

THE LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS' ASSOCIATION.

Under the Patronage of His Grace, The Archbishop of Liverpool.

REGISTRAR: Miss K. Collins,
254 Anfield Road,
Anfield,
LIVERPOOL, 4.

Hon. Secy: Mrs. M.W. Penlington,
1, Greenfield Road,
Old Swan,
LIVERPOOL, 13.

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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

As usual our Xmas Party provided the occasion for a happy reunion between old and new members; the gathering however, will be remembered as the last to be held in St. Oswald's Hall. Fr. Coglan paid us a farewell visit and in bidding goodbye wished us continued success in our new home. We are deeply appreciative for all that Fr. Coglan has done for the Club and this final leave-taking was heightened by well chosen words of encouragement.

The K.S.C. have very generously placed a room at our disposal at Iona House and we hope that as many members as possible will take advantage of the new facilities. The Social Sub-Committee are arranging entertainment which they think suitable for our new home. Success, however, will depend entirely on the co-operation of the members. Ideas in this connection will be most welcome.

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P E R S O N A L

WEDDING BELLS

Peter Carlen and Celia Johnson were married on Monday 27th December 1948, with Nuptial Mass at St. Clares Church. Our felicitations and very best wishes to both.

S O C I A L N O T E S by I.C. ALL

Father Christmas paid another Annual Visit on Friday, January 7th, and as in previous years, he had a well-filled sack with a present for everyone. The table looked very inviting but there was one item I noticed particularly - cardboard plates - instead of our nice china ones. Was this financial economy or a ruse to save washing up? I personally favour the latter reason. Tom Inight and Frank McMahon were very efficient M.Cs. and with the aid of Bill Roberts' amplifier and Mrs Wilton, a very enjoyable evening was had by all.

The following evening we held our first dance of the New Year at the Carlton Rooms. To say several members (mentioning no names) were also celebrating Everton's spectacular defeat of Manchester City, is putting it mildly. There's quite a lot I could say about them, but I won't tell tales!

We have now removed to our new Club room, and the recent 'names' competition caused a number of people to put their thinking caps on and not a few arguments on how to spell. The quiz too was quite hilarious, but I still haven't been told why girls close their eyes when being kissed! Perhaps it is a woman's privilege - she could, for instance, imagine it was Michael Wilding, but gosh, to have an imagination like that - MMMMMMMM!

R A M B L I N G N O T E S

Yuletide Walk December 19th 28 in all turned up for the Yuletide festivities, not quite as many as had been expected, but the less stout hearts were possibly put off by the thick fog on the previous day. Others were making preparations for Christmas.

It was a keen frosty day, ideal for walking and apparently for football too; those who were reluctant to play were forced to and so the game was a hilarious success.

Jacob's Ladder set the more delicate sex's hearts into the usual flutter, though here Mr. Wildes was more of a nightmare than the ladder.

Tea was gobbled hungrily at the Mersey View Tea Gardens, Frodsham and much fighting went on over cakes. One or two incidents occurred during the day which might have been accidents:- Sir Galahad (otherwise known as Miss M. Smith) might easily have dropped her little sister into the dirty muddy water as she gallantly carried her across to dry land. Marie might have cried if she hadn't laughed when she measured her length on the ground. Numerous attempts were made to kill Jim Duncan at tea-time, the Hall Stand seemed to get knocked over each time he sat next to it, but each time his frail form escaped disaster.

In the bus the 'Wilde' man promised to show us a magicians disappearing act, guaranteed to work if the body was willing. The Body, however, (being Ted) wasn't willing, but after much physical force he was to be seen slung in a rather depressed condition over Bill's shoulder. The Magician then proceeded to slide open the top of the bus and shove the body out, but here the body asserted its rights and they then both entertained us by endeavouring to dance the Hula Hula.

Here endeth our Yuletide Walk of 1948.

Thurstaston - Jan 2nd.

This, the first of our rambles for 1949, commenced at 1.30 p.m., the late start, no doubt, being for the benefit of the Club members who had taken upon themselves the very arduous and necessary task of seeing that the "log was burning brightly" and that 1949 was welcomed with due deference and hospitality.

We assembled (for a change) at the Pier Head, where the leader was noticed to be apparently debating whether to contact Wallasey Ferries for an extra boat to accommodate the number of intending C.R.A. Ramblers. However, we managed with just the normal boat, after stowing a few members away in "divers" places.

The weather was showery when we enbussed (to coin a word) from Woodside to Heather Brow, but when we arrived it had improved to one of those nice steady incessant downpours through which our cavalcade battled and thrust their way to what was a veritable ~~oasis~~ oasis in the Wirral wilderness, Irby Mill Hill.

One cannot fail to associate Irby Mill Hill and tea, which was duly partaken of and duly enjoyed. Whilst we were teing, we tried all the good luck charms we knew to bring about a change in the weather. Various incantations were chanted without success, before deciding we could no longer use the excuse of "Let's have another cup of tea". We then, like the Arabs of old, folded our (figurative) tents and silently (more figurative) stole away to the Woodside bus. More trouble getting everyone on board. However, this was accomplished quite well, then the Ferry and our respective trams home.

I do think that our collective thanks are due to the seven stalwart members that comprised the total on this ramble, who, by virtue of their enthusiasm, are keeping the C.R.A. really a RAMBLING CLUB.

BURTON WOODS - January 9th

We were pleased to see an improved attendance after the previous week's effort - 7 as against a mere 6 - and five of these were the same stalwarts again; no further comment! The weather favoured us and to the accompaniment of "Cigarettes and whisky and wild wild women", provided by the two A.F.N. fanatics, we spent a most enjoyable day. Any ramble through the woods in the autumn is guaranteed to provide a treat for the eye and easy going for the feet, and this was no exception. As the route took us within a few miles of Neston anyway we made this the month's Benediction Ramble - thus upholding the Club's unbroken record for 1949 in that respect!

MAESHAFN - January 15/16th.

At last the Club has achieved that "something different", which relieves the routing of Sunday Rambles (pleasant though that "routine" may be and which we HOPE has stimulated the flagging interest in our outdoor activities. It was demonstrated what can be done in the way of attendance, which totalled 26 in all, including one from the Stockport club who paid us the compliment of travelling so far to join us.

The Saturday morning party, though only eight in number, got off to a good start in spite of the rain via the Leete Walk from Loggerheads to Rhydymwyn, where we were tempted by the magic word "chips" at the tea place. Thus refreshed we were soon wending our way through the beautiful park at Penbedw Hall, where the interesting sights ranged from an ancient Druids' stone circle and a close-up glimpse of a squirrel, to an apparently empty mansion complete with overgrown woods and artificial pool, (model for a future C.R.A. Country Club House?). The route then took us up-hill to the slopes of Moel Arthur, and from then on the invigorating wind of the wild moorlands compensated for the fast descending mist which shut out most of our view - including Moel Fammau, which was to have been our landmark and objective! Thus, in spite of the leader's valiant efforts to look as if he knew what he was doing with map and compass, we finally descended from the hill several miles off our course. This necessitated some gruelling road work to reach Maeshafn in time to clean up before supper, but we finally made it and joined the others who had come out during the afternoon. If the Hostel's facilities were a little spartan, the grub was good - and did we enjoy it!

The Sunday ramble was a much more leisurely effort, except for a sprint to be in time for Mass at Mold. We were joined at Loggerheads by the solitary arrival from the Pier Head, thence back to Maeshafn village where dinner had been laid on at the Miners' Arms, (scene of an animated Reds v Blues discussion the previous evening).

After a tramp through the woods we climbed Bryn Alyn in easy stages, and the steep descent brought us past an underground cavern which we explored two at a time. An early tea and bus home completed the week-end, and those who have caught the Hostelling spirit are looking forward to the next outing at Easter

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

PANTOMIME

The CRACKAJAX are at last able to announce that a suitable hall has been found for the presentation of their Panto "Aladdin", which has now been fixed for Saturday February 12th, at St. Johns Hall, Sessions Road (off Fountains Road), Kirkdale.

Admission tickets are available, price 1/6d and 2/-, so spread the word amongst your friends and help the success of this ambitious show on which we have worked so hard to help entertain our clubmates.

TRANSPORT NOTES From Town: Bus No.3 From Lime Street to Fountains Road (7 minute service). From Rice Lane or Queens Drive, Trams Nos. 20, 21 or 22 towards the City.

RAMBLING SUBSIDY

As announced recently in the Clubroom, your Committee has decided to introduce a financial subsidy on rambling expenses, in yet another attempt to offset falling attendances, by encouraging members who may be put off by costs. The Club will refund all official expenses over 4/- per head, except on the Yuletide Walk and Birthday Ramble, which are special events. Those attending Hostelling week-ends, will be entitled to the same sum as paid for the Club ramble with which they will link up.

As this subsidy came into effect before the Hostelling week-end, all those on the Maeshafn ramble are entitled to a refund of 1/4d each. (Official expenses reckoned from the Pier Head were 5/4d). Cash may be collected from the leader.

CLUB BADGE COMPETITION.

It has been proposed that a new badge of distinctive design be adopted for general use in the Club, particularly in connection with the T.Y.H.A. activities. A competition has therefore been arranged to decide the design - members should draft out their ideas - a rough sketch will do - artistic merit is not the deciding factor in awarding the prize - and forward same to the Asst. Secretary, Mr. A. Callaghan, 62, Saville Road, Liverpool, 13. Designs may be any shape and in several colours, but keep them fairly simple and suitable for reproduction on cloth or metal badges.

CLOSING DATE: Monday, February 28th.

PRIZE: Free Ticket to the Next Club Dance.

R A M B L I N G P R O G R A M M E

	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Leader</u>	<u>Meet</u>	<u>Fare</u>
20th. Feb.	Cronton	Mr T.Marquess	Woolton Tram Terminus 11.30	
27th. Feb	Kingswood	Mr G.Morley	Pier Head 10. a.m.	2/6d
6th March	Dunham-on-the Hill	Mrs W. Penlington	Pier Head 10.15	1/10d
13th March	Derbyshire	Mrs W. Penlinton	St.Johns Lane 10. a.m.	5/-

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

14th Feb	Hostess	- Miss M.Roberts	- "Ladies Night"
21st Feb	Host	- Mr. C. Kelly	
28th Feb	Host	- Mr. T. Inight	

N O T E S

CARLTON DANCE

There is still some ticket money outstanding from the last Dance and we would be very much obliged if the "offenders" will pay the cash to Mr. Marsden as soon as possible.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

These are now due. When paying subscriptions to the Registrar, please have your membership card available for recording.

P A N T O M I M E

We were unfortunately unable to publicise the Pantomime given by the CRACKAJAX Concert Party, in sufficient time to enable all members to attend. For those who missed the last show there is a repeat at St.John's Hall, Sessions Road (off Fountains Road) on Wednesday 23rd February, commencing at 7.30 p.m.