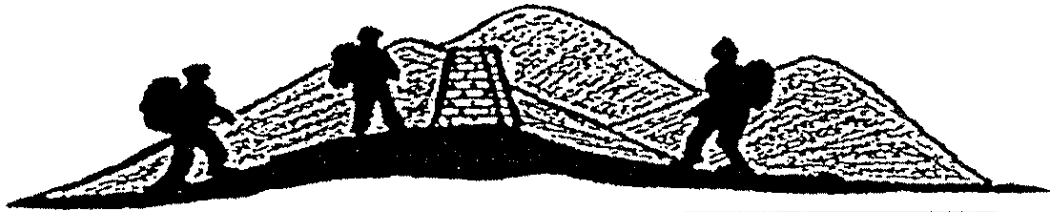
Hillwalker

September 1999



The magazine of the An Óige Hillwalkers Club

The Hillwalker



The Bens Co. Galway

Photo: Don Reilly

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Sunday Hikes July

MEET: Outside Irish Press Offices, Burgh Quay
DEPART: Sundays 10.00AM (or when the bus is full)
COST: Private bus. £5.00 (unless otherwise stated)



NOTE: The leader has the right to refuse anyone who is not adequately equipped (*i.e. without adequate rainwear, spare clothes, food, torch and hiking boots*). The leader has the right to extend, curtail or alter the route from that described in the program. The leader sets the pace of the hike and walkers are expected to obey his/her instructions at all times.



During winter months it is essential to bring a (head) torch on all Sunday hikes and weekends away. Don't forget to check your batteries and bulb.

Date	Route Description	Leader
September 5	INTRODUCTORY HARD HIKE Ballynultagh Gap – Black Hill – Cleevaun Lough – Mullaghcleevaun – East Top – Carrigshouk – Oasis car park (Military Road)	Monica Gadden
September 12	CIRCUIT OF GLENMACNASS Laragh – Paddock Hill – Scarr – Kanturk Mtn. – Waterfall – Tone-lagee – Brockaghs – Laragh	Dave Rooney
September 19	CIRCUIT OF THE GLEN OF IMAAL Ballinlea YH – Sugarloaf – Lobawn – Table Mtn. – Camenabologue – Canno – Lugnaquilla – Camara Hill	Pat Flanagan
September 26	CIRCUIT OF THE THREE LAKES Granabeg School House – King's River – Round Hill – Table Mtn. – Three Lakes – Conavalla – Art's Cross – Lough Firrib – Oakwood – Glenreemore Brook – King's River – Ballinagee Bridge	Frank O'Rourke
October 3	INTRODUCTORY HARD HIKE DARGLE RIVER CIRCUIT Ballinastoe – White Hill – Djouce Mtn. – War Hill – Glensoulan – Maulin – Tonduffs – Grouse House – Kippure Gates	Cyril McFeeney

Important Notice

Your club membership card **MUST** be carried and produced on all Sunday hikes. Numbered tickets will be given out on the quays by a committee member. People with a valid membership card and ticket will be given preference on the bus.

MOUNTAIN SAFETY NOTE

Mountaineering is an activity with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants should be aware of and accept these risks. People who take part in our club activities do so at their own risk and are responsible for their own actions and involvement.

The Committee requests that anyone who is on medication or with a medical condition inform the leader before the start of the hike.

LITTER

Litter is unsightly and dangerous to animals. Even bio-degradable items like orange peels and banana skins take years to disappear. Bring all your litter home and try to include at least one extra item from each day out. Do not bury litter – animals will dig it up.

WALKING STICKS

In the interest of safety and comfort please keep the pointed end of your walking stick covered, especially when travelling on the bus.

The Young Hillwalkers Club

SATURDAY HIKE FOR SEPTEMBER

Date: Saturday 11 September 1999.
Route: Knocksink Woods.

WEEKENDS AWAY

Date: 29 to 31 October 1999.
Destination: Knockree.

For further information contact Dave Rooney at 01-8344811 (evenings).

For further information about our monthly hike, weekends away or about the club in general, contact An Óige Head Office at 01-8304555.



Map and Compass Course

Navigation Training

This basic navigation course will cover three evening classes, two practical weekends in the hills, one night hike and will finish with a third practical weekend. This course is suitable for people who would like to become more familiar with their surroundings and who want to become more independent in the hills. Bookings can be made through An Oige Head Office (01-830 4555), credit cards accepted.

COURSE DETAILS

Dates for evening classes: 5 October, 19 October, 2 November.
First weekend: 9 – 10 October in the Wicklow Mountains.
Second weekend: 6 – 7 November in the Wicklow Mountains.
Night Hike: 11 December, Laragh at 17:00.
Third weekend: 5 – 6 February in the Comeragh Mountains.
Cost: £20 approx. (A more accurate cost will be published closer to starting date). This price does not include cost of transport and the overall cost of the third weekend in the Comeragh Mountains).
Deposit: £10 (non-refundable).
Organiser: Joe Kellegher.
Booking: An Óige Head Office at the above number.

New Year on Lug

The Hillwalkers Club plan to ring in the Millennium with style. They will be doing so on the summit of Lugnaquilla. Transport is by bus from Custom House Quay on New Year's Eve at 4.00pm. People will have an opportunity to rest for a few hours before hiking up Lug for midnight. Afterwards there will be a buffet and sing-song in Ballinclea YH.

Cost: £20. This will cover transport, buffet (food only – beverages not included) and a light breakfast/lunch on New Years Day.
Organiser: Martin Fagan.

Special Notes:

- Transport limited to 26 bus seats
- Accommodation is also limited to 40.
- Booking via Head Office

October Weekend to Kerry

Date: Friday 22 – Monday 25 October 1999.
Accommodation: Aghadoe YH, Killarney.
Cost: £55 (includes 3 overnights and transport to/from walks).
NB Does not include meals.
Evening meals: 2 evenings (£13) to be paid on bus (please advise office when booking).
Booking: By non refundable deposit of £25 to Head Office (Tel: 8304555).
Food: Bring sufficient food for Saturday breakfast and lunch (flask essential).
Shops: Supermarket nearby.
N.B. Please support the hostel delicatessen.
Bring: Winter mountain walking clothing / Boots
Sheet bag/spare clothing/ Valid An Oige Membership card
Receipts of any payments made to Head Office.

The bus will depart Friday 22 October from Custom House Quay at 6.00PM sharp and will arrive back in Dublin on the following Monday at 9.30PM approx.

There will be two walking routes daily to cater for experienced moderate/hard walkers.

Route: Horses Glen Circuit (Mangerton Horseshoe)
Start: Torc Waterfall (GR 966848) – Lough Garagarry - Stompa – Mangerton Mtn – Devil's Punch bowl – Lough Garagarry Track – Torc Waterfall.
Distance: 15 km Ascent 1040m . Reference OS Maps 78-79 (1:50,000).

Route: Knocknadobar (Glenbeigh)
Start: Kells Car Park (GR 558879) – Roads Hamlet – Spot Height 633m Knocknadobar – Glen dalough Loughs – Roads Hamlet- Kells Car Park.
Distance: 15 km .Ascent 840m. Reference OS Map 83 (1:50,000).
Leader: Frank O'Rourke

Route: Carrauntoohil
Start: Gaddagh River – Hags Glen – Lough Gouragh -Comeenoughter Lake- O'Shea's Gully (Not Difficult/ No Hairy Bits) – Carrauntoohil –Return route via Cahir or Beenkeragh. Reference OS Map 78 (1:50,000).
Leader: Pascal McCann (Kilkenny An Oige Group).

Co-ordinators: Jim Barry/ Martin Fagan.

Weekends and Holidays Away

The committee welcome members to suggest destinations for weekends and holidays away and offers to help organise these weekends and holidays will always be appreciated. Contact Martin Fagan at the telephone number on the back of the newsletter.

Club Travel

Parched above the lakes of Connemara.

Our weekend in Ben Lettery almost did not happen. For two hours on a sunny Friday evening we were left stranded at the Custom House while the bus refused to start. But thanks to the ingenuity of Hannah who found out that a bus could be hired at Busaras we then set out for Ben Lettery.

Next morning in Connemara the weather was glorious and the hard hikers set off to do the Glencoaghan Horseshoe, ascent 1660m, which took nine hours to complete. The day was very hot and the hard quartz rock radiated heat throughout the day. It was not long before the pleas for spare water were to be heard. Don kept lifting his empty water-bottle to his mouth saying that is how one survived in the desert. Ron was the man of the hour when he found a trickle of water on the slopes of Ben Lettery. "Lord de do! Keep away, Ah find ut furst".

The moderate walkers climbed Derryclare and Ben Corr and then set off on the mother of all walks which took ten hours.

After showering, or for some, a swim in the nearby lake, it was off to Clifden for our night out. Dunne's bus had by this time joined us, having been repaired, although now the clutch seemed to be on the way out! Proinsias was late to return to the bus that night, but he claimed he was only gathering up the stragglers. Dennis was busy match-making for Philip but Angela was too busy directing the bus. Sunday was another glorious day and both hard and moderate hikers headed for the Bens. The hard hike climbed the Glen Carbad Horseshoe, ascent 1500m, while the moderate walk climbed Ben Ban and Muckanaght.

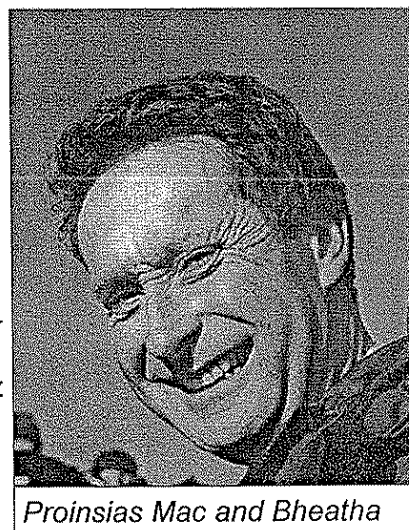
More of the group headed for Cleggan and the ferry to Inishbofin. Orla gave the group a guided tour of her old haunts on the island, while Elaine went horse riding. More of the group went to the beach near Roundstone. Here they were treated to the sight of Dolphins leaping at close proximity to the shore.

Monday brought clouds and some drizzle. The group walked the Western Way, through Maumeen. At the holy site Dennis repeated the miracle of the Loaves and tuna, while Elaine distributed the Snicker Bars which had not been robbed from her. In Keane's Bar in Maam, Irish coffees and Guinness were the order of the day.

Never have so many mobile phones gathered together in any one hostel. One rang at 2.00am and another at 7.00am. Yes Elaine? Snoring is no longer the only hardship for hostlers to endure, unless, of course, you are Gerry French, who tried to dodge snorers, but was confronted by the warden as he was creeping downstairs with his bed.

The weekend was a great success, that is except for Dennis' efforts at matchmaking. Ron even managed a challenge of one hours' silence, on the return bus journey. But there are rumours that Philip put his watch ahead a little, as he realised the declining mental condition of Ron as the minutes slowly passed. Despite the doubters, Ron has returned to his usual condition.

Comhghairdeas to Jim Glynn on surviving his first weekend away with the Hillwalkers.

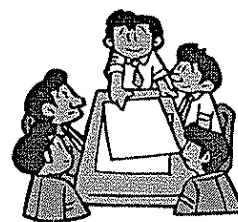


Proinsias Mac and Bheatha

Proinsias Mac and Bheatha

The Committee

Chairperson:	Martin Fagan (01-8553653 h)
Secretary:	Donal Finn (01-4530617 h)
Treasurer:	Prionsias MacAnBheatha (01-8379897 h)
Editor:	Maggie Greaney (01-2834253 h)
Sunday Hikes:	Jim Barry (01-4556455 h)
Weekends/Holidays:	Martin Fagan
Membership Secretary:	Gerry Walshe/Pauline Morley (01-8225818 h)
Training Officer:	Joe Kellegher (01-8381973 h)
Social Events:	Donal Finn / Martin Fagan
Young Hillwalkers:	John Guy (01-4524627 h) or Dave Rooney (01-8344811)
Distribution:	Cyril McFeeney & Pearse Foley



Membership

Annual membership fee of £15 includes the monthly club programme, insurance and a copy of the Irish Mountain Log which is published four times a year. Fees should be sent to the membership secretary at the following address:

Mr. Ger Walsh, 15 Summerfield Avenue, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15.

Next Committee meeting

Next Committee meeting will take place on Tuesday 7 September 1999.

A Note from the Editor

During 1999 all articles published in *The Hillwalker* will be entered in a competition under the categories of holidays/weekends abroad and holidays/weekends at home. Prizes will be awarded at the 1999 Christmas Party so please put pen to paper and send your articles or items of interest to the address below for inclusion in the newsletter. If possible the articles should be typed or in electronic form and should be a maximum of 500 words. A stamped and addressed envelope should accompany any photographs or articles to ensure their return.

Articles for inclusion in the October newsletter should be sent before Wednesday 14 September to:
Maggie Greaney, 68 Newtownpark Avenue, Blackrock, Co. Dublin.
(e-mail: maggieg@tinet.ie)

