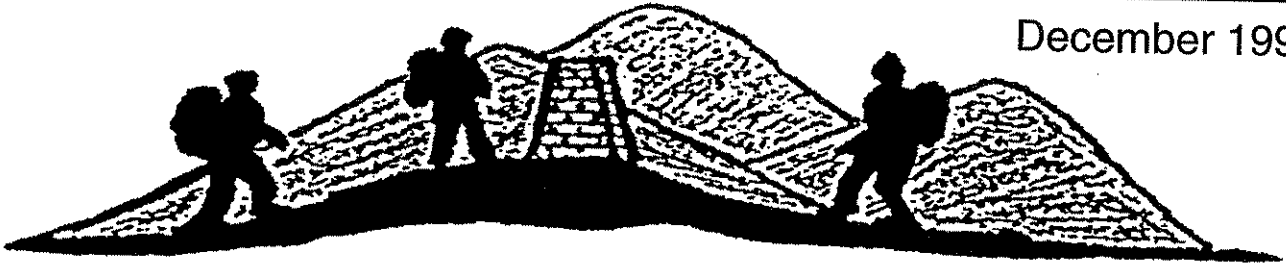


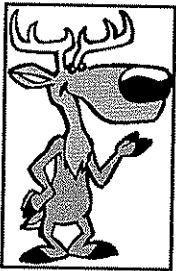
# The Hillwalker

December 1997



The magazine of the An Óige Hillwalkers Club

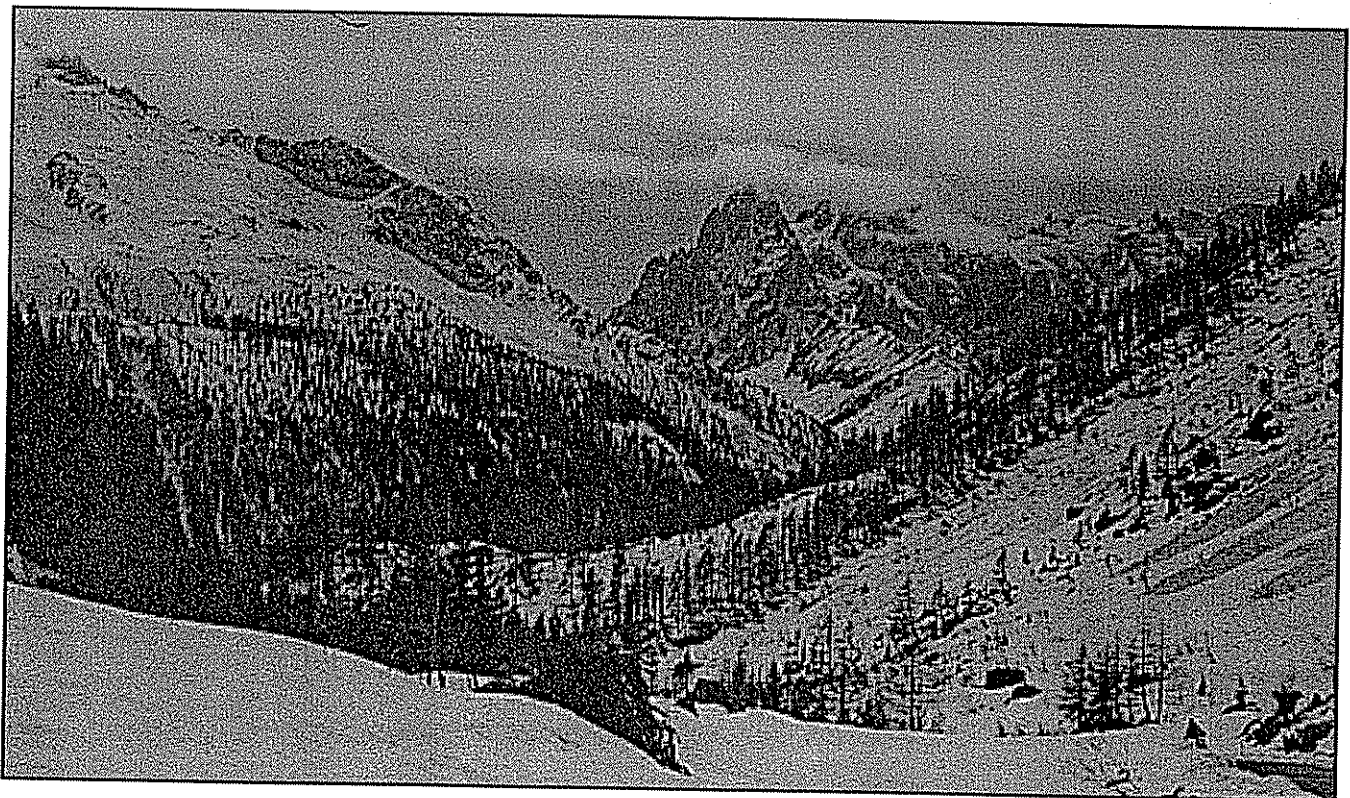
The Hillwalker's innards this month include



Sunday Hikes  
Young Hillwalkers Club  
Weekends Away  
Holidays Away  
Club Travel  
Book review



HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR MEMBERS



*Winter in the Swiss Alps*

*Photo: Paul Kavanagh Collection*

# SUNDAY HIKES



**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.

Date	Route Description	Leader
7th Dec.	Glendalough (Upper Lake) - The Spink - Glenmalure - Arts Lough - Clohernagh - Lugnaquilla - Camarahill - Fentons.	Martin Rooney
14th Dec.	<b>INTRODUCTORY HARD HIKE</b> Ballinlea Hostel - Sugarloaf - Lobawn - Cavanagh's Gap - Table Mtn. - Conavalla - Art's Cross - Glenreemore Brook - Oakwood - Ballinagee Bridge.	Peter O'Toole
21st Dec.	<b>CHRISTMAS HIKE</b> Oldbridge - Kanturk - Scarr - Paddock Hill - Laragh Inn.	Don Reilly/ Martina Siefert
26th Dec.	<b>SAINT STEPHEN'S DAY HIKE</b> Meet at Sutton Cross (opposite Hotel) at 11.00AM. for a stroll around Howth Head and a coffee (ahem!) afterwards.	Dave Rooney
1st Jan.	<b>NEW YEARS DAY HIKE</b> Lugnaquilla. To book contact Martin Fagan at 01-8553653 (h). Transport is by car.	Martin Fagan
4th Jan.	Curtlestown Wood - Prince William Seat - Knocknagun - Oldboleys - Glencree - The Lough Brays - Kippure Gates.	Geraldine McVey

## 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 hike.

# YOUNG HILLWALKERS CLUB



## SATURDAY HIKE: CIRCUIT OF BRAY HEAD.

Date: Saturday 13th December, 1997.  
Meet: Irish Press Office, Burgh Quay.  
Time: 8.45AM.  
Bring: Packed lunch, flask, water, hat, gloves, wet weather gear and torch.  
Wear: Boots, tracksuit bottoms (no jeans), warm sweater.

For further information about our club phone the An Óige Head Office at 01-8304555 or either John Guy at 01-4524627 (h) or Dave Rooney at 01-8344811 (h).

# SOCIAL NEWS



## MERA PEAK, NEPAL

Leo Mahon will present a slide/video show of his and Gerry Wallace's epic expedition to Nepal earlier this year.

In Museum 4, Museum Building, Trinity College  
On  
Tuesday 9th December, at 8.15P.M.

ALL WELCOME

### The Gerry Wallace Rehab Fund now stands at

INCOME	£10,043.00
EXPENDITURE	£ 1,350.00
NET PROFIT	£ 8,693.00

# LEADERS URGENTLY WANTED

Contact Jim Barry at 4556455 (home between 7.00pm. and 10.00pm.) or Martin Fagan at 8553653 (h)



## Tatra Mountains - Slovakia

A sixteen day trip to the Czech Republic and Slovakia last June was an amazing and worthwhile experience.

Having spent four days sightseeing in Prague, we travelled to The Small Tatra Mountains for two days walking. Chopok - 2,024 metres is a lovely walk and is the second highest mountain in the area. I can recommend the hut on its summit for a lovely warming bowl of soup.

We then travelled to Poprad - quite a large town and from there to Tatranska Lomnica which is a beautiful quiet town. It is also a ski resort in the winter. The town of Stary Smokovec is a local train journey and well worth a visit.

One of the most spectacular walks we had on this trip was to Teryho Chata at 2,015 metres.. All of the tracks in this area are colour coded, but navigate carefully if there is snow lying on the route. Usually the colours indicating the way are marked high on rocks along the route. This walk started in Stary Smokovec - cable car/green track to Hrebienok, red track to Zamkovskeho and then green track to Teryho Chata. Try the cabbage borsch soup.

There are very strict rules about the time of year and the areas where hiking is allowed. The maps indicate the prohibited areas between 1 November and 30 June. If walking at other times, it is advisable to enquire about the condition of the trails at the huts. The paths marked on the maps are all colour coded. It is possible to stay in Teryho and cross into Poland (passport necessary) once the paths are open.

Many high paths were closed for us at the beginning of June, but endless options exist up to 2,000 metres.



### *Reference Map:*

High Tatras - (above area) - Vysoke Tatry 1: 50,000 - Turisticka Mapa - No. 113. This map is available at most shop kiosks in towns.

### *Reference Book*

Czech and Slovak Republics published by Lonely Planet and available from Waterstones, Dawson Street.

*Geraldine McVey*

# BOOK REVIEW



With festive season looming, here are some Christmas present ideas for the hiker who has all the gear but nothing to read.

- **BALLYKNOCKAN: A Wicklow Stonecutters' Village.** Seamas O Maitiu & Barry O'Reilly. Woodfield Press. ISBN 0-9528453-5
- **DARK SHADOWS FALLING** Joe Simpson. Johnathan Cape. ISBN 0-224-04368-4
- **THE TELLICHERY FIVE.** (The Transportation of Michael Dwyer & The Wicklow Rebels). Kieran Sweeney. Woodfield Press. ISBN 0-9528453-4-5
- **NEARLY NINETY.** Chalmers (Terry) Trench. The Hannon Press. ISBN 0-9516472-4-5
- **THE IVERAGH PENINSULA.** 50 Walks and Scrambles Around Killarney. Barry Keane. The Collins Press. ISBN 1-898256-27-6
- **SOUTH FROM THE LIMPOPO.** Travels Through South Africa. Dervla Murphy. John Murray Publishers. ISBN 0-7195-5789-5

# AN ÓIGE NEWS



## AN ÓIGE COUNCIL ELECTION 1998.

An election to fill three vacancies on the Council will be held at the Annual General Meeting of An Óige in 1998. Nomination forms and membership cards in respect of 1998 are now available from Head Office (01-8304555). A list of rules concerning the nomination of candidates is also available on request.

## YOUTH HOSTELS AND THE EU OFFER VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES ABROAD

With co-sponsorship the the EU Programme "European Voluntary Service for Young People", nine European Youth Hostels are offering volunteering opportunities abroad for members between 18-25.

By helping the Youth Hostel and guests to become more environmentally friendly, those selected will have the unique opportunity to gain experience abroad, improve their foreign language skills and develop other skills in many directions.

The following Youth Hostel placements are offered:

Germany: 2 places.

Austria: 1 place.

Italy: 1 place.

France: 3 places.

Belgium: 2 places.

Please contact Marie McDonnell, Honorary National Secretary, An Óige, 61 Mountjoy St., Dublin 7. Tel: 8304555, Fax: 8305908 or E.Mail: [Anoige@iol.ie](mailto:Anoige@iol.ie), or more information and an application form for one of these volunteering opportunities abroad.

## AN ÓIGE HEAD OFFICE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.

The An Óige Head Office will be closing at 1.00PM on Wednesday 24th December and re-opening on Monday the 29th December 1997.

It will then close again on Thursday and Friday the 1st and 2nd January re-opening on Monday the 5th January 1998.

*Marie McDonnell, Hon. National Secretary*

# HOLIDAYS AWAY 1998



## THE CANADIAN ROCKIES

20th July to 10th August 1998.

Visiting Banff and Jasper National Parks.

Cost: £1,500 approx. Deposit: £200.

Booking open soon through An Oige Head Office, tel: 01-8304555. Credit cards accepted.

Places limited. Contact Martin Fagan 01-8553653.

# AN ÓIGE NEWS



## An Oige Annual Christmas Party

**Date:** 6th December 1997

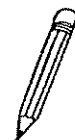
**Venue:** Hollybrook Hotel

Dinner 8:30 (sharp) with dancing to 1AM

Tickets available from Head Office Tel: 01-8304555 or Martin Fagan

Price £17 (Credit Cards also accepted by Head Office)

# THE COMMITTEE



Chairperson & Sunday Hikes: Jim Barry (01-4554655 h)

Secretary: Donal Finn (01-4530617 h)

Treasurer: Proinsias Mac AnBheatha (01-8379897 h)

Training Officer: Joe Kellegher (01-8381973 h)

Weekends Co-ordinator & Holidays Away: Martin Fagan (01-8553653 h)

Membership Secretary: Pauline Morley/Ger Walsh (01-8225818 h)

Editor: Maggie Greaney (01-2834253 h)

Young Hillwalkers: John Guy (01-4524627 h) or Dave Rooney (01-8344811)

# A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



Have you travelled anywhere abroad or indeed in Ireland that you think members would like to read about?

Please put pen to paper and send some 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 *one A4 page of text*. A stamped and addressed envelope should accompany any photographs or article to ensure their return.

Also, book reviews on hillwalking and related topics would be very welcome.

Articles for inclusion in the January newsletter should be sent before Wednesday 10th December to,

**Maggie Greaney, 68 Newtownpark Avenue, Blackrock, Co. Dublin.**