

Liverpool Catholic Ramblers Association

News Letter



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EDITORIAL

To be or not to be all Catholic. That seems to be the great issue facing us at the moment. The Tennis section is looking for Tennis players - the Rambling section is looking for walkers not mentioning leaders. - The Social section is looking for dancers. - The Football section has already made it's eleven up with non-Catholics (even though they never let me know how they get on, I believe 'They are re-nown for their sportsmanship') All this despite a membership of over 150. I don't think you need additional non-Catholic members - I suggest you cut out the driftwood amongst you - get a few keen sportsmen (and ladies). Let's show some spirit. Remember the club is only as great as you yourselves make it.

Eric Kavanagh.
EDITOR.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

24TH FEB. 1971

RE-MEMBERSHIP

ORIENTEERING - SUNDAY 29th NOVEMBER 1970



It was so easy to introduce orienteering to Hugh Malloy, Chris Scott & Dave Newnes for I had them one at a time. But after I had agreed to introduce the sport to the Club, I began to have second thoughts on the feasibility of the project. I imagined 20 or 30 people asking questions all at once, of distributing maps, of people getting lost, of collecting the control markers after the event, of c h a o s. But many thanks to the above mentioned ramblers, who became instructors on the day, the introductory event went off without any mishap, except perhaps for the three ladies who got so wet during the morning's downpour, they retired from the afternoon event to the relative warmth of a Ford Capri.

However 10 people took part in the competitive event after lunch, 2 ladies and 8 men. The ladies course was 2.1 Km long with 5 checkpoints, whilst the mens course was 3.1. Km with 7 checkpoints. Congratulations to both ladies Ann Vincent and Margaret Smith, who completed their course in 1hr. 34 mins and my Condolences to the men who failed to complete their course.

RESULTS

LADIES 2.1Km

Ann Vincent	1hr. 34 min
Margaret Smith	1hr. 34 min



GENTLEMEN 3.1Km 7 Controls

Brian Keller	5 Controls	1hr. 52min
Peter McLindon	6 "	2 " 19 "
Bill Carruthers	6 "	2 " 20 "
John Wilson	6 "	2 " 21 "
Mike Donnelly	5 "	2 " 26 "
Peter Mulhall	6 "	2 " 50 "
Terry Bretherton	LOST CARD	

Our thanks go to the Deeside Orienteering Club who advised us on the procedure in laying out a course and who loaned us the control markers.



8 Endsleigh Road,
Brighton-le-Sands,
Waterloo,
Liverpool 22.

Dear Members,

RE: ADMISSION OF NON-CATHOLICS
TO L. C. R. A.

I feel that I am perhaps one of the few non-catholics who can write in the Newsletter about this very controversial subject. May I then please be allowed to put a word forward for the non-catholic as a member. Firstly I came to your club over three years ago, and I can honestly say that I was never more welcomed anywhere, and have been treated just as any other member, despite the onerous fact that I was not a Catholic.

For three years I have attended your club, though not always regularly. I have also been on weekends, which I might add were always to me happy and full of companionship. I wanted very much to take part actively in club matters, but owing to my not being a member, this was never so.

I wanted for instance to serve on a committee, and had I been allowed to, would have given as much to your club as any Catholic. And to those of you who know me well, have I ever as a non-Catholic brought the standards of your club down? I have worshipped with you in your church, I have helped collect monies for your charities, I have always respected your Priests and religion as it were my own.

This is why my friends, I am writing to you, to ask you to seriously consider people like myself as members. Whilst I realise most importantly that you are a Catholic Club, are not our two leaders trying to promote Christian Unity? Both the Pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury see the importance of Christian Unity in our future lives, because with so many people falling away from Religion, Unity may be the only answer.

By all means limit the number of non-Catholics, ensure stringent rules for admission, so that the wrong type of member is not admitted, but be reminded also that unknowingly for quite some years non-Catholics have been amongst you on many occasions, and I ask again, have they ever let you down?

Cont'd.....2.

I hope this letter brings the other side of the coin into your minds when you vote for this very important matter in your club's life. You have a good club, and no matter who runs it, I feel sure it will be just as good a club in ten years time. But new blood is always needed and surely this could just as easily come from outside Catholic circles. Please give us a chance, that is all I ask.

Yours sincerely,

SANDRA E. NOBLE

Tel. No. 220-3218

10 Menstone Road,
Stoneycroft,
L13 6RA.

Dear Eric,

I am concerned that a number of people have expressed views to the effect that the club is wrong in considering the admission of non-Catholic members to the L.C.R.A. I have an open mind on the subject even though I have brought the matter up for discussion several times over the past few years.

Maybe I have got a distorted view of ecumenism but I think where a Catholic marries a non-Catholic, that couple should be allowed to hold joint membership. This is just one point for consideration. My main point in writing this letter is to say that we must have discussion, especially after so many members at the A.C.M. indicated their desire to admit non-Catholics. To stifle discussion would be quite wrong and unhealthy. Everyone will be given the chance of airing their views and indeed of amending the proposal - really quite democratic.

Yours sincerely,

BERNARD J. MANLEY

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Social.



By the number that attended the Christmas Party at the R.A.F.A. Club, I think it was a very successful night. It might have been the last double whisky I had but I think I even saw people dancing, why this doesn't happen every week, I'll never know. Is it that people need an excuse to enjoy themselves? I'd like to thank everyone who arranged the night, and also the Barley Mow who worked very hard.



Annual Yuletide About 100 people attended. Two people went on the "A" walk about 40 on the "B" and the Ancient Order with their potential club members arranged an "A" + ! The Social was a great success but I do wish I had learnt to do a waltz - there seemed to be so many of them, but even so the Old Tyme was great.

Forthcoming Events

Pensioner Outing The Social Committee have made arrangements to take a party of Pensioners to see - Ken Dodd - at the Royal Court Theatre on Saturday 20th February. We are taking approximately twenty Old people, and 24 Ramblers. The cost will be approximately £1 (your own seat and part of a Pensioners) Names will be taken shortly at the Club rooms. If it is anything like last year's outing, it should be very interesting!

THE UNION SUPPER DANCE This is the big occasion in the Ramblers Social calendar, when old and new members have a chance to meet. This year's dance is to be held on Saturday 30th January 1971, at the usual venue, Dovedale Towers. Tickets may be obtained from Christ Laycock or Hilda O'Keefe (price £1.1.0d.). I believe they are selling like hot cakes, so you had better hurry up and get yours before they are all sold.

Christmas Party. The collection taken at the Christmas Party amounted to £7.10.0d and it is being donated to Mencap.

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H A T C H E S

CONGRATULATIONS: to John and Gay Keenan on the recent birth of their baby daughter.

GET WELL SOON

The Club sends their Good wishes for a speedy recovery to John McLindon who has just been admitted to Ward Ll in Broadgreen Hospital. Get Well soon John, and we hope to see you in the Club rooms shortly.

SOCIAL CHAIRMAN

Paul Brereton has had to retire as Social Chairman owing to presure of work. Bill Carruthers has accepted the vacated position.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

These are payable on September 1st 1970 for the subsequent twelve months and should be paid to Peter Mulhall as soon as possible.

7/6d. for single Members

8/6d. for married Couples

Please note that Membership of the Association shall be deemed to have lapsed if the Annual subscription has not been paid by the 31st December, 1970.

Membership cards should be carried as these will have to be shown to obtain admission during 1971.

NON-CATHOLIC MEMBERSHIP?

I believe that a Special General Meeting will be held shortly at which a secret ballot will be taken on the issue that non-Catholics shall be admitted as members to the L.C.R.A.'

Do not discard this issue lightly. It is a very serious matter which we should all give due consideration and to start you thinking and talking I would like to make the following observations.

In these days of Ecumenism when the Church advises us to practise Christian Unity, why must we remain a strictly Catholic Club? Most of the people who wish to join our club are Catholics but occasionally non-Catholics do apply for membership. I believe we already have one or two in our midst and if we vote "Catholic only" these people will have to relinquish their membership.

What of the Catholic who is engaged or married to a non-Catholic? If we enforce the "Catholic only" rule, we lose not one member but maybe two.

In remaining "Catholic only" it can be argued that we generate a Catholic atmosphere. But surely non-Catholics may benefit even more under such circumstances? It may be very convenient to have an all Catholic club, but is it so essential? We have a monthly rosary at the Club and an Annual Mass, but as attendance is not obligatory, it should cause no embarrassment to any individual.

It has been suggested that if we admit non-Catholics they should be practising Christians. This may be an ideal, but at the same time how many of our present Catholic members fail to practise their religion?

If we admit non-Catholics, are you afraid that they may take over the running of the club? If they did, it would not say much for the Catholics, but we could safeguard the situation by limiting the number to some percentage of the Catholic membership. That they could only be elected to club membership subject to their being proposed and seconded by Catholic members.

It has been suggested that an undesirable element may creep in - but even this situation is safeguarded by the Constitution which gives the committee the power to remove from the register (subject to an enquiry) any undesirable element.

These are just a few of the issues which I ask you to consider and discuss. But do remember, at the Special General Meeting, it is not only your privilege - it is your duty to record your vote.

MARGARET SMITH

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BROCK VALLEY NEAR GARSTANG

20th December, 1970

Four people assembled in St. Johns Lane for the ramble to Brock Valley which hitherto a couple of months ago was unknown and nearly went down in Club records as The Lost Valley.

Despite the smallness of the party which crowded into one car, we set off in high spirits (which incidentally cannot be obtained in Brock Valley - No R.H. on the Map). After a stop at Charnock Richards on the motor way we arrived at a place called Beacon Hill (A hill overlooking Brock Valley) facing towards the Trough of Bowland in the distance. We parked the car and found a footpath that led into a farm which had a muddy entrance and exit which we negotiated quite intrepidly like tightrope walkers.

After following the River Brock we ascended Snape Fell and stopped under some trees for shelter before we reached the top.

After satisfying our appetites and thirst, we ascended the final part of Snape fell which is a ridge walk meeting fellow ramblers on the way.

We took a short cut through a farm and on to a road which took us past an ancient church. We then found a footpath back to Beacon Hill from the foot of the Valley and we returned to Liverpool via the Royal Oak on the East Lancs. Road.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

ANY OLD.....

If you have any old, broken or otherwise, Rosary Beads, which are not required, please let us know. These are specially wanted to be sent to missions in Africa. Please contact Monica Moran, for details.

Ramblerite

FOOTPATH

10/82 [Attendances have recently been very poor - far from ordering a coach we have been lucky to have sufficient people to fill a car! Several times, leaders have either just not bothered to turn up, without letting the Rambling section know beforehand, or have just let us know on the previous Wednesday, and left us to organise something with virtually no notice. Even some of the leaders who have turned up have not made any arrangements for names to be taken on the preceding Wednesday, or bothered to inform the club of departure times, etc.. If things do not improve rapidly and dramatically, we will be forced to give consideration to holding rambles once a fortnight.

10/82 [The Christmas Chalet weekend, in contrast to most of our recent rambling activities, was very successful, although the amount of strenuous walking was very small! Unfortunately, the weekend cost more than it should have, due to five members who put their names down but did not turn up. £5 worth of food was bought for them. As the collecting of money from such people is a very difficult and unpleasant task, a deposit (non-refundable) will be charged for future weekends. The weekend was also partly spoilt by some 15 members who cancelled on the Wednesday before. This was unfortunate as bookings were closed three weeks before, the chalet being full, and several members who wished to attend were turned away. For future weekends, please don't put your name down unless you intend to go, and if through unforeseen circumstances you have to cancel, please give us as much notice as possible.

1971

A number of changes have had to be made in the February rambling programme, due to our not being able to have the chalet on the weekend shown in the programme. The Llanarmon Hot-Pot ramble will be held on January 31st, and there will be a late start to cater for those who have been to the Re-Union Dance the previous night. The leader will be Brian Keller. There will be a chalet weekend on February 6th-7th. On February 14th we are going to Sladburn, led by Winnie Gately, and on 21st February, Dave News is leading a ramble to Manifold Valley. The following weekend (28th Feb) will probably be Llantysillie Mountain, led by Frank Fitzmaurice.

SPECIAL NOTICE

The secretary,
Miss Maureen Mason,
108, High Park Street,
Liverpool 8.

Notice is hereby given that an Extra-Ordinary-General Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday 24th February, 1971 in the Club Rooms at 9 p.m. prompt to consider the amendment to paragraph 1 in part 11 of the 1964 Constitution.

The existing paragraph reads:-

1. ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP:- Membership of the Association shall be open to Catholics of either sex who have attained the age of eighteen years.

The proposed amended paragraph reads:-

1. ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP:- Membership of the Association shall be open to Catholics of either sex who have attained the age of eighteen years. Other persons who have attained the age of eighteen may, providing they are proposed and seconded by catholic members, become members of the Association.

If any member wishes to amend this resolution, they should submit it in writing to the Secretary, before February 17th, 1971.

In order that the resolution be accepted it must be passed by three fourths of those present and voting (see paragraph 35 in part 11).

D. E. News
CHAIRMAN.

CHAIRMAN'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE

Dear Members,

The L.C.R.A. has entered its 44th year, and is surging into the seventies with the prospect of.....well, what?

On wednesday nights, about 70 od members congregate at the Social and chat over a pint or two beneath the continuous din of pop music. Some of us even try to dance! Many just watch 'telly'. The leader of the next ramble spends the night collecting names. He is lucky if he finishes up with more names than he has fingers!

This is not the same club that many of us once knew. Some are trying to improve the present state of affairs but without the co-operation of the rest of the club, it is a hopeless task. Many just sit back and wait for something to happen and are not prepared to organise or take part themselves in the club activities.

Why not make a late New Years resolution? We could each resolve to put more effort into the club. Come out on one or two rambles, NOW. Don't wait for the Summer. If we, as a RAMBLING Club lived up to our name, we would be a much happier club this year and in the years to come.

Finally, I must mention two forthcoming events that you should not miss out in your resolution. These are the Annual Dinner Dance on January 30th (All ticket), and the Weekend at Keswick in March. Lakeside House is getting more popular every week and after letting the New Year in personally, I can recommend a holiday there any time this year.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

D. E. Newns

DAVID NEWNS.
CHAIRMAN

NEW MEMBERS.

BRENDA HUGHES	ANTHONY BROOKER	EDWARD DUNN
ANN GIBB	PAUL MARTEY	TOM BRETHERTON
CHRISTINE CONNELLY	PETER HARDY	STEPHEN HUNTER
CATHRINE HOGAN	PETER DRURY	ERIC O'NEILL
PATRICA FLEMMING		GERRARD MURPHY

RE-UNION BUFFET DANCE

His Lordship Bishop Harris will be the Guest of Honour at the ANNUAL BUFFET DANCE, Dovedale Towers.

For tickets phone Hilda O'keefe 525 0950

Chris Laycock 727 1353

INCL.
OCT 82