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12.9.88

LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS



NEWSLETTER



We welcome the following members who have joined the club recently: Irene and Ray Segerberg, Jim Haynes, Barbara Marillat, Annette Molloy, Diane Jones, Maureen Thompson, Robert Ramsey, Joseph Browne and hope you all have many happy years with the club. We start this newsletter with the social side in mind, in the form of our usual Socialite.

S O C I A L I T E

Hello once again,

Let me start by telling that recently we had a conducted tour of the public houses of the city centre when everybody enjoyed themselves. It was not a pub crawl as many may think, in fact we didn't drink in some of the pubs visited! We were all educated by the guide from the Liverpool Tourist Office into the history of so many of our pubs that we usually take for granted. The evening was such an enjoyable one that we, in the near future, will be having a second 'pub crawl' into the history of the dockland pubs. Anyone interested should see me for details or listen carefully to the News at Ten on Thursday nights.

The Annual Tennis Tournament was unfortunately called off for the second year running due to torrential rain on July 16th. This event, open to all members had been running for years without any really adverse weather. It's just the last two wet Julys when an angling tournament on the courts would have been more appropriate!

Ten-pin bowling took place at New Brighton on August 13th. This may have helped one or two who intend taking part in our annual Fred Norbury/Cyril Kelly Trophy competition later this year. I missed this one but I'm sure those who went enjoyed the night.

If there are any quiz buffs amongst us, or otherwise, don't forget that we have a quiz on every last Thursday of every month. So come down and pit your wits against the questions and win a free ramble on any future coach trip with us.

Now for something completely different: Has anyone got any foot trouble? Hard skin, verrucas, corns, blisters, athlete's foot, in-growing toenails, bunions.....need I go on? Because at no great expense to our club, we now have a chiropodist in our midst. Congratulations must go out to Maria Byrne who has just qualified as a chiropodist - that's no mean feat! On that note I'll sign off till next time.

Ta-ra for now,
PAUL HEALY

NOTICE is hereby given that the Sixty-second

A N N U A L G E N E R A L M E E T I N G

of the Association will be held at the 'Liverpool' public house (upstairs), James Street, on Thursday, September 22nd, 1988, at 8.30 pm

- Agenda:
- ✓ 1. To approve the minutes of the last AGM of the club.
 - ✓ 2. To read the Secretary's report.
 - ✓ 3. To read the Treasurer's report.
 - ✓ 4. To read the Chairman's report.
 5. To elect the General Committee for the forthcoming year.
 6. To elect Auditors for the forthcoming year.
 7. To conduct any other business.

Members wishing to submit resolutions of any kind for the above meeting must ensure they are in the possession of the committee not later than seven days prior to the above meeting.

IN MEMORIAM - TOMMY KEENAN

It was a sad loss to so many of us when Tommy Keenan died last month at such an early age. Tommy was a club member for some twenty years. He took part in most of the club's activities including many winter sports holidays with the most recent one in January this year. He ran many marathon races including the annual Liverpool marathon. His popularity was reflected by the large number of club members and friends who attended his funeral and also the messages of sympathy and Mass cards that were sent. Many donations were also sent to Sunnybank Nursing Home, Woolton where Tommy spent his last days. May we take this opportunity again to offer our condolences to his mother, brothers, sister and families. R.I.P.

A Mass is to be said for Tommy at the club's Keswick Weekend in October. It will be the 10.45 Mass on Sunday, 23rd October at the Church of Our Lady and St Charles, Keswick.

The club received the following letter from Dennis Keenan:

Dear Gerry (Penlington),

On behalf of my mother and the rest of my family, I would like to thank you and all the members past and present of the L.C.R.A. for the messages of sympathy on the recent loss of our brother Tommy. To see so many at the funeral and to know that some had travelled long distances to be there was really heartwarming, and we know that with so many friends, memories of Tommy will live on.

Thank you once again,

Dennis Keenan.

ANNUAL MASS

The club's Annual Mass will take place on 25th September in the Cathedral Crypt at 11.30 am. This is the day when we all remember our deceased members and families. If you are not a Catholic you are invited to join us.

R A M B L E R I T E

Coach Departure Time

With this copy of the newsletter you will receive a voting form regarding an alteration to the coach departure times. Please use it.

Although we have only just started our Winter Programme we have to start thinking of the next, ie: Feb-Aug '89, so suggestions of venues (preferably new ones) would be welcome. Also anyone thinking of leading a walk or two, don't wait to be asked. Please volunteer your services if you think you are competent to lead.

Whilst on holiday in the Lakes recently I have pioneered two possible 'A' walks which hopefully can be included in the next programme. I also discovered that my next Birthday i.e. the n -th (where n tends to infinity) coincides with that of Longthwaite Youth Hostel and the May Day Bank Holiday Weekend. So all members are therefore invited (at their cost) to celebrate both occasions. The date is Friday 28th April '89 to Monday 1st May '89. I hope there will be a good turnout. Now to the rambles since the last newsletter:

JULY 10th - Dave Connolly led an excellent A walk, taking us over Ingleborough with fine views of the local countryside including part of the Settle to Carlisle Railway line and Whernside. The pub stop at Ingleton was as usual very welcome and convivial. Those who went on the B walk led by Paul Healy also enjoyed their day which included a walk down beside the spectacular waterfalls of Ingleton.

JULY 24th - Phil Wells led the B walk in the Carnedd's area of North Wales and had a Welsh farmer greeting the party and giving Phil the opportunity to try out his Welsh vocabulary. Peter Wilkinson led a good length A walk.

AUGUST 7th - The A party led by yours truly started from Scales (White Horse Inn) and ascended Blencathra via Sharp Edge which is not as difficult as the name implies (in the perfect conditions that we had). During the descent from Blencathra we met the B party going **in** the opposite direction, so I suppose the A walkers can claim to have done both A and B walks that day, although there were some defectors to the B party for the shorter route back to Keswick. These defectors will be given 'White Feathers'.

AUGUST 21st: - YR ELLEN - This turned out to be a pleasant ramble from Betwys-y-Coed along the river, over the hills and back to the car park in Betwys-y-Coed. The coach never materialised due to a hiccup in the system (mainly due to a certain coach driver roaming around Spain with our new rambling programme in his pocket). We improvised by using cars and 24 of us had a joint ramble. I am pretty certain that this won't happen again after having a conversation with the coach company. One of these days we will eventually get to that elusive Yr Ellen!

FORTHCOMING RAMBLES

SEPTEMBER 4th - HAWESWATER, 9.30am start. Leaders: A. Dave Newns, B. Paul Healy.

Haweswater is a large reservoir near Shap village, supplying Manchester with most of its water. The walks will be followed by a pub meal at the "Crown and Mitre" at Bampton Grange hamlet where both walks start and finish. Closing date for bookings for the meal is Thursday, 25th August!!! Any latecomers may be able to squeeze in with a bit of luck but otherwise can wait in the pub's bar for the others to finish their meal which consists of home-made meat and spud pie, vegetables, followed by apple pie or trifle at a cost of only £2.75 plus the usual coach fare. About 18 of the Family Section will be joining us on this day out to the Lake District.

SEPTEMBER 11th - BOLTON ABBEY, 10.15 start. Leaders: A. Dave Newns, B. Dave Connolly

Once again the two Dave's are leading, so we can expect good walks covering part of the River Wharfe in the Yorkshire Dales National Park, an area of superb landscape quality in one of Britain's finest river valleys. The change in bedrock from sandstone in the south to limestone around Burnstall has produced a great variety of scenery ranging from rough heather moors to characteristic white limestone scars and green pastures. Spectacular natural features include the famous Strid, the Simon's Seat rock outcrops, waterfalls and reef knolls. This walk was changed a few months ago because of land closure due to the dryness of the ground and fire risk. I don't think that will be the case on this day out!

SEPTEMBER 18th - FAIRFIELD HORSESHOE, 9.30am start. Brian Keller will take the A over the whole horseshoe (weather permitting). I am leading the B which is not so adventurous as the A, ascending only Seat Saddle via Grisedale Tarn (The A party may possibly hurl boulders at us whilst we are at the tarn and they are at the top of Fairfield).

IAN FREEMAN (Rambling Chairman)

PATTERDALE MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOC. The club sent a donation of £25 to this worthy cause recently and the following letter of acknowledgement has been received:

"The Patterdale Mountain Rescue's official receipt for your most generous donation of £25 is enclosed. The money will be used to support and equip the Patterdale Mountain Rescue Team so that it can provide an effective and efficient rescue service to those in or on the fells around Patterdale. Thank you for your support. It is greatly appreciated."

DON'T FORGET TO BOOK YOUR PLACE FOR THE KESWICK WEEKEND (21-23 OCT). Bob Gregson is the man to see. Cost is about £30 payable in advance. See any committee person for full details of this twice-annual weekend at Keswick in guesthouse accommodation

FORTHCOMING RAMBLES

July 3rd LANGDALES - In the heart of the Lake District and one of the most popular areas. The 'A' led by Mike Norgate and the 'B' by Paul Healy. 9.30am start.

July 10th WHERNSIDE - One of the 3 Peaks in West Yorkshire in the Ingleton area. The 'A' led by Dave Connolly and the 'B' by Paul Healy (leader change). Start 10.15.

July 24th CARNEDDS, Snowdonia - The Carnedds overlook Lake Ogwen and with good weather there should be fine views of the lake, Y Garn, the Glyders and Tryfan. 'A' led by Peter Wilkinson and the 'B' by Phil Wells. 9.30 start.

August 7th BLENCATHRA - A new venue for the club. Blencathra is an imposing mountain to the east of Keswick, the A party led by myself will ascend via Sharp Edge and finish in Keswick. The 'B' will be led by Bob Gregson. 9.30 start.

26th-29th August BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND - A Youth Hostel visit to Llangollen. The booking list is already open with 14 names on the list so if you would like to go please let me have your name as soon as possible.

The Winter Programme is almost ready for the printers and offers a wide selection of venues including two hot-pots and an evening meal after a walk in the Haweswater area.

The coaches have been well supported over the last two months and it is hoped that this support continues.

IAN FREEMAN
Rambling Chairman.

ORGANISED CLUB RAMBLES - DISCIPLINE

At our last committee meeting it was brought to our notice that some members were using the coach supplied by the club to go off on their own walks. This has happened on more than one occasion and several people were involved.

Sometimes people have not felt fit enough for a walk after reaching the destination and have just walked around the shops, etc but first informing the leader of their intention. This is acceptable, but what the club is concerned with is the people who just go off on their own walks for one reason or another and often not enquiring about the coach departure time at the end of the day or even telling the leader that they will be doing their own walk. This is contrary to our club's rules and could also put the club at risk if an accident happens to people doing their own thing, plus the delays which would arise in the event of such people getting back to the coach late. Over optimism, unexpected bad weather, getting lost, all contribute to unexpected delays. Leaving a walk without the permission of the leader is forbidden . . .

Therefore it is hoped that all members will in future come out with us as a club and take part in the walks planned by the leaders in a true club spirit. Thank you, all the many who have given your full support. Long may you continue so.

PAUL HEALY
Chairman.

DOOR ROTA

June 30th Ann Connor, July 7th Dave Newns, July 14th Paul Healy, July 21st Brian Keller, July 28th Anthony Brockway, August 4th Ian Freeman, August 11th Allan Caple

PATTERDALE Y.H.A. WEEKEND

A party of 15 spent the Communist Holiday Weekend (otherwise known as MAY DAY) at Patterdale Youth Hostel. When all were assembled and fixed up with beds, a short walk of about seven miles was taken along the bank of Ullswater to Sandwick, in fair but doubtful weather. From Sandwick the return to Patterdale was over Place Fell (2,154 ft). This ascent is very gentle and usually gives good views of the lake. These unfortunately were missed owing to low cloud. The evening was spent enjoying an excellent meal and visiting the local watering holes.

Sunday started wet, but the weather improved slightly and eleven took off to Grisedale Tarn. Following the lunch stop at the tarn, first class sandwiches (organised by Bernie with assistance from Maureen) it was decided to tackle Helvellyn via Dollywagon Pike. All went well in dry weather until just before the summit when a thunderstorm started; Helvellyn is not a healthy spot in such conditions. All our party returned safely but very wet. You may have read or seen on T.V., that there was a fatality. Two walkers were burnt during this storm, and we must be thankful that none of our party were involved. We saw the Patterdale Mountain Rescue Squad taking off to assist as we returned. Let us hope that the Club never has cause to call on them!

The remaining four of the party went pony trekking. Their experiences are described elsewhere in this issue.

Monday again turned out wet, so we had a low level walk to Brothers Water and a pub lunch in the "Brothers Water Hotel", which Paul Healy discovered was featured in the Kelloggs T.V. advert. On returning to Patterdale and after the "end of walk cuppa" we were able to wash and change at the hostel before returning to Liverpool.

Our thanks go to Joe the warden at Patterdale and his staff for such an enjoyable weekend, to Bernie for buying the food for the butties and the drivers without whom the trip could not have taken place.

Ian has completed the walking piece above, so that it only remains for me to tell you of the alternative walk that Sunday.

(THE PONIES DID ALL THE WALKING).

It was Marian who declared her intention to pony trek on Sunday. Kate and Mary were keen to join her and then I was recruited too. (The fact that it was an alternative to Striding Edge, never occurred to me) --"Grin". I'm really very fit, as you all know!

Sunday's weather, on the ground was very mixed, times of strong sunshine and periods of showers. As we set out for Side Farm Marian assured me that ponies and horses will walk out in any weather and "No" I would not need to take an umbrella on the ride.

Continued.

Once in the stable yard Kate was the first to mount, complete with riding hat. I remember thinking that she looked as elegant as any one of those fine young ladies of the Spanish Riding School, even without hunting pink. (How can scarlet be called pink?)

Mary and Marian once easily in the saddle waited for the remainder of us to follow. (There were about ten riders in all). Mary looked comfortable and Marian looked totally at home on her mount.

It was my turn - and I was scared! I introduced myself to "Jake", my pony, and shook his hoof!!

I then climbed carefully, foot in stirrup over his back and fell down the other side - a considerable number of times. Finally I mounted and stayed feeling triumphant at crossing the first hurdle. The Cavalry then left the yard to begin the one hour trek on the very lowest slopes of Place Fell.

The rocky track was easily trodden by the ponies and the sun shone brightly for the duration of the ride. We left the farm buildings behind and passed the Camp Site. We were on our way! Soon in the glorious sunshine Ullswater stretched out below us on the left and the sloping rocky hillside rose sharply on our right. The colours of the Ullswater ferry could be seen clearly from here - bright and lovely. It was a quiet ride. The only sounds to be heard were the tread of pony hoofs clicking on stone, bird songs and occasionally the rushing and spilling of waterfalls.

We halted after about 30 minutes into the trek, I think for the accompanying stable girl to do a head count, and once she was re-assured, that all was well, we were off again, this time descending.

The ride altogether was very comfortable and went well. There was just one incident when Mary's pony turned briskly away from the path and began climbing a waterfall. How steep was it? About equivalent to the side of a house!!! Mary hung on - looking pale, and allowed the pony to drink at leisure. Thankfully, - when completely satisfied and refreshed he returned safely with Mary, to the path and continued to behave himself. (Even ponies should be allowed a drink!) We continued (or the ponies did) to descend skillfully down a slate track and returned to Side Farm. Dismounting gracefully?? Our trek was completed, as it started to rain.

Thanks to Marian for a lovely idea within a super weekend.

NORAH SHEEHAN

ESKDALE WEEKEND
SAT 28th MAY to MON 30th MAY

A party of eleven enjoyed a pleasant weekend at Eskdale Youth Hostel. Eskdale is a valley we are unable to visit on a normal Sunday ramble. It is a beautiful valley which I certainly intend to visit again.

The Hostel is very well appointed with a friendly, easy going warden and excellent food. Unfortunately, the weather on Sunday was too wet to allow us to tackle Scafell Pike, so a lower level walk via Harter Fell to Seathwaite was undertaken. The pub lunch at Seathwaite (Duddon Valley) was very welcome. The return to Eskdale was via Stanley Falls, a spectacular waterfall feeding into the Esk.

Monday was a very good day with brilliant sunshine. The party split into groups, some taking a leisurely sight-seeing trip home. Paul, Maureen, Colin and Annette visiting Coniston. Carol, Tom, Jim and myself caught the "Ratty" to Ravenglass and then had a pleasant walk back to the hostel over the Muncaster Fells with a Ploughman's Lunch at Eskdale Green.

IAN FREEMAN

SUNDAY 5th JUNE - SHEFFIELD PIKE

After an unplanned late start from St. John's Lane, and a "picturesque" detour through Kirkby, we finally reached the M6, when all our travel problems should have been over. However, the coach with a nearly full complement couldn't make the Kirkstone Pass, so everyone had to alight and walk about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile before rejoining the comfort of the coach. (Thank goodness it wasn't raining)!

The B party led by Brian Keller left the coach at Brothers Water, and proceeded through Hartsop and up to Hayeswater and the Knot and thence via Angle Tarn to Patterdale and after crossing the road continued via Lanty Tarn to Glenridding.

The A party started from Glenridding and ascended Sheffield Pike with fine views of Ullswater. From here they made their way to Sticks Pass and proceeded to the summit of Helvellyn via Raise, Whiteside and Lower Man, returning via Swirral Edge. Although I started to lead this walk a heavy cold forced me to retire very quickly. (Is this the first time a leader has dropped out?) Thanks to Dave News for taking over.

IAN FREEMAN

FAMILY SECTION PROGRAMME, 1988.

JULY 7. The House Meeting is at George and Audrey Parkinson's 121 Alt Road, Formby.

JULY 10. walk - Derbyshire. Get to Macclesfield then Buxton using the A537 over the Cat and Fiddle. On the outskirts of Buxton there are traffic lights at a Y junction ('car showrooms at traffic lights). Take right fork B5059 to Bakewell and Pooles Cavern. Follow this road across two junctions, down hill under railway arch to T junction, which is the A6 (Gas holder in front of you at junction). Turn right on to the A6 and follow signs for Bakewell and Matlock. Pass through Bakewell following signs for Matlock - still on A6. Pass Haddon House and about 1½ miles on, on the right, is the B5056. Take this road signed for Alport and Youlgreave. Park in Youlgreave. The Pearsons will be at strategic positions to help you here. The journey is about 60 miles from Liverpool. The walk is about 11 miles. Hopefully there are toilets in Youlgreave. We start walking at 12.30. Get lost getting there and you really won't have tried!!

AUGUST 4. For anybody not in the Bahamas or up a mountain somewhere Rosemary at 33 Eskdale Drive Maghull would be pleased to see you. Can't actually promise but the homemade wine brew this year looks like being vintage.

AUGUST. There isn't a walk this month.

SEPT. 1. We'll all be glad to see Nora Naylor at 114 Moss Lane Maghull. Turn up at about 8 p.m. with your backslaps or grouses and air them. It's quite enjoyable.

SEPT. 11. Pin your eyes back! The meet for Harry O'Neil's walk this year is a variation from the usual pattern. Leave the M62 at Junction 22. Be there at 12.30 and the O'Neil's will be waiting to show us where to park. Not sure about toilets so use on the way.

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PENDLE HILL. MAY 8TH, 1988.

The rendez - vous, Nick of Pendle - was reached after a steep climb up the road from Sabden, famous for witches. The bulk of the regulars (not physical) plus four welcome 'new-comers' including Anne and Peter were found willing and able. We started in a North Easterly direction along a wide rough path, ascending gradually to the first cairn. On our left was Ashendean Clough; ahead, the path petered out, the visibility palled (obscure puns?) and to our right was Ogden Clough. One would be hard pressed to admit that the countryside was enchanting but I am assured, given the right weather, that the views were worthwhile. At that particular time we were not given the right weather and the only views on the subject were expressed sotto voce, in deference to the leader's feelings. Does he really have feelings?

Eventually, we stopped for lunch beside a wall near the summit of Pendle where we were informed that, given the right weather, the views etc. etc. ... Our informant then led his party off into the mist. We set off, rounding the shoulder of Pendle and gradually descended to a plantation, the weather and views improving all the time. The terrain at this lower level was softer and we passed along a wide track past Hook Cliffe, a 17th century farmhouse, where the leader's reference to the ... and course drive

unusual five-light windows with stone mullions and course drip mould above was greeted with something less than enthusiasm by the party. Soon we passed through Moorside farmyard complete with peacock, and, ahead to Angram Green with Worsaw Hill to our

We crossed two fields and stopped for 'butties' before continuing to Little Wearley Hall, an impressive building, deserving of a 'snap.' We followed a lovely lane lined with holly hedges and turned beyond some crossroads and, wait for it, started to climb again. Yes, to reach our cars the last mile entailed gling uphill. What sadist planned this walk? There he was out in front looking back at the group, obviously relishing the situation. But that last mile was worth it, wasn't it? The ascent in lovely evening sunlight led to a barn, over a stile, up to another barn and eventually the Wellsprings Hotel came into view - ahead and above us!

I enjoyed the walk, I'm sure everyone did, and that climb at the end was something different.

Thanks George and specially whipper-in Freda

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MOEL FFERNA, 12TH JUNE, 1988.

There's an embarrassment of riches here! Not knowing that Jerry and Jean had appointed a writer-up (they were away) Pat Pearson on request let me have a write-up by return of post, then "Aton"'s article turns up. Both are enjoyable, so here goes.

Well folks - what do you think of the weather? It was certainly a perfect day for the walk. Bright, sunny, warm but with a refreshing breeze. The journey to Gwynndiffrin through Llangollen was extremely pleasant with not a lot of traffic but plenty of pleasant scenery. There were fifteen other happy people who joined Jerry and Jean (we were even happier when we finished) on their walk.

Gerry wouldn't let us eat before the start and it was just as well! The first $\frac{1}{2}$ mile was up and up a very steep lane, thank goodness it was shady. We had to keep stopping to admire the wild flowers (our excuse) on the way. After crossing a stile our way was across several fields where we stopped for lunch whilst admiring the view across the valley.

Onwards again, this time gently uphill to the grouse moors although the only people to see any grouse were Gerry and Ieo who, as usual with their long legs were out in front, though they said it was our chatter which made them hide. Not a sou? did we see all day, the only sign of life being the sheep and larks.

Most of the time we had to walk Indian fashion as the path was so narrow, obviously never used, and the heather was knee high. We stopped at the summit of Moel Fferna for a well earned rest and to enjoy the peace and quiet. The path continued off the moors alongside a forest and finally down through a long leafy glade complete with stream, back to the cars.

An excellent day in every way. Many thanks to Gerry and Jean.

Pat Pearson.

FAMILY SECTION RAMBLE - MOEL FFERNNA - 12TH JUNE, 1988.

The journey from Ruthin, over the Horse Shoe Pass, to Llangollen was like seeing an old movie. It reminded some of us of those black and white days when cycling was the weekend sport. Was it really decades ago when the Horse Shoe just had to be the route into Wales. Perhaps it was another life, lived by other people with our same names - if so, it is fortunate that we can remember the 'film'.

Gerry and Jean McDonald welcomed us at the start of their walk which set off from the Dee Valley east of Corwen. The sky was without cloud, and a hot day was starting. A rash of sensibleness broke out in the form of a variety of safari hats worn by Leo, Ken, Bill Marcia, and even Moel Ffishwick. Of course Leo also carried his megasac, and Pat, in true Pearson fashion, helped with the storage problems by wearing a nifty hat complete with a zip pocket.

The route from the Dee - soon to be a blue ribbon in the valley - took us towards the Berwyns and a first stop with a grade one landscape. Hawthorn trees were in blossom and seventeen ramblers knew they were having an excellent day. At the top of Moel Fferna (2,066 ft.) a crescent cairn provided shelter from a light breeze. The descent through fresh ferns and woodland was a delight, and the enjoyment of a shaded waterfall by Audrey, Peggy, Angela and Freda was disturbed only by the clicking of the odd Pentax and Olympus. Sometime, we would like to see the pictures, George. But do we need the technology, because G and J have now added to our own memory store, pastoral images which will also be remembered, this time in colour, for decades.

Atom.

A complete picture?

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At a recent house meeting the point was made that we are not catering as well as we once did for the young marrieds with young children. Is there anybody, known to anybody, who would help in this - someone with youngsters of their own who like walking. We, of course, would give all possible help. The Winter walks are not too tough, but we would like to be ready for the Spring and Summer Programme. Do help if you can.

we were a bit thin on the ground at the last Chalet weekend but was absolutely delicious. The lovely weather meant that we waited until the fierce heat of the sun had moved on and even then took our time! The next weekend is on the 1st and 2nd of October.

All for now. May all those exam results be good, and holidays happy enough to shorten the 'results' time.

Mona.