

# LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF  
HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF LIVERPOOL.

Hon. Secretary : Miss M. W. JONES,  
56 CUNNINGHAM ROAD,  
LIVERPOOL, 13.

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## MONTHLY NEWS LETTER

The joint ramble with Stockport to Delamere will stand out as a landmark in this year's activities. Over 60 people took part in a walk which ranks amongst the best the Ramblers have arranged.

80 of our members and their friends went as a party to the panto' at the Empire, whilst 30 odd parents with their youngsters saw the circus at the Shakespeare.

Attendances at the Friday evening socials still average between 30 and 40. These figures seem to indicate that the very bad weather we have been experiencing is no deterrant to our more stalwart members and gives us cause to hope for still better attendances as Winter gives way to Spring.

CATHOLIC HOLIDAY GUILD - This Guild is negotiating for the renting of a Guest House in Keswick to be opened from Easter. This is a financial venture of the first magnitude, and we must pay tribute to those who are working so hard for its success. What can we do to help them? The immediate answer is to patronise the Dance which has been arranged in Marmaduke Hall on the 27th February 1947, price 3/6d. If you cannot go, your 3/6d will be most welcome. A Catholic Guest House is a most desirable amenity and it would be a calamity if it should not succeed just because we failed to give it a little support at the right time. Please, therefore, re-read this paragraph and let us have your wholehearted support. If you cannot go, can you send us a donation to be passed on to the Guild?

THE EDITOR.

## PERSONAL

For reasons beyond their control, Mr. and Mrs. Kelly have been obliged to resign from the Committee. We extend to them our sincere thanks for the work they have done for the Club over many years, and we hope that at some not too distant date they may perhaps be able to resume this work. Mr. Verrechia is also unable to continue as a Committee Member, and these three places have been filled by Mr. G. Penlington, Miss C. Byrno, and Miss N. Durkin. We extend to these new Committee Members a warm welcome and hope that they will remain to labour long in the service of the Ramblers.

Congratulations to Charlie Smith and Eileen Roach who recently became engaged, and also to Len Kane and Clara Ditchfield who were married at All Saints on Saturday, the 15th February.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Only 49 members have paid their annual subscription of 2/6d, and we appeal to those who may have overlooked this important point to send in their subscription. To old members who may not be able to take an active part in the Association, we especially address this appeal. Whilst strengthening the funds, your 2/6d will give encouragement to those who are working under difficult circumstances to keep the flag flying and at the same time give us some idea of the real support the Ramblers may still enjoy. Thank you in anticipation.



ROVING REPORTER

MAWDSLEY MOSS

This exceptionally good ramble was led by Bill Roberts (please note, I let that pass without comment.) After being informed we had two hours walk to the dinner place, we set off at a very brisk pace from Burscough Bridge and walked for miles along the canal bank, and later branched off into flooded fields. When we again questioned the leader about 'dinner', we were told it was just "a stone's throw from the next crossroads." (It was just a stone's throw twenty minutes later and we were still walking.)

We finally reached the 'Black Bull' when we were getting almost desperate. A roaring fire was awaiting us and our hostess greeted us by asking what would we like to eat. Everyone started talking at once, but order arose out of chaos and we were soon munching away. Some played dominoes, but others were content to toast their toes. The Inn had the reputation of being haunted, but some very disappointed ramblers could find no ghosts.

Joe Case decided discretion was the better part of valour and covered the picture of a nineteenth century belle with his hanky.

We set off again in the rain wearing a motley selection of clothes - John Miller sporting the latest model in ladies' rain-hoods, whilst Winnie was bowed down under Peter's souwester.

It was a grand ramble and the leader is to be congratulated.

DELAMERE

"Prophets are ever without honour ... .." - particularly when they decide to wander out into the snow in order to discover the wintry beauty of Delamere Forest! This memorable occasion however, was of considerable significance for it marked our first joint outing with the Stockport Ramblers, the forerunner of many such meetings, we trust.

Though the time of the year was the last Sunday of January, the sun smiled on our venture, and, I fancy, added an early Spring feeling to the happy companionship of a party some 60 strong.

Transport difficulties made our Liverpool party of 28 somewhat unpunctual, but despite this, and the ominous looming of a blizzard near Widnes, we arrived at Frodsham just before noon where the Stockport and St. Helens ramblers were waiting patiently.

We set off almost immediately with a warming climb over Overton Hill, down Jacob's Ladder and a brisk walk through the snow-covered countryside to Kingswood, where sharpened appetites disposed of lunch. After dinner we meandered through Delamere Woods where the party seemed to mix better, and if some were not exchanging snow-balls, they were better employed in exchanging valuable ideas. Mutual admiration and appreciation were freely given and accepted at tea, certainly well deserved by Mr. Frank King, the leader of the ramble, Miss Win Jones, and Mr. Maurice Naylor, Secretary of the Stockport Ramblers. Mr. Marquess spoke of the Catholic Holiday Guild and its especial connection with the Liverpool C.R.A. A raffle in aid of the C.H.G. was won by Miss Mary Smith, who incidentally, had a different turn of luck when she slipped badly catching a tram the same evening. A very quick walk to the accompaniment of our vocal chords brought our throng into Frodsham right on schedule for the buses that were then being very much looked forward to.

Our thanks to the Stockport Ramblers and may we repeat that we hope it will be our pleasure to meet them again very soon.



HISTORY OF C.R.A. (Contd.)

OUR FIRST HOLIDAY

We have noted in previous articles how the Organisation was being directed towards the ultimate object of acquiring a Guest House. Firstly a constitution was drawn up, then the idea propagated. Rambles were stabilised and socials became an intimate part of our activities, but throughout, the prime purpose of a holiday Guest House was never lost from sight. Then, as now, finance prevented the Guild from making the progress desired.

Lest the idea should end only in words, it was decided at a meeting held on 30th October 1927 to arrange a holiday in July 1928 at the C.H.A. Guest House in Hope, Derbyshire. Preparations were started immediately, and by 24th February 18 members had booked and paid their £1 deposit, and so completed the arrangements for the first holiday in 1928. Many of those who took part in that first holiday were so impressed by it that they remained with the Guild for many years, working to obtain a Catholic House of our own.

It was this holiday which attracted Mr. Harvey, and he has remained with the Guild ever since. Under his leadership, the C.H.G. will be opening a Guest House in Keswick very shortly. Mr. Marquess, the father of the movement, is still undeterred and his faith in it has recently been registered by a cheque for £50. Mr. Coogan, then as now, backs the Guild with unswerving loyalty.

As we turn the pages of the Minute Book, we feel a certain admiration for the enthusiasm which those first Committee members displayed. No sooner was the July holiday finished than they started making preparations for the following year, 1929. These preparations involved enquiries over a large area. Such propositions as renting a boarding house in Llandudno or furnished dwelling houses in Llangollen, to a pilgrimage to Lourdes came under consideration. Even the question of a holiday club was not left out, so that members might make regular weekly payments to cover the cost of a holiday. There was no club room, but the Guild managed to arrange at least one social per month, and we must remember that these socials involved as much work as we at present expend on a dance.

Rambling programmes were drawn up, but as there was no club room or newsletter, reminder postcards were sent out. All this meant work, but it did not go unrewarded for the paid membership in the second and third year was still over 100, and what is still more important, the Guild was taking its place alongside the other Catholic Societies of the Archdiocese.

The original name of our Organisation was the Catholic Holiday Guild, but as rambling became so important a part of its work, it was decided at the Annual Meeting in September 1928 that the Club be known as "The Catholic Holiday Guild and Rambling Association."

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