

LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS



THE L.C.R.A.
NEEDS YOU!

Get yourself elected on to the committee at the AGM in September

NEWSLETTER No 37 (5th Series) AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 1993

Since the last edition on July 1st the club have held a Fourteen Peaks Challenge weekend, half a dozen rambles and an incident involving a helicopter lift of one of our General Section members. Reports of the Fourteen Peaks Challenge and of the helicopter incident are given in this edition. All the Seniors' Section events seem to be included in the four pages at the end of this edition but sadly no reports of any of the General Section rambles or of any Social Events have been given for this edition, so how about rectifying this by YOU the general member writing something for the next newsletter regarding recent rambles, social events, etc. Thanks to Anthony, Ray and Joe for submitting material for this edition, and to Mona and all her writers for keeping all and sundry informed of the Seniors' Section and what they get up to on their rambles, etc.

Material for the next newsletter to be given to me or sent to my mansion at 7 Abbotts Way, Billinge, Wigan WN5 7SB.

DAVE NEWNS, Editor

Typed by Dave Newns (General Section/Family Section) and Mona Roberts for the Seniors' Section. Printed by Dave Newns. Stapled by Dave Newns. Distributed by Beryl Baker (Registrar). Volunteers welcome to share some of the above jobs on a temporary or permanent basis.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to all new members and we hope your stay will be a long and happy one with our club. The list below is of members who joined in June. (No July or August list has been submitted yet.)

William Harris, Christine Harris, Rosemary Taker, Susan Kelly.

THE KESWICK WEEKEND - 22nd to 24th OCTOBER (Lakeside House, Keswick).

The early birds have already been and gone. This weekend has now been fully booked! Yes we have a full house of some forty-odd members who have paid their £10 deposits. A reminder that the full amount (£50) has to be paid BEFORE the weekend and any last-minute cancellations may be liable to the full amount.

The £10 deposit is not returnable. Please note that there may be an overflow list for people to stay nearby but this is not confirmed at the moment.

Cost of the weekend includes coach fare and bed, breakfast and evening meals on the Saturday and Sunday. Also included is a packed lunch for the Saturday but not for the Sunday. A packed lunch can be ordered at extra cost for the Sunday. Members who go up by car will still be charged the full coach fare! Free use of the coach during the weekend is included in the cost.

PROGRAMME CHANGE

November 14 and 21: Transpose these dates to read 14 RETREAT, 21 TRYFAN.

REFERENDUM ON SMOKING ON THE COACHES

The result of the Referendum is that smoking will be banned from our coaches starting with the new programme in February next year. Until then the six rows at the front of the coach are No Smoking areas but you are encouraged to refrain from smoking with immediate effect whenever possible.

BOOKS ON WALKING - A selection of hard-back walking books are for sale. For further details contact Ray Pemberton.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the sixty-seventh ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Association will be held at the 'Legs of Man', London Road, on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23rd 1993, at 8.30 pm.

A G E N D A

1. To approve the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting of the Association.
2. To read the Secretarial Report.
3. To read the Treasurer's Report.
4. To read the Chairlady's Report.
5. To elect Officers and Committee for the forthcoming year.
6. To elect Auditors for the forthcoming year.
7. Any Other Business.

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

C H A R I T Y C E I L I D H

This is our club's own Charity dance to be held in aid of Claire House
(Further details of the charity are given below)

A good night with plenty of fun in trying out the various Ceilidh dances under the instructions of the LIVERPOOL CEILIDH BAND caller.

Whether you are an absolute beginner, or an expert, you will be assured of plenty of entertainment and good exercise for those leg muscles for the next ramble.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th is the date and there is a bar from 8 until late

The place of course is THE IRISH CENTRE, MOUNT PLEASANT. (STREET PARKING)

Get your ticket now—even if you can't get to the dance—give to charity

TICKETS £3.50 from Beryl Baker, Brian Keller
or Committee members

A Respite Hospice is urgently needed for Merseyside and North Wales. Claire House is a respite hospice for the sick, dying children of Merseyside and North Wales. At present, children suffering life threatening or life limiting conditions have to travel to Manchester, or even further to Birmingham or Yorkshire for specialist respite care, or to enter hospital. Some leaflets giving full details are in circulation regarding the above.

HIGH DRAMA ON THE 'C' WALK

Sunday morning in early July seen the normal gathering of rambblers in St John's Lane somewhat subdued and quietly reflecting the sombre mood of the dark and threatening clouds that had everybody huddled up, - little members standing in the lee of the big members anxiously looking for Formby Coach with Ken at the helm to come sweeping up the lane with a promise of dry refuge and cheerful greetings mixed with hopeful phrases like "Rain at Seven, Dry by Eleven" and "Summer has got to start Sometime".

The programme had us down for Bethesda in the Ogwen Valley and always on the lookout for new and interesting walks as leader of the 'C' walk I had already decided to disembark at Bethesda and walk in a north-westerly direction across the felltops to Aber village via Aber Falls on the understanding that it was not too strenuous, that we would be afforded panoramic views of Anglesey and Puffin Island, and more important, the weather forecast had indicated that fine weather would appear at noon. Indeed, hope lives forever in the breast of man.

Sure enough, no sooner had we gained access to the heights above Bethesda and we were admiring the view across the valley when the clouds disappeared to be replaced by a magnificent blue sky. A reflection of the waters of Liverpool Bay. Five minutes to shed heavy weather gear and to pack them away for the rest of the day. With no indication of the footpath on the ground, navigation was mostly done by combined map and compass and a realisation that the good people of Bethesda no longer walked to Aber village, no doubt preferring to travel by car and of course the hundreds of miners who must have made the path very pronounced now belonged to the history books.

The highlight of the walk was to be Aber Falls, and our first glimpse of them was from a rare vantage point about two miles away, unusual as most people get their first view when they are almost underneath them on the main path on the other side of the valley. We soon covered the two miles to the Falls and it was while we were admiring the waterfall from the base as we were stood on the grassy river bank, and I had reached the decision that no way could we ford the River Aber owing to the torrential rain of the last few days (but not to worry as there was a well defined footpath on the south side of the river which would lead us to Aber village) when an unusual and unexpected incident and indeed unwelcome accident happened - one of our members, Pat Halpin, just simply fell over! I've no doubt that Pat, on a hundred of similar occasions of that nature simply piced herself up without any more ado. Pat just laid as she was, so it was obvious that something nasty had happened. I suppose took about five minutes to make the decision that Pat would have to have medical assistance. Dispatching blond Bill to cross the river over fallen tree trunks and to knock up a farm house twenty minutes running time away, alert he emergency services with the location of our injured member - I reckon Bill did a good job. Well done Bill! Meanwhile, after leaving four members behind with Pat to comfort her and to give information to the Mountain Rescue when they arrived, the rest of us started to make our way to rendezvous with the coach down at Aber village. At a vantage point above the river a short time later we could make out Bill retracing his steps back to Aber Falls closely followed by two Land Rovers which could only be the rescue service as I knew the path had no vehicle rights and this was only forty minutes after the accident. Ten minutes later the Rescue Helicopter from RAF Valley came in at 9 o'clock high, quite a dramatic scene as Aber Falls is situated at the head of a box canyon - a tricky manouver. Ten minutes later the chopper was winging its way to Bangor Hospital with Pat and her friend Ann Grimes on board. Events later showed that Pat had broken a number of bones in her right leg. Coincidentally Pat broke her left leg in a similar accident in Scotland only twelve months ago! It could be that Pat could be running out of legs but you can bet your bottom dollar that when the leaves first appear on the trees next year Pat will be back walking because like me Pat knows that there is no known cure for Fell Top Fever!

Postscript to the Aber Falls accident:

May I take advantage of the article submitted by myself by respectfully giving a little advice to the prospective and emergin. walk leaders of this club whom I fully support and encourage.

Fifteen years ago I used to do a lot of rambling with the Lancaster Mountain and Fell Walking Club - a tough outfit if ever there was. One of the main planks of the club rules was that all walk leaders while in open country including mountain ridges, should ensure their position every half hour, and to establish exactly where they were in order that should an accident occur requiring medical assistance they would be able to alert the Mountain Rescue and give an accurate grid reference to the scene of the accident. The reason is obvious, it could make a difference between life or death. If you are a walk leader and you do not know where you are then you ~~just~~ become a liability to the very people you have elected to lead. Stay with it and aquire the skills of map and compass, grid references, contour lines, trig points and the rest of the skills of land navigation which make it such a fascinating subject. How nice when a member asks 'Where are we?' to reply not by vaguely pointing out on the map saying 'We're somewhere about here' but to pin point on the O.S. map and say 'We are exactly at this point here!'

Happy Rambling, JOE ROURKE

HELP SAVE OUR WOODLAND WALKS

The Ramblers' Association are concerned that as woods and forests are gradually privatised we may lose access to these areas.

Please use the letter below (suggested by the Ramblers' Association) to write to your local MP asking them to protect our future walks.

To:MP (Your own address here)
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA

.....1993

Dear

THREAT TO OUR WOODLAND WALKS

As one of your constituents, I am writing to express my great concern about the growing threat to our freedom to walk in the nation's woods and forests.

The government is pursuing a policy of selling off hundreds of thousands of acres of the Forestry Commission's woods and forests. The Commission permits and encourages freedom to roam on foot to almost all its land. But its woods are being sold without any adequate safeguards to protect this freedom.

And privatisation of all the Forestry Commission's land - as is now being seriously considered by the government - could make matters worse.

The Forestry Commission has often said that public access to its forests can easily be accommodated without damage to wildlife or timber production.

Ministers have declared that they recognise the importance of protecting freedom of access to public forests. But they have not yet taken adequate steps to achieve this aim. Legislation to protect public access to the nation's woods and forests is therefore urgently needed. Please press the government to protect our national forests, and our freedom to roam through them.

Yours sincerely,

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THE FOURTEEN PEAKS CHALLENGE - Jottings of a helper

In the weeks leading up to the challenge walk I could not make up my mind whether to have a go or not, due to my indecision I decided to go on the weekend just to help. My original idea was to sit in the car and act as a feeding station, but there were already enough helpers for this task, with Ray's persuasion that they needed more experience on the walk, I ended up entering for the Challenge attempt yet again. Will I ever learn?

After an early rise and a car journey from Liverpool, the participants waited at Llanberis for the train to the summit. Barry had already started up but Ray, our conscientious Rambling Chairman found himself in an embarrassing situation. His rucksack and boots had been mistakenly driven to the camp site, leaving him in a borrowed kagoul and wearing training shoes.

After a slow and cold journey to the summit cafe we disembarked and rushed from the platform into the cafe to don kagoules. Then up to the trig point to start the walk, the time was 12.10. The top was bathed in mist, windy, cold and very wet, and as usual there were lots of people about. No time to spare, we were off to peak number two: Crib-y-ddysgl. The renovation work at the top of the Miners Track caused slight confusion, but focussed ones attention on the need not to make mistakes. Second peak completed and the rain started - a slippery crossing of Crib-goch was assured. Progress was slow as we waited for our group to cross each obstacle or other groups to clear the obstacle in front. The competition for the heaviest rucksack materialised with Doug a worthy winner, camera and heavy video camera included - I hope the pictures turn out. The main ridge completed we now weaved our way down the north ridge to the road, Nant Peris and the back-up team of Dave and Brian.

Ray was now happily reunited with boots and rucksack with the rest of us warming up with coffee and welcome sunshine and a quick change into shorts for some of us, ready to set off for peak number four, Elidir Fawr. The decision to split the party had already been taken, as we stretched out Ray stayed with the leading group whilst I dropped back to encourage the rest.

Barry and Doug started to suffer from cramp which needed the odd bit of massage - in time they walked it off, gaining a second wind. Unfortunately Alan now started to suffer. Number four completed we took a five-minute rest then off again along the ridge. The descent went well but Alan began to fade on the climb up to Y Garn - on reaching the top he was completely drained and was causing me some concern. On the descent he began to stagger and stop frequently wanting to close his eyes and sleep. Alan had to be taken off. Barry and Doug elected to stay with us. We slowly worked our way down the Devil's Kitchen path, resting frequently and consuming some food and drink. On reaching the road Alan had recovered sufficiently to carry on walking along the road the two miles to the campsite.

On arriving in the cold, damp night air, Bernie and Helen had the stew hot and ready for us which we rapidly consumed. The leading group had still not arrived, though it was now eleven o'clock and very dark. Dave and I, complete with torches went in search, after half-a-mile we bumped into them, however Brian was still up there with five rucksacks strapped around his body, hopefully descending on the same path that we were attempting to ascend in the difficult terrain up to Tryfan Bwlch. Eventually we saw a faint light ahead and met Brian to share his load. Everyone was safely down, fed and in bed just after midnight.

Mike was the first riser at 4am. He was keen to start even though it was pitch black with poor visibility. By 4.30 most of us were up and tucking into porridge - slight problem, no sugar - answer add a dollop of jam! Just after 5.00 we were on our way in small groups. On the climb up to Pen yr Oie Wen two groups formed with Doug, Mike and myself in front.

Visibility was bad but good time was made along the ridge to Carnedd Dafydd and Craig Llugwy. Here the mist cleared and the wind dropped enabling us to see the others following not too far behind. Up Carnedd Llewelyn, into the mist and our highest peak of the day. It was too cold to stop so we headed for Yr Elen fortunately faltering onto an obscure path. Yr Elen is a dog leg off the main ridge. On gaining the summit we were rewarded with the mist lifting to reveal Anglesey, the surrounding countryside and our two remaining peaks.

On regaining the main ridge we bumped into the others who had a free mystery tour of the summit of Llewelyn whilst in the mist.

Our route now lay over the undulating peaks of Foel Grach and Foel Fras, made easy by complete lifting of the mist. We even scaled the 15th munro of Wales, Garnedd Uchaf, then met Dave coming in the other direction to encourage us on our last peaks. We waited at the finishing point to cheer the others in. Having waited for some time and still no sign of them, and feeling the cold, we started down. Doug's knee had packed up and a slow descent was made to Aber Falls and the cars. The others had gone down a different way and had beaten us to Aber village.

Congratulations to the six that completed the route. They were (14 peaks):

Tom Reilly, Chris Grice, Gary Wilson, Anne Wilson, Phil Smith, Ray McIntosh.

The peaks covered by the others were: Doug Chadwick (11), Barry Dooley (11), Anthony Brockway (11), Mike Newby (8), Alan Caple (5), William Harris (2), Christine Harris (2).

My thanks and those of the participating team go to all the back-up team especially Bernie Doyle and Helen Eassom for the food and Brian Eassom and Dave Newns for the co-ordination and walking support.

Thanks also go to Ray for setting up and organising the challenge. The overnight camp and additional back-up meant that some people could participate in their own personal challenge.

ANTHONY BROCKWAY.

APPRECIATION FROM THE ORGANISER OF THE ABOVE EVENT

Details of the above walk have been amply covered by personal accounts given verbally by the participants and by Anthony in his excellent report above. However, I would like to thank personally everyone who made it such a memorable weekend by participating. We could not have continued without the help of Bernie and Helen whose culinary excellence was much appreciated by the walkers. A special thank you to Anthony for self-sacrifice and Brian for erecting and dismantling the tents and generally keeping it all together. Lastly I'd like to thank Dave for being there, as always, quietly getting on with the job - giving a lift to Barry a thousand foot up the back of Snowdon, helping to put up the tents and meeting half of the group high up on the steep mountain road above Aber.

Thank you again.

RAY MCINTOSH.

PARKING AT ST JOHN'S LANE

A warning to people parking their cars on the Sunday - I had one of my wheels nicked from my car a few weeks back. I was parked by the pavement just behind where the coach picks up. Luckily my spare was still there but I have since found that the bearings had been damaged after the car was presumably dropped! Locking wheel nuts are now in position. The special nuts can be purchased from Halfords at £29.99 and are a good insurance against this menace. It is extremely difficult to take off a wheel with these special locking nuts in place and there are dozens of different lock patterns-(Editor).

THE FAMILY SECTION

Dear Rambler

The 'new' Family Section celebrates its first birthday on the 10th October. The past year has shown a mixed response with between two and eight families attending the walks, but most encouraging is the enjoyment had by all, especially the children. New and old faces have appeared and all have been most welcome.

The section is still building up so pass the information on to your friends.

Please also remember that the future development and direction of the section is for you to decide, pass criticisms, comments and appreciations on - to the newsletter, the leader or myself. It is not only by such feedback that the leaders will know if they are getting it right. Incidentally if you have a favourite walk or would like to go to a certain area then let me know and we will attempt to arrange it.

Most of the walks start at 12 noon and last between four and five hours, normally taking place on the second Sunday of the month.

The following are details of the forthcoming rambles for the Family Section:

- Sept 12 Upton by Chester Anthony Brockway 051-608 0425. Meet in the car park of Bache Railway Station at 12 noon. From Birkenhead take the A41 towards Chester then the A5116 to Upton, after a further half-mile turn left to the station.
- Oct 10 Rossendale Peter Wilkinson Tel 0695 421681. Start time 12 noon. Meet in the car park at Clough Head information centre. There are two car parks, part in the one with toilets. From Liverpool take the M62, M66 and A680 to Haslingden. In the centre of Haslingden turn left onto the B6232, after two miles turn right into the car park.
- Nov 14 Formby George Riley Tel 07048 70161. Meet in the car park at Formby point at 12 noon. From Formby Station follow Kirkland Road towards beach, turn left at the end onto St Luke's Church Road and then turn right onto Lifeboat Road. Car park is on the right. It is 20 minutes walk from the station to the car park.
- Dec 12 WIRRAL Ray Pemberton. Details later.

ANTHONY BROCKWAY.

BIKE WANTED

Successfully advertised in the last newsletter there were several answers and offers of bikes to the advertiser. A lady's bike has been acquired but a gent's bike is still needed. Telephone 259 3417 if you have one to sell.

ANNUAL MASS

This is a Sunday set apart specially for us all to attend the Cathedral Crypt of the Metropolitan Cathedral (side entrance, down the steps) on September 26 at 11.30 am. It is a memorable occasion and a guitar Mass, when we remember all our friends and families who have rambled on from this life. All Associate members are most welcome to join us on this special day. It is assumed that all Full members will automatically be there as usual.

THURSDAY SOCIALS

Another reminder that attendances are dropping at the Legs of Man on the Thursday Socials. We are in danger of losing this upstairs room if we don't support the club in much larger numbers than at present.

SENIORS' SECTION PROGRAMME, 1993.

There isn't any more precise information to hand regarding future rambles so, for the sake of those among us who have B.T. shares, do ring leaders near the walk dates. Here are Leaders' names and numbers:-

12th Sept. ROCHDALE AREA. Harry O'neill 0706 58281

26th Sept. ANNUAL MASS. This is in the Cathedral Crypt at 11.30 a.m.

10th Oct. DOWNHAM Leo Pearson 489 0746.

7th Nov. The Skillicorns are our leaders. 0744 892823

HOUSE MEETINGS.

2nd Sept. Nora Naylor is again our hostess for the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. The address is 114 Moss Lane, Maghull and we start the meeting about 8.15 p.m. Do come. The biscuits are good and we need everybody's views. Annual Subs are due from this date.

7th Oct. Leo and Pat Pearson are at home to us at 81 Twig Lane Huyton.

4th Nov. We're at John and Cath Burns' 20 Beechburn Road, Roby.

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BOLTON ABBEY RAMBLE. 11TH JULY. 1993.

A small but enthusiastic party assembled in Bolton Abbey carpark. Tony and Marcia arrived, having spent Saturday in Dent Dale aboard their brand new VW - dare I call such a resplendent ~~vehicle~~ a 'campervan'? The interior was designed by Tony himself with full gas and electrics, fitted kitchen - even a microwave. There were rumours of a bath, but these were not confirmed.

Wet weather clothing was the order to start with, but this was soon discarded as road, path and field led us to the Dales uplands. The view expanded as we climbed, and a cooling wind kept the haze at bay so that all the glory of the Dales and hills were sharply defined. Unfortunately, also defined were towers and views of four wind powered electric generators. While these are preferable to belching conventional generating stations, the thought crossed my mind, in this vision of the future will every hilltop in Britain have one, as well as masses of pylons strung across the land? Surely the surge of a twice a day tide is more consistent than a fickle wind.

The full panorama spread before us, the sun playing on luscious fields and water illuminating them in full technicolour, glorious greens, fawns, yellows, and shining silver levels of water - what a feast. The time passed and we were descending through bracken into the valley again.

Pete found a path, at least it was a path on his map, but the undergrowth was so dense it would have thwarted the Japanese advance on Singapore! Scratched and bloodied we arrived at a spot where Pete asked "now wasn't that better than the civilised path over there"? 'Over there' was a stream with a well defined level path alongside - he nearly finished up in the said stream!

Now we were in Bolton Abbey estate following the Stryd up - and down. At mid afternoon a break was called and the merits of fishing were discussed at some length, both coarse and fly - I think fly fishing won by a short fin - mainly because a meal was the fate of any catch. This discourse was prompted by a lone angler standing thigh deep in the water, and some observed that when we left he was waist deep in said water!

Cont'd . . .

The Stryd rushes with some force at one point between an overlap of rock on both sides, where Pete enthused about people jumping across the river, missing their footing and being swept away to their fate. In a sombre mood we followed the river to the Abbey, where a tea garden soon restored our spirits and buoyed us up for our homeward journey.

Thanks Pete and the absent Marie for a grand day - walk and company.

Gerry.

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DENTDALE. 13TH JUNE, 1993.

Obviously Gerry and Jean have considerable influence in high places. How else could be explained the slot of excellent weather in the middle of a fortnight of summer rain?

The walk began in the beautifully picturesque village of Dent and, following a long and steady climb, a path on the side of Cragg Hill was reached, allowing a superb view of the full length of DENTDALE. This was a valley typical of the Yorkshire dales, with its sharp contrast between the soft and wooded lower slopes and the bracken covered, wilder but grander scenery of the upper slopes. With the track gently undulating and with magnificent views about, we were thoroughly enjoying ourselves - or were we? It was now 1.15 p.m. and well beyond the time that our leader had promised to have lunch.

Following persistent moans, cries, whimpers and threats, we eventually stopped, but by this time debate was already underway which was to result in the invention of a rather special gadget. The discussion was about coping with a leader whose enthusiasm for the walk blinds him(or her) to the gastronomic needs of the party.

Lynching, mugging and even downright revolt were all discounted, but only after heated discussion! and then the idea was born! A small box (The Thingy) incorporating a remote control receiver could be affixed to the leader's belt. At the precise moment that lunch had been promised (or 12.30 - whichever is earlier) the whipper-in would press a button sending a signal to the 'Thingy', resulting in a telescopic rod being fixed into the ground, thereby stopping the leader in his tracks. A suggestion that the rod should be targeted horizontally at the wearer was reluctantly abandoned! Although much of the remainder of the day was spent discussing the enhancement and further applications of the 'Thingy', we were still able to enjoy the rest of the walk, including the delightful DEEPDALE, through which we passed before joining the path which meanders beside the river Dee, leading back to DENT.

And so our gratitude to Jean and Gerry, not only for a most enjoyable walk, but for providing the catalyst which resulted in the birth of the 'Thingy'.

Peter.

P.S. In addition to orders from rambling clubs, it is anticipated that there will be a heavy demand for the 'Thing' from - for example - parents/ children, wives/husbands, policemen/burglars, owners/dogs-cats- tortoises (mini version of course. However, prompt orders, accompanied by a small (£50) deposit will ensure early delivery.

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SENIORS' SECTION.

CHALET WALK, 27TH MUNE, 1993.

Four of us joined, and were made very welcome by, the boarders at the Chalet on a beautiful sunny Sunday morn, and set off full of enthusiasm to enjoy the countryside at it's best.

We took a sharp right turn through the hedge outside the Chalet, walked a few yards to a stile - and came to an abrupt halt. Hawk-eye Harry, our leader, noticed that we were two short - "already"!!! we all said! We will really have to have a serious talk with Mona - once could be a mistake to carry off a male member of the party, but twice!? - and after a few yards! ? They told us they didn't see us do the sharp right turn and wandered off down to the road to accost various cyclists and passers by for a sight of us. H.E.H. wasn't having any of that, so he went after them and once more complete we set off, with a lovely gentle breeze to stop it from being unpleasantly hot, but not strong enough to dislodge the assortment of hats which blossomed forth to protect our increasingly - dare I say it? No, I daren't - you will have to guess!

Tony stopped us at the pond to introduce us to the beautiful dragon flies and damsel flies, who basked in our admiration and posed for our photographs, and off we went again up to the top of the hill to stop for lunch and enjoy a panoramic view of the Mersey basin.

During the afternoon we stopped for a chat with the children and teachers out walking from Collomendy, and finished off with a walk back through the woods to the Chalet.

Many thanks, Harry, for a thoroughly enjoyable walk - and that wasn't the end. To complete the day, we visitors, since there were only four of us, were invited to join in the repast of the boarders - a feast to which we did full justice.

Many thanks one and all.

Jean.

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There's a very deserving cause asking for your support on Friday, September 10th. It's in aid of the Hospice for Terminally ill Children. Tickets are £3.50 and Pat Pearson has tickets if you can manage to go. It is being run solely by the General Committee of our Club.

Two important yearly events are coming up soon. Firstly there's the Annual General Meeting of our Section on 2nd September, as mentioned briefly in the House Meetings notice. Do come along and let the Committee know if you think there could be any improvements to the walking programme to suit you!

Then there's the Annual Mass - particulars in programme. This is offered up for the deceased members and their relatives. It is also a good get together with other sections of the Club.

The Annual Retreat is on November 14th, NOT 21st as in the programme. Father Elliott is now in charge.

All for now,

Mona.

CONDER GREEN (GLASSON DOCK) 8TH AUGUST, 1993.

There once was a ramble to Conder Green
The leader was Gerry, the whipper-in Jean,
But the saddest thing you've ever seen -
There was nobody in between!

The sky it was blue, the grass it was green,
With the sea views to rival any you've seen,
But what was the use of that dream of a scene,
With nobody in between?

I'm sure it was not cos they weren't that keen,
What with grannings & weddings & hols, I mean -
What could we offer that's so supreme
to the missing ones in between?

So we talked to the cows, and the bulls so mean,
And we looked at the chapel circa 1216,
And we gazed at the birds in their flight so serene,
And forgot there were none between.

Twas a shame 'bout the ramble to Conder Green,
With the prettiest views you've ever seen,
But they'll do it again, will Gerry and Jean,
With the renegades back between.

Jean.

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We've forwarded Jean's name to the Selection Committee for the next Poet Laureate and think she stands an excellent chance, Would this be the first on the distaff side, A further male bastion under severe threat!

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

Many organisations hold Charity Dances, etc., and our club are this year having a Charity Ceilidh at the Irish Centre on Friday, September 10th.

People of all ages can join in the Ceilidhs and members are asked to invite their friends to this function featuring the famous Liverpool Ceilidh Band who give expert tuition to the many people who have never attended a Ceilidh before. Within minutes, everyone who wants to, can quickly learn the simple dances during the evening.



If, for any reason, you can't support the club by attending this sociable function, then please still buy a ticket for this Charity Ceilidh so that a good amount of cash can be raised for the charity concerned. See the notice in this newsletter. Tickets are priced at £3.50 and are available from Brian Keller, Beryl Baker and several other committee members. They can also be obtained from the Irish Centre in Mount Pleasant.



SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE - JUST £4 Singles, £5 Married Couples - OK