

Sunday Hikes May 2005

<i>HIKE PROGRAMME</i>			
MEET: Burgh Quay		DEPART: Sundays 10.00 am	COST: Private bus. €10
Date	Route Description	Distance	Leader
Apr 17 th	Route: Dwyer McAllister's Cottage Car park, - Rostyduff, - Keadeen Mt. – Ballinabarney Gap, - Ballinfoyle, - Ballineddan, - Sliabh Meain, - Banana Road, - Fentons Pub .	19km/ 710m	Gerry Walsh
Apr 24 th	Route: Laragh, - Brockaghs, - Tonelagee, - Stoney Top, - Barnacullian, - Mullaghcleevaun, - East Top, - Carrigshouk, - Oasis.	19m/ 900m	Brian Madigan
May 1 st	SPECIAL HIKE IN MOURNE MOUNTAINS. SEE INFORMATION IN BODY OF NEWSLETTER. NOTE EARLIER STARTING TIME of 9.30a.m.		
May 8 th	Introductory Hard Hike Route: Road Junction (GR 993 124) Road/track - Lugnagun - Sorrel Hill - Ballynultagh Gap - Black Hill - Mullaghcleevaun Mountain - Carrignagunneen - Gowlan Brook - Forest track - Ballinagee Bridge.	18km/ 900m	Philip Hayden
May 15 th	Route: Crone Wood Carpark - Maulin - Tonduffs - Powerscourt Mountain - Lough Brays - Old Boleys - Knocknagun - Prince William's Seat - Wicklow WayTrack - Curtlestown.	20km/ 700m	Stephen James
May 22 nd	The J.B. Malone Memorial Walk Route: Pier Gates - JB Malone Memorial - White Hill - Djouce - Coffin Stone -Tonduff South - Maulin - Crone Wood - Knockree Hostel.		Tom Kenny
May 29 th	Route: Auhavannagh Bridge - Ow Valley - South Prison - Lugnaquilla - Corrigasleggaun - Kellys Lough - Glenmalure.	18km/ 850m	Eoin Moroney
June 3 rd – 6 th	Bank Holiday Weekend trip to Killarney		
June 12 th	Introductory Hard Hike Route: Shay Elliott Memorial, - Cullentrágh, Mullacor, - Lugduff, - Spink Derrybawn - Cullentragh, - Shay Elliott Memorial.	17km/ 800m	Don Reilly

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.

SUNDAY HIKES Participants on Sunday Hikes must be a member of An Óige Hillwalkers Club. If you are not a member of the Club, but are considering joining, we invite you to participate on our monthly Introductory Hikes.

INTRODUCTORY HIKES An Introductory Hike is organised once per month for aspirant members. Participants on these hikes must be a member of An Óige.

CO-ORDINATION 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.

TORCH During winter months it is essential to bring a (head) torch on all Sunday hikes. Check your batteries / bulb.

ENVIRONMENT Try to reduce the erosion and widening of trails, e.g. do not walk on the edge of worn tracks; walk through the centre of the original track or go several meters into the scruff where the ground is untrodden, walking parallel to but not on the track.

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.

HIKE LEADERS If any member is interested in leading a hike, please contact either:

Tom Kenny Email: tomk2003@yahoo.ie

Philip Roche Email: philip.roche@boimail.com

May Hike to Mournes

May 1st Special extended Sunday Hike

DAY TRIP TO ROSTREVOR AREA - MOURNE MOUNTAINS.
TWO GRADES OF WALK.

9:30 AM DEPARTURE FROM BURGH QUAY

BUS EURO 15.

Please note earlier departure time

For your comfort, we will be using a larger bus on this day. A meal stop will be made at the Fairways Hotel Dundalk on the return journey. ETA Dublin 21.00hrs.

Some sterling might be useful.

Moderate Hike Details

Route: Restrevor Forest Park (G.R. 185180) – Cloghmore Glen – Ballynagelty – Slieveban – Slievemeen – Slievemartin – The Rowans – Slieveanowen – Fallow Stream Ford – Slievemiskan – Slievemeel – Rostrevor Forest to Car Park.

Distance: 13km /Ascent 700m.

Leader: Jim Barry

Hard Hike Details

Route: Rostrevor Forest Park (G.R. 185180) – Ulster Way Track – Slievemeel – Spot Height 476m. – Shanlieve – Finlieve Mor – Finlieve Beg – The Rowans – Slievemartin – Cloghmore Glen Track to Car Park.

Distance: 17km/Ascent 1000m.

Leader: Tom Kenny

JB Malone Memorial Walk

Sunday May 22nd.

Walks will finish at Knockree Hostel where refreshments – tea and biscuits- will be served.

August Trip

Advance Notice

August Trip

Sligo area

This trip will be led by Philip Hayden.

The group will be staying in an independent hostel in Sligo town. Walks will be based in the Sligo / North Leitrim and South Donegal areas.

Sligo is a 'happening place' particularly during the summer months. Scenery, ceol agus craic thar barr! Plenty of good eateries too! – (editor's bias!)

June Bank Holiday Weekend 2005

Friday 3rd – Monday 6th June 2005

Aghadoe Y.H., Killarney, Co. Kerry

Moderate/Hard Walkers Welcome!

Two grades of walk each day: Saturday, Sunday and Monday

Leader: Tom Kenny

Strictly Bus Trip Only

Walking Itinerary to include:

Carrauntoohil Mountain and Coomloughra Horseshoe
Mangerton Horseshoe via Owgarriff River & Stompa Mtn
Torc Mountain
Social Events

Less strenuous route variations for moderate walkers.

Ordnance Survey Maps: 1:50.000 Discovery Series Sheet 78

Notes

Hostel accommodation: Small private 4 bed rooms/limited to **53 persons**

Booking: EUR 80 NON REFUNDABLE deposit to An Óige Head Office by credit card or cash deposit (8304555).

Booking facilities available from 6th April 2005.

Balance of Money must be paid by Friday 20th May 2005.

Cost: EUR 150 (includes 3 bednights, 3 Continental Breakfast, 2 Evening Meals & Transport costs)

Bring: Winter rain wear/change of warm clothing/ sheet bag/towels/toilet gear/ flask/torch/ first aid kit/camera/binoculars/ valid An Óige membership card.

Departure: Friday evening from George's Quay (Tara St.) at 4pm (1600hrs) sharp.

Return: Monday evening /arriving Dublin City centre at 8pm (2000hrs) approx.

Please note that the walking programme may be altered or curtailed at the discretion of the leader to take account of adverse weather conditions and walkers capabilities.

Social Report

The Average Score was 19, Na-Na-Na-Nineteen

Thanks are due to the Hillwalker Committee and Jacinta O'Reilly for organising yet another enjoyable social outing for the club on March 11th. This involved an evening of throwing large objects at smaller objects and hunting fellow members of the tribe with weapons, which gives a healthy indication of how far we have evolved from cavemen.

The venue was Stillorgan Leisureplex and consisted of bowling and Quasar. The latter, in case you don't know, involves two teams fighting in a darkened, indoor arena with laser-guns and trying to shoot the target areas on your opponents body-armor.

Our largely inexperienced bowlers were slightly nervous at first but soon got into swinging form. Joe Kavanagh, however, could not be said to suffer from inexperience or nerves and swept the board with his consistent scores in Lane 7, leaving a trail of shattered pins in his wake. Gero demolished the opposition in Lane 8, but it was good craic for all involved.

The gang then split in two. One group continued the bowling while the more war-like half went into the battle-zone for Quasar. The results of the second round of bowling were Carina as Best Female Scorer and Gero as Best Male Scorer. It was suggested to me by Gero that it would be better to cast the results in this way rather than divulge that he and Peter had failed Mankind by letting a girl win.

The Quasar crowd meanwhile divided into two teams: the Green Army and the Red Army (boooo!!!). The Green General, Lawless Maximus, gave a clearly inspirational speech to his troops, as faced with this droning noise they were certainly inspired to rush out and face death rather than listen any longer. "The Reds are a threat to our way of life. Remember, you must defend me, um, I mean our base, to your last laser-shot. There will be medals for everyone who falls in this noble struggle. Now lets go squash some bugs!"

'Jungle' Joe, imbued by his success on the bowling lanes, stole away into the shadows behind enemy lines, where he prepared stake-pits of upturned walking poles and traps made out of hiking-boot laces and explosive thermos-flasks.

'Landmine' Dave prepared an extensive surprise for the Reds, laying out a landmine across No Mans Land. As he leaned against the barricades listening to the crash and howls of the enemy blundering into his landmines, he took out his cigar and muttered: "I love the smell of semtex in the evening."

This only momentarily delayed the hordes of Reds charging the Green lines. They were led by the evil Red General, Philip Scharzenigger, with his lieutenants James 'Killer' Cooke and Amazon Annick (a.k.a '*Vlaamse Leeuwim*', *the Lioness of Flanders*). But the most feared of their numbers was Jacinta the Jackal, who, on the basis on the score-sheets, proved to be their most deadly assassin (its always the quiet ones...).

As the unstoppable hordes advanced, David 'Mad' McCann rushed out from the barricades, a laser-gun in each hand, firing into the Red ranks and screaming "Better dead than Red!!!!!!". He fell bravely and was scalped by the Red savages.

But just as it seemed the Reds would overwhelm the enemy base, the Green General gave the signal and from the spectator galleries above the arena barrels of bowling balls were released, raining havoc down on the battlefield. As the smoke cleared, only two figures were left standing amid the wreckage. Philip Scharzenigger stared at his enemy, Lawless Maximus. In the distance a pocket-watch played a slow, sad tune. Both knew the moment of decision would come when the watch stopped playing. Sweat formed on their brows, laser-guns felt suddenly heavy in their sweaty hands, and bodies tensed as the notes began to slow and fade...

Zap! Ka-choo! Bang! Bang! With all the accuracy of Imperial Stormtroopers they fired salvos of laser shots at each other across the short space between them, until eventually the Green General crumpled in a blasted heap. Looming over him Philip sternly uttered "You're terminated", twirled his gun into its holster and walked off into the smoking ruins of the arena.

The bowlers and combatants then retired to the 'Orchard' pub to count scores and recuperate. However since these events took place, doctors have recognised a new condition called '*Stillorgan Syndrome*'. Veterans of the event have been known to be out on the hills and suddenly go into a fit at the sight of a walking pole innocently pointed towards them. The victims curl into a ball on the ground (maybe due to the bowling experience?) and roll around saying "You weren't in 'Gan. You don't know what it was like!". Dr. McSorley has taken a compassionate interest in their sufferings and has pioneered a treatment for the victims, involving a good hard slap on the head.

By an anonymous ex-editor

Seisiún Ceol

Not since the Christmas party had so many hillwalkers come together in one spot as for the music session held in the Westmoreland Pub on Friday, April 8th. From the outlying jungles of Dublin, from Wicklow and Wexford they came bearing instruments or ears to listen. One brave soul journeyed from the roots on traditional music in the banner county to nourish the ears of the listeners. The basement room of the pub filled to capacity with the more talkative retreating to the upper bar for uninterrupted (and non-interrupting) conversation.

Well done to organiser and Fear a'tí Joe Kavanagh, thanks to all the musicians who shared their talents and voices with the audience. While they may not have been the most silent of groups, they certainly were appreciative. Feedback has been of the ' that's great, can we have more of this' variety.

Competition Announcement

Hikes Less Trodden!

Tired of the same old hike routes in Wicklow????
Then do something about it!

Update: Already a number of potential hikes have been suggested. The field (and hills!) is/are still wide open. Keep your entries coming in.

How?
Suggest a route for a Sunday Hike in Wicklow. Send it complete with a brief description (start, finish, length, main points along the route etc.) or Tom Kenny or Philip Roche.
Your entry need not be a complete route card but only routes that work in practice will be accepted.
The winner will be drawn from all acceptable entries.
Entries can be emailed to Tom or Philip at:
tomkenny2003@yahoo.ie philip.roche@boimail.com

Social and Personal

Comhghairdeas! Congratulations

Congratulations to Jimmy McCullagh and Ruth O'Connell on their recent engagement. We wish them long years of happiness together

Fáilte don Linbh!

Congratulations and best wishes to Fiona Martin and Liam Byrne on the recent birth of their son Seán William Martin Byrne.

Birthday Wishes

Congratulations and best wishes to Denis Kenny on reaching the half-century unscathed – apart from one broken left arm! Happy Birthday Denis and may the next fifty years be twice as good as the past.

Table Quiz In aid of

Children's Hospital Crumlin

Where: Gate Bar, Crumlin

When: Friday 22nd April at 9.p.m.

Organised by Mick Heneghan and friends.
All Hillwalkers very welcome!!!

Contributions to the Hillwalker are always welcome and should be sent to :

Deirdre McMahon at mcmahond@eircom.net or by snailmail to:
11, Aspen Road, Kinsealy Court, Swords, Co. Dublin

Upcoming Events:

Treasure Hunt around down town pubs

Friday May 22nd

Organisers: Steve Buckney and Mark Campion
Detailed information later. Keep your ears open for further details on Sunday bus or email shots

June: date t.b.c.

Horse Racing in Naas

Organiser : Enid GallagherL
Cost: E22 plus transport cost. Start saving for your betting stakes!!!

12 Bens Challenge

5th June 2005

It's that time of the year again – to start training for one of the toughest mountain challenges in the Country.

The 2005 12 Bens Challenge will take place on Sunday, June 5th

This is a tough, strenuous challenge which requires the following:

- You are an experienced hill-walker (this challenge is definitely not for beginners)
- You've participated in walks with a total height gain of at least 5,000ft (1,500m)
- You've participated in/your training has included walks that take at least 8+ hours
- You are a competent navigator (or you are with someone who is a competent navigator – if the weather is bad you're on your own – the walk organizers will populate the checkpoints only, they do not provide guides on the challenge). All participants, regardless of whether you're part of a group, should have their own map and compass.
- You are properly equipped for a strenuous day's hiking with a minimum of the following (see conditions of entry document for more detailed requirements):

For a registration form and/or more information, contact either

Michael Gibbons.

Email: walkwest@indigo.ie

or

Helen Murray.

Email: helen.murray@hp.com

Club Committee

Club President and Chairperson: Prionnsias MacAnBheatha

Secretary: Frank Rooney

Treasurer: Jim Barry

Sunday Hikes: Tom Kenny and Philip Roche

Membership Secretary: Anne Russell

Training Officer: Jimmy McCullagh

Editor: Deirdre McMahon

Social Officer: Steven Buckney

In addition, four club members work behind the scenes as follows:

Distribution: Cyril McFeeney & Pearse Foley

Webmaster: Matt Geraghty

MCI Environmental Officer: Patricia Goodman