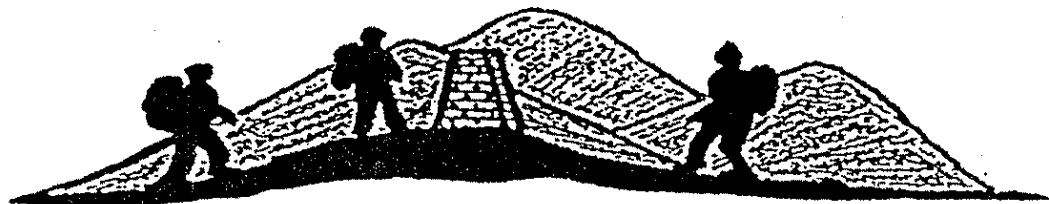


Hillwalker  
December 1999

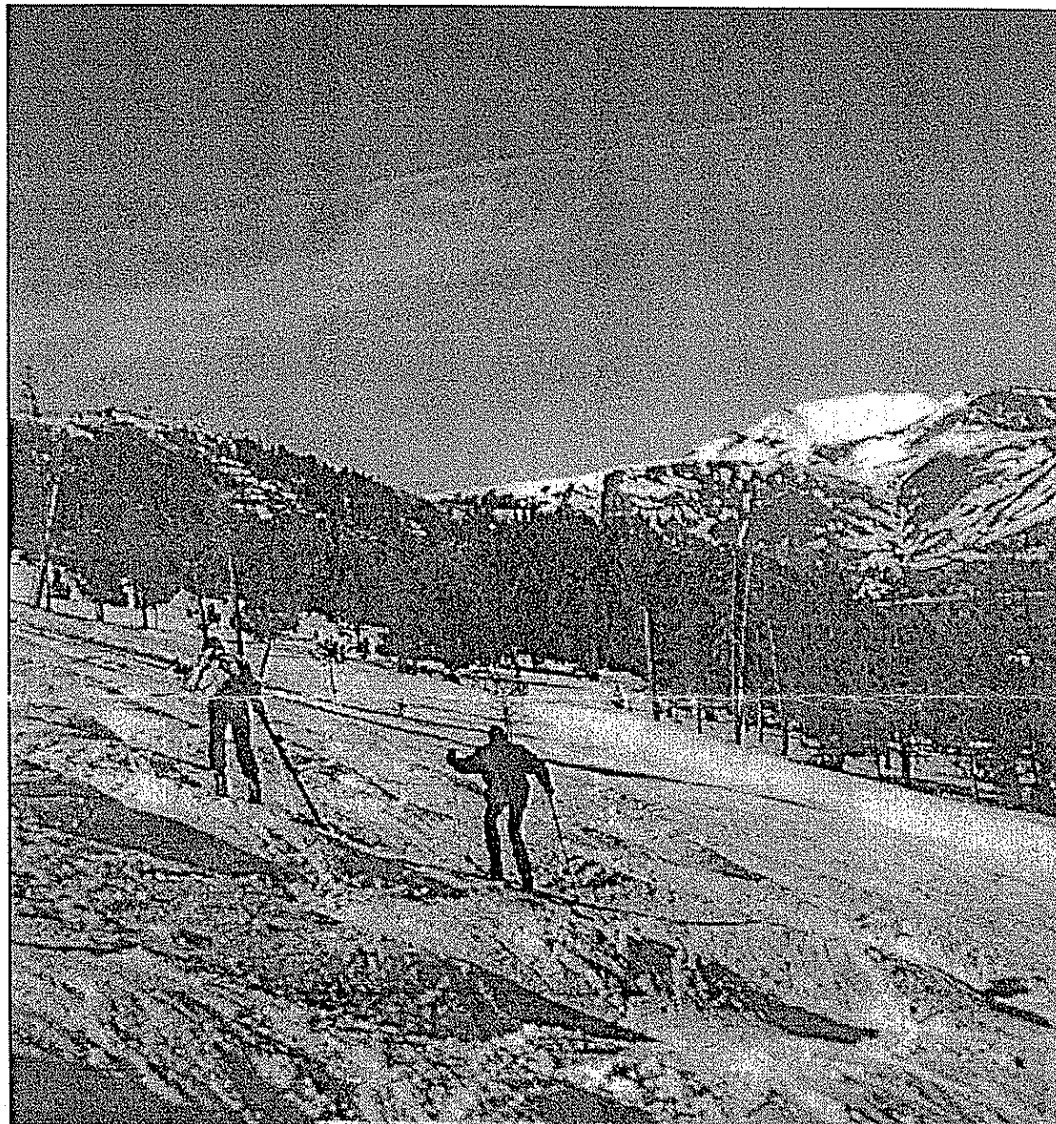


The magazine of the An Óige Hillwalkers Club

# THE HILLWALKER



*Happy Christmas to all our members*



Skiing in Andorra. Photo Paul Kavanagh Collection

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# Sunday Hikes December

**MEET:** Outside Irish Press Offices, Burgh Quay  
**DEPART:** Sundays 10.00 A.M. (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.



During winter months it is essential to bring a (head) torch on all Sunday hikes and weekends away. Don't forget to check your batteries and bulb.

Date	Route Description	Leader
December 5	Glenasmole Reservoir – Castlekelly – Kippure – Seefingan – Corrig – Seahan – Ballymorefinn – Slievenabawnoge – Stone Cross.	Proinnsias Mac An Bheatha
December 12	INTRODUCTORY HARD HIKE Ballylow Bridge (G. R. 060130) - Duff Hill – East Top – Mullaghcleevaun – Blackhill – Kilbeg – Lackan.	Frank Rooney
December 19	CHRISTMAS HIKE Oldbridge – Scarr – Laragh West – paddock Hill – Laragh – Lynam's Pub (for approx. 4.00 P.M.) Please bring musical instruments.	Don Reilly
December 26	ST. STEPHEN'S DAY HIKE Sutton Cross – Cliff Walk to Doldrum Bay – Nose of Howth – Balscadden – Howth Harbour – Sutton Cross. Meet at Sutton Cross at 11.00 A.M. SHARP.	Dave Rooney & Martin Fagan
January 1	ANNUAL NEW YEARS DAY HIKE Fenton's Pub – Bannana Road – Camara Hill – Lugnaquilla – Slieve Maan – Ballineddan – Camara Hill – Fenton's Pub. N.B. There will only be one hike on this day. People intending to do this hike must organise their own transport. Meet at Fenton's Pub at 11.00 A.M. SHARP.	Jim Barry

## 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 start of the hike.

### 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.

# The Young Hillwalkers Club

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## SATURDAY HIKE FOR DECEMBER

Date: Saturday 11 December 1999.  
Route: Bray Head followed by Christmas Party.



For further information contact Dave Rooney at 01-8344811 (evenings).

For further information about our monthly hike, weekends away or about the club in general, contact An Óige Head Office at 01-8304555.

## New Year on Lug

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The Hillwalkers Club plan to ring in the Millennium with style. They will be doing so on the summit of Lugnaquilla. Transport is by bus from Custom House Quay on New Year's Eve at 4.00 P. M. People will have an opportunity to rest for a few hours before hiking up Lug for midnight. Afterwards there will be a buffet and sing-song in Ballinclea YH.

Cost: £25. This will cover transport, buffet (food only – beverages not included) and a light breakfast/lunch on New Years Day.  
Organiser: Martin Fagan.

## St. Patrick's Weekend Away

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Date: Friday 17 – Sunday 19 March 2000.  
Accommodation: Foulksrath Castle Y. H., Co. Kilkenny.  
Cost: £50.00 (this price will be confirmed closer to the date). This price includes three overnights and transport.  
NB: this price does not include meals.  
Evening meals: Inquire on booking (from early January 2000) at An Óige Head Office, tel. 01-8304555.  
Booking: By non refundable deposit of £25 to Head Office.

The hikes for the weekend will include the following:

1. Brandon Hill (Graiguenamanagh, Co. Kilkenny)
2. Slieve Blooms
3. Barrow Tow Path

Full details will be published in the January *Hillwalker*.

## Martin's Holidays Abroad 2000

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Ski holiday in Andorra for one week at the end of February 2000.

Prague and The Tatra Mountains, Poland for two weeks (29 July to 12 August 2000).

A meeting to discuss both of these trips will be held in An Óige head office on Thursday 9 December 1999, at 8.00 P.M. A deposit of £50.00 will be collected from interested people, on the night.

# Club Travel

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## THE SNOWS OF KILIMANJARO

At the end of July this year a group of eleven of us from the Hillwalker's Club joined an Explore Trip to Kilimanjaro. We spent our first two nights in Tanzania at the Mountain Inn, a modest hotel near the town of Moshi, before beginning our big adventure. Our accommodation for the next six days would be in mountain huts accompanied by our team of porters, cooks, local guides as well as Chris the Explore guide. In addition to this we had been joined by five other people.

The first day took us through luscious rainforest on muddy tracks to the Mandara Hut (2745m). The second day we reached Horombo Hut (3750m). We were now above the clouds and the air was noticeably thinner. A few people were already showing signs of altitude sickness. We spent two nights here, allowing a day for acclimatization. That day we trekked to the saddle of Mawenzi Peak (4375m). The following morning was a big day for us. We set out for Kibo Hut (4725m) where we would sleep for about four hours before starting our summit attempt.

The track climbed up from Horombo, then leveled out into an open semi-desert area; here we had rain and then hail which thankfully didn't last too long. We started to climb again and finally Kibo came into view, a white roof against a backdrop of gray rock and scree. It didn't look like a very inviting place.

The altitude had really started to kick in and a lot of people were sick, including Tom, my partner, who just lay on his bunk unable to even take off his boots. For Martin, who had organized the trip for us, the sickness turned out to be a bit more serious; his ulcer had chosen this or all times to act up. Chris decided that he and Martin should descend right away and Tom opted to go with them as he was sure he could go no higher.

After a broken sleep, followed by tea and biscuits, the rest of us set out at midnight for the summit attempt. The head guide set the pace, which was slow but still too fast for me. After about an hour both Frankie and I began to fall behind the group. He seemed to be in a similar condition to myself, which was not very good!

Finally we reached Hans Meyer Cave (5150m) half way to Gilmans Point. Frankie and I could go no further, and after a short rest started to descend along with our guide James. At the time it seemed like sickness had dominated the night, but now there are other things I remember more. The trails of light, as climbers sneaked their way up the mountain, the voices of the guides calling to each other, the lights of a town in Kenya which looked so close. Even though I didn't make it to the top I feel very privileged to have had the opportunity to try.

Late that morning the rest of the group began their return. Out of sixteen of us, twelve had made it to the top. Four to Gilmans Point (5680m) and eight all the way to Uhuru (5895m). Later that day we returned to Horombo where Tom was waiting for us. The next morning we set off down the mountain, stopping at Mandara for a cooked lunch. This went down a treat as appetites had returned. Then back down through the forest to the park entrance.

Before we knew it we were on our way back to the hotel, dreaming of hot showers and the sunny beaches of Zanzibar. It was the end of an adventure which I for one will never forget.

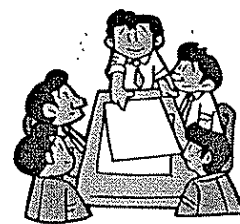
*Patricia Goodman*

*There is a treat in store for people going down to Glendalough for the Christmas Party Weekend. On Saturday night there will be a slide show presentation of the Hillwalkers attempt on Kilimanjaro, presented by Linda Woolhead and Martin Fagan.*

# The Committee

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Chairperson:	Martin Fagan (01-8553653 h)
Secretary:	Donal Finn (01-4530617 h)
Treasurer:	Prionsias MacAnBheatha (01-8379897 h)
Editor:	Maggie Greaney (01-2834253 h)
Sunday Hikes:	Jim Barry (01-4556455 h)
Weekends/Holidays:	Martin Fagan
Membership Secretary:	Gerry Walshe/Pauline Morley (01-8225818 h)
Training Officer:	Joe Kellegher (01-8381973 h)
Social Events:	Donal Finn / Martin Fagan
Young Hillwalkers:	John Guy (01-4524627 h) or Dave Rooney (01-8344811)
Distribution:	Cyril McFeeney & Pearse Foley



## Membership

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Annual membership fee of £15 includes the monthly club programme, insurance and a copy of the Irish Mountain Log which is published four times a year. Fees should be sent to the membership secretary at the following address:

Mr. Ger Walsh, 15 Summerfield Avenue, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15.

## The Club AGM

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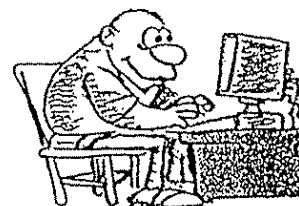
Details of the Hillwalker's AGM will be published in the January *Hillwalker*.

## A Note from the Editor

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During 1999 all articles published in *The Hillwalker* will be entered in a competition under the categories of holidays/weekends abroad and holidays/weekends at home. Prizes will be awarded at the 1999 Christmas Party so please put pen to paper and send your 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 500 words. A stamped and addressed envelope should accompany any photographs or articles to ensure their return.

**Articles for inclusion in the January newsletter should be sent before Monday 6 December to:**  
**Maggie Greaney, 68 Newtownpark Avenue, Blackrock, Co. Dublin.**  
**(e-mail: [maggiereg@tinet.ie](mailto:maggiereg@tinet.ie))**





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E mail: [anoige@iol.ie](mailto:anoige@iol.ie)

Dear Friends,

Our Millennium trip arrangements are as follows:

We will depart on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> December 1999 at 8.30a.m.

Our Coach will leave from An Óige, 61 Mountjoy Street, Dublin. We shall then travel on the ferry with an approximate arrival time of 6.00p.m. at Malham Youth Hostel.

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2000, our Coach will leave Malham at 9.00a.m. Arrival time in Dublin about 7p.m.

Please return the enclosed menu with your choice filled in by December 19<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to order your lunch pack as well, please note that, as usual, all bed linen and food will be provided.

Once again looking forward to a great trip.

*Dave Rooney & Seán Dunne*



*Uachtarán*  
President  
J. Caulfield

*Rúnaí Oinigh Náisiúnta*  
Hon. National Secretary  
J. Moore

*Cisteoir Oinigh*  
Hon. Treasurer  
K. Kilkenny



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