

MOURNE RAMBLERS NEWSLETTER

November 2018

A message from the Editor

Welcome to the latest edition of the Mourne Rambling Group newsletter. In this issue I hope you will find articles and items of interest to you including:

- NEW MEMBER UPDATE
- THANK YOU
- WICKLOW TRIP AUGUST 2018
- IRISH RAMBLERS' VISIT TO MOURNES
- AGM 2018 SECRETARY'S REPORT
- AGM 2018 TREASURER'S INCOME & EXPENDITURE REPORT
- AGM 2018 DRAFT MINUTES
- COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2019 – ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES
- 50th ANNIVERSARY- UPDATE
- NOTICEBOARD
- LIST OF PAID-UP MEMBERS 2019
- MEMBERSHIP 2019 RENEWAL FORM

Vincent Trainor, Editor

New members since the last newsletter (July 2018)
(up-to-date as at 29 November 2018)

Patricia Chapa, Denis Drinkell (Welcome Back, Denis),
Margaret Martin

We are delighted to welcome these 3 new members since July 2018.

THANK YOU

Since the last newsletter, there have been a few events organised by members for the group. We would like to offer our thanks on behalf of everyone for the following:

- **Wicklow (August).** This trip to Wicklow was organised by Vincent Trainor for a B / C group. A special thanks to Vincent for doing the organising. Leading was undertaken by members of the Irish Ramblers who looked after our group like children. Thanks also to Ray Gray for the report on the trip (article below).

Mourne Rambling Group **Co. Wicklow trip - 10 to 13 August 2018**

The 16 walkers who attended this trip enjoyed four days of walking in the Wicklow Mountains. We were hosted by the Irish Ramblers with whom we are beginning to form a strong connection. The Irish Ramblers are based in Dublin and most of their walking takes place in Co. Wicklow. They have over 600 members, although only one third of these are considered active.

The Irish Ramblers looked after us admirably and before I go any further I wish to record our sincere thanks on behalf of the 16 walkers. We will be returning the compliment when we host their visit this coming October.

The 16 walkers were: - Vincent Trainor, Ray Gray, Robert Marshall, Peter McGowan, Alice McParland, Dermot MacDermott, Elaine MacFarlane, Noel Rice, Jana Hnojeikova, Olwen Herbison, Philip Appleton, Carmel Quinn, Victor Knox, Janet Muller, Norman Patton and Kingsley Thompson.

On the first and last days we all walked together but we split into C and B walkers for the middle two days. It would be too messy to state how the split of B and C walkers came about on the middle two days as not everyone walked with the same group on each day. Also not everyone walked the whole four days. Suffice to say that the split was fairly even.

This is how the four days were spent: -

Day 1

Lugnaquilla

This was meant to be a "curtain raiser" for the break and turned out to be quite a strenuous full day! Eleven of us and a dozen, or so Irish Ramblers did the walk which was just short of 15km with over 900m of ascent. We were out on the hill for five and a half hours. There was very little time for breaks but we did enjoy lunch on the summit of Lugnaquilla. As everyone is aware Lugnaquilla is one of the highest mountains in Ireland at 925m asl. It is certainly the highest mountain in Co Wicklow. Whilst it is not especially a hard climb it is uphill all the way straight from the car park and downhill all the way back! There is some respite after the summit where there is a sort of plateau for a couple of kilometres.

However, this was a most enjoyable day, lead by Frank Bradley, Irish Ramblers' Lugnaquilla expert.

Day 2

Trooperstown Hill, incl part of the Wicklow Way

This was a day we could have done without! Seven C walkers attended this walk and all received a good soaking for their trouble! At 16km and 700m of ascent this would have been a cracking walk but unfortunately, due to the incessant rain and mist that came with it we did not see a thing! We were informed that there is a splendid view from the summit of Trooperstown Hill but in the circumstances we had to use our imagination! Everyone was soaked to the skin! Even the ones with the super-duper GTXYZ waterproofs!

Day 3

Camaderry SE Top and The Spink

By contrast to the previous day the weather, with the exception of a light shower at the end was kind to us. Eight of us joined the C Group for this walk and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day. We started at the same place as the day before (The Visitors' Centre, Glendasan) and the first kilometre was a delightful interlude along a river bank. This was part of St Kevin's Way. The route then took us through a forest and ultimately out onto the open hill along a ridge for over two kilometres to Camaderry SE Top. Here we had lunch before descending over open country to the Glenealo River. It is worth mentioning at this point that we were amazed by the number of wild deer roaming about. Even more surprising was how close it was possible to be to these animals. One reason for this is that there are an estimated 100,000 deer in the Wicklow Hills. Far too many, apparently, for the space available. Sadly, the only answer is a cull.

After crossing the river we joined a boardwalk for around 5km. This boardwalk has been built to protect the delicate vegetation underfoot. The boardwalk took us above the Vale of Glendasan and we experienced some spectacular views. We walked across an area called The Spink with Derrybawn Mountain on our right. The track ultimately returned us alongside the Lower Lake to our starting point at The Visitors Centre, Glendasan. Has been built to protect the delicate vegetation underfoot

The walk was over 15km with around 850m of ascent. We were out on the hill for six hours.

Day 4

Vale of Glendasan and The Spink

This was the day we returned home and was another joint effort with C and B group members walking together. We were out only three and a half hours to give everyone a chance to get home in reasonable time.

The route was quite similar to the previous day except on this occasion we set off from the Information Centre at the Upper Lake and walked up the Vale of Glendasan alongside the lough itself. At the head of the valley there was quite a steep climb to the river crossing and from there we joined the boardwalk once again, over The Spink and ultimately back to base at the information centre at the Upper Lake.

This walk was 10km with ascent of 570m. A good walk in just over three and a half hours.

In conclusion, this was a very enjoyable break with the Irish Ramblers and we hope there are many more of them in the future!

Ray Gray

Irish Ramblers' Visit to Mournes

(A group from the Dublin-based Irish Ramblers made a return visit to the Mournes during the last weekend in October. They joined the Mourne Ramblers for the weekend. The report below is written for their newsletter by one of their members, Seamus Moriarty. Seamus is happy for us to reproduce his article below).

Irish Ramblers visit Mournes

Continuing our outreach policy, initiated last year by Mary Conlon, a dozen hardy souls from the Ramblers headed north for the second time over the October Bank Holiday and another very successful meet-up with our friends from the Mourne Ramblers. Last August the Ramblers welcomed a group from the Mournes to Wicklow where they were based in Laragh. Volunteer Rambler leaders guided the joint group on a variety of walks that everyone enjoyed, albeit one of the walks was on one of the few days of torrential rain in what was the finest summer for many a year. It was fine in Dublin on that day but just down the road, Wicklow's own micro-climate ensured that everyone returned to base like the proverbial wet rat. But not a complaint was to be heard from anyone. As with last year's venture north, our group once again forsook the tourist hot spot of Newcastle and Slieve Donard and instead based ourselves in the fishing port of Kilkeel further south and its welcoming, and more than adequate, Kilmorey Arms Hotel. Much of the organising was done by Mary Conlon from our side and Vincent Trainor, a native of Kilkeel, co-ordinated for the Mourne Ramblers.

As with so many recent Rambler short breaks on home soil, we were blessed with excellent walking weather and, maybe more importantly in the spectacular Mournes, equally good visibility. Cold and sunny, it was perfect for trekking and the dry underfoot conditions, with hardly a hint of squelching bog, a pleasant contrast to what we often experience in Wicklow. Walks varied from 11 to 15.5k and from 750 to 950m of ascent. Overall, we were out for over 5 hours each day and at a steady pace from the start.ⁱ

Walks would probably equate with a Rambler Thursday Grade 3 and maybe had more climbing than would be the norm in Wicklow. Saturday's start was from Carrick Little Car Park near Annalong and the route included Slieve Binnian and Slieve Lamagan. Crucially our leader, Joe McKnight of the Mourne Ramblers, allowed for a 'get out' before the

last ridge and back to the cars guided by George Acheson via the Blue Lough and the Mourne Wall. This was much welcomed by a few of us who were feeling the pressure. On all three walks the climbing tended to start direct from the car park with no leisurely forest track to loosen up that would be common in Wicklow. Our day here was completed with a sojourn to the delightful Carrick Cottage Café. Also, all three walks finished with a café, one of which had shower facilities for good measure. All very different again from Wicklow. The weather was cold with a sprinkling of snow on the summits. Vincent Trainor and his wife Anne were our guests at dinner that evening.

For Sunday's walk, as with last year's first trip to the Mourne, we were welcomed onto any one of Mourne Ramblers' own standard four Sunday hikes. All started from Meelmore Lodge near Newcastle. We chose the middle two led respectively by Wilf Green and, most of us, with Marie Doran. We climbed Slievenaglogh by the Trassey River and onto Slieve Bearnagh. Return was via Meelbeg, Meelmore and the Ulster Way. The weather was excellent with spectacular vistas over the whole Mourne range and out into the Irish Sea and Isle of Man. Once again, Marie allowed for two escape routes for those who wished to cut the walk short which was very welcome. Such a get-out option is a real bonus for walkers on unfamiliar terrain.

Monday was not a Bank Holiday in the north and our hosts, including our leader Ray Gray who travelled from Belfast, took a day off work to accommodate us. Ray was assisted again by Peter McGowan. The walk started at Kibrony Forest Park near Rostrevor with a steady hour long trek up through Rostrevor Forest to Knockshee onto a variety of open fell tops. On the return via Fiddlers Green we visited the Cloghmore big stone, a 30-ton erratic above Rostrevor which is a noted attraction in the area. Ray explained that, as with so many similar sized stones, its relationship in folklore to Finn Mac Cumhaill. Ray was an excellent guide to the area and as well as history, geography and folklore threw in the odd dollop of botany for good measure. Particularly memorable were the autumn colours and varied vegetation that were a feature of Rostrevor Forest on the latter part of this walk.

The weekend was a remarkably successful venture and much credit is largely due to the hospitality of our hosts, including their Chair, Peter McGowan, and Secretary, George Acheson, who kept a watchful eye on their guests over the three days. This trip may in the long term be a template for a Rambler link up with other walking groups, on this island and further afield. The Mountains of Mourne are also not much further from Dublin than south Wicklow and we may one day develop a coterie of our own home-grown leaders without being dependent on our Mourne hosts. The reverse is also the case and the M1 motorway allows for relatively easy access to Wicklow for walkers from the north-east.

Our group returned south on the evening of the bank holiday no doubt tired but also invigorated. It will not be our last such venture north and we will hopefully also have the opportunity to welcome our friends from the Mournes onto the Wicklow Hills during 2019. If this does happen it is incumbent on Ramblers to give them a true *Cead Mile Failte*. They deserve nothing less.

Seamus Moriarty

¹ Thanks to Teresa Redmond for keeping a record of our walking itinerary.

MOURNE RAMBLING GROUP

Secretary's Report 2017 / 2018

The Committee met on 3 occasions following the AGM in October 2017.

The key items of business were:

1. **Finance:** at each committee meeting up to date financial print outs are circulated and considered. The club's funds remain in a healthy state – please refer to the Treasurer's Report.

A voucher for £100.00 was received from Walking in your Community (WIYC) – this money was used to buy tick removers (all of which have now been given out).

2. **Organising the Programme of Walks and other club activities:** the first meeting following the AGM is mainly devoted to drawing up a programme for the forthcoming year. The Committee considered carefully the suitability of past walks/venues – then, with an eye to the coming year constructed a programme which was distributed towards the end of 2017. It is interesting to note the evolving dynamics of club walks – there have been slightly more “A” walks this year, numbers attending “B” and “C” walks remain fairly constant and “D” walks attract growing numbers. The role of leaders in all our walks is crucial – we are fortunate that so many of our members are prepared to take on this role – a big thanks to them on behalf of all of us.

The 2018 programme also included old favourites including Christmas Dinner, Star Trek, Slide Show, picnic and two away trips (Connemara in May; and to the Wicklow Mountains with the Irish Ramblers in August). Members who participated in these fully enjoyed the events – they provide an important extra dimension to our club. Write ups can be found in our Newsletter.

The MRG was also involved in the UFRC/WIYC “Welcome Walk” which proved very rewarding. We welcomed several new walkers to our walk which started at Tollymore National Outdoor Centre. This walk, which will also take place in 2018, may become an annual event - it is a great way of introducing people to the joys of hillwalking and the great outdoors.

As you can see we have enjoyed another full and successful programme – a programme which reflects the time, hard work, enthusiasm and talents of our members – thanks to everyone.

3. **Website and Facebook:** Both continue to flourish. They provide an excellent service which provides information about the MRG and illustrates our walks. It is difficult to

estimate how much each is referred to by ourselves and others. Facebook numbers indicate our “page” reaches over 700 people.

4. **Training:** In October a navigation course was held in Meelmore Lodge and surrounding hillsides. Skills practised included setting a map, taking a bearing, walking on a bearing and pacing.

Some members attended the UFRC’s Spring Gathering at Greenmount College when training sessions were offered in group management, intermediate navigation and first aid. Two MRG members delivered a PowerPoint Presentation on Long Distance Walks – this was well received.

5. **Communications:** this forms a vital role for both ourselves and others interested in hillwalking. It is pleasing to note that the MRG continues to grow. Throughout the year there has been a steady trickle of new members joining us. Numbers now stand at 134 (128 in September 2017) – with 3 Associate Members. We take great heart in this. There are regular enquiries about participating in our walks – our Membership Officers are kept busy speaking with potential new members and guiding them towards the most suitable group based on their fitness and experience.

Our Newsletter goes out regularly – keeping members up to date with activities and other relevant matters, e.g., Lyme’s Disease. **Please don’t forget to read it.**

During the year General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) made an appearance. This is largely to do with the amount of information we hold about members and how it is retained. Security of information is very important – MRG will keep itself informed in this regard and honour the regulations.

6. **UFRC:** Several MRG members are actively involved with the UFRC – not only representing the MRG but contributing to the Federation’s overall work of promoting walking and assisting walkers in the north of Ireland. Through this work we have developed links with WIYC – sending to them information about numbers attending walks and completing surveys. We assisted WIYC make a video about some of its activities in September.

7. **Mourne Heritage Trust/Mourne Outdoor Recreational Forum:** The Mournes offer many recreational attractions which result in inevitable wear and tear. The MRG has long been associated with these groups and seeks to help them e.g., offering a donation to assist in repair work to mountain paths.

8. **Other matters:** 2019 is a big year for the MRG – it will be our 50th birthday. In 2018 we have begun to make plans under the guidance of an overall organising group – now supplemented with several sub-groups. Further details can be found in July’s Newsletter.

The St. John’s Ambulance Brigade asked us to help some of their young people acquire navigation skills and assist with a walk in Tollymore Forest in April. We were pleased to get involved – it was a most interesting, eye opening, rewarding and enjoyable event.

We look back on another wonderful year – in the sun, snow, rain, wind and fresh air amongst beautiful scenery. Undoubtedly, the hills are a great place to exercise, socialise and “chillout” – reflect and smile.

George Acheson.

MOURNE RAMBLING GROUP INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2018

INCOME	2018	2017	EXPENDITURE	2018	2017
	£	£		£	£
SUBSCRIPTIONS 134 x £22, 3 x £5	2963.00	2836.00	TRAINING	37.80	174.99
DONATIONS	4.00	-1.00	BANK FEES (FIRST TRUST)	67.21	68.50
PARKING ATTICALL	81.00	81.00	NEWSLETTERS	84.44	84.50
BANK INTEREST (NATIONWIDE)	5.04	5.62	PROGRAMMES	87.00	89.00
			UFRC AFFILIATION	384.00	363.00
			INSURANCE	256.00	242.00
			MOURNE RESCUE TEAM	268.00	256.00
			N W MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM	128.00	121.00
			CHARITABLE DONATIONS	10.00	10.00
			WEBSITE	19.43	47.94
			TREASURER EXPENSES	47.45	53.85
			NI SPORT (AGM)	292.00	256.00
			PICNIC	106.33	133.72
			CHRISTMAS MEAL	105.50	134.35
			MEMBER TAGS	104.00	191.00
			PARKING ATTICALL	81.00	81.00
			MISCELLANEOUS	22.64	259.15
TOTAL INCOME (A)	<u>3053.04</u>	<u>2921.62</u>	TOTAL EXPENDITURE (B)	<u>2100.80</u>	<u>2566.00</u>
OPERATING SURPLUS/DEFICIT (A – B)	952.24	355.62			

CASH BALANCE					
OPENING CASH BALANCE	4377.07	4021.45			
SURPLUS FOR YEAR	952.24	355.62			
CLOSING CASH BALANCE	<u>5329.31</u>	<u>4377.07</u>			

MOURNE RAMBLING GROUP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

4.30pm Sunday, 6th October 2018

Soup and sandwiches were served at 4.00pm paid out of Club funds

DRAFT MINUTES

PRESENT: George Acheson, Fionnuala Carragher, Marie Doran, Harry Goodman, Ray Gray, Helen Henderson, Rafia Hussain, Victor Knox, Terry Magowan, Dora McCavera, Domnall McComish, Gordon McCreery, Peter McGowan, Janet Muller, Norman Patterson, Maggie Pridgen, Noel Rice, Bert Rima, Cecilia Sochor, Kingsley Thompson, Vincent Trainor, Trevor Russell. (22)

Peter opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

1. The quorum of 15 people or one fifth of the membership (27) was present.
2. **Apologies** were received from: Philip Appleton, Adam Brett, Joan Calvert, Irene Cauley, Loretto Coyle, Ellen Greaney, Doreen Green, Wilf Green, Maire Hanna, Olwen Harbison, Marie Hoeritzauer, Rodney Magowan, Neill Matson, Joe McKnight, Sarah Newell, Mary O’Dea, David Oldfield, Robert Roulston, Liz Sloan, Toni Taylor, Pat Tumilty, Anne Trainor.
3. **Minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting:** Draft minutes had been sent out to all members via email or by post after the 2017 AGM – they were also included in a Newsletter. The minutes were taken as read – those present agreed they were a true and accurate record.
4. **Chairperson’s Report:** Peter commented on some of the club’s activities this year. The club’s constitution states that “the aim of the club shall be to provide opportunities for individuals to participate in hill walking and rambles with like-minded individuals” – to this end 148 group walks had been organised during 2018. “D” walks especially were going from strength to strength – he encouraged members to put themselves forward to lead the “D” group. He outlined some of the activities planned for the club’s 50th anniversary in 2019 – these included a launch dinner in January, a challenge walk following the route of Harry’s Walk from Newcastle to Rostrevor, a photographic competition and a special celebration dinner later in the year in the Slieve Donard Hotel. Between now and the end of the year the club looks forward to a visit by the Irish Ramblers, and a Star Trek. Finally, Peter thanked the committee and all members for their support which ensured the club runs smoothly.
5. **Secretary’s Report:** George gave out copies of the secretary’s report (Appendix 1), summarised the main points and invited questions. No questions were posed.
6. **Treasurer’s Report:** Vincent had prepared a report (Appendix 2), copies of which were given out. In general, the club has 134 members and 3 associate members; the closing balance is £5329.31. He systematically explained his report – recommending that the club membership fee remains at £22 per annum.

A question was asked in relation to the donation to path repair in the Mournes. The Mourne Heritage Trust had been contacted but had been slow to reply. It was

agreed that the next committee would re-establish contact with the MHT to clarify the best way to donate to path repairs.

7. **Committee Business:** Peter referred to our 29 walk leaders and thanked them for undertaking this role. He said some leaders would be “retiring” at the end of this year and emphasised that training and support would be offered to those prepared to undertake a leadership role.

Training, in general, is an important part of the club’s activities – any member with ideas about what training might be offered should contact a committee member.

The club continues to work closely with the UFRC with a number of MRG members presently serving on the UFRC Executive Committee.

8. **Consideration of motion/s:** No motions had been received.

At this stage Harry Goodman thanked the committee for its work and reports – this was endorsed by those present.

9. **Election of Office Bearers and Committee:** at this stage Peter stood down and Maggie Pridgen acted as Chairperson.

Chairperson: Peter McGowan. Proposed by Harry Goodman and seconded by Fionnuala Carragher. No other nominations were received and Peter was declared re-elected.

Secretary: George Acheson. Proposed by Trevor Russell and seconded by Rafia Hussain. No other nominations were received and George was declared re-elected.

Treasurer: Vincent Trainor. Proposed by Bert Rima and seconded by Gordon McCreery. No other nominations were received and Vincent was declared re-elected.

Peter explained that we sought 9 members to represent the groups – Fionnuala Carragher, Joe McKnight, Harry Goodman, Ray Gray and Bert Rima (committee members 2017/18) had indicated they were happy to continue as committee members. Their re-election was proposed by Maggie Pridgen and seconded by Norman Patton.

Noel Rice was proposed by Fionnuala Carragher and seconded by Maggie Pridgen.

Members present agreed that the committee could approach other members to join the committee.

Ex-officio members: Cecilia Sochor indicated she wished to stand down from her role in helping with certain functions – Cecilia was thanked for her contributions over many years. Robert Roulston had agreed to continue in his role as web site manager; and Maggie Pridgen agreed to continue in her role as Facebook manager.

10. **Closure of meeting:** Peter thanked those present for attending the AGM.

The meeting closed at 5.30pm.

Committee Members 2019 Roles and Responsibilities

Chairperson – Peter McGowan

Minutes Secretary – George Acheson

Treasurer – Vincent Trainor

Email link person with members – Vincent Trainor

Training – Joe McKnight

Membership Officers – Fionnuala Carragher and Ray Gray

Environmental issues Officer – Ray Gray

AGM and Special Events Officers – Harry Goodman and Fionnuala Carragher

MHT/MORF link – Fionnuala Carragher and Domnall McComish

UFRC Representation – Joe McKnight and Ray Gray

Photograph Archivist – Rennie Gribbin and Harry Goodman

Other roles – already carried out through 50th Anniversary Sub-groups

Ex-officio Committee Officers

Web Manager - Robert Roulston

Facebook Manager - Maggie Pridgen

Mourne Rambling Group at 50 – Update

Since the July 2018 newsletter, there have been some developments with respect to the activities we are planning to celebrate 50 years of the Mourne Rambling Group.

The celebration year will commence with a Launch Dinner on Sunday 27th January 2019 in the Burrendale Hotel. This will take place after our normal Sunday walk, and replaces the 2018 Christmas dinner. Members

are invited to come along and support this event and say goodbye to the January blues.

The Harry Shaw Challenge Walk will take place on Saturday 1st June 2019 and will be open to members of local walking clubs and the Irish Ramblers as well as members of the Mourne Ramblers. This walk covers a distance in excess of 30 kilometres with a climb of around 1700 metres, and will not be a guided walk – participants will have to make their own way round the course. There will be an official rest stop half-way round, and a certificate for those who complete the challenge.

There will be a 50th Anniversary Celebration Dinner on Saturday 19th October 2019 in the Slieve Donard Hotel, with an after-dinner speaker and a presentation to the winner of the photographic competition. There will also be a prize draw for an original watercolour of the Mournes created by our own Dora McCavera.

These activities are in addition to the Slide Show in February, the trip to Connemara in May, the club picnic in June, other possible trips away in August and September and the invitation walk in October.

These activities, as well as a look back on 50 years of the Mourne Rambling Group, will be captured in a commemorative magazine to be published at the year end.

It will be a busy year for a club at the spritely age of 50!

Peter McGowan

NOTICEBOARD

- The programmes for 2019 will be ready around mid-December and we intend to distribute them to everyone in good time for the start of the new year. Each member will receive two copies. We also hope to provide an extra copy by email to all members with email. We probably will not have UFRC cards for 2019 to send out with the programmes to all members who have renewed membership. The UFRC cards will be distributed as soon as we receive them. We intend to continue with the provision of membership tags for paid-up members. Hopefully, they will be distributed also in good time for the start of 2019.
 - **From:** Matthew Bushby <matthew.bushby@mourne.co.uk>
Date: 16 November 2018 at 17:48:38 GMT
To: "George Acheson"
Subject: donation of £200 from Mourne Rambling Group
-

George, just want to say thank you very much for your kind donation – it will be used to support the maintenance work that we carry out on the Mourne upland path network and in particular the great work of our volunteer path team.

Please pass this on to you members.

Best regards

Matthew

- **Charles McRobert** <messaging-service@post.xero.com>
To: trainorvj@yahoo.co.uk
 - 4 Nov 2018 at 19:38

Hi Vincent,

Attached is a receipt for your donation.

On behalf of the Management Committee and the members of the Mourne Mountain Rescue Team I would like to express our sincere thanks and gratitude for the donation of £268.00 made to our team funds.

I can assure you that this money will be used wisely in order to promote a better and safer casualty experience through the improved training of our members and updating of technical/first aid equipment.

Thank you for making a difference with this generous gift to the Mourne Mountain Rescue Team.

Yours Sincerely,
Charles McRobert
Honorary Treasurer
Mourne Mountain Rescue Team

- Due to an error, the website gave the incorrect starting point for the walk on Sunday 25 November. We wish to apologise to anyone who went to Meelmore Lodge instead of the correct starting point in the programme, Loughshannagh Track. The website has been updated to provide the starting points for December.
- Parking at the Gamekeeper's Lodge beside Loughshannagh Track now costs £3 per car. Most of our walkers availed of the very good parking facility on Sunday 25 November.
- Membership Renewal becomes due on 01 January 2019. Quite a few members have already renewed (thank you) and a list of already paid-up members for 2019 is included. An e-mail will be sent out next week requesting renewal from everyone else. If you wish to send your renewal now, for your convenience a Renewal Form can be found at the end of this newsletter. If you have decided not to renew your membership the Treasurer would like to be informed.

The next issue of the club Newsletter will be in February 2019.

MEMBERS 2019

The list below contains the names of all members who have paid for 2019 (up to and including 29 November 2018). Please check to see that your name is on the list. If your name ought to be on the list and has been omitted, please accept our apologies. Please contact the Treasurer on 078 3512 8564 for clarification.

(52)

Acheson	George	McCavera	Dora
Appleton	Philip	McComish	Domnall
Brett	Adam	McCreery	Gordon
Carragher	Fionnuala	McGowan	Peter
Cauley	Irene	McKnight	Joseph
Chapa	Patricia	McLean	Bernard
Coyle	Loretto	McMahon	Hilja
Doran	Marie	O'Dea	Mary
Drinkell	Denis	Oldfield	David
Farrington	Gerry	Overend	Martin
Fawcett	Laura	Patience	Mark
Gilmore	Seamus	Patton	Norman
Greaney	Ellen	Pridgen	Maggie
Gribbin	Reynold	Quiery	Pamela
Gunn	Philip	Reid	Ken
Hamilton	Joan	Rice	Noel
Herbison	Olwen	Rima	Bert
Hnojckikova	Jana	Russell	Trevor
Hoeritzauer	Marie	Scott	Barry
Hughes	Thomas	Sloan	Elizabeth
Hulme	Joan	Sochor	Cecilia
Hussain	Rafia	Stuart	Ian
Knox	Victor	Taylor	Toni
Magowan	Reg	Templeton	Helen
Magowan	Rodney	Thompson	Kingsley
Martin	Maggie	Trainor	Vincent

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS 2019

David Reid, Anne Trainor

HONORARY MEMBER

Christina Mackle, President

Mourne Rambling Group

Membership Renewal Form (January 2019)

Name(s): _____

Address: (Only include if amendments are required)

Postcode _____

Phone No: _____

Mobile No: _____

Email address if available: (for receipt of newsletters and information from the committee)

Please let us have the email address where you wish to be contacted.

Please tick as appropriate:

Full Membership at £22 per year (or part of year)

Associate Membership (non-walking member) at £5 per year (or part of year)

Return to:

Vincent Trainor, 34 Grahamville Estate, Kilkeel, Co Down, BT34 4DD

(Cheques made payable to Mourne Rambling Group. Please do not send cash in the post.)

We acknowledge that a fair number of our members now conduct their financial affairs electronically. With this in mind the committee has decided to offer members the opportunity to pay their annual subscription by internet banking. Should you wish to avail of this option please e-mail Vincent at trainorvj@yahoo.co.uk and he will be more than happy to forward details of the group's bank details.
