

LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS' ASSOCIATION

Under the Patronage of
His Grace the Archbishop of Liverpool

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E D I T O R I A L

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In these days of "New Fashions", "New Looks" and "New Hair Styles", could not the C.R.A. live up to the times by obtaining some New members, New ideas and altogether a New lease of life. I admit that these things are being done to some extent. New faces may be seen the Club rooms occasionally and the attendance at the Socials has been steadily increasing. The numbers on rambles are also slightly higher than they were, but every individual could, if they wished, enlarge this to an even greater extent in many ways. Look around for some likely new members. Talk to that brother or sister who would probably be pleased to join if only they knew a little more about the Club and its activities. What about that Catholic boy or girl who works beside you at the office? Do your little bit towards furthering Catholic Action by spreading some propoganda on behalf of the C.R.A. and bring along at least one new member next Thursday or Sunday.

Regarding the new ideas and suggestions - you yourself could help here. These are always most welcome from our members. The Club is yours and is exactly what you make it. The Committee is not the Club, nor does it run the Club as some people seem to think. It is there for the sole purpose of carrying out your ideas and suggestions. What do you think of the monthly Newsletter? Do you find it dull and uninteresting? Well then, remember that it is your Newsletter and that you are partly responsible for it being what it is. When the same people are writing the same type of article each month, the latter are bound to become a little stagnated, so how about some bright and happy articles to liven it up somewhat. Suggestions, ideas and articles for the Newsletter may be posted to me personally, or handed to any member of the Committee. I trust this appeal will have some response and if you are bashful of signing your own name, then any non-de-plume is quite acceptable.

K. COLLINS

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At last the Tennis Section is an accomplished fact. For two years we have been endeavouring to re-organise the Tennis Section, which was such a source of enjoyment to members before the war came along to shatter our dreams. A start was made during the 1947 season, when we shared a court with the Friends of the White Sisters at Sefton Park, but owing to circumstances beyond our control the project was abandoned at the end of that season.

Since then several sites have been viewed and many miles gravelled in fruitless search, before we finally met with success at Garden View, which we hope will be our Tennis H.Q. for many seasons to come. There are two grass courts in delightful surroundings, quite free from any outside interference.

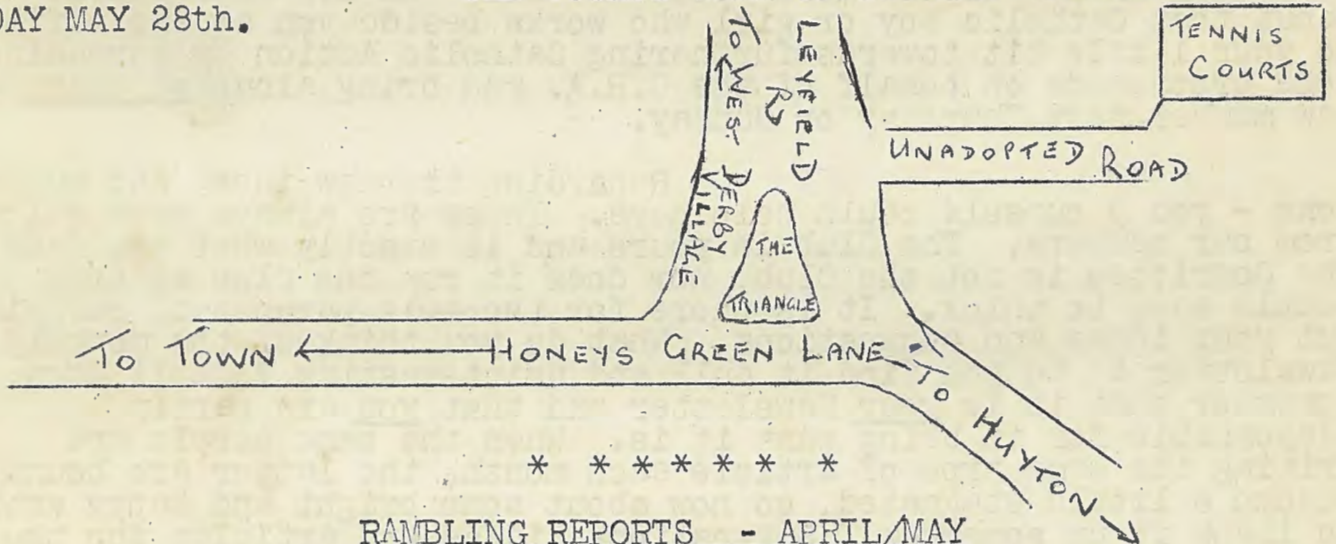
They are situated in Leyfield Road, West Derby, and the sketch below will help you to locate them. Buses Nos. 12, 12A, 61, 61B, 74, 74A, 74C, 74D, all stop within a few yards of the entrance. Ask the conductor for "The Triangle".

All members are very cordially invited to join whether they are players or not. Non-players wishing to learn the rudiments of the game are assured of every assistance from the Committee, and as several of the members have voiced their willingness to share their racquets, that should overcome the difficulty of those who do not possess one at present. The Tennis section can be enjoyed by all members and particularly does this apply to married couples with families, as they can bring their children along to the courts and while the Mummies and Daddies enjoy a game, there is ample room off the courts for the kiddies to romp around or play ball.

This should prove a boon for several couples who are gradually losing touch with the Club and the friends they made there, as they cannot now attend the Socials or take part in the rambles. Finally the cost for the season has been fixed at the extremely low rate of 15/- subscription with a 6d per week maintenance and ball charge. These figures are for the 1949 season only and will be reviewed before the next season starts. Don't forget you are all welcome, and we look forward to a really enjoyable season.

THE COURTS WERE OFFICIALLY OPENED ON

MONDAY MAY 28th.



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RAMBLING REPORTS - APRIL/MAY

April 24th. - IRBY MILL HILL. This was the first ramble of the new

programme, and, being a half-day, the leader looked towards it with some misgivings. These were added to by unforeseen circumstances which caused a three week break in Club socials.

However, the leader (Miss Eileen Collins) was very agreeably surprised to find the party amounting to a round dozen. The ramble itself was not new, starting at Claughton and leading over the Golf Links to Irby. The fine weather added to the high spirits and it was a very happy party that reached the teaplace at Irby Mill Hill.

Strolling to Thurstaston Common after tea, a large discussion ensued as to the reliability of the Andrew Blair memorial. Austin suggested that the Ramblers' Federation be informed that Moel Fannau had been moved and steps should be taken.....!!!

Greetings to two new ramblers (we hope), Angela (where's the Boss?) and Peter.

NESTON - 8th. May. For this report, dear reader, I want you to try to use your imagination..... It was about 8.30 p.m. on a lovely Spring evening, a party of ramblers were walking along a very nice country road; there were two (as usual) stragglers in the rear when suddenly a plumbers lorry flies by. One member of the party ahead (for a joke) thumbs it. It stops and the two stragglers have to run to get on. Ten seconds later there were wild screams) "I'M SITTING ON A BRICK", "Oh, help, this is making Club history", "Driver go slower". Think too, dear reader, of the chap sitting in the back with three hysterical females. Enough you say, even after a very pleasant ramble from Bromborough across to Raby Mere and dinner there, (to finish a very nice solo from a budding Donald Peers) Then walking on through Thornton Hough and passing about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the Manor, thence to Neston and Parkgate. Here we had tea at a cafe which is officially closed, but through our efforts may soon open for tea only, to suit ramblers, cyclists etc. On the way, one fair lady from the Club became very motherly and gave us all kindly advice on 'fallin in Luv' I'll bet that on her next ramble she'll be telling us our fortunes - seeing dark and handsome men and beautiful blondes as future members. We went to Benediction in the evening and all took part in the procession in honour of Our Blessed Lady. The crowning of the statue was particularly impressive After Benediction we started walking to Heswall for the bus, but left two members in Neston, the remainder of us getting the lift I told you about. This took us through the Tunnel and dropped us at the Victoria Cinema, Cherry Lane - all aches and pains, but very happy after a grand day.

DELAMERE - 1st May The leader was unable to turn out this day, so Kath Collins and Dick Marsden between them took over the ramble. The waether was good and the turn-out fairly good, there being 15 in all. Although the tea places had been visited many times before - Mersey View Tea Gardens and Whitbys - most of the ground we covered was new to the majority of us. Every one was in a jolly mood and the game of Ducks and Drakes was a hilarious success, even though Dick managed to break his watch strap in the excitement. By way of variation we came back via Frodsham Hill and the view from the top while the sun was setting was really lovely. We enjoyed the scramble down the hill too, although many of us slipped and tumbled on the way and lots of cuts and scratches were to be seen. By the way, does anyone know the rules of Ducks and Drakes.

WHITE COPPICE AND BELMONT - 15th May. We were off to a flying start on our joint ramble with St. Helens Club, leaving Russell Street at 10 a.m. Our numbers almost reached 17, but Terry and Mary Smith suffered the mortification of seeing a crowded bus sail right past them at Old Swan. Hard luck on two of our staunch ramblers. The St. Helens party of 13, under the leadership of Cyril Brownbill, was waiting for us at Chorley and we set off at a cracking pace which was maintained throughout the day. The warm weather and the pace combined, very soon had us discarding cardigans and pullovers and by the time we reached the little village of White Coppice, we had worked up a very satisfactory thirst - satisfactory because we were able to assuage it with the tea it merited.

Setting off after lunch, the hilly nature of the country enabled us to look down from Great Hill on the outskirts of Blackburn and Horwich, though the clouds and the haze prevented us seeing the lower reaches of the Lakes, which are sometimes visible from this district. Darwen Towers our immediate objective, seemed very far away, but in next to no time we were on our way up, and without actually going to the Tower we turned right, along the ridge towards Belmont.

The number of reservoirs and tarns in this area certainly enhance the natural beauty of the hills, giving a general effect which is pleasing to the eye and

a delight to the mind. We dropped down into Belmont, a very clean looking place, for tea and amazed the young lady in charge by squeezing 28 into her one small tea room.

The enlivening effect of the tea and the rest we had, put us in good spirits for our last lap into Chorley; unfortunately, the weather, which so far had been most kind, turned nasty and we had a veritable deluge. However, as this is the sort of weather one associates with rambles in the Rivington District, it was no more than we expected. We were lucky enough to make our bus connections in Chorley and Wigan just in nice time.

It had been a very pleasant day and I was particularly pleased to see the ease with which the members of both clubs mixed. Our thanks to the St. Helens Club and Cyril in particular, for a memorable ramble. We are hoping to reciprocate in the near future.

RAMBLING PROGRAMME

June 4 5 & 6.	Llangollen & Llandegla Moors(Hostelling)	B. Edwards	Pier Head 9.30	Approx 3/6d.
June 12	Little Switzerland	M.Green	Pier Head 10 a.m.	2/6d.
" 19	Burton Woods	E.Devlin	Pier Head 1.30 p.m.	10d
" 26	*Chinley & Edale	Guest	Details later.	

We would like to point out that this is a re-arranged ramble, to fit in with the cheap excursions which the railways have re-introduced. Unless these excursions receive adequate support, the excursions will be dropped, so we appeal to all who can possibly do so, to attend.

----- SOCIAL PROGRAMME - THURSDAY NIGHTS NOW !!! *****

June 2nd.	Mark Walsh	June 9th	Gerry Penlington
June 16th	Bernard Edwards	June 23rd.	Bill Roberts
		June 30th.	Austin Callaghan.

YOUTH HOSTELLING - SUMMER SEASON

Because of the uncertainty of members' holiday dates, it is not practicable for the Club to organise hostelling weekends during the period between Whit and September. There is, however, no reason why those who have joined the Y.H.A. should not take full advantage of their membership, by arranging occasional outings for themselves and one or two friends who may be free at the same time. The summer rambling programme presents several opportunities for 'week-enders' to join up with the Club's Sunday rambles (from Delamere or one of the North Wales hostels).

The Merseyside Regional Handbook is available on request (Austin Callaghan) giving particulars of hostels in the area, and for those who don't know the ropes very well, the Asst. Secretary will be pleased to supply additional information or advice on planning a week-end. Most important to note is that bookings should be done as far ahead as possible and in the case of August Bank holiday week-end (golden opportunity for a long week-end if you're not going away on holiday at the time), there is not a day to be lost. The hostel lists fill up very soon after booking opens for Bank Holidays (3 months in advance i.e. April 30th). So get cracking now and try your hand at Hostelling.

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!!!! STOP PRESS !!!!

Congratulations and best wishes to Austin Callaghan and Maureen Morgan, who recently became engaged.

Note the re-arranged ramble on June 26th.