



ANNUAL REVIEW 2016

Mountaineering Ireland



**Working for
and representing
walkers and
climbers**

www.mountaineering.ie

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MOUNTAINEERING IRELAND ANNUAL REVIEW 2016

Since coming into position with Mountaineering Ireland midway through 2016, I have been on a steep learning curve to get to know the finer details of this National Governing Body. During this time, I have identified some areas that need to be further developed and indeed I have received tremendous support for implementing changes that will lead us into the future. Our core service areas of Hillwalking, Access and Conservation, Talent Development, Youth, Training and Safe Practice, Membership Support, Club Services and Communications need to be developed to meet the growing demands on our organisation. This process may lead to changes in how we do things in the future, but all for the benefit of our membership.

I want to ensure that our hillwalking and climbing members are fully supported, based on our capabilities as a head office support unit. I believe that we need to reach out to our current membership to fully understand how we can collectively ensure that we succeed in addressing these challenges. Recent legal developments have reminded us that we have a delicate relationship with land owners. We need to work with landowners and other upland stakeholders throughout the island of Ireland in order to improve and secure access to our mountains and hillsides.

The growth in the numbers using Indoor Climbing Walls presents us with opportunities to engage with users and to develop relevant services that will appeal to this ever-growing population base. In my short time with Mountaineering Ireland, another issue that has come to my attention is the need to support and broaden our coaching base for our Talent Development Squads and our various domestic Youth Programmes. We need to have a high standard of coaching resources to facilitate youth participation.

Mountaineering Ireland has continued in 2016 to implement its current Strategic Plan. Moving into 2017 will see that plan come to its natural end and a new one created, which will hopefully be an exciting time for all

concerned. In working on and building relationships with our key funders (Sport Ireland and Sport Northern Ireland), we must comply fully with best practice relating to corporate governance. This may be challenging to implement but will bring us to a much safer and healthier position. During 2016 we entered into arrangements with a specialist accounting service provider and with them we have been engaged in an updating of all of our internal financial processes. This process will continue into 2017 and we plan to have more streamlined financial procedures and hopefully to diversify our income sources.

In 2016, we saw the inclusion of Sports Climbing within the schedule of the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo, which will mark an enormous success for the International Federation of Sports Climbing in their efforts to enhance competition climbing. This inclusion of climbing will offer the sport a huge opportunity to promote, develop and appeal to a much broader domestic and indeed international audience. I look forward to building relationships and working closely with the new executive in the Olympic Council of Ireland and I wish the new executive all the very best in their programme of work.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to those who have supported me in the recent months since joining Mountaineering Ireland; the members, volunteers, clubs, various working groups, the three sub-committees, the small core of dedicated staff and the entire Board of Directors, particularly the Chairman Paul Barron in his unwavering commitment. It has been a privilege to work amongst some of the most committed and professional people that I have been engaged with throughout my professional career.

Mountaineering Ireland's membership at the end of the 2016 club year (31/10/16) numbered 11,800, with 184 clubs and 1,480 individual members.

Murrough McDonagh
Chief Executive Officer

“ I believe that we need to reach out to our current membership to fully understand what is required in order to grow and how we can collectively ensure that we succeed in addressing these challenges. ”

Mountaineering Ireland gratefully acknowledges the funding it receives from Sport Ireland, its Women in Sport programme and Dormant Accounts Funding, Sport Northern Ireland and Healthy Ireland for the Get Ireland Walking programme.



CHAIRPERSON'S ADDRESS

It was an honour for me to be elected as Chairperson of the Board of Mountaineering Ireland following our AGM in Lisdoonvarna in March 2016.

There are increasing demands from Governments, funding agencies and the general public that voluntary organisations and sporting bodies adhere to the highest standards of corporate governance. A prerequisite of good governance is a strong governing body which oversees and takes responsibility for everything that the organisation does and provides structure and strategic direction for its future development.

Within Mountaineering Ireland, these important functions are vested in the Board, acting on behalf of the entire membership. The Board is composed of independent minded persons from diverse backgrounds with a variety of skills and experiences who share a deep commitment to the advancement of all aspects of mountaineering on the island of Ireland. It is a pleasure to serve with such talented and dedicated Board members.

Beyond the boardroom, it was a busy year for Mountaineering Ireland. In the pages that follow there are detailed reports on the many events and activities that occurred in our different programme areas - Access & Conservation, Youth Development, Talent Development, Mountain Training, Communications & Member Services and Get Ireland Walking. None of this would have been possible without the energy and commitment of our staff team and a large number of volunteer workers, to whom we are deeply indebted.

On the staffing front, 2016 was a year of change. In July, Murrough McDonagh was appointed as our Chief Executive Officer following a competitive recruitment process. Murrough hails from Connemara and previously worked with the IRFU and the National Community Games. The Board looks forward to working with Murrough as we face the many challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for Mountaineering Ireland.

There were two staff departures during the year. Terry Canavan retired after fourteen years of dedicated service as our Accounts Administrator. We wish her a long and happy retirement. Ruairi Ó Conchúir returned to his adopted

hometown of the Burren. We thank him for his contribution to Mountaineering Ireland over many years in a variety of roles.

I would especially like to express our appreciation for the ongoing financial support that we received from Sport Ireland and Sport Northern Ireland. Our thanks also for the once off funding from the Dormant Accounts Fund towards the Get Ireland Walking initiative and a pilot project to introduce young people from disadvantaged areas to indoor climbing. Funding from statutory sources now represents a significant proportion of our overall income and brings with it additional accountability obligations with regard to our use of public funds.

One of the highlights of the year was the purchase by the National Parks and Wildlife Service of some 4,900 acres of land (almost 2000 hectares) in the Dublin Mountains adjacent to the Wicklow Mountains National Park. This will bring the overall size of the National Park to 22,000 hectares, making it the largest in the country, and will ensure long term public access to and enjoyment of this unspoilt landscape.

In contrast, we were most concerned at the implications of an award of €40,000 to a woman injured in a fall on a boardwalk section of the Wicklow Way. The ruling was a source of worry for farmers and other landowners and had the potential to lead to restrictions on access for outdoor recreational users of the countryside. It is a testament to Mountaineering Ireland's standing as the representative body for hillwalkers and climbers that the State authorities requested that our Access and Conservation Officer, Helen Lawless, act as a witness in the appeal of the decision to the High Court. In setting aside the award, the High Court endorsed the long established principle that hillwalkers, climbers and other people engaging in outdoor recreational activities must take responsibility for their own safety.

And on that sober note, may I wish all members of Mountaineering Ireland a safe and adventurous 2017.



Paul Barron
Chairperson



“ Funding from statutory sources now represents a significant proportion of our overall income and brings with it additional accountability obligations with regard to our use of public funds. ”



ACCESS AND CONSERVATION

Mountaineering Ireland's work on access and conservation is focused on two core objectives:

- ▶ To be a voice for Ireland's mountains; to protect and encourage responsible and sustainable use of the mountain environment;
- ▶ To improve and secure ongoing access to Ireland's mountains and hills and all the places (coastline, crags and forests) we use.

Many Mountaineering Ireland members contribute to our work towards these objectives; as members of our Access & Conservation Committee, as Club Environmental Officers, as Mountaineering Ireland representatives on other organisations and through personal action to protect access and the mountain environment. This collective effort is vital if Mountaineering Ireland is to deliver on its strategic goals.

The access and conservation work of Mountaineering Ireland volunteers is supported by our staff, including a full-time Hillwalking, Access & Conservation Officer.

A VOICE FOR IRELAND'S MOUNTAINS

MOUNTAINEERING IRELAND'S AIM

Ireland's mountains inspire, shape and enrich the recreation experiences enjoyed by hillwalkers and climbers. Ireland has a limited amount of mountain land and the quality and special character of these places is being altered all the time by changes in land use, including changes associated with recreation activity. Our aim is to be a voice for the protection and sustainable use of Ireland's mountains and all the places that we use including hills, coastline, crags and forests.

THE FUTURE OF IRELAND'S MOUNTAINS

To enable Mountaineering Ireland to lobby effectively for the sustainable use of Ireland's mountains and upland areas it is essential that Mountaineering Ireland first be clear on what its own future vision is for these places. In summer 2016 Mountaineering Ireland initiated a consultation process to identify what Mountaineering Ireland members wish to see for the future of Ireland's mountains.

Mountaineering Ireland held six regional consultation meetings during the autumn which were attended by a total of 143 members, including representation from 48 affiliated clubs and a number of individual members. In those meetings Mountaineering Ireland members identified '*peace and quiet*', '*natural beauty*', '*wildness*' and '*escape*' as the main attributes which make their mountain experiences special.

The discussion document which emerged from the consultation process emphasises the importance of Ireland's mountains, and how these areas benefit all of society by providing beautiful scenery, fresh water, carbon storage and space for biodiversity, as well as opportunities for passive and active recreation. Mountaineering Ireland contends that Ireland's mountain areas are special and worthy of greater attention and investment, and that they must be celebrated and protected for the benefit of future generations.

RESOURCING UPLAND COMMUNITIES

Mountaineering Ireland contributed to the Irish Uplands Forum's 'Resourcing Upland Communities' conference in Beaufort, Co. Kerry in May 2016 and supported a number of Mountaineering Ireland

representatives to attend the event. The presentations at the conference showed how bringing different local interests together to work for the sustainable management of their upland area can be very fruitful. The conference gave the Irish Uplands Forum a mandate to:

- ▶ Seek Government funding support for upland partnership groups to address the socio-economic, environmental and recreational challenges facing their area;
- ▶ Establish a network of upland partnership groups and seek funding for the appointment of a network co-ordinator.

In October, the Heritage Council confirmed that it had secured a budget increase for 2017 that should enable progress towards both of these goals. Mountaineering Ireland is continuing to work with the Irish Uplands Forum and the Heritage Council to support the sustainable management of Ireland's upland areas through locally-based partnership groups.

HELPING THE HILLS

Throughout 2016 Mountaineering Ireland continued the Helping the Hills initiative, advocating a quality approach to the management of upland path erosion and making an input to a number of projects.

MacGillycuddy Reeks – Mountaineering Ireland hosted a meeting in Killarney in March where members heard from the MacGillycuddy Reeks Mountain Access Forum about a project under which local people, including landowners, are

being trained to carry out path repairs. In October, as part of Mountaineering Ireland's Autumn Gathering, members visited the Hag's Glen to meet with some of those involved. The project is still in its early stages with priorities for the coming years identified as erosion control on the Hag's Glen path, Caher, the Devil's Ladder and some sections of the route up to O'Shea's Gully.

Errigal - Donegal County Council has secured funding to develop a management plan for Errigal as part of a three-year EU-funded project that also involves Slieve Donard and Slieve Gullion. This project should cover the studies and assessments needed before undertaking path repair work on Errigal. Donegal County Council is progressing this project in conjunction with international partners, and with the Errigal Stakeholders Group of which Mountaineering Ireland is a member.

Croagh Patrick – In the latter half of 2016 Mountaineering Ireland joined the Croagh Patrick Stakeholders Group; the group was formed as a community response to concerns over the condition of the mountain, liability and related matters. Mountaineering Ireland assisted the group with the development of terms of reference for a project to assess the path erosion on Croagh Patrick and to make recommendations for its repair and future management.

Mountaineering Ireland was also involved in meetings and site visits to discuss upland path management in the Galtees, the Mourne, the Wicklow Mountains and on Diamond Hill. In September Mountaineering Ireland

attended a meeting of Scotland's Upland Path Advisory Group and a site visit at Ben Nevis. Mountaineering Ireland and Mountain Meitheal Ireland attended a BMC upland path conference in Cumbria in November at which our Hillwalking, Access & Conservation Officer made a presentation on upland path issues in Ireland.

During 2016, Mountaineering Ireland developed proposals for a partnership-based initiative to share learnings and build up the skills needed to deal with the growing problem of path erosion in Ireland's upland areas; discussions with statutory bodies about the possible funding of this initiative are continuing.

ENCOURAGING RESPONSIBLE USE

Respect for the wonderful, but fragile environment enjoyed by walkers and climbers is one of Mountaineering Ireland's core values. Mountaineering Ireland aims to foster responsible recreation by building people's appreciation and understanding of the mountain environment, and by actively encouraging members to take responsibility for the impact of their activities.

CLUB ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICERS

Mountaineering Ireland actively urges all affiliated clubs to appoint an Environmental Officer who can help to raise environmental awareness within the club and act as a point of contact for Mountaineering Ireland. In turn Mountaineering Ireland provides email updates, advice and training workshops. During 2016 Mountaineering Ireland held seven environmental awareness days, aimed primarily at Club Environmental Officers, but also training providers. All events were fully subscribed, with a total of 103 participants. The events took place in the Burren, the Mourne, Wicklow, Mayo, the Blackstairs and the MacGillycuddy Reeks. In an online survey of participants 97% of respondents said they would pass on information they had learned to fellow club members or peers, so the knowledge shared through these events should reach thousands of members across the country. If your club has yet to participate in one of these events, please get in touch.





FOSTERING GOOD PRACTICE

Awareness raising activities during the year included two environmental walks during the Women With Altitude event in Donegal, a history walk in Glenmalure, Co. Wicklow to coincide with Heritage Week, and three sessions on access and the mountain environment for Mountaineering Ireland clubs. All four issues of the Irish Mountain Log included information on access and conservation matters including advice on responsible recreation. Facebook was also used much more actively to raise environmental awareness and to foster good practice amongst walkers and climbers.

IMPROVING AND SECURING ACCESS

MOUNTAINEERING IRELAND'S AIM

As the national representative body for walkers and climbers, Mountaineering Ireland's policy is that we are seeking reasonable access for responsible users. Our aim is to have open, unrestricted access on foot to unenclosed hills, mountains and coastal areas throughout Ireland. Where there isn't access directly from the road, it should be achieved by routes around or through the fields out onto the open hillside.

Mountaineering Ireland pursues its access aim through engagement with Government Departments, State Agencies and through our involvement in organisations such as Comhairle na Tuaithe and the National Outdoor Recreation Forum in Northern Ireland.

WICKLOW WAY CASE

In a Circuit Court Judgement delivered in April a Dublin woman was awarded €40,000 for injuries sustained in a fall on the Wicklow Way. The injured woman sued the National Parks & Wildlife Service as her fall took place on a boardwalk within Wicklow Mountains National Park. The judgement was made under section 4(4) of the Occupiers Liability Act which places a higher duty of care on occupiers where structures are provided for use primarily by recreational users. Although it was quickly announced that the decision would be appealed the award received extensive coverage in the press and broadcast media.

Mountaineering Ireland was actively involved in providing clarification on the judgement to members, to the public, and also to landowners in the days following the judgement and for months afterwards. Mountaineering Ireland worked with the other organisations involved and provided evidence in the appeal which took place in the High Court over five days in November and December.

This case highlighted the vulnerability of access arrangements in Ireland and the importance of the ethos of personal responsibility within our sport. It also showed the value of having appropriate standards in place for the development and maintenance of recreation infrastructure.

DUBLIN MOUNTAINS LAND

The sale by NAMA of 4,900 acres of land in the Dublin Mountains stirred public concern over the summer. Mountaineering Ireland had first raised this issue with Ministers Michael Ring and Jimmy Deenihan in 2014. The concerns were channelled into a campaign which resulted in the announcement by Minister Ring that the land would be purchased by the National Parks & Wildlife Service as an expansion of Wicklow Mountains National Park. Its location between the city and the Dublin Mountains made it strategically important that this holding was secured in public ownership.

MOUNTAIN ACCESS PROJECT

Comhairle na Tuaithe's pilot Mountain Access Project aims to provide certainty of access to defined upland areas based on a voluntary agreement with all landowners in the area. In 2016 there was disappointingly little progress on the Mountain Access Project, due to delays in securing the indemnity for participating landowners which is a key feature of the project. Despite the delays, attributed in part to the Wicklow Way case, work continued in the two pilot areas, the MacGillycuddy Reeks in Co. Kerry and Binn Shléibhe near Clonbur, Co. Galway.

REVIEW OF COMHAIRLE NA TUAITHE

Early in 2016 Mountaineering Ireland made a second written submission in response to the review of Comhairle na Tuaithe and the implementation of its National Countryside Recreation Strategy. As the Rural Recreation Section, which supports Comhairle was moved to a different Department mid-year, the final report of the review was only received by Comhairle members at its November meeting. The report recommends the development of a new National Countryside Recreation Strategy and a new structure to guide the delivery of the strategy.

In October Mountaineering Ireland met with Minister Michael Ring TD, who now has responsibility for Comhairle na Tuaithe. The purpose of the meeting was to confirm

support for the aims of Comhairle na Tuaithe, but to also express concern at the delays and to highlight the urgent need to address matters such as access to the countryside, indemnity, upland path erosion and the development of a new outdoor recreation strategy.

OUTDOOR RECREATION ACTION PLAN FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

Progress on delivery of the Outdoor Recreation Action Plan for Northern Ireland (signed off in 2014) has been patchy with individual agencies delivering elements of the plan but the primary aim of having a joined-up approach has not progressed. In September, our Hillwalking, Access & Conservation Officer made a presentation to the National Outdoor Recreation Forum in Northern Ireland about Mountaineering Ireland's work on access and conservation.

ACCESS ADVICE

Mountaineering Ireland members are encouraged to contact Mountaineering Ireland for advice and support when concerns arise regarding access. As well as helping people enjoy their activities, this two-way flow of information ensures that Mountaineering Ireland's work at national level to secure access is based on a comprehensive and up-to-date understanding of the situation on the ground.

REPRESENTATION ON OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Through combining local knowledge with the strength of a national body, Mountaineering Ireland aims to positively influence the development and management of areas that matter to our members. Mountaineering Ireland's representation on other organisations was strengthened in 2016 by the addition of a representative to the Croagh Patrick Stakeholders Group and by the appointment of new representatives to the Irish Uplands Forum and to two Coillte Social & Environmental panels. Mountaineering Ireland is also represented internationally through Jack Bergin on the UIAA Access Commission and Mike Maunsell on the UIAA Mountain Protection Commission. There are now over 20 volunteers representing Mountaineering Ireland on other organisations.

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

Further information is available on www.mountaineering.ie, in the Irish Mountain Log and on Facebook. Mountaineering Ireland thanks all those who are sharing enthusiasm for, and working to protect, Ireland's upland areas.





YOUTH

In our current Strategic Development Plan 2014 – 2017, Mountaineering Ireland sets out its youth programme objectives:

- ▶ To support and promote the participation of all age groups, especially youth, in every aspect of mountaineering, and
- ▶ To promote a spirit of adventure and self-reliance.

During 2016, Mountaineering Ireland carried on progressing these core objectives and implemented a wide range of youth-based participation programmes. These included the Youth Climbing Series and support to clubs with a focus on youth participation. Mountaineering Ireland also promoted and encouraged clubs to provide youth opportunities within the traditional hillwalking club settings.

YOUTH CAMPS

The provision of climbing camps for youth members was implemented by Mountaineering Ireland during 2016. As in previous years, this programme provided many young climbers the opportunity to make their first steps in progressing from an indoor climbing wall to an outdoor rock environment. This programme was supervised by the Youth Development Coordinator, who worked closely with the young members, clubs and coaches to ensure successful delivery. One such camp took place in Glendalough, Co. Wicklow. This camp focused specifically on bouldering and enabled many young climbers to develop their climbing skills on the exacting granite boulders of Glendalough. This type of residential camp gives our young climbers the opportunity to be mentored

by experienced climbers and also allows them to progress their skills in a well supervised environment.

LOCAL SCHOOLS AND HOTROCK CLIMBING WALL PROJECT

During 2016, Mountaineering Ireland's Youth Development Coordinator was responsible for the management of the Hotrock Schools' Project, based at the Hotrock Wall at the Tollymore National Outdoor Centre. This programme is aimed to engage with school children from the Mourne area and Greater Belfast region in introducing and increasing participation of young people in climbing. Key to the success of this project is building relationships with schools and in 2016 this project was received extremely well with the local communities, schools and was supported by a large and dedicated group of local coaches and passionate school staff.

SAFEGUARDING

Throughout 2016 Mountaineering Ireland continued to implement its updated Safeguarding Policy and processes. Having been reviewed in 2015, a process which included the implementation of new legislative position in the Republic of Ireland, a review of best practices in safeguarding and appropriate reporting procedures were all introduced. During 2016, an Independent check of our Safeguarding Information was conducted by the NSPCC and we were informed that they were satisfied and able to find everything required. In 2016, this process was implemented with great supervision by our Safeguarding Officer, Paul Kellagher.

“ This type of residential camp gives our young climbers the opportunity to be mentored by experienced instructors and also to allow them to progress their skills in a well supervised environment. ”

TALENT DEVELOPMENT

TALENT DEVELOPMENT SQUAD REVIEW

In 2016 the Mountaineering Ireland Talent Development Squad (TDS) continued to establish itself as an integral part of the pathway in the development of young climbers throughout the island of Ireland.

The TDS is comprised of approximately fifty young climbers. These young climbers are selected based on athlete personality traits, performance and parental support. In 2016, the selection process for the TDS moved to an online application form. This new process facilitated young climbers and their parents to present their motivations to be a member of the TDS as well as detailing their climbing performances.

The squad comes together on a monthly basis for the TDS Training Sessions. TDS members are coached at a 6:1 ratio by an assigned TDS coach, with each coach working with the same group for a minimum of four months. TDS members and parents are provided with written feedback after each session. This feedback guides the climbers' training and climbing in the intervening weeks until the next TDS training session.

MOUNTAINEERING IRELAND CLIMBING COMPETITIONS

In 2016 Mountaineering Ireland organised a broad series of climbing competitions. These competitions catered for a very wide range of climbers – from young novices to seasoned veterans – with approximately 2,000 participants across the wide range of competitions.

JUNIOR IRISH CLIMBING LEAGUE

Acting on feedback from parents and coaches at the youth climbing clubs and recognising the need for an entry level youth climbing competition, Mountaineering Ireland introduced the Junior Irish Climbing League in Autumn 2016.

The Junior Irish Climbing League was organised on a Provincial basis, with three rounds taking place consecutively in Ulster, Leinster and Munster. By and large the competitions were well attended and for most competitors it was their first experience of a climbing competition.

IRISH LEAD CLIMBING LEAGUE

In its second year of existence the Irish Lead Climbing League continued to attract a growing cohort of climbers at a fun and challenging Lead Climbing Competition. In 2016 the Lead Climbing League comprised of three rounds taking in venues in Dublin, Cork and Kerry.

IRISH BOULDERING LEAGUE

The stalwart of the Mountaineering Ireland climbing competitions, the Irish Bouldering League boasts being the longest continually run climbing league in the World. The 2015/2016 iteration of the Irish Bouldering League saw the IBL continue to attract a wide variety of climbers from all sections of the Irish climbing community. As much a social event as a competition, the IBL is a fun and friendly league where climbers young and old push each other on through mutual encouragement. The 2015/2016 IBL was spoilt for choice of excellent venues for four rounds of the league spread across, Belfast, Dublin and Cork.

YOUTH CLIMBING SERIES

The opening of more commercial climbing walls has led to an explosion in the number of young people taking up climbing over recent years. The Youth Climbing Series (YCS) has been a key competition for young climbers since its introduction to Ireland in 2009. In 2016, the YCS comprised of two regional rounds in each region – two North and two South - and an All-Ireland Final. The top three competitors in each of the ten competition categories then progress to the Grand Final.



“ For many young climbers, the YCS Grand Final is the most important event in their competition climbing calendar. It can be said that these competitors represent the best young climbers from all over the UK and Ireland. ”



The YCS Grand Final is held in Ratho Scotland and sees approximately three hundred and fifty young climbers from all over Ireland, Scotland, Wales and England coming together for one huge day of competition climbing.

For many young climbers, the YCS Grand Final is the most important event in their competition climbing calendar. The standard of climbing at the YCS Grand Final is exceptionally high. It can be said that these competitors represent the best young climbers from all over the UK and Ireland.

The team of thirty young climbers who represented Mountaineering Ireland climbed well and demonstrated an overall improvement in performance. To be placed in the top ten of your competition category at the YCS Grand Final is a huge achievement for any young climber, and on this occasion seven climbers on the Mountaineering Ireland team achieved this.

In Male Youth A Michael O'Neill placed fifth and Carson Carnduff placed sixth. In Female Youth D Nina Lesayova placed eight and in Male Youth D Daniel Creedon placed tenth. It was, however, the three Mountaineering Ireland climbers in Male Youth E that were the talk of the competition Matthew Murray took first, Sean Henchion placed second and Daire Oglesby came third, a clean sweep of the podium, an unprecedented result in the history of the YCS.

SENIOR IRISH BOULDERING CHAMPIONSHIP

During 2016, the Senior Irish Bouldering Championship (SIBC) took place at the Gravity Climbing Centre. Comprising of

a qualification round, a semi-final and a final round, the SIBC is a thorough test of climbing ability for the top competition boulders.

In the Senior Male category Ciarán Scanlon climbed impeccably to take the title ahead of Daragh O'Connor and Andrew Mawhinney. In the Senior Female category; Victoria Watterson found her form to edge out Lucy Mitchell and defending champion Sheila Nolan. In Masters Male, Eamon O Riain took the title ahead of Ricky Young and Ger O'Sullivan.

JUNIOR IRISH BOULDERING CHAMPIONSHIP

The 2016 Junior Irish Bouldering Championship (JIBC) was hosted by The Wall. This competition attracted many of the top young climbers from all over the island of Ireland as well as a good representation from England. The level of climbing on show at the JIBC left a lot of people very impressed and excited for the future of Irish climbing.

The winners of each category of the 2016 Junior Irish Bouldering Championship were:

Male Youth C – **Hugo Guenebaut**
Female Youth C – **Robin Casey**

Male Youth B – **David Naessens**
Female Youth B – **Yasmin Murphy**

Male Youth A – **Tommy Matthews**
Female Youth A – **Ellen Griffin**

Male Junior – **Sean Hoare**

IRISH LEAD CLIMBING CHAMPIONSHIP

The 2016 Irish Lead Climbing Championship took place at the stunning Foyle Arena climbing wall in Derry. 2016 saw a merging of the Junior and Senior competitions into one event. The new format saw the competition taking place over two days, with the qualification round taking place on Saturday and the semi-final and final taking place on the Sunday.

The category winners for the 2016 Irish Lead Climbing Championship were:

Masters Male – **Eamon Ó Riain**
Senior Female – **Lucy Mitchell**

Senior Male – **Eddie Cooper**
Junior Male – **Sean Hoare**

Youth A Male – **Ben Preston**
Youth A Female – **Sarah Hoare**

Youth B Male – **Jake Collins**
Youth B Female – **Alison Treacy**

Youth C Male – **Matthew Smith**
Youth C Female – **Paola Neal-Fagan**

INTERNATIONAL CLIMBING COMPETITIONS

IFSC EUROPEAN YOUTH CUP & EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP – BOULDERING

Coached by Mountaineering Ireland Youth Climbing Team Coach Terry O’Conor, five climbers on the Youth Climbing Team competed at the International Federation of Sports Climbing (IFSC) 2016 European Youth Cup in Bouldering. The climbers were: Dominic Burns, Sean Hoare (Male Junior), Victoria Watterson (Female Junior), Luke Hackett (Male Youth A) and Sarah Hoare (Female Youth A).

For 2016, the IFSC European Youth Cup took place in four rounds, at Soure (Portugal), Graz (Austria), Warsaw (Poland) and L’Argentiere (France).

The European Youth Championship is a stand-alone event which took place at Langenfeld (Austria).

The European Youth Cup and European Youth Championship is a highly competitive series of competitions which serve as a proving ground for many climbers who go on to compete successfully at Senior World Cup competitions. The members of the Youth Climbing Team put in some promising performances at these competitions, and will build on their experience for seasons to come.

UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD TOUR

Eimir Mc Swiggan represented Mountaineering Ireland at the 2016 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour. Eimir

who began competing in ice climbing when she moved to South Korea has steadily improved her results over the past number of seasons.

At round one in Bozeman (USA) Eimir placed 13th. Round two took place at Eimir’s ‘home’ venue in Cheongsong (South Korea). Home advantage gave Eimir just enough edge to qualify into the final of the competition and place 7th overall. Eimir travelled to Europe for the two remaining rounds where she placed 28th in Saas Fee (Switzerland) and 9th in Rabenstein (Italy). This combination of results gave Eimir an overall World Cup ranking of 10th.





MOUNTAIN TRAINING AND SAFE PRACTICE

“ As a Mountaineering Council with an integrated Training Board, Mountaineering Ireland is in a unique position to develop and implement training for all members, including those who pursue formal and informal training ... ”

Mountaineering Ireland’s strategic objective on training and skills development is: To maintain high standards in mountain training and support skills development.

2016 was a very productive year for the Training Office, with an increase to the annual suite of offerings for members, such as; National and International Meets, Multi-discipline Skills Workshops, Club Training Officer Workshops, Regional Meetings, Mentoring opportunities and Award Scheme Provision. As a Mountaineering Council with an integrated Training Board, Mountaineering Ireland is in a unique position to develop and implement training for all members, including those who pursue formal and informal training to further enhance their enjoyment, skill level and safety.

TRAINING FOR CLUBS

With the help of clubs, 2016 saw the revival of the Regional Training Officer Meetings. To date member clubs from Galway, the Mournes, Cork, Kerry, Wexford and Dublin have hosted meetings in conjunction with Mountaineering Ireland who provided the meeting room and their Training Officer. These meetings provided training information and facilitated clubs in the development of their in-club training plans. Over

100 participants and 25% of clubs attended. This greatly facilitates the dissemination of information to our membership. The training office created over 30 training day opportunities in 2016.

SKILLS SERIES AND TRAINING RESOURCES

The skills videos, now viewed by thousands, continue to appeal to our members, particularly those interested in training. Additional presentations are now available on the training downloads section of the website, to facilitate training for providers, clubs and individuals.

TRAINING PROVIDERS

Following the induction of more Lowland Leader Trainers in 2015, 2016 has seen a 55% increase in award registrations and an increase in the number of training and assessments courses for the Lowland Leader Award.

Annual Providers Workshops are an ideal opportunity for providers to; update, share learnings, develop skills and techniques, suggest changes, discuss teaching, instruction methods and more. Eligible continuing professional development (CPD) events, are essential to meet

requirements for both Providership and Award Association Membership. A number of events are on offer.

- ▶ The annual Senior Providers workshop
- ▶ The annual Mountain Skills Providers workshop
- ▶ Annual Skills Workshops in; climbing, scrambling, hillwalking, teaching navigation
- ▶ Mountaineering Instructor Award workshop

DIGITAL LOG FACILITY

The Digital Log (DLOG) system is a resource for all members of Mountaineering Ireland and is proving very popular. Every member can create a record of their walks and climbs under a variety of headings for personal and award scheme purposes. The online course reporting facility is now available for all awards, with the launch of provision for the last and most popular Mountain Skills Scheme. Mountain Skills participants can now register at no cost and providers can record all courses online.

LINKS WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

MOUNTAIN TRAINING

Our new DLOG system is integrated with the Candidate Management System operated by Mountain Training in the UK.

This allows a transparency of training records for MI/BOS candidates on the UK system. This is particularly useful for those doing training in one region and assessment in another, or indeed any of our candidates who go on to register for the higher awards provided by Mountain Training.

Mountaineering Ireland continues to be a full voting member of Mountain Training, and has spent 2016 continuing work on the Climbing Awards Review, following the completion of the walking awards review. Collaborative work between all the training boards across the UK and Ireland is essential to develop and add to the shared awards.

COACHING IRELAND

There are currently four awards on the Coaching Ireland Adventure Sports Framework; (Lowland Leader Award, Mountain Leader Award, Single Pitch Award and Multi-Pitch Award). The Level One Climbing Coach Award is also on the Coaching Ireland Coaching Framework. 2016 saw work with Coaching Ireland continue and the sharing of candidates results and training details has enabled another layer of quality assurance of these awards.

This project is ongoing and an online system link is planned to ease the ability to share award training records for quality assurance purposes.



MOUNTAIN TRAINING BOARD OF IRELAND

Considerable progress was achieved by the Working Group during 2016 and a final proposal was produced in December 2016. This final proposal will be submitted to Sport NI and both mountain training boards for ratification and, pending a positive result, the formation of a new Mountain Training Board for the island of Ireland in 2017.

WOMEN WITH ALTITUDE

2016 saw the successful Women with Altitude event return to Gartan Outdoor Education & Training Centre in Donegal. The stunning location provided the backdrop to our varied and challenging programme. As host, Gartan OETC not only provided an accommodation package, but also staff, equipment, a climbing wall and good access to the mountains and crags.

The aim of the 2016 WWA was to provide “inspirational role models”, whilst supporting skills development and providing mentoring opportunities for participants, leaders and instructors.

The weekend combined instructional climbing and navigation activities on the Saturday with self-directed activities on the Sunday and Monday. Independent adventure is another key aim of Mountaineering Ireland and the WWA Initiative. 2017 will see the Women With Altitude objectives shift focus towards “Mentoring Mountaineers”. The event initiative will move eastwards to the Mourne Mountains, where we are excited to be hosted by Tollymore National Outdoor Centre.

Registrations	2015	2016	% change
Award			
Mountain Leader Award	94	98	+4%
Hill & Moorland Leader	2	2	0%
Lowland Leader Award	45	88	+55%
Single Pitch Award	69	122	+46%
Multi Pitch Award	7	3	-57%
Climbing Wall Award	28	34	+18%
Climbing Wall Leading Award	6	7	+15%
Level 1 Climbing Coach	9	18	+50%
Mountain Skills Total Participation	1236	1187	-4%
Total MI/BOS & MT Awards	1496	1559	+4%
Fundamentals			
Fundamentals 1	62	44	-29%
Fundamentals 2	59	29	-51%



GET IRELAND
ACTIVE!

NATIONAL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
PLAN FOR IRELAND

GET IRELAND WALKING

The launch of Ireland's first National Physical Activity Plan in January 2016 is a major milestone for the promotion of physical activity nationally and has provided a backdrop for the work of the Get Ireland Walking (GIW) Initiative. GIW and Mountaineering Ireland are listed alongside two actions thus recognising their important role in contributing to the nation's physical activity participation.

WALKING GROUPS

The number of registered walking groups from around the country had grown to 393 groups by year end. Additionally, the 8-week facilitator-led Active Community Walking Programme (ACWP) was delivered to over 550 community members in 15 Local Sports Partnership areas in 2016 - building on the 300+ participants in 2015. Also, a 12-week Woodlands for Health walking programme for individuals experiencing mental health issues was delivered with partner organisations.

SUPPORT SERVICE

GIW supported groups and individuals interested in walking by:

- ▶ Providing public liability insurance for voluntary community walking leaders.
- ▶ Providing a support and advice service online and over the phone.
- ▶ Distributing resources including 21 Day Walking Challenge cards (>9,000), Get Active Go Walking leaflets (>6,500), GIW hats (>800), high visibility vests (>300) and armbands (>400), and walking groups forms.

EVENTS AND COMMUNICATION

GIW engaged in events throughout the year including; Operation Transformation nationwide walks; training for ACWP

staff; Mountaineering Ireland's Autumn Gathering; St. Patrick's Mental Health Fairs; Positive Ageing Seminar; Active School Week walking challenge; SARI Soccerfest (walking football event); VHI Women's Mini Marathon TY challenge; Smarter Travel's Marchathon.

The GIW social media audiences continued to grow resulting in 4,190 Facebook page likes and 773 followers on the newly established Twitter page. The reach of the Facebook posts was >85,000 and the 338 tweets resulted in >175,000 tweet impressions.

FUTURE PLANS

NEW PROJECTS

In 2016, funding was secured from the Dormant Accounts Sports Inclusion Fund to roll out two projects throughout 2017; the Men's Shed Project and the Schools Walking Project. These walking projects will be delivered in partnership with the Irish Men's Shed Association and the Active School Flag.

STRATEGIC PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Work was commenced on a GIW Strategic Plan which will be completed and launched in 2017. Through the Strategic Plan, GIW aims to provide leadership on a shared vision and actions for promoting walking across the country based on the collective contribution of its partner organisations.

GIW wishes to thank the GIW Advisory Group, collaborators and partner organisations for their continuing efforts to promote walking.

Get Ireland Walking is an initiative of Sport Ireland supported by Healthy Ireland, Mountaineering Ireland and partner organisations.

“ Through the Strategic Plan, GIW aims to provide leadership on a shared vision and actions for promoting walking across the country based on the collective contribution of its partner organisations. ”

COMMUNICATIONS AND SERVICES

MOUNTAINEERING.IE AND ONLINE MEMBERSHIP

Mountaineering.ie continues to be a valuable resource for both individual and club members. The website offers relevant information, documentation and resources to ensure our members are informed and up to date with Mountaineering Ireland's activities and endeavours. Mountaineering Ireland's social media presence continued to grow, with increasing activity across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Facebook continued to be a popular means of engaging with members and the public with over 12,000 followers on Facebook with some posts reaching up to 34,000 users.

More and more members continue to engage with the Membership Management System whether it is to renew membership, access the online digital log to record walks and climbs or purchase products on our online shop. Feedback and suggestions from our members are always welcomed and encouraged to provide an efficient service to our members. Mountaineering Ireland has ensured that the most appropriate security features have been used to maintain data integrity.

CLUB SUPPORT

Various training, environmental and club development workshops were run throughout the year either on a standalone basis across the four provinces or during our Spring and Autumn Gatherings. The workshops offered all members the opportunity to ask questions about club-related queries and were open to all to attend. The club handbook which was created to provide guidance and support for new and existing clubs on setting up and developing their club, continues to be a working document available on our website at the following link: <http://www.mountaineering.ie/membersandclubs/default.aspx>.

We encourage all our clubs to engage with the document and indeed provide recommendations on the content.

IRISH MOUNTAIN LOG

The Irish Mountain Log continues to be an important means of communicating to our members. As it is a membership based publication it would be impossible to continue to produce four issues in a year to such a high standard without the significant voluntary efforts and contributions from our members. Sincere thanks to the IML editor Patrick O'Sullivan, and the editorial team; Peter O'Neill and Coilin MacLochlainn who are supported by Mountaineering Ireland's staff team.

ARCHIVES AND MEMBERS' LIBRARY

Members continue to the avail of the Mountaineering Ireland library, which consists of over 3,000 books in total that include the Joss Lynam and the Irish Mountaineering Club collections. Members are able to view the online catalogue through the Mountaineering Ireland website and email their requests to the office from where they either collect the books, or have them posted out. More books continue to be added to library; either new books which have been reviewed in the Mountain Log or from members who donate. We would like to thank all our members who have donated collections to the library in 2016 and encourage all members to continue to use this wonderful extensive collection.

INSURANCE

The Mountaineering Ireland policy cover has not changed and detailed certificates are available to all clubs on renewal. The cover includes €13 million in public liability cover and limited personal accident cover. A breakdown



“ More and more members continue to engage with the Membership Management System whether it is to renew membership, access the online digital log to record walks and climbs or purchase products on our online shop. ”



of insurance cover is available on the insurance pages of the Members and Clubs section of mountaineering.ie. Mountaineering Ireland's insurance was renewed in 2015 for three years with insurance broker O'Driscoll O'Neil Ltd (Insurers: XL Catlin and ACE). It is hoped that the premium for 2016 up to 2018 will remain constant.

MEMBER GATHERINGS AND MEETS

Mountaineering Ireland continue to host gatherings both here and abroad, providing important opportunities for members and the wider mountaineering community to come together and share their passion for the mountains.

The Clare Outdoor Club hosted a highly successful Spring Gathering in Lisdoonvarna, Co. Clare in early March. The Gathering followed a slightly different format to the usual with the aim of encouraging increased participation in the AGM and also offered a more varied choice of longer workshops on the Sunday morning as well as a more structured approach to Saturday night. Appreciating that many travel long distances to attend our Gatherings, we try to offer as full and interesting a programme as possible from Friday evening through to Sunday lunchtime.

In a change to the normal schedule, the Mountaineering Ireland Annual General Meeting and Members' Forum was held from 5.30pm on Saturday evening. At the AGM, the 2015 financial accounts and auditor for 2016 were approved, the election of clubs to full membership and election of representatives to other organisations were also approved. Paul Kellagher became Ursula MacPherson's successor as President of Mountaineering Ireland and three new ordinary board members were voted on to the Board namely Simon Walsh, Francis Hackett and Alan Tees. This year's AGM also saw Frank Bradley, David Batt, Una Vejsbjerg and Maeve Mc Keever step down as Board members. The motion to adopt the new Bolting Policy was proposed by the Board of Mountaineering Ireland and adopted unanimously. The

AGM was followed by the Members' Forum, both of which prompted good discussion from the membership.

The 2016 Mountaineering Ireland Autumn Gathering was hosted by Laune Mountaineering Club, in Killorglin, Co. Kerry. Although bad weather was forecast, Saturday's activities were greeted with glorious sunshine and all participants thoroughly enjoyed the weekend which was packed with walks and workshops. An EGM was also held during the weekend in the light of two provisions of the Companies Act 2014. Members adopted the motion's which enables the company to continue to be known as Mountaineering Ireland and approved Mountaineering Ireland's new constitution.

SUMMER AND WINTER MEETS

The 2016 Winter Meet held in Onich, Scotland, included the usual offerings of skills workshops, designed to facilitate skills progression towards independence in the mountains in winter. Participants are encouraged to develop their skills from walking to mountaineering to climbing, as required. This progressive pathway supports members and enables realisation of their unique aspirations.

The 2016 summer meet took place in Gressoney, Italy and was an opportunity for members to expand their mountain knowledge and experience into Alpine terrain. A combination of skills courses, mentoring and independent activity provided the structure for a very successful event.

THANK YOU

Mountaineering Ireland wishes to thank all members and all affiliated clubs for their support in 2016. The work of clubs and individual volunteers throughout Mountaineering Ireland's membership ensures that the organisation's reach is far wider than it would otherwise be with the financial and human resources available to the organisation. It highlights the passion that members have for the sport and the resource base we use.

EXTERNAL REPRESENTATION

Mountaineering Ireland is represented on the following organisations:
Coillte Social and Environmental Panels
Comhairle Na Tuaithe
Croagh Patrick Stakeholders' Group
Dublin Mountains Initiative
Errigal Stakeholders Group
Galtee Steering Group
Irish Adventure Sports Training Trust
Irish Uplands Forum
Land Matters Task Force NI
Leitrim Walking Working Group
Mountain Training NI
Mountain Training
Mountain Rescue Ireland
National Coordinating Committee for Cave & Mountain Rescue
National Outdoor Recreation Forum (NI)
National Trails Advisory Committee
Northern Ireland Environment Link
STOP Mountain Scramblers (Cooley Mountains)
UIAA Access Commission
UIAA Mountain Protection Commission
Wicklow Mountains National Park Council
Wicklow Uplands Council

AFFILIATIONS

Mountaineering Ireland is affiliated to the following organisations:
European Ramblers Association
Federation of Irish Sports
Friends of the Reeks
International Federation of Sports Climbing
Irish Uplands Forum
Northern Ireland Environmental Link
Northern Ireland Sports Forum
Union Internationale des Association d'Alpinisme (UIAA)
Wicklow Uplands Council

WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

In addition to the above, during 2016 we worked with the following organisations:
Activate Waterford
Awesome Walls
Belfast Hills Partnership
BirdWatch Ireland
Boulder World Belfast
British Mountaineering Council
Coaching Ireland
Cairngorms Outdoor Access Trust (COAT)
Coillte
Coiste Forbartha Dhún Lúiche
Comharchumann Dhúiche Sheoigheach Teo
County Wicklow Partnership
Donegal County Council
Dublin Mountains Partnership
Dublin Climbing Centre
Fáilte Ireland
Foyle Arena Derry
Ganaway Activity Centre
Gartan Outdoor Education Centre
Gortatole Outdoor Education Centre
Gravity Climbing Centre
Heritage Council
Institute of Technology Sligo
Irish Cattle & Sheep Farmers Association
Irish Creamery Milk Suppliers Association
Irish Farmers Association
Irish Girl Guides
Irish Sports Council
Leenane Development Association
Local Sports Partnerships
MacGillycuddy Reeks Mountain Access Forum
Mardyke Arena Cork
Mayo County Council
Mountaineering Council of Scotland
Mountain Meitheal Ireland
Mountain Rescue Ireland
Mountain Research Ireland
MountainViews
Mourne Heritage Trust
Murrisk Development Association
National Parks & Wildlife Service
National Trails Office
Northern Ireland Environment Agency
Ordnance Survey Ireland
Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland
Petersburg Outdoor Education Centre
Play At Height
Ring of Gullion Landscape Partnership Scheme
Rural Recreation Section, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs
Scouting Ireland
South Tipperary Development Company
Sport Northern Ireland

State Claims Agency
Tollymore National Outdoor Centre
Trinity College Dublin Archives
University of Ulster
Upland Path Advisory Group (Scotland)
Waterford City & County Council
Wicklow County Council

LIST OF CLUBS AFFILIATED TO MOUNTAINEERING IRELAND

(As of December 2016)
4 A's Walking Club
ACARA Trekking Club
American Womens Club Hillwalkers
Aonach ar Siul (Nenagh Hillwalkers)
Arklow and Wicklow Hillwalkers
Ashbourne Hillwalkers
Athlone Walking Club
Awesome Walls Staff Club
B.A.R.F.
Ballyduff Upper Walking Club
Ballyhoura Bears Walking Club
Ballymac-Glanageenty Ramblers
Ballyvaughan Fanore Walking Club
Bandon Walking Club
Bank of Ireland Hill Walking Club
Banner Mountaineering Club
Bantry Walking Club
Beanna Beola Hillwalking Club
Belturbet Walks and Heritage Group
Bishopstown Orienteering & Hillwalking Club
Blackrock Hillwalking Club
Blackstairs Ramblers
Blarney Walking Group
Blayney Ramblers
Bogtrotters Hillwalking Club
Bootleggers Hillwalking Club
Boyle Curlew Hillwalkers Club
Cahersiveen Outdoor Club
Carraig Dubh Climbing Club
Carran Walking Club
Cavan Monaghan Climbing Club
Cavan Walkers
CIE Hill Walkers
Clare Outdoor Club
Clonakilty Hill Walking Club
Clondalkin Hillwalking Club
Club Cualann
Club Siúlóide Chonamara Theas
Cobh Hill Walking Club
Coconuts Hillwalking Club
Colaiste Pobail Setanta
Colmcille Climbers Club
Comeragh Mountaineering Club
Cork Backpackers Club
Cork Climbing Club
Cork Climbing Co-Op
Cork International Hiking Society
Cork Mountaineering Club
Cork Youth Climbing Club
Crannagh Ramblers
Croom Abu Walking Club
Crosshaven Walking Group
Crows Hillwalkers
Cumann Siul Cois Coiribe
Cumann Sleibhteoireachta an Leith Triuigh
Cumann Sleibhteoireachta Annascaul Walkers
Cumann Sleibhteoireachta Chorca Dhuibhne / DingleHC
Dal Riada Climbing Club
DCU Rock Climbing Club
Defence Force Association of Mountaineers
DIT Mountaineering Club
Donegal Co Co Hills & Trails Walking Club
Dublin Cliffhangers Climbing Club
Dublin University Climbing Club (Trinity College)
Dublin Wicklow Mountain Rescue Team
Dungarvan Hillwalking Club
Dunmanway Hillwalking Club
Enniscrone Walking Club
ESB Hillwalkers
Evolution Climbing Club
Ferrard Ramblers
Fineos Hillwalkers
Fitzamblers
Foxford Ramblers Walking Club
Foyle Hillwalking and Rambling Club
Galtee Walking Club
Galway Bay Hillwalking Club
Galway Climbing Co-Operative
Galway Walking Club
Garda Mountaineering Club
Glenwalk
GMIT Mountaineering Club
Grange Con Ramblers Hill Walking Club
Grey Lake Ramblers
GWATS - Gearagh Walkers and Talkers
Hanging Rockers Climbing Club
Hard Core Club
Hardy Hill Hikers
Hibernia Bushcraft (Assoc. Org.)
Hillwalkers Club
Imaal Walkers
IRD Duhallow Hillwalking Club
Irish Bushcraft Club
Irish Christian Hillwalking Club
Irish Geological Association
Irish Mountaineering Club
Irish Ramblers Club
Kanturk Hillwalkers and Mountain Climbers
Kenmare Walking Club
Kilcoran Trecking Club
Killarney Mountaineering Club
Kilmacthomas Walking Club
Kiltipper Ramblers
Kinsale College Mountaineering Club
Knockadosan Hill Walkers
Laune Mountaineering Club
Lee Hillwalking & Mountaineering Club
Leinster Bushcraft Club
Letterkenny IT Hillwalking Society
Limerick Climbing Club
Lung Gompas
Mallow Walking Club
Marley Hillwalking Club
Maumturks Walking Club
Maynooth Hillwalking Club
Mayo Eagles Ramblers Club
Mevagh Ramblers
Mid Tipp Hillwalkers
Midleton Climbing Club
Midleton Hillwalking Club
Mountain Meitheal Ireland
Muintir na Sleibhte
Mullaghareirk Ramblers
N.U.I. Galway Mountaineering Club
Na Cnocadóirí
Na Coisithe
Navan Trekkers
Nire Valley Bogtrotters Walking Club
North West Mayo Hillwalkers
North West Mountaineering Club
North West Youth Climbing Team
Northern Ireland Youth Climbing Team
Oldtown Road Trailbreakers
Out and About
Ox Mountain Ramblers
Oyster Walking Club
Peaks Mountaineering Club
Poolbeg Ramblers
Rainbow Hillwalking Club
Ramblers Country Tracks
Rathgormack Climbing Club
Rathgormack Ramblers
Riverstick Ramblers
Roscrea Ramblers
Rosway Walkers
Savage Craic Climbing Club
Shanganagh Ramblers
Siul Walking Club
Siultoiri Buadain
Skibbereen Walking Group
Slane Striders
Sleibh Mor Outdoor Sports Club
Sliabh Luachra Hillwalking Club
Slieve Aughty Walking Club
Sligo Mountaineering Club
Sligo Walking Club
Sneem Walking Club
Spartan Red Sox Walking Club
Sperrins Hillwalking Club
St. Kevins College
Stryker Hiking Club
Swilly Hiking Club
The Feel Good Factor
The GoyaGang
The Leinster Explorers Hillwalking Club
The N51 Trekkers
The TEAM Project
The Trekkers Mountaineering Club
Tinahely Walking Club
Tralee Mountaineering Club
Tredagh Trekkers
Trinity College Hiking Society
Tullow Mountaineering Club
Tyndall Mountain Club
UCD Mountaineering Club
Ulster University Jordanstown Mountaineering Club
University College Cork Mountaineering Club
Upper Limits
Walkers with Altitude
Wayfarers Association
West Clare Walking Club
Westport Hillwalkers
Wexford Hillwalking and Mountaineering Club
Winders Climbing Club
Woolgreen Walking Club
E&OE



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