



**Working for
and representing
walkers and
climbers**

www.mountaineering.ie

ANNUAL REVIEW 2014

Mountaineering Ireland

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MOUNTAINEERING IRELAND ANNUAL REVIEW 2014

Mountaineering Ireland commenced implementation of a new strategic development plan in 2014. It clearly outlines the vision, mission, values and the strategic objectives of Mountaineering Ireland over the coming years. The mission, *to represent and support the walkers and climbers of Ireland and to be a voice for the sustainable use of Ireland's mountains* sets out the reason for Mountaineering Ireland's very existence and is something all members should relate to. The core objectives are:

1. To represent the interests of walkers and climbers;
2. To be a voice for Ireland's mountains; to protect and encourage responsible and sustainable use of the mountain environment;
3. To improve and secure ongoing access to those places we use in Ireland;
4. To maintain high standards in mountain training and support skills development;
5. To support and promote the participation of all age groups, especially youth, in every aspect of mountaineering;
6. To provide a talent development pathway to high performance, and
7. To promote a spirit of adventure and self-reliance.

Fundamental to all of this work is our commitment to deliver upon the vision for all walkers and climbers to:

- ▶ enjoy secure and responsible access to Ireland's mountains and the other places we use in Ireland; and
- ▶ have the opportunity to improve their skills, to explore, to be adventurous and to maximise their potential within our sport.

Mountaineering Ireland joined Comhairle na Tuaithe's Mountain Access Steering Group, which was established in June and provided administrative

support to the Group. As a result of the contribution by all members of the Group, including the main farming representative organisations and the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government the potential of the Mountain Access Project will be determined in 2015.

Progress towards an all-island training board, as a sub-committee of Mountaineering Ireland took a move forward and, following an extensive consultation stakeholder process, the Mountain Training Ireland Transitional Group was formed to agree the detail of the all-island proposition.

The summer of 2014 left a significant shadow on our community with four Irish deaths in the mountains within the space of a week. All four were well prepared, well equipped and fully aware of the risks involved. This is a reminder of the real risks that we all face when we go into the outdoors. It is important that we continue to communicate these risks, provide opportunities for people to develop sound skills, good judgement and responsibly introduce novices to adventurous activities. To the family and friends of those who lost loved ones in 2014, may they rest in peace.

I would like to recognise the contribution of Sligo Mountaineering Club and the Spartan Redsox Walking Club for their respective hosting of hugely well organised and enjoyable Spring and Autumn Gatherings. Club administrators, club committees, representatives to other organisations, coaches and many others contributed hugely during 2014 and this vital voluntary contribution must be recognised and celebrated.

Mountaineering Ireland's membership at the end of the 2014 club year (31/10/2014) numbered 11,554, with 174 clubs and 1,400 individual members.



Karl Boyle,
Chief Executive Officer



Mountaineering Ireland gratefully acknowledges the funding it receives from The Irish Sports Council and the Women in Sport programme, Sport Northern Ireland and the NIEA Challenge Fund.

CHAIRPERSON'S ADDRESS

It is not so long ago that even the best known mountains of Ireland were lonely places, where you were fortunate to bump into others. Times have changed, more recreational users and tourists are benefiting from the mountains of Ireland than ever before; the remotest of our landscapes are presented as the 'best place' for industrial structures such as pylons and wind turbines; rural tourism is seen as a key area for the state, north and south, to invest in and, it appears, European funding is available to a host of projects in the uplands. Some of this is simply change and, in terms of participation in our sport, a positive addition but other ill-considered proposals present a huge challenge to Ireland's mountains.

I believe we have been an effective and respected voice for our membership on the many challenges the mountains face. In 2014 these challenges manifested themselves by way of inappropriate path interventions, the fencing of previously unenclosed mountains, new vehicular tracks in the mountains, further applications for wind energy projects in unspoilt mountain landscapes and others. However, it would be remiss not to single out Cuilcagh and the Marble Arch Geopark for an intervention that we feel is an abomination, a suburbanisation of what was one of Ireland's remotest mountains and one which we feel will lead to ongoing safety problems. It is critical that those with responsibility for such landscapes understand their value and act in a manner which reflects this and are not simply driven by the opportunity to spend a grant.

The success of Mountaineering Ireland's lobbying and stakeholder engagement continued to be significant in 2014 with the now annual Oireachtas event taking politicians and their staff to the MacGillycuddy Reeks and real and beneficial working relationships across many bodies within the sporting, environmental, political and hill farming sectors.

One of the most satisfying outputs in 2014 was the publication of the first

Skills Series videos. These short videos provide an opportunity to reflect on skills we all have probably learnt some time ago or wish to learn now. From *Mountain Features* to *Taking and Using Bearings* and from *Putting on a Harness* to *Climbing Technique* there's something for everyone and more to come in 2015 with the second Skills Series already in planning.

Mountaineering Ireland's Board is conscious of the need to ensure best practices are executed in governance and financial procedures. In 2014, the Board engaged in comprehensive governance training, took ownership of the organisational risk register and renewed Mountaineering Ireland's internal financial policies and procedures. Also, significant work went into the drafting of an updated Safeguarding Policy, which will be proposed to the membership at the Annual General Meeting in March 2015. I would especially like to thank Mountaineering Ireland's Safeguarding Officer, Paul Kellagher for his leadership on this very important development.

Mountaineering Ireland has a hugely committed and enthusiastic staff team who contribute significantly more than their job descriptions require. On behalf of the Board and all members I want to thank them. In 2014, two members of staff, Una Feeney and Paul Swail departed; Una into a well-deserved retirement and Paul to further his instructional career and his journey to becoming a Mountain Guide. I wish them both the very best.

Finally, I wish all Mountaineering Ireland members an adventurous and healthy 2015.



Ross Millar,
Chairperson



“ Mountaineering Ireland has a hugely committed and enthusiastic staff team who contribute significantly more than their job descriptions require. On behalf of the Board and all members I want to thank them. ”



Mountaineering Ireland's work on access and conservation focuses on two strategic 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 (coastlines, 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 objectives.

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



ACCESS AND CONSERVATION

A VOICE FOR IRELAND'S MOUNTAINS

MOUNTAINEERING IRELAND'S AIM

Walkers and climbers are drawn to wild and beautiful landscapes as a counterbalance to everyday life, for contact with nature, and for a physical challenge. Ireland has a very limited stock of mountains and other wild lands. 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. Mountaineering Ireland's aim is to be a voice for the protection and sustainable use of Ireland's mountains, hills and all the places (coastline, crags, forests) we use.

Mountaineering Ireland's work in this area was recognised by the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM) which in December awarded its Irish Environment Award for 2014 to Mountaineering Ireland in recognition of our role in maintaining access to the mountain areas of Ireland and in the promotion of conservation and responsible use of the mountain environment.

LANDSCAPE MATTERS

The publication early in 2014 of a draft Landscape Charter for Northern Ireland was welcomed by

Mountaineering Ireland and we made a robust submission urging stronger mechanisms to recognise, protect and manage Northern Ireland's landscapes. Unfortunately completion of the Charter was paused due to resource constraints within the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA).

Landscape was also on the agenda in the south with Minister Deenihan publishing a draft Landscape Strategy in his last week in the Department of Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht. Although a final version has yet to emerge, the draft strategy was approved by Cabinet.

AGRI-ENVIRONMENT PROPOSALS

Ireland's upland areas are vital natural assets, which we have a duty to protect for future generations. Our dependence on upland areas is well illustrated by the fact that 82% of our water originates from mountain streams and rivers. With most of Ireland's uplands being privately-owned land, the most cost-effective way to look after these areas is by linking farm payments to environmental outputs. Mountaineering Ireland, along with other members of the National Uplands Working Group, made submissions to the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine in February and again in June seeking measures to support the sustainable

management of upland areas through the Rural Development Programme (2014-2020). A similar submission was made in Northern Ireland.

The impact of changing agricultural practices on upland landscapes was highlighted by members who expressed concern about newly created vehicle tracks and additional fencing. In July, following consultation with local clubs, Mountaineering Ireland objected to an application for retention of a new fence on the mountains to the west of the Gap of Dunloe. In a decision that appeared to contradict the Council's own policies, Kerry County Council granted permission for the fence. Mountaineering Ireland has appealed this decision to An Bord Pleanála.

The proliferation of hill fencing is in part attributed to Department of Agriculture requirements, however in October Minister Simon Coveney confirmed to Mountaineering Ireland that the fencing of previously unfenced mountain land is not required where land continues to be actively farmed in the traditional manner. This is also the case in Northern Ireland.

HELPING THE HILLS

Action continued under the Helping the Hills initiative which advocates a quality approach to the management of upland path erosion.

In January Mountaineering Ireland wrote to Fermanagh District Council expressing concern about proposals to construct a boardwalk, including steps and handrails up to the 600m summit plateau of Cuilcagh. Despite subsequent meetings with the Council and NIEA, and a written appeal to Minister Mark H. Durkan, construction commenced in August. This solution is not in keeping with current best practice in upland path management, it seems a disproportionate response to the modest levels of erosion on Cuilcagh and it will impose an obtrusive structure on one of Northern Ireland's wildest landscapes.

Slieve League also fell victim to the availability of capital funding for tourism projects. At the end of August Mountaineering Ireland called on Donegal County Council to halt remedial work on the cliff-top path due to



concerns about the poor quality of work and the techniques and materials being used. The work finally stopped after a critical report by Scottish path expert Bob Aitken was reported through the national media. The experience at Slieve League illustrates the need to build expertise on the island of Ireland in the specification, supervision and execution of upland path repair.

Based on discussions at the Helping the Hills seminar in November 2013 and subsequent feedback, a set of Guiding Principles for the Management of Path Erosion in Ireland's Upland Areas was completed in spring 2014. Discussions have commenced with a number of bodies with a role in the management and funding of upland path repair about the adoption of these principles.

As part of the Helping the Hills initiative Mountaineering Ireland contributed to the preparation of a tender document for an upland path audit in the MacGillycuddy Reeks, as well as a proposal for a mountain path study in the Galtees.

WINDFARMS AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

The year commenced with concerns about how GridLink, a proposed high voltage power line, would impinge on the experience of walkers and climbers on the mountain ranges of the south east. The Government has appointed an expert panel to report on the options for the GridLink project.

January also brought the welcome news that Wicklow County Council

had refused planning permission for a windfarm at Butter Mountain in north west Wicklow, which Mountaineering Ireland had objected to on the basis that it represented industrialisation of a scenic landscape. It's important to consider that windfarms are more than turbines; the associated infrastructure including wide access roads and transmission lines exacerbates their landscape impact.

Mountaineering Ireland does not oppose all renewable energy developments in upland areas, rather we argue that development should be located where it does not destroy the essential character of our upland and coastal landscapes. In February Mountaineering Ireland made a submission to an inquiry into Onshore Wind Energy by the Environment Committee of the Northern Ireland Assembly, challenging the apparent presumption towards the siting of windfarms in upland areas. Advances in turbine technology now allow efficient wind turbines to be sited in lower-lying areas such as cutaway bogs or within large industrial sites.

DUNGARVAN DECLARATION

Mountaineering Ireland contributed to the Irish Uplands Forum's *Who Cares for the Uplands* conference which took place in Dungarvan at the end of May. The event gave rise to the Dungarvan Declaration which calls on Government to support the sustainable management of Ireland's uplands by locally-based partnership groups.



ENCOURAGING RESPONSIBLE USE

Respect for the wonderful, but fragile environment we enjoy is one of Mountaineering Ireland's core values. In 2014 our work in this area expanded with some interesting new developments.

WALKING WITH WILDLIFE

Early in the summer, Mountaineering Ireland published *Walking With Wildlife*, a basic guide to the flora and fauna of Northern Ireland's uplands. Developed with funding through the NIEA Challenge Fund this colourful and durable leaflet proved so popular that in November we secured funding to do a second edition. Work also commenced on the development of a sister publication on the rocks, soils and landforms of Northern Ireland's uplands, again supported by the Challenge Fund.

Funding was secured under the Local Agenda 21 Partnership Fund to assist with producing two further *Walking With Wildlife* leaflets; one for the west of Ireland and one for the east. The grant aid for these projects will be supplemented by contributions from Mountaineering Ireland's Environmental Defence Fund so that we can make these available free of charge.

CLUB ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICERS

At this point Mountaineering Ireland has 125 clubs with designated Environmental Officers, who have access to email updates, advice and training workshops. We held a workshop in each province in 2014 with 50 participants in all. The workshops provided an introduction to the geology, habitats, plants, insects and birds found in our mountain areas. As this knowledge filters down within clubs

it should enrich members' experiences and heighten appreciation for the special places we visit. If your club hasn't connected with this network, please get in touch.

LEAVE NO TRACE

Leave No Trace awareness helps every person who uses the outdoors see how they can make a positive difference when they do their activities, by making choices such as walking on durable ground, picking up litter, respecting nesting birds and giving a friendly wave to a farmer.

Being a partner in Leave No Trace Ireland allows Mountaineering Ireland to promote responsible enjoyment of Ireland's outdoors in cooperation with many other organisations. In addition to making a financial contribution to the programme, we have embedded the Leave No Trace approach in our training schemes, events and publications. During 2014 Mountaineering Ireland volunteers played a key part in hosting a Leave No Trace network meeting on the theme of dogs in the outdoors, developing a new resource for Leave No Trace trainers and in delivering a third Advanced Trainers course. Mountaineering Ireland's Leave No Trace activity also included four awareness days for member clubs.

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 direct access to these areas from the public road, access should be achieved via routes leading from the public roads and car parks, through or around the enclosed fields out onto the open hillside.

Mountaineering Ireland pursues its access aim, primarily through our involvement in Comhairle na Tuaithe (the Countryside Council) and the new National Outdoor Recreation Forum in Northern Ireland. We urge Mountaineering Ireland members to contact us for advice and support when concerns arise regarding access. As well as helping members enjoy their activities, this 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.

MOUNTAIN ACCESS PROJECT

Access to the countryside was debated in an RTE Primetime programme in April 2014; Mountaineering Ireland was critical of RTE for the composition of the panel which did not include a representative body for recreational users. Helen Lawless, accompanied by a number of Mountaineering Ireland members, contributed from the audience making a balanced input that highlighted the lack of progress with Comhairle na Tuaithe's pilot Mountain Access Project. The Mountain Access proposition is based on securing the voluntary agreement of all landowners in a defined mountain area to allow access. In addition to the agreement of entry points and the provision of stiles and parking where needed, landowners will be indemnified for any claims that might arise from recreational use of their land. The project, first proposed in 2009, is being piloted in two areas, Binn Shléibhe near Clonbur and the MacGillycuddy Reeks in Co. Kerry.

In light of concerns about slow progress nationally, Comhairle na Tuaithe decided in June to establish a Mountain Access Steering Group which is working to a 12-month timeframe to test the feasibility of the Mountain Access Project, to support its implementation in the two pilot areas, to capture learning and to facilitate extension of

the project to other upland areas.

The Steering Group which includes representation from Mountaineering Ireland and the three main farmers' organisations is working with the staff in the Rural Recreation Section of the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government to secure the indemnity arrangement and to develop a toolkit to support extension of the project.

PROGRESS IN THE REEKS

Building on consultation during 2013, a draft report was presented in January 2014 on the establishment of a management structure to implement the MacGillycuddy Reeks Mountain Access Project. Following a lively meeting of Mountaineering Ireland members in Beaufort at the end of January Mountaineering Ireland made a detailed response to the draft proposals.

The forum, which brings together landowners, agencies and others with an interest in the mountains, was established to develop a plan for the sustainable management of the Reeks. Mountaineering Ireland nominated two members from local clubs to the forum. Since its first meeting in May the group has addressed a broad range of issues including control of dogs, signage and the impact of large events. The forum has commissioned an assessment of the path network on the Reeks (to be carried out in spring 2015) and in November the group was instrumental in the reinstatement of the vandalised cross on Carrauntoohil.

DEVELOPMENTS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

In spring 2014 a new Outdoor Recreation Action Plan for Northern Ireland was endorsed by three ministers of the Northern Ireland Executive. Arising from this, Mountaineering Ireland participated in the inaugural meeting of a new National Outdoor Recreation Forum (NORF) in Cookstown in November. Although the role of this group is still being scoped out, it is envisaged that NORF will become a vehicle for non-governmental interests in outdoor recreation to push for

implementation of the action plan and to lobby on issues such as access to the countryside.

In cooperation with local members, during 2014 Mountaineering Ireland also contributed to the development of outdoor recreation action plans for the Mourne and the Causeway Coast and Glens areas. Although the current funding situation in Northern Ireland isn't positive, these plans should help ensure the new councils use their resources effectively.

REPRESENTATION ON OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Mountaineering Ireland's work towards its access and conservation objectives is supported by almost 20 voluntary representatives on other organisations. Mountaineering Ireland's network of representatives expanded again in 2014 with members appointed to the new MacGillycuddy Reeks Mountain Access Forum and an alliance formed to tackle off-road vehicle activity in the Cooley Mountains. 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.

FINALLY

Visit the news page or the Access & Environment section of www.mountaineering.ie to download submissions referred to in this report. Mountaineering Ireland thanks all those who are sharing enthusiasm for, and working to protect, Ireland's upland areas.





YOUTH

Underpinning Mountaineering Ireland's youth programme are the core objectives:

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

Mountaineering Ireland co-ordinated a wide programme during 2014, including the Youth Climbing Series, Aspirant Mountaineers, Youth Trad camps, support for Scouting Ireland's hill skills programme and the recruitment of youths for the 2015 Youth Alpine Initiative. Mountaineering Ireland encourages all clubs to provide youth opportunities and is willing to support those clubs who do so.

SAFEGUARDING

During the course of 2014 a review of Mountaineering Ireland's existing Childrens' Policy took place. The review included new legislative positions in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, best practices in safeguarding and appropriate reporting procedures. The review group, led by Paul Kellagher, Mountaineering Ireland's Safeguarding Officer drafted a Safeguarding Policy that, following Board consideration and membership feedback, will be proposed for adoption at the 2015 Mountaineering Ireland AGM.

One Mountaineering Ireland Safeguarding workshop took place in 2014 with 18 participants.

YOUTH CAMPS

A number of successful climbing camps for young club members were coordinated by Mountaineering Ireland in 2014. In April a group of youths departed for the Spanish sport climbing venue of Siurana, in the heart of Catalunya. The Burren and the Mourne Mountains were the venues for two summer camps that saw youths from all over Ireland get the opportunity to be mentored by experienced instructors and allow them to progress their skills in a well supervised environment.

HOTROCK SCHOOLS PROJECT

Mountaineering Ireland coordinated a schools' project at the Hotrock Wall at Tollymore National Outdoor Centre linking schools from the Mourne area. In total there were 81 sessions with more than 438 participants. The project was supported by an excellent team of coaches and hugely enthusiastic school principals and teachers. The project has also benefited from partnering with the Mourne Rambler bus service that provides exceptional service bringing many of the children to and from the wall.

YOUTH CLIMBING SERIES

The Youth Climbing Series has become an integral part of the climbing calendar for young climbers. The Youth Climbing Series continues to provide young climbers with their first experience of competitive climbing.

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The number of competitors and the standard of climbing continue to grow year on year. The Youth Climbing Series comprises of six competitions. There are four preliminary competitions, two in the North Area and two in the South Area. Following this the All-Ireland Final takes place in Dublin. The top three climbers in each of the ten competition categories then go forward to the Grand Final which is held in Ratho, Scotland. Upwards of 400 young climbers compete at the Grand Final making it one of the largest climbing competitions in the world.

The 2014 Grand final was held at the EICA climbing wall in Ratho, Scotland. A full team of 29 climbers travelled to represent Mountaineering Ireland at the event. Throughout the team there were many strong performances.

SUPPORTING SCOUTING IRELAND'S HILLWALKING PROGRAMMES

Mountaineering Ireland continued to support the ever growing Scouting Ireland hillwalking programme. Throughout 2014 Mountaineering Ireland's Training Officer and volunteers made contributions to the programme and were always available for consultation. The Mountain Pursuit Challenge was held over the weekend of the Autumn Gathering in the Mourne Mountains and with challenging weather conditions the Scouts showed their skills and composure. Their Challenge finished with an opportunity to participate in a fun climbing event at the Hotrock Climbing Wall.

Scouts can participate in a 9 stage hillwalking programme: stages 1 – 7 takes Scouts through the Mountain Skills programme and subsequently they can go forward for Mountain Skills Assessment.

GIRLS OUTSIDE CORK

As part of Mountaineering Ireland's Women in Sport funding, Mountaineering Ireland invested in a project aimed to attract teenage girls to our sport. For 2014, Mountaineering Ireland partnered with Cork Sports Partnership and Awesome Walls Cork to deliver an exciting programme that attracted more than 450 participants.



The key aim of the programme is to introduce young female participants to climbing and provide an enjoyable and learning environment. The project's sustainability is supported by a complementary programme now offered by Awesome Walls Cork and the roll out of the NICAS award and a pathway into the Cork Youth Climbing Club.

Mountaineering Ireland would like to thank the significant contribution of Cork Sports Partnership for communicating the project's aims and in the recruitment of participants and the Irish Sports Council's Women in Sport investment.

YOUTH ALPINE INITIATIVE

In late 2014 Mountaineering Ireland conducted a recruitment process to recruit young people (16 – 19 year olds) into a Youth Alpine Initiative. This initiative will see participants develop their skills across two pathways. 18 participants in the hillwalking pathway and 8 in the rock climbing pathway have been selected. Mountaineering Ireland was significantly over-subscribed for volunteers to support this initiative and we hope that those that do not get the opportunity in 2015 will volunteer for other initiatives in the near future.





TALENT DEVELOPMENT

Mountaineering Ireland's Talent Development programme focuses on the strategic objective:

- To provide a talent development pathway to high-performance.

In order to embed this objective the focus includes developing:

- a sustainable competition structure;
- a talent system to identify and support talented young climbers; and
- the personnel (coaches, participants, volunteers, etc.) and facilities to allow it all to thrive.

The Mountaineering Ireland Talent Development System is continuing to help young climbers achieve their potential. As the system evolves and grows it will continue to reach a wider group of young climbers and provide greater supports to them. 2014 has been a year of strong growth and development for Mountaineering Ireland's Talent Development System with progress taking place in all areas.

TALENT COACHING

Terry O'Connor was appointed to the voluntary position of Mountaineering Ireland Climbing Team Coach in April. Terry's appointment allowed Mountaineering Ireland to build on the effort put in by Eddie Cooper over the past number of years. Terry

is responsible for the managing and coaching of the climbers who represent Mountaineering Ireland at international climbing competitions.

Complementing the work of Terry O'Connor are the Talent Development Coaches: Rob Hunter; Jake Haddock; Michelle O'Loughlin; Niamh Burke; James Hale and Lloyd O'Mahony. These coaches will form a nucleus of qualified and experienced climbing coaches to work with the climbers of the Talent Development Squad. This group will be offered on-going training and development opportunities to continually keep them advancing their coaching skills.

INJURY PREVENTION GROUP

The emergence of the Injury Prevention Group has been an excellent step forward in supporting the Talent Coaches, the Climbing Team and the Talent Development Squad climbers. The Injury Prevention Group is made up of a physical therapist, physiotherapist and paediatric physiotherapist, Karen Doyle, Veronica Hunter-Lee and Tricia Conway respectively. The Injury Prevention Group is developing climbing-specific functional movement screening protocols, climbing-specific exercises and exercises to develop climbing-antagonistic muscles. It will play a key role in the long term health and success of the climbers involved in the Talent Development System.

“ 2014 has been a year of strong growth and development for Mountaineering Ireland's Talent Development System with progress taking place in all areas. ”

CLIMBING WALLS

Climbing walls provide the facilities for the Talent Development System to operate. There has been significant growth in the availability of climbing walls over the past year with three commercial walls opening for business: Boulder World Belfast; Awesome Walls Cork and The Wall Dublin. To support the climbing wall industry Mountaineering Ireland hosted a Climbing Wall Managers Seminar to help highlight industry best practice and to draw attention to trends in the climbing wall industry. Route-setting is a highly skilled job which is essential to attracting and retaining climbers at climbing walls. Route-setting is also essential for the various climbing competitions that Mountaineering Ireland now organises. To support the development of high quality route-setting, a workshop was delivered by Rob Napier and targeted some of the more active route setter currently operating in Ireland.

TALENT DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

The Talent Development Squad has now become an integral element of the Talent Development System. The Talent Development Squad brings together young climbers who are identified to have the potential to climb to a high standard. The Talent Development Squad works with climbers from about eight to eighteen years of age. Informed by current international best practice

the members of the Talent Development Squad are coached using developmental age-appropriate exercises under the supervision of the Talent Development Coaches.

The members of the Talent Development Squad are brought together for targeted training sessions across the year. At these sessions the climbers are coached on climbing technique, tactics and physical preparation. Climbers are also advised on nutrition, hydration and lifestyle choices which will help them perform to their potential. Members of the Talent Development Squad are also invited to attend the bi-annual Talent Development Camp that takes place in the world class bouldering venue of Fontainebleau, France. Fontainebleau is an excellent venue for the training camp as the climbs found there are extremely technical, requiring excellent footwork and movement skills.

NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

The Junior Irish Bouldering Championships took place as a stand-alone competition for the first time in 2014. Taking place at the Gravity Climbing Centre, the competition attracted the top young boulders from all over the island of Ireland as well as some strong competitors from the UK. The competition followed the format of the IFSC European Youth Cup. The level of climbing at the Junior Irish Bouldering Championships underlines the amount of talent and dedication

amongst the ranks of young climbers. Aside from their physical and technical capabilities these young climbers display considerable tactical awareness, often far beyond their years.

The Senior Irish Bouldering Championship took place at Boulder World Belfast in March. The competition attracted a wider cohort of climbers, ranging from the some of the top youth climbers to the seasoned old-dogs. Again it was the younger climbers who took the top places. Dom Burns was in especially strong form on the day making the impossible look all too ordinary.

With strong competitor numbers in most of the competition categories and a large number of strong climbers travelling from the UK, the Junior Irish Lead Climbing Championship at Awesome Walls Dublin was a fabulous competition. The standard of climbing at the competition was enough to make most adult climbers quiver in their boots. From the youngest climbers, just over eleven years of age up to the 'oldest' climbers (about nineteen) the competitors demonstrated a level of skill and cool-headedness far beyond their years.

The Senior Irish Lead Climbing Championship followed the recent trend of high-level climbing competitions during 2014 including in Ireland in that it was the younger competitors who set the pace. Adding to his list of titles Dom Burns took the Senior Male title. Lucy Mitchell was in very strong form and was a clear winner in the Senior Female Category.

INTERNATIONAL CLIMBING COMPETITIONS

Mountaineering Ireland had a team of climbers taking part in international climbing competitions including: the IFSC Bouldering World Championships; IFSC European Youth Cup; IFSC Boulder World Cup and the UIAA Ice-Climbing World Tour. A real highlight of the 2014 season was Dom Burns securing 4th place in Male Youth A at the European Youth Cup.

Eimir McSwiggan also took a step forward reaching the semi-finals and finishing 13th overall at the UIAA Ice-climbing World Cup in Cheongsong, South Korea.





MOUNTAIN TRAINING AND SAFE PRACTICE

Mountaineering Ireland's strategic objective on training and skills development is:

- To maintain high standards in mountain training and support skills development.

SKILLS SERIES

Spring 2014 saw work on a series of skills videos, covering off key topics for both walkers and climbers. The aim was to provide a central resource for practical and visual information which could be accessed via the internet either by phone or computer. The skills video series includes information on some fundamental aspects of climbing and hillwalking, acting both as club and individual training resources and also as refreshers for those who have already acquired skills.

There are eleven videos in total, five covering walking topics such as 'Taking and Using Bearings' and 'Map Setting' and five covering climbing topics such as 'Tying In' and 'How to Belay' and finally an awareness raising information video on the Mountain Environment. These videos have proved extremely popular with over 4,000 views online and many copies shared with others, including members, clubs, training providers and outdoor education centres.

TRAINING FOR CLUBS

Building a strong training ethos within our member clubs is a priority under Mountaineering Ireland's training objective. We believe that fostering a strong training basis within clubs will pay dividends in the future. Club Training Officers' sessions were delivered at the Spring Gathering and the Autumn Gathering.

A series of very popular one and two day training sessions were delivered in May and July covering areas such



as 'Preparation for the Alps', 'Using a GPS', 'Scrambling' and 'Teaching Navigation'. The evening training lecture format has proved accessible for club members, covering topics such as; mountain navigation, leadership, personal responsibility, club ethos, Mountaineering Ireland training resources and advice on creating and managing in-club training programmes.

ENCOURAGING PARTICIPATION OF ALL AGE GROUPS

A number of initiatives have been developed, that support and promote participation of all age groups. The Aspirant Mountaineers programme comprised a series of skills training weekends aimed at 18-25 year mountaineers and climbers. The courses were based in Ireland and abroad, piggybacking the Mountaineering Ireland annual Scottish Winter and Alpine Summer meets. Bringing together less experienced students and more experienced club members provides opportunities to broaden the age profile of club members and enhance the experience of our newer members.

“ Building a strong training ethos within our member clubs is a priority under Mountaineering Ireland's training objective. We believe that fostering a strong training basis within clubs will pay dividends in the future. Club Training Officers' sessions were delivered at the Spring Gathering and the Autumn Gathering. ”

NEW AWARDS

Following on from the launch of the Climbing Wall Award and Lowland Leader Award in 2013, 2014 saw the launch of the Climbing Wall Leading Award, with the first training course running in March. This Award trains and assesses candidates in the skills required to teach lead climbing on indoor or outdoor artificial climbing walls and structures. The Climbing Wall Leading Award builds on the supervisory skills learnt in the Climbing Wall Award and Single Pitch Award and candidates must have one of these awards before registering for the Climbing Wall Leading Award.

The first coaching award was also added to the Training prospectus in 2014. The Level 1 Climbing Coach Award is primarily geared towards those working as coaches in climbing walls, club volunteers and parents of young climbers. The award focuses on “what to coach” and “how to coach”. Following the successful pilot of the award in August 2014, the syllabus, handbook and course materials were finalised and the first two training courses scheduled for February 2015. This award was developed by Mountaineering Ireland in partnership with Coaching Ireland and will sit on the Coach Development Programme for Ireland (CDPI) Level 1 Coach Awards. 2015 will see the development and launch of the Level 2 Climbing Coach Award, which will progress the skills of the coach in further developing their climbers.

TRAINING COURSE PROVIDERS

2014 has seen provider numbers grow to accommodate the addition of new awards schemes. Quality assurance of training and assessment standards is another key task of the Training Officer, with all providers receiving a moderation visit and report. The moderation process provides firm evidence of the high standard of training delivered by Mountaineering Ireland providers. A number of provider workshops are delivered annually and cover a range of topics such as; providing a forum for new ideas and modifications, aligning and updating new procedures, syllabus changes and information from the other training boards. The five Mountain

Training boards meet monthly allowing the Training Officers to discuss ideas, share learning and review mountain training across the UK and Ireland.

ALL IRELAND TRAINING BOARD

The process to create a new all-Ireland Mountain Training Board under the leadership of Mountaineering Ireland continues. The appointed working group, tasked with producing proposals for an All-Ireland Mountain Training Board, will present their proposals in March 2015 for review by the two training boards, Mountain Training Northern Ireland (MTNI) and Mountaineering Ireland’s training subcommittee, Bord Oiliúint Sléibhe (BOS).

LINKS WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Quality and Qualifications Ireland, the new integrated agency replacing the Further Education and Training Awards Council, has seen Mountain Skills (Level 5), Rock Climbing Skills (Level 4), Single Pitch Rock Climbing started in 2014 (Level 5) and Single Pitch Rock Climbing Assessment (Level 6), included as modules for programmes starting in 2014. Candidates and instructors of these updated modules are benefiting from the improvements to the syllabus, guidance notes and assessment format.

As of February 2014, four of our major leadership awards, (Mountain Leader Award, Single Pitch Award, Lowland Leader Award, Multi-Pitch Award), sit on the Adventure Sports Framework.



Providers of these awards completed the Coaching Ireland Tutor course as part of this process, with a second wave of instructors due to complete and graduate as tutors in 2015.

| Registrations for training 2014 | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Award | Award Registrations | Number of Providers |
| Mountain Leader Award | 116 | 11 |
| Hill and Moorland Award (WGL) | 0 | 4 |
| Lowland Leader Award | 15 | 7 |
| Single Pitch Award | 110 | 12 |
| Multi Pitch Award | 7 | 4 |
| Climbing Wall Award | 39 | 4 |
| Climbing Wall Leading Award | 18 | 2 |
| Climbing Coach Level 1 | 7 | 1 |
| Mountain Skills Total participation | | |
| Mountain Skills 1 | 611 | 74 |
| Mountain Skills 2 | 377 | 74 |
| Mountain Skills Assessment | 269 | 20 |



COMMUNICATIONS AND SERVICES

MOUNTAINEERING.IE AND ONLINE MEMBERSHIP

Mountaineering.ie had 521,987 page views by 73,680 users in 2014. The website continues to be a valuable resource for both individual and club members. As well as supporting online membership management for clubs, the website provides news and resources to ensure our members are informed and up to date with Mountaineering Ireland's activities and endeavours.

Further developments to the Membership Management System were completed in 2014 based on feedback provided by club administrators. New video tutorials were compiled that provide a step by step visual demonstration of the online system. Such support has further increased engagement with the system and continues to be accessible through the website and YouTube. Positive feedback from our members and fast renewal turnarounds indicate the continued success of the new system. Mountaineering Ireland has ensured that the most appropriate security features have been used to maintain data integrity.

Feedback and suggestions are always welcomed in order to provide a more efficient service to our members. Mountaineering Ireland would like to thank all our members for their continued support and commitment to the development of the online system.

IRISH MOUNTAIN LOG

The Irish Mountain Log's reach grew again in 2014, with the final issue reaching more than 12,000 readers. The editorial team, ably led by Patrick O'Sullivan despite his busy day job as a Public Health Doctor, continues to hit these high standards and Mountaineering Ireland sincerely thanks Patrick and the team (Peter O'Neill, Colín MacLochlainn and Rozanne Bell). Equally, congratulations to all those who had articles published during 2014.

MEMBER GATHERINGS AND MEETS

Mountaineering Ireland's spring, autumn, winter and summer gatherings and meets are important opportunities for our community to gather together and share experiences, knowledge and, most importantly, their passion for the mountains. Personal skills development is an integral part of the winter and summer meets in particular, offering a chance for individuals to progress their personal skills and build their confidence in more challenging terrain.

Sligo Mountaineering Club hosted a wonderful Spring Gathering in March and provided a fitting opportunity for the club to celebrate its 40th anniversary. In tandem with the Spring Gathering, Mountaineering Ireland held its Annual General Meeting and Members' Forum. The following

“ Feedback and suggestions are always welcomed in order to provide a more efficient service to our members. Mountaineering Ireland would like to thank all our members for their continued support and commitment to the development of the online system. ”

proposals and motions were approved by the membership (clubs and individual members): the election of the Board of Mountaineering Ireland; the 2013 financial accounts and auditor for 2014; the election of clubs to full membership and election of representatives to other organisations; and a motion, proposed by Sligo MC 'that new club members can join Mountaineering Ireland from 01 September for the following club year (a maximum of 14 months) in order to address concerns of Sligo MC and others'.

The members' forum provided an opportunity for members to air concerns and issues. The emergence of more and more energy developments was of greatest concern, with Eirgrid, MAREX, wind park developments and fracking also discussed.

The 2014 Mountaineering Ireland Autumn Gathering was hosted by the Spartan Red Sox at Tollymore National Outdoor Centre in the Mourne Mountains in October. Amidst a hugely enjoyable and busy schedule, Mountaineering Ireland also hosted Scouting Ireland's Mountain Pursuit Challenge, which included navigation and two nights camping in the Mournes, followed by a fun climbing comp at the Hotrock Climbing Wall.

The Members' Forum took place on Sunday morning and items discussed included: Helping the Hills, in particular Slieve League, concerns regarding inappropriate developments at Cuilcagh and a call for members to contribute to the Upland Path Survey; access in the Antrim Hills; progress towards an indemnity scheme for landowners as part of the Comhairle na Tuaithe (Countryside Council) Mountain Access project; fencing in the uplands and concerns expressed regarding Department of Agriculture officials misdirecting landowners that fencing is a requirement when the Minister for Agriculture has clearly stated it is not.

SUMMER AND WINTER MEETS

Mountaineering Ireland's 2014 Scottish Winter Meet, based in Onich, benefited from good conditions. The Meet included courses in Winter Walking Skills, Winter Mountaineering Skills and Winter Climbing Skills. While some Meet participants climb and walk independently, the growing number of people completing instructional courses

is encouraging. The Meets also provide the opportunity of progressing skills from year to year.

In July the Summer Alpine Meet returned to Ailefroide, in the Ecrins, French Alps. Over the two weeks of the Meet, 20 people completed the Introduction to Alpine Mountaineering course with others enjoying the Intermediate Mountaineering and Advanced Mountaineering courses. We also offered a wide range of half-day Alpine skills courses. Many others were there to be part of the Irish mountaineering community while also doing their own thing.

WOMEN WITH ALTITUDE

The fourth annual Women With Altitude event was held in Connemara in May 2014, with 'Challenge Yourself' as the theme. The event encourages women hillwalkers and climbers to share ideas, learn new skills, enjoy themselves and benefit from mutual support.

Encouraging and inspiring women to fulfil their potential in hillwalking and

climbing is central to the objectives of the Women with Altitude initiative. It is hoped this will raise the profile of women in mountaineering, increase the participation of women in leadership roles in our sport, and see more women become involved as volunteers within Mountaineering Ireland.

In 2015 Women with Altitude moves to Kerry, see www.womenwithaltitude.ie.





ARCHIVES AND MEMBERS' LIBRARY

Mountaineering Ireland secured funding from both the Heritage Council and the Irish Sports Council to progress the archiving of Joss Lynam's collection in 2013. In spring 2014 Trinity College Dublin Archives completed the archiving of the mountaineering section of the collection. For more details see Trinity Archives blog, <https://manuscriptsattrinity.wordpress.com/2014/06/26/climb-every-mountain>

The Mountaineering Ireland library consists of over 3,000 books in total and includes both the Joss Lynam and includes the Irish Mountaineering Club collections. Members can view the online catalogue through the Mountaineering Ireland website and email their requests to the office, where they can either collect the books or have them posted to them.

GUIDEBOOKS

The Fair Head Rock Climbing book produced by Ricky Bell and Craig Hiller was published in May 2014. The book describes over 400 routes. Detailed colour maps, route explanations and photographs makes this an essential source of information for climbing at Fair Head. The book is now available for purchase through our online shop on www.mountaineering.ie.

GET IRELAND WALKING

Get Ireland Walking is an initiative of the Irish Sports Council supported by Healthy Ireland (Department of Health) and Mountaineering Ireland. Other partners include Irish Heart Foundation, HSE Health Promotion, Age and Opportunity, Gaelic Athletic Association, Ireland Active, Arthritis Ireland, and others. Mountaineering Ireland employs a Project Manager to drive the initiative, which seeks to maximise the number of people participating in walking for health, wellbeing and fitness throughout Ireland and, in particular, get people active in their own communities.

2014 saw the database of community walking groups grow significantly with more than 200 registered by the end of

2014. Continued support to these groups, a public liability insurance for community walking leaders and a range of fact sheets have been developed in 2014 to encourage greater participation. One of the most successful campaigns in 2014 was the *21 Day Challenge*, which aims to form positive habits through establishing a routine of physical activity.

2015 will see the roll-out of a community activation programme in 12 counties through the Local Sports Partnership network. The programme will link facilitators with communities that want to develop sustainable walking groups in their area. Get Ireland Walking has also linked with Operation Transformation and the Irish Pharmaceutical Union in order to maximise its reach and grow awareness around the benefits of walking and how to get started.

INSURANCE

Cover under Mountaineering Ireland's insurance policy cover did not change during 2014. Detailed certificates are provided to all clubs on renewal. The policy includes €13 million in civil liability cover and limited personal accident cover. A breakdown of insurance cover is available on the insurance pages of the Members and Clubs section of mountaineering.ie. Mountaineering Ireland's insurance broker is O'Driscoll O'Neil Ltd and the underwriter is Lloyds Sportscover Syndicate 3334. The premium for 2015 remains the same as in 2014.

THANK YOU

Mountaineering Ireland wishes to thank all members and all affiliated clubs for their continued support. The work of volunteers throughout Mountaineering Ireland's clubs is a true barometer of the passion members have for hillwalking and climbing and the mountain environment. The information and support provided by members multiplies the impact of Mountaineering Ireland's staff and only through this combined effort can we be fully effective in addressing your local issues.

EXTERNAL REPRESENTATION

Mountaineering Ireland is represented on the following organisations:

Coillte Social and Environmental Panels
Comhairle Na Tuaithe
Dublin Mountains Initiative
FSC Ireland
Galtee Steering Group
Irish Adventure Sports Training Trust
Irish Uplands Forum
Land Matters Task Force (NI)
Leave No Trace Ireland
Mountain Training NI
Mountain Training UK
Mountain Rescue Ireland
National Outdoor Recreation Forum (NI)
National Trails Advisory Committee
National Uplands Working Group
Northern Ireland Environment Link
STOP Mountain Scramblers (Cooley Mountains)
Wicklow Mountains National Park Council
Wicklow Uplands Council

AFFILIATIONS

Mountaineering Ireland is affiliated to the following organisations:

European Ramblers Association
Federation of Irish Sports
International Federation of Sports Climbing
Irish Uplands Forum
Leave No Trace Ireland
Northern Ireland Environmental Link
Northern Ireland Sports Forum
Union Internationale des Associations d'Alpinisme (UIAA)
Wicklow Uplands Council
Working relationships

WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

In addition to the above, during 2014 we worked with the following organisations:

Awesome Walls
Birdwatch Ireland
Boulder World Belfast
British Mountaineering Council
Coaching Ireland
Coillte
Dublin Mountains Partnership
Duke of Edinburgh's Award
European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism
Fáilte Ireland
Fix the Fells
Gaisce – The President's Award
Ganaway Activity Centre
Gartan Outdoor Education Centre
Geological Survey of Northern Ireland
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
Mardyke Arena Cork
Mountaineering Council of Scotland
Mountain Meitheal
Mountain Rescue Ireland
Mountain Research Ireland
Mourne Heritage Trust
MountainViews
Murrisk Development Association
National Parks & Wildlife Service
National Trails Office
Northern Ireland Environment Agency
Ordnance Survey Ireland
Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland
Quality and Qualifications Ireland
Rural Recreation Section, Department of Environment, Community & Local Government
Scouting Ireland
Sport Northern Ireland
Teagasc
Tollymore National Outdoor Centre
Trinity College Dublin Archives
Ulster Farmers Union
University of Ulster
Wicklow County Council

LIST OF CLUBS AFFILIATED TO MOUNTAINEERING IRELAND

(As of December 2014)

4 A's Walking Club
ACARA Trekking Club
American Womens Club Hillwalkers
Aonach ar Siul (Nenagh Hillwalkers)
Arklow and Wicklow Hillwalkers
Athlone Walking Club
Awesome Walls Staff Club
AWOL Hillwalking 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
Bushcraft 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
Colmcille Climbers Club
Comeragh Mountaineering Club
Coolaney Walkers Club
Cork Backpackers Club
Cork Climbing Co-Op
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
DCU Rockclimbing 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
Dunsany Walking 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 Climbing Co-Operative
Galway Walking Club
Garda Mountaineering Club
Glenwalk
GMIT Mountaineering Club
Grangecon Ramblers Hill Walking Club
Grey Lake Ramblers
GWATS – Gearagh Walkers and Talkers
Hanging Rockers Climbing Club
Hibernia Bushcraft (Assoc. Org.)
Hillwalkers Club

Hotrock Climbing Club
Imaal Walkers
Institution Mountaineering Club
Irish Christian Hillwalking Club
Irish Geological Association
Irish Mountaineering Club
Irish Ramblers Club
Kenmare Walking Club
Kilcoran Trekking 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
Muintir na Sléibhte
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
Rathgormack Climbing Club
Rathgormack Ramblers
Riverstick Ramblers
Roscrea Ramblers
Rosway Walkers
Savage Craic Climbing Club
Shanganagh Ramblers
Siul Walking Club
Siúltóirí 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 GoyaGang
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
University College Cork Mountaineering Club
University of Ulster Jordanstown Mountaineering Club
Upper Limits
Walkers with Altitude
Waterford IT Mountaineering Club
Wayfarers Association
West Clare Walking Club
West Wicklow Walkers
Westport Hillwalkers
Wexford Hillwalking and Mountaineering Club
Winders Climbing Club
Woolgreen Walking Club
(E&OE)



Publication

John Marks
CarbonNeutral.com

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