

LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS
ASSOCIATION

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FEBRUARY 1973.

EDITORIAL

TENNIS

Some time this year new foundations will be laid at the tennis courts and building will be underway. Unfortunately for us it is not a new pavillion but new houses. And so it must be the end of another chapter in the history of the tennis club, but it need not be the end of the story.

Can we find other courts to use even on a restricted basis? Will the team fulfill it's obligations in the coming season? Will we play the 1st. "Fred Norbury" challenge cup event before the courts close?

The tennis committee have recomended that subscriptions for the current year remain unchanged at £3.00 for married couples, £2.50 for individual members over 21 years and £1.50 for under 21's. This despite an increase in each players contribution to the L.T.A. of from 5p to 25p.

On average the Tennis section has had difficulty in keeping it's overdraft to a reasonable figure, so despite what may be a shortish season let's get stuck in and make the last season at Lance Grove one to remember,.

SOCIAL QUESTIONNAIRE.

A series of questiones are being prepared, the answers to which will guide your committee when they organise your future social events. Please fill them in - add what remarks you feel pertinent and behold your desires may be fulfilled.

Two and a half inches to the mile.

As leaders of walks some of you must have used these maps during your pioneers. But shortly they may be unavailable.

The R.A. is circulating all interested bodies advising them that the O.S. consider the production of these maps uneconomic and propose discontinuing their production. The less popular areas will be most at risk because these are the one's for which demand is least, but if you ever walk that area your requirement of a good map is greatest. How can you help? well first have a word with John Wilson then with all the facts you could write to your M.P.

If you want the use of these maps you must do something to ensure their continued production..... Ed.

Twelve of us left on a dull Sunday afternoon from Manchester Airport in high spirits bound for Munich. From there on we were eagerly awaiting to see snow as we picked up the coach at the airport to head along the autobahn and across the German/Austrian border to our ski-resort. By the time we got to Fieberbrunn we could see there was adequate snow.

Our first morning was a busy one being kitted out and reporting to the ski-school. After our ski test we were put into our appropriate classes, Dave and I (the experience ones) into our respective class and of course Brian who is in a class of his own joined a group of other such people.

After the first weeks skiing we all survived with some improvement in our performance, which is quite an achievement when one thinks of the apres ski life one leads on this type of holiday. Our evening activities ranged from bowling to dancing and from boozing to watching Tyrolean dancing and it was not unusual to finish up a night out at Monica and Josies pad, consuming more fruit juices;.

One can not attain the standard of skiing we all achieved without some minor bruises and strains. The only real casualty was Tommy who hurt his shoulder badly, by the way he travelled down the slopes, he is lucky to be alive let alone in one piece. Tommy knew very little fear on skies, and the only time he was shaken was when he came a cropper whilst bombing down the slope and snashing his skis, he could very well have broken at least a leg.

The highlight of the holiday was the class races, which took place in an atmosphere of intense competition with all the rules being strictly adhered too. We all felt a little nervous as we were pushed off at the starting point with numbers across our chest and officials timing our run. I, myself was more nervous about missing a gate on the way down, there seemed to be so many poles I thought I was bound to get them mixed up. Our last day of the holiday was spent watching a big International downhill ski-race in Kitzbuhel. A coach was arranged to take us there (about 15 miles away) and it was quite exciting watching in real life the actual speed these skiers travel at. This day out proved to be an expensive one for Dave, Tommy and myself, as we missed the coach going back, got lost and after trying to thumb a lift in the falling snow for over half an hour we decided to revel in the luxury of a taxi-back costing us about £4.

Sunday morning as we waited for the coach to take us to the airport, it was snowing heavily and everywhere looked beautiful - but never mind there is always next year to look forward to.

We arrived back at Manchester after a good flight, tired but happy after what proved to be a most enjoyable holiday.

F.S. See Page 1 for sketch of Brian Keller (Old man of Skies) in class race.

Bernie.

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What do you get when you cross a tickle in the throat with a nasty fall?.

Answer. ... A Cough Drop.

LANGUAGES. What is the French word for Debitures

Answer...... Aperitif -----(A pair of Teef).

RAMBLERITE

Spring is almost upon us and we have a busy rambling programme ahead starting with the Millersdale walk in the Peak District. The Nant-y-Ffrith walk the following week should be a good day out for all types of walkers. This is not far away and takes in the Welsh countryside.

Highlight of the month is the Keswick Weekend, where two walks are planned, taking in the best of the Lake District. See the advert in this Newsletter. Arienning Fawr, is now on the 23rd March, the Keswick Weekend being on the 16th - 18th March,

Two coach rambles took place last month. Not bad really, but we would like to get a coach out every Sunday. Why not come and join us if you haven't been out recently. You don't know what you are missing. Just read the reports on the recent rambles in this Newsletter and you will see what I mean.

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MANY THANKS TO--- Terry Bretherton for leading an enjoyable walk on the 28th January, when other less keen leaders would have probably have thrown in the towel; Faced with the problem of insufficient numbers to book a coach and not enough cars to transport the ramblers, he actually suggested and carried out a ramble by PUBLIC TRANSPORT!. Almost unheard of in these affluent days. (Note; Our car drivers were all living it up in Austria at this time).

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NOTES TO NEWCOMERS...This is your club, have your say in it--ATTEND the next meeting of the Social and Rambling Committee on Monday March 12th. Your mighty welcome.

THE RECORDS played at the club are purchased out of the club's funds; tell Richie Cannon the sort of records you would like him to buy. Have you say, it's your right.

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COACH RAMBLES--- It is necessary for us to have 22 definite bookings for a Ramble before a Coach can be ordered. Therefore members are asked to ring the club at 236-1650. if they are unable to attend the Social, but intend going on the walk. It is obviously in their own interest, and the club's interest to confirm their intention to Ramble. A CAR RAMBLE IS A POOR SUBSTITUTE FOR A COACH RAMBLE.

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FOR DETAILS OF THE SUNDAY RAMBLE TUNE INTO RADIO MERSEYSIDE AT 5.15 (approx) on FRIDAY EVENINGS. (202m or 95.86 vhf)

A SPONSORED WALK will take place on April 29th 1973. for the St Joseph's Hospice Association. REMEMBER WE HAVE ADOPTED THIS CHARITY AND WE MUST DO ALL WE CAN TO RAISE FUNDS FOR A VERY WORTH WHILE CAUSE. So please keep this date free, we aim at a 100% attendance. More details will be given in next months Newsletter.

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LAKESIDE HOUSE.

The Annual General Meeting of the Catholic Holiday Fellowship, was held on Saturday January 27th 1973. There was a disappointing attendance of about 30, from various parts of the country, but none at all from the Liverpool Catholic Ramblers, apart from the 5 who serve on the Committee.

Quite a healthy report was presented, which showed a loss on the previous year, but nevertheless, a very big improvement on the year before. The outlook, for the future is very optimistic, and even at this stage a lot of bookings have been made for 1973. In common with so many other places, we have had to find it necessary, because of rising costs of food and labour, to increase the charges for this year, and these of course, have been further affected by something over which we have no control at all V.A.T.

However, the overall picture is very bright indeed, but I would ask the Liverpool Club to take a little more interest in the running of Lakeside House, and particularly in attending the A.G.M. and voicing opinions etc. We still have vacancies for two members on the Management Council, and I would like anyone interested in serving on the council, to contact me at 051-526-2023. Ladies would be particularly welcome, as we are very short on representatives from the "weaker sex".

The Liverpool members appointed this year, apart from myself, are, Mr. H.H. Burns, Mr. & Mrs. C. Scott and the Auditor Mr. C. Dobbin. I hope we are inundated with applications to serve, but id not, don't forget Lakeside House for your trips to the Lake District, even if it is only for Bed and Breakfast.

Cyril.

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KESWICK WEEKEND

March 16th - 18th 1973.

Don't miss this great opportunity to take part in one of the best club weekends of the year at LAKESIDE HOUSE, KESWICK.

Cost. £4.40. (Full Board) 50p Deposit.

Note change of date

NAMES TO: DAVE NEWS.

PHONE.

WARRINGTON 39861

TENNIS

The start of the new Tennis Season is nearly upon us, starting in April or possibly earlier, the coming season promises to be one of the best.

NO INCREASE IN SUBS

Interest in tennis has grown in the club, plus the prospects of a gay social life, so why not join now. Brian Keller will be collecting subs which can be paid weekly if you disire. They remain the same as last year, despite V.A.T. They are; Under 21. £1.50. Over 21.£2.50. Married Couples £3.

FREE COACHING

For those who are beginners at the game, (this includes most of us) coaching can be arranged by some of our experts, free of charge, on certain nights each week.

WORKING PARTIES

At the moment several members are busy renovating the tennis courts and pavilion but MORE help is needed. If you are free any Saturday please come along and help, between now and the start of the season. Every able-bodied rambler is welcome.

DERBY DRAW.

The tennis committee have organised a Derby Draw to provide funds for this section. It is hoped that all L.C.R.A. members will help to sell tickets, thus helping to give a new-look to the tennis club.

FRED NORBURY CUP.

Soon after the start of the season we will ve having a tournament for the Fred Norbury Cup. For the benefit of newcomers, it must be explained that this trophy was purchased last year in memory of our late Vice-President. Fred Norbury had devoted many hours of his time, each season at the tennis club, and if it was 'nt for Fred's hard work right up to his death last April there would probably be no tennis club for us to go to.

THANKS GEORGE

Last, but not least, I wish to thank George Maguire for his work as chairman and tennis captain last year. Unfortunately he has had to resign because of work commitments.

Hope to see you all at the club this year.

Barry Lyon.
Chairman

The Tennis Annual General Meeting, followed by a Dance will take place on April 14th 1973. More news about this event will be published later.

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ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE ASSOCIATION

Elsewhere in this issue, you will see the letter from Fr. O'Leary of the above association, thanking us for our collection at the Christmas Party, and I want to give you notice of a scheme which has been launched in Maghull, to raise money for the Hospice. The scheme entails a subscription of 25p per week, payable as a monthly, three monthly, six monthly or annual payment to the Association. For this subscription, each member takes part in a weekly draw for £5, 2 Special Prizes of £10. and 2 Jackpot Prizes of £600 each year.

The scheme is limited to 200 members, so the odds against winning are very attractive indeed. Add to this that fact that your contributions are helping one of the most worthy causes possible, and I am sure I can look to a very generous response from many of you. I know you will be interested in this scheme, and I will be delighted to let you have an entry form if you contact me at 2, Poverty Lane, Maghull. Tel. 051-526-2023.

Incidentally, I claim no credit for starting this scheme, I am merely acting as your representative. The promoter is ;

Mrs. Joan Connolly, 67, Kendal Drive, Maghull.
Telephone, 051-526-1665.

You don't have to live in Maghull to join, so if you require any further information, please let me know as soon as possible, so that the scheme can be put into operation as quickly as possible.
Thanks for your help in the past.

Cyril.

Dear Mr. Kelly,

Many thanks for your letter of the 11th January, enclosing a cheque for £16.00 being the result of a collection made by the Catholic Ramblers. I am sorry for not writing sooner but I have only just returned from South America.

Will you please thank all those concerned who helped to raise this amount for our Association.

Please remember us in your prayers for the success of all our new ventures. You are assured of remembrance in our prayers and at daily Mass.

Francis O'Leary.

THE CATHEDRAL PENNY

Many of you will have seen reference to the Cathedral Penny many times, and will have wondered what it was all about. This applies in particular to new members.

Several years ago, in fact, before the war, the committee decided to inaugurate this penny collection in aid of the Cathedral Fund, and we have continued the practice ever since then. At all our weekly socials it was decided to ask our members to contribute one penny to the fund, and this collection is also taken after each Committee meeting. Over the years the Club has contributed well in excess of £400, to the fund, in this way, and we ask you to continue with your help each week. If the collecting box is not taken to you, it will be left in a convenient place so that you can drop your coins in during the evening. Many thanks for your help in the past, and thank you in anticipation for your efforts in the future.

Those of you who did not experience the Llanarmon ramble will have to suffer this report. The coach ride was spoilt only by John Clarke's jokes?; and having 65p exorted from me. The first noteworthy stop was at Mold, but after roaming the main street en-masse and finding neither pub nor cafe open the party moved on into Loggerheads. Words fail to describe the coffee served at the cafe. Then, further into Wales , until the driver chose apparently a random place to discharge his passengers, some being so enthusiastic that they were physically carried from the coach.

With child-like faith the party of about fifty followed Brian, as he wore a compass about his neck and periodically consulted an O.S. Map, I take it that he was our leader. Within a few minutes we were confronted by the first of many gates we were to cross that day. Then a short uphill walk to a barbed wire fence the crossing of which proved most amusing. Following that was the direct assault on Moel Gyw, everyone survived to reach the top, but it took some a lot longer than others. Thus after only thirty minutes the party regrouped, recovered and dined.

Suitably refreshed the party proceeded to follow a path that kept Llanarmon to the EAST and Ruthin to the WEST. Moel Llanfair was notable for VICE-registrar, Peter, attempting to throw Ann down the hillside. It was soon realised that the two ramblers were no longer with us, but three sheep had joined the party. A truly great leader. Later unfortunately the sheep left our company and the two errant ramblers returned.

The view from Moel-y-Plas was captured for posterity by Lesley's polaroid, her photograph, like the ramble, was predominantly red or was it just the fact that blue was a very subdued colour that weekend. Having only one mountain left, on the map and several hours to fill, a small diversion in route was made. With fresh heart the group plunged down passed Llyn Oweryd and then massed for the final peak Pant Myharen. For this the group split into two. Those of stout heart and limb followed a circuitous route which eventually reached the top.

A quick dash down to the road followed by a sprint finish to the Raven Inn. After a general tidying up the party sat down to a most enjoyable Hot Pot Supper. John would no doubt still be eating only he was refused a FOURTH helping. An orderly retreat to the bar signalled the start of the serious business. The newcomers showing the old regulars how darts should be played. Marie showing the party how to sing.

All too quickly 9.30 came and the party boarded the coach and started home. The singing hit an all time low as did the jokes. One stop on the way back for the male passengers to admire the view across the cemetery, then to St. John's Lane and finally home.

.M.R.C.

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P.S. I am sure all on the ramble would wish to thank Brian and Margaret for leading and organising an appreciable and enjoyable day out.

THAT RAMBLE AROUND PETE'S REAREND (SIMON'S SEAT)

Note; Any inaccuracies in this report are obviously of the typist's making. ***

On a warm, sunny February morning, a party of 38 ramblers boarded their luxury coach punctually at 10a.m. for the short trip to Bolton Abbey in Yorkshire. The nervousness of one and all was readily apparent for all realized the chance they were taking, placing their lives in the hands of a certain school man.

Two of the new members, who shall remain anonymous, (Richard and Lesley) obviously feared the worst for they came armed with their outside broadcast equipment to record the inevitable tragedy. (Leaders are not allowed to lose more than 10% of their party). Within seconds of arriving at the Abbey, it was reduced to a mere shell (fuel for thought). At this point, we should note that we had two other newcomers, who were over from the Emerald Isle. They sure could bonb up and down those hills. (Just as well they have a sense of humour). As we wended our way through the forest and up on to moors, the conversation covered many wierd and wonderful subjects, (like Liverpool winning the Cup or Everton winning the League) and soon we found ourselves sitting on the cluster of rocks known as Simons Seat (at least our leader said it was Simon's Seat, but I have my doubts).

As we sat gazing out over Wharfedale, the heat of the day was tempered a little by a slight 90a.p.m. breeze. It was fun watching our chicken butties flying across into the NorthSea, some 30 miles away. Our leader by this time was more than a little disturbed, for, although she had pioneered this ramble she had not expected us to be such quick walkers, and so every few minutes, she would ask us anxiously "you need a rest, don't you"?. Whether or not it was the pale and worried expression on a certain Kopite's face that prompted this question we will never know. Eventually we wandered back through the forest and along a riverbank for a mile or so. The suicidal tendancies of the afore mentioned kopite were apparently overcome by his inherent cowardice, for he failed to do the decent thing and end it all there and then, and so another river eas saved from pollution.

As darkness fell, there came our leaders "cut the grass" (or something). A cafe, with good strong Yorkshire tea, eggs, chips, fish, the lot. All this helped us to forget the inadequacies of our leader. Then, replenished we moved on back to the coach for the journey home. Unfortunately, our leader insisted on our stopping off for a "quicky", but this apart, it was a very good day out.

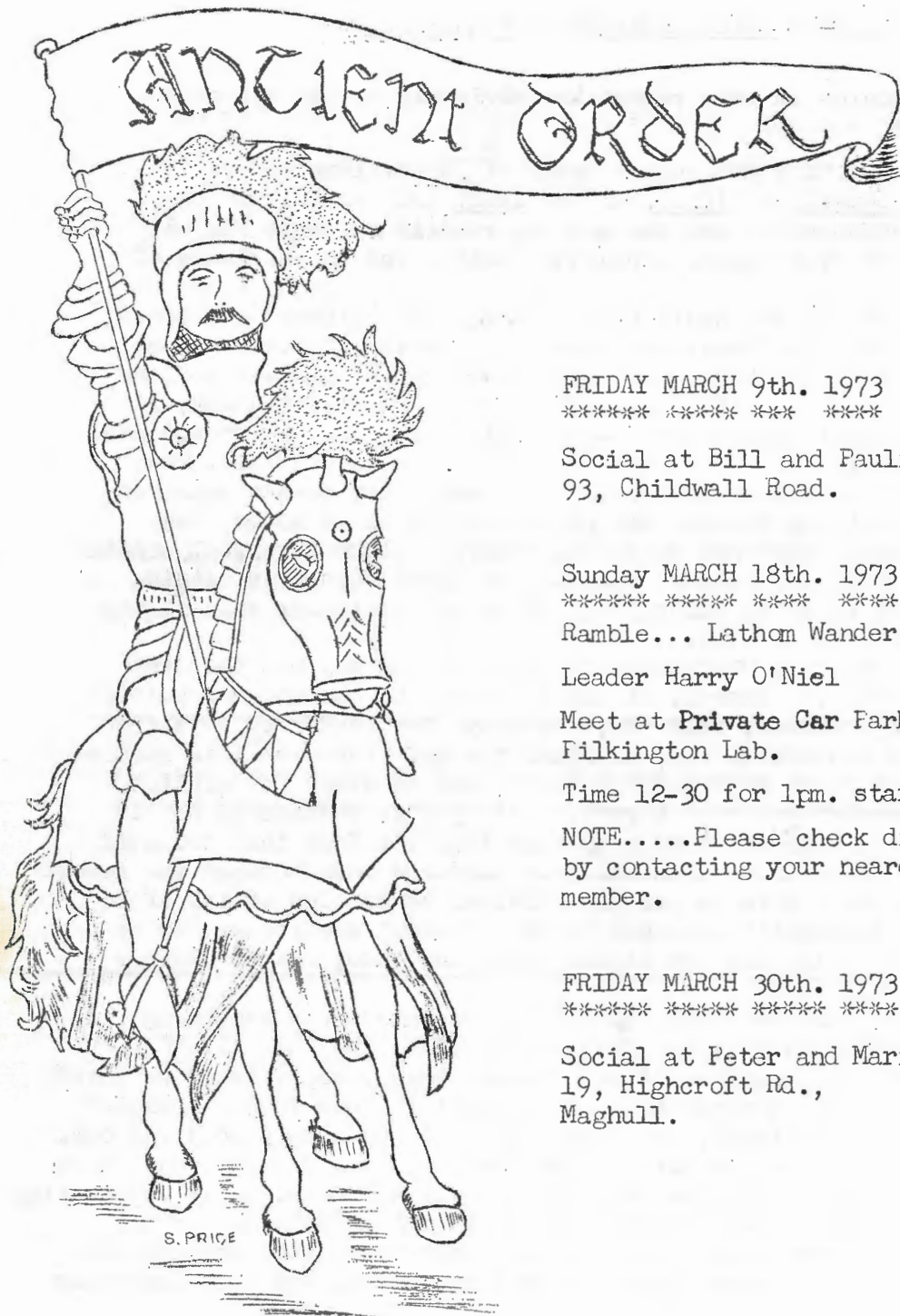
Finally, on the coach, our version of the European Song Contest ended with England losing to the Irish. It seems, we only know Irish Songs. It is interesting to note that about half the members present on this Ramble, only joined the Club this year. I'm sure they will agree with my impression, that despite the adverse comments above, our leader gave us a well organised, and most enjoyable day out. Thanks Phil.

Alan Ball.

*** P.S. Note to Author.

Dear Mr. Ball.

As a mere typist (of this Newsletter), I would humbly like to point out that I DO NOT MAKE INACCURACIES in any shape or form, when in control of my typewriter.



FRIDAY MARCH 9th. 1973

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Social at Bill and Pauline Roberts
93, Childwall Road.

Sunday MARCH 18th. 1973

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Ramble... Lathom Wander.

Leader Harry O'Neil

Meet at **Private Car Park** near
Filkington Lab.

Time 12-30 for 1pm. start.

NOTE.....Please check directions
by contacting your nearest committee
member.

FRIDAY MARCH 30th. 1973

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Social at Peter and Marie Atherton
19, Highcroft Rd.,
Maghull.

ANNUAL REUNION DANCE AT DOVEDALE TOWERS.

Ramblers, young and old, came together on Saturday 20th January, for a highly enjoyable and successful annual reunion dance at Dovedale Towers.

The evening began with a quick photo of us taken by George Moran, of the Catholic Pictorial, and was followed by several waltzes and foxtrots until the more than adequate buffet was very nicely served.

When this was over, the evenings entertainment soon got under way with more dancing to the music of Dave Wilson's band. This was certainly no opportunity for our members to put their feet up, as we took part, with great gusto and enthusiasm in such old favourites as the Gay Gordons and the Barn Dance,

During the evening Cyril Kelly took the opportunity to remind us all of the good work and service done for the club by the late Fred Norbury. We were also asked to remember in our thoughts Fred's wife, Eileen, who died just before Christmas.

Spot prizes provided moments of excitement for the more lucky ones among us, and a very pleasant evening's entertainment was soon brought to an end by the hokey-cokey and Aulde Lang Syne. Many thanks must go to all those involved in organising the Reunion, especially to those who sold tickets and bought the spot prizes, and to Chris Dobbin.M.C. and to Gerry Penlington, who took up his usual faithful position on the door,

Clare Conlon.

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KESWICK by Margaret Lee Noble.

Keswick, this place of rain and mist.
One day grey, the next sun-kissed.
Its rainbows when rain has nearly done.
Spiders's gossamer sparkling in the sun.
Mountains with their light and shade.
Cry of owls when daylight fades.
The noise of birds at break of dawn.
The distant sound of hunting horn.
Clouds mirrored in the lake below.
Sweet scent of hay when men do mow.
Blossom trees, and larks on high.
Singing their song in a clear blue sky.
The old, old church where Southey lies.
The new church pointing to the skies.
Old moot hall and market square.
All belongs to this place so fair.
Over all this old Skiddaw looks down.
At the comings and goings of dear Keswick Town.

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Socialite

The committee is seeking your views or ideas on how the Thursday Socials can be improved, and what kind of social activities you prefer.

For this purpose a questionnaire has been drawn up and is contained in this Newsletter. Kindly complete and forward it to any Committee member. We hope to make sure your opinions are represented in this way and look forward to a good response. It is preferable that you write your name when completing the questionnaire.

Please remember that our finances do not allow us to book professional groups every week. Alternative suggestions would be welcome. We hope to arrange at least one Club night out during March, enquiries are underway- this will not clash with the Keswick Weekend- commencing on the 16th, which contrary to the Rambling Programme, costs £4.40, (not £5), for a full weekends board. The weathermen predict that March will be a mild month, so lets see you enjoying the mild weather (and beer) up in Keswick.

Richie Cannon..

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

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| March 1st. | D.J. Maggie Smith's "Country Meets Pop". |
| March 8th. | Bernie McMullen and Partner. |
| March 15th. | Professional Disco "Smooth Sound" |
| March 22nd | Bob Banks and Richie Cannon. |
| March 29th. | Winnie Shaw and Joyce Blair. |
| April 5th | Pete McLindon's Travelling Puppet Show. |

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Get well soon.....Best wishes for a speedy recovery to
EDDY MULCRONE following his serious accident.

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Congratulations to Terry Bretherton and Dorothy Lloyd who
were engaged recently.

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