

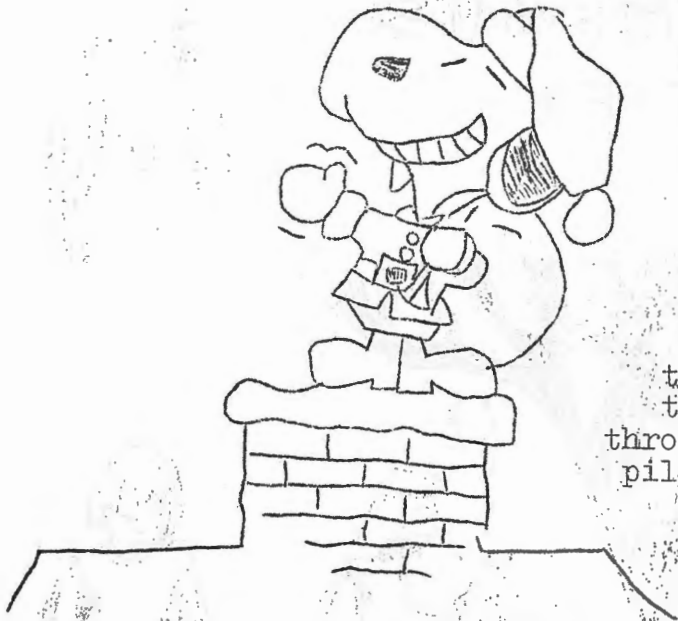
Liverpool Catholic Ramblers NEWSLETTER



Christmas 1980

Thursday December 4th. 1980.

EDITORIAL.



Welcome again to another Newsletter.

Christmas is meant to be a time of giving. Around this time last year the Ramblers made a very good donation to the Cambodian Refugees Fund. This year the Committee have been approached by The Handicapped Children's Pilgrimage Trust with the hope that our Association might like to raise funds to sponsor a child to take part, with many others throughout the country on a week's pilgrimage to Lourdes at Easter.

Further and more details about this appeal appear in an article in this issue.

Please read this and give your support. These mentally and physically handicapped children need our help. Thank You.

This time of year tends to be a very eventful one, and a number of very popular events have come round again.

On the negative side we do lose two Thursday socials as both Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on Thursdays this year. But to combat the long wait until January 8th. there is the Christmas Party night on December 18th. with a late extension until 12.00 to look forward to. A week before this we hope to be showing a short film brought by a representative of The Handicapped Children's Pilgrimage Trust showing the work of this organisation.

On the Rambling front, one of the highlights of the year - The Rivington annual yuletide walk and hot-pot takes place on Sunday January 4th.

We strongly advise any new member to try this event, always greatly looked forward to.

I would like to give my usual thanks to all of this month's contributors and to thank this issue's typists, Angela Platt and Louise Kelly. Thanks also to Eric Kavanagh for printing it. We're still hoping that Father Christmas is going to bring us a new duplicator as a Christmas present.

Last of all I have moved since the publication of the previous Newsletter. If you have any material you would like included in the next issue, please hand it to Gerry Penlington at the Clubrooms or post it to this new address:

Laurence Kelly,
136, Park Lane,
Netherton,
LIVERPOOL L30 1RW.

Tel: 525 9094.

The closing date for material is: Thursday January 11th. 1981.
The next issue will be published on Thursday January 25th. 1981.

On behalf of the Newsletter and the Committee we wish you all a Merry CHRISTMAS and a VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Laurence Kelly - Editor.



PLEASE HELP THESE
CHILDREN IN NEED

The above type of appeal is often heard and has been much to the fore recently with the B.B.C.'s first ever nationwide charity phone-in which raised a vast amount of money for so many children in need. Coincidentally, just prior to that particular appeal the Catholic Ramblers received an appeal from a former member of recent years, Kathleen O'Gorman, who wrote to us acting in her capacity of Regional Secretary for the Handicapped Children's Pilgrimage Trust. (H.C.P.T.). She explained that each year the H.C.P.T. takes a party of mentally and physically handicapped children on a week's pilgrimage to Lourdes and that this year 1,500 children, 90 from Liverpool, had made this marvellous trip. For the majority this was their first experience of a holiday of any sort and, therefore, it is not hard to imagine the joy that it must have brought into their lives. Naturally, in these days of raging inflation it is becoming more and more difficult for the H.C.P.T. to raise the funds necessary to enable them to carry on with this magnificent work which has given such pleasure to so many children, including some of those permanently hospitalized in Rathbone and Olive Mount Hospitals. Obviously the Catholic Ramblers receive many appeals for assistance throughout the course of a year and unfortunately cannot possibly meet them all, but this particular appeal from the H.C.P.T. was one to which the members of the General Committee, acting on YOUR behalf, felt they ought to respond. Thus after some discussions we resolved that between now and next Easter we would raise the £160 necessary to send a handicapped child to Lourdes and this pledge has been given to Kathleen.

Richie Cannon, Pat Hearne, John Misset and I have undertaken the responsibility for organising our fund-raising efforts, and we are receiving encouraging backing from the Committee as a whole, but even more we need the co-operation and, dare I say it, some of their hard-earned cash, from all members if we are to reach our objective. I know that many are experiencing hard times at the moment, with unemployment being so widespread, but could I ask you to give as much as you can afford when our fundraising campaign swings into action. Basically, we intend to make our major effort over the Christmas and New Year period, but initially we have asked Kathleen to come down to the Club on Thursday, 11th December, to show a film made by the B.B.C. last Easter which shows the work of the H.C.P.T. as well as the pleasure it give to the children. The film lasts half an hour and will be shown at about 9.30.p.m. and we hope that every member will do their best to attend.

At the Christmas Disco on 18th December various means of fund raising "tactics" will be employed and at Rivington Barn on January 4th the proceeds of the raffle plus a special collection will, we hope, send us well on our way to our target. So I repeat please give as much as you can possibly afford; if every adult at the Christmas Disco and the Yuletide Barn Dance gives the price of a drink then by the time the next issue of this Newsletter is published we could have reached the magic figure of £160. So please give generously.

Thank you.

Peter McLindon

P.S. Members wishing to contribute but unable to attend the Christmas Disco or Yuletide Walk may if they wish send cheques/postal orders made payable to "Liverpool Catholic Ramblers" (H.C.P.T. Appeal) to myself at:-

26, Laburnum Avenue,
Huyton, Merseyside,
L36 5UF.

Many thanks in advance.

Peter McLindon

R A M B L E R I T E

Greetings all ramblers,

With the festive season fast approaching and December having the shortest daylight hours, it is no surprise that this has always been a bad month on the rambling scene. Therefore, the spotlight is traditionally focused on the social side with dances, parties, etc. but when the Christmas festivities are over and our last turkey butties have been eaten, the rambling highlight of the year is just around the corner. This is our annual Yuletide Walk at Rivington Barn on January 4th. About 300 of past, present and future ramblers gather together at this great ramblers' day out, where after the walk around Rivington everyone enjoys a dish of hot-pot, cakes and coffee (or tea) with second helpings promised for anyone who feels the need. This is followed by two simultaneous events where the young children go onto the floor for a few party games and the older members all seem to drift towards the top left of the barn where they can sample alcoholic beverages from the bar.

During the next hour the Hoghton Folk Dance Band arrive and shortly the whole of the barn will be alive as everyone gets on the floor to throw themselves around to the delightful strains of the band with the lady caller shouting out instructions on how to conduct oneself as the band plays on. This is an occasion not to be missed. Tickets are on sale for the Yuletide Hot-Pot at £4 for adults inclusive of coach and £2 for children. If going by car the cost is £2 adults, £1 children and if anyone is just coming for the dance but no hot-pot there is a charge of £1 per adult. Infants are free if they share their parents' hot-pot, as there are no small portions served.

Note - LAST DATE for booking at the club is THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18th. There will be no more club nights until January 8th.

Last minute bookings with cheques made out to "Liverpool Catholic Ramblers" can be made to Dave Newns on Billinge 892791, Chris Dobbin on 722 0621 or Maureen Howard (family section) on 427 4537.

Wishing you all a happy Christmas,

Dave Newns

WIRRAL RAMBLE FAMILY SECTION, 12TH OCTOBER, L(') 1980.

The leader's party arrived on foot to meet the rest of the ramblers at Lever Causeway on a real Indian Summer afternoon. The early arrivals were kept in gentle hysterics by the efforts of a would-be rider in a field nearby to "First catch your horse" as they say. If she was on an hourly rate her time must have been up before she caught it!

Woolies were shed as we set off up Landican Lane towards Thingwall and on to Barnston Dale. Cameras were much in evidence as everybody took advantage of the good weather to take some real autumn pictures. Various small scouts kept a lookout for wild fruits, and, thanks to the many helpers enough sloes were collected to make a gallon of home made wine. The blackthorn bush will be instantly recognisable by our walkers in the future. We look forward to a free sample to help the butties down on some future ramble.

The ramble was completed through Brimstage and Storeton Woods as the sun was beginning to set. What gorgeous walks we can still have on the Wirral when somebody knows the terrain well. We felt we were in the depths of the countryside on some of the paths, although we could never have been very far from the urban sprawl of what was once called Liverpool's Dormitory.

The last field over the railway had been thoroughly ploughed up, making it difficult underfoot. Heather, I think, reckoned this was the least attractive section of the ramble, but the papoose bearers seemed full of confidence. Eventually we arrived back at the parking space, footsore but very happy. There was still enough sun around for a few last photographs to be taken. I'd like to see the with Trixie, Mona. Come to Pearson's, Cath. Trixie is lovely, its the handler who's a bit homely!

Thank you, Arthur, for a very pleasant ramble - nice to see some of your family out again.

Co-Winemaker.

HAWARDEN CASTLE RAMBLE, 16TH NOVEMBER, 1980.

After a Friday and Saturday which were more suited to fish than folk, 21 of the more optimistic of the Family Section (including a few new members to whom - "Welcome") met at Hawarden Castle Car Park and duly sat forth under the expert leadership of John and Cath to taste (and smell)! Like a bunch of magpies, chattering all the way.

We meandered through Bilberry Woods alight with Autumn colours, down Cherry Orchard Lane, staggered and did weird dances in an effort not to disappear from sight forever in the mud across the fields to Water's Green and along the bridle path to Pent Robin - all beautiful names, which should inspire equally beautiful poetic writing, but the poets in the group escaped before they could be asked to do the write-up!

Even the farmers were firendly and we passed anew house being built with a beautifully thatched roof - even the porch was thatched and the well in the making of a garden done to match, proving that the old arts arn't dead after all - and helping us to ignore the fact that there was

:::: a car cemetery a few yards further on!

Our optimism being left intact regarding the weather, and having been fortified on the way with a taste of Bilberry and Pear home madw wine thoughtfully provided by our leaders (they are being strongly encouraged to lead yet again with offerings of hops from the hedgerows) we arrived back safe and sound after a thoroughly enjoyable day.

Many thanks, Cath and John.

Jean.

FAMILY SECTION PROGRAMME.

1980.

DEC. 4TH. HOUSE MEETING. Leo and Pat Pearson's, 81 Twigg Lane, Huyton. It's off East Prescott Road before some shops and St. Alousius' Church is in the same road.

NO DECEMBER WALK - too near Christmas!

1981.

JAN 4TH. YULETIDE RAMNLE, HOTPOT AND BARNDANCE.
Meet at Rivington Old Barn at 12 noon for a 12.30 start. The 'A' party leader is Peter Atherton and the 'B' leader is yet to be appointed. Sorry, but there is an increase on last year's prices - £2. for adults and £1. for children. Names and cash as soon as possible, please, to Marie Atherton or Maureen Howard. Their phone numbers were in last edition of newsletter.

JAN 8TH. HOUSE MEETING. Magda McKenna's, 3 Mullion Walk, Croxtath. Come down Altcross Road with Shops facing you at 'T' junction. Turn left into Moss Way and Magda's house is set back behind a grass patch on the right side immediately after the shops.

FEB 5TH. HOUSE MEETING. Frank and Monica Rowe's, 56 Bullbridge Lane, Aintree. Turn down Altway, facing the Old Roan Pub, continue to bottom of this road and Bullbridge is at the end, second house on right after you've turned left off Altway.

FEB. 8TH. FRODSHAM WALK. Leaders Bill and Peggy Potter. Meet in Shopping Precinct Car Park, Church Street, Frodsham, at 12.30 p.m.

FEB 13/15. KESWICK WEEKEND. Would the 12 members who are going on this weekend please send £1. Deposit to Mona Roberts As soon as possible. There are a few more vacancies if any more of us want to join in.

28/29 MARCH Chalet weekend. Please give names to Gerry and Jean McDonald, although there is no desperate rush for this March weekend. Happy Christmas, if you arn't coming to Pearson's.

Mona.

A WEEKEND IN LAKELAND -
17th-19th October 1980

Everything went wrong on Friday night, in fact I had almost given up the idea of the Keswick weekend. The last hope I had was to drive along Queens Drive to a point where the coach might pass. A few minutes later they arrived. The ramblers had waited in town for quite a long time for me - bless em!

Two of the fifty ramblers on the coach, Leo and Nora, sat near me and I began to wonder what was going on when some of the girls with big smiles on their faces came to their seat saying "He's lovely" or "What a lamb". When this happened Leo's face lit up. Could these signs of affection be aimed at him with his wife sitting there? I had to find out. The answer was cradled in Nora's arms - Peter, their ten week old son, gazed up at us with two big blue eyes. AH!

There was a mad rush to put our things away in Lakeside House before the pubs closed. It was nice to be back under hammer beam ceilings and horse brasses hanging over the bars. About midnight John and Miriam Waite joined us in the bar at Lakeside House. They had come by car because they were staying for a few days extra, lucky things.

After breakfast some of us walked to the market in the town square looking for bargains. One Rambler clutched a couple of pillows he had bought. I asked him what he wanted them for and he muttered something like "Two pillows are better than one."

The coach dropped us off in bright sunshine at the south end of Lake Thirlmere. Soon we were climbing up a steep path near Birk Crag and each time we stopped for a rest the lake showed us more of its length, with the mountains behind Helvellyn coming into view. We passed a pretty little lake called Harron Tarn with a few trees on its banks. Then at a gentler pace we walked through the edge of a forest along the path. Soon we reached the open moorland beyond the trees with the sky line (1700) about half a mile away. At the top Blea Tarn seemed cold and wet about one hundred feet below us, like the ground we stood on. Since we had left the forest behind it had been wet all the way.

Richie Cannon, our leader, with the help of Tony Bond, planned a route over high ground to the village of Watenlath about two miles from Blea Tarn. They hoped the moors would be better than following the path past the Tarn. It wasn't and we walked in water all the way. When we reached the steep ground above the grey stone village, Barry, Danny, Tony and I climbed down a dry gull into the valley below. The others went along the top to find an easier way down to Watenlath. We were on our third cup of tea before the rest of the ramblers arrived. I believe it was colder inside the cafe than in the bright sunshine outside, but with tea at 18p a pot we were soon warmed.

Collette Roberts, being a new member of the ramblers could not face the 500 ft. climb back on to the moors so Tony took her back to Keswick. They got a ride in a passing car. (A week later Collette charmed us with her sweet voice and skilled guitar playing at a ramblers' party). Richie led us up a steep climb back on to the moors and then two and a half miles across water-logged ground to the north part of Thirlmere. There was another mile along the road before we could take off our water filled boots in the coach.

After dinner some of us watched T.V. whilst others found the old world charm of the pubs more to their taste. I joined a group with six couples in it and four single ramblers (some married others courting). We took over an alcove in the George Hotel for the evening. It is just a short walk back to Lakeside House where we stayed until the small hours of Sunday morning. No wonder hardly anybody gets up for early Mass.

The rain poured down during the night so it was no surprise to find the mountains covered with mist next morning. On the way to church the sky cleared and for the rest of the day we enjoyed bright sunny weather.

I was foolish enough to take a boat trip on Derwent Water with some ramblers and I wrapped my coat around me against the icy wind for the whole of the forty five minutes we were on the lake.

We did some shopping before having dinner then boarding the coach for home after a nice weekend away.

JOHN MACDONALD

Liverpool Catholic Ramblers Association

" To boldly go where no man has gone before*"

"The enthusiast, the casual fell walker, the socialite, the indifferent, all and more to be found on a Thursday evening at a Ramblers' Association night."

In an age which affords us fewer and fewer opportunities to use our legs for walking and our eyes and ears for sights and sounds that have not changed over the centuries, the Catholic Ramblers Association offers to people the opportunity to participate on an activity that will give them lifelong pleasure and induce a comradeship unrivalled by any other pastime.

Hand in hand with it's rambling activities the association has a thriving social side, dancing, disco's, excursions into the unknown and Beer.(Someone will probably tell me off for mentioning beer!) Surely with such an array and diversity of activities who can they fail to entice?

"You will be amazed when you get into the mountains. There you will see great cliffs and rocky ridges and tarns nestling in lovely hollows and the valleys far below will seem to belong to another world" It's impossible to describe the spirit of the mountains but you will feel their spell as soon as you get amongst them. The New Era of the rambles is beginning, ramblers come forth and show yourselves.

THE L.C.R.A. IN THE 80's - Join NOW your association needs you!

Paul Stevens. MPS MLPHM etc. etc.
but above all MLCRA.

SOCIALIRE

Hi Ramblers,

Last month I was asked to be social chairman and with some apprehension have taken on the job. This is all new to me and I hope to make a success of it. I would like to thank John McLindon for his great work last year.

Past Events

Our fancy dress was a little low-keyed. Only two turned up dressed. Where has all our great courage gone from the last dance on St. Valentine's night? Still it was a good night and everybody enjoyed themselves. Compliments to Margaret Dale and her friend for dressing up and for winning all the prizes.

Tony Bond's party which was in aid of the disco equipment was a great success. Food was excellent and in abundance. Drink was also in plenty. The dancing was great and a little wild. £40 was made from the party and this money will go into the disco fund.

Speaking of discos, Tony has almost become a resident DJ. He has been faithfully providing the music for a number of weeks running and really needs a rest. Therefore a DJ list has been put together and a number of people have been assigned for November. The December dates are to be arranged. Again thanks Tony for your great work. Anyone having any inclinations towards 'DJing' should give their names to me. We are looking for some recruits. It is a chance to get on the road to fame.

Back to the past

Eight of us had a good night 10 pin bowling in New Brighton last Saturday. The scenes were not spectacular but everyone enjoyed themselves. It ended with a meal in the "Mexicana" near the bowling centre. Hope to organise another trip to New Brighton.

Future Events.

Friday 5th. December - Ceilidh in Catholic Chaplaincy -
ramblers are very welcome to come.

Saturday 13th. December - Tennis Dance - tickets from
Brian Keller.

THURSDAY 18th. DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS PARTY AT THE CLUBROOMS.

This will be a night of Christmas fun. Late extension
until 12.00, music by Barry Mac Disco's.

There will be some raffles and some fun games.

Hope to have some food laid on.

Lastly - Congratulations to John Mc Lindon and Denise Horton on their recent engagement.
Finally - I wish everyone a very happy and peaceful Christmas.
Remember - no socials on Thursdays 25th. December and 1st, Jan.

Pat Hearne.
Social Chairman.

CONGRATULATIONS.....

Anne and Billy Carruthers - a baby girl Gillian
Anne and Dennis Keenan - a 2nd. boy Peter
Sheila and John Pugh - a boy Steven John
Nora and Leo Forsey - a boy Peter John.

ANNUAL YULETIDE WALK & HOT POT

@ RIVINGTON BARN

SUNDAY JANUARY 4TH 1981

Games for the children

Dancing to the "HOUGHTON DANCE BAND"

Caller KAY MARTIN

ADULTS £ 2.00

CHILDREN £ 1.00

COACH £ 2.00

Catholic Action.

Some club members do this all the time. Take for instance Pat Rothwell, Angela Platt, Denise Beevour, Richie Woods. They spent a week in Lourds with the Handicapped from Hosanna House. Now that Christmas is near perhaps we can look nearer home and give some kind of cheer to the old and infirm. A smile and a helping hand can often be of much greater value than just putting 50pence in a collecting box. !!

GOOD NEWS / BAD NEWS TIME

First the good news, Christmas is just around the corner, buying and receiving presents, Christmas Turkey and pudding as well, with possibly a few parties.

A week later more good news, New Year and a few more late nights.

Now the Bad News, your Annual Membership Subscriptions are due. So please help the Registrars by paying now, to avoid us from constantly working, well into the new year, to collect them.

You can pay your subscription any Thursday night in the Clubroom, or during a Sunday ramble, or by sending a cheque or postal order made payable to L.C.R.A. to either :-

Paul Healy,
18 Cherry Tree Close,
Precot, L35 2XJ.

Brian Keller,
8 Hawdon Court,
Liverpool, L7 6AF.

FamilySection members to :-
Mona Roberts,
7 Elmbank Road,
Liverpool 18.

The subscription fee is £ 1.50 Single member
 £ 1.80 Married couple

If you have already paid your membership, you have no
Bad News, just Good news - Have a nice Christmas !

Thank You
P. Healy (Registrar)