



Hillwalkers Club

December 2012-
February 2013

<http://www.hillwalkersclub.com/>

THE HILLWALKER



Up and up, somewhere on the Benchoona walk. *Photo Anne Marie Keoghan*

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HIKE PROGRAMME

December 2012-February 2013

MEET: Burgh Quay

DEPART: Sundays at 10.00 am (*unless stated otherwise*)

TRANSPORT: Private bus (*unless stated otherwise*)

COST: €12.00 (*unless stated otherwise*)

2nd pick-up point: *On the outward journey, the bus will stop briefly to collect walkers at the pick-up point. Should the bus be full on departure from Burgh Quay, this facility cannot be offered.*

Return drop-off point: *On the return journey, where indicated, the bus will stop near the outward pick-up point to drop off any hikers. We regret this is not possible on all hikes.*

GENERAL HIKE NOTES

PARTICIPATION 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.

CO-ORDINATION If necessary, tickets are given out on Sundays to ensure that participants reserve a bus place as they arrive.

LEADER The leader has the right to refuse anyone who is not adequately equipped (e.g., without appropriate boots, rainwear, food, torch, hat, gloves, etc). The leader may alter the route from that described in the program. The leader sets the pace of the hike and walkers are expected to obey the leader's instructions at all times.

EQUIPMENT It is essential to bring good rain gear (both jacket and over-trousers) and to leave cotton t-shirts and jeans at home! Boots must be sturdy with proper ankle support and a rigid non-slip sole such as Vibram.

WALKING STICKS AND RUCKSACKS Remember that walking sticks and rucksacks cannot be brought onto the bus and must be stowed away in the boot during the journey.

★★ **Introductory hard hike** ★★

This hike is tailored for non-members who are considering joining the *Hillwalkers Club*. It offers the opportunity to sample a typical club hike, as well as meeting club members.

Interested individuals should equip themselves appropriately for a day in the hills: adequate hiking boots, waterproof coat and leggings, hat, gloves, lunch and hot / cold drinks. *In order to enjoy the hike, you need a good level of fitness.*

Membership forms will be available, should you wish to join the club on completion of the introductory hike. *Enquiries: 086-356 3843.*

Please be advised that you should not undertake any club hiking activities: (i) if you have any known medical ailment which may impair your ability to participate in club activities, or (ii) if you are taking any form of medication that will put your health or safety of others at risk. Should you be in any doubt on these matters, a doctor should be consulted prior to undertaking any club hiking activity

Saturday 08 - Sunday 09 December 2012

****Hillwalkers Christmas party**
Carlingford**

Sunday 16 December 2012

This is the annual Holly Hike that finishes at 15.00hrs in Hollywood. There is then a get-together in the Hollywood Inn with the bus returning at 18.00hrs.

Leader: Don Reilly

2nd pick-up point & return drop-off point:

Just beyond the Maldron Hotel the N81 Tallaght By-pass.

Route: Hollywood Glen * Church Mountain * Ballymooney * track via St. Kevin's way to Hollywood

Distance: 14 km **Ascent:** 350 m

Maps: OS 56, Harvey, East and West Mapping

Sunday 23 December 2012

****No Hike****

**Wednesday 26 December 2012
(St Stephen's Day)**

Leader: Brendan Dempsey

Dublin bus: No. 145

At old Gas Co., D'Olier St. at 10.00. Bus should leave at approx 10.15.

Route: Rocky Valley * Maulin Mt. * Crone Woods * Knockree Hostel * Enniskerry
Return by Bus No. 44 from Enniskerry at approximately 17.00.

Distance: 13 km **Ascent:** 350 m

Maps: OS 56, Harvey, East and West Mapping

**Wednesday 26 December 2012
(St Stephen's Day)**

Annual Howth Walk that will take in the Bens of Howth and the Coast Walk.

This hike is suitable for Hard and Moderate hikers

Leader: Frank Rooney (087 988 6520)

Meet at Sutton Cross at 11.00.

Bus 31a from City Centre Lwr. Abbey St at 10.00 to Sutton Cross.

Return to Howth Village at approximately 16.00.

Sunday 30 December 2012

****No Hike****

**Tuesday 1 January 2013
(New Year's Day)**

Annual bike up to Lugnaquilla mountain.

****Subject to favourable weather conditions**
Check with Jim before travelling**

Leader: Jim Barry (087 273 7338)

Own transport

Meet outside Fenton's Pub (Glen of Imaal) at 10.45.

Route: Traditional New Year Hike up Lugnaquilla Mountain

Distance: 13 km **Ascent:** 600 m

Maps: OS 56, OS 62, Harvey, East and West Mapping

Sunday 06 January 2013

****No Hike****

Sunday 13 January 2013

****Introductory Hard Hike****

Leader: Warren Lawless

2nd pick-up point & return drop-off point:
Bus stop before the roundabout at Loughlinstown

Route: Ballyross (a few km west of Crone Wood) * Raven's Glen * Tonduff North * Tonduff South * Mullaunsoo * Glensoulan * War Hill * Djouce * Wicklow Way * Glasnamullen

Distance: 14 km **Ascent:** 700 m

Maps: OS 56, Harvey, East and West Mapping

Sunday 20 January 2013

Leader: Ita O'Hanlon

2nd pick-up point & return drop-off point: Bus stop before the roundabout at Loughlinstown

Route: Lough Tay * Whitehill * Djouce * Warhill * Tonduffs * Maulin * Crone Car Park

Distance: 14 km **Ascent:** 650 m

Maps: OS 56, Harvey, East and West

Sunday 27 January 2013

****Introductory Hard Hike****

Leader: Dave McCann

2nd pick-up point & return drop off point: Bus stop before the roundabout at Loughlinstown

Route: Moneystown Hill (T189966)/old Dublin-Wexford road * Round Hill (T177946) * Trooperstown Hill * Trooperstown Bridge * Laragh East * Wicklow Way to Laragh.

Distance: 16 km **Ascent:** 540 m

Maps: OS 56, Harvey, East and West Mapping

Sunday 03 February 2013

Leader: Kevin McGinley

2nd pick-up point & return drop-off point: Bus stop before the roundabout at Loughlinstown

Route: Laragh * Paddock Hill * Scarr * Brown Mountain Kanturk * Kanturk * Lough Dan * Oldbridge * Wicklow way to Pier Gates

Distance: 18 km **Ascent:** 650 m

Maps: OS 56, Harvey, East and West Mapping

Easter trips

Two trips are being organised for Easter 2013, to Snowdonia National Park in Wales, and to Crianlarich in Scotland.

Further details are available on pages 14 and 15, respectively.

Wanted

Person to create a website for the Photographic Group. Tel Pat Heffernan (041) 9832903 or (087) 6305322

Annual membership

Members are reminded to renew Club membership for the next year, to ensure continued delivery of the Newsletter by email.

The membership application form is available on p18 in this Newsletter.



Please note that you can also follow the Hillwalkers Club on facebook
www.facebook.com/pages/The-Hillwalkers-club/153861187966138
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Hillwalkers-club/153861187966138>

Our magazine archives go back to 1993, and our photo archives as far as November 2008, so why not refresh your memories by visiting www.hillwalkersclub.com

Thanks to our webmaster Matt Geraghty, a mobile phone friendly version of the hikes page is available at <http://m.hillwalkersclub.com/>

Club members interested in leading a hike, contact Frank Rooney: rooneyf@eircom.ie

Committee 2012/13

<i>Chairman</i>	Dónal Finn
<i>Secretary</i>	Mel O'Hara
<i>Treasurer</i>	Jim Barry
<i>Sunday Hikes Coordinator</i>	Frank Rooney
<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	Simon More
<i>Membership Secretary</i>	Don Reilly
<i>Club Promoter</i>	Liz Carey
<i>Training Officer</i>	Dónal Finn
<i>Club Social Coordinator</i>	Liz Carey
<i>Webmaster</i>	Matt Geraghty

Special thanks to:

Connemara weekend

26-29 October 2012

It was cold, but dry as 50 hikers headed west on the October Bank Holiday trip to Connemara organised by Simon More. There was a reasonable weather forecast for the weekend. Could it be? Would there be a Hillwalkers Weekend without rain?

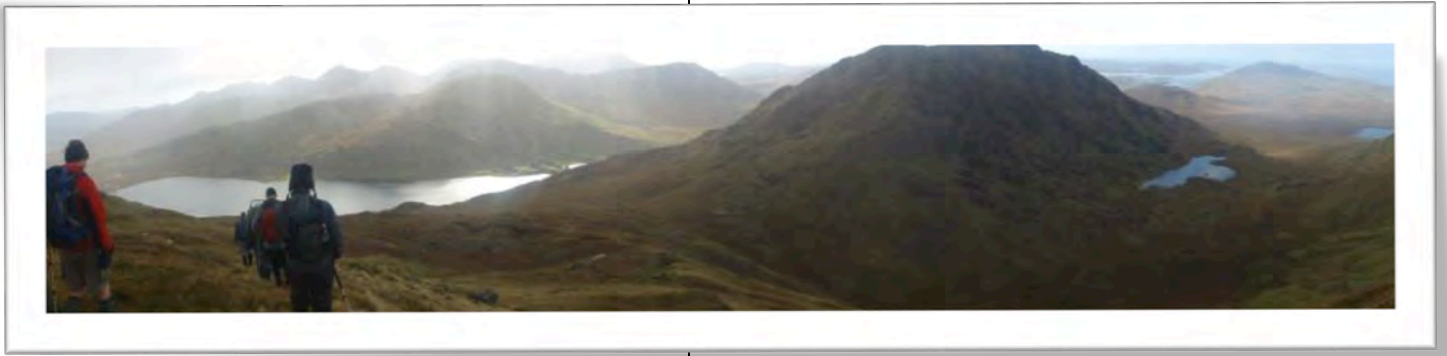
We arrived in Clifden around 21.30 and Simon, with an efficiency that was typical of the entire weekend, had already allocated the bedrooms and pairings so that we could go directly to our hotel rooms without having to check in at reception. 40 of us stayed at the Alcock & Brown hotel in Clifden while 10 more stayed at

the Connemara Country Lodge B & B nearby. Accommodation sorted out, there was a scatter then to try and find Clifden's best pub. Lowry's got the vote that night. There was good music and plenty of dancing with Lourdes, Ruth and Celia getting a good workout from the local dancers. But the night came to a crashing halt when it was revealed that Liz had been to Clifden before. With ANOTHER hiking group. She had told us we were the only ones!

Later that night my navigation skills put to the test as I made my way from the bathroom into my own bed. I determined the route too risky to go alone and ended up beside Liz.



High on Doughruagh. *Photo: Mark Campion*



On the way to Kylemore Abbey, via Doughruagh. *Photo Don Reilly*



A liquid lunch. *Photo: Don Reilly (above)*
Kylemore Abbey. *Photo Dave Jackson (below, right)*

or too cold. What could possibly happen to spoil such a day? Me losing my beloved iPhone. This incident held up the group as we looked for it for a while but no sign. Smaug must be using it to update his Facebook status. After about half an hour of me screaming inside my head and giving fellow hikers dirty looks for flaunting there phones in front of me I decided, very selflessly, not to let it spoil the day and get back to enjoying the stunning views. They look even better when not viewed through an iPhone!

Next morning it was bright and clear and after hearty breakfasts we set off soon after 09.00. The Hard Hikers, led by Simon, were dropped off at Lettergesh and hiked to Kylemore Abbey via Benchoona, Garraun, Altnagaighera, Lemnaheltia & Doughruagh. The Moderate hikers, led by Mel, hiked around and over Tully Mountain before heading over to Kylemore Abbey to meet up with Simon's group.

The weather on Saturday was perfect for hiking. The views were fantastic thanks to the crystal clear air. There was little wind, plenty of sunshine and it was neither too warm





The mods on top of Tully Mountain. *Photo: Ruth Murphy (top)*
Mweelrea mountain, Ben Creggan and Ben Gorm. *Photo Don Reilly (bottom)*

Back to the hotel then where we had an excellent evening meal, even if Dad and I gatecrashed Eugene and Michael's romantic meal. Frank, sitting in the lobby rubbing his belly and licking his lips, was a great advertisement for the hotel's restaurant. So much so that they're putting his image on their website to show they that have the much lauded "Frank's Seal of Approval".

Some opted for an early night while others headed off to enliven some of Clifden's hot spots. A group of us ended up in Griffin's where a three piece band kept us very entertained. 'My Irish Molly'

prompted Mark and Lourdes (along with a red scarf) to add a dance routine to the trio's act. The disco then started out the back of the pub and we nearly lost two of our men to a hen party. Warren and Dave were delighted we saved them or were they??



Mark giving it socks (*top*)
Lourdes in action (*bottom*).
Photos: Ruth Murphy





Fiona, Tess and Teresa at the bottom of Tully Mountain. *Photo: Ruth Murphy (top)*
Liz and Michael. *Photo: Liz Carey (right)*
Jude and Celia. *Photo: Ruth Murphy (below)*



We had grey skies next morning but the rain stayed off until around lunchtime. Both Sunday hikes were in the Leenaun area. The hard hike began in Leenaun village and took a route to Leenaun Hill via the Maam Road before descending via Búcán (SH 550) to the Western Way and meeting the mods at the Leenaun Hotel. The mods had hiked via Tullyconor and Glencraff up onto the hills and had also descended via Búcán and walked along the Western way to the Leenaun Hotel.

Warren's rendition of 'The lakes of Pontchartrain' was no match for 'The Singing Gate of Leenaun' both to be seen on TV soon on Connemara got Talent.

It had been quite cold and wet after lunch so the soup, the hot ports and hot whiskeys, the

convivial atmosphere and especially the warmth of the hotel was very welcome. Back to the Alcock & Brown hotel then where some of the group, especially Ita, were enjoying the Man Utd – Chelsea game which United won 3-2.

Another delicious evening meal followed and the hotel had also arranged some excellent traditional Irish music and dancing in the Cosy Bar.

The Central Bar was the hot spot later that night where there was dancing till late to a mixture of ABBA and Brendan Shine! Mark became intrigued by a vision of beauty in red playing the piano and they danced the night away. Johnny and baby have got nothing on those two!



Anne Marie and Frank. *Photo: Mark Campion*



At the top of Bengower. *Photo: Liz Carey*

Next morning we were ready for off good and early. The bus collected the people at the B & B and we were then treated to a song from their hostess. I'm fairly sure that everyone on the bus that morning will always remember Clifden whenever they hear Danny Boy sung again.

There were two hikes again on the way home. The Hard Hikers, led by Simon, took a route over Benglenisky and Bengower before

descending to the hostel at Benlettery while Mel led a moderate hike on Bengower. The weather on Monday was quite good too so there were some fine views. Those that had enough hiking visited Roundstone. All aboard the bus again, Noel, our friendly, patient and obliging driver, whisked the group back to Dublin in good time.



Descending to ex-An Óige hostel at Benlettery, beside Ballynahinch Lake. *Photo: Don Reilly*

Thanks to Simon who organised a great weekend, assisted by Mel and the various rear leaders. Thanks also due to bus driver Noel & to Jim Barry who organised the bus and the bookings. The staff at the Alcock and Brown Hotel and the B & B also added to our

enjoyment of the weekend so thanks are due to them also.

Text: Shauna O'Hara



Awww, time to go home. Photo: Ruth Murphy

Easter trip to Wales

Hillwalkers Club

Thursday 28 - Monday 01 April 2013

Hillwalking in the Spectacular & Scenic Snowdonia National Park, North Wales

Staying at Llanberis Youth Hostel, North Wales

Moderate/Hard lead Walks
Low Level Walkers Facilitated

Leaders: Jim Barry & Tom Kenny

Boat and Bus Trip Only

Proposed Weekend Itinerary:

Snowdon Summit: via Watkin Path from Pont Bethania (G.R.628507)
& Llanberis Paths (G.R.582589) starting points **Tryfan &**
Glyders: via Heather Terrace from Glan Dena (G.R.671605)
& Llyn Ogwen (G.R.668606) starting points.
Cnict & Moelyns: Circular Walk from Croesor (G.R.632447) starting
point for all walks.

**Recommended Map: UK Ordnance Survey Map 115 (1:50,000) will suffice
for all walks**

Please Note

Cost: EUR 350 (Includes Bednights, Meals, and Transport)

Booking: EUR 350 FULL PAYMENT ONLY (CHEQUE OR POSTAL ORDER ONLY or ON LINE,
NO CASH) made out to: 'Hillwalkers Club' C/O Jim Barry, 156 Comeragh Road, Drimnagh, Dublin 12.
Phone: 087 2737338 or 01 4556455 (evenings only). Please include Full Name, Full Address, email
Address, Phone Number, An Oige Membership No/ Hillwalkers membership requirement. Contact Jim Barry
re. Internet booking facility

Booking open from Monday 17 December 2012

Meals: Hostel Breakfast, Dinner and Packed Lunch included in the price

**Bring: Sterling Currency, Suitable Walking Boots, Rain Wear/Change of Warm
Clothing/Towels/Toilet Gear/ Flask/Torch/ First Aid Kit/Camera/, Mobile Phone etc.**

Be prepared for winter conditions in the mountains

Meeting Place/Time – to be confirmed later

Dublin Ferry Departure: Holy Thursday - Port and time to be confirmed later

**Return: Monday evening from Holy head on 13.50hrs Ferry after bus journey from
Llanberis to arrive back in Dublin Port at 17.00hrs approx.**

Welcome Aboard

Easter trip to Scotland

Where oo headin' boy? **Scotland old chap**

What part ? **Crianlarich.**

Where the divil is dat ? **Mid-west Scotland, just north of Loch Lomond.**

Loch Lomond...I knows it well..d'uncle proposed to the first cousin there.

Where oo stayin' ? **The local YHA hostel**

What's YHA....Yobbish Hillwalkers Allowed? If so, sign me up.

When are oo tinkin' of going ? **Thur 28th March to Mon 1st April inclusive to be precise old bean.**

Enough of yer old chap and bean nonsense. Shpake like the kerryman dat oo are. **Whist, are oo comin' or not ? Email me if ur intrusted.**

Shlow down a sec horse, how much is this caper going to cost me ? **Yerra, pay for the flights yerself and after that it'll cost you between €150 and €170...will know exact figure closer to the time.**

Can any oul chancer go on this jaunt ? **No, tis for fit, paid-up Hillwalker Club members only.**

Who's leading this trip by the way? **A dapper dude named Mark Campion.**

Ah...D'uncle! Shtandards are shlippin'!

Any chance of a shnap or two to whet the apetite ? **Here y'are.**





The Hillwalkers Club
2012-2013

Membership Application Form

Name (Applicants must be over 18)

Address

Were you a member before? Yes, last year Yes, some time ago No

New members: How did you hear about the club?

An Óige Membership Number (Applicants must be a member of An Óige)

[Further information at <http://www.anoige.ie/membership>]

Contact Telephone Numbers

(If possible, please give a mobile number, which may be used for notification of programme changes)

Mobile Evening Daytime

Email Address (required)

The club issues a regular newsletter by email. The newsletter is also available through the Club webpage [www.hillwalkersclub.com].

Please read and sign the following PERSONAL DECLARATION

PERSONAL DECLARATION

I am over 18 years of age and wish to apply for membership of the Hillwalkers Club. (*)

(*) Please note that personal accident insurance is only available to members between 18 and 75 years of age.

I accept that mountaineering is an activity with a danger of personal injury or even death.

I am aware of and shall accept these risks and wish to participate in these activities voluntarily and shall be responsible for my own actions and involvement.

I accept that the Hillwalkers Club establishes the bounds on its activities through the constitution and rules of the club [[available at www.hillwalkersclub.com/constitution.htm](http://www.hillwalkersclub.com/constitution.htm)] and I agree to abide by these.

Members should not undertake any club hiking activities if:

- (i) they have any known medical ailment which may impair their ability to participate in club activities, or,
- (ii) they are taking any form of medication that will put their health or safety of others at risk.

If a member is in any doubt on these matters, a doctor should be consulted prior to undertaking any club hiking activity.

If you agree and accept the terms of the PERSONAL DECLARATION, please sign and date here.

Signature Date

The 2012-2013 membership year runs from 01 October 2012 to 30 September 2013.

2012/2013 Membership Fee €35.00

Please send this form with the membership application fee (cheque or postal order only, payable to the Hillwalkers Club) to **Don Reilly, Dunany, Santry, Dublin 9**. Please allow two weeks for processing of the membership application.

NB: PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR APPLICATION BY REGISTERED POST!