

LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC  
RAMBLERS  
ASSOCIATION & HOLIDAY GUILD

1084

NO. 87

this is 87

CHRISTMAS, 1955

Registrar M. Roberts  
7, Elmbank Rd.  
Liverpool.

Editor G. Penlington,  
43, Alexandra Dr.  
Liverpool.

E D I T O R I A L

CHRISTMAS! What a wonderful word, one that brings instantly to the mind a vision of joy and recollection of happy days gone by. Parties, paper hats, presents, puddings and the 'parsons nose'.

Spirits rise (while those of another kind flow down) ordinary daily worries disappear (to be replaced by some of a financial character) and friendliness and goodwill are extended to all and sundry, friend and foe alike.

But what an abused word is "CHRISTMAS". We find it tacked on to the windows of every shop that has anything at all to sell, from Soap Powder to Shovels. I have yet to see it on a Church window where, strangely enough, it has every right to be, advertising the true source of our "HAPPY CHRISTMAS".

I was recollecting "the days gone by". What of our future happiness? Guarantee it by first giving due place to Our Lord and His Blessed Mother on this most appropriate occasion.

BEST WISHES TO  
YOU ALL AND MAY YOU HAVE  
A REALLY HAPPY CHRISTMAS  
AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

OoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOo



S O C I A L P R O G R A M M E

<u>DATE</u>	<u>M. C.</u>	<u>REFRESHMENTS</u>	<u>WASHERS UP</u>
Dec. 28th.	Christmas Party	Social Sub	
Jan. 4th.	L. Bassett.	A. Bowden.	M. Keenan & M. Keenan.
" 11th.	B. Potter.	M. Lamb.	B. Peagram & P. Murray
" 18th.	Fancy Dress.	V. Callaghan.	J. Cassin & J. Talbot.



L. C. R. A.

GRAND

1955

CHRISTMAS  
PARTY



WILL BE HELD AT

CLUB ROOMS

CATHEDRAL BUILDINGS

ON

WEDNESDAY 28th DECEMBER, 1955



TICKETS

2/-d

Including

Refreshments



FUN FOR ALL

-o-o-o-

HARWARDEN WOODS.

20th November, 1955.

It was a bright and sunny Sunday morning as twelve ramblers crossed on the Ferry to Birkenhead en route for Harwarden Woods.

Alas, on arriving there we found that we had one hour to wait for a bus, so we spent the time in the "friendly" atmosphere of a railway buffet. We then had an uneventful journey to Queensferry. Alighting there, conveniently near a cafe, we entered in true C.R.A. fashion but as the cyclists had taken over we decided to have our sandwiches in Harwarden Woods. We set off and after a few yards branched off across country. This was where our ramble became really 'stile'ish. The pleasant route over the fields of Vulow Manor eventually led us through a Church-yard and on to the Woods. We walked quite a distance through these picturesque woods and soon found a nice spot in which to eat. Here the Leader attempted to poison a few of the members with his specially brewed cocoa. Around this spot were hundred of sapling firs and Christmas trees. Very tempting, but we passed on, our trombonist in front, which all made us think of Robin Hood and his Merry Men.

The weather had lived up to its promise of the morning as we walked on to Pwlow and thence to Pennyford but as we turned back to Queensferry it began to get dusk and it was really dark as we sat down in a large field to eat our tea.

Refreshed and rested, we journeyed through a still dark cemetery and then across the fields. This was rather a hazardous job in the dark, especially over stiles where there were no fences to hang on to.

Back in Queensferry, refreshments were taken in a nice little cafe and we were soon on the bus and homeward bound. At Birkenhead we found that we had just missed a boat so we entertained ourselves and any unfortunate people near enough to hear with music from a now broken trombone.

Thank you very much, Len, for a really enjoyable ramble.

"BROWN BOOTS".

0 - 3 - 0

000000000000000000000000  
 0 GRAND DANCE 0  
 0 A T 0  
 0 BOOTLE TOWN HALL 0  
 000000000000000000000000

A GRAND DANCE to be held at BOOTLE TOWN HALL  
 on SATURDAY JANUARY 14TH from 7.30.- 11.45 p.m.  
 and Tickets are now available at the Club  
 Rooms from Len Bassett who is in charge of  
 tickets and would be glad to receive money  
 as soon as possible. This is a special  
 occasion and we ask all members to do  
 their utmost in selling tickets.

PLEASE MAKE THIS A DATE - BOOTLE TOWN HALL  
 JANUARY 14TH.

00000 000000000

MYSTERY WALK - 4th December 1955

Our day began when we caught the Preston bus  
 which eventually arrived, by devious means, at its  
 destination. A snack was much appreciated before  
 another bus took us to Gregson Lane via Brindle. Then  
 when Bernard had located his rucksack and retrieved  
 his collapsible cup, we set off across the fields.  
 We didn't know how slim we were until it came to getting  
 through some of those stiles !

A stop for food was requested by the famished at the  
 back, and we watched with interest while June  
 polished off a trifle. Some local children evidently  
 thought we were the strangest things they'd seen in  
 days - pity there wasn't time to pass round the hat.

Going through one field we suddenly noticed 4  
 young bulls positioned round the gate for which we  
 were heading and taking rather an unhealthy interest  
 in us. Bob proved himself the hero of the day by  
 waving his rucksack at the friskiest while we  
 scrambled over the gate. We yelled to the rest of the



SOCIAL CHATTER.

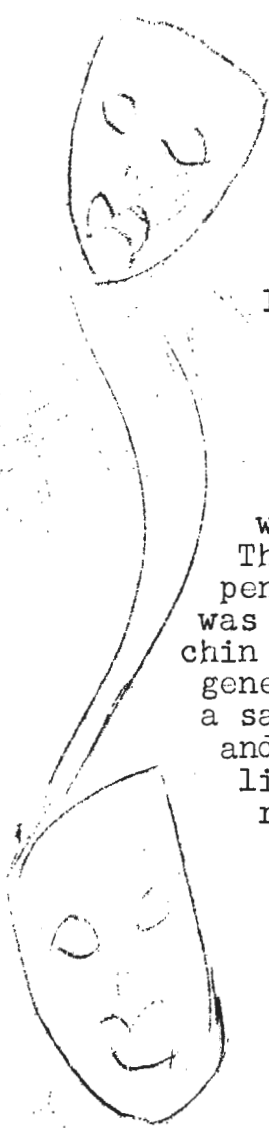


I've always thought that the Club looks more normal on Crazy Night and the large crowd looked really at home on the thirtieth. Until the interval we were really sane but then Bernard started the Lucky Dip dance and those left dug fast and furiously into the sack to find some-thing reasonably wearable. Only one highly organised and a past master at the game could have found the rather tiddly tifter that Al Whitefield wore. Mary Smith flatly refused to wear her first find and in spite of Cyril's advice on how to 'it', finished up with a most unusual bracelet. Pauline looked rather neat as a refugee from Lance Grove Courts but, as her shorts were about six sizes too small, her quickstep was not a 'thing of beauty' nor 'a joy forever'. Some were then eliminated by Crossing the River. Referees were ruthless and even a tiny paddle was grounds for being thrown out. Eventually, Bob and Mary won by leading in a wheel-barrow race, but as Bob scraped along on his nose for the last few feet after Mary had thrown his feet in his face, I think he won in spite of his partner.

The Statuo Waltz was used as an excuse for giving away the valuable prizes. They were a miserable lot. You hadn't to smile or show your teeth and June and Mary acting as shock troops to 'raise a laugh' had a very thin time. (Six sets were still unrecovered at the end of the evening). The more impecunious among us were eliminated when pennies had to be put between couples' foreheads. This was made easier when the coin had to rest between female chin and male forehead. Mr. Bassett, with seasonable generosity, offered a fully paid up insurance policy - a safety pin. The bottle of cognac each for Bob and Jackie Cassin turned out to be two chocolate liquers. Having read so far I'm sure you'll realise that the plaque of Queen Victoria was a penny and that the birthday signet ring for Harry O'Neill was a key ring. The Squires visitor who very honestly admitted that he hadn't paid his 1/0<sup>2</sup>d paid up and got his prize and I bet he lost on the deal.

While on about crazyness, our Fancy Dress Dance is to be held on Wednesday 18th January. We're having it early so that the festive spirit will still be around. Do make an effort to be in costume. They're great fun when everybody partakes.

The Christmas Party, which is announced elsewhere in this Newsletter, should be really good. As a change from the Radiogramme and to give us a wider choice of music, a three piece band will play, and an extension has been granted us until 11.30.p.m. You can't say your Social Sub. isn't trying - and I don't mean trying!



Handwritten scribbles and signatures at the bottom of the page, including the word 'contd.' and some illegible marks.

COMMITTEE NEWS

We would remind you that the sale of Tickets at the Socials is not allowed unless permission of the Committee is obtained, and anyone being given permission the name of the seller and the cause will be announced by the M.C.

Early Start

The Social Sub are attempting to make an earlier start of the Socials, but without Club Members co-operation this is impossible, so please come as early as you can.

The Saturday Night Social at the Tennis Club proved to be a success and another one is being held in January. This will be announced in the Club Room.

P E R S O N A L

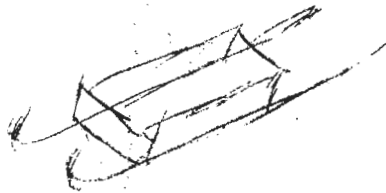
We regret to hear of the recent death of the Mother of Miss Peggy Toes. A Mass is being offered.

```

      + + + + + + + +
    *   F A N C Y   +
  = = = +   D R E S S   +   = = = = =
      + + + + + + + +
  
```

We have been asked by The Social Sub to bring The Fancy Dress to your notice, this is on WEDNESDAY JANUARY 18TH which is not so far off so please get cracking with your ideas. Usual prizes will be given for topicality, originality, and humour etc. - the field is wide - lets have you all in costume - no spoil sports.

Mark Walsh has brought to our notice the publication of the Knights of St. Columba's book called COLUMBA and for those who are interested the publication can be ordered from the Newsagents.



+ 4 +

party that the situation was well under control but noticed that they made quite a wide detour. I wonder why ? !! On along the Leeds - Liverpool Canal we went, yelling depreciating remarks at bulls the other side of the water. Eventually the welcome sight of the 'Royal Oak' lured us in to tea.

Refreshed, we set off again, past Houghton Tower and proceeded to climb the hill in the darkness. Torches have never been more welcome. Ever been posed on a ridge with a railway line far down on side and a quarry the other ? you want to try it some time.

After a rest at the top we began our descent. Phew! We decided an expedition to Everest would be chicken feed after that. Just before then we parted company with 4 of the party who returned by a different route. That left 12 of us. We continued along the river (Joan was going to wash her hands in it until Joe discovered it wasn't "quate naice") then took the road into the village. We sang at the tops of our voices until we arrived at the bus stop, exhausted. A long draught of cider soon remedied that and in no time we were heading for Preston by bus. We replenished our supplies and dived from one bus station to another trying to make up our minds which to take - which bus I mean. If anyone is interested there's a novel weighing machine there which works without money ! Joan Dob. gasped at her weight until she noticed Johnny's foot next to hers.

An express bus took us back to Liverpool in record time. Bill says we did 9 miles - I hope you're wrong Bill. My legs told me it was more like 90.

Thanks Bill for a most enjoyable day.

MOPSY.

RAMBLING PROGRAMME

CHRISTMAS DAY

X

NO RAMBLE.

1956.

<u>DATE.</u>	<u>RAMBLE.</u>	<u>MEET.</u>	<u>TIME.</u>	<u>LEADER.</u>	<u>Approx. Fare.</u>
JAN. 1	Social Ramble.	Pierhead.	12:15.	Ramb. Sub.	3/6d.
" 8	Ruabon.	James St.	10:30	J. Gannon	4/9d.
" 15	Yuletide Walk.	Pier Head.	11:30	Ramb. Sub.	3/-d.
" 22	Todmorden	Exchange Stn.	9.45	S. O'Neill	6/6d.
" 29	Chalet Weekend.		Details at Clubroom.		



This is the only information we have when going to press. Final details will be available in the Guild Brochure which will be in the Clubroom early in the New Year.

May I make one final point. Here is an opportunity for you to have a thoroughly good holiday while supporting a cause which has always been so close to us as the Guild was founded by the Ramblers. Any of your three vice-chairmen on the Guild Council - the Roberts' and Bernard Edwards and Mr. Penlington (Gerry) will be delighted to give you any information you may need.

P.S. Don't forget that if you are a member of the Ramblers you pay only 2/6d membership to the Guild, whichever holiday you go on.

-o-o-o-

The ROSARY Will be recited on the first Wednesday of January, as usual, in the Chapel upstairs at Cathedral Buildings. Do try to be present.

-o-o-o-

31ST DECEMBER.

In common with some less charitable institutions, we will be sending out Demand Notes for your Annual Subscription in January. Missives of this nature generally begin

Dear Sir/Madam,

Unless .....

Our wording will not be quite so brutal but that's what we mean. Your 5/-d (6/-d for married couples) is due in September but Subs must be paid before 31st December to retain your membership. The Newsletter is only sent to Members, so if Newsletter Night is the big occasion in your Club-life, pay up (to Mona Roberts) and look pleasant.

-o-o-o-

As mentioned in our Editorial last month, the Christmas Collection this year is for St. Vincent's Hospice for the Dying. I don't need to add anything to Gerry's remarks but would just remind you to bring along what you intend to give on the 28th December. This cause isn't quite as appealing to your sentiments as maybe Orphans or the Old People would be, but surely they deserve a little more comfort and pleasure than anybody else.

In the unavoidable absence of the gaffer, Bernard resumed his old job as Registrar for the night on the 14th and distributed the long awaited Rambling Programmes for 1955/56. Didn't he give you one? Thats easy - just pay your subs. This doesn't go for those who paid on 7th December. They'll be getting them any minute now.

Back to dances again. At the dance at Bootle Town Hall on the 14th January, tickets will be on sale for another of our dances to be held at the State Cafe on February 10th. The price will be 4/6d. so don't come with just the right money !

My reporters did very poor work last Wednesday but I believe the O'Neill brothers plus Jack Carroll did some nice M.C.ing. Makes a nice change from Committee men M.C.s.!!! Hear about Bob Doyle? He's joined a circus and was getting in some good practice with his balancing work on the Holly Ramble.

Yours

Socialite.

-e-o-o-



Ambling in Austria,  
Frolicing in France,  
Siesta-ing in Spain,  
Swigging in Switzerland.



These are a sample of the delights offered to you all by the Catholic Holiday Guild this Summer. All this is an outcome of the Guild's pioneer effort in Austria last year. This proved so successful that the accommodation had to be doubled and at the same time demonstrated the great demand for Continental holidays for Catholics with Catholics.

This year, on every Sunday from 3rd June to the end of August, a party will leave London for one of the Guild centres abroad. These include two centres in Austria, one at San Sebastian, one at Lake Como and a Swiss centre at Engleburg. The French holiday gives one week in the Pyrenees and a week in Lourdes. Negotiations are also in hand for another split fortnight - one week in Austria and the other in Italy, and there may be a centre in Rome.

Of course, this is the painless way to go abroad. You pay your deposit and then just wait for things to happen. You receive your ticket, itinerary and 'V' form etc. etc. and the Guild will reserve sleepers or couchettes, insure you and even do the necessary about your passport if you like. And there is a leader with each party who will 'make straight your path' and arrange excursions from the centres should you so desire.

At this point your probably thinking "Alright! Cut the cackle and get down to brass tacks. As its being run by Catholics, how much extra do we pay? Well, I can honestly state that the advertised prices for all the holidays are as low, or lower, than you could get anywhere. Nor is this all. For parties of ten there is a reduction.

The Guild is also enlarging its home programme. Apart from the old faithful - Keswick - (surely there's no lovelier town in the Lakes) there is another centre at St. Leonards-on-Sea for those who prefer a seaside holiday, and other centres are being considered.

Cont'd.