

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LIBRARY SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT



THE
 LC+RA
 NEWSLETTER

NEEDS
 YOU

HELP US
 TO GATHER
 MATERIAL FOR
 THE NEXT
 ISSUE

The recent Keswick weekend was enjoyed by some thirty-odd members, having the usual excellent meals at the house of the Catholic Holiday Fellowship, namely Lakeside House. The Sunday forecast was not good but in the event it turned out to be the sunniest spot in Britain with over 9 hours of sunshine! The 15 people on the 'C' walk on the Saturday were rewarded with a sighting of a small herd of Reindeer in Thornthwaite Forest on the south side of Bassenthwaite Lake just a stone's throw from Keswick. Paul Healy took the 'B' party to Watendlath via Derwentwater with no shortage of cafes for the party. I won't mention the coach picking them up, eventually, at the end of the day. AA good walk.

The 'A' party did the Grizedale Horseshoe -> Tom Reilly leading and Chris Grice whipper-in (there's a joke there which only the people who went to Keswick will understand - they were the only two to do the 'A' walk).

I think everyone enjoyed the walks that day. I don't think Maureen would like me to mention the successful social evening in the basement of the house on the weekend. Maureen was on a high but had many of us getting as low as you could imagine, doing the limbo dance under a 10-foot long copper pipe! It was noticed that nobody had ordered wine for the evening meal, so it must have been George's strong soup that had got Maureen going on that very enjoyable night. But I won't mention it in case I embarrass Maureen. I can mention that she was the best singer that night but Maureen doesn't remember that!

Many did their own thing on the Sunday, taking boats out on Derwentwater, some browsing round the shops, spotting bargains in mountain gear, etc. Five of us started out on my 'B' walk to the remote Skiddaw House youth hostel on part of the Cumbria Way. We met the 'A' party on the return trip (yes, Tom and Chris again!) they had been up Skiddaw closely followed by about 30 members of the Lancaster Ramblers (their 'A' party!). An excellent day out.

The weekend (starting on the Friday evening and finishing after the delicious evening meal on the Sunday) was good value for only £45 including the coach. The coach fare was subsidised heavily by the club. There were bed spaces for about another 20 people so maybe next October we will fill the house. Start saving those pennies now for a really memorable autumn weekend in Keswick!

This newsletter appears every two months, the next due at the beginning of June. If you have anything to contribute please give them to me or send your items to me at the following address in woollyback country:

7 Abbots Way, Billinge, WIGAN WN5 7SB

With thanks for all contributors to this edition I will wish you all a Happy Easter whatever you will be doing. Personally I will be celebrating my mother's eightieth birthday on Easter Monday and my dad's 81st on Easter Sunday in Warrington. They both look younger and fitter than me! Well, almost!

DAVE NEWS, Editor.

CANCELLATIONS

Just a reminder that if you cancel your booking for a ramble it must be cancelled BEFORE the Thursday evening prior to the ramble, otherwise no transfers or refunds can be made. If you can't come out for any reason it is courteous to phone me or Ray right up to the Saturday evening so that others on the waiting list can take your seat. However, don't ring on the Sunday morning to cancel! I will be either at the early Mass or running around picking up my rambling gear with a bacon butty in my hand! It is too late to phone anyone to take your seat on the Sunday morning. Thanks. Ray usually has the bookings book (Tel. 424 0481).



Cheese and Wine Evening



THURSDAY, 22 APRIL

at The Legs of Man Cocktail Lounge (upstairs)
from 8.45pm

Make a date in your diary - come and support us
and help us to keep this unique Legs of Man
Cocktail Lounge for many future socials



Bad News:

POOR ATTENDANCES ON THURSDAY NIGHTS

Earlier this year we have been experiencing poor attendances on the Thursday night socials, consequently we have been warned that it is becoming an untenable situation to employ a barman in the Cocktail Lounge with so few people supporting us for our Socials. If attendances don't increase then we may lose the use of the Cocktail Lounge, so it is up to all of us to come and support the socials.

Good News:

WEDDING THANKS

Barbara and Dave Cahill wish to thank all their friends and ramblers for their lovely wedding presents and best wishes to them for their future happiness.

They had a wonderful wedding day and a great honeymoon in Spain.

Good News:

NEW MEMBERS

Many new members have joined our ranks recently. We welcome the following new recruits: Karl Leahy, Mike McLoughlin, Jennifer Milligan, Peter Blackmore, Raymond Benn, John Thomalla, Fred Cleese, Graham Fisher, Michael Lee and Frances Lynch. Since this list many more prospective members are joining. May you experience many happy days out with us and if you really want some adventure then try our 'B' and 'A' walks. The 'C' walks are too overcrowded and I feel sure many of you are not geriatrics yet! (Apologies to genuine 'C' walkers).

Bad News:

OVERCROWDING OF OUR 'C' WALKS

We need 'C' walks for some of the less active members, or for those who have problems with hill climbing. On a recent ramble (The Long Mynd) more than threequarters of the 53 people who turned out that day went on the 'C' walk. This is totally unacceptable and is unfair on the leader. Many on that day could have gone on the 'B' walk, some (no names mentioned) even on the 'A' walk!

More Bad News:

BOOKING OF COACH SEATS - If you haven't booked don't get on the coach until 9.30!

We are experiencing several members turning up without booking and occupying seats as soon as the coach arrives. There was a problem on the Long Mynd walk when some who had booked could not find an empty seat until it was discovered that 'pirates' had boarded the coach without booking. After some considerable hassle the culprits were sorted out, some having to be sent home. Offenders please note.



Family Walks



Since October the LCRA have been organising Family walks suitable for children. The walks start at 12 noon and last for four to five hours and normally take place on the second Sunday of the month. To date the rambles have been well attended and have been enjoyed by all those taking part. With increased participation and experience we aim to cater for all age groups by having two walks, but the future direction of the section depends on you and your friends. Support your section and have a say in how it develops, or just come along and enjoy the walks.

The destination and route are down to the leader, so they can walk in their own back garden or they can venture further afield. If you have any favourite walk or fancy leading or walking in a new area why not give me a ring on 608 0425 and lead a future ramble - every assistance will be given. We are presently organising walks for July to December 1993.

Transport is normally by private car but Beryl Baker can organise a minibus at a reasonable cost. If interested contact her for details, giving her some notice.

Details of our forthcoming rambles with the Family Section are:

April 18

RAW HEAD - Leader Anthony Brockway. Meet at the Bickerton Poacher, Cheshire, 12 noon. By car, from Chester take the A41(T) south to Broxton, turn left onto the A534. The Bickerton Poacher is 3 miles further in on the left. Park in the pub car park. For further information contact me on 608 0425 if necessary.

May 9

WIRRAL - Leader Ian Freeman. Details to follow or contact Ian on 639 2057.

Note that these walks for children are now called the Family Section. The old Family Section that used to be are now called the Seniors' Section.

ANTHONY BROCKWAY

SPONSORED WALK FOR CHARITY

The recent sponsored walk to raise money for Layla, a brain-injured child, which was organised by Beryl and Ian raised a total of £100. Letter of thanks is reproduced as follows:

Thank you for your letter received on 11 February enclosing your cheque for £100 which has been placed in Layla Sirhan's account.

We would be grateful if you would pass on the thanks of all the staff here at the British Institute for Brain Injured Children to Beryl Baker and Ian Freeman for organising the sponsored walk on Layla's behalf.

As I am sure you appreciate, our families work extremely hard in order to help their children and support such as that received from Beryl and Ian acts as a great encouragement.

With all our good wishes and our thanks again.

Yours sincerely

MARY COULSON (Mrs) Administrative Director.

LOSS OF SEVERAL MEMBERS' PARENTS

Recently several members lost one of their parents. Details are:

Carol Kellett's father

Christine McKendrick's father

Alice Hendrickson's and Cath McCumskie's mother.

We offer our sympathy to the above members in their bereavement.

PLANNING MEETING FOR FUTURE RAMBLES

Are you interested in leading a walk or in suggesting interesting places to ramble around? Then why not come down to our planning meeting on Monday, 26 April at Birch House, Bishop Eaton, 8.00pm. Any committee member will give you further details, or contact Ray McIntosh on 424 0481.

CLOSE THAT GATE!

Seasoned ramblers automatically close gates after them but on some of our recent rambles it was noted that many people had to be told to shut the gate after them. Some are also leaving litter around. Picking wild flowers has been done in the past on some of our rambles. - grow your own! So, here to remind us is the

COUNTRY CODE

Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work.
Guard against all risk of fire.
Fasten all gates.
Keep your dogs under control.
Keep to public paths across farmland.
Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls.
Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone.
Take your litter home.
Help to keep all water clean.
Protect wildlife, plants and trees.
Take special care on country roads.
Make no unnecessary noise.

GUIDED WALKS IN NORTH WALES

Hello,

Is there anybody out there who would like to participate in guided walks centred on Maeshafn Youth Hostel and Cynwyd Youth Hostel this coming summer?

Maeshafn is situated between Mold and Ruthin - Cynwyd is near Corwen.

Maeshafn walks will take place the first weekend in June and the first weekend in September, led by yours truly, Joe Rourke. The Cynwyd guided walks starting on 14/15 August ably led by our very own Welsh explorer Phil Wells (Phil Wales!).

The weekends consist of two overnights, Friday and Saturday, both hostels are self-catering, so you can either bring sandwiches or cook your own meals or enjoy a local restaurant. The prices of accommodation are £6.30 for one night at Maeshafn and £5.10 for one night at Cynwyd plus £10. Please support this effort to keep the simple hostels alive and enjoy walking in quiet secluded and beautiful countryside. For further information give us a ring 256 9144.

JOE ROURKE

PS: Did you know that the Liverpool Catholic Ramblers was a founder member of the Youth Hostels Association way back in 1930!

BARGAIN BASEMENT

Have you any items to sell (preferably of interest to ramblers)? Or have you something that you need but can't really afford it? It is hoped to introduce an Items for Sale and an Items Wanted section in future newsletters. To start the ball rolling I was scratching my nose at a recent auction of bankrupt stock and ended up with a load of brand new British-made saws and mitre blocks, so:

FOR SALE

SAWS - ALL SHAPES AND SIZES from rough farmers saws for pruning those thick branches off trees (they cut through in seconds) or general purpose saws, tenon saws, etc, all at half price! - brand new, some slightly shop-soiled. Contact me, Dave Newns for prices and samples - 0744-892791.

MARCH 1976

A NOSTALGIC
PEEP AT THE CLUB'S
PAST THROUGH THE EYES OF

OLD LCRA

NEWSLETTERS...

Lesley Roberts (now Clarke) led a new walk in Shropshire called 'The Long Mynd' with a turnout of 39 ramblers on the coach - a very large turnout for those days... (40-seater). The coach made a stop at Whitchurch on the return journey at the Raven where they were entertained by a Gountry and Western singer with many of us joining in the chorus of the many popular songs that were sang that night. The sing-song continued back on the coach with a final rendering of 'Mary, Mary, show us yer leg.' Who was Mary?

MAY 1975

Joint Editors Pete McLindon, Dave Newns and Paul Stafford produced a 14-page newsletter containing many items including a report of the recent Easter skiing trip to Livigno on the Italy/Switzerland border where there was plenty of snow. One incident worthy of note was Dave Newns (who's he) falling off a drag lift into about ten feet of snow in a remote area. It took him 2½ hours and one Mars-bar to dig himself out! Ten ramblers went on that holiday. Dave was supposed to be one of the expert skiers! (We went back there in the January of 1990).

That same newsletter there is a full page about Gerry Penlington who joined the ramblers in 1946 having socials at St Oswald's Church Hall, Gerry soon becoming a leader of rambles. There were 46 members in the club then! (Nearly 300 at the present time). Gerry, still very much alive, is still attending most of the Club's Committee Meetings. He was appointed chairman in 1950 but in 1951 was appointed treasurer, and remained treasurer for another 30 years or more! He was also the newsletter editor for 15 years. It was also mentioned that there would be introduced into the club in 1975 a new competition called 'The Fred Norbury Competition' in memory of Fred Norbury - an almost founder member of the club who had died recently. (This was altered a few years later to be called the Fred Norbury and Cyril Kelly Competition, as Cyril Kelly, cast in much the same mould as Fred, died a few years after him). This annual competition continues today.

The Keswick weekend was on 2nd to 4th of May in 1975 and cost was £7.00 for Lakeside House and £2.30 for the coach - a total of £9.30 for the weekend!

It was mentioned that same year that the club was going through a period of boom with as many as 41 people turning out on some rambles plus the socials having large attendances at the Mona on Thursday evenings.

AUGUST 1977

In contrast to the above it was mentioned that few people were coming out on the rambles and several coaches had to be cancelled through lack of support. A walk on 7 August that year was to Snowdon. Only 17 people turned up for the 40-seater coach. Brian Keller led the 'A' walk over Crib Goch (seven walkers) with nine on the 'B' walk. There were no 'C' walks in those days. I don't think the leaders had anything to do with the lack of numbers! The club were just going through a bad patch. If Snowdon can't attract ramblers what can?

CHRISTMAS 1977

There was a record number of ramblers (it doesn't say how many) on the coach to World's End near Llangollen. Flurries of snow fell as the party started off at the top of the Horseshoe Pass. Lesley Clarke led an enjoyable walk.

That year, the club's golden jubilee year, there were 250 at Rivington Barn for the annual hot-pot and barn dance.

More nostalgia in the next newsletter.

SENIORS' SECTION, SWETTENHAM WALK, 14TH FEBRUARY, 1993.

Jean and Gerry McDonald led this ramble starting from Saltersford Corner. The weather was good as we set off alongside a country lane passing livery stables, horse jumps etc. After negotiating a stile we descended a footpath adjacent to the River Dane from which we never strayed very far. After following several field tracks and walking through a thicket with a carpet of bluebells and primroses already pushing through the earth we stopped for our first break and had just started eating when everybody's attention was drawn to Tony's stylish mobile furniture. Whilst Marcia and the rest of us made do with the usual plastic pads and blow-up cushions he was sitting comfortably but didn't actually tell us a story.

So we moved on through pastures and fields of grain towards the ancient Parich Church which stands in an immaculate graveyard full of blue and yellow crocus, snowdrops and sundry other winter flowering bulbs.

Beyond the village, the Kingfisher Farm and others with pictorial nameplates we came to the Fairy Dell at Midge Brook which was deserted except for a few hardy anglers sitting on the banks. Moving onwards and upwards from the bridge we had a glorious view of the River Dane meandering slowly through the lush green valley below. We had only seen a few sheep and nothing of the Cheshire Set all day except for a couple of youngsters on their well-groomed ponies. After a short break we decided to follow a Nature Reserve signpost and found a well-kept area of paths and ponds but no inhabitants.

Our ramble ended after a short walk along the Macclesfield Road beside a large railway viaduct back to the car park. Our thanks to Jean and Gerry for a delightful walk.

Amie Shawe.

AUGHTON HILLS. 28TH FEBRUARY, 1993.

On a bright day twenty three ramblers gathered at Aughton Parish Hall for a walk led by Rosemary Rollerson. There was a slight delay at the start because the leader having taken her boots out of the car left them to answer a question from an overkeen Rambler. One of the unattended boots was surprisingly removed by someone who ought to know better. The leader was next seen wearing one boot wondering why she had left one at home and how to lead the ramble so attired. Mona, ever helpful, started a seek and find mission under the car. Rosemary's boot was then spotted by Gerry's car but he had an alibi. Some less sensible observers were amused by this wheeze, but enough

A brisk pace for the first mile countered the cold February wind and took us along footpaths, and fields of winter vegetables. The landscape was open and the group, like rural lowry figures, stretched over a quarter of a mile. We were pleased to see the return of Angela Fishwick, Marie Atherton, and others who had had to miss the rambles in the past few months.

George Parkinson, having been in the RAF, had been appointed as 'tail end Charlie' by the leader. He was supplied with a walk plan called "Over the Aughton Hills". We gradually approached the top of Clieves Hill and had lunch on the top... It was only 180 feet above sea level but we were able to see Formby Point and ships leaving the Mersey estuary. Motorists, complete with telescopes admired the view. Snowdon was 58 miles yonder. The motorists were of course parked.

Cont'd...

SENIORSSECTION. SEDBURGH, Cont. d.

by the bucket and spade brigade wakened from winter hibernation slowed our progress to a pub meal near Leyland. Nice way to finish.

Thanks, leader.

Gefa.

RAMBLING PROGRAMME: 1993.

APL 4. There's a walk starting from the R.A. Chalet around 12.30.

APL 25. Leo Pearson is leading, and the phone number for information is 489 0746.

MAY 2. Tony Roche is our leader. HILBRE ISLAND is the destination. Meeting place is the Wirral Country Park at Thurston. We start walking at 12 Noon. Don't be late. Time and, more importantly, tide wait for no man or even woman.

MAY 16. CHIPPING. George Skillicorn is to lead this walk. Ring 074 489 2823 later for up to the minute information.

HOUSE MEETINGS.

MAY 6. Bernadette and Brenda., 12 Tern Way, Eccleston, St. Helens.

JUNE 3. This should be Bill Potters but, unfortunately, he's working. Maureen Howard, 236 Brodie Avenue, Garston, has kindly stepped in, so please change your programme.

P.S. It is only Lyle Golden Syrup. Mr. Tate must have opted out!

RAMBLERS' WORD SEARCH ()

A	E	Y	R	W	Y	D	D	F	A	O	C	S	W	N	D
F	C	L	G	R	W	A	F	G	I	N	E	R	A	I	O
N	A	F	Y	R	T	N	E	M	B	E	L	I	R	D	B
Y	O	E	R	W	A	M	N	Y	W	L	E	O	M	H	A
L	I	N	C	E	L	M	F	O	Y	E	H	D	I	C	I
E	L	I	D	I	R	F	A	W	R	R	D	C	G	A	S
W	I	R	W	A	M	D	D	Y	N	Y	M	G	D	F	L
E	E	F	C	G	I	G	O	H	F	I	G	F	B	G	E
L	L	G	M	R	S	L	N	A	R	H	E	E	E	O	O
L	E	D	I	G	L	Y	D	E	R	F	A	C	H	N	M
D	O	N	C	E	R	D	T	R	Y	I	D	E	L	I	E
D	M	A	W	A	D	E	H	R	C	W	R	D	E	H	H
E	L	R	A	E	Y	R	C	S	F	D	A	Y	O	R	R
N	M	A	N	B	D	F	I	W	B	F	D	Y	M	O	B
R	O	R	L	A	R	A	N	F	A	W	D	D	W	Y	S
A	A	Y	A	E	C	W	C	H	C	O	G	L	E	O	F
C	M	E	H	C	A	R	G	L	E	O	F	B	O	D	W

Within the wordsearch can be found the following Snowdonian mountains:

YR WYDDFA	GLYDER FACH	TRYFAN	FOEL GOCH	MOEL EILIO
CARNEDD LLEWELYN	FOEL GRACH	ARAN FAWDDWY	MOEL HEBOG	RHENNOC FACH
CARNEDD DAFYDD	YR ELEN	MOEL SIABOD	MOELWYN MAWR	MYNYDD MAWR
GLYDER FAWR	ELIDIR FAWR	ARENIG FAWR	YR ARAN	CNICHT

A reward will be given to the correct solution submitted to Chris Grice. You have until May 1 to complete the above. In the case of a tie-breaker please complete the following: "I like walking in Snowdonia because

.....

Draw lines through the appropriate words, either horizontal, vertical or diagonally in the above grid. Some are spelt backwards. Competition is open to all club members of any section. If you don't know Chris Grice then send your entry to me, Dave Newns (address of first page). Mark back of envelope "Wordsearch entry". Winner will be in next newsletter.

DONATION TO CHARITY

The club sent a donation to the Co-Workers of Mother Teresa, Merseyside and Cheshire Region, recently, and the following thank you card had been received:

Dear LCRA,
 Thank you very much for the donation of £50. May God bless you all and reward your kindness towards the poor. Our humble prayers are for your needs.
 Yours sincerely
 SISTER M BERNADETTA MC (Missionaries of Charity).

SMOKING BAN ON THE COACH

A complete smoking ban on our coach has been suggested. What are your views?