

# LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION

*Under the Patronage of*  
HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF LIVERPOOL.

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SOCIAL EACH THURSDAY EVENING AT 8-0 P.M.

SECOND SERIES NO. 41

JULY, 1950.

## EDITORIAL

### THE 24th A. G. M.

The Annual General Meeting will take place in September and it is an occasion for taking stock of the past years activities as well as electing a new committee. Here every member has a responsibility to the club. The choice of a committee is of paramount importance. It is they who guide the club and give a lead when ever it is required. We have been fortunate in attracting new members each year to the committee and again we make a special appeal to these of you who are willing to give some of your leisure time to the running of the C. R. A., to come forward.

Stock-taking is no less important. We want to know which of our activities are well organised and which may be improved. Constructive criticism is always beneficial. We have recently welcomed to our ranks a number of new members whom we hope will long remain followers of the C. R. A. We ask you to familiarise yourselves with the various members of the association so that when voting at the A. G. M. you will know whose who. Even more important this will help you more easily to mix and enjoy the comradeship of the association.

## PERSONAL

### GLAD TO SEE YOUR BACK!

We are very pleased to see Mr. Marquiss among us again after his recent accident and we hope it has left no ill effects behind.

### WEDDINGS

Wedding bells once again and this time for Miss Eileen Collins and Mr. Mark Walsh, who were married on Saturday the 17th June at All Saints, Anfield, by the Rev. Dean Grace, with Nuptial Mass and Papal Blessing. The brides dress consisted of lace over georgette. This had a Medici Collar and long pointed sleeves. The bride's sisters, Kathleen and Patricia acted as bridesmaids and their dresses were of multi-coloured taffeta on white back-ground. Little white dutch hats with tiny coloured flowers inserted behind the brim, were a change from the usual type of head-dress and they carried white prayer books threaded with ribbons decorated with Dwarf Gladioli or White Bride as they are sometimes named, which trailed to the ground, while the bride carried a shower bouquet of yellow roses. The reception was held at the C. I. Edwardian's club house, Sandfield Park, during which the happy couple left for their honeymoon in France. May God Bless them during their life together.

The marriage of Miss Madge Prendergast to Mr. Bert Pooler was celebrated on May 29th at St. Helens Church, Crosby. The bride looked charming in a suit of French Grey and wore accessories of a delicate pink. A reception was held after the ceremony at the bride's home. Mr. and Mrs. Pooler are now residing in Bury and on behalf of the club we send our best wishes for long life and happiness.

R A M B L I N G P R O G R A M M E

July 30th	Nettleford Wood	Lime St. Stn.	9.20	2/9	Mr. H. Burns
Aug. 6th	Mold	See Railway Advert			Miss B. Tracy
" 13th	Arley Hall	Russell Street	9.40	3/6	Mr. F. A. Boyle
" 20th	Thornton-le-Moor	Pier Head	10.5	1/6	Miss S. Devoy
" 27th	Thornton Hough	Pier Head	2.00	1/-	Miss P. Toes
Sept. 6th	Pen-y-llun-y-gwr	Central Stn.	10.0	3/6	Mr. R. Marsden

S O C I A L P R O G R A M M E

<u>M. C.</u>		<u>HOSTESS</u>
27th July	Mr. J. Sands	Miss E. Tracy
3rd Aug.	" R. Marsden	Mrs. K. Marsden
10th "	" G. Penlington	Miss M. Smith
17th "	" M. Walsh	Miss K. Collins
24th "	" B. Edwards	Miss E. Tracy
31st "	" J. Sands	Mrs. K. Marsden



CHESTER ZOO

This outing proved a pleasant change from the usual half-day ramble. A larger crowd than usual had gathered at the Pier Head quite some time before the leader appeared, so without wasting any precious minutes, as soon as we were all ready off we set. Much to the satisfaction of our very young members, three under-sixes, the boat was waiting. Soon we were in possession of the top deck. We were overtaken at the bus stop by a late comer from the direction of Hamilton Square Station. I don't know what we would do without the "Underground" sometimes. The run to Chester was very pleasant and the bus being almost an express we seemed to be there in no time. We had just got to the queue for Upton by Chester when an even later Rambler showed up. By this time it was becoming almost impossible to keep check of our huge party.

The zoo was soon reached; the kiddies big moment had arrived and the older ones too, were soon kept amused by all the different types of animal life. The monkeys were, as always, a special attraction. The afternoon soon passed and it was difficult to get the party to leave the cages. The remainder of the evening was spent in viewing the ancient city. We had meant to begin with a tour of the Cathedral but unfortunately arrived there as the doors were being closed. We were however, allowed a few minutes in which to look around. There is so much of interest for everyone, a full day would be needed to see all one wanted. However, we enjoyed a walk around the walls from which we got a fine view of the river and the surrounding country. Some of us thought of our forthcoming week-end at Maeshafn as we looked towards the Welsh hills. We encircled the walls at last, returning to the Chester Cathedral, the point from which we started. Several members stated they ought to have brought their "hob-nailed" for the last part of the trip. The sun was setting as we made for the bus for home. We were all pleasantly tired. The day had been lovely and I am sure we had all enjoyed ourselves.

ALFORD

The number of members becoming interested in rambling these days is steadily increasing. This particular Sunday, 33 members started out for the ramble to Alford, with the number of boys almost equal to that of girls.

RAMBLING REPORTS ctd.

Although we lost two soon after commencing the walk, owing to one damsel twisting her ankle and one gallant knight staying behind to assist her, the number was again made up by those who chose to do things the easy way and met us at the "Grosvenor Arms" to join in the walk back.

The weather was warm and sunny and the 12 to 14 mile walk not too strenuous, but varied by the numerous barbed wire fences we had occasion to scramble under or over, according to our size and agility. One voice was heard to say:- "It is just as well they told us to wear old clothes, but they might have told us we would probably leave the best part of them behind on the wire fences." At one point while walking in single-file along a narrow footpath over a large field, our numbers were doubled when a herd of cows decided to follow us, also in single-file along the same narrow foot-path. This caused great amusement, but the laughter unfortunately must have hurt the finer feelings of our uninvited quadruped friends for after a while their leader branched off and the rest followed suit, seeking no doubt, some less mundane pastime than that of following one another like a lot of silly sheep (or ramblers)

ASHURST BEACON

Eight cheerful people, four of them actually males, assembled at 10a.m. Russel St., for the 10.28a.m. to St. Helens. While awaiting at this now familiar spot our friends from the St. Helens C. R. A. de-bussed en route for the Wirral. They boasted 2 ramblers more than ourselves. Even at this early hour the Sun's heat was very apparent, a pointer to a hard ramble to come. The journey to St. Helens was quite uneventful, but at the loading point for Carr Mill, some excitement was caused when a male member was observed directing the driver to reverse his bus. Anxious eyes scanned the bottom of the bus for the body, but it was only a lady's purse. Sheila's nerve apparently had failed at the crucial moment. The sun surely was becoming strong. The Carr Mill lake appeared most inviting and the ladies were obviously attracted by the rowing boats, but the chaps steadfast of purpose set the ramble moving.

I never knew such interesting scenery existed in these parts, but I have a suspicion our leader had been around this district before. A comfortable pace and we descended upon Billinge 3 hours later when we partook of a little though very welcome thirst quencher. Much revived, we made tracks to Shaly Brow for lunch. Rather reluctantly we left this delightful spot, but Jim had a rather pleasant little ramble mapped out for the afternoon to suit the terrific heat. Apparently Jim had expected this wonderful sunshine. Quite a lot of ground was covered without expending too much energy enabling us to have a late tea at Carr Mill in the evening. This little pleasure ground had undergone quite a transformation from the early morning. It was absolutely milling with people. I was very pleased we had not succumbed to the ladies' attraction. The journey back was uneventful and all were unstinting in their praises to Jim for a jolly fine ramble.

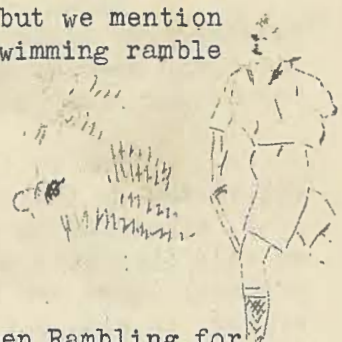
J. S.

ALTRINCHAM AREA

Starting from Renshaw Street, by way of a change, 12 of us (we were nearly only 11 until Pat appeared from no-where having been re-directed by Sheila's P.C. we presume,) travelled by bus to Warrington, en route for a ramble officially termed "Altrincham District." Before boarding another bus we, of course, found time for ices and in the case of our hungry leader some cake. We had quite a pleasant ride to Bowdon, arriving there quite ready to eat. Having comforted our inner man with eats and drinks, we at last set out for the real business of the day "rambling" from Bowdon, which is a delightful residential district, (no! I am not trying to sell you a house?) through Dunham Massie and the Dunham park, where two of our photographic enthusiasts vainly tried to get snaps of the deer - or did someone say "darlings" - who apparently were not having any. Needless to say we had an occasional "5 minute rest." We had quite a leisurely ramble, with a few scrambles up some wee hillocks thrown in by way of a change, until we sighted our objective "Rostherne Mere," which is well worth seeing. Arriving at last at Rostherne Village itself, we parked ourselves outside the tea-place for more eats, though most of us found it too hot to eat, though doing full justice to the teapot. Unfortunately the sun was too hot and the macadam soft, as Joe found to his dismay that his beautiful "model" American jacket (our latest landmark) was spotted with tar, likewise somebody's legs and another lady's nylons. Let's hope the various remedies suggested prove effective. A leisurely walk back to Altrincham, where again we slaked our thirsts, thereby missing our bus. There are always others, however. Let's hope our new members enjoyed their first day out with us, and thanks Bernard and Stella for a very nice ramble.

D. H.

Space does not permit the inclusion of all the rambles, but we mention the Chalet week-end which was fully booked and the Rivacre Valley Swimming ramble where a large party took part.



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DELIGHT IN WALKING?

Say what you will, now, but there is no comparison between Rambling for pleasure and Rambling with any of the organised clubs of today. The pursuit of pleasure in the heather-covered hills and distant meadow has become rather an arduous affair, often based on a time sequence that allows no rest. Today there is a planned mileage that must be covered regardless of place, with no consideration for the person wishing to get a new angle on nature, A new and other than the steadfast gaze at the other fellow's boots. Methods could be improved without the risk of "loitering with intent." Better, I should say, to walk the verdant folds of hill and dale than to emulate some well established athlete of marathon fame.

To please everyone is probably an impossible thing but perhaps it is the newcomer who makes the correct summary of the situation. Something is wrong when the new enthusiasts retire from view so quickly. The question must be asked then. "Is it pleasure or is it punishment?" Regular walkers will agree to the former, but the more distant members watching critically, are perhaps unhappy about the whole question.

Supporters of the present set routine must be accused of an inability to see that there is any variety, or the sense to distinguish a new sensibility. To assume complacently, that a new arrival either conforms to standard or falls short in physical ability is entirely wrong. I sometimes think this has been the case. The question of an "A" and "B" party would seem to solve the problem, but at the present would appear impracticable. Therefore it can only be solved by a changed view to quickly flashing week-ends. A more pleasurable pace, perhaps. A super "A" party for the Speed Hogs and a little more tolerance for those who do wish to increase their knowledge of natural history. Otherwise there seems no hope of making Rambling attractive to many members joining the "onlooker" section of the present time. In termination it is hoped that these few words will be accepted as a useful criticism that may result in the apathetic souls awakening from their winter sleep. To these last named, I quote:- "But, courage! for around the boisterous brook, the mountains have opened out themselves, and made a hidden valley of their own." Pleasant Walking.  
(Wordsworth.)

Anon.

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We publish the above without comment and invite your opinions for the next News Letter. These may be handed to any Committee Member.

HOLIDAYS

THE CATHOLIC  
HOLIDAY GUILD

If you have not already arranged your holidays, do not forget the Holiday Guild Guest Houses at Keswick and Carrog. Full details may be obtained from Miss M. Roberts, 7 Elmbank Rd., Liverpool, 18.

THE HOLLIES

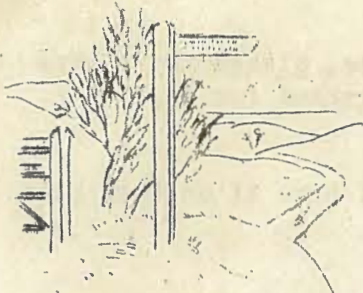
KESWICK

LAKE DISTRICT

ST GARMON

CARROG

THE BEARWYNS



LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS' ASSOCIATION.

Founded 1927.

Under the Patronage of His Grace The Archbishop Of Liverpool.

SEPTEMBER, 1950.

SECOND SERIES NO. 42

EDITORIAL

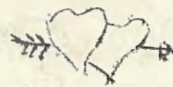
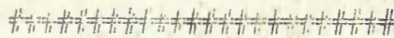
We extend to the past year's committee our thanks for a job of work well done and to the new committee, our good wishes for the coming year. This association is not run by personages whose names are well known throughout the Archdiocese, nor is our policy affected by influential beings who are, so to say, sleeping partners in the association. No - the club is run by yourselves. A majority of the Committee attend the socials every Thursday evening. They are ever present in all the activities which they organise and we are happy to note the generous support which members in the past have given to the committee. This is what they appreciate most; we ask you in the coming year to do all you can to advance the cause of the C.R.A. Its activities have a wide appeal to Catholic youth. You can help to spread the knowledge of the C.R.A. by talking about it to your friends and bringing them into the club.

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PERSONAL

CALLING ALL BABY SITTERS!

We extend our heartest congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Mulhall on the occasion of the birth of twin daughters.



It is with pleasure we learn of the engagement of Mr. Bill Wilde to Miss Kath Gould. Our very best wishes to them both.

As the last Newsletter was going to print, we learnt of the death of Mr. Cyril Kelly's Mother. We take this opportunity of extending to him our deepest sympathy. R.I.P.

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GREETINGS: One of our overseas members; Miss Vi' Duffy, who before her departure for the U.S.A. was one of our most stalwart supporters, sends her regards to the club.



SOCIAL NOTES BY I. C. ALL



I hope you are all planning your costumes for the coming Fancy Dress Carnival. I've heard a rumour that there will be very valuable prizes for the winners, so get weaving.

up

Can anyone tell me why we have had so many volunteers for washing recently? I must try it sometime and find out the secret.

Our record player has occasionally been having fits of temperament, but fortunately we have had some engineers in the house to repair the damage. Whilst waiting, we had some very nice music from Mrs. Wilton. Incidentally, a certain party didn't care who was listening but wanted it to be known she wasn't a wallflower any more. (O.K Lil, I got your message.) Mentioning no names, but it has been brought to my knowledge that one young lady recently 'separated' a man and his wife (she's got more courage than I have.) Fortunately I hear the parties concerned have

now been reconciled.

By the way Mark, next time we have an elimination dance, please may I have a clean tennis ball? I was carrying the sign of Cain on my forehead for days afterwards.

If you have'nt seen those etchings yet Miss Sandham, I have it on very good authority that 'man' has a big record collection as well.

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ANNUAL MASS

The Annual Mass will take place in the Pro-Cathedral at 11a.m. on Sunday 15th October. This is the one opportunity in the year when members are privileged to attend Mass in a body, for the intentions of the Association. Please do your utmost to be present.

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RAMBLING PROGRAMME

Table with 5 columns: Date, Location, Meeting Point, Time, and Name. Rows include Sept. 10 Puddington & Shotwick, 17 Barmouth Line, 24 Bidston, Oct. 1 Mawdsley Moss, 7/8 R. A. Chalet, 15 Neston (Benediction), and 22 Rivington Pike.

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RAMBLES

NETTLEFORD WOOD



Sunday dawned rather showery but did not deter the numbers arriving at Lime Street station for the 9.30 train. The length of the queue for tickets coupled with the late arrival of several of the party gave cause for a little uneasiness and it was with a sigh of relief that we managed to fit into the crowded train.

Helsby was reached and twenty two people began the first part of the walk to the "Boot Inn" at Kelsall. Unfortunately this was unavoidably a very long walk indeed, but our first rest and break for tea was all the more enjoyable. At the "Boot Inn," two male members who had gone to church Chester rejoined us, actually getting there long before us!

Our second part, the return journey, through lovely Delamere Forrest, was worth the delays and discomfort of the morning. We tramped on and on along quiet and shady paths and it seemed ages before we emerged into the open again, to find ourselves at Birch Hill our last Tea Place. Here we managed a wash and brush up after tea and we all were fit for the few miles left to go for the train home. We arrived at the station with about twenty minutes to spare. The train came at 8.p.m. so we were all home quite early after our long day.

Our thanks to Frank for a very enjoyable day.

K.G.

ARLEY HALL

On perhaps one of the best days of this doubtful summer 22 enthusiasts old and new, set out in bright sunshine from Lymm Church. They went past the picturesque Lymm Dams and onward through a mile or so of pleasantly green plantation, brushing their way through fern and bracken.

From High Leigh their way took them along country lane and over pasture land and through a patch of woodland here and there, by an old watermill and on to



Arley Park. They found the park an expanse of rich meadow fringed with many kinds of old and stately trees, its turf springy under foot. They found all the stiles except the last one which was only discovered after they had negotiated some barbed wire. That there was more barbed wire further on the ramble did not detract from the very pleasant ambling by pond and hedgerow.

Some of that party no doubt, will be surprised to learn that this ramble contained so much of pleasure to country-lovers, but that can be ascribed to the counteracting popularity of the Radio Quiz game "who's who." They can rest assured however, that they undoubtedly benefited by their sojourn in the open air and sunshine, and I feel sure that somewhere their minds eye has retained a valuable mental picture.

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WILL IT COME TRUE?



A Fantasy of 1999. Golden Jubilee Year C.R.A.

Two men, one old, one young, were walking along a footpath, across a waste which was covered with gorse in bloom. It was an afternoon in the spring of 1999 and they were approaching the country club house of the Liverpool Catholic Ramblers Association. The older man in conversation to his son Richard said. "This is the day to which I have been looking forward for many years. At last we see the fruit of our labours and of those pioneers who had the vision to start this club." The son in reply - "Dad! I will be glad if you will tell me something of the early pioneers and of their troubles in carrying on the club." The father replied - "My Boy! It will become clear to you when you see the club house, "Marymount" You can ask questions of many who are better qualified than myself in the early history of the club." At that moment they topped a rise in the ground and on a Hillside facing, the Chalet and its surroundings became visible. Set against a background of pines with a rippling hill stream in the fore-ground which had been dammed at one place to make a bathing pool, it formed a romantic picture in the sun.

"A poor life this, if full of care  
We have no time to stand and stare."

Simultaneously they both stopped to take in the view. It was worth while, because of the years of unremitting effort in saving and making which went to dissipate the Association Fund because of the lack of vision on the part of some members and a lack of faith in the accomplishment of anything. However, that had been overcome and with the passage of years and with energy and foresight, this site with an old broken down bungalow had been secured and with hard work and enthusiasm on the part of a few it had been made habitable. Now the old place had been transformed. A clever young architect had planned the reconstruction of the bungalow, which was the central building and on the sides had been added and adapted, huts which served as dormitories and offices.

On a nearer approach the facade showed a veranda with pillars on which were trained creepers of roses and other plants. From its roof were suspended flowering plants in pots. Skylights had also been introduced which had tarpaulin curtains which could be raised or lowered at will. The whole front appeared to be like a "stoep" or a Colonial frontage of a building in one of the Southern States U.S.A. Walking up the pathway, to the centre of the building, they went up three steps and inside the veranda to the main entrance. Inside this entrance was a room or hall which was generally in use as a Common Room. It occupied the larger portion of the front of the building. In height it went up two storeys to the roof of the Chalet. By the door was a staircase to a balcony which went round a mezzanine floor. This mezzanine floor contained the principal bedrooms. On the right, those reserved for the ladies, on the left, those reserved for the gentlemen. One of the rooms on the left side was reserved for a Chaplain if in residence. On the ground floor in the Common Room a large fireplace with a log fire was a conspicuous object. Above the fireplace, a mantelpiece of oak, which was the work of one of the handicraft members, had a crucifix of silver and ebony in a central position. Worked on a scroll underneath the mantelpiece was the motto of the club "A.M.D.G." "Per Aspera Ad Astra." On the other walls were a few portraits of the past officers of the club and some etchings of mountain and lake scenery at home and abroad. A large scale map of the district was also displayed. The far end of the room to the right had a low stage with the usual two doors for entrance and exit. On touching a panel the wall between these two doors parted and slid into sockets disclosing a recess. This recess contained an ordinary looking bookcase which had plain wooden doors instead of glass. These when opened disclosed an altar which was fully furnished. Here Mass could be celebrated if necessary. Application had been made to the Bishop of the Diocese for the necessary permission. For the celebration of the Jubilee the Common Room had

been turned into a banquetting chamber. On the stage was arranged one table for the officials and guests. Two other tables were arranged below along the sides of the room for the members and other friends. A miniature grand piano was in one corner of the stage. The room was illuminated by concealed lighting of the latest type, supplemented by fairy lamps which were arranged over the stage, in the motto of the club and the year 1999.

A door at the other end of the room on the right led into the ladies' powder room. This room was furnished by a fund raised amongst the gentlemen of the club. For comfort and elegance it could not be surpassed. On the wall facing the windows was a beautiful etching of Raphael's Madonna and child. Underneath, on a small bracket, a lamp was kept burning.

The club journal and ladies' magazines were in a small bookcase near the fireplace. Off this room were the Ladies' bathroom, showers, etc. fitted up with the latest and up to date refinements. It is of special note that in the dressing room attached was a cabinet which an enterprising firm had filled with toilet specialities dear to the feminine heart. At the back of the common room was the kitchen which was fitted up with every labour saving device and with cooking stoves of the latest pattern. Here were turned out meals of the most delectable variety, for hungry ramblers. Adjoining and to the left of the Common Room was a dining room, well suited to its purpose. To the right and left of the main building and at right angles to it were two large huts. These huts were fitted on the chalet system as dormitories for ladies and gentlemen. The accommodation was arranged so that proper provision could be made for the usually larger numbers of ladies than gentlemen. All the rooms had Saints' names such as e.g. St. Francis of Assisi etc. In some cases they had been furnished by the effort of different families and a plate suitably inscribed was affixed. It was noticeable that comfort and simplicity was the aim and luxury was avoided. One picture only was allowed in these rooms. A good etching or a painting of the patron saint or of an incident in the life of the saint was the usual thing. It showed evidence of good judgment and taste on the part of those responsible. At the end of the gentlemen's dormitory were the usual showers etc., and a boot room was also provided. The water system was operated from an outhouse at the rear of the kitchen. A large boiler heated by a slow combustion system gave a plentiful supply to the places where it was required. This room also served as a drying room.

During the passage of the years, the Wirral having become a built up area, ramblers had of necessity to go regularly farther afield for their excursions. This was facilitated by an arterial road which led directly across the Wirral to the shores of the Dee estuary. Here a wide causeway led over the estuary to the Flintshire Coast. It carried traffic of all kinds, rail, road, and pedestrian and by the speeding up of communications led to easier access to North Wales. The spoilation of the countryside by too haphazard a development was controlled by a special act of parliament. The club was fortunate in securing this place before these developments were foreseen.

The advantage of this nook in the Lelwydian Hills were fully realised in the circumstances. The programme of the celebrations showed that music and the Dramatic Art were fully represented. A play entitled "The Way To The Hills" had been set to music by another. A recited of Liszt's Spanish Rhapsody was also an item on the programme. It was evident that although there had been a large increase in membership, the quality was maintained. Cultural activity had expanded with this increase in a way that past officers had hoped for, but considered not possible to realize.

T. M.

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Have you paid your subscriptions yet???

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Look out for further news of the FANCY DRESS CARNIVAL, but get your thinking caps on now!

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Your football reporter is very proud to inform you that our team started off the season with a swing last Saturday with a 2 - 1 victory. Why not give them your support. Details will be given at the Club each Thursday of each coming game. Watch, too, for the Team Sheet which it is hoped will be posted up in the club each Thursday.