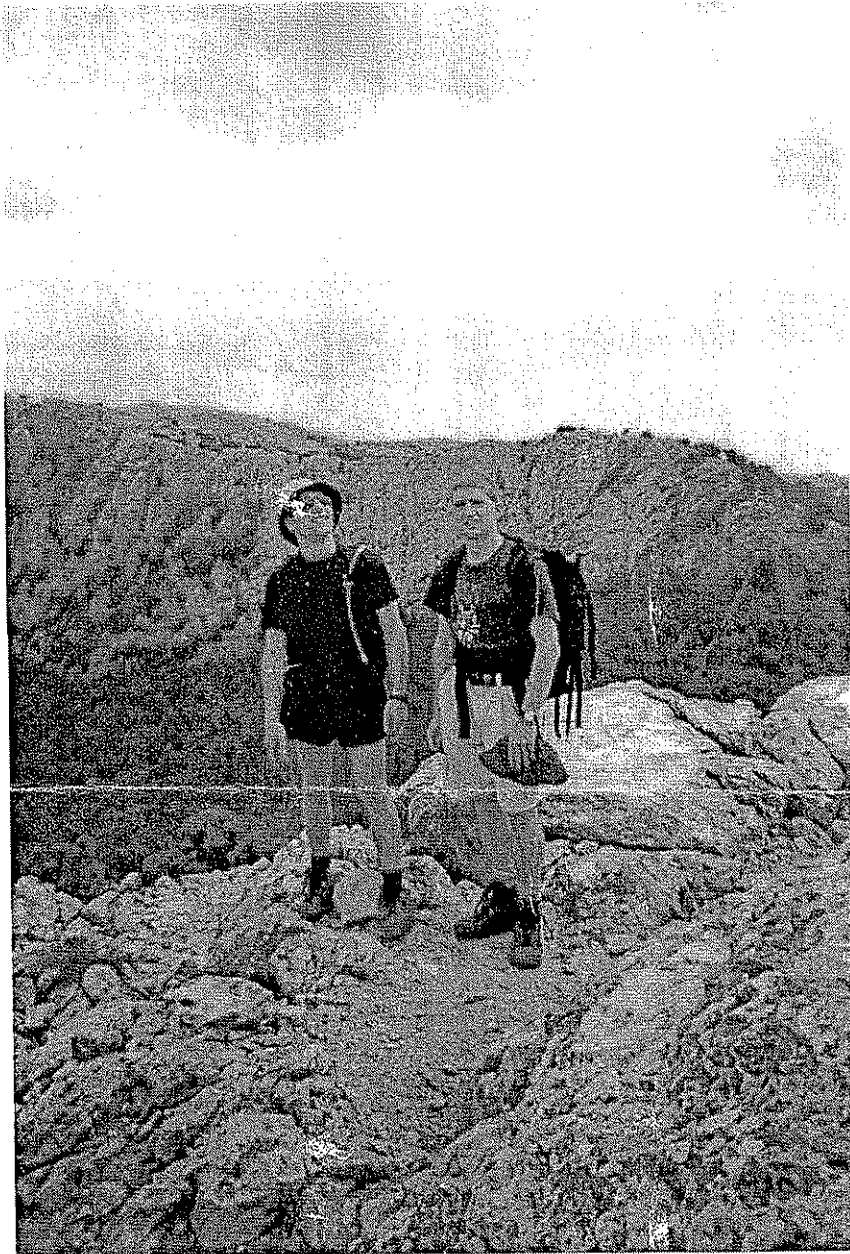
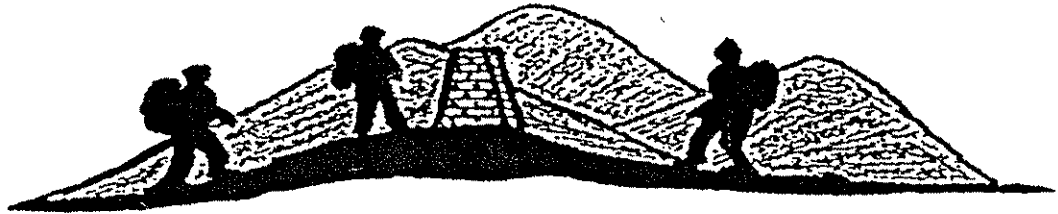


Hillwalker

July/August 2000



Trekking in Majorca

Photo: Warren Lawless

The magazine of the An Óige Hillwalkers Club

The Hillwalker

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Sunday Hikes July

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
July 2	Glendalough – Lugduff – Glenealo River – Turlough Hill – Wicklow Gap – Tonelagee – Lough Ouler – Glenmacnass Waterfall.	Joe Gilvarry
July 9	INTRODUCTORY HARD HIKE Pier Gates – Luggala – Knocknacloghoge – Inchivore River – Kanturk – Scarr – Paddock Hill – Laragh.	Joe Kellegher
July 16	SPECIAL HIKE IN THE SLIEVE BLOOM MOUNTAINS Special bus price £7. Usual meeting point at 10.00am.	Jim Barry
July 23	Glenmalure – Art's Lough – Clohernagh – Lugnaquilla Mtn. Corrigasleggaun – Carrawastick Mtn. – Kelly's Lough – Glenmalure.	Fiona O'Shaughnessy
July 30	Glendalough – Derrybawn Ridge – Bullacor – Glenmalure – Sig Sags – Kelly's Lough – Lugnaquilla Mtn. – Camarahill – Banana Road – Fentons.	Gerry Cooke
August 6	Bank Holiday Weekend – no Sunday hike. See details on page 4.	

Here are some dates for you diary:

16 July – Sunday hike in the Slieve Bloom Mountains
20 August – Sunday hike in the Cooley Mountains

Your club membership card **MUST** be carried and produced, if requested 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.

Sunday Hikes August



<i>Date</i>	<i>Route Description</i>	<i>Leader</i>
August 6	BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND – no Sunday hike See details on page 4.	
August 13	LOCAL BUS HIKE Meet at Hawkins Street Bus Stop (No 44 bus) at 10.15am. Group should appoint competent leader on the day.	
August 20	SPECIAL HIKE IN THE COOLEY MOUNTAINS Special bus price £7. Usual meeting point at 10.00am.	Donal Finn
August 27	INTRODUCTORY HARD HIKE Aghavannagh – Carrickshane – Craoghanmoira – Ballincor – Strand Bridge – Carriglineen – Kirakee – Shay Elliot Memorial – Cullentragh Mtn. – Derrybawn Ridge	Tony Crean
September 3	Ballyknockan – Selsean – Glenbride – Gallinagee River – Mullaghcleevaun Mtn. – Cleevaun Lough – Billy Byrne's Gap – Black Hill – Kilbeg – Lackan.	Pearse Foley

Irish Mountaineers and Explorers History Society

The Irish Mountaineers and Explorers History Society was established by the Mountaineering Council of Ireland to cultivate interest in Irish Mountaineering and Exploration History. It will do this by supporting the study, publication and presentation of papers. It will also organise seminars and winter schools on topics related to Irish Explorers and Mountaineers.

Kevin Higgins (Acting Chairman)
6 Park View
Kilkenny
056-61044

Young Hillwalkers Club

JULY / AUGUST SUNDAY HIKE DETAILS

Sunday 8 July 2000 Stepside to Knockree

Sunday 12 August Rockbrook to Marley Park

Meet: Maguire's Bar, O'Connell Bridge

Time: 8.45 a.m.

Bring: Packed lunch, wed weather gear, torch.

Wear: Boots, tracksuit bottoms (no jeans), hat and gloves.



JULY / AUGUST ADVENTURE WEEKENDS AWAY

13th – 18th July Crianlarich – Fort William (Scotland)

25th – 27th August Whitepark Bay, Co Antrim

For further information about our Club, please phone the An Óige Office at 01-8304555

August Bank Holiday Weekend Away

Cong Youth Hostel Co Mayo 4th – 7th August

Saturday 5th August

Route: G.R.029629 – Loughnambrackkeagh – Binnaw – Buckaun – Maumtrasna – Skeltia – Loughnafooeey(OS Sheet 37).

Sunday 6th August

Route: Mweelrea Circuit (OS Sheet 37).

Monday 7th August

Route: Maumturks – Leckavrea Circuit G.R.963516(OS Sheets 37/38).

Leader: Jim Barry
Cost: £65 (includes 3 overnights plus transport)
Deposit: £30 (non refundable)
Booking: An Oige Head Office Ph. 01-8304555 (Credit Cards accepted)
Evening Meals: Available at Hostel – advise office when booking (otherwise self catering weekend).
Shops: Locally and on Route to walks
Bring: Food for at least 1 breakfast / 1 drum up, sheet bag, suitable boots, clothing, rain gear, valid An Oige membership card, first aid kit etc.
Transport: Bus.
Departure: Friday 4th August from Custom House Quay at 6pm sharp.
Return Time: 9pm approx (Monday evening).

MCI information bulletin

1. Reciprocal Rights' Stamps

Reciprocal rights stamps, valid for year 2000, are available from the MCI office. Cost £32.00. The stamps entitle members to a reduction on the cost of staying in Alpine huts of between 30 and 50% depending on the country.

2. Franco - Irish Exchange International Initiators Course.

The MCI has applied for two places for mountaineers to attend the International Course at ENSA (Chamonix) from 17th - 28th July to obtain the

FFME qualification "Initiateur en Alpinisme" (Initiateur en alpinisme is a qualification recognised by the French Government for amateur leaders taking groups mountaineering in the Alps). For this course participants should preferably have one season's Alpine experience and be competent rock-climbers. The French Government pays all the costs of the course, including accommodation, food etc, and the Irish Government pays 75% of the reasonable cost of travel. Irish mountaineers who have attended this Course in past years have found it very valuable - see their reports in past issues of the Log. Whilst our application has not yet been confirmed as successful, we expect to be allocated two places as in previous years.

3. International Meet For Artificial Climbing.

Place: Verdon Gorges. Date: 16-24 September.

For this course participants should be capable of leading E3 and 6a. If you get on either course you will be expected to pass on knowledge to other mountaineers / climbers in Ireland.

Application Forms for both courses may be obtained from:

Margaret O'Sullivan, Administrator, MCI. House of Sport, Longmile Road, Dublin 12. Fax: +01 4502805.

E-mail: MCI@eircom.net. Web: www.mountaineering.ie

4. Climbing Training Forum

Following a suggestion at the International Meet at Play y Brenin in May that anyone interested in exchanging training information could do so over the Internet, Adrian Berry has now got a training forum on-line and open at:

<<http://www.climbingmedia.com/training/forum/index.html>>

You may contact Adrian at: <adrian.cmedia@virginnet.co.uk>

Weekend Away to The Lake District

English Lake District Extended 'Munro-Bagging' Weekend

Thursday, September 7th to Monday September 11th, 2000

Background

An extended walking weekend to include ascents of all the Lake District Munros (Scafell/Scafell Pike, Skidaw and Helvellyn). The walks will be of a typical Hillwalker standard (i.e., approximately 15-18 km, 1000m ascent and of 6-8 hrs duration). Currently, it is not envisaged to provide for moderate hikes (although if a second leader becomes available, this can be facilitated). Participation limited to 12 people.

Organiser

Donal Finn

Transport

Transport will be by ferry and car. Each car will accommodate four people. Currently one car/driver is available. Three additional cars/drivers will be necessary.

Itinerary details in June *Hillwalker*.

Cost

All costs to be shared to include ferry, petrol, 4 overnights, 4 breakfasts, 4 lunches and 3 evening meals. It is expected that the overall cost will be of the order IR£180 per person. Not included are evening meals on Thursday or Monday.

Booking

In order to ascertain the level of interest in the weekend, the organiser requires that interested persons contact him *as soon as possible* to register their interest (Tel: 453 0617(h), 706 1947 (w); Email: donal.finn@ucd.ie) The weekend can go ahead with as few as four people, but is unlikely to exceed 12 persons.

Booking will open through An Oige Head Office from July 1st. A deposit of IR£50.00 will be required at time of booking. Balance will be payable by August 31st.

Weekend Up-date

There has been a good response to this weekend and currently there are 12 members who have indicated an interest in travelling. Booking through An Oige Head Office will open on July 1st. A deposit of £50 is payable on booking and priority will be given to the 12 members who expressed an early interest. The balance of £130 will be payable by August 31st. There will be a waiting list should any places become available. Please contact Donal Finn for further details.

The club travels

The Two Amigos in Mallorca, May 4th - 18th

In our last instalment, our two heroes survived the taxing heat and terrain of Crete. The lads now cast their all-conquering gaze toward the western Mediterranean and the fair isle of Mallorca. There was some initial confusion when it was discovered that Warren had packed hiking boots, whereas Philip had brought his dancing shoes. But not for them the pumping frenzy of the night-clubs and pubs! It was away north to the Sierra de Tramuntana. These are a beautiful yet rugged range of hills, surpassing our own in height (e.g *Massenella* is 1352m). Public transport can bring you to various places in the foothills and there are several good bases for walking. Our main walking guide was the Landscapes of Mallorca (Sunflower Guide series). We also purchased 1:25000 Ordnance survey maps locally, though these lack details of trails described in books. Red paint marks and stone cairns were in fact our main navigation aid.

The picturesque village of Valldemossa was our first base; from here we did two trips along the *Cami de S'Arxiduc*. Right from the start we were struck by the appealing nature of the country: the cool shade of natural woodland, the buzz of insects, the rush of swifts on the air, strange exotic plants, and the coastal mountain range stretching off far into the distance. From Valldemossa we walked to the town of Soller. From here we did a nine hour trek to Tossals Verds hostel, doing *L'Ofre*, *Na Franquera*, *La Rateta*, *Cuber Lake* and *Coll d'Es Coloms* en route. We encountered mist and thin drizzle on this and the next day, but the sun always came out in the end and unveiled spectacular views.

We retraced our steps next day down the lovely lush valley and went over *Coll d'Es Prat* to the monastery of Lluc. This scenic medieval retreat is now partly a B&B run by the monks and is well situated for walks in the area, by foot, bus or taxi. From here we stormed up *Massenella*, the island's second highest peak. We looked back over peaks we had walked from Valldemossa and took in the contrast between the hills and the flat plains to the south, catching a glimpse of cloud over the isle of Menorca.

All this was experienced in 26 degree heat, so shorts, shades and sun cream were *de riguer*. We were carrying all our worldly belongings on our backs, so the unseasonable warmth was tough. One of the pleasures of the walks was coming upon fountains of water that provided welcome cool refreshment, or a large shady grove that beckoned for lunch and *siesta*.

After two nights in Lluc monastery, Brother Philip and Brother Warren set off on foot for the coastal resort of Port de Pollença. They hoped to convert the heathen tourists from their idle and pleasuring ways. Alas, the innocent pair succumbed to the lure of sea, sand and rest. They need not have feared for their souls though: things were rather quiet in the north of the island and 'twas only the soles of their feet that were ever in danger [more's the pity!]. Fearing a loss of determination, the pilgrims returned to Lluc and did more walks from there, including *Tomir* mountain and the dangerous gorge walk along *Es Torrent de Pareis*. This involved scrabbling amid huge boulders, but at the end we were rewarded with a beach and a last chance to enjoy the Mediterranean, which was a very pleasant end to our adventures.

Warren Lawless & Philip Hayden

Next committee meeting

The next committee meeting will take place on Tuesday 22 August. Arrangements for the Club Christmas Party Weekend Away will be discussed.

Ring of Imaal Long Distance Walk

The An Oige Hillwalkers Club and the organisers of The Ring of Imaal Long Distance Walk would like to thank all those people who gave their time to help out with the organisation of this event. Congratulations to all those who took part and completed the route.

Membership Fees

The Hillwalkers Club annual membership fee is £15.

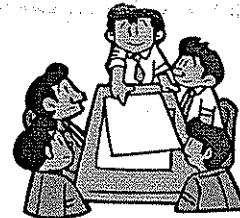
Fees should be sent to the membership secretary at the following address:
Mr. Ger Walsh, 15 Summerfield Avenue, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15.

The Committee

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 (01-8225818 h)
Training Officer:	Joe Kellegher (01-8381973 h)
Young Hillwalkers:	Dave Rooney (01-8344811)

Distribution:

Cyril McFeeney & Pearse Foley



A Note from the Editor

During 2000 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 2000 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 combined September newsletter should be sent before Friday 11 August to:

**Maggie Greaney, 68 Newtownpark Avenue, Blackrock, Co. Dublin.
(e-mail: maggieg@eircom.net)**

