

Jan 1951 to Xmas 1954

LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS' ASSOCIATION

AND HOLIDAY GUILD.

NEWS LETTER.

EDITORIAL.

We have always invited criticism of our activities and because of it we feel we know what is wanted. Successive committees have attempted to give a practical turn to the various suggestions made and to some extent their efforts have been rewarded. We feel, however, that it would be unwise of us if we did not give the "other side of the picture".

Social committee meetings are held at regular intervals and the members go to a good deal of trouble to draw up a programme. Then comes the ordeal. Members turn up late; are not interested in anything but dancing and when the leader attempts to 'whip up enthusiasm' he or she is greeted with stoney indifference. It could be so different if a little more enthusiasm was infused into the Thursday socials. Don't be shy - forget your cares and worries for one evening in the week and come to the club-room with the will to enjoy yourselves.

With the rambles, however, we have always enjoyed a fine spirit of comradeship.

We mention these matters because activities will be starting afresh with renewed energy and we ask for all to co-operate in making the coming year for the club an overwhelming success.

NOTICES.

Our congratulations to -

Mr. & Mrs. Dick Marsden on the birth of a son.

Mr. & Mrs. John McCrory on the birth of a son.

Mr. & Mrs. Joe Rawlinson on the birth of a daughter.

We hear that all are doing well and we are looking forward to the enrolment of the respective new members in the future.

Our deepest sympathy to

Miss Flo Begley on the death of her father

and to Miss May Fleming, whose father has also passed away.

and to Mrs. Ada McCallum on the death of her mother.

R.I.P.

Our best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery to Mrs. Begley, who has been seriously ill and to Mrs. Duffy (in America), injured in a storm, and to all those recovering from the recent epidemic.

Our "CRAZY NIGHT" Dance will be held at St. Sebastian's Hall on the Eve of All Fools' Day, Saturday 31st March. Further details later.

BUT KEEP THIS DATE OPEN !!!

YULE TIDE WALK.

36 took part in the Yule Tide Walk and party at Lumsden's Cafe, Irby Mill Hill on the 17th December. Incidentally this number was the most the place could cater for, but nobody had been turned away.

26 members met at 10.15 a.m. to join in the Treasure Hunt and the remainder met us at the cafe in the evening. It was a filthy day - the heavy fall of snow had added several inches more to the permanent mud and slime on the Wirral fields and paths and any stranger happening to see us rooting and hunting in this mud and slime and searching among the wet trees and hedges for the hidden treasure, must have thought we were crazy and I was getting round to that way of thinking myself, when at one time I was standing in a stream with the water swirling round the top of my wellington boots. However, we were not bothered by many strangers, we hardly saw a soul all day and apart from being spattered by mud from head to foot and some slight scratches from barbed wire and one or two unfortunates who's clothes became torn, we had no mishaps; although from the yells that came from those who managed to sit down suddenly, one would have thought that nothing less than murder was being committed.

With a good portion of the treasure still left where it had been buried, a very dirty, wet and bedraggled party drew near to the bright lights of Lumsden's Cafe where they found a cosy fire in a room gaily decorated with the usual holly, mistletoe and coloured lanterns and tables already set for the meal they were needing. After changing into slippers and doing some speedy work with soap and comb etc., the "Treasure Hunters" could hardly be discerned from those who had come straight from home and very soon short work was made of the numerous cakes and mincepies and the rest of the goodies.

The remainder of the evening was spent very merrily with party-games and community singing and an occasional solo from one or another of our more talented members. By-the-way! who locked a certain door? and who was locked in? who will tell? (Oh dear! what can the matter be). When the evening ended, a special bus took the merry throng from the cafe entrance to the ferry, continued dancing on the top deck to keep warm.

Congratulations to the treasure hunt prize winners, they certainly deserved the awards they received. Frank's special prize, a box labelled "Ramblers' Aid" containing corn-plasters and sticky plasters, was a most appropriate one.

SCARTH HILL.

Ours was a "select affair", for we turned out in Pioneer strength. The bad weather at the commencement could of course be given as the excuse for such a small party. However, we set off from Ormskirk through familiar country in the direction of Ashurst Beacon. The ground was just as boggy and muddy as when we last had the pleasure, but we were determined to 'get there whatever the cost. One advantage a small party has is the ease with which it can be controlled! You know, I did think once or twice that I was trying my hand to three separate rambles at the same time, and there was mutiny in the ranks too. Anyway, though we did almost do the three Beacons in separate sections it was, I swear, no fault of our able and well-disciplined Leaderess who did a magnificent job with the overland route to "Beacon Inn". We did get a bit wet and all that, but soon forgot in the cheerfulness and jollity which ensued. Mona had perhaps her hardest job when she tried to get us to pose for a photo in the bar-parlour. After several attempts I think she got something.

The brisk walk down the road to Upholland was very

pleasant indeed and proved a good finishing dash before getting the bus for Ormskirk. Benediction, which we managed to attend there, was, I thought, a fitting end to a perfect day.

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SOCIAL NOTES by I.C. ALL

The most outstanding event of recent weeks was the Xmas Party held on December 28th. The table was prepared for a running buffet and looked very festive with a small tree in the centre and greeting cards from our overseas friends, and, of course plenty to eat. Mrs. Wilton afterwards presented a short variety, which, I am told, had not been rehearsed and later we danced to music played by the 'Lally Brothers' Band. We were very happy to see so many of our old members there and do hope they enjoyed the evening. Thursday evenings are getting back to pre-Christmas numbers again. The recent 'flu epidemic naturally reduced attendance of members, but happily they are mostly on the road to recovery.

The dance at Bootle Town Hall was not as well attended as we had hoped - again we blame the 'flu. As one wag was heard to remark 'one half of the dancers were suffering from colds and unable to talk, and the other half were frightened to open their mouths in case they caught the 'flu germ'.

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FOOTBALL

Our team has been left out in the (News Letter) cold this past edition or two, but they've not been idle. Their absence from our pages is due to my own lack of diligence, and I apologise.

The team are doing well and are making some progress in their League Table. They continue to field a full side, and would appreciate greater support from the Club. I can assure all would-be supporters that they will see good, vigorous football.

RAMBLING PROGRAMME

- Feb. 18th. Barnston Dale 2.15.p.m. Pier Head. 1/-. S.Macaulay
- Feb. 25th. Derbyshire Ramble - Railway Excursion cancelled -
Details later.
- Mar. 4th. Windle Hill 10.20 a.m. Pier Head 1/-. F. Kane
(Benediction)
- Mar. 11th. Llanfynydd 10.a.m. James St. Stn. 3/3. B.Tracey
- Mar. 18th. Noctorum. 2.15.p.m. Pier Head 1/-. P.Toes

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WILL YOU READ THIS?

This article is pure "plugging" - I am quite blatant about it because the cause is good.

An article I read recently estimated that 20,000,000 British people spend holidays away from home. Now, the Catholics of Great Britain number at least one eighth of the total population, so I will draw an average and assume that some 2,500,000 Catholics go away for their holidays. Where do they go to? Only a percentage go to Lourdes, and a smaller percentage go to Rome. Well, where do they go to? I'll not answer the question because you and I know only too well where these holidays are spent.

I will ask the question "Where and how could they be spent?" and I will answer "With the Catholic Holiday Guild".

Why? Because with the C.H.G. can be had holidays at reasonable cost with sociable Catholic companions, holidays spent healthily in the open-air on meadow or mountain, holidays to be remembered!

But the C.H.G. has as yet only two Guest Houses, you will say, one at Keswick (Lake District) and the other at Carrog (North Wales), both under excellent management. Can holiday-going Catholics visualise - WILL they visualise a chain of Catholic Guest Houses throughout the holiday centres of the British Isles - aye, and even further afield?

Why has the C.H.G. only two Guest Houses? Well, the C.H.G. is comparatively new - all the holiday associations, even Butlins, started in a small way! Money is needed for expansion, but so is the direct and indirect support of Catholics.

The vision is real! Great achievements progress from the visional starting post, over many, many hurdles to the winning-post of accomplished fact! The C.H.G. has surmounted many hurdles. How can they be helped on to the winning post?

- By obtaining a brochure (from Mr. Westwood,
"St. Garmon", Carrog, Nr. Corwen.)
- " showing it to all relatives and friends and all
friends' relatives and friends, ad infinitum
- " publicising the C.H.G.'s aims.
- " stressing the C.H.G.'s needs.

Our club has recently donated £50 to the C.H.G. and is lending a further £100. Other Catholic Rambling Clubs are coming forward, too! Can it be made into a big drive? A personal donation of £1. (or more) carries with it Life Membership. Loans, with or without interest, will be welcome.

The vision is real, the opportunity is great, and the cause is good!

