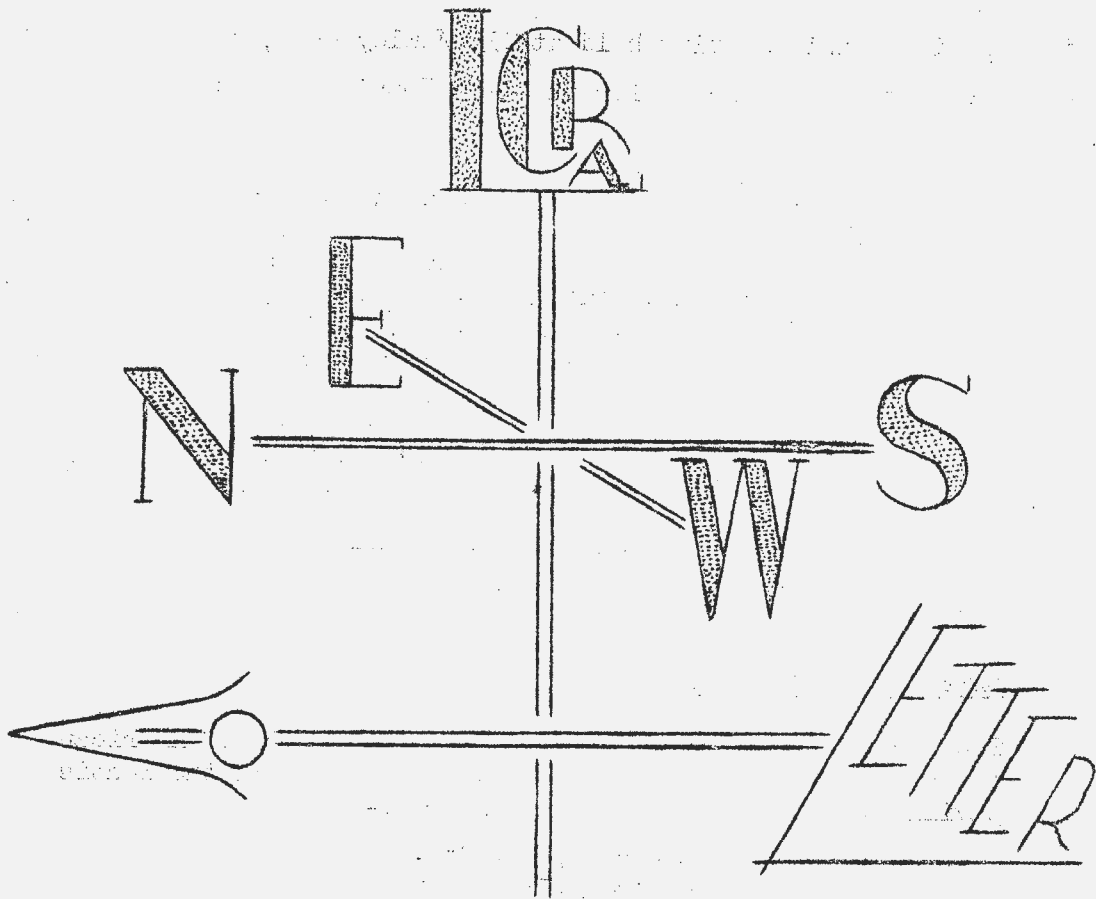


Liverpool Catholic Ramblers Association

EMBLEM



Editor

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MARCH - 1971 - APRIL

TENNIS

At a special Tennis Meeting held at 29, Fawley Road, the following Committee was elected for the 1971 Tennis Season:-

Chairman	Mr. F. Norbury
Secretary	Margaret Smith
Treasurer	Brian Keller
Assistant Treasurer	John Lovelady
Committee	Joe Whitfield
	Monica Moran
	Kay McManus
	Paul Anderson
Team Captain	Eric Kavanagh

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The social sub committee have arranged a series of American Tournaments which will be followed by socials in the Tennis pavilion. The dates to remember are :-

Saturday, May 8th.
 Saturday, June 12th
 Sunday, July 11th

An end of season knockout competition will be held in September followed by a prize-giving social on :-

Saturday, October 2nd

Put these dates in your diary NOW
 More details will be given later.

F. NORBURY

A.G.M. to start at 7-00 p.m.

A small charge will be made to cover the cost of refreshments.

EDITORIAL

"That we admit non-Catholics to Membership"

"The proposal has not achieved the required majority and is thus rejected" These words by Dave News concluded the 1hr 15 minute Special General Meeting where 37 people voted in favour of the motion out of a total vote of 67.

It was disappointing to think that only 67 out of 150 members considered the meeting worth attending. It was even more so, if we remember that the average attendance at our normal Wednesday evening functions, is also of this same order.

The similarity of these numbers must be significant. I imagined there were only some half dozen of the older members present which means it was the current, active membership that has made the decision "that only Catholics have the right to become members of the L.C.R.A." (I must add, subject to the conditions laid down in the constitution)

Why do we want an open club? Last month Bernard Manley wrote in this Newsletter about ecumenism and the need to admit non-Catholics married to Catholic members. Margaret Smith wrote also about ecumenism and mixed marriages but went further saying that Non Catholics may enjoy the Catholic atmosphere at the Club, and that numbers should not exceed 1/5 of the Catholic membership. Bernard Duffey in the Nov. 1970 issue stands out as the only member who wishes the Club to remain Catholic only. Finally Sandra Noble a non-Catholic and friend of many rambler's wrote quite simply "Why can't people like me join the Club?"

Four letters from four people in as many months, an appeal, a rejection and two ecumenists, one of whom felt the need to control the potential non-Catholic intake.

Reading through these letters again and considering the discussions at the S.G.M. one feels there is a strong desire amongst certain members that non-Catholics be admitted as members. But it is no simple matter to change a Constitution - indeed, there would be no need of such a rule book, if it could be changed at will. And therefore the challenge presented to the proposers of the motion was not simply the calling of a S.G.M. but in the "lobbying" of members to give support at the ballot. This support was not forthcoming because there was no concerted effort to achieve the 75% majority needed for the motion to be carried. This failure highlights the difficulty a committee has in proposing to change the Constitution. If this proposition had come from the body of the Club, supported by $\frac{1}{3}$ of the Club membership, I am certain the motion would have been carried. But we have a Constitutional decision, your decision, that only Catholics may become members.

Eric Kavanagh
Editor.

THE SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

held on 24th Feb '71 @ Club Rooms

The following notes were extracted from the minutes of the above meeting and are only impressions of the various speakers. It was not possible to refer to every person who spoke nor to ensure a correct interpretation of those comments which are attached hereto. Thus your criticisms in reference to this report should be addressed to the Editor who will clarify any anomalies in the next issue of this Newsletter.

Please note - all corrections must be in writing.

Father Atherton spoke first requesting us not to make up our minds before hearing all the arguments for and against. And if non-Catholics were admitted, they should have equal rights with no restrictions.

Fred Norbury - Proposer

My intention in submitting this proposal is that the non-Catholic friends of members may be permitted to become full members of the Association.

Margaret Smith - Amendment

To ensure that the Club be controlled by Catholics a nominal limit of 1/5 of the Catholic membership be imposed upon non-Catholic membership.

Eric Kavanagh

A number of Catholic clubs have admitted non-Catholics as members. Has any research been done upon the effects resulting from these new members?

Chairman - Dave News

There seems to be no answer to that question.

The following discussion revolved around the percentage of non-Catholics and their apparent enormous potential.

Tony Atherton

If 20% of the membership were non-Catholic and they were proposed for election onto the committee, how would one know they were non-Catholics? The question would not arise and we could vote for them. Thus we could have a complete non-Catholic committee.

John Wilson

You seem to have a low opinion of Catholics.

Josie Fletcher

With 80% Catholics to 20% non-Catholics the chances of this are very remote. Besides non-Catholics are no better at organising things than we are.

Tony Atherton

With only 40% of members attending this General Meeting a 20% non-Catholic membership could be as many as half the people present who could easily sway the voting to suit their own requirements.

Margaret Smith

If we get a non-Catholic committee we deserve it. We should be more interested in the Club.

Cyril Kelly

If we had a non-Catholic committee the Catholic aspect of the Club would cease immediately for they would not organise the Annual Mass or Retreat. Perhaps the committee should be restricted to 20% non-Catholics as per the membership.

Some people even considered a language barrier

Chris Dobbin

In the many years I have been in this club I have been most impressed by the high standards which one can't get in other clubs and Parents appreciate this situation. In some Clubs foul language is quite common.

Margaret Smith

We too could have foul language in this Club and allowing non-Catholics to join does not mean that we will lower our standards.

The concluding discussion revolved around the quality and quantity of the Catholic Membership.

Chris Laycock

The Club is not being supported as well as it has been in the past. This situation has happened to a few clubs, but surely a solution to this problem is to attract the right type of Catholic member and not to present this particular notion.

Chris Scott

Liverpool has a massive population. If we make the effort we can, by better organisation within the club and by improved publicity attract many of these potential members.

A final Christian comment was made by

Bill Potter

I like the Club because of what it is, but even so, would not object to any christians becoming members.

At this stage a motion was put that discussion cease and the voting commence.

ON THE AMENDMENT

42 in FAVOUR 28 AGAINST

ON THE PROPOSAL

(which was modified to include
the amendment)

37 in FAVOUR 30 AGAINST

The proposal failed to achieve a 75% majority as per the requirements of the constitution and hence was defeated.

THE TENNIS
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AND DANCE

WILL BE HELD ON

SATURDAY APRIL 17TH

IN THE

7 P.M. TENNIS PAVILION 7 P.M.

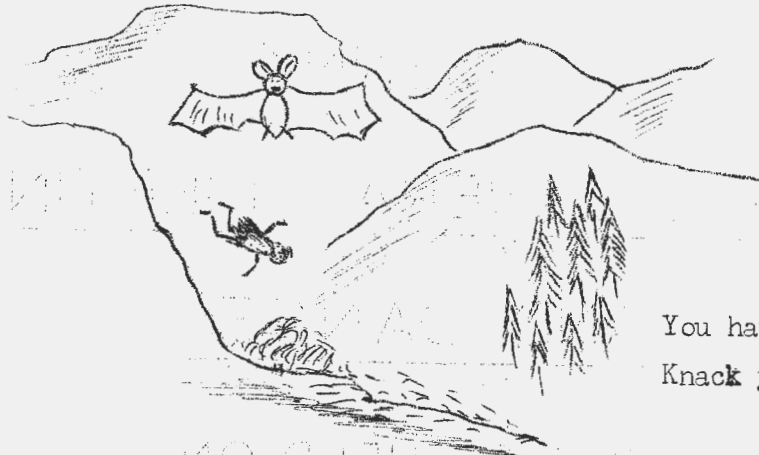
LANCE
GROVE
WAVERTREE.

A small charge will be made to cover the cost of refreshments.

THE KESWICK WEEKEND

by

"COUNT" GERARD KERBEY



You havent got the
Knack yet have you ?

Dear Readers,

This article is coming to you due to the continuing effects of the weekend in Keswick.

On the Friday evening we left Liverpool at various times and of course, speeds. The Journey up was quite a pleasant one. Everyone was happy and looking forward to a very enjoyable weekend. After checking-in at Lakeside House we went for a short walk. Eager you might say! In a way you would be right, we were eager, to get into the pub to have a few drinks before closing time. On returning to the house we had a social get together in the games room. This continued until the manager appeared and sent everyone to bed because he wanted to lock up and get some sleep. On Saturday morning everyone made their appearance for breakfast, eventually!! After breakfast we were all handed our packed lunches and told that the walk would start in half an hour. (Saying the start of the walk may be misleading, all we intended to do was to walk as far as the cars and climb aboard). Everyone left the dining room to check their gear and collect the things they had forgotten.

On arrival at the Dungeon Ghyll we all put on our boots and walked into the pub to refresh ourselves on tea, lemonade and last but no means least, beer. After this small respite the "A" walk (I cannot vouch for its being hard) formed. (The leader having some slight difficulty in persuading people that they wanted to go with him.)

The "B" party was about to start when it was discovered that one of the girls was in pain with a bad chest. She therefore, could not go on and one of her friends stayed with her. Two short, we started walking across the car park only to find that there was no gate at the other side so, of course we climbed over the wall. On the side we started climbing from, it was about three feet high but on the other side it was double that to the ground. On jumping off the wall one girl landed wrongly and twisted her ankle. However, she valiantly forged on with the walk.

At first anybody observing our progress would have said that we had no idea where we were going, and they would have been dead right. Although we were headed for nowhere in particular we came around the mountain to look down a valley which in itself gave us a wonderful view. The mountains along each side were covered in foliage of the forty shades of green in which spring decks herself. As in all the best poetry, writings and pictures, there was a stream running down the middle of the valley. This stream started high above us in a lake at the top of a gorge which seemed to have been cut straight out of the mountain.

We turned and started up the gorge to the top of the mountain. Part way up the path I got separated from the main party and due to this fact I ended up coming down on my own. I must have been intoxicated with the wine of the mountain air for instead of taking the path down which I knew, I had to find a new way down which was not very clever or sensible. Not wanting to turn back and recover the ground over which I had passed, I by-passed all the little difficulties that started to crop up until I was completely trapped. On attempting to get free from this position I fell from the rock face hitting two rocky ledges and one large gorse bush and finally ended up on a pile of broken rocks on the slope below.

All my thanks go to Freddy and Margaret, who on hearing about the accident rushed to see if there was anything they could do to help, personally wrapping me up in their anoracks and jumpers. (I hope the surprise and shock of finding the injured person to be me was not too great and also that they did not catch cold after wrapping me up.) My thanks must also go to the mountain rescue team which brought me down the mountain and sent me to hospital, and to the hospital staff who helped to start me on the road to recovery. Finally to all those who used their cars to ferry me around.

As a result of my rather spectacular fall I was incapacitated for the rest of the week-end, in other words I could not take part in the dancing at the social which took place on Saturday night ending at 2 a.m. Sunday morning. Although I managed to hobble to Mass on Sunday I could not take an active part in the Sunday walks. The "A" group went up Skiddaw which is 3,054 ft. high and two small groups walked either around the lake or around the shops in town. With the week-end, at an end, everyone headed for home and dreams of a future trip to Keswick.

HATCHES Congratulations....

To Bernard and Anne Manley a daughter - Clare

To John and Gay Keenan a daughter - Nichola

MATCHES

(Engagements) Congratulations.....

To Paul Brereton & Pat Bryson
 Tony Felton & Sandra Noble
 Brian Smith & Shiela Brceu

Our deepest sympathy's go to Brian Keller, whose
Father passed away recently.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Promotion at work often means that one has to spend more time working to live up to one's potential. Such is the fate of Keith Scott who due to a change in his occupation feels that he can no longer occupy the position of Vice Chairman. It was with regret that the committee accepted the situation. A vote of thanks was proposed expressing the appreciation of the Committee for the effort put in by Keith over the last six months.

However, it is imperative that the club has an active Vice-Chairman who is after all the hub around which the club revolves. Kevin O'Keefe has volunteered to occupy the vacancy for the remainder of the current term of Office.

One consolation for Kevin is that his committee is not depreciated by Keith's retirement for he wishes to give what assistance he can on the General Committee.

Kevin informs me that in checking up on the conditions of the various sub-committees he finds that he is a little short of assistance, so stand by those of you who may feel inclined to be co-opted to a sub-committee. Your help will shortly be requested or better still, volunteer your services ?

THE COMMITTEE OF THE

L.C.R.A.

TENNIS CLUB

LANCE GROVE

WAVERTREE

INVITE APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

FEES

UNDER 21's £1-50

OVER 21's £2-50

HUSBAND & WIFE £3-00

VISITORS

A charge of 2/6 is made per visit for a maximum
of six visits after which the balance of the
subscription becomes payable.

Ramblerite

FOOTPATH

Since the last Newsletter, there has been a considerable improvement in the number of people attending rambles. We are now averaging about 18, and if the improvement continues - and I can see no reason why it should not - we should be able to book coaches before long. Possibly, the rambles are being handicapped by the fact that some members do not like the socials in their present state, and do not come to the clubrooms to give their names in. Bookings can be made by telephone on Wednesday evenings (709-4840) - please ask for the person who is taking names. It is not advisable to turn up at St. John's Lane without booking, as the coach (if any) may be full, and the times given in the programme and the "Echo" are liable to change.

Following a letter to a Member of Parliament, it appears that the Transport Act is far more lenient on drivers' permitted hours than we have been led to believe, which may ease our problems considerably in the future. I understand also that there is a strong possibility that this section of the Act will be relaxed in the near future.

The most depressing aspect of the General Meeting as far as I was concerned was not the fact that the Motion did not gain the required majority - much as I personally deplore this - but the fact that the Club has so many "sleeping partners". Many of the people at the meeting - I would estimate about half - had not been on a ramble in the last six months, and in the case of some it would run into years. Some of those concerned no doubt have excellent reasons for this, but surely this cannot apply to many. If more of the people who claim to be members supported the Club, there would be no lack of support for its activities. This surely is of greater importance than the admittance of Non-Catholics - I don't think it is an exaggeration to say that the continued existence of the Club was in doubt for a time last Winter. This danger has now passed - but no thanks to the absent members.

THE APRIL PROGRAMME IS AS FOLLOWS:-

11th EASTER WEEKEND - Details will be announced.
18th RYDAL WATER - Leader Keith Scott
25th Clwydian Range - Leader, Mike Parr.

John Wilson, Rambling Chairman

LLANTYSILIE MOUNTAIN or should the title be "One fine day in Winter".

Thirteen people assembled at the usual rendezvous at St. John's Lane. After a short delay our conquering hero, fearless Frank Fitz appeared on the scene with his trust English steed (i.e. his Minor 1000 van).

After lubricating his four legged friend (a follow on to his previous nights revelry at some local salon in Liverpool) the main body of the wagon train of various horsepowers headed for the Ponderosa (a cafe on the top of the Horseshoe pass) via the badlands. This meant fording the big River (Mersey) and going into Indian territory. (Wales). Unfortunately one of the waggons was caught by the Indian agents (Police) going through a reservation. However they set him free after threatening to scalp him if they caught him again. But being a man of high spirits and a receding hair line, which rather helps as regards scalping, he continued on his journey.

Meanwhile the main body of the wagon train arrived at their destination, the Ponderosa. We waited some time before Horse joined us (Note, I don't know whether that should be spelt hoarse since he seemed to have a bad cold and a voice to match). But "Little Joe" (better known as Kevin O'Keefe) failed to arrive, so we pressed on to Virginia City (Better known as Llangollen) where we satisfied our appetites.

From there we went on an expedition to a mountain hut nestling in the thar hills, where we obtained some liquid refreshment and fishing rights were also available if they were required.

On our return we nearly buried one young lady on the trail but she was saved after a fervent revival meeting. Yes! a most successful day. Even "Horse" said that he had never had it so good.

Madam Butterfly,

(With apologies to Fuccini)

YOU MAY AS WELL KNOW NOW

The annual Buffet dance held in January of this year was once again a great success. So much so that we are telling you the date of the next one which will be held on Friday evening January 14th 1972. To encourage you to put the date in your diary we shall be dancing up to 1 a.m. on the Saturday morning. Hope to see you there.

L. C. R. A.

TENNIS CLUB.

The serious aspect of tennis starts on Tuesday 4th. May 1971 when we are hosts to Maghull 'B' for the first league game of the season. For those of you who may wish to support us there follows a full list of matches indicating which is home and away.

Remember on those Tuesdays when the team is **playing away**, the courts are available for use by members of the Tennis Section.

at home to
** **** **

away to
**** **

Maghull 'B'.....MAY 4th.

" 11th.....Clair Gardens.

Sandheys..... " 18th.

Team practise..... " 25th

Thingwall.....JUNE 1st.

Team practise..... " 8th

Liverpool Jewish.... " 15th.

" 22nd.....ST. Clares

Mossley hill 'B'..... " 29th.

JULY 6th.....Cressington

Crawfords.... " 13th.

Palmerston 'C'.... " 20th.

" 27th.....Salisbury.

ORIENTEERING

Twelve Ramblers tried their skill at an Orienteering event organised by the Deeside Orienteering Club last Sunday 4th April. As all successfully completed their respective courses as Wayfarers it is proposed to enter them in a competitive event next time out.

D.O.C.