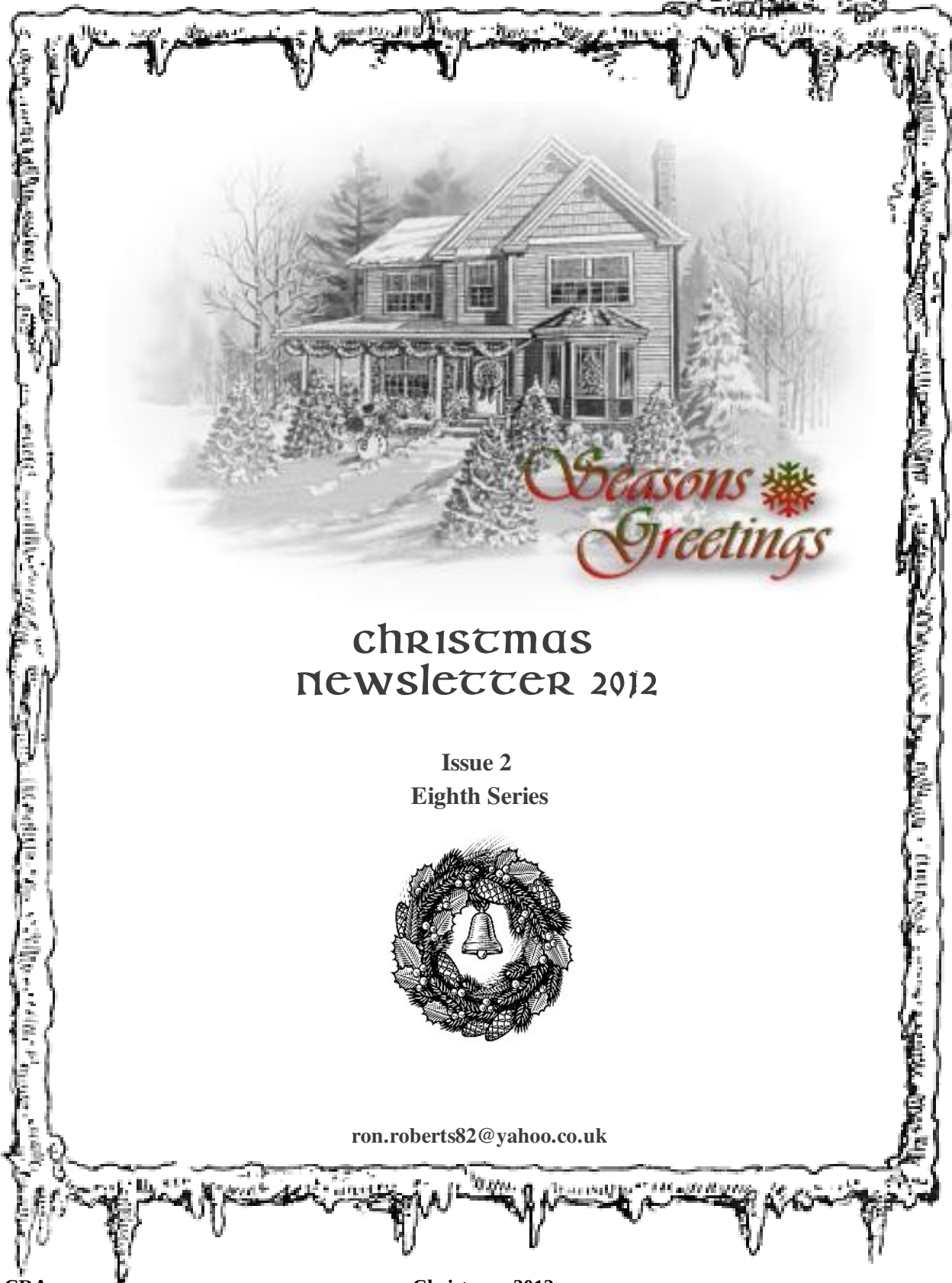


Liverpool Catholic Ramblers Association



Seasons Greetings

CHRISTMAS
newsletter 2012

Issue 2
Eighth Series



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Hello and welcome to your Christmas newsletter. First, it is with regard to the newsletter that I wish to address. To me the newsletter is a very important part of LCRA's history and when taking over the task of compiling it was important to me to carry on certain traditions such as the numbering system used in all previous newsletters; I wanted to tie in what I was doing with what had gone before. It took a little research to discover how the system worked and I was also surprised to discover the first newsletter was published in February 1938, **therefore this current newsletter is approaching it's 75th anniversary!**

The fascinating document below comes from the Christmas 1962 newsletter. The editor of the day, talked about what went into producing and distributing the newsletter at that time. More interestingly was the account of it's history, and the fact that Christmas '62 coincided with the newsletter's Silver Jubilee.....

ISSUE No. 1 (Third Series). CHRISTMAS 1962.

Registrar: Miss M.Connor, 22 Adlam Rd.Liverpool.

Editor: Mr. G.Penlington,43 Alexandra Drive.
Bootle 20. Lancs.

It is just about twenty-five years since the Club issued it's first newsletter - that was the 'First' series, which came to a halt in that hectic 1940 summer of Dunkirk and 'blitz'.

The Second series commenced almost straight away after the war - Autumn 1946 - and reached its 160th edition last month.

That's a lot of effort over the years - writing, typing, running-off, drying-off (all over floors, tables, pianos etc.), stapling, enveloping, distributing, posting - and for some if they will admit it - reading!

What a tremendous service some 200 editions have rendered over all those years to our rambles, socials, dances and our entertainment generally - what a goldmine of memories of so many happy times 'midst hosts of hikers!

This newsletter is an innovation and coincides with its Silver Jubilee - we hope you like it. No doubt in due course you will tell us whether you do or not.

It also coincides with Christmas and we hope and trust each and everyone of you has A HAPPY AND HOLY CHRISTMAS WITH A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO FOLLOW.

.....I'm sure Mr Penlington would be pleased to know that fifty years on, our newsletter is still here, still as strong as ever, keeping the traditions of the past but also looking ahead to the future.

On behalf of LCRA's Committee I would like wish all our members a Very Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year

LCRA Club News

We Need More Walk Leaders!

At the last committee meeting the subject of walk leaders was brought up, or more specifically, the lack of people coming forward and volunteering to lead or learning to lead.

People, we need walk leaders - without people to lead walks, we will have no walks! This is a most respected role and comes with great responsibility. If anyone is interested in leading or learning to lead then see Vanessa Tilston when you're next out with us. Also, If anyone is interested in doing a **free** navigation course in the Peak District next year then let me know and if there's room in my car you are welcome to tag along.

Club Weekend Away

Will Harris has kindly organised a weekend-way for club members at **The Hydro in Bowness-on-Windermere for the weekend 17th – 19th May 2013**. The two nights will include breakfast and evening meal at the cost of **£110**. A **non-refundable deposit of £25** is

required and the remainder paid on the weekend. Closing date for deposits is 17th February. Single rooms are limited so try to share.

The Hydro: The Hotel has over 80 bedrooms, all non-smoking, all with private facilities, colour television, telephone and tea and coffee making equipment. Many of the rooms have spectacular views over Lake Windermere and the Lake's edge is only minutes away. There is private dining from 10 to 300 people in a range of dining rooms offering a variety of menus, but all with that certain blend of friendly service, good food and fine wines. The hotel has it's own spa, sauna and mini gym. You could try your hand sailing on Hydrotherapy, the hotels 34ft yacht, under the capable guidance of our resident skipper. Hydrotherapy is the, largest yacht on a mooring on Lake Windermere! We are only minutes away from many of the local attractions and shops in Bowness and the hotel has ample parking.

This sounds like a really good weekend away – an excellent opportunity for old and new members to get to know each other. To book, phone **Will on 0151 486 6541**

LCRA Member News

Charity Walk – Brazilian Rainforest

Two of our members recently did an amazing charity walk in the depths of the Brazilian rainforest. **Jeanie Cottier** and **Jacqui Browne** did the walk as part of a team helping to raise almost **£100,000 for Marie Curie Hospice**, a charity they both support because of loved ones they have lost.



Jeanie and Jacqui in Brazil

Jacqui says: "We walked in the **Serra da Bocaina National Park**. This, being the largest preservation area of **Atlantic rainforest in Brazil**, is situated between the two most populated Brazilian capitals, southeast of the **Rio de Janeiro state** and northwest of **Sao Paulo State**. Our trek took us along and above the **Mambucaba River**.

We trekked for 5 long days, 8-10 hours per day, in hot temperatures, one day **walking in 40 degrees plus**. We had river crossings and many steep ascents/descents but we also got the opportunity to swim in some beautiful waterfalls, saw some of

the most beautiful scenery, many butterflies and even one or two snakes!

We all experienced a roller coaster of emotions on the trek, shed many tears but also had a great many laughs and with the other fantastic trekkers who we bonded with.

Our most difficult time was probably on the 4th day when most of the group were hit by a nasty water born bug but we still had to keep trekking – having to go the loo every few minutes whilst out in the rain forest was not the best of experiences! Many of us felt like giving up that day but we still carried on, even trekking in the dark and doing a scary river crossing to get to our destination that evening. Definitely one of the longest and toughest days of our lives."

Ladies, what a brilliant experience. Well done and for a worthy cause – you both must feel so proud. Thank you very much for your story.

Jeanie and Jacqui asked me to thank everyone who donated money on the coach but if you missed the opportunity and would like to donate something then you can do this online using the links below:

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/JeanieCottier>

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/jacquibrowne>

Remember, **Marie Curie Cancer Care** is well respected charity and it is a worthy cause.

Seniors' Section Report



LCRA Seniors' Ramble 18th November 2012

I was pleased to receive a really nice email from **Tony Thompson from the Seniors' Section.**

Me being new to the club, the seniors are a bit of a mystery but Tony gave me some information about themselves. Tony informed me that **Bill Potter** (who I met at our last committee meeting) is probably the longest standing active member of the LCRA; Tony says he joined in 1960 and Bill had been a member some years before that. Bill was a regular walk leader.

On our website (archives Page 2), **Bill Potter led the 1961 walk up Tryfan** which is featured in the photographs. There is also a **1965 picture of 'Marcia'** (at Raw Scar) – **Tony and Marcia were married in East Africa in 1966.**

Referring to the photograph above, Tony says:

“There were ten of us and five are in their eighties. I mention this only to say that Ramblers don't have to hang up their boots at sixty. The bonds of friendship built in the hills and mountains with the LCRA have lasted for fifty years. In the photo **Bill Potter is front left and front right are Marcia and I.**”

Certainly an inspiration for us all. I'm looking forward to hearing more from Tony and the rest of the team in the future and possibly even sharing a walk sometime.



Bill Potter Skye 1962



Tony Thompson Skye 1962



Some weeks ago I was on the coach speaking to one of our new members, Caroline Backland. She was telling me she was looking forward to our visit to Eyam in Derbyshire which was scheduled for the New Year. She was quite knowledgeable about Eyam's history with regard to the Bubonic Plague which I had no knowledge of. What Caroline was telling me was fascinating.

As we will be visiting Eyam at the end of January, I thought it might be a nice to share this intriguing bit of history.

The Plague Of Eyam

In the summer of 1665, the village tailor, Alexander Hadfield, received a parcel of material from his supplier in London. This parcel contained the fleas that caused the plague. The tailor was dead from the plague within one week of receiving his parcel. By the end of September, five more villagers had died. Twenty three died in October.

Some of the villagers suggested that they should flee the village for the nearby city of Sheffield. The reverend William Mompesson persuaded them not to do this as he feared that they would spread the plague into the north of England that had more or less escaped the worst of it. In fact, the village decided to cut itself off from the outside world. They effectively agreed to quarantine themselves even though it would mean death for many of them.



Burying the Dead

The village was supplied with food by those who lived outside of the village. People brought

supplies and left them at the parish stones that marked the start of Eyam. The villagers left money in a water trough filled with vinegar to sterilise the coins left in them. In this way, Eyam was not left to starve to death. Those who supplied the food did not come into contact with the villagers.



List of the Eyam plague victims

The plague's infection spread quickly throughout Eyam that autumn, slowing down in winter but returning with a ferocious impact in the spring and summer of 1666 where in August alone 78 people died in a single month in the tiny village. The rector, Mompesson, had to bury his own family in the churchyard of Eyam. His wife died in August 1666. He decided to hold his services outside to reduce the chances of people catching the disease.

Eyam lost 260 lives out of a population of around 800 in fourteen months after taking the decision to quarantine the village to spare others.

Interestingly some of the villagers who were in contact with those who caught the plague, did not catch it. This was because they had a chromosome which gave them protection. This same chromosome has been shown to still exist in those who are direct descendants of those who survived the plague, and who are still living in the village at the present time. The action of the villagers in staying in the village is almost unique and makes the village the place of significance that it is.

Conclusion

I thought we could not let the year go without mentioning the **club's 85th anniversary**. I cannot keep it a secret, I am sad we didn't celebrate this milestone but to show some recognition I decided to put together a **PRIZE QUIZ!** For your chance to win a £20 shopping voucher, have a go at answering the questions below and get back to me by the 31st Jan. All entries will be put into a hat and the winner will be drawn at the February Committee meeting .

You'll have to do some research for this - best of luck!

Pete Dumbrill - Everest

I would just like to say well done to LCRA member Pete Dumbrill on his trek up to Everest base camp; Pete, you did yourself and the club proud – looking forward to a few beers with you!



Pete relaxing before the trek

We'll have a full report on his journey in our next newsletter.

LCRA 85th Anniversary Prize Quiz!

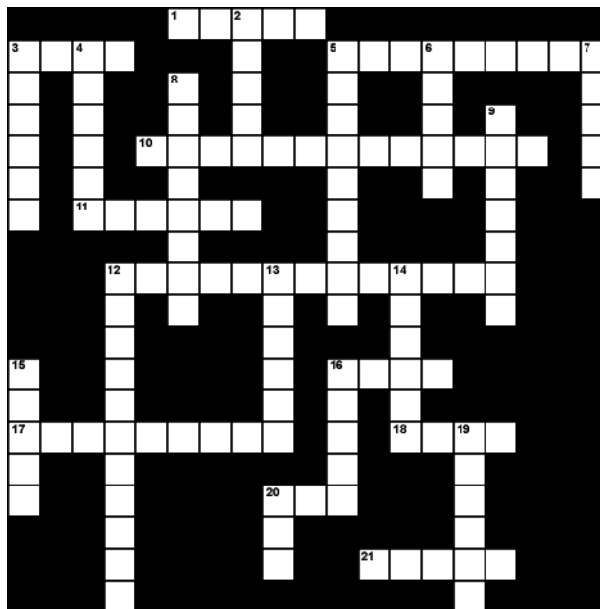
1. The club's current subscription fee is £5, how much was it in 1927 (clue: reggae singer, Marley)?
2. What year did Archbishop Keating lay the foundation stone of Christ the King Church?
3. In LCRA's 40th anniversary souvenir newsletter, who wrote the foreward?
4. In 1927 the club's first secretary was J.H. Norbury, who is our current secretary?
5. Chris Dobbin is the club's current chairman, who was the chairman in 1967?
6. Who is reported to be the club's longest serving active member?
7. Currently, who is the club's patron?
8. What is the name of the coach firm the club uses?
9. When was the very first newsletter issued?
10. In 1940 the club held it's last social of WW2 in what sort of building structure?



LCRA CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD

Down

- 2 Small brown thrush with a red breast (5)
- 3 Where Joseph and Mary had to stay (6)
- 4 The four weeks leading up to Christmas (6)
- 5 The day after Christmas Day (6,3)
- 6 The king visited by the wise men (5)
- 7 Gold, frankincense and (5)
- 8 A popular addition to the Christmas table (8)
- 9 Name of the archangel (7)
- 12 A decorated orange (11)
- 13 Christmas lasts for days (6)
- 14 A Christmas tree decoration (6)



Across

- 1 Christmas hymn (5)
- 3 The wise men's guide (4)
- 5 The town where Jesus was born (9)
- 10 The original Santa Claus (5,8)
- 11 The bird traditionally eaten for Christmas dinner (6)
- 12 A tradition introduced by Prince Albert (9,4)
- 16 A lot of angels (4)
- 17 Evergreen plant with white berries (9)
- 18 Gift from the shepherds (4)
- 20 Climbing plant (3)
- 21 One of Santa's reindeer (5)

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