

LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS NEWSLETTERAutumn Edition No.134

Editor: Dave Newns

Our Annual General Meeting recently, started the club's sixtieth year and to celebrate the occasion during the next 12 months the club has several events planned. The main event will be the Dinner Dance which will take place next Autumn at the Everton FC when it is hoped that many of the past members will join us, as happened at the fiftieth anniversary reunion dance.

The new officers and committee who will see that the club is well organised during the next twelve months are:

Chairman:	PAUL HEALY	Vice Chairman:	DAVE NEWNS
Treasurer:	BRIAN KELLER	Assistant Treas:	ANTHONY BROCKWAY
Secretary:	Vacant	Assistant Sec	Vacant
Registrar:	CHRISTINE WELSBY	Assistant Regist:	MIKE HENDRICK
Publicity Sec.	GEORGE RILEY		

Committee: LINDA BAKEWELL, JOAN FINEGAN, ROY BRADLEY, TONY BOND, DAVE CONNOLLY, JIM MITCHELL, MICK NORGATE, DAVE WILSON

The two vacancies for Secretary and Assistant Secretary need to be filled as soon as possible of course. This is a very rare occurrence as there is always someone willing to attend the monthly meetings and take down the minutes. If you think that you may fit the bill then have a word with any of the officers above before committing yourself or have a quiet word with Angela Platt, Marie Douglas, Pat Rothwell, etc and they will tell you all you need to know as they are all past secretaries of the club. You don't have to be able to do shorthand or type, you don't have to be a female! We just need you at least once a month on Monday night, thank you.

Before getting away from the officers and committee I would just like to mention here that the post of Treasurer has finally been taken over from Gerry Penlington after what must be a club record for the longest standing position as an officer of the club, as Gerry has been Treasurer for more years than I can remember. In fact he was Treasurer before many of the present members were even born! Gerry still remains a Trustee of the LCRA and quite willingly let Brian take over as Treasurer along with all the personal tuition that he has given Brian during the past few years. In a word, Gerry was just Brilliant. A big thank you from all of us and Well done, Gerry. I feel sure that you will hear more words of praise in future newsletters, buffet dances, etc.

Talking of buffet dances, the time is rapidly approaching for our very own annual buffet dance. Tickets are NOW ON SALE from Brian Keller, Anthony Brockway, etc. See notice on next page.

SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE - INCREASE ON NOVEMBER 1st - Pay NOW. Save £1.

Pay the Registrar: Christine Welsby or Asst Registrar Mike Hendrick or send cheque for £3 single members, £4 married couples, made out to LCRA before November 1st. AFTER November 1st add £1 to these figures. Christine Welsby's address is: 10 Hassop Walk, Liverpool L7 3PL. There is another reminder in this newsletter about the subs increase, so YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED.

PS: Mike is Christine's assistant. I promoted him on the other notice by mistake, but he will still take your money.

PAPAL KEY RING

Archbishop Derek Worlock has donated a Papal Key Ring to the club. It has been decided to raffle same and proceeds to go towards a heart scanner for the Royal Hospital. Angela Platt and her assistant ticket sellers will be after you. Please give generously.

SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE.

We should like to thank everybody who supported our Land's End to John O'Groats Cycle Ride in aid of the British Diabetic Association.

Everyone has been so generous and all monies including the £25 from the Club have been gratefully received. To date £2,820 has been raised, and we are hoping to reach our target of £3,000 as there are still a few sponsorship forms outstanding.

Many thanks for your support.

Kevin Bell,
Tony Byrne
& John Lanyon.

THURSDAY 30th OCTOBER - at The Liverpool (downstairs):

H A L L O W E E N C H E E S E & W I N E N I T E

Admission £1 including Cheese & Wine plus our Superb Disco!

SATURDAY 15th NOVEMBER - at The Everton Football Club 'Royal Blue Suite'

LCRA's A N N U A L B U F F E T D A N C E

Admission by ticket only £4.50 (includes buffet and Disco)

Music provided by their resident DJ as last year and will play music across the board for all to dance to.

TICKETS NOW ON SALE

FRED NORBURY/CYRIL KELLY TROPHIES

This year's winners: Ladies: MARIA BYRNE, Gent's: MIKE NORGATE

Other competitors (highest first) Linda Bakewell, Denise Forrest, Fiona Hawken.
Gent's: Anthony Brockway, Paul Healy, Paul Sellick/Tony Kirwin, Dave News, Mike Newby/Tommy Keenan, Bob Banks.

NOTE - WE ARE BACK DOWNSTAIRS AT THE LIVERPOOL EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT, 8.30

SUBSCRIPTIONS INCREASE - NOVEMBER 1st

Annual subscriptions have been due since September 1st (unless you have recently joined the club). They are payable to the LCRA through the registrar, Mike Hendrick at £3 for a single person and £4 for married couples. If you renew your membership before the end of this month the old rate still applies, but if you leave it until November 1st it will cost you £4 single, £5 married couples.

RAMBLE TO YR ELLEN (Aber Falls)

On a Sunday morning in August (at least that is what the calendar said) a coach containing a party of ramblers arrived in Bethesda. Two of the party decided to stay in the coach and the other fifteen alighted to begin a combined walk, setting off up some steps which led us to the valley of the Afon Ffrydlas. As we walked up the valley we watched the mist swirling round Yr Elen and other ridges higher than we were and hoped that those big black clouds would disappear but we were to be disappointed. We stopped for a lunch break, sitting on some convenient rocks, but were soon on our way again, it being a little chilly when we stopped for any length of time. Further on we reached the point of no return when Peter pointed out a path which those wishing to finish the walk early could follow and make their way into Aber. However, we all decided to carry on up to the top of Bera Mawr. Before long it started to rain and we stopped and put on our waterproofs hoping it would not last very long (wishful thinking!). We reached the top and stopped for a minute or so but no one wanted to linger. By now the ground was soaked and the long grass at the head of the Afon Goch ensured that we were soaked as well! We had to cross the two branches of the Afon Goch, which was not exactly a trickling stream. We crossed the first branch with comparative ease but when we came to the second branch everyone seemed to cross at a different point. There were many shouts of 'is it better there?' from those who had not crossed and 'come on' from those who had. Eventually all were safely on the other side even if their feet were a bit wetter. We walked or slipped on down to Aber Falls at a much slower pace as we negotiated the very wet and slippery rocks. The Falls were a magnificent sight but as it was still raining we continued on into Aber via the woods where the coach (and dry clothes) awaited us. Later, after clearing the traffic jam at Conwy we stopped at the 'White House' for a much appreciated pub stop. Thanks Peter for a very good walk (despite the weather).

DAPHNE O'SHEA

R A M B L E R I T E

First, the good news: Interest in rambles has remained high over the club's past year - an average of 32 people went out on each of 29 rambles. Many thanks to all who supported them.

The bad news: The coach cost went up during the year and had to be subsidised heavily. As a result our charges for the rambles will be increased immediately to £4, and £3 unemployed. This will be on a trial period of three months when the committee will review the situation. I hope that this will not deter our ramble supporters - £4 is still good value for a full, organised day out.

EQUIPMENT

Just a short note on equipment this month but VERY IMPORTANT. The winter season is fast approaching and already we have sampled a little cold, frosty weather. This is when that extra woollen jumper tucked into your rucksack is necessary. But the things most people forget are HAT and GLOVES. One-fifth of body heat is lost through the head, so obviously a woollen hat will keep you a lot warmer. Fingers are the first part of the body to feel cold, hence the extra insulation required. These items are not only for comfort, they are essential in cold weather. A scarf has many uses and is easily carried, so pop one in the bag as well.

Last but not least is a cagoul. They keep you dry when it's wet and provide a good shield against wind. One should be carried at all times.

Anthony Brockway

RAMBLING PREVIEW

The next few months see a varied and interesting selection of walks coming our way. Walks that are in general not as long as many summertime ones because of the shorter days. Most of these walks, especially in November and December, will be finishing around 5 to 5.30pm. Torches may be needed on some of them.

OCTOBER 19th sees the club going on the last Sunday ramble to the Lake District before the winter sets in, and it won't be until March when we return, so if you want to see the Lake District in all its autumn glory, in particular the Langdales, then join Terry Tucker and Mike Hendrick for a 9.30 start for the PIKE OF BLISCO.

OCTOBER 24th-26th is our annual autumn weekend visit to KESWICK, also your very last chance to see the Lakes before the long dark nights arrive. In short, the weekend consists of a good walk to suit your particular ability on the Saturday and after a good 3-course meal, visiting the different hostelrys in Keswick, finishing off back in Mavis's cellar bar at Lakeside House for a social. After Mass on Sunday, you can do various things: just amble around Keswick or maybe do a short walk, get a boat on Derwentwater, etc, finishing off with an early evening meal, then sadly, returning home. If you want a mini holiday then join us on this superb weekend away. Deposits of £10 being taken by Brian Keller (734 2918).

NOVEMBER 9th is a 9.30 start to LLANWRST, which is near Betwys-y-Coed in the Conway Valley. We haven't been there for quite a while and there is plenty of scope here for some interesting A and B walks, and not too tiring for any lazy B walkers.

NOVEMBER 23rd and the coach heads for Yorkshire this time, to a walk wrongly entitled LOVERS LEAP. This walk starts at Bolton Abbey, near Skipton and is in a wonderful part of the country with the River Wharfe flowing through a narrow cascade over huge gritstone rocks through a beauty spot known as the Strid where a nature walk has been created. The A party will be walking up to Simon's Seat. This is a 10.15 start, so join your hosts Dave Newns and Peter Kennedy and bring plenty of food and drink as Dave reckons there will be no time for a cafe stop on the way. Note: Dogs are not allowed in this area.

DECEMBER 7th. This walk is for those who like a little tittle while out walking, when we visit a real-ale pub during the ramble in a village called Heptonstall, near Hebden Bridge in Yorkshire. Afterwards we all pile out, continuing the day's walk which is not too far from the Bronte Country. Nice Sunday out, so come and join your chief boozers Peter Wilkinson and Paul Healy, who will both try and make you walk in a straight line. These activities start at 9.30 in Liverpool.

DECEMBER 14th. We forsake the coach this time and travel by cars to North Wales for a walk around the Berwyns and PISTYL RHAEDR in particular, which is a huge waterfall. Details for the start of this ramble can be obtained nearer the date.

DECEMBER 28th. Between Christmas and New Year you have the opportunity to get rid of all that food you ate at Christmas by joining us on a walk to NESS CLIFFE which is not far from Whitchurch in Shropshire. It is a new place for us and this Christmas Cheer walk begins at 10.15am in the company of Roy Thisis.

JANUARY 4th, the first Sunday in the New Year when we always return to RIVINGTON BARN. Plenty of walks to choose from and a hot-pot supper, party games, and just to finish off, a Barn Dance. More details about the cost, etc. will be in the next Newsletter which will be published in early December.

PAUL HEALY

REQUEST FOR A PEN PAL

Hello, my name is Miriam, I am 18 and disabled. I live in Belgium and occasionally live in the Cote d'Azur in France with my guardian family.

Being physically handicapped my interests are reading, listening to the radio, and playing records, so I do get very bored at times. I would dearly love to receive letters from male or female penpals. I have an electronic typewriter which I can operate.

I know someone will write to me. I hope it will be YOU!

Further details from Norma Ridings 523 4089 after 6pm

STRIDING EDGE - August 17th

At around 10am anybody who happened to be in the Mersey Tunnel would have seen the strange sight of a driver having a good sing-along to Frank Sinatra whilst speeding towards Liverpool. Yes, I was feeling pretty confident that I would arrive at St John's Lane well before the 10.15 departure time. Little did I realise what was in store. Pulling into the 'Coca Cola' car park it suddenly occurred to me that there was no coach, and worse still, no rambblers! Everything was flashing through my mind: Had the club gone underground (or even overground); had British Summer Time ended (or when did it start?)...then it hit me like an old hiking boot - it must have been a 9.30 start!

Making a quick calculation I knew I must be at least 8 fingers and 3 toes behind the coach. Two things entered my mind: could I catch up with the coach and who could I find to give my car a push-start. A couple of old ladies later I was soon on the East Lancs Road where the Police computer ensured that I hit every red light. Eventually I arrived at Forton Services on the M6 - the rear end of the Altbridge coach loomed into sight - Mission successful! It was not long before my boots and relieved sandwiches were on board and finally on their way to the Lakes.

The Lake District really is a tremendous place and that day we were really in with a true bonus of sunshine. Thankfully we were not getting off at the overcrowded Windermere but at the more peaceful Glenridding, alongside Ullswater.

With most people licking ice-creams of various colours the leaders started organising everyone. Dave ('C' reg) Connolly was to take the B party across Ullswater to Place Fell whilst I opted for the 'Who Dares Wins' A party, being led by Jim 'Cuddles' Hughes.

With the excellent visibility it soon became clear how daunting Striding Edge could look. However, I was convinced the expected views would not disappoint us. It would seem that lots of other walkers had the same idea and it was quite surprising to meet so many people of all ages along the ridge of Striding Edge - many on their way back from Helvellyn, many (like ourselves) either queueing or overtaking on our way up. Some of the congestion put me in mind of what has become a familiar sight on the Snowdon Horseshoe on a fine day. About half way along the edge Dave Newns pointed out a plaque which had been placed in memory of a huntsman who fell a fair drop to his maker nearly a century ago (this is shown in the Wainwright Guide). What the heck he was doing hunting at that height is anybody's guess, however, it served as a good reminder to tread carefully.

The summit plateau of Helvellyn, where someone once told me a plane had landed (was it Dan-Air, I wonder?) gave the rewarding views, and spectacular they were with Coniston, Windermere, Thirlmere, to name a few, all to be seen, as well as Linda running around in circles taking photographs. The tantalising glimpse of Derwent Water and, of course, Keswick, stirred up great memories, and I am sure bring good times in the future at Lakeside House with Mavis in charge! With the butty boxes and flasks being somewhat lighter it was time to move on to 'K2' or Swirral Edge which was to be our return scramble of the day. With everyone in high spirits this seemed like a piece of cake to the earlier ascent.

It seemed such a shame that such a great day was soon to be over, however, the pub stop on return was a good consolation prize! Thanks Jim mate, for a splendid walk.

ROY THUIS

PLACE BELL, JULY, 13TH, 1986, FAMILY SECTION.

It didn't look promising, it didn't look promising at all! The mist over the tops was thick and low. As we ascended the Kirkstone Pass cars passed us with headlights on, and we were soon enveloped in an all pervading mist. However, eventually we were descending into Patterdale to assemble for the walk. For some it wasn't an altogether uneventful journey. George Skillicorn managed to acquire a puncture at the steepest part of the Pass and had to drive almost a mile before finding a suitable place in which to effect a wheelchange. Bad luck George!

We had been forewarned that our Leader was expecting an early start so he was soon shepherding his flock up a steep path at a brisk pace. Patterdale soon assumed Lilliputian proportions. Without any sun to reflect, Brothers Water was flat and grey, looking sullen and glum. The afternoon was enlivened by a group of pony-treckers leading their mounts maybe they had been heading for High Seat but had finished up with Sore Seat instead!

I can't give you a description of the views as they were hiding in the mist, which reduced visibility to a matter of yards, but everybody was enjoying the climb, shaking off the city stiffness in their legs, and the summit was soon in the bag. After this Leo found a nice sheltered hollow in which to have our lunch. Halfway through a shout went up, "Look, blue sky!" as the visibility increased, giving lovely views across to High Street for all except Noel, who was too slow in turning and missed it! From then on the mist evaporated with the heat of the sun, so that the countryside unfolded before us as continued along an undulating path, till we reached the northern end of Ullswater. Steamers progressed sedately, yachts hovered like Cabbage Whites and there was a marvellous absence of demented speedboats hauling water-skiers - a true reward for the earlier disappointment.

It was a battle descending the hillside through a thick quilt of ferns, though most managed without difficulty. It was Bill who protested, stating loudly that he was only 5'2" and a bit, but there was no need for concern for we followed his progress by the ripple of the ferns.

Another refreshment stop had been earned so the party settled a little way from the lakeside path and was enjoying the rest and the lovely warm sunshine when who should turn up like bad (but new) pennies than Mona, Rose and Vera, who had taken a steamer part way along the Lake and were wending their way back to Patterdale. Shortly afterwards we were hailed by the Atherton contingent, plus Darren and Glen, who had been in the vanguard of the original assault party. Our thanks to "Radar" Pearson for arranging the change in the weather (he must have a good contact up there) and for bring us back safe and sound to Patterdale.

Everyone enjoyed a truly grand walk, but please Leo, next time have something done to that path along the Lake. It's harder on the feet than the whole walk put together!

Gerry.

ROCHDALE, SEPT. 14TH, 1986.

I'd threatened Harry with a write-up. When I saw him sitting on their verandah drawing a little map with place names on it I asked him "Is that our route?". He replied "Yes". I said "Good". It was only when he

PROGRAMME - FAMILY SECTION, 1986.

OCT. 12. BEACON FELL. (North of Preston). Come off the M.6 at Junction 32. Proceed north - signposted Garstang - as far as Broughton. Turn right at the traffic lights, go under the M.6., turn left where signposted Beacon Fell Country Park. Meet in the carpark, for a 1.p.m. start. Noel and Angela are leading.

NOV. 6. HOUSE MEETING is at Noel and Angela Fishwick's, 74 Moss Lane Maghull.

NOV. 9. RAINFORD, Lancs. Meet behind the Golden Lion pub in Rainford. Turn off the main road in Rainford between the above mentioned pub and the church for parking. Toilets are up the road. Its a prompt 12.30 start. Pat and Vera Jeffers are leading. They say the walk is about 7 miles long but is flat, and could be muddy given the wrong weather.

NOV. 15. This is the Annual Dance night. Partics. elsewhere in the letter.

NOV. 30. Half day retreat at Sandymount, Burbo-bank Road, Blendallsands. Please be there at about 1.45 p.m.

DEC. 4. HOUSEMEETING. at Mona Roberts's, 7 Embank Road, L'pool 18. I couldn't (and I don't think anyone else could) get worked up about Christmas on December 4th, so its just the usual tea and biscuits!!

DEC. 14. THORNTON HOUGH, Wirral. Maureen Howard is leading this one. It is a 12.30 p.m. start. Meet in the Village Green Carpark in Thornton Hough.

ROCHDALE CONT'D.

gave it to Leo to enable him to lead the cars back to the Motorway that my world collapsed. Gone was all hope of the blow-by-blow account I'd always hoped to achieve. Lovely names of Hills and Valleys and Reservoirs and a Bridge and even a hamlet or two vanished beneath a measly little map with streets and roads and traffic lights emblazoned thereon. Victory is impossible!

What can I write! There were Hills and Valleys and Reservoirs and a Bridge and one or two hamlets, but you don't really want to know their names or the order they came in, do you? You were enjoying them too much to bother. I can't even be sure when the group of C.H.A. Ramblers passed through our butty halt, the dust of their passing settling happily on our sandwiches and in our drinks. Nice to see the Wuisemans, Highams and Sue out in force again.

Enough of this walking rubbish. Lets get down to the real business of the day. Ronnie joined us on the last stretch and led us back to the O'Neill estate, where sausage barms, tea and minerals were downed with unseemly gusto. Peter delayed his appearance at the festive board for a while, but no screaming abdabs here. A truly resourceful man!

A thousand thanks to all four O'Neills for a grand day with the hope of a repeat next year, D.V.

Mona.

Just got space to congratulate and wish all hapiness to Ron and Mary on their marriage. We managed tray, tea and coffee bars in M. and S's Harvest range to add to some they had already received.

S T O P P R E S S .

Mick Maple has advised the Committee that he can no longer guarantee our Sunday bookings in the face of other work being available and the frequency of our cancellations.

We have, therefore, reluctantly suspended the current rambling programme and schedule for the first Sunday of each of the next three months, a definite ramble which will run regardless of number. We will, if possible, organise a car ramble for the intervening weeks.

R A M B L E .

July 1st	Malham invitation Ramble -	Committee
Aug. 5th	4 of the 14	B.Keller
Sept. 2nd	Helvellyn	M.Lewis

J. ADAMSON.
Rambling Chairman.