



LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS' ASSOCIATION
AND HOLIDAY GUILD



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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Another festive season is behind us, but before it passes altogether I feel that I must (on your behalf) congratulate our 'printers' and 'artists' on the Christmas issue of the Newsletter which I thought was very well produced.

We are now in the season of frost and snow, but of course that makes little difference to the club - to the Rambling side at any rate. So any 'fair-weather' hikers we may have, let me assure them they have an experience in store if they try a ramble in the snow.

One of the last socials of the old year was accompanied by a Quarterly Meeting, and a successful, well attended one too, many members taking advantage of the opportunity to air views, and ask questions, on club matters. There will be another Quarterly Meeting on March 12th.

Speaking of Club matters, this could be an opportunity to enlarge on current club affairs, but once again I find that such matters as the coming dance at the "State", Fancy Dress Carnival, Lourdes lecture, forthcoming Rambles and socials are very well covered elsewhere in this edition, and I am left with little to add, except to exhort you to turn to the announcements regarding these matters.

The wintery weather shouldn't last long (we hope) and holidays will soon loom on the horizon. Many of you have taken a Catholic Holiday Guild brochure at recent socials, and if you have read this excellent booklet you will see the Catholic Holiday Guild now arranges air travel to certain Continental centres. Mr. Peter Haynes, the Guild Secretary, has informed us that if the club is considering travelling as a party to any particular centre, he will be pleased to arrange it.

Holidays in the warmth of sunny places is a pleasant note to close on - tho' it seems just a pipe dream in frosty February. We are only a matter of weeks away, however, from Spring, clocks going back, ay - tennis, Summer and - holidays! Give the C.H.G. a try.

++++ The Editor +++++

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>	<u>GRAM.CARRIERS</u>
Feb.5	W.Potter	F.Johnston	A.Sherrard/H.Kielty	T.Kelly/T.Rainford
Feb.12	B.Edwards	E.Molloy	M.Brown/Mgt.Haslem	J.Bolan/W.Potter
Feb.19	"LOURDES" (Ash Wednesday)	P.Murray (Lecture & Lantern slides)	M.Walsh/R.Bond	H.Sheridan/B.O'Leary
Feb.26	J.Kennedy	M.Smith	B.Bergum/J.Hunt	J.Smullen/T.Roche

S W I M M I N G: Strangely enough, as the weather gets colder, so the swimming enthusiasts grow in number. Have you been along yet?? Don't let the fact that you can't swim put you off - I can't either, but I wouldn't miss Friday night at the Westminster Road baths. See you there next week - don't forget - 7.30 p.m. we meet outside the Astoria Cinema.

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RAMBLING PROGRAMME
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Date	Ramble	Meet	Time	Leader	Cost
Feb.2	Dunham-on-Hill	James St.	10.15 a.m.	W.Potter	5/-
" 9	R.A.Train	Details in Local press or at Club-room.			
" 16	Holywell (Ben).	James St.	10.15 a.m.	E.Molloy	6/-
" 23	Carrog (Coach). A and B.	St.Jons' Ln.	10.0 a.m.	A).J.Bolan. B).M.Roberts.	9/6d

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ROSARY

Feb.5th --- 8.20 p.m.

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NOTICES:

The next Club dance is held on - SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8th, at the State Ballroom-Dale Street.

Dance tickets are 4/6d each and are going like hot cakes! Bernard is the one to see re obtaining YOURS. Pay up as soon as you can please - we have not yet had all the cash in from the last Tennis and General Dance.

By the way, the floor is grand to dance on before 9 o'clock! Do try and come early, there always seems to be dozens of 'outsiders' there at 8 o'clock! It does start at 7.30!

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The Social Sub-committee have been working very hard, and this years' Fancy Dress is on February 12th and is going to be different from previous ones. Instead of just having a parade, we are making it a Carnival Night. There will be a band and we ask everyone, repeat everyone - and that means YOU - to wear something to suit the occasion. The cost is 2/- for the evening.

Please make the effort and help make the evening a really happy one. IT'S UP TO "YEW". As this is a pre-Lent Carnival, we do ask all members to do their utmost to take advantage of it.

TENNIS: Subscriptions for the coming Season will be the same as for the past year, i.e., £2, and payments on account may be made now to Mary Smith or Angela. As we would like to know how many potential members we shall have, would you please give your names to either Mary or Angela if you intend joining, whether or not you can give your deposit immediately.

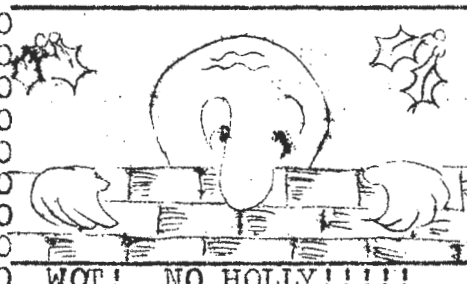
We have joined the L.T.A., and league matches will begin in the middle of May, and end in July. Further announcements will be made, but we do want to make it clear that payments may be made immediately to either MARY or ANGELA.

THE LOURDES SICK FUND COLLECTION taken on the night of the Christmas party amounted to £10 -15 -0d. We thank all those who gave so generously to this worthwhile cause. A cheque for this amount has been sent to Fr. Kelly.
LECTURE: A lecture and lantern slides will be given on Ash Wednesday the 19th February, and the subject is a Pilgrimage to Lourdes. On this night no charge will be made, but the collection will again

be for the Lourdes Sick Fund. Please give as generously as possible. The talk will begin at 8.30, and we are certain that it will prove extremely interesting to everyone.

HOLLY RAMBLE 15th December, '57

This was a Holly
there was no holly,
we'll come to that
Forty-eight, bright
off for Chirk,
usual, as some of
were analysing the
just like to
anyone knows the
against the Armada,
We picked up Peggy
Chirk, where we adjoined



WOT! NO HOLLY!!!!!!

Ramble with a difference,
well only a bit, anyway
later.
and cheerful people set
rather quieter than
the usually noisy ones
Sunday papers. I would
mention here that if
date that Drake sailed
will they please see Joe Kennedy, my bet is 1588.
'The New Inn',
for grub and tea only.

Leaving haversacks in the coach, we set off through Bryn-Y-Garth, and though rather cold, the weather was just right for a good ramble. We soon spied a little holly, but thinking we would get plenty later on, most of us left it alone. Down we went to (can't spell it) and up by the Fish Hatchery and so with yells from our Joe of "Don't run or you'll land in the river", we scrambled our way along.

Here two kindly gentlemen endeavoured to roll Ginger into the river; how gentlemanly these men are to us ladies, they treat us so gently!!

On we went o'er field and road and still no signs of that holly, but with reassurances from Len, we remained happy even though the daylight was now beginning to fade. And so we came to the gates of Chirk Castle which is I'm told, one of the seven wonders of Wales. A good deal of workmanship must have gone into these gates and Gerry kindly told us the story or legend of the "Red Hand" depicted at the top of them.

Leaving there we set off once more with our eyes scanning the trees for just a glimpse of at least one red berry but alas we saw none; some of us with faith in Len thought he couldn't possibly bring us all this way without finding any at all... But alas, our last hope was gone when we came upon "The New Inn" once more.

Whilst most of the weary searchers went in for a 'cuppa', a hopeful band of 10 or so set off up the road to the trees we had passed earlier in the day. We hadn't the nerve to go home without any holly at all, so with the help of a torch, a pair of clippers and a strong back or two, we managed to get a few pieces each.

Back to "The New Inn" for tea, and here we spent an enjoyable hour or so.

NOTICE - FOR SALE2 Skiffle whistles for anyone who can improve on the racket made by Bob Doyle.

Once again we set off in the coach for home where carols replaced pops and were sung all the way home. Thanks Len for a great ramble with a wonderful leader (he told me to put this in) but seriously we really enjoyed ourselves, even without getting much holly. Thanks, kid!

M.M.

YULETIDE WALK "THE TREASURE HUNT"

Rivington was the area, for the first time. It proved an ideal place and the clue-layers did an excellent job in the gullies, quarries and copses, when our "eager-beavers" left no stone unturned in the hunt for clues. Between the search areas there was some fine walking over open moorland, and as darkness fell we reached

the overgrown gardens of Royden House. Somehow the party split into three, and there was a general hue and cry through the jungle, with shouts, whistles and flashing of torches before all the strays were rounded up and the party re-united.

Rivington Old Barn provided us with a good hot-pot and apple-pie, and the dance afterwards really went with a swing. Bernard was an able M.C., and everyone joined in the dancing - including four of our Bolton friends who happened to be passing. There was plenty of dancing space, and some 'hot' records, and the sloping roof and huge beams gave the place quite a continental atmosphere.

The treasure was won by Joe Ferns (a great effort, Joe) and prizes were also collected by Kath Keenan, Margaret Edwards, and Delia Fenlon.

Many thanks to the pioneers, and organisers.

J.K.

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CHALET WEEK-END (4/1/58)

Early on Friday evening, armed with large torches which proved unnecessary as there was a full moon shining on the snow-covered countryside, we belted up to the Chalet, pausing once or twice to admire the view. Having switched on water and electricity, and spent several minutes inspecting the rather spectacular decorations, we lit a fire and sat down for a quick snack before airing the bedding. As we hastily gulped our last mouthful, Joe Ferns hammered on the door, and came in, loudly demanding food. After his wants had been supplied we attacked the pile of soggy bedding.

While we of the weaker sex struggled with the blankets and mattresses, Joe disposed himself comfortably before the fire. The beautifully prepared and tastefully served meal gave him renewed energy, to produce trestles from the depths of the woodshed, and rig up a blanket line. This done, Joe spent the next four hours unfolding to us his philosophies on life, brooking no interruption or contradiction - apart from building up the fire and making us an occasional cup of tea, of course.

Towards the end of this elevating dissertation, the remainder of the Friday nighters arrived, and Doreen discovered that there are quicker ways of getting around a corner than walking. All were soon grouped cosily round the fire partaking of beans on toast, with background music provided by that Answer to the Maidens' prayer - Frank Sinatra.

Foiled in our plan to sleep by the fire we retired with hot bottles thoughtfully filled by Bernard. Sleep, however, eluded us and we lay in a **silence** punctuated only by sniffs, snores and an asthmatic cuckoo from next door.

At an ungodly hour on Saturday morning, tea was brought by Bernard with an accompaniment by You Know What. After breakfast before the fire we cleared up and rooted out the toboggans. Later in the morning sounds of bumps, bangs, and mangled thumbs told us that Gerry and Joe were constructing an ingenious machine guaranteed to remain stationary despite pushes, shoves and curses. Evidently realising that there was a faint possibility of us disappearing into the middle distance, Mona seized her opportunity and recruited a spud-bashing party of which Delia was undoubtedly the star performer. (No wonder we had so many small potatoes!!!)

A slight diversion was now caused by Joe Ferns who tried to better the performance of previous high-fliers in an effort to imprint **his** profile on the pathway.

A late lunch over, and disinclined to walking, we huddled round the fire while Bill Potter sat poring over 11 plus trick questions, leaping up from time to time with bellows of 'I've got it! I've got it!' Nobody else got it though!

By now, most of the Saturday party had arrived, and having put away a large dinner, we treated ourselves to a wash in hot water, and

S O C I A L C H A T T E R

Once again we have weathered the storm of a Wednesday in January on which the Catholic Grammar Schools held their Ball, 'Thor' gave a disphy, and there was a good match at Goodison. Nice work, Gerry.

Yuletide walk and Social had the best conditions ever - a good crisp day for the walk, & a wonderful hall for the social afterwards. Joe Ferns, first prize winner, had a most exhausting day; Bernard was the official M.C. but the ladies decided that every dance was to be a 'Ladies Excuse Me', and every time poor Joe looked like getting round the floor, twice in any one dance, with the same partner - up the 'excusers' dived.

The dance held by the Mascot Players, for whom Anne Sherrard sold tickets, was well attended by the club: Sally Turnbull waltzed off with a box of chocolates.

We took a chance and held our Christmas Party on New Years' Day - it was a good 'do' with a solid turn out of the hardy annuals, all on their best behaviour on the strength of their New Year Resolutions!! The "Zombies" present, were, we presume, recovering from all night parties!?

Everybody seems to have been on leave recently - Hugh Molloy has been ashore for a few weeks, David Bullen nipped in from Germany, and Hugh Rainford sneaked a few days leave from Preston. Nice to have had them, although they have all gone back now.

Joe Whitfield and Jackie Cassins' engagement is the latest - heartiest congratulations.

The baths have been a huge success. The best part of the fun seems to be identifying each other through the steam haze! Bill Potter and Ann McCann only found out on the way home that they had been swimming together for the last hour. Temperature 75° - what price summer swimming rambles.

Keep thinking about the Fancy Dress won't you. No Squares this time, if you please.



YOU and your
"QUICKER
WAY
DOWN"



I mentioned them gently in September, then a little more vociferously in October and November. During December I soft pedalled, knowing that half the Club was saving up for presents for the other half, for Christmas. January, the month of cold reality, hit us and, alongside Insurance Companies, Libraries, clubs other than our own, etc. I raised my feeble voice for your Subs. The next move in the war of nerves is a demand note. They're not pleasant things to sent or receive, so please pay up tonight or post your 5/-d to me. (Address on front page)

Mona Roberts,
(Registrar).

ONE We've just heard that Mrs. Smith
HOLIDAY has died, so offer Mary and
STORY Terry our sincere sympathy.
HE WON'T A Mass is being offered
BE TELLING on behalf of the Club
THE "FELLOWS
AT THE
OFFICE"