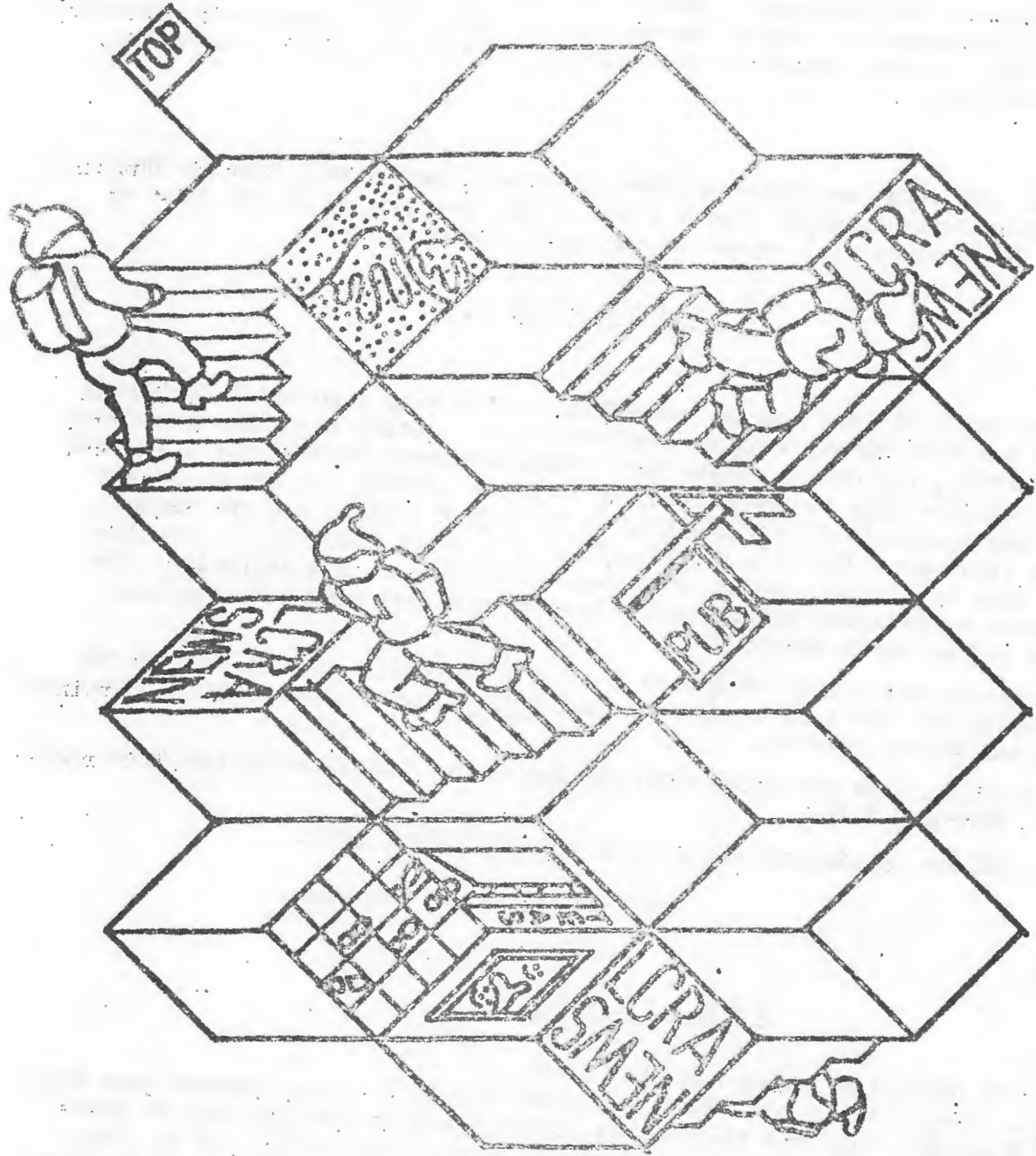


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JAN '80



Wishing everyone a belated Happy New Year the festive season is way behind us and with Easter less than three months off and the Summer rambling programme being printed at the moment, 1988 seems to be well on the way. A list of the forthcoming rambles is given in the Ramblerite. Anyone who has not yet renewed their subs should get in touch with Bernadette Doyle immediately. Her address is 84 Whittier Street, Liverpool L8 0RF. Cheques should be made payable to LCRA (£4 single membership, £5 married couples).

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new members: Sheelagh Simon, Gary Simon, Francis Anthony Maloney, Anthony Jensen and Neil Power. More members are joining at the time of typing this. Their names will appear in the next newsletter.

S O C I A L I T E

Hello there,

The first Socialite of 1988 sees me commenting on the very successful Rivington Barn Hot-Pot and Barn Dance, with seemingly everyone really enjoying themselves. In fact Kay Martin, the caller at the barn dance commented that it was a joy and a pleasure to see so many people getting up to dance without her having to try to twist people's arms to do so. Recently we have just been to see the musical Gypsy at the Playhouse (Jan 16), unfortunately it was not possible to advertise this in the last newsletter, so my apologies. It is best to get yourselves down to the clubroom on Thursday occasionally, because you just might miss such an event coming off at short notice.

However I'm giving you plenty of notice about a forthcoming theatre trip to the Empire in May to see the very popular musical Evita. Anyone interested in obtaining a ticket please see me anytime.

We will be having a late extension with dancing to our own disco at the 'Liverpool' on Thursday, February 11th.

Let me sign off now by wishing you a Happy and Prosperous 1988.

PAUL HEALY, Social Chairman.

R A M B L E R I T E

Since the last newsletter walks have included:

Valle Crucis Abbey, Llangollen. The A walk led by Dave Connolly started from the top of the Horseshoe Pass and finished at Llangollen (all downhill but no doubt Dave managed to find some 'ups' to satisfy the party). The B walk led by George Riley was enjoyable after the "assault course" of the usually flat canal towpath. George wasn't to know that the contractors had moved in, making easy passage a real challenge. The rest of the walk which took us up to the cliffs and back to Llangollen was enjoyable except for the bad weather (gale force winds, rain and sleet).

Moel Famau (instead of Arnside Knott). A hastily re-organised walk due to coach problems. I wasn't out this Sunday but I am told it was an enjoyable day.

Howgill Fells. Dave Newns led an excellent A walk with a party of 18 taking in Cautley Spout and The Calf (2350ft). The B party led by Dave Connolly followed the A for a while and then the two routes diverged, both finishing in Sedbergh. The weather, although cold, was dry, so this must be recorded as another successful day.

Betws-y-Coed started off fine but soon deteriorated to very wet overhead and underfoot. The A party encountered a snow storm on Moel Siabod led by Dave Newns and the B led by Paul Healy walked up through the forest to Llyn Elsi, a reservoir high up above Betws-y-Coed. Although very wet at the end, members soon had dry clothes on and enjoyed a very good stop in Ruthin.

GENERAL

All walkers are once again reminded that proper footwear, i.e. BOOTS, must be worn on ALL walks. Leaders may refuse to take people who are not properly equipped. Some of you may think this is pedantic but the support given to the ankle by a boot can save a broken ankle. I'm sure nobody would like to be on a walk with such an incident. Boots need not be expensive (prices start from £20/£25). A pair of boots will last the average walker 2-3 years at least.

It was pleasing to see several "new faces" at the December Rambling & Social meeting. Thanks to those who made the effort. Let's have more next time PLEASE!

FORTHCOMING RAMBLES

24th Jan - MACCLESFIELD FOREST. Tegg's Nose Country South East of Macclesfield is likely to be visited. Mike Norgate leading the A and Brian Eassom leading the B walk. 10.15 departure. Don't try and phone Dave Newns or Brian Keller to book a seat on the coach for this one as they will be on holiday. There should be plenty of room on the coach if you just turn up, but you save 50p if you pay in advance. Reminder: Coach fare £4.00 (£3.00 unemployed). Less 50p if paid in advance.

7th Feb - LLANARMON HOT-POT. 10.15 Departure. A walk around the Clwydd Hills finishing at Llanarmon for hot-pot and a few hours in the warmth of the Raven Inn. Bookings essential to Paul Healy 051-426 0162. Any hot-pots booked will be liable to the full cost if a person doesn't cancel by phone if unable to attend.

14th Feb - SKEGGLES WATER. Near Kentmere in Southern Lakeland with Ian Freeman leading the A and Paul Healy the B. Note: This is a 9.30 start.

28th Feb - BRONTE COUNTRY. Howarth, near Keithley with Dave Newns leading the A and Anthony Brockway the B.

11th to 13th March is the KESWICK WEEKEND at Lakeside House. Cost about £29 and always a good weekend away, sharing members cars for transport up there. Just give your name to any committee member with a £10 deposit who will get your name down in the big book. Lifts will be organised for people without cars.

IAN FREEMAN, Rambling Chairman

The following poem was written by a member of the Post Office Ramblers and shows that others have even worse problems:

AN EVENTFUL DAY (POST OFFICE RAMBLERS)

1. It was a lovely day in December
The Ramblers were out for a hike
They were off to Howarth in Yorkshire
By coach instead of a bike
2. We walked and shopped around Howarth
And everyone really felt fine
When the coach was ready for leaving
We'd all had a very good time.
3. We drove off the car park in Howarth
Harry then held the draw
He never did pick my number
If I'd won, he'd tell me, I'm sure.
4. We were coasting along very nicely
With all of us dropping asleep
On the tape was an Irish comedian
His jokes were making us weep.
5. We were crossing over to Lancashire
When the driver pulled in and stopped
He said that the bus was on fire
So out of the doors we all dropped.
6. We then stood around the roadside
While Harry and Joan took the names
And the coach just carried on burning
All our gear consumed in the flames
7. By the time the coach had stopped
burning
And the Brigade had finished as well
A bobby said "Up Road and round the
turning
Is a pub called the White House Hotel"
8. So into the dark we all started
With torches to show us the way
In the bar drinks we soon ordered
Only glad to be there to pay.
9. After a couple of hours waiting
A new coach finally came
To take us back to our hometown
But we'll return to Howarth again.

After the fire the police said: "Can you remove this heap of rubbish?" To which the driver replied. "If you can start it, I'll drive it."

FAMILY SECTION. WIRRAL WALK - 13TH DECEMBER, 1987.

As usual, I missed the odd turning here and there, but after a pleasant and relaxing journey arrived at Royden Hall. Was it through the gate? No, it was to the left. Unfortunately my better half was at home nursing a cold and was unable to guide me. Eventually I arrived at the car park.

The walk started promptly and we were soon traversing stiles and small dykes. The stiles seemed to be peculiar to the Wirral, as one lively member discovered when attempting to jump them as at the Grand National. One obstacle was a bridge across a widish brook with a large number of cross planks missing. It was 'fun' all appearing like tightrope artists crossing on the two steel girders. Thanks to those who helped.

The weather was sunny and it was not too cold. We walked alongside the railway into West Kirby. Arthur had cause to reprimand two youngsters who were attempting to set the large bramble jungle alight, perhaps not realising the danger. Nearby golfers were quietly getting on with it.

At West Kirby we stopped for butties, sitting on the rocks, till it began to feel chilly. We then walked around the renovated Marine Lake Causeway into a very stiff and bracing breeze. We then climbed steeply to the Beacon Monument for Mariners. A few of the party tried to read the inscription which told us that it was erected in 1841 for the use of mariners who use the River Mersey and its vicinity. Soon the sun was low in the sky and as we threaded our way through the trees it quickly became dark.

Our many thanks to Arthur and Vera for a very enjoyable walk and the usual genial companionship.

Goerge P.

FAMILY SECTION PROGRAMME, 1988. (Happy walking, everybody!)

FEB. 4. Our first house meeting of this year is Noel and Engela's, at 74 Moss Lane, Maghull, around 8 p.m.

FEB 14. This month's walk is The Loggerheads in Wales. Meet in the Loggerhead Carpark for a 12.30 p.m. walking start. Use the toilets at Mold in case there aren't any at Loggerheads.

MAR 3. Even when you compile the programme you can't escape a House Meeting! It's at Maureen Howards, 236 Bradie Avenue, L'pool 19.

MAR 13. The walk is Noel and Engela's - Black Crag (Langdales). Meet in the carpark at Silverthwaite (disused quarry) which is on the right hand side approximately 1/3rd of a mile along the Langdale Road (B5343) from Skelwith Bridge. Skelwith Bridge is 2 miles West from Ambleside. ~~From~~ signs to Langdales after Ambleside. It is a 10.00 a.m. walking start, the idea being to make a little more of the Winter ~~...~~ early Spring daylight.

MAR 7. The House Meeting is at The Potters, 91 Woodlands Road, Halewood.

A few more at the Retreat and a few less on the Yuletide, both events being enhanced by this. The Retreat was very enjoyable with some interesting discussions. Kirsty Johnson gave some trojan assistance in the kitchen. The walk was sloppy underfoot (when was it not?) but a goodly distance was covered, the leaders being the Pearson family. I believe one wouldn't recognise the Barn - polished floor, new Band and Bar positions with truly warm dressing rooms.

This is indeed the last Newsletter for those who haven't paid their subs. 7 Elmbank Road if you wish to send them by post. It's £4.00 single and £5.00 doubles and families.

Have a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year, all of you.

If anybody would like a copy of the 60th Birthday Dance Programme I have some spare copies.

Mona.