

# LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS

## Newsletter

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Editor  
Dave Newns

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MIDSUMMER 1985

No.126

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UPDATING OF RECORDS. You are requested to fill in the 'Application' form attached so that the Club's records can be updated. Telephone numbers should now be included (if you have one). If you are a Family Section member please indicate. Also if you are not a Catholic please write Associate Member at the top of the form. Return to the Registrar today, if by post to: Mr A. Brockway, 38 Acres Road, Bebbington, Wirral L36 7QQ. Don't forget your home telephone number. Thanks.

NEW MEMBERS. The following new members have joined our ranks recently:  
Colin Youngs, Denise Forest, Ernest Dodd, John Small, Lorraine Johnson,  
Robert William Baldwin, Karen Taylor and Lana Davies. Welcome to the LCRA!



NOT QUITE WIMBLEDON, BUT DON'T FORGET OUR VERY OWN ANNUAL  
AMERICAN TENNIS TOURNAMENT

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SATURDAY, JULY 20th at the ELECTRIC SUPPLY CLUB, 1.30pm

Please come early, anyone arriving after 2pm will not be eligible. Refreshments will be served during the afternoon. A small charge will be made. Names to Brian Keller, The Electric Supply Club is just off Thingwall Road (halfway round the bend) at Wavertree. Bring pumps and a racket. Balls will be provided.

(Brian 734 2918)

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CAMPING IN LOURDES - A Catholic camping club who go to Lourdes annually have contacted us saying they have vacancies for the fortnight commencing July 20th. They say that you don't have to be an experienced camper as everything is highly organised but cost is only £110 by coach (insurance inclusive), child £80. Food would cost about £15 (£6 under 14). Tent hire is available if you don't have your own. For further details contact Mr McLoughlin on 051-928 1651.

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KESWICK WEEKEND at Lakeside House. If enough people give their names to Dave Newns during the next week or so we may get the use of the full house of about 50 people. Otherwise Lakeside House will accept other bookings from outside bodies and our allocation will diminish to approx 25 members as last time. The weekend is October 18-20th and will cost around £27. See Dave Newns for bookings and further information. Billinge (0744) 892791.

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VISIT TO THE WILDFOWL TRUST CENTRE, MARTIN MERE, BURSCOUGH, near Ormskirk. Anyone interested in a visit to this Wildfowl Trust Centre at a reduced rate contact Dave Newns for details (Billinge 892791).

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ANNUAL DANCE (8th November). Tickets are now on sale for this Buffet Dance which will be held at the Everton Football Club. Cost of tickets £4.50 from any Committee member. Don't leave it too late, tickets are limited.

SNOWDON (B Walk) - 16th June

With the usual last-minute panic and near fatal dose of polos, I just made it to St John's Lane for 9.29. With greetings and sympathetic looks from fellow ramblers, I soon selected a seat on our plush executive coach and gratefully sat down. Within minutes we were mobile and the usual ritual of ramblers reading the Sunday supplements, putting on personal stereos, talking about this and that, or, if you were like me, getting a quick 40 winks!

Passing Queensferry, Frank 'Mastermind' Dixon suddenly had the inspiration to organise a quiz. Quickly Tommy picked a team from his side of the coach whilst Mick picked a more superior intellectual team from our side. What's the capital of Scotland? 'S' shouted Tommy's team! Needless to say, by the time we reached the Pen-y-Pass car park the gap in points between the two teams was just too embarrassing to print.

'Thirty seconds to get off the coach!' cried Dave Newns. Five minutes later, the last of the party emerged from the coach - butty boxes hanging out of haversacks, laces undone, jumpers back-to-front! It wasn't long before the A walk were off in the daunting direction of Crib-goch whilst, minutes later, the B walk were off at a more leisurely pace along the Miners Track.

Even though the sun was in its full glory, it was quite surprising to feel how chillier the wind was. However, any feeling of being cold were soon removed as we started to progress up the steeper parts of the path. Just prior to crossing the causeway on Llyn Llydaw we were rewarded with our first full views of Snowdon, looking isolated and impressive, as always.

Pushing on, we started to make our way around Llydaw and on to the higher lake of Glaslyn. On our right we could look up and appreciate the full dramatic effect of Crib-goch, 'Look,' someone said, 'there's some figures clambering along the knife-edge.' Was it the A party? We weren't too sure, 'Rather them than us,' someone muttered.

On we went, finally passing Glaslyn and now faced with the hardest part of the walk (no, not Linda's singing!) - the final steep 1,000ft ascent to the summit. As you can imagine, plenty of words of encouragement were needed here; 'Last one to the top gets a round of drinks in!' 'I am sure there's an escalator ahead somewhere!' '45 minute-buttie-break if we get to the top!' 'Don't run!'

Well, I'm pleased to report that the vast majority made it to the summit (3559ft) and as promised, a super long butty-break. It didn't matter which way you looked, the views were truly breathtaking. Yes, it certainly was worth a red face and a sweaty T-shirt! Obviously, the LCRA must be known in wider circles, as halfway through our butty-break we were all entertained to a flying display, courtesy of a bright yellow Wessex helicopter from the RAF's Air-Sea Rescue Service.

Loads of hands waving (O.K., me as well!) cameras clicking, it all seemed like we had never seen a helicopter before! Having done its Public Relations stunt it veered off towards the coast, returning the peace once more to Snowdon.

Not long afterwards it was time to descend, and bidding a reluctant farewell until next time, with the sun still shining and with our spirits at a high peak, we made the shorter journey back by means of the Pyg Track.

All in all, an excellent day out. Thanks!

ROY THUIS

# The Fred Norbury Cup

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The F.C. Norbury Cup was inaugurated in 1973 to be awarded each year in his memory.

When Fred Norbury died in April 1972 he was 62 years of age and had been a member of the Club 45 years. He was one of the founders way back in 1927, quite likely the youngest for at that time he was just on 18 years old.

The records show that in that first year of the Club he was Treasurer, served continuously on the Committee and later was Secretary for two years. From the mid-thirties on he was a Trustee right through until he died.

During the war years he was Trustee in more ways than the title otherwise indicated for he looked after the Club when the younger chaps and most of the girls were away on war duties of one kind or another, some in prisoner-of-war camps. They were all kept in touch with until they returned by the Summer of 1946, when organised rambles and socials were resumed. In the Autumn of that same year the newsletter re-appeared, although at first merely a single sheet.

Fred was also Chairman for those post-war years until 1950 by which time the Club was progressing fast. His adherence to our Constitution, which he had earlier helped to formulate, ensured progress on the right lines. Then, as now, the general membership ran the Club by way of election to the Committee.

Throughout the fifties and sixties Fred became very much a father-figure, a constant attender at Committee meetings and some of the more important Sub-Committees where his wise counsel and sound advice were frequently sought. He was able, of course, to foster his favourite pursuit - tennis - accordingly.

The Club has thrived for nearly sixty years on the principles Fred stood for and maintained and will survive many a decade more by following his example.

# Ramblerite

This month I open with an apology to all the Family Section members who travelled by cars to the Langdales for the joint walk.

Unfortunately the coach broke down, or rather the water pump did, and the coach limped thirstily into Lever Park where the Lakes-bound rambles alighted from the crippled coach to do pleasant walks around Rivington, Winter Hill and Anglezarke Moors. Meanwhile, the New Dungeon Ghyll Hotel was telephoned in order to pass on this information to the Family Section members, but unfortunately they never received the message. Again I apologise.

The new rambling programme is enclosed. Please note the start times and arrive in good time for the coach so that rambles can begin promptly. In the past several people have arrived late (including myself) defeating the object of the early start. It might be a good idea to put a cross by the early starts on your programmes. There are only three in the new programme: Sept. 1st and 29th and Nov. 10th, all the rest being 10.15 starts. You will also note that on November 16th there is a Saturday ramble to Dovedale. This is not a printing mistake, the information is correct. More details later.

Rambles at the present are very well attended and to avoid disappointment you are reminded to book early, either to the leader on the previous ramble or at the Thursday socials. In extreme cases ring either Dave Newns or Brian Keller whose numbers are given in the programme, but it must be stressed that in the event of the coach being full people who have paid deposits get priority.

IMPORTANT: Should you wish to buy any walking equipment several stores will give you up to 10% discount if you present your rambling card to the shop assistant. This discount is available in many parts of Britain such as Keswick, Capel Curig, Betws-y-Coed, etc. so always carry your rambling card around with you. It could save you money.

## FUTURE RAMBLES

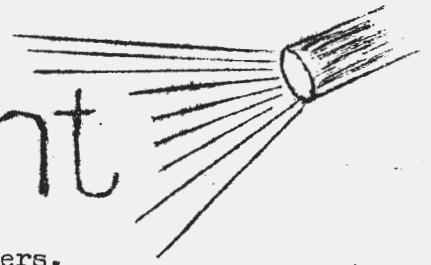
- July 14 CARNEDD HORSESHOE (Snowdonia) 10.15 start. A fairly tough A walk led by me with Paul Amundsen leading the B walk in the Betws-y-Coed area.
- July 28 THIRLMERE (Lakes) 9.30 start. Brian Keller and George Riley take us up to this beautiful part of the country.
- Aug. 4 CHURCH STRETTON (Salon) 10.15 start. Mike and Daphne take us on two walks in the middle of Shropshire.
- Aug. 18 TRYFAN (Snowdonia) 10.15 start. Brian Keller leads the A party over four 3,000ft mountains while I lead a B party in an attempt on the North face of Tryfan.
- Aug. 24-26 CAMPING WEEKEND at Wastwater (Lakes). If you are interested please see Dave, Brian or myself for more details.

ANTHONY BROCKWAY

Rambling Chairman



# Social Spotlight



Hello everybody and a special welcome to all our new members.

Well, at last, our two-week summer has arrived (at the time of writing) which means we can organise some social events in the great outdoors. Details later, in this article.

In the meantime, where have you all been on Thursday club nights? I know that we always get a loyal crowd down, but looking at the overall membership figures a lot more people could be down on Thursday nights. So if the price is right (60p for 18 to 80 years old or 30p unwaged) come on down!

Anyway, here's an update of recent social events:

On May 16th a successful quiz night was held with four good teams competing. The winning team received gift vouchers, whilst the losing team got a free round of drinks. Thanks must go to Christine Welsby (Questionmaster), Linda Bakewell (Sound Effects) and Tony Bond (Timekeeper).

May 18th brought a night out at the Playhouse to see Martin Shaw playing Elvis. A thoroughly enjoyable night out had by all.

June 8th - the well-worth-waiting-for barge trip took place when even the heavy rain outside could not dampen the spirits of the 40-odd rambblers on board. After wining and dining inside this vessel, only rambblers could turn a 3ft wide, 40ft long aisle into a non-stop dance floor! Gratitude to Pat Rothwell for organising this event assisted by Angela 'raffle' Platt!

And now, the part you have all been waiting for. Yes, I know you are all so excited, but please try to control yourselves! It's time for....

FUTURE SOCIAL EVENTS!!! (Olé! Olé! Fanfare of trumpets, firework display, lights, music, action):

ROCK 'N' ROLL NITE, 27th June (Thursday) 8pm at the 'Liverpool'

Obviously the Elvis bug is still around and to cater for this demand, a professional disco has been booked and wait for it, a LATE BAR. Adm: £1.

PITCH & PUTT, 6th July (Saturday). Meet at St John's Lane, 5pm (names to Christine Welsby). This is the first of SIX events in the annual Fred Norbury Cup event (Who was Fred Norbury? See special page in this newsletter written by Gerry Penlington). This event, as with all others, is open to all members, no matter what your skills are.

The Social Committee have ensured that all Fred Norbury events occurring on a Saturday do not coincide with a ramble the next day. This is so we can all go for drinkie-winkies and not worry about getting up early the next day (see how good we are to you!).

Points for each event will be given as follows: Winner 10 pts, 2nd 7 pts, then 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. Your best FOUR events points will be added up and the highest totals in both ladies and gents will be the two winners.

SIXTIES NITE, 18th July (Thursday) 8pm at the 'Liverpool'

Gerry and the Pacemakers, The Beachboys, The Hollies, are just some of the great sounds you will hear this night. Once again a professional disco has been booked as well as a LATE BAR. Admission price will be £1.

TENNIS, 20th July (Saturday). All meet at the Electric Supply Club, 1.30pm. Light refreshments will be served so it is important to give your name to Brian Keller so that enough food is supplied. A small charge will be made. This will be the second of the Fred Norbury events. Anyone arriving after 2pm will not be eligible.

CROWN GREEN BOWLS, 9th August (Saturday) Meet at St John's Lane, 5pm (names to Paul Healy). This is the third Fred Norbury event.

WINE & CHEESE EVENING 13th August (Thursday) at the 'Liverpool'. Details nearer the date.

LADIES & MEN'S DARTS, 6th September (Friday). Instead of holding a separate Ladies and Men's darts night it is hoped we can book a venue where both events can be held. In the meantime please put this date in your diary, as details will be given shortly, (names to Tony Bond). Fourth Fred Norbury event.

TEN-PIN BOWLING, 21st September (Saturday). Meet at St John's Lane, 5.30pm (names to Shirley McFarlane/Paul Sellick). Fifth Fred Norbury event.

SWIMMING, 4/5th October (Friday or Saturday). This is the first time this event has been included in the Fred Norbury Cup, due to a number of requests (Mark Spitz, Duncan Goodhue, etc.). It is hoped that a venue can be secured for the dates above, otherwise it looks like the River Mersey again... (names to Fiona Hawken).

(Editor's Note: You need not enter all six events to qualify for the Fred Norbury Cup. You could quite easily win if for instance you gained maximum pints in just three events so don't worry if you can't make all the dates given above. P.S. Typing error entirely unintentional. In case you missed it - maximum pints should read maximum points, I think!).

ANNUAL BUFFET DANCE, 8th November (Friday). The social event of the year that's not to be missed. A plush suite at the Everton Football Club has been booked for this year's dance at a cost of £4.50 per head. Tickets are limited and are now available from General and Social Committee members.

By the time you read this newsletter, the cycle run to Southport (23 June) will have taken place. Thanks to Kevin Bell and everybody who (hopefully) took part.

Well, that's about all for now; hope to see you all soon.

ROY THUIS

Social Chairman (677 8631)

FAMILY SECTION PROGRAMME.

JULY 4TH. House Meeting at Gerry and Jean McDonald's at 28 Ormonde Drive  
Maghull.

JULY 14TH. Helm Crag(Lion and Lamb). Pater and Marie Atherton are leading.  
Turn left at Grasmere and it is the large Carpark beyond the Garden Centre.  
We're starting to walk at 12.30 p.m.

Aug.1ST. The House Meeting is Rosemary Rollerson's, 33 Eskdale Drive,  
NO AUGUST WALK. Maghull.

SEPT.5TH. Our Annual General Meeting is again at Bill and Norah Naylor's',  
114 Moss Lane, Maghull. Once again, come and have your say. Thank you  
once more to Bill and Norah for having us.

SEPT.15TH. Rochdale Area. Our annual meeting with Harry and Ronnie  
O'Neil! Meet at Junction 19 on M62 at 12.30 p.m. for escort to eating

SEPT.27/29TH. Chalet Weekend. Names to Mona Roberts nearer (spot.  
the date, please.

JOINT WALKS. Please refer to the General Section's programme.

SEAL EDGE, DERBYSHIRE. 12TH MAY, 1985. FAMILY SECTION.

After a minor deviation on the South Manchester Motorway system and subsequent exceptional map reading on the part of our co-driver, we arrived at our starting point at a layby beyond the summit of the Snake Pass. Due to possible confusion about the starting time our departure was delayed for thirty minutes. We were very pleased to see Betty, Jack and the girls arriving and hope they will come out lots more. While we were waiting for everyone to arrive, Gerry pointed to a high and distant summit and informed us that "we were going up there". We didn't really believe him.

After starting our walk down the Snake Pass (for which a grass verge had been conveniently provided) passing the Snake Inn and following a downward path through a wood, we emerged to see our path clearly visible ahead. After crossing a bridge and stream, we commenced the long ascent up the side of the moor. The path flattened out for a short while only to be followed by a very steep climb to gain the beginning of the ridge on Gerry's 'distant summit'.

A short break was very welcome but soon we were off again on an undulating track which meandered between outcrops of rocks of most grotesque shapes. This track, which followed a line just below the top of the ridge extended for almost four miles. Half way along we stopped for a well deserved butty break.

As the weather conditions in the wind were cold we did not stop for long and proceeded to the end of the ridge. Word was passed forward that Mona was sitting down and had hurt her ankle. Four able-bodied gentlemen, who shall be nameless, ran back to render assistance but rather than accept it she decided to get up and walk. On our descent, we met a young couple coming up pushing bykes(mad!) George gallantly assisted the young lady, and her male partner was heard to say"trust the woman to get all the help". (Does he help you with your byke, Freda?). The path from the head of the valley was pretty non-existent and only after wading through very boggy ground did we eventually arrive at the start of a very rough track. Our leaders decided that we deserved a short break. Mona, however, kept on walking and Harry ( a noble lad) decided to keep her company in case she got lost (what -? not again!-).



We then set off down the valley at quite a good pace and it took a considerable time before we caught up with Mona and Harry. By this time we were nearly at the end of our 11 mile walk over the ridge and down the valley and all that remained was to cross a bridge, follow a path through a wood, and a steep short climb to where we had left our cars. To our surprise we were met by Audrey and George who gave us all sorts of excuses for arriving too late, but we think they really wanted an easy day! All credit to them for not turning back and for organising and participating in their own mapless ramble.

Our thanks to Jean and Gerry for a very good walk, conducted in their usual considerate way. It certainly tested our metal. However, we didn't see any seals but plenty of gambolling lambs.

A.B.

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MACCLESFIELD. 14TH APRIL, 1985. FAMILY SECTION.

I knew it was going to be one of those days when we had a puncture outside Knutsford. Better Half changed wheel in 9½ minutes flat(groan). We met at Teggs Nose Carpark, hooded and booted against the cold gale-force wind. A quick look for late-comers and we were off down the road to the Setter Dog, over the first stile and away, with John and his leashed four-legged friend taking the lead(groan groan) and Cath counting all 28 of us at the rear.

Our path took us across grassy uplands with beautiful views and the Cat and Fiddle on the horizon. The sharp wind was invigorating as we rambled over the hilly terrain, climbing upward from a short steep fork in the path to reach a penned flock of Derbyshire Gritstone sheep waiting to be fed. A sea of mud was an apt description of the going at this stage. a ruined cottage provided a shelter for our first butty stop and we huddled out of the wind. Here Rosemary disclosed her conniewership of tea showing a marked preference for Darjeeling as opposed to George S. who swore by Earl Gray. The weather became more clement as we happily trudged on, admiring the views, and slipping and sliding everywhere. It was at this point that Kath Howard, perhaps anticipating a mud-wrestling career, decided to have a practice all on her own and promptly sat down to have a little wallow. Hauled out, she dried quickly in the strong wind. We soon neared the lovely hamlet of Macclesfield Forest with its little church dedicated to St. Stephen, built in 1673 and rebuilt 1834 - (it says in this book I have by me). Jean and friends went in and admired the dozen or so sophisticated flower arrangements. We descended into the forest down a well used muddy path. It was eerie but beautiful and a certain Billinge botanist remarked that the trees looked dead from the bottom half but alive and well up top, like a Rambler after a smashing day out! Down we scrambled, across streams with stepping stones to a spot for our second butty stop - or should it be camera stop? Climbing once more we were soon at a viewpoint overlooking the Cheshire Plain and observing Macclesfield and Jodrell Bank, while the GPO Tower stood like a totem pole(waxing poetical).

Dropping steeply again we ambled along the road at the side of Teggs Nose and Bottoms Reservoir before crossing the weir and climbing steep(very steep) steps to the quarry, with it's collection of exhibits and artefacts. The men were helpful here, blinding us with science, and NF AND AB pointed out a stone crusher, which Angela promptly identified as a mangle. Walking up to the road we were back at the car Park. Thanks to Cath and John for an interesting, varied and enjoyable walk. ALP.

JUNE 2nd, 1985. Jack's Rake. The Greatest Joint Ramble that never was.

Having made our individual ways up the morotway, we arrived at our destination at the New Dungeon Ghyll Carpark well in advance of our 1 p.m. start. Knowing the General Section's habit of being ready to walk the moment the coach stopped, we took the precaution of getting ourselves prepared before partaking of our normal pre-ramble lunch. We waited in the sun (all fifteen of us) and 1 o'clock came and passed. We waited until half past one and came to the conclusion that the impossible had happened - we had lost the entire General Section (complete with coach), including two of the Family Section. Better that if you can!

Not to be denied our walk, we proceeded up the path which follows Stickle Ghyll and after some puffing and panting by some of us (it was an extremely hot day) we arrived at Stickle Tarn. This is always an appropriate place for a butty break but today far more liquid was to be consumed than solid food. Two of our young hardy members decided to have a swim. Despite the hot day they said the water was very cold. It was at this point that we decided to temporarily split the party, with nine making the summit of Pavey Ark by way of Jack's Rake and the remaining six achieving the same objective by means of the rough steep track which runs behind the north-eastern shoulder of Pavey Ark. A short rest was called for to further imbibe, and to admire the scenery. Visibility was perfect and many fell tops were identified which lay some considerable distance from our vantage point.

From the summit of Pavey Ark we climbed down on to the shoulder, which connects it with Harrison Stickle. This was the easiest part of the walk as very little height is lost or gained. It is an extremely pleasant high level walk after all the exertions which had preceded it. Group photographs were taken on the summit of Harrison Stickle, as they also were on Pavey Ark and at Stickle Tarn just to prove to Dave Newns that, in his absence, we were not malingering and spending the afternoon in the New Dungeon Ghyll Tavern. On leaving the top of Harrison Stickle, we took a steep track down to the col between Harrison Stickle and Pike of Stickle. One member, who usually waxes poetical about the gambolling lambs, took strong exception to the route and was heard to say that she was a fell walker and not a rock climber. Our way ahead now lay fairly straight and level under the face of Harrison Stickle and alongside the deep ravined dungeon Ghyll. The track eventually started to descend quite rapidly (at one point over some bad erosion) and after a certain amount of slipping and sliding we eventually made the car park at about 6.30 p.m.

A suggestion was made that we should adjourn to the cafeterias and this we did to consume tea, coffee, coke chips and scones (not all together). We are sure that Paul Healy would have led a first class ramble. Please turn up next time, Paul!

H.W.

BOOTS FOR SALE - size 5, Montana, good condition, hardly used, \$6

Ring 525 1027