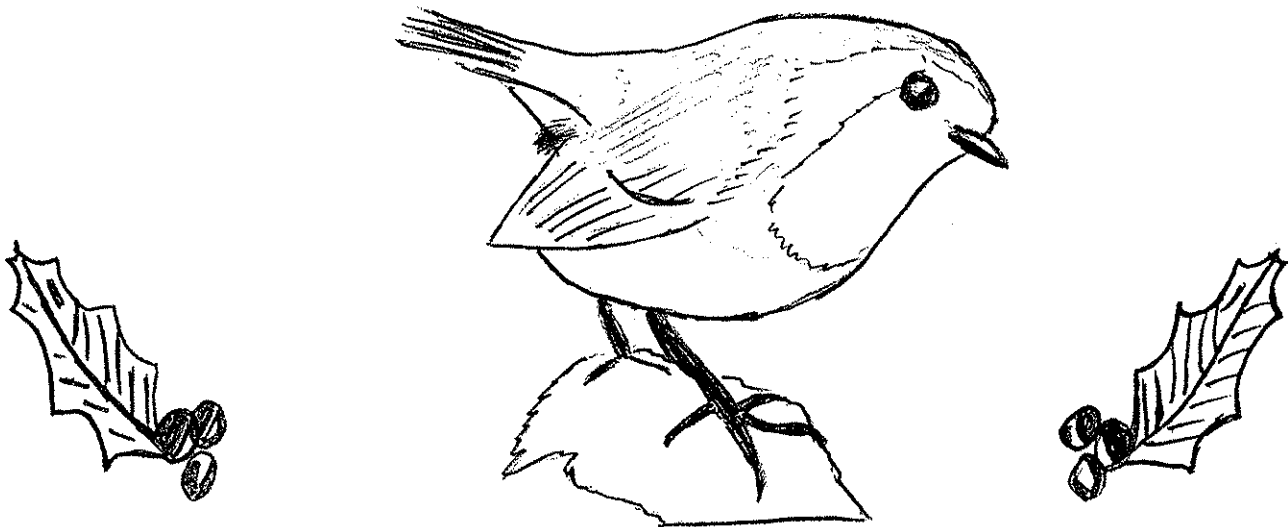




*WISHING ALL OUR MEMBERS
A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR.*





DECEMBER PROGRAMME

- MEET:** Outside the Irish Press Offices, Burgh Quay.
- TIME:** Sundays 10.00 am.
- BRING:** Rainwear, flask, sandwiches, **torch**, **reflective armbands** and a change of clothes.
- WEAR:** Hiking Boots. **RUNNERS NOT ALLOWED.**
- TRANSPORT:** Private bus. Price £5 (unless otherwise stated.)
- NOTE:** The leader has the right to refuse anyone who is not adequately equipped. On the day of the hike, the leader may extend, curtail or alter the route in any way from that described in the programme.

The leader sets the pace of the hike and walkers are expected to obey his/her instructions at all times.

Sunday 03rd December **Intoductory hard hike**

Route: Sorrell Hill, Black Hill, Moanbane, Silsean, Ballyknockan

Leader: Joe Kelleher

Sunday 10th December

Route: Stranahealy, Tabletrack, Corriebracks, Church Mountain

Leader: Jim Barry

Sunday 17th December

Route: Sally Gap to Wicklow Gap

Leader: Dave Rooney

Sunday 24th December No hike due to Santa Claus arriving for Christmas!!

Tuesday 26th December **Special Hike**

Route: Walk in the Howth area. Meet at Sutton Cross at 11.00 am

Leader: Dave Rooney

Monday 01st January **New Years Day hike**

Route: Camara Hill, Lugnaquilla, Slievemaan

Meet: Fentons pub 11.00 am

Leader: Martin Fagan (phone Martin at 8743082 re:transport)

**NOTE TO LEADERS: THERE IS A FIRST AID KIT ON THE BUS.
WALKIE TALKIES MUST BE USED ON ALL HIKES, PLEASE BRING
THEM WITH YOU.**

Mountain safety note

As hill walking can sometimes be a hazardous activity, it is requested that any walkers on medication, or with a medical condition, inform the leader of their condition before the hike.

Hill walkers Saturday club

This club is for young people aged 13 to 16 years and hikes take place on one Saturday of every month. Transport is by local bus / DART - depending on the area the hike is being organised in.

SATURDAY 09th DECEMBER 1995

Meet: Irish Press Offices, Burgh Quay

Time: 08:45 am for DART to Bray (Arrive Bray station at 09.30)

Hike: Bray Head and Little Sugarloaf.

After the hike, we will have a burger and chips.

Leader: Dave Rooney (Tel. 834 4811)

The year about to end has been a very active one. A hike every month and six weekend Hostel trips. Our most recent trip to Knockree Hostel was really good. Twenty of us set out from Stepside at 8p.m. on a Friday night ascending Fernhill, Three Rock, Fairy Castle, Boranaltry, Curtlestown and on up to Knockree, 12 miles in the dark, up hill and down dale.

We had a great crew and made it to Knockree by 01:30am. The warden had stayed up to greet us and we were all glad to see our beds that night.

On Saturday we tackled Crone and Maulin and on Sunday, Prince Williams Seat and Ravens Rock. We all lived to tell the tale. Dave and Sean were very proud to be part of such a great group.

Our next weekend away is Glendalough on February 09th 1996

This is the time of year when we thank all those who have helped us make the *Young Hillwalkers Club* such a success.

Kevin Parker and **John Lawlor**, without whose advice and encouragement we would never have got started. To **Lorraine Brady**, **Avril Bothwell** and **Pauline Morley**. To **Eilish** and **Betty Ryan** - many thanks. A special word of thanks to **Maire Pearson** for some very welcome help.

All that remains is for us to wish each and everyone a Happy Christmas and a great New Year of walking.

Dave Rooney & Sean Dunne.

AN OIGE SOCIAL NEWS/OTHER EVENTS

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SWIMMING

Every Tuesday evening, in the E.S.B. Sports Co.
South Lotts Road, Ringsend, between 9p.m. and 10p.m.
Cost £2.00

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SET DANCING LESSONS

Ongoing every Monday evening in -
An Oige Hostel, Mountjoy Street at 8.00 p.m.
Cost £2.50 per night.

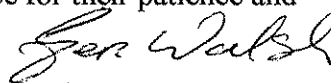
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MOUNTAIN RESCUE NIGHT HIKE

The Glen Of Imaal Mountain Rescue Team are organising a night hike on Saturday 02nd December to raise funds. Assembly point is Fentons Pub at 4pm on Saturday 02nd. Buses will transport walkers to the start. Torches are a must. Soup and sandwiches will be provided in Fentons after the walk. Entry fee is £5.00 per person. Further details from Dave Rooney 8344811 , Ger Walsh 6683543 or Glen of Imaal Mountain Rescue.

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Finally I would like to extend a very special thank you to the other members of the Hillwalkers committee who on your behalf have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the efficient running of our club. I myself would like to thank Dave Rooney, Martin Fagan and Prionnsias MacAnbheatha for their unfailing assistance in getting the programmes distributed throughout the year. Thanks also to Marie McDonnell and the staff in head office for their patience and assistance.



A very Happy Christmas and Healthy New Year to all our members, their families and friends.

JANUARY PROGRAMME

Articles or Information for inclusion in the *January Hillwalker* should be sent to:-

**Ger Walsh,
14 Londonbridge Drive,
Sandymount,
Dublin 4.**

on or before 14th December.

A NEW VENTURE

"After 95 recorded hikes over 3 years, I reached the hill walkers crossroad. I've tried rock climbing.

Once upon a time...

Myself, Liam, Caroline, Martina and Rosemary set off for the Burren on the Friday evening. It's debatable who's got the best singing voice. But we matched the loudspeaker for volume on route.

Liams hobby being rally driving, we gave a go at being co pilots. Let's just say we eventually got to the Burren Outdoor Adventure Centre. In the centre we met Pauline, My immediate impression was, she's gorgeous! - (what sort of adventures had you in mind? - Ed.) and if this gets printed I'll send her a copy!

SATURDAY MORNING

I was so psyched up I forgot to put on my shorts going to breakfast (I think I'll have to censor the rest - Ed.), I realised just before going into the kitchen! Anyway, plus my shorts I sat down for breakfast, we were all getting stressed out at the lady serving breakfast at 100 m.p.h. "for Gods sake sit down and have a cup of tea with us".

Our senior supervisor, Noel, drove us to Ballyryan. My initial thoughts on seeing the cliffs for the first time are not printable. "This is a helmet...This is a safety rope... This is a harness". I was thinking to myself there is no hanging about here! Once we'd practised the safety protocol it was all action, four rock climbs later, I was addicted, (The safety rope, helmet and harness all had a lot to do with it).

At this point Michael joined the group, and we split up into three. Pauline Martina and myself being shown rope work, the rest between climbing and abseiling. After our midday swim, Noel asked me if I wanted to try abseiling, after explaining that since I descended the Coomloughra side of the Beenkeragh arête in Kerry, I had a fear of abseiling. Understandably - a mini abseil was set up and three times later another fear was overcome. That evening we managed to transport everyone from the centre to the pub in one trip. Think about it!!

Inside we announced our arrival by Deirdre smashing her pint on the floor, accidentally of course. "Speech, speech", to applause. During the following pub tour reality sank in with a mixture of shock and elation at what we had achieved during the day.

SUNDAY*MURRAGHKILLY:

My vivid memory is of the cliffs appearing out of fog as we reached them. Being the gentleman??, I had to oblige Caroline when she asked me to rub sun tan lotion into her back (What happened the fog then Kevin? - Ed.). Watching Deirdre half way up one rock climb, (trying to figure out the next move)- someone shouted out, 'Okay Kevin, you're next', 'Not bloody likely'!

A compromise was reached, Myself, Martina, Rosemary and Gorgeous Pauline!!, would climb a new route within our capabilities (onto a bar stool no doubt) Rosemarys delight - a solo climb, I followed next and managed to avoid the loose rock she put both her feet on during the first ascent. I had a different name for it. After Pauline and Martina climbed it, we took turns to belay people from the base of the cliff, and then it was time to go.

All of us enjoyed the weekend and thought the instruction/instructors were excellent. A weekend like that again is definitely recommendable.

Kevin Kelly