THE COGNE TRIP
A Report by Gerry Galligan

LUGNAQUILLA
Allister Gerrard Holds a Winter Camp

Spring 2012
IMC Photo Competition
Winner:
Nature/Wildlife Category
Fly Agaric, IMC Hut
by
Eoin Ó Brón
The IMC will soon conduct a survey of current and past members and we would really appreciate it if everybody could please make the effort to complete the survey and return it on time.

In order to produce a meaningful result it is necessary that the number of people surveyed represents a reasonable sample size. Since we are small club it is essential that a high percentage of our members respond.

Getting people to respond to surveys is notoriously difficult. I know your time is valuable. Please make an extra special effort to complete this survey so that we can improve your club for you.

Andrew O’Connor
IMC Committee
At the end of January last I went to Cogne in Northern Italy for a week of ice climbing with John Duignan, Aileen Moloney, Padraic Gibbons.

There was a lack of ice and too much snow in Chamonix and thereabouts so the valleys around Cogne were busy. Conditions were good with temperatures averaging -10 C on most days, stable weather, little snow and well formed icefalls. Plenty of action was had. We caught the ever popular Cascade de Lillaz early in the week. This route is well travelled as access is only ten minutes from Lillaz village.

Other routes were not as crowded since long approaches taking up to two and a half hours can deter all but the keenest ice climber. The majority are multi-pitch climbs and most have good fixed belays. Grades vary and multiple abseils are the only way off most.

There is everything here for the adventurous. The scenic approaches and big routes make superb alpine days out. We noticed that the popular climbs can be well hacked and stepped out and so of reduced difficulty but those with no traffic, such as Flash Estivo, can be harder in the grade. A couple of abalokov anchors were necessary high on two routes and setting them made for good mountain practice.

Our accommodation at La Barme Hotel (3km from Cogne) was excellent and reasonably priced. Note that a car is a necessity for getting around. Some advice for aspiring ice climbers looking towards Cogne; prepare mentally and physically for long walk-ins and long routes requiring endurance.

Perhaps Rjukan with its quantity of shorter routes and easy approaches might be a better starting ground. We found that what the Italian Alps have to offer in winter is hard to top. The four of us had an excellent visit and will return.
Our selection:

30 Jan – L’Acheronte (II/3) 400m.
31 Jan – Cascade de Lillaz (II/3) 250m.
1 Feb – Flash Estivo (II/3) 120m.

2 Feb – Rest day in Chamonix. Cable car up to Aiguille de Midi and walk around. Visits to Whymper’s grave, Snells climbing shop and Elevation bar.

3 Feb – Fenilliaz (I/2) 200m.
4 Feb – Il Sentiero dei Troll (II/3) 350m
Noel Masterson died suddenly in January 2011, just a few weeks after celebrating his 81st birthday. His passing further weakens the connection between those who were active in the early days of the club and the modern IMC.

Noel wasn’t a founder member, but came to the club on the crest of the second wave of new members in the early 1950’s, having served his apprenticeship in the Boy Scouts. His was an adventurous spirit, which saw the Irish Mountaineering Club as the gateway to the mountain world.

At this time, there were certain books which were essential reading (and perhaps still are) for anyone aspiring to climb in the Alps, but in those days it seemed that none was more important than Frank Smythe’s wonderfully inspirational “Mountaineering Holiday”. This was the famous mountaineer’s account of a few weeks spent climbing in the Alps during the summer of 1939, a few weeks that ended just days before the outbreak of World War II.

For Noel, Smythe’s book became a sort of blueprint for an alpine holiday and so, in the summer of 1953, he and a few other members of the club, having read and re-read Smythe, prepared themselves for a great alpine adventure, the training for which consisted of doing a couple of longer than usual walks in the Wicklow mountains and a handful of rock climbs in Dalkey Quarry and Camaderry. Such was the extent of training for the Alps in those days.

Thus prepared, they set off in the hope of emulating some of the routes that were so excitingly described in Smythe’s book, and emulate them they did. Several fine climbs were done; Les Bains, Les Ecrins, Les Dômes de Miage, Pic Coolidge and to finish somewhat triumphantly on a great climb – the ascent of Mont Blanc by the Bionnassay Arete. Such a successful season nearly sixty years ago, was surely nearly a landmark in Irish mountaineering.

Earning a living has a habit of getting in the way of climbing plans and this was certainly the case with Noel. In spite of a great first season which promised so much, Criterion Press, the company that he had founded around that time (1952/1953), made enormous demands on him, and although he continued to walk and climb, his activities were, of necessity, carried out nearer home.

Some years later, Noel’s business acumen, combined with his energy and hard work had, not surprisingly, borne fruit. His company had become extremely successful, allowing him the time to regain his former activity levels.

There were very few skiers amongst members in the early days of the IMC, but the late Jim Millar, a Scot, was one of the exceptions. When the unusually heavy snow falls of the early 1960’s occurred Noel, under Jim’s tutelage, learned to ski and took to it with his customary zest.

A few years later, in 1964, he was one of those who founded the Ski Club of Ireland and he continued to teach there for several years.

He was very active throughout the seventies, by which time he had become an expert skier. He skied in the Silvretta and with the ski club of Great Britain, did a ski tour of the Bernese Oberland which included an ascent of the Finsteraarhorn. The next year, along with his wife Ingrid he skied the Chamonix-Saas Fee High Level Route, again with the Ski Club. He also skied in Scandinavia.

In 1976, back in the Alps, Noel did a fine lead of the Forbes Arete on the Aiguille du Chardonnet and in the following years had several winter ascents in the Scottish Highlands.

He loved challenges and when in 1977, I informed him that I was planning to do the extremely demanding Double Lugnaquilla Mountain Walk, he said, without the slightest hesitation “count me in”.
We did the walk in 27 hours and to this day, I still remember his wonderful cheery companionship during that gruelling marathon.

In 1981, shortly after running the first Dublin City marathon, Noel discovered, almost by accident, that he had a cardiac condition. He was shocked of course but after a time came to look upon the discovery of the condition in a positive way; he saw it as something that might well have saved him from an even more serious problem at a later stage. He was advised to and did undergo a triple heart by-pass which was carried out by the late Dr Maurice Neligan.

He recovered remarkably quickly from what he regarded as a mere set back and although his climbing was sporadic in the years following his “meeting with Dr Neligan” as he used to describe it, he remained active in many exciting ways and for the next few years was as likely to be found white water rafting in Africa, which he visited a number of times, as climbing in the Alps or the Scottish Highlands, but in 1992 he was back where he most wanted to be – in the mountains, this time in the Grand Tetons of Wyoming with the very successful IMC Meet of that year.

The following year, 1993, a full forty years after his first great mountain adventure, Noel embarked on yet another – his objective this time being to ascend to the base camp of the Irish Mount Everest Expedition at an altitude of 17,000 feet. In a message from the camp via satellite phone to a Dublin radio station, he described with some emotion his joy at being so close to the greatest mountain of all, and he didn’t forget to request that a message of thanks be conveyed to Dr Neligan, without whose great skill he felt he never could have had this unforgettable experience.

Noel did not climb again after his Himalayan adventure, and although it was not obvious at the time, his Everest trip clearly was a kind of pilgrimage – his farewell to the mountains. After it, he transferred his energies to cycling, an activity that was kinder to the system than climbing mountains. In nearly every year between 1994 and 2009 he set off with friends on cycling tours, mostly in France but Germany and Austria and even Hungary were visited too.

One bleak April, when Noel was in his mid-seventies, he slipped away quietly, almost secretly, and cycled alone from Land’s End to John O’Groats, a distance of more than fourteen hundred kilometres, and a journey that took a full month to complete. Two years later, this time with friends, he cycled from Mizen Head at the southern tip of Ireland, to Malin Head in the North - easy by comparison!

Noel had many interests; he was highly regarded by those in the craft of woodturning, at which he excelled and he did turn out some beautiful pieces of work. He had a lifelong interest in music, and when in later life he discovered that he possessed the skill required to hand make musical instruments, he lost no time in getting started. With the care that was typical of him in everything that he did, he produced a viola and two fine violins which are still being played by one of his daughters. At the time of his death, he was making a cello which remains unfinished.

In spite of leading a busy life, Noel managed to find time to think of others who were less fortunate than himself. He devoted much time to charitable organisations such as the Society of St Vincent de Paul and was held in great esteem by The Samaritans, on whose behalf he regularly visited men who were imprisoned in Mountjoy Jail.

Noel was in love with life but his greatest love, apart from his wonderful family, was a simple one, love of the mountains in all of the moods that they could muster.

Those of us who enjoyed his friendship and shared mountain experiences with him over the years are privileged indeed to have known this unique and generous man. We miss him.
**Allister Gerrard**  
**A Winter Camp on Lugnaquilla**

Early in March 2009 I decided to hold a winter camp in preparation for a winter climbing trip which had been planned for one week afterwards in Scotland. I had first rounded up a few interested parties and then placed a post on the Irish Mountaineering Club forum.

Even with only a few days notice to go I got quite a bit of interest. A couple of people had to pull out and it settled as a party of eight for the camp.

I set out with Aileen Moloney, Martina Duignan, Martina Michels, Tony Groves, Tony Barry and Padraic Gibbons. Declan Cunningham joined us later on that night. We parked at Aughavannagh at the southern end of Lugnaquilla. We opted for the lower track through the forest. This track exits about half way through the forest, which meant following the river and then crossing it in its full winter flow. The upper track (a right at the first junction) is the quicker and more straight-forward route. The upper track exits at the other end of forest and leads to the South Prison.

The day started off mild, even warm. Rain began as we approached open ground heading for our camping spot, a plateau in the South Prison area. We were pitching tents from around 6.15pm and just as it was becoming dark. By the time we got into our tents we were well soaked from the lower track through the forest. This track exits about half way through the forest, which meant following the river and then crossing it in its full winter flow. The upper track (a right at the first junction) is the quicker and more straight-forward route. The upper track exits at the other end of forest and leads to the South Prison.

Visiblity had improved by that time, so I went for a stroll to check out the area around the camp and so that I could advise Declan in case it became necessary. The three girls could be heard giggling away to themselves, squeezed into Martina M’s tents for hours, and knocking back the hot whiskey. On the way back from my stroll I popped my head into Padriac’s tent and he invited me for tea, so I had some hot whiskey instead.

For the record, I never drink hot whiskey in the hills and it was purely to help with the chill and to be sociable! We chatted over a couple of hot drinks about our plans to tackle some Scottish winter climbing routes in a week’s time.

After a while, I left Padraic’s tent. I had assumed it would take Declan another hour to arrive. Suddenly in the distance, I could see a head torch fast approaching, if I had stayed put and it was Paul O’Connell or John Hayes he surely would have knocked me out flat. Declan arrived at 11.30pm. It was late and he was tired and weary after the day.

We bundled him into a tent to relax and Aileen and I swapped stories with him over even more hot whiskeys. After an hour or so, he jumped in with Tony B, who had a spare spot for him and to save Declan pitching a tent so late.

We let him know what conditions were like, but he was undeterred. Fortunately things had eased off and visibility had improved by the time Declan started walking up to us at 10pm.

Back at camp a dinner of scrumptious hot chicken with black bean sauce and fresh vegetables was ready. It had been pre-cooked earlier that day by Aileen for the whole group. It was delicious and much appreciated by all. On that winter night, even Gordon Ramsey himself would have been full of compliments. Tony B took out his wee bottle of whiskey which he shared with Padraic and me. After a while we went to our respective tents to chill out.

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At 7am the next morning the snow was falling thick and fast. I could hear Padraic’s Jet Boil in the distance, getting ready to make the tea (or whiskey, only joking).

I put the sausages on; it was like the miracle of the loaves and the fishes sharing them out. Tony G got stuck into the full monty of duck eggs and bacon. Tony B and Declan left at 9.30am with the intention of making it back to the metropolis for 2pm. They headed for Lugnaquilla summit, returning by Slievemann into Aughavannagh, and they made good time. The rest of us broke camp at 10.30am; for us it was a more sluggish, leisurely start. We headed through the snow up to the saddle to east of the South Prison. Our plan from there was to take the same route as the party ahead of us.

Up on the saddle we were bombarded by hard cutting snow, piercing to the eyes. In the high winds, it was difficult to stand up or even see, and so we decided to head back down. We had enjoyed ourselves and did not feel the need to push it any further that day; there would be time enough for hard going in Scotland! We headed back down, taking the upper track through the forest and we reached the cars before the others. We went to the IMC hut for a quick cuppa and a tidy up before heading back to Dublin. A camp, short, sweet and spontaneous sometimes works out for the best; it was one of those times - just good craic!

Padraic Gibbons, Tony Barry, Aileen Moloney and I went back again in March 2011 for another IMC winter camp on Lugnaquilla. This time we had a frosty summit and a fine sunrise. We headed up from Fentons in the afternoon, just before dark. Tony followed us up in the dark! It certainly was a very pleasant night camping on the summit of Lugnaquilla, something we could not do in 2009 because the weather had been too wild.
Allister Gerrard
Carrot Ridge

The Irish Mountaineering Club Meet in Connemara is strongly associated with the late Hugh Sharkey who had organised the Meet over many years. Hugh’s walking prowess was legendary. He once completed the gruelling “Maamturks Challenge Walk” back to back, yes, he went from start to finish and back again in one day.

This annual Meet is always well organised and popular with IMC folk. Carrot Ridge usually draws a few interested members, weather permitting. It was named Carrot Ridge by Joss Lynam and Liam Ó Réagain who believed they were completing the first ascent in the 1940s; however they later learned that some Cambridge students had previously climbed it in 1933.

Directions

Once in Connemara take the turn off the N59 for the R344; from the north coming from Letterfrack/Kylemore Lough/Leenaun or from the south coming from Maam Cross/Recess.

Parking is available on the main road at a lay-by just past the bridge over Tooreenacoona river (GR 824 555).

There is walking access via a private road south west that leads into the Gleninagh Valley (Gleann Eídheach) and River at GR 820 562. You would be advised to seek permission from the local farmer before proceeding too far down the private road, especially if travelling in a large group through this quiet area. We did not have a problem and managed to slip by unnoticed.

See Ordnance Survey sheet No. 37 or Harvey’s Connemara Super Walker maps (the latter actually has Carrot Ridge marked) at GR 816 532. It is a pinkish slab to the left of the main cliffs.
**Description**

Carrot Ridge lies just north of Bencorr and southwest of Bencorr Beg (577m) and more precisely just north below Binn an tSaighdiura (the 653m spot height shown on the 1:50,000 map), here is where one will find Carrot Ridge, in the Twelve Pins.

Walking into the Gleninagh valley the hustle and bustle of busy life slips away as the beauty of this wide expansive area coupled with its remoteness and stillness takes hold of you almost immediately.

The Carrot Ridge climb is graded Difficult and is 275m long. Total height gain to the summit of Binn an tSaighdiura is approximately 620m. When descending directly back the round trip is 11km. The time taken to climb the route will vary depending on the party and other factors and can be from as little as 2 hours to over 4 hours.

Aileen and I climbed the route in April 2009. The following day went back early in the morning to meet Padraic Gibbons who had bivied at the foot of the ridge from the night before. When we met him that morning for a cuppa, he had already climbed the ridge earlier that morning solo. After tea, all of us decided to climb it again.

The route the ridge becomes clearer as you near it. To the left as you approach from the bottom (east) the ground slopes away, to the right (west) it drops off steeply into a gully with more craggy ground beside it. From the private road, we continued south west until we chose a point to cross the Gleninagh River, with boggy ground underfoot. I would not recommend it to a hill walker lacking climbing experience. We used a rope and climbing gear for most pitches.

Those who solo it know their own capabilities and limits and can protect themselves at crucial times. The rock itself is quartzite, with white and pink colours and can be smooth and sharp in places, however it offers good grip when dry and a lot of it is broken up and the rock is rough. Although the route has been climbed in the wet, I would imagine it could get quite slippery, and I would recommend leaving it for a dry day.

**The Ascent**

Although there are many ways to climb this ridge, on both of our ascents we mostly kept to the same route, but for two pitches where we tried completely different lines. I would not take too much notice of the number of pitches as once you have started you will generally figure it out as you go along and it will be obvious where to belay, solo, use gear etc.

There are several ways to climb it. Both times I have started it differently and after the first few pitches it all links up as before.

1) My first pitch we climbed the slab near its left edge to a steepening (25m).

Second time round, we started the ridge way left and up a bit from the lowest point of the ridge and meandered our way up on thin holds and gear placements.

2) Moving right, we continued straight up with small holds to easier ground. The easier ground leads to a wide stony ledge (55m). One can escape down to the left from here if necessary.

**First Step:**

3) The next pitch starts steeply, taking you to the right but more reasonable holds and is short before reaching a stance. Traverse left to a corner into a recess, steep for a few meters until pulling up onto a ledge of the ridge (45m).

4) Scramble over to the left towards a chimney/corner, an interesting few meters of climbing on good gear placements onto the best viewing platform on the ridge so far (15m).

5) The ridge involves a nice bit of scrambling for approximately 90m with
an opportunity to enjoy the views down to the valley and up to the summits around. A good feeling of being on a ridge now, as broad as it is in parts, it leads to an easy slab to the bottom of the second step.

6) Start on the left side of the wall at one of its lower points. Then move right to reach a groove on the slab which leads up the second step just right of centre of the slab. Get what gear you can in when you can as you go, as opportunities lessen as you go up, it also gets more airy, no surprise there, as the holds get thin and more delicate as you inch towards the top of this tricky slab before reaching easier ground on top (36m).

7) Reasonable scrambling leads up to the third step, with the final bit of scrambling to the top of the ridge (100m).

From the top of the climb it is worth finishing by topping out on the summit of Binn an tSaighdiura the 653m peak.

Descent

From here, numerous options can be taken, depending on time;

1) Walk back down into the Gleninagh valley, out north between the two peaks Binn an tSaighdiura (653m) and Bencorrbeg (581m) i.e. passing Carrot Ridge on your left. The ground this way is a bit steep with some loose scree. Care should be taken on the loose rock underfoot however it provides a reasonably quick descent. We kept near to the side of Carrot Ridge for the descent.

2) From Binn an tSaighdiura walk to Bencorr (711m) first and/or over to Bencollaghduff (696m) and descend at Maumina, where a track can be picked up to descent back into the valley or go onto Benbaun and descend to the north east side and walk out at the R344 and back to the car.

3) Return to the Ben Lettery Youth Hostel (GR 777 484) via Bencorr/Derryclare or Bencollaghduff, Benbreen, Bengower and Benlettery and go back and collect your car or maybe you put in a long day and had walked from the Ben Lettery Hostel to start.

4) With a car spilt, many options are available.

Gear

I found climbing protection sparse in places. The odd friend, hex, nut and even wire were used, a little of each perhaps. We had a 60m rope and climbed the ridge in rock shoes the first time and the second time in boots. It is probably a more enjoyable outing in boots and would be of more benefit if looking to gain experience for climbing ridges abroad.

Finally

Carrot Ridge may only give a taste for what may follow; if you fancy more of the same but harder there are more routes next door to the west of it such as Seventh Heaven.

Relying upon Padraic’s experience, a bivy at the base of the ridge can add to the feeling of remoteness and enhance the sense of occasion.
I have been winter mountaineering and climbing in Scotland for a number of years. It takes a bit of forward planning and organising to get there, to find suitable accommodation and to decide on the areas and routes to choose. Here are a few of the lower graded and easier Scottish Winter climbs of which I have experience and recommend.

**Number Four Gully Grade I (100m) Ben Nevis**
Number Four Gully is great as a first winter route. It is quite straightforward and gives the opportunity to practice winter skills such as belaying using bucket seats. The gully provides a useful descent route to the CIC hut when visibility is good. The top of the gully has a metal marker post with the number 4 drilled into it; note that this marker may be removed in the future (GR 158 717; GPS NN15821 71733). Due to the cornice a snow bollard abseil may be required but usually there is a section of cornice dug out below. Avalanches have occurred in this gully so check conditions first. (A. Gerrard 2004).

**North Gully Grade II ** (110m) Ben Nevis**
This is a narrow gully close to the entrance to Number Four Gully.

It is an excellent outing, with a mixture of a steep snow slope and some ice lower down. The route takes approximately 5 pitches. Belays can be found on rock walls along the route and also snow belays. We exited out left is a grade III finish; I found it difficult to find good gear placement in the crumbling rock. Beware of avalanche danger on the final slopes (A. Moloney, A. Gerrard, P. Gibbons 21st March 2009 and A. Moloney, A. Gerrard March 2011).
Number Two Gully Buttress Grade III **
(120m) Ben Nevis
This is a mixed route with steep snow and an ice wall of approximately 20m. Various anchors used along the way included a snow stake, buried ice axes, a nut, a friend and a peg. When climbing the ice wall, we belayed from the buttress to the far right, which was great because we did not get covered in snow and ice from the leader. At the finish there was a long run out of rope up a snow slope to the plateau.

Number Two Gully next door looked heavily corniced at the time. We had good weather for it with no wind and a clear day. The round trip took about 10 hours from the North Face car park (including approximately 4 hours of climbing). Descent was via the Red Burn (A. Gerrard 26th February 2007).

Number Two Gully Grade II *** (120m) Ben Nevis
Early in winter this route can be grade III. A fine gully, wide and gradual at the lower slopes, it first narrows and then widens again to reveal a large open expanse of snow with large cornices above. We exited out left on steep snow and ice to avoid the cornice. (A. Gerrard, A. Moloney 29th March 2011).

Other Ben Nevis Classic Scottish Winter climbs
Point Five Gully (V), Tower Ridge (IV), Raeburn’s Easy Route (II), Ledge Route (II).

Broad Gully Grade I * (150m) Stob Coire nan Lochan, Glencoe
The climb is straightforward and usually does not present any difficulties with cornices. The route can be hazardous in avalanche conditions and is best avoided after a heavy snowfall or after strong or persistent winds. From the top of the route there is an easy walk up to the summit of Stob Coire Nan Lochan and then head southwest to the summit of Bidean nam Bian along a fairly narrow ridge. Descend to coire by either shoulder (northwest is easiest) and from coire follow the path back to the start. The gully is also used for descent and can be even quicker when glissading! (A. Gerrard 2004).

Continued on page 20
IMC Photo Competition
Overall Winner:
Climbing Action
Gerry Kelly & Dave Studdard
on Aiguillette d’Argentière
by
Maeve McKeever
Forked Gully, Left Hand, Grade 1/II Stob Coire Nan Lochan, Glencoe
The route starts just to the immediate right of Dorsal Arête. Like a typical IMC party in the winter of 2005 we arrived near the base of the climb in dribs and drabs.

For some unknown reason Moira and I decided to head off right of the start on a solo climb of our own; I blame Moira, I was following her. After a nice bit of solo climbing we found ourselves on steep snow and ice about 20m above our party who were settling into a nice belay spot.

We had to climb across and back down to them which was a slightly hairy moment for us two. All back together we climbed in two groups up the steep snow gully. It is a great gully when in condition. With a bit of chopping Denis cut through the cornice. A great day out with splendid views from the top (IMC Meet, E. Murphy, D. Beaky, M. Creedon, S. O’Hanlon, A. Gerrard, 6th March 2005).

Dorsal Arête Grade II *** (120m) Stob Coire Nan Lochan, Glencoe
Starting from broad gully, we climbed up onto the ridge by whatever obvious route we could find from the bottom of the Arête. The route up to the Arête is straightforward enough. The Arête itself is more defined and very narrow but can be avoided on the left by traversing along under the side of the Arête. Just below the end of the Arête, Padraic and I broke off to the left and Padraic lead an alternative finish up some rock pitch (narrow gully), probably grade III/IV finish. A great climb but short (P. Gibbons, A. Gerrard 16th March 2009).

Ordinary Route Grade IV ** (150m) Stob Coire nan Lochan, Glencoe
The climb starts on mixed ground, mostly rock, then a groove, moving right a tough move up onto a ledge overlooking NC gully. Follow the edge to a tower, a series of awkward walls. Half way up, due to time and weather constraints we abseiled off into NC Gully. (A. Gerrard 2nd March 2007).
Other Glencoe Scottish Winter Classic climbs
Twisting Gully (III) **, SC Gully (III) ***,
Aonach Eagach Ridge 4km, II/III***, NC Gully (II) **.

The Runnel, Grade II * (135m) Coire na t-Sneachda, Cairngorms
A fantastic winter climb. A straightforward well defined gully with some rock belays, left and right, until you reach a narrow ice chimney which is the crux of the climb. I managed to get 1 or 2 ice screws in here before leading on to the upper slopes, with a little soft snow at the top before topping out for fantastic views at the top (A. Gerrard, P. Gibbons 17th March 2009).

Golden Oldie Grade II (500m) West Face Aonach Mor
A mixed Scottish winter snow/rock climb. Our approach was to take the gondola from the Aonach Mor ski centre (http://www.nevis-range.co.uk). During the winter they run a climbers’ gondola at 8am before opening for skiers at 9am. As the route is quite long (500m) I would advise taking the 8am gondola if possible.

From the top of the gondola follow a track to the west. After 15 minutes this track ends but a small path can be seen descending into the valley below. Follow this then continue up the valley for about 1.5 hours until you can see a number of rocky ridges descending from the summit plateau. These ridges are not obvious until you are almost below them. Pinnacle Ridge is the furthest left ridge and has a small gendarme near the top. Golden Oldie takes the ridge to the right. Harder climbs (grade II/III and III) take the ridges further right. We found it tricky enough to find with poor enough visibility, we were lucky to have someone to point it out to us as the whole west face is without large features. We geared up at NN 1877 7301 below the buttress. If time is short then the slopes to the left can be ascended for about a hundred metres to the platform.
From here the route follows the crest of the ridge directly. The way is now obvious almost to the summit plateau. We found the route relatively straightforward, except for a step I had to make on the final knife-edge before reaching easier ground.
A delicate traverse on the right hand side can be taken. Continue up easier ground to the summit, which we had to navigate in white out conditions. Navigation skills are required to lead out across the summit plateau to our descent route (P. Gibbons, A. Gerrard 15th March 2009).

**The Web Grade II/III (100m) Aonach Mor**
A nice chimney 100m in length. It is situated approximately 30 to 35m south of “Easy Gully”. The grade varies depending on condition. We found good hard neve, with some ice patches and occasionally small patches of verglas rock. Mostly straight up with one short traverse required around the half way point to the left across a small rock slab. At the snow slope above the chimney exiting left at the top is the norm; however I exited straight up and found it a little struggle pulling up over the top in snow, with soft deep snow underfoot, which is often the case on steep exits in gullies. With time not on our side I found that on the second half of the route it was difficult to find any anchors (A. Gerrard, P. Gibbons, T. Barry, 18th March 2009).

**Right Twin Grade II ** (120m) Aonach Mor**
Narrow gully and well defined, with steep sections at the bottom and at mid height. Exiting left at the top is the norm; however I exited straight up and found it a little struggle pulling up over the top in snow, with soft deep snow underfoot, which is often the case on steep exits in gullies. With time not on our side I found that on the second half of the route it was difficult to find any anchors (A. Gerrard, P. Gibbons, T. Barry, 18th March 2009).

**Icicle Gully Grade IV 4  (130m) Aonach Mor**
A wider gully at the start, narrowing. Continue up a wider right hand line to where it narrows (we went left for some more challenging ice) climb the icicle to a snow bay; at which point Padraic proceeded to unleash half the mountain of snow and ice down on top of me. We followed up a steep snow slope before stepping out left onto mixed ground. Out left is a direct finish graded 5 and we went left. The final climb provided us with a serious mini soft snowfield before pulling up with difficulty over the cornice, with soft snow again underfoot and topping out exhausted and with cold hands into glistening sun; Scottish winter bliss (P. Gibbons, A. Gerrard 20th March 2009).

**Other Scottish Winter Classic climbs on Aonach Mor**
Left Twin (III) ***, Forgotten Twin (II) *

**Getting there**
A number of ferries operate from Belfast to Stranraer. Alternatively, people fly to Glasgow (Ryanair to Ayr; Aer Lingus to Glasgow airport or even Inverness or Edinburgh) or another airport and hire a car or get the bus, all of which I have done myself at one time or another.

**What to do**
Ben Nevis is close by Fort William and Glencoe e.g. Stob Coire nan Lochan, Glencoe (30km approx., from Fort William) is within easy enough reach by car.

The Cairngorms are also manageable as a day trip from Fort William (95 km approx.).

Aonach Mor nearby also offers easy access to the snow line via gondola for skiing, winter mountaineering and some great Scottish winter climbs.

There are many guide books and lots of walking options as well as a multitude of climbing routes and grades in these areas. A good guide book is *Scottish Winter Climbs* (Scottish Mountaineering Club Guide) by Andy Nisbet, Rab Anderson and Simon Richardson.

For an easier day indoors there is the Ice Factor at Kinlochleven http://www.ice-factor.co.uk/

**Accommodation**
Camping or even snow-holing may be an option!
I have stayed in various accommodations however, a place I have returned to repeatedly, subject to availability is Alan Kimber’s Self Catering, http://www.fortwilliamholiday.co.uk/ and only a minutes walking distance into the heart of Fort William town. Alan himself has put up some of the harder routes in Scotland and with his vast
experience he is always willing to give you key updated information about routes and conditions.

**Scotland Weather**
Some useful sites to help you plan your Scottish winter climbs around the weather:
- [http://www.exactaweather.com/](http://www.exactaweather.com/)

**Other useful websites for Scottish climbing routes and conditions:**
- Nevis Range, Aonach Mor, Gondola [http://www.nevisrange.co.uk/](http://www.nevisrange.co.uk/)
- Check conditions [http://www.ukclimbing.com/forums](http://www.ukclimbing.com/forums)
- West coast mountain guides blog [http://blog.westcoast-mountainguides.co.uk/](http://blog.westcoast-mountainguides.co.uk/)

**General**
Good navigational skills are required; competent map reading ability is essential particularly about the Ben Nevis summit plateau. Leave adequate time to descend. Early starts are needed for longer routes (such as those on Ben Nevis) and especially if you have limited experience. In low cloud it can be difficult even to find the right route and this can take more time.

**Typical rack**
For a grade I route a walking axe will suffice, above that two axes are most likely to be needed.

Be selective; the more gear you have the more to carry and the slower your progress. A deadman can be useful in snow gullies where there is no rock or ice available, although admittedly I have never used one and have only used axes in snow gullies for anchors where there is no rock or ice. Some of the routes above are okay with a single rope. Half a set of nuts, 1-2 hexes, 2 friends/cams, 2 – 3 ice screws depending on the route, a few various sized pitons, extenders/quick draws (extensions for these can be useful to avoid excess drag), a few long slings and 12 point crampons such as the Grivel G12. All personal decisions.
President’s Address
I was very honoured last year to become President of the club and I have enjoyed the first year in office immensely, especially as I discovered it was a year on “light duties”.

This year the club seen the sad passing of Joss, his remarkable life was an inspiration to many in the club and in the wider mountaineering community. Perhaps we can take a moment of quiet reflection to remember Joss and our other club members, fellow climbers and friends who have passed.

On the club’s behalf I would like to thank the committee for its work during the year. The fact that the club appears to run as smoothly as a swan swims is due to the energetic paddling of the committee beneath the surface.

I’ve been glad to have been able to attend some committee meetings, monitor the email discussions and even throw in my tuppence worth from time to time. This year there will again be vacancies on the committee, if you have not served a term yet, or if it has been a few years, I urge you to step forward and give a little of your time back to the club.

I would also like to compliment our training officer and all those who lend assistance on the newcomer’s course each year. Additionally credit is due to experienced club members who continue throughout the year to provide mentoring and encouragement to new members, and of course the Barnbawn Academy under the tutelage of Headmaster Gerry and his staff continues to foster the next generation of lead climbers for the club.

I’m sure we were all delighted to have “The Secret Crag” made available to us by Gerry, Joe, Mags, Jane and the rest of the Early Birds exploration team. It is fitting that the foremost mountaineering club should be at the forefront of new crag development in the country. I look forward to having an opportunity to climb there myself and hope that the coming year will see IMC members continue to seek out and develop new cliffs and crags for climbers to enjoy.

I enjoyed attending several meets during the last year. These are great craic and should be at the heart of the club. On behalf of all who attended meets I wish to thank those who have put in the work to organise our fun during the year. There are plenty of free weekends so think about what you might do next year. I might add that on several of these meets we’ve stayed in some comfortable huts abroad and I’m reminded that thanks to the effort of our Hut Warden and his work crew we also have a very fine hut. I think it’s underused by club members and I for one will be making a special effort to make more use of it during the coming year and I encourage club members to do likewise.

During the year it was good to see several members venturing to the Alps, Hot Rock in Spain, Ice in Norway, on expedition to Greenland and even planning trips to the Greater Ranges. The club continues to be vibrant and as winter draws near I know there are plans for Scotland, Norway and other places being laid, so I look forward to being out with many of you in the mountains, whether at home or abroad, and hope the coming year will be an enjoyable and safe one for all.

Thank you.

Declan Craig
Minutes of the Club Annual General Meeting - 2011

Date & Time: 17th November 2011
Venue: Teachers’ Club, Parnell Square West

The Club President, Declan Craig, brought the meeting to order using the Presidential Hex and welcomed everyone present; he then asked for a moment’s reflection in memory of Joss Lynam and Noel Masterson who had both passed away during the year.

Apologies were noted from Aoife Grant (outgoing librarian), Barry Watts (outgoing publicity officer), Dónal Ó Murchu, Alastair Yarrow and John Duignan.

1 Minutes of 2010 AGM

Adoption of the minutes of the 2010 AGM was proposed by Kieran Kelly, seconded by Peter Norton and carried.

2 President’s Address

The President delivered his address (see below).

3 Receipt and approval of reports of Club Officers

All of the Club officers had prepared reports and these are reproduced in full on the website.

Chairperson

Gerry Galligan presented his report. Terry O’Neill asked what the procedure is when applying for expedition grants and how a person could know what grants can be applied for; the Chairperson replied that a sub-committee was now being formed to look into this matter and will report next year.

Adoption of the report was proposed by Sean Barrett and seconded by Peter O’Neill.

Treasurer

Lloyd Moore presented his report by talking through the Club and Hut accounts. John Forsythe asked about the Club’s Prize Bonds and the Secretary explained that ten replacement Lost Bond Certificates, having a value of €60, had been obtained from the Prize Bond Company.

Adoption of the report was proposed by John Forsythe and seconded by Antoinette Gough.

Publicity Officer

The Secretary read Barry Watts' report; adoption of the report was proposed by Gerry Galligan and seconded by Geraldine Murphy.

Membership Officer

Geraldine Murphy presented her report; adoption of the report was proposed by James Flanagan and seconded by Tony Groves.

Training Officer

Edwige Ducher presented her report;

Terry O’Neill asked how grants could be applied for. Edwige replied that MI training grants could be applied for through the IMC (MI grant availability is explained in the MI website). In addition, under appropriate circumstances expedition and training grants can be obtained directly from the IMC; the Club is currently in the process of setting up a subcommittee to establish criteria by which the Club should assess and allocate grants. Tony Barry said that the Club committee was open to all grant applications.
Andrew O’Connor said that he had been a Club member for four years but felt that he had only made real progress this year as a result of attending a “learn to lead” course run by Rob Davies, saying that he was concerned about “drop off” of new members (after completing the introductory course). Replying, Edwige said that she hoped this year to introduce incentives to newcomers to continue their membership and get more involved.

Adoption of the report was proposed by Geraldine Murphy and seconded by Kieran Kelly.

Meets Secretary
Peter Wood presented his report; adoption of the report was proposed by Paul Donnelly and seconded by Geraldine Murphy.

Hut Warden
Sé Ó Hanlon presented his report and he drew attention to the work done by Dave Walsh in restoring the number of trustees of the hut to a safe level. Adoption of the report was proposed by Tony Barry and seconded by Kieran Kelly.

Librarian
Stephen Peel presented a report on behalf of Aoife and himself; adoption of the report was proposed by Liam Convery and seconded by Geraldine Murphy.

Access & Conservation
Both Peter Norton and Stephen Peel presented a report because they had been dealing with separate issues. As the post of Access and Conservation Officer is not recognised in the Club Constitution, it was not necessary to have a proposer and seconder for these reports.

4 Election of Officers and two other Committee members

Nominations were sought for all of the Club officer posts, with seven of the outgoing Committee standing for re-election. The table below shows details of the incoming Committee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Nominated &amp; Elected</th>
<th>Proposer</th>
<th>Seconder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairperson</td>
<td>Gerry Galligan</td>
<td>Antoinette Gough</td>
<td>Peter O’Neill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Stephen Peel</td>
<td>Paul Donnelly</td>
<td>Peter O’Neill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Lloyd Moore</td>
<td>Tony Barry</td>
<td>Edwige Ducher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publicity Officer</td>
<td>James Flanagan</td>
<td>Geraldine Murphy</td>
<td>Tony Groves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Officer</td>
<td>Geraldine Murphy</td>
<td>Stephen Peel</td>
<td>Lloyd Moore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Officer</td>
<td>Edwige Ducher</td>
<td>Antoinette Gough</td>
<td>Barry Denton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meets Secretary</td>
<td>Ken Doyle</td>
<td>Peter Wood</td>
<td>John Forsythe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hut Warden</td>
<td>Sé O’Hanlon</td>
<td>James Flanagan</td>
<td>Tony Groves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Librarian</td>
<td>Tony Barry</td>
<td>Aine O’Reilly</td>
<td>Peter Wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinary Officers</td>
<td>Aine O’Reilly</td>
<td>Sean Barrett</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Antoinette Gough</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Andrew O’Connor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kieran Kelly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stephen Peel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Peter Norton and Stephen Peel agreed to continue in their roles as Access & Conservation officers. Tony Groves agreed to continue as Webmaster.
5 **Election of one or more Club Auditors**

Dóinal Ó Murchu and Peter Donnelly were both willing to continue as auditors and they were appointed for the coming year.

6 **Motions**

Motion No. 1

“That the Club library be transferred to Mountaineering Ireland in Dublin for safekeeping where it will be accessible for loan to Club members”

The main subject at issue was whether to transfer ownership of the books to MI immediately or give them to MI for safekeeping and revisit the question of transfer of ownership later. On a proposal by Gerry Galligan/seconded by Stephen Peel the motion was amended to read:

“That the Club library be transferred to Mountaineering Ireland in Dublin for safekeeping where it will be accessible for loan to Mountaineering Ireland members”

The amendment was accepted with no objectors.

7 **Any other business**

It was noted that Paul Donnelly and Stephen Peel will sort through the archive material to determine what it comprises and to put it in a logical order. It was not decided where the archive would ultimately be kept.
Club Accounts to 30th September 2011
### Club Account to 30th September 2011

#### INCOME 2011 2010 EXPENSES 2011 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Fees</th>
<th>10,202</th>
<th>9,972</th>
<th>MCI Membership Fees</th>
<th>3219</th>
<th>3399</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indoor Meet fees</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>Fees discount</td>
<td>-184</td>
<td>-217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web advertising</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>MCI Insurance</td>
<td>2247</td>
<td>3182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mountain Log P&amp;P</td>
<td>986</td>
<td>1082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total MCI</strong></td>
<td>€6,247</td>
<td>€7,438</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

#### Meets and events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outdoor Meets</th>
<th>384</th>
<th>384</th>
<th>Indoor Meets</th>
<th>61</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General expenses</td>
<td>61</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher's club</td>
<td>1140</td>
<td>1080</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Meets and events</strong></td>
<td>€1,248</td>
<td>€2,403</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Newsletter

| Newsletter Printing | 270 | 142 |
| Newsletter Postage  | 634 | 580 |
| Stationery          | 16  | 20  |
| **Total Newsletter** | €954 | €742 |

#### General

| Insurance - Library | 0 |
| Postage             | 100 | 174 |
| Stationery          | 34  | 96  |
| Printing other      | 0 |
| Web Site            | 10  | 97  |
| Govt Duty Bank account | 25 | 25 |
| Bank Charges        | 124 | 136 |
| Freight / carriage  | 0 |
| **Total general**   | €293 | €522 |

#### Exceptional Costs

| Training            | 0 |
| Expedition grant    | 1500 | 4  |
| Projector Purchase  | 0  |
| **Total Exceptional costs** | €1,500 | €0 |

#### Total

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>€10,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Surplus / (Deficit) on club activities</strong></td>
<td>€-40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Membership : Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Subs</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club only</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unwaged</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorary</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 year / life</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Hut Account to 30th September 2011

#### INCOME 2011 2010 EXPENSES 2011 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hut Fees</th>
<th>8,288</th>
<th>9,270</th>
<th>Hut Fees &amp; Maintenance</th>
<th>766</th>
<th>458</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grazing Fees</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Finance &amp; fittings</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hut Improvements</td>
<td>4699</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Consumables</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rates</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Heating oil</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tax</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mail expenses</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Warden expenses</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Government duty</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>1777</td>
<td>1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Legal fees</td>
<td>90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>€8,298</td>
<td>€9,280</td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>€5,925</td>
<td>€12,416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Surplus / (Deficit) on hut activities</strong></td>
<td>€2,373</td>
<td>-€3,136</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Movements on Savings accounts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Gross</th>
<th>DIRT</th>
<th>Net</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EBS Club account (Closed)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBS hut Savings ac (Closed)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish Nationwide (Closed)</td>
<td>808</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTSB</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>810</strong></td>
<td><strong>205</strong></td>
<td><strong>605</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Bank Balances at 30th September 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sept 30, 2011</th>
<th>Movement</th>
<th>Sept 30, 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Club accounts</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club Current ac</td>
<td>13,451</td>
<td>6,268</td>
<td>6,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club Petty Cash</td>
<td>2,138</td>
<td>1,222</td>
<td>903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club EBS savings ac (Closed)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-5,306</td>
<td>5,306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total in Club accounts</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,669</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,342</strong></td>
<td><strong>12,327</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hut accounts</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hut Current , Bank of Ireland</td>
<td>11,080</td>
<td>2,373</td>
<td>8,707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hut Float</td>
<td>-112</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hut current accounts</td>
<td>10,948</td>
<td>2,373</td>
<td>8,575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hut EBS savings ac (Closed)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-1,380</td>
<td>1,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hut Irish Nationwide Deposit</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-36,522</td>
<td>36,522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTSB Savings account</td>
<td>37,125</td>
<td>37,125</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total in Hut accounts</strong></td>
<td><strong>48,073</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,596</strong></td>
<td><strong>46,477</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overall Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>61,742</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,938</strong></td>
<td><strong>58,804</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net Change for year €2,938 (-40 + 2373 + 605)

### Treasurer's Report for Year ended 30th September 2011

#### CLUB

Membership increased from 222 to 234 this year (+5%, 15% over 2 years)

Income from fees was up €230 (2%)

Deficit for the year was €40 but we made a grant to the Greenland expedition of €1,500

2010 accounts showed an uncashed cheque of 30€ - This cheque was destroyed so has been removed from these accounts

#### HUT

Hut income - fees down 10% (Bookings were lost early in 2011 due to the bad weather)

Surplus on hut activities for year was €2,373

#### GENERAL

Overall the Club’s bank accounts increased by €2,938 over the year

We needed to consolidate the bank accounts. One of the EBS accounts had become dormant. Therefore, the committee decided to consolidate all

We now have only three accounts - Club current, Hut current and consolidated hut and club savings

As of 17th November 2011 the balance on the savings account can be apportioned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>€</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PTSB - % allocation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club current (surplus)</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club EBS</td>
<td>5,307</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hut EBS</td>
<td>1,381</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hut INBS</td>
<td>37,124</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>48,812</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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Irish Mountaineering Club
Meets

Easter Bank Holiday Weekend:
April: Fri 6, Sat 7, Sun 8, Mon 9: Donegal Dunlewey Hostel

Contact meets@irishmountaineeringclub.org

April Sun 29: Ballykeefe
Organiser Declan Craig
Enjoy the delights of sport climbing “Irish Style” (the odd bolt here and there) with a bit of trad as well at Ballykeefe Quarry, Kilkenny.
Dec: 086-4027652

May Sat 19 – Sun 20: Spring Meet Glendalough:
Contact: Edwige Ducher

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training@irishmountaineeringclub.org

June Bank Holiday Weekend: Lakes Meet
June 1st-4th
Gerry Moss has already booked a hut for the June Bank Holiday weekend in The Lakes. Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Monday. June 1st-4th.

June 16-17 Burren Meet:
Organiser Peter Wood
The accomodation venue will probably be Nagles Campsite which is adjacent to the pier and about 10 minutes walk from Fisherstreet-Gus O’Connor’s pub.
June 30 - July 1: Fair Head:
Organiser Terry O’Neill
More info to follow soon but www.fairheadclimbers.com <http://www.irishmountaineeringclub.org/www.fairheadclimbers.com> nearly covers all you need to know

July Sat 14 Sun 15th Mournes:
Organiser Declan Craig
Details to follow

August, Sat 25, Sun 26: Kerry:
Organiser Tony Barry
Venue to be decided, possibly Dingle - Beautiful Brandon via Faha ridge, Dunsheen head, Sauce Creek, The Skelligs - the ultimate staycation promise, under canvas the preferred accommodation.

September 16: Irelands Eye Meet
The traditional September IMC meet to Ireland’s Eye.
Call Joe!!
mobile: 0 eight 63 seven 8 one 006
email: joereville1 at gmail dot com

October Bank Holiday Weekend: Oct 26th-29th Snowdonia
Joe Reville will be organising this one although Gerry Moss has booked the hut already. Friday - Monday, October 26th-29th. Put it in your calendar.
Call Joe!!: mobile: 0 eight 63 seven 8 one 006
email: joereville1 at gmail dot com
IMC Photo Competition Winner: Hillwalking Category
Fast and Light on Lug
by Pádraig Gibbons
IMC Photo Competition Winner:
Climbing Funny Category
Don't Let The Bear Get The Gun!
by Rowan Kavanagh

Polar Bear Encounter Training - Lesson 1:
Don't let the bear get the gun.