

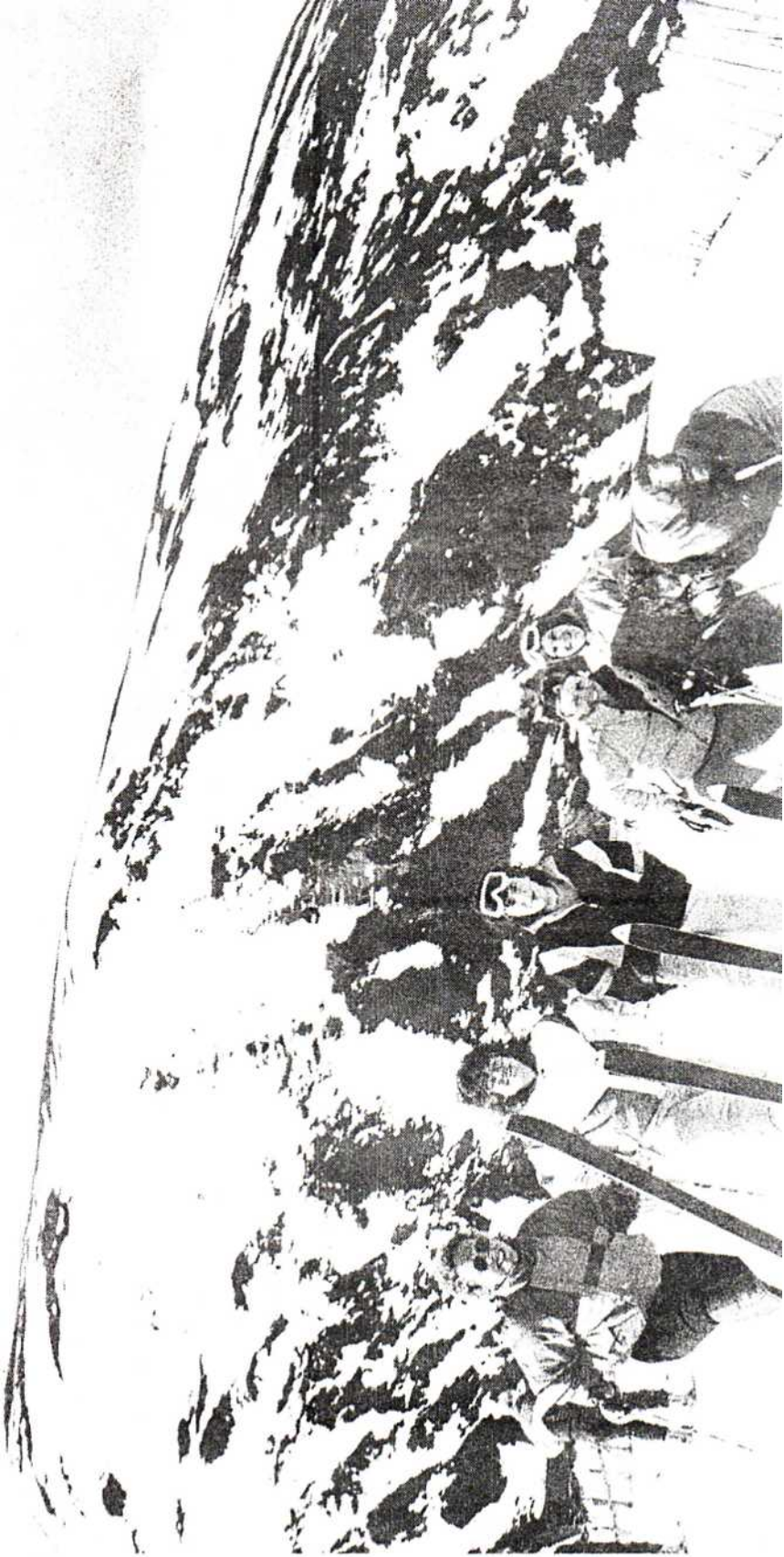


TRAMLINES AND LAUREL STREET SKI-ING TRIP

TO SCOTLAND - MARCH 1988

WHO WENT:-

JULIA KEENAN - TRAMLINES (YOUTH WORKER)  
DIANE WARBURTON - "  
SUE MOSS - "  
LESLIE - "  
CAROL WOODS - LAUREL STREET (YOUTH WORKER)  
KAREN PIGOTT - " " " "  
SUE COX - " "  
KAREN JONES - " "  
LISA BELSHAW - " "  
MAGGIE SHERIDAN - " "  
MANDY HEATON - " "



## INTRODUCTION

Like most Outdoor Pursuits for women, there are many myths concerning Ski-ing. Perhaps some of you reading this will be already thinking that Ski-ing is something you would never be able to do, as it is too difficult, and you need to be super strong and fit to do it. In fact Ski-ing isn't any more difficult than anything else.

If you think about it, people who have access to money and associated self-confidence, probably go Ski-ing one week out of every year and on that basis become reasonable skiers and continue to improve every year. Now there aren't many sports that you do so little of, yet achieve your own level of success and continue to build on it, year by year. So you see Ski-ing really can't be that difficult.

What is true about Ski-ing is that it is an expensive activity, and so is the equipment and it is hardly a sport that is associated with being working class! There can be no doubt that in the last few years, with cheaper package deals and dry ski slopes, it has been made more accessible to some people, but this changes nothing if you are an unemployed Young Woman. Even dry ski slopes, where you can hire equipment, are not accessible, as you need transport to get there, and the average cost is £3.50 per hour and that's without tuition.

So, why introduce Ski-ing? If you like it, it really is lots of fun and exciting (You will have probably noticed by now, that I am totally biased!) You are offering young women the opportunity to do and learn an activity that they thought that, not only would they never get a chance to do, but that they wouldn't be able to do it anyway. There can be no doubt that for any of us, we gain confidence in all sorts of ways, from new experiences and learning new skills.

I had taken young women from Laurel St., and Julia, young women from Tramlines, on a number of occasions and every trip was really lots of fun. Perhaps I should point out that it is more difficult to ski on a dry ski-slope, than on snow, and you need to wear lots of clothes, as it can be quite painful if/when you fall over! Having experienced the thrill of ski-ing at Rossendale, the idea and enthusiasm to try it out on real snow, in a different part of the country, gradually evolved. I think encouraging the young women to watch Ski Sunday also helped to fire their enthusiasm!

