

PURCHASE OF A CLUB HUT 1958

Since the Club authorised the Committee to take steps to replace Bryn-y-Wern, the by-roads of North Wales have been well and truly scoured, and the estate agents of the area consulted at regular intervals. (1957)

The search culminated at Christmas when a "highly desirable property" was located at the south end of the village of Rhyd Ddu $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Beddgelert (Map ref. 571527, Snowdon 1" sheet.) It is a commodious house, somewhat smaller than B-y-W., in a good state of repair, with main water and electricity laid on. It could be put into commission as a Hut immediately, although we should naturally have to carry out minor alterations inside so as to make it suitable for our purpose, after which it should house about 25 Oreads.

Situated at the foot of the track up to Snowdon about 80 yds. from the road, it is not far to "Cloggy" while Lliwedd and Cwm Silyn are within easy reach. Of the lesser trodden cliffs, Moel Hebog, Moel Lefn, and Craig-y-Bera are just across the valley, and that means of course that Cwm Pennant is not far away for the nostalgic types.

The plutocrats will find the huge car park very useful, while for those less fortunate the Caernarvon - Beddgelert 'bus will drop them at the door..... and there is a shop, pub, and post office in the village.

The price quoted in the agent's "blurb" was £800, but this was negotiated down and an offer of £550 made and accepted, which seemed to be very reasonable at the side of other property that has been viewed in the area.

The method of administering the property has drawn heavily on the reserves of midnight oil in the cruses of the financial advisers, because the Club itself is not a legal entity and thus cannot own property; two alternatives have been considered. One is to set up a Private Company while the other is to set up a Trust. The original proposal to set up a Company has been looked into very carefully and although it is possible to do this there are considerable technical difficulties in the way, mainly due to the nature of the business it would transact. That is equally important, however, is the fact that the expenses incurred over the period envisaged would be an appreciable proportion of the capital involved. It is considered that this money would be better employed in repaying that which is borrowed.

The recommendation is, therefore, that a Trust should be

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set up to enable the Club to own the property legally: the Trustees will sign legal documents on behalf of the Club, and also see that the terms of the loan are observed. Trustees are, of course, appointed by the Club, and may be changed from time to time, as necessary, in accordance with the wish of the Members in the usual way.

Part of the Hut income will be set aside each year to repay the loans and it is anticipated that this would be completed within ten years. If the place proves to be as popular as we expect it will be, this period could be appreciably reduced, of course. It is not possible to say at present however, when the first instalment of the repayments will be made.

It will no doubt be appreciated that many problems remain to be solved, but if anyone requires further details the Officers of the Club will be pleased to provide such information as may be available.

The growing urgency of the situation may be underlined by the fact that on Jan. 31st. the Hon. Secretary received a letter from the solicitors asking for the earliest date at which the Club can vacate Bryn-y-Wern.

By the time this circular reaches you, the Club will in all probability have made a deposit of ten percent on the property described above, the go-ahead from our solicitor being the only thing awaited, in spite of the fact that the response to the first appeal was inadequate. The maximum effort is required on everyone's part so that we can be assured of a place of our own free from the whims of this or that landlord.

It is essential however that the Hon. Treasurer should receive your contribution immediately, so that the Club is in a position to complete the transaction as soon as possible.

OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB.

CLUB HUT.

The response to the Circular asking Members to indicate how much they would be able to subscribe towards the purchase of a new Club Hut has, to date, resulted in the promise of something over three hundred Pounds. This sum, however, will come from about thirty-three Members, leaving fifty-eight who are either in a state of complete penury, or who have not yet bothered to send back their forms to the Hon. Sec. There is, of course, always the third alternative that they have not bothered to read the Circular!

Anyway, the Committee has no desire to run round in sack-cloth and ashes shouting "Baksheesh effendi, alms for the Love of Allah", although it would no doubt be good value in entertainment for the rest, so if you intend to do anything about it, and have not done so yet, for the Love of Allah DO IT NOW. If you have lost the form write on a postcard, or any old piece of paper; Len won't mind even if it's impregnated with Izal!

INDOOR MEET. DEC. 3rd.

Mike O'Hara will talk about climbing in Scotland. It is rumoured that he has done more new climbs in Scotland in recent years than all other climbers combined. Members may rest assured that there will be no necessity to take an intensive course in either Celtic or Gaelic in order to understand the monologue. This Meet will take place at THE ST. JAMES HOTEL, ST. JAMES ST., DERBY. For those who are unfamiliar with the Hostelryes of Derby, this source of first-class nourishment backs up on to The Bell, and is about 50 yds. away from it as the drinker staggers.

BRYN-Y-WERN. CHRISTMAS 1957.

LEADER, RONNI PHILLIPS

This Meet will be from Tuesday evening, Dec 24th. until Sun. Dec. 29th. (Not dates on Meets Card.) If you have not booked with me already, I am afraid you are too late, as the Hut is now fully booked. Those who have already booked with me will receive more details later in a circular, when we get the "All clear" from Mr. Evans, with regard to the foot-and mouth situation.

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