

# NEWSLETTER

No. 130 February 1986

OF THE

LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION

## Walk down

to

our new club room

now UPSTAIRS at the 'LIVERPOOL', James Street — every Thursday; come early

Larger room, larger dance floor,

Good music

SO COME ON DOWN AND TRY IT OUT!

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Billinge,  
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Hello Everyone,

With 1986 well under way and rambling attendances averaging the 38 mark, the new programme for the next six months is just about to start, and the club seems to be on an upward trend on the rambling side. On the social scene the move upstairs at the 'Liverpool' seems to be a popular move but the attendance figures could be much higher on the Thursday nights with possibly a little more publicity about the move. Hopefully, this ten-page newsletter might bring many of the missing faces back down to the club. Meanwhile the committee are now looking forward to 1987, our 60th anniversary year celebrations for then have to be planned in the near future, i.e. a special Dinner Dance has to be arranged, plus a special anniversary souvenir newsletter, taking several months to prepare for the printers, with photographs, etc., as happened at the 50th anniversary. Anyway this is a long newsletter so read on... and thanks everyone for the write-ups, etc.

DAVE NEWNS, Editor/Vice Chairman

There have been several write-ups for this newsletter, the first one is by one of the children (note Brian Keller managed to get out for a while in spite of all the usual organising problems, checking on final numbers for hot-pot, etc.):

### A SNOWY DAY

On Sunday January 5th we went on a ramble to Rivington. It was a very snowy day and we climbed the mountain with other ramblers and their children.

The snow was very deep and we had a lovely time throwing snowballs mostly at Brian. We climbed lots of steps and all made lots of snowballs to throw at Gerry and Gwen when they climbed up to us. When we were getting near to the top it was very hard to climb and we kept slipping and sliding down. We stopped for a rest at the top to get our breath back and have something to eat.

We had to slide down some of the way on our bottoms because it was too slippery to walk. When we got back to the barn, we had hot pot and played games and danced. We all had a lovely time and I hope it snows again for next year's ramble to Rivington.

By Susan Carruthers

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### R A M B L E R I T E

Happy New Year and Good Rambling.

In recent weeks we have found ourselves slipping and sliding in the snow and ice, blown about by the wind and shivering with the cold. While writing this the air is cool and still, and the sun is shining. These changes in weather have been rapid, snow melting over night, gale force winds suddenly dropping. These are the sort of conditions which prevail on the mountains at all times of the year. In fact conditions on the mountains can change far quicker and extremes are far greater. Be warned and always be prepared for the worst.

## FUTURE RAMBLES

### February 16th - Malham (Joint Walk) 9.30 Start

This area is beautiful at any time of the year. Malham cove with its towering limestone cliffs and limestone pavement at the top. Gordale scar made by a stream which has eroded the limestone away and Malham Tarn itself. (Coach bookings to Dave Newns).

### March 2nd - North Berwyns 10.15 Start

Dave Connolly and Mike Hendrick lead us on the walks over the wilder side of the Berwyns, starting near Corwen we will pass through valleys, forests and open moorland.

### March 7 - 9th - Keswick Weekend

See details in this newsletter.  
Bookings with £10 deposit to Norman Johnson/Moira Sumner.

### March 23rd - Moel Siabod 9.30 Start

Brian Keller and Paul Healy lead these walks on Moel Siabod. The solitary peak seen as you leave Betws-y-coed.

### March 28 -31st Easter Weekend - Details later.

### April 6th High Street 9.30 Start

John Maddocks and Paul Amundsen take us to the old Roman road from Ambleside to Carlisle.

### April 13th - Anthony's Back Garden (Wirral)

Train Ramble.

This is when you will need a rucksack and zone ticket for a ramble round the Wirral Peninsular.

**KESWICK WEEKEND** - Friday, March 7th, probably by cars departing around 7pm for Lakeside House. See Norman or Moira for lift arrangements, etc. After paying your £10 DEPOSIT it will cost you approximately £17 more for the weekend plus petrol. Lakeside House is a guesthouse run by the Catholic Holiday Fellowship which has a committee of both our club and the Newcastle Catholic Ramblers plus one or two other people. We spend very enjoyable weekends there every March and October. Organised walks by us. There is a bar and our own dance in the basement. Cost includes breakfast and evening meals on Saturday and Sunday, departing about 6.15 on Sunday evening. A packed lunch is included on the Saturday. A charge will be made if you require a packed lunch on the Sunday. The house is well situated in Keswick (Lake Road) near to the centre of the town and handy for shops, PUBS, etc. A superb drying room is provided free of charge in the basement complete with coathangers, boot racks, etc.

ANTHONY BROCKWAY, Rambling Chairman

Please spread the good news:- Our very own LCRA:

Dancing to the  
SKIBBEREENS

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

at the IRISH CENTRE, Friday, April 18th - 8.30 pm-12.30. Bar Extn till 12  
Plus ERIC'S DISCO Tickets £2.00 - all profit to Ethiopia Famine Relief

December 29th 1985 ARNSIDE/SILVERDALE 'B' WALK

A lot of people must have had enough of Christmas TV as the coach was relatively full for the Silverdale ramble. The weather had taken a cold turn and a light snow had fallen over-night so the more hardy ramblers put on their thermal vests, long johns and extra thick woollens and braved the elements yet again.

The coach journey was fairly quiet, with just the smell of joss-sticks for a distraction.

The 'A' party started their walk from a Service Station and their first stop was a pub..... typical. However the 'B' party was much more conventional. We started from outside the chocolate shop in Arnside. The walk started off briskly and soon we were on top of Arnside - The Knott - for our 'buttie break'. There was a good view over the Kent estuary and Morecambe Bay. Fiona was surprised to have turkey butties yet again, and this prompted everyone to discuss 1,001 different things to cook with turkey for the two or three days after Christmas. During lunch we were visited by a robin which gave festive touch to the occasion.

The walk continued to the 14th Century Arnside Tower which was now ruined but proved an interesting photo halt.

The walk continued through some woodlands then onto the coastal path. We continued on this very picturesque path along by the water passing beautiful views at every turn. As the weather was fine and sunny many used their cameras to capture the scenery and the colourful sunset.

We climbed down to a pebbly cove for another stop just as twilight was creeping in - another robin appeared, or was it the same one, fatter after eating the turkey butties left at Arnside Knott? As the water was frozen in the shallow end nobody felt like getting their toes wet.

We continued along the cliff path, again with lovely views. We then walked along the shore watching ducks swimming and feeding at the water's edge, admiring the catamaran and trying to avoid the frozen areas interspersed among the sand and shingle.

Arriving back at Arnside the Christmas tree was lit up with colourful fairy lights which was a nice end to an interesting and enjoyable walk.

HELEN PATRICK

And now for another outlook . . . THE SILVERDALE 'A' WALK:-

Between Christmas and New Year we set off to walk in the area of Silverdale in North Lancashire - to be precise it is situated just south of the beginning of the Lake District. What a wonderful time of the year it was to visit such a place, just after Christmas, so we could all get our little bit of exercise and get in trim for the New Year festivities.

It fell on the shoulders of John Maddocks to lead this particular 'A' walk, his first ever, and hopefully not his last. The 'A' walkers all fell out of the coach at Burton service station on the motorway, while the remaining walkers, all 20-plus, stayed on the coach to start the 'B' walk in Arnside.

Heads counted, all present and correct nine of us made our way out of the motorway service area on to a winding country road. We all walked at different speeds but were quickly in the quaint village of Yealand Redmayne (sounds posh).

After a few photos taken at the crossroads in the village we all intended to stride out for the next hour or so, but immediately came across the New Inn (an old pub). So the next few minutes were frantic, trying to get served first at the bar, for a quick half pint. Then off we galloped up a hill out of the village. Then moans and groans of a butty break came from Peter Kennedy. Was I hearing right, I thought. This sounded more like a 'B' walk, with pleas of a stop for food. The poor lad had to starve for a short time. While we carried on walking through the pleasant countryside of Leighton Hall we leisurely made our way to a nature reserve where we came across a hide overlooking a

large pond where you could spy on all the birds and animals in their natural surroundings (all four of them - 2 swans and 2 ducks!—the rest had scarpered for the winter). This hide, overlooking the frozen pond, was just big enough to accommodate nine hungry rambblers - a bench to sit on and a ledge to lean on while eating our butties. Ten out of ten John for the butty stop - marvellous place.

Onward we went through the countryside and met our first real hill to climb, which brought us to the top of Eaves Wood overlooking the village of Silverdale and beyond Morecambe Bay with the sun trying to make a good sunset in about an hour's time. After a short break we were off down the hill and passing the ruins of Arnside Tower. Up another hill, this time the last and major one of the walk - Arnside Knott. At the summit we rested and chatted, taking in the view of the Lake District to the north with just a few peaks topped with snow.

From the top of Arnside Knott it was now just a formality of descending and on to Arnside itself to reach the coach, just before George Riley's 'B' walk got back from their very pleasant outing as well.

Thanks, John, for leading and reading the map so well.

PS: It had better not be your last walk that you lead!

PAUL HEALY

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## S O C I A L   S P O T L I G H T

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Hello everybody, and as always, a special welcome to our new members. While on the subject of new members I would like once again to appeal to our established members, to make that little extra bit of effort in getting to know our new members. Now, if that sounds like I'm playing that old record again, then you're right, because until some members start to change their attitudes, then I'm not prepared to keep quiet about a problem that should never occur. All I am asking for is just to spend a few minutes, not hours, with our new members. Just imagine how great that new arrivals would feel, if he or she saw a couple of new members break away from their cliques to come across for a chit-chat. Believe me, if everybody did that little gesture, then our new upstairs venue would be like the Christmas Dance every Thursday (minus the mince pies, of course!). Thank you.

Needless to say, the Christmas Dance was a great night for all. Straight away I must pay special thanks to Paul Sellick, Tony Bond and Paul McGrory for hauling and setting up the club's own disco equipment at short notice in order that we may have a truly professional sound (OK fellas, don't let your heads swell!). Also thanks to Angela Platt and Co. for the mince pies, crisps, peanuts, raffle tickets (which weren't as nice as last year's tickets), wine, champagne, etc, also thanks to Chris Dobbin for supplying some of the prizes. In appreciation of the staff's help during the past year at the 'Liverpool' the General Committee had each unanimously agreed that John, Cathy and

Maureen (manageress) should each receive gift tokens (is it true that they can only be used to buy boots, haversacks, etc?). Unfortunately, due to bad health, Cathy could not attend the dance, so I am sure we all wish her a speedy recovery.

This year's annual Yuletide proved once again to be another successful outing for all of the club. Personally this was the first Yuletide I have been to, but certainly won't be the last! The day itself started off with snow coming down like corn flakes as we got to Rivington. Leaving the coach and crossing the car park we could see Rivington Barn covered by a thick blanket of snow which gave the whole place the character of a typical Christmas card scene. Once inside the welcome warmth of the building, you only have to scan those timbers to appreciate the saying 'safe as houses.' There are six pairs of these enormous rough-hewn oaks which support the roof of this Saxon barn which probably dates from the 11th century. This and the Great House Barn are thought to have been tithe barns - used to store a tenth of 'tithe' of each farmer's crop, paid for the support of the clergy. As Michael Caine would say: 'Not a lot of people know that!'

Gathering, or rather pushing our small group together we squeezed out of the entrance into the crisp, cool air and started to make tracks towards Rivington Gardens. Needless to say, snowballs were landing like giant hailstones and fortunately hitting their targets as well!

Hold on! This is getting more like a full page write-up. Sorry Dave (our kind editor/typist). Anyway, cutting a long story short, there was a lot of pushing each other into the snow and sometimes even time for walking.

Back at Rivington Barn, the Hot-pot turned out to be really ideal for hungry rambblers, and certainly proved to be very filling, especially after the third helping. Tables cleared away, it was time for musical chairs and other games which all the club's kids (big and small) really enjoyed due to the compere, uncle Paul Healy. Games over, it was time for lots and lots of dancing and perhaps a drink or two. Special thanks must go to Brian Keller for the time and effort put into this excellent night out.

A lot of lucky rambblers will recall recently the play 'The Little Matchgirl' at the Unity Theatre recently. The original story by Hans Christian Anderson was given a distinct Scouse flavour, which came across very well. After the show it was time to make a bee-line for the Irish Centre, and just to be sociable, have a few drinks to celebrate Angela's birthday, where incidentally one member who wishes to be nameless won a GALLON of whisky.

Now it's time to undo your laces, buy an ice-cream, kiss the person next to you, wished you lived in the North Pole because it's time for Future Social Events:

#### CHINESE NIGHT OUT - SATURDAY, 22 February, 8pm

Paul McGrory and Tony Bond inform me the restaurant they originally wanted to go to cannot be reached by using a zone ticket. This was the Ching-Wan-Who in Hong Kong! Accordingly the venue has now been switched to Chinatown. In keeping with Chinese traditions (or maybe Irish!) whisky or guinness should be sampled first, in order to stimulate one's taste buds. Meet at the Phil-harmonic pub at about 8pm.

ST VALENTINE'S DISCO - Thursday, 13th February, 8pm

The time of year when John Platt spends a small fortune sending cards and flowers to all girls he's kissed in the last twelve months! OK, so I'm really jealous, but how would you feel, if you kept getting pushed off the dance floor. I will get my own back, Rambo!

For this year's Valentine's Disco we welcome back Charles with his bullet-proof 'Magnum Disco'. Admission price will be £1, or 50p unwaged members.

CEILIDH NIGHT (for Charity) at the Irish Centre, April 18th

The committee have decided that, after several proposals, the charity should be for Bob Geldoff's appeal for the starving and homeless in Ethiopia and neighbouring places and we would call it 'Ramble Aid'. Details of tickets, prices, etc. will be given in the clubrooms in the near future. Tell all your friends, in order that we can make this a night to remember. The popular SKIBBEREENS have been booked.

HAWAIIAN NIGHT - Thursday, 1st May, 8pm

Special guests will be the 'Hawaii Five O' police squad and hopefully Magnum's Tom Selick. Oh, come on girls, control yourselves, he's only a well paid darkly-tanned meg-a-star! Admission will be £1 fellas, £5 ladies! More details in the next newsletter.

Other future social events, but with no date fixed yet will be:

A BARN DANCE or a COUNTRY AND WESTERN NIGHT (some thing isn't?)

A CHEESE AND WINE EVENING

A RAMBLER'S REUNION NIGHT - 'Hello, I haven't seen you since . . . by the way, it's still your round!'

FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL COMPETITION - See Christine Welsby/Mike Hendrick

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION - See David Bailey

CAR RALLY/TREASURE HUNT - See Mark Thatcher

BADMINTON/SQUASH - See Mr Robinson

Also, over the next few weeks Tony Kirwin will be organising a QUIZ LEAGUE consisting of 36 members and will be run over a series of weeks. This idea of Tony's is in response to the ever-popular 'Trivial Pursuits' played by many members on the Sunday coaches. However, what makes Tony's quiz more attractive is the top prize of £36 - which is 42.6 shots of whisky or 46.3 pints of Guinness.

Before I go I must say many congratulations to:

George and Colette, Kevin and Pauline, Peter and Marie...

...who are the happy couples recently engaged. Well done!

Well, that's about it for now. I do hope to see you all on Thursday Club Nights.

Cheers,

ROY THILS

Social Chairman (677 8631)



\* STOP PRESS: Joint Walk Feb. 16th to Malham. Meet at Malham car park 12 noon  
(See Ramblerite for details).

FAMILY SECTION PROGRAMME.

- FEB. 6. The House Meeting is at Jack and Betty Highton's at No. 37 Kingscourt Road, West Derby, Liverpool, 12.
- FEB. 9. Peggy Potter is leading the Frodsham Walk. For the benefit of newcomers, take the A56 into Frodsham. Turn left at the Clock/Traffic lights in the centre of Frodsham. Go under the railway bridge and the carpark is in the shopping precinct on the right. 12.30 meet for a 1.00 p.m. start.
- MAR 6. Eric and Laura Pople are having the House Meeting this month. The address is 66 Coronation Road, Lydiate.
- MAR 9. This is Jack and Betty Highton's walk. They're not quite sure of the area as yet, so ring them on 220 2855 nearer the time.
- APR. 3. This is Leo and Pat Pearson's House Meeting at No. 81 Twig Lane, Huyton.

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TURTON MOOR, DECEMBER 8TH, 1985.

We would have missed the meeting place if Freda had not been battling against the wind to eat her butties whilst directing folk to where the cars were to be left. In the meantime, George was sitting comfortably in his nice warm car! (What happened to Women's Lib?) When we arrived at the carpark we were met by the Pearson Clan, Mona and Maureen. After the McDonalds had finished their ninth (or was it their tenth?) cup of coffee, we set off!

The party was small in number, only about eleven altogether, but stout in heart so a fast pace was kept up all afternoon and our spirits were not dampened by the rather miserable weather.

A woodland path overlooking a stream led us up onto Turton Moor. Apparently Leo had lost his anorak here on a previous walk and so we all helped to look for it. Unfortunately, it was so foggy that not only did we not find the anorak but we were unable to see the marvellous views from this vantage point.

In the valley beyond the moors we came across a park containing an adventure playground. Here the adults had a welcome break while Heather and I burnt off our surplus energy. Returning along the river bank to the car park we found the Pople family plus Midge (our Crosby contingent had already started the homeward journey) who had arrived too late to join our walk, but had completed a smaller walk of their own.

Many thanks to George and Freda for a very enjoyable walk.

Atho Junior.

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It isn't only the helicopter world which is having its take-overs! There's another 'second generation' write-up overleaf. Lovely! Our best wishes go to Jack for a quick return to fitness.

FAMILY SECTION. YULETIDE RAMBLE, 1985.

Leaving the TYTHE BARN most of us gathered by the field from which we usually set off, ready to start the walk, but no! PETER ATHERTON, the devious man that he is, set off in the opposite direction.

Up through the gardens we trekked, every so often waiting for the slowcoaches at the back. Then as we were shown GLEN ATHERTON'S (the four-legged one's) first Winter bathing place, the snowballs started. World War III had started.

Leaving the terraced garden behind we entered a field, then over a stile and at this point our calamities started. A certain rambler, who shall remain nameless, managed to get manure all over her person. Later, an ageing MRS. W. A. POTTER showed us how to fall off an exposed ridge 10 mm high. She was quite dazed but sturdy McDONLD came to her rescue. We then crossed over a river, up a narrow path to the top of the hill. Some way along this path our leader suddenly shouted 'Buttie break' and like the flock of vultures that we were we devoured out food.

As we packed our lunch-boxes away, more snow fell from the over-cast sky. While putting on our Kagouls, the 'B' party appeared. Greetings were exchanged and they passed on without stopping. Moments later DAVE NEWNS and a friend came striding along about five minutes behind the rest of their group. "Where did they go" he asked us, looking rather puzzled. "That way" came the reply from a know-all, and with that they left us.

After a while we came to the well known reservoir, some remarking "Oh, I know where we are". On up the road, through a field we trekked. For some people with non-grip boots this field was a nightmare, virtually sliding all the way, while doing their impression of 'TORVILLE AND DEAN'.

When we came out by Rivington Parish church some of us started to make our way UP the road but, once again, ATHERTON had another trick up his sleeve and led us DOWN the road passing the village school. We then followed the path through the woods and came out by the lower barn.

With a couple of moans about the long and tiresome walk up the drive we eventually arrived back where we had started.

Thanks, GLEN, for leading a very enjoyable walk and to PETER for helping him.

C.A.P.

The Hot-pot and Barndance was excellent, too. The hotpot seemed meatier, the pickled cabbage more plentiful and the mince pies 'shorter' and warm. One small complaint. There's been a suggestion from the Womens Libbers among us that it should be ladies first for the second helpings!

The games side of things was very capably looked after by the Young Club, who filled in admirably until the Group came. Said games were the usual exercise in how to cheat and prosper, and if we don't employ a professional referee for the Statue game I'm not going to join in next year.

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