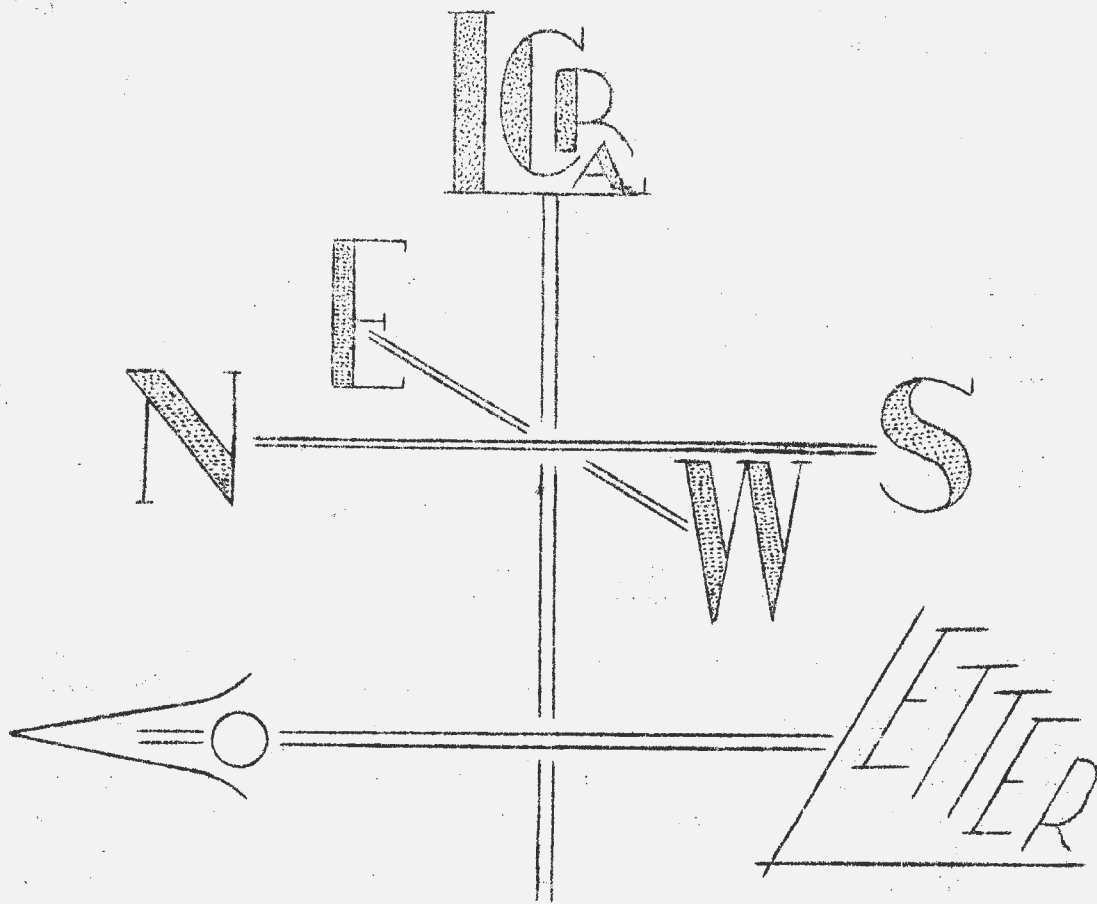


Liverpool Catholic Ramblers Association



Editor

Mr. E. J. Kavanagh,
13, Shakespeare Street,
Boetle 20,
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Registrar

Brian F Kelly,
34, Welford Avenue,
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CHRISTMAS 1969

The Club Cottage

Should this question raise its head again this year (though I don't see why it should) I shall quote the response to last month's editorial (one letter from Bernie Wilson) and propose that the matter be put in abeyance. After all even the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee didn't bother to write.

Orienteering

I believe a form of this sport was tried out by the club some time ago. Well shortly we will be having another competition and to prepare you we will devote a little space in this Newsletter to advise you of the kit you need and the techniques you should employ.

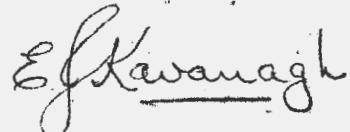
Anyone who can read a map, use a compass and is breathing can take part, so this means that most of our ramblers are eligible. But read more of this fascinating sport further on.

Black & White

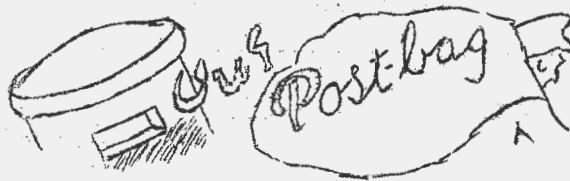
No not whiskey, I refer to the minstrels. Christmas is a time of Rejoicing - of giving. Our Social Sub are going to give some of our Senior Citizens a thrill by taking them to see the Black & White Minstrels. If you would enjoy being an escort, please volunteer. Even if you haven't the time, but have the desire to contribute towards the venture, it could be your Christmas Gift to just a few of our Senior Citizens. Please give your name or send your donation to Margaret Smith, 3 Curtana Crescent, Liverpool 11.

Skiing

In the course of the next couple of months many of you will be going to foreign countries (including Scotland) to partake in this most exciting Sport. Reports on such ventures would be most welcome for I am sure there are many people who would dearly love to go, but are somewhat restrained by family ties. These people in particular would enjoy reading of the thrills and spills of their friends.



E. J. KAVANAGH



The Editor
L.C.R.A. Newsletter,
LIVERPOOL

Dear Editor,

Should we purchase a cottage? This question was put forward at the A.G.M. and my answer is Yes and as soon as possible.

'The Cottage Fund' how often have I heard this since I have attended the Club - until recently it meant nothing to me - perhaps I was even apathetic about the whole idea.

However, I was persuaded to go on a weekend to Mike's cottage in Wales and ever since my ideas have changed completely. The weekend proved to be excellent.- good walks without long bus journies and the good company of fellow ramblers.

Far from being apathetic, I would like now to be numbered amongst the most enthusiastic of 'The Cottage' supporters. I feel the acquisition of a cottage would add greatly to the amenities of the Club.

Yours faithfully,

Bernie Wilson

D A T E S F O R Y O U R D I A R Y
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THURSDAY 18TH DECEMBER '69

Christmas Party @ the Building Design Centre. Buffet included. Dancing to records from 7.30 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. with Spot prizes - all for 5/-d.

*SATURDAY 3RD JANUARY 1970

Senior Citizens from the Convent of the Little Sisters of the Poor, Belmont Road, have been invited to see the Black and White Minstrels at the Empire Theatre. Two volunteers will escort and pay for each guest. Financial contributions from those not able to act as escorts will be most acceptable and should be addressed to Margaret Smith, 3 Curtana Crescent Liverpool 11.

* Date subject to change.

FRIDAY 9TH JANUARY 1970

A Party will be held in the Greenbank House Club, Greenbank Lane, Off Smithdown Rd. from 7.30 p.m. to midnight. Tickets will be available @ 10/- each from Paul Brereton, 36 Bark Hill Road, Liverpool. 17.

SUNDAY 11TH JANUARY 1970

Annual Yuletide Walk.
 meet 10.15 a.m.
 depart 10.30 a.m.
 (See Ramblerite)

***** ***** *****

RECORDS:-

16 Records are missing from our collection. If you have borrowed them will you please return them at your earliest convenience.

Thankyou.

***** ***** *****

THE L.C.R.A.

ANNUAL RE-UNION BUFFET DANCE

WILL BE HELD AT

DOVEDALE TOWERS

PENNY LANE

ON

SATURDAY 31st. JANUARY 1970

DANCING TO

THE DON ROGERS QUARTET

7-30 TO 11-30

TICKETS 21/- EACH DRESS OPTIONAL

Requests for tickets should be accompanied
by a deposit of 5/- and addressed to :

Mr.C.Laycock,
17,Netherby Street,
Liverpool 8.

Ramblerite

FOOTPATH

Memories of last month's Lake District weekend, pleasant or otherwise, still linger. Over 60 of us invaded Keswick and 38 lucky ones enjoyed the comforts of Lakeside House. In spite of the heavy bombardment of hailstone on the Saturday, most of us had enough energy for the dance in the evening and look forward to the next Keswick weekend in less than 3 months time.

Over the past month the rambling attendances, like the temperatures have dropped considerably. Some coaches have had to be cancelled and cars used instead but there are no changes in the programme apart from one or two changes of leaders. Everyone should now possess a winter programme. If you don't then write to Brian Kelly, whose address is on the front of this Newsletter and he will be only too glad to give you one.

ANNUAL YULETIDE WALK AND SOCIAL - JANUARY 11th 1970

Make a note of this date. It is the most popular event of the year and many past members usually come out of hibernation to join us at Rivington Barn. There will be walks planned in the Winter Hill area followed by a hot-pot meal and dancing, all for less than £1.

A notice board will be displayed at the Thursday night socials giving information of forthcoming rambles. Several easy, popular ones are appearing on the programme over the next month, so let's see more of you out and about.

Wishing you a Rambling Christmas and a Happy Yuletide Walk!

Dave News

THE KING'S HOUSE

Whilst our Club organise rambles every week other clubs organise leaders.

One such club is located in the heart of the Snowdonia National Park which makes it an ideal centre from which to train pupils in every form of Mountain activity. The centre is called Plas y Brenin which means "The King's House" It was established by the Central Council of Physical Recreation in 1955 as a memorial to King George VI

Looking through some literature supplied by this organisation I was most impressed by the syllabus on their Outdoor activity courses. This included such items as Orienteering, Mountain Rescue, Search and Survival and more, simply Mountain Activities. This latter venture is one which may well appeal to you, my readers. It contains such interesting sections as:

An introduction to map reading: navigation with map and compass across mountain country; How to live in the open: mountain walking: mountain safety and an expedition involving a night spent in tents or bivouacs.

Could you absorb such a wealth of information in seven short days? Are you interested in attending such an adventurous week? Why not have a few words with your rambling Sub-committee or if they cannot help you, the editor of this newsletter most certainly will.

R. E. PORTER

ORIENTEERING NOTES

EQUIPMENT

Only the map stipulated by the Organiser may be used. A compass, watch, a pen or pencil which will not be affected by the cold or wet weather, and adequate map protection should be carried.

A whistle is always to be carried. The recognised International Distress Signal is six blasts on a whistle, then a minutes pause before repeating the pattern.

COMPETITION CLASSES

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|------------------|----------------|
| Six seperate classes are | } | Intermediate men | 18 to 21 years |
| | | " women | " " |
| | | Senior men | 21 to 40 years |
| | | " women | " " |
| | | Vetran men | over 40 years |
| | | " women | " " |

Social

Hello folks, still socialising? Our Halloween Folk & Punch Night went with a real swing - thanks to the support it received Everyone was in great voice, the food was scrumptious, the Punch was delicious (compliments to the brewer - Paul) and the decor fantasmagorical. Mike, Marie & Sheila did a great job leading the singing - in fact it was a great effort by one and all, a really enjoyable evening.

Since then we have also had a 'Pop' group and a Folk Group at the Clubroom - both successful and enjoyable events. For future outings and social occasions, please see 'Dates for your Diary'

I feel I can't let the latest spate of engagements - marriage type that is, go by without some comment - even if it's only to mention the fact that the Club's expenses are going to soar due to the purchase of additional Crucifixes (for those who don't know, a Crucifix is presented to newly married couples in the Club). It seems that Mr. Thomas Chambers started the latest ball rolling when he and Pauline decided to get engaged. Since then, of course our venerable Chairman D. T. (known to one and all as Des) made an alliance with Shirley, and as if that wasn't enough - Bill & Eileen (the 'Bombers') have decided that they too want to be in line for a Crucifix. - - Congratulations and much happiness to you all.

P.S. Anyone interested in starting a Marriage bureau? !!

NEW MEMBERS

LADIES

Francis Mary Carmack
Patrica Dabek
Nessa Dabek
Marie Furlong
Marian Hughes
Cecilia Nolan
Margaret Mary Smith
Maureen Wade

GENTS

Bernard Barry
Frank Coughlin

FOOTBALL
=====

This season, as always it would seem, the team is unable to rely on any enthusiasm or support from the lads of the Club. In fact throughout this season we have been playing against teams which have at least been able to field eleven players and supply a few supporters.

In contrast, our team on one occasion had to field nine players and on another only ten men turned up, and in all we have had two club members to watch us! The main problem with the team is the fact that only eight of the current squad are members of the club, so it would be impossible to field an 'all Ramblers' team. In fact we have been unable to field the same side on consecutive weeks, and we have used a total of twenty-three players so far this season.

As far as results are concerned, we have won only one game so far and lost the remaining six with a total of seven goals for and forty-six against!!! We were also knocked out of the cup in the first round, and we are currently lying at the bottom of Division One of the league.

Financially we are also in difficulties. We have ten pounds in the Bank and out of this we have to replace a ball that was stolen three weeks ago, when we were playing at Kirkby, and we also require new posts and crossbars. The total amount we would have to layout is approximately £15, and before the start of next season we require new kit, which would cost a further £12. To offset this expenditure we intend to hold a couple of dances and possibly a folk evening.

Finally I would like to invite anyone who is interested to come along to our football training which is held on Thursday evenings at Everton Red Triangle Club on Everton Road between the hours of 5.00 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. If anyone is interested in coming along to support the team an announcement will be made every Thursday evening about the whereabouts and the time of kick-off. I would also like to invite you to support the functions I mentioned above even if you find it impossible to support the team on a Saturday.

John Lovelady

| | | | | |
|----------|------|------|-------------|------------|
| DECEMBER | 13TH | HOME | QUELINS A | S.F.S. CUP |
| " | 20TH | AWAY | COBURG | |
| " | 27TH | HOME | CUMBERLAND, | WAVERTREE |

1970

| | | | | |
|---------|------|------|------------|------------|
| JANUARY | 3RD | AWAY | DYSONS, | WAVERTREE |
| " | 10TH | HOME | COTTAGE, | KIRKBY |
| " | 17TH | AWAY | 'B' TEAM | |
| " | 24TH | AWAY | INTER S/A, | SEFTON PK. |
| " | 31ST | HOME | FAULKNER, | KIRKBY |

Prince Charles did it with the greatest of ease - or so it seemed - but my first attempt was achieved with a great deal of effort. I refer, of course, to the ascent of Snowdon which was the target of the Ramble on the 14th September, 1969.

On this trip we were accompanied by several new members and at the starting point of the walk we were joined by one other Rambler (I don't know the name) who was staying down the road and came to make the climb with us.

We said good-bye to the 'A' Party and we started on the first part of the walk. This was very stony and quite a sharp ascent. We seemed to gain height very quickly but the mist which pursued us most of the way, prevented us from seeing the view. Nothing to do then, except carry on with the climb. A little more walking brought us to a fine view of Llyn Padarn and we stopped along the pathway to eat our sandwiches. Fred took advantage of the break to take a few photographs. Then Monica and Pat and I picked up our weary bones ready for the serious part of the climb which was now in sight.

As we were climbing towards the railway line across a zig-zag path, the mist came down again. Probably it was just as well that we couldn't see our objective as the more hardy climbers kept assuring me that we had only a short distance to go. To me it seemed interminable. Suddenly as we were clambering up, some Americans came striding down with great ease. Not to be beaten on our own ground we made a last great effort to reach the railway track. There - and is this a record? - we found ourselves ahead of the 'A' Party!! Bill Potter led the first-timers, including me, lagging now to the very summit of the mountain and there gave us the 'Berg Heil' or handshake of the mountaineers.

Then down to the cafe where we drank great refreshing cups of tea. Sorry to mention that there was no panorama to be seen as the mist was swirling around us. Coming out of the cafe, we bought some postcards, but we were disappointed to find that Jones the post didn't go so high. Then we began our most pleasant part - the descent to the lakeside patch. It was an undignified descent in parts as the only way down the slippery rocks was to slid. Once on the path, walking was easy. The road winds beside the three lakes and passes several silent and disused miners' houses on the way. A lonely but very peaceful spot.

For once I was almost at the front, walking with Margaret, Ann and Tom, philosophizing as we went and expecting to see the coach over every rise. Finally it really was there and we got into it and made short work of our remaining sandwiches. Then quickly we were back on the road - through Bettis - y - coed and then to an often used rendezvous for a welcoming drink. We were joined there by Maureen and Mike who had been out on a scooter. Then we were once again on the road and it was a quiet group which went back to Liverpool - tired but pleasantly so after a hard day.

WYNATT PASS Sunday 2nd November, 1969

Want to get away from it all for a day? What better than a coach trip to Derbyshire followed by a quiet ramble through the countryside in the afternoon, or so I thought, and so it seems did about thirty others last Sunday, when we all arrived to meet the coach at St. Johns Lane.

Everything went according to plan (for half an hour) then it started raining. It didn't last long, however, by the time we arrived at Castleton where we got out of the coach the rain had stopped, giving way to a strong gale force wind. We did suggest returning to the coach, but we were urged on by our big, brave leader, John Lovelady.

We followed a path for some time, until suddenly this strange monster appeared before us, John said it was a hill and we must climb it, this was not received very cordially by the rest of the party, however, there was nothing else for it but to climb it. The faces that emerged at the top looked slightly the worse for wear, but we all pressed on with the hopes of a 'butty break' soon to come but not until we had scrambled down the other side of the hill to the Wynatt Pass below.

Twenty minutes later, all very much recovered, we took the next hill by storm (for at least two yards anyway). Half way up we came across a cave, so out came the torches and we all went inside to explore, but it didn't take Monica and myself long to see light or should I say dark, we made a hasty retreat out the same way as we went in, meanwhile the others carried on to find another way out. Instead we climbed up outside the cave to meet the others. At this point the wind took a hand in the situation causing a hair raising scene all round, with Monica and I pinned against a rock, watching heads appearing from the cave only to retreat again until the wind dropped.

The next port of call was the Blue John Cavern, which was much more civilised and proved to be very interesting. The guide took us down about 250 ft. into the cavern describing all the main features as we went. We only realised when we got to the bottom, that we had to climb about 150 steps to get back out again.



The last stage of the walk was literally a race to see who could get back to the coach first. Margaret in her eagerness went sprawling down the road head first but she wasn't hurt and we all arrived back safely about half an hour before the 'A' party returned.

Well done John for a very pleasant and interesting walk which was well planned allowing plenty of time for our visit to the Blue John Caverns which were well worth a visit.

Ann Vincent.

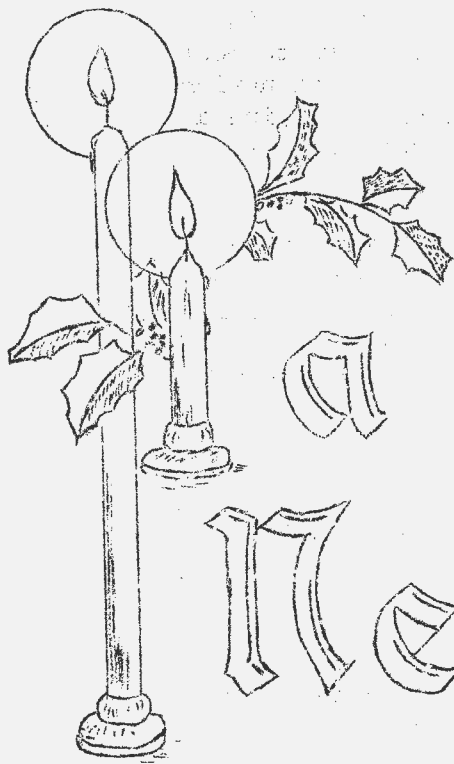
THE EDITOR AND HIS STAFF

WISH ALL OUR READERS

 a merry 

Christmas

&



a happy
New Year