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Editorial

Now that our walking group has become a fully fledged Hill Walking Club affiliated to the Mountaineering Council of Ireland it was felt that we should have a "Newsletter" detailing Club Activities and giving information on walks and walk leaders as well as general information on Trekking.

Therefore welcome to the first edition of our Newsletter which we intend to publish quarterly. It's success depends on you the member supplying information and articles of interest on walking. The ball is in your court, get the information flowing and a very successful magazine will result.

In October one of our members...
We had come from Sally Gap across...
Xavier O'Leary...
In December...
had monthly...
was the...
order in...
Joe's last...
from...
meeting...
understanding...
laundry...
but but...
his developing...
On 23...
he and...
head in...
family. At...

JOE ENGLISH

Joe's involvement with the Trekkers was short, much too short. He first joined us in November, 1993 on a circuit of Glenealo, the upper Glendalough Valley. This was a strenuous walk of over 7 hours but Joe fitted easily into the demands of the day. On a very steep descent from the Spink towards the end of the day Joe impressed by being so sure-footed on steep ground and by his eagerness to help if others required assistance.

Throughout 1994 Joe missed only two walks, in March and in September. He fitted so naturally into the group that we were inclined to take him for granted. Now, in retrospect, two features stand out: his complete control in all situations he faced and his ever-readiness to be of assistance to others. On our June weekend in the Bens, Joe's control of movement on the high steep ground between Benbaun and Benfree was outstanding. On that day any remaining doubt about his ability in the hills finally disappeared.

In October, one of Joe's interests - set dancing - found a chance of expression. We had come from Sally Gap across Mullaghcleevaun to Lacken. There, in Zellars O'Lacken, a group of walkers were preparing to have a sing-song with musical accompaniment. Joe organised them into a set and our hiking boots clumped out the bars under his guidance.

In December, Joe and Freddie had charge of our walk and on that day Joe emerged from his natural quietness to take control as organiser and leader. He had carefully prepared the route and his primary concern throughout the day was the well-being of his colleagues on the walk. This became particularly evident in a difficult crossing of the Cloghoge River which was in flood.

Joe's last outing with the Trekkers was in January, 1995 on the Wicklow Way from Luggala to Glencullen. A few days later he came to the first general meeting in the Court Hotel. There, an opportunity was presented of undertaking a training course in mountain navigation, starting at the end of January and continuing throughout the following month. Joe was keen to take part but had a problem arranging time off. He later managed to do this but his developing illness intervened.

On 23 March Joe died. He was buried on Saturday 25 March, a day on which he and Freddie had planned to lead a Trekkers walk. He is missed by all his friend in the Trekkers who share the grief of Mary, Freddie and the rest of his family. Ar dheis De go raibh a anam.

WALK LEADERS & DATES JULY TO DECEMBER 1995

Walks take place on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. They will be either normal standard (Grade A) or a lower/easier standard (Grade B).

If any leader is not available on his allotted day he should arrange to swap with another member and notify Dick Needham accordingly.

Walk Leaders should advise Kevin Beegan by Tuesday preceeding the walk of the number of walkers so that he can arrange transport

DATE 1995	GRADE	WALK LEADER & TEL. NO.	LEADER & TEL. NO.
8/7		R. NEEDHAM (H) 284 9571 (W) 280 1130	A. MAXWELL c/o 284 9571
19/8		J. FUREY (H) 289 3045 (w)838 5527	C. FUREY (H) 289 3045
9/9	A	B. BRENNAN (H) 285 5700	W. DUNCAN (H) 285 8635
23/9	B	K. BEEGAN (H) 285 1698 (W) 677 6881	N. O'REILLY (H) 280 9929
14/10	A	M. ARMSTRONG (H) 285 2434	R. HALPENNY (H) 285 5976
28/10	B	R. NEEDHAM (As above)	C. LAVERTY (H) 289 4644
11/11	A	F. ENGLISH (H) 280 4363 (W) 459 7704 or 451 6411	K. TRANT (H) 282 7591
25/11	B	J. FUREY (As above)	I. THOMPSON (H) 285 4797
9/12	A	D. KIRKER (H) 282 0971 (W) 280 8441	P. FUREY (H) 295 6682

JUNE WEEKEND: BALLYHOURA WAY

FRIDAY 23RD JUNE

Meet 7.00am Sean Trants House. Coach to Hueston Station. 9.00am Cork Train to Charleville. Arrive 11.25am. Coach to Deerpark Hotel for lunch. Coach to Ballyhea Village. Walk to Ballyorgan - Kilfinnane. Stay Friday night.

SATURDAY 24TH JUNE

Walk Ballyorgan - Kilfinnane to Glen of Aherlow.

SUNDAY 25TH JUNE

Walk from Glen of Aherlow over Galtymore to Aherlow House Hotel.

MONDAY 26TH JUNE

Coach to Limerick Junction. Train to Dublin. Coach from station to Glenageary.

PADDY O'DUFFY

The 5th May was a landmark day for Paddy, He reached the ripe old age of Sixty. Congratulations from all in the Club. Hurry back to the walks Paddy as we miss you rendering the "Banks" on the journey home.

ORGANISED WALKS

The following is a list of walks which have been organised by the principal mountaineering clubs over the coming months.

- MAY 13th** Blackstairs, organised by Wayfarers.
Contact person: Tom Tracy, Telephone: 493 2734
- MAY 13th** Wicklow, Grade 1, organised by The Trekkers. Wicklow Gap to Donard. Contact person: John Furey or David Kirker.
- MAY 19-21st** Derry. The North West Mountaineering Club is celebrating it's 40th Anniversary. There will be a selection of walks: Giant's Causeway, Inishowen Peninsula, Donegal Highlands, tour of Derry. The Anniversary dinner will be on Saturday evening, May 20th.
Contact person: Brendan Johnston, 32 Berryhill Road, Artigarvan, Strabane, BT2 0EL (01504 266544).
- MAY 27th** Galtees, organised by Tyndall Mountaineering Club.
Contact person: Alma Holohan, Tel. 056 63927.
- MAY 27th** Wicklow, Grade 2, organised by The Trekkers.
Contact person: Brian McKean or Ian Thompson.
- MAY 27th - JUNE 5th** Kenmare Walking Festival. A wide selection of walks over a ten-day period in the Kerry and West Cork mountains, including Carrauntoohil.
Contact person: Michael Murphy, Kenmare Walking Festival, The Post Office, Kenmare, Co. Kerry. Tel. (064) 41682/41008/41034.
- JUNE 10th** Wicklow, Grade 1, organised by The Trekkers.
Contact person: Dick Needham.
- JUNE 17th** Bangor Trail, organised by the Nephin Beg Mountaineering Club. This is a 28 mile walk from Bangor (Co. Mayo) through the Nephin Beg mountains to Newport. There is a pull-out point after 18 miles.
Contact person: Pauline McDermott, Main Street, Newport, Co. Mayo, Tel. 098 41500.

Organised Walks Cont'd.

JUNE 23 - 25th

Ballyhoura Way and Galtee Mountains, organised by The Trekkers. Full details elsewhere in this publication.

Contact person: Dick Needham. Tel. 284 9571.

JUNE 24th

Lug Walk, organised by the Ramblers. This is a 33 mile walk crossing 19 peaks in the Dublin and Wicklow mountains and with a total ascent of 7,500 feet. It starts at the Stone Cross in Bohernabreena and finishes in the Glen of Imall. There are two drop-out points, at Sally Gap and at Wicklow Gap. Walkers need to start at about 5am and can expect to spend about 15 hours on the walk.

Contact person: Vera Kelly, Tel. 660 7467.

**JUNE 29th -
JULY 2nd**

Castlebar International Four Days Walks. On each of the four days there is a choice of a 40 km and 25 km road walk and a 30 km ramble. Further information from: Castlebar's International Four Days' Walks, P.O. Box 1, Castlebar, Co. Mayo. Tel. 094 24102.

AUGUST 5th

Benbulbin Challenge. Organised by Sligo Mountaineering Club. The walk covers a distance of 33 km, with a total ascent of 1,500m and an estimated walking time (excluding breaks) of 8.5 hours. The walkers gather at the "Yeats Tavern". Drumcliff, Co. Sligo between 6.30am and 7.15am. They will be transported from there by bus to the start of the walk. The walk crosses the Darty Hills, Glenade Valley, Truskmore Peak and the Benbulbin Plateau.

Contact person: Michael Mulligan, Secretary of Sligo Mountaineering Club, 10, Church Street, Sligo.

TRANSPORT REMINDER

There have been two occasions in recent weeks when the number who said they were going on a walk made it necessary to order two buses. However, at the last minute a small number dropped out with the result that when two buses arrived, one of them had to be sent back. This led to embarrassment for those who organised the walk, annoyance for the bus driver and unnecessary extra cost for those who went on the walk.

It is inevitable that last-minute drop-outs for genuine reasons will occur from time to time. If this does happen, one of the walk organisers should be notified as early as possible.

OCTOBER WEEKEND

On a number of occasions in the past, in May or October, we have spent a weekend (two days and one night) in the Wicklow Mountains. Our overnight stops have been in the Royal Hotel in Glendalough, in bed and breakfast in Laragh village and in Derrybawn House just outside Laragh.

It is intended to re-activate this Wicklow weekend this year, probably the weekend of 14th/15th October, if there is sufficient interest in it. In order to enable a decision to be made, would those who are interested please contact Dick Needham, Tel. 284 9571.

