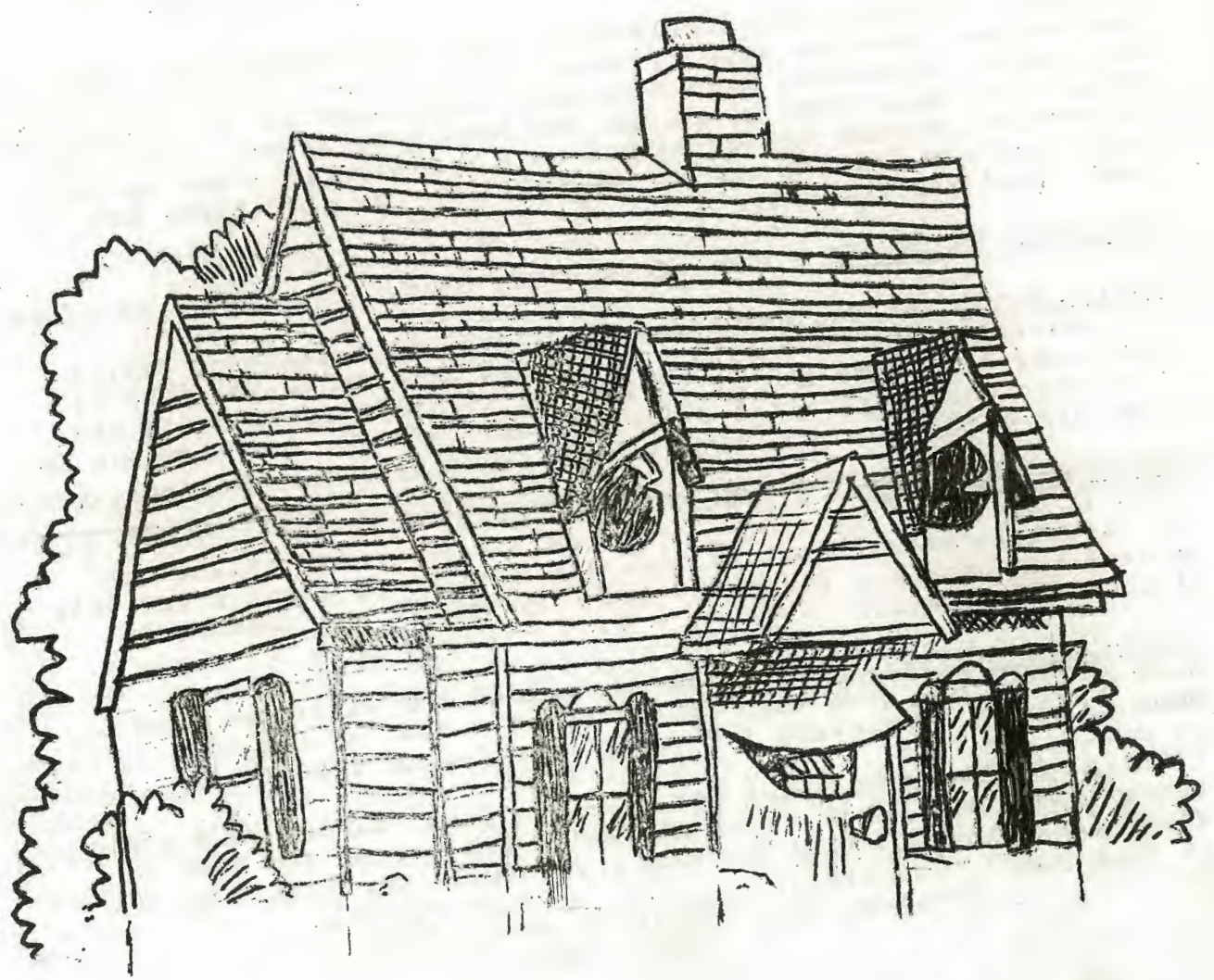


Peter McLinden

LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER

KESWICK WEEKEND
18TH-20TH MARCH



Next Edition to be published on April 14th - Closing date April 7th

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Small is beautiful, they say, and so is this edition of the first newsletter of the year. Actually we did have an interim news sheet in January for the socialites who regularly attend on Thursday nights at the club. This was mainly to advertise the Bavarian Evening which was held in February which incidentally was a very enjoyable evening. A number of us turned up in Bavarian dress, the men wearing shorts of course, and well-rehearsed dances were enjoyed by many, not to mention the beer drinking competitions for both sexes including a free schnapps for competitors, with the music and decor all very much in the Bavarian tradition.

Meanwhile back in this newsletter a spot of research has been carried out into the type of birds seen out on a ramble but in the end the feathered kind came out on the back of the Ramblerite! These were drawn some years ago and must have taken a long time to perfect as each one is etched on a wax stencil - not an easy task, nor was finding out the description of each bird. How many could you recognise?

CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD - was won by Terry Hulme (free coach trip/wine)

Monica Moran who was Assistant Secretary and newsletter typist for several years upto 1975 got married last week. She married her boss! I believe she is moving out to Saudi Arabia with him. I am sure there are still a few members left who remember her and wish her luck, etc. So, best wishes for your future happiness Monica.

THE FOURTEEN PEAKS - See Ramblerite. These were last done by the club in 1967 for the club's 40th anniversary. Six finished out of eleven starters. Fastest time was 8 hours 35 minutes but this record was broken a few weeks later by one of our members to 7 hours 59 minutes.

HIGH-CLASS CONVENIENCE - At the summit of the Kirkstone Pass a toilet block has just been completed at a cost of £18,000. This could be convenient for future rambles in that area.

Finally, I have just about got over the last holiday in Austria recently, and the other eight who went with me; so now hope to start receiving material for the next newsletter (dates at top of this page). Contributions to me or Paul Stevens.

Thanking this edition's contributors,

DAVE NEWS

RIVINGTON BARN - 9th January 1983

The outing to Rivington Barn on 9th January was fantastic and well supported by all sections of the club.

For the General Section, two walks were organised, the 'A' walk being led by Dave Newns and the 'B' by Martin Dooley.

The other walk arranged by the family section set off from the barn at about 12 noon.

I must add that an 'unofficial' walk was also added rather hastily to the fixture list by a break-away party, their destination? _____: the nearest pub!

There were no casualties on the rambles although a few of us (mentioning no names) did manage to lose the leader! Who incidentally was found later propping up the bar with a quiet pint. Nevertheless it certainly was an admirable way to lose a few pounds (in both weight and beer money!) after the long Christmas break.

The children's games which were arranged for the interim period between the end of the hot-pot supper and the commencement of the Barn Dance were excellent and many children joined in although I must say that some kids in the nine and over section looked extremely grown up for their age!!!

The evening was rounded off by a very successful Barn Dance which gave everyone a chance to run off any surplus energy after the afternoon walks, and of course, supplied an excellent opportunity for the break-away group to rid themselves of their beer guts!

Although I can only speak from a personal angle I am sure that the outing to Rivington was a great success and hope that everyone who went had a really enjoyable day.

KIM

EDITOR'S NOTE

The date for next year's Yuletide Walk is January 15th. This date was chosen as the best one as the Bolton Lions Club will probably be using the Barn the previous week during the day (as happened this year). We are assured of a sit-down hot-pot that date as in the past.

Socialite

Hello everyone,

This being the first Socialite of the year I will start with the good news - it has been decided by the committee that we REDUCE the admission charge when there is a late extension without a professional disco on Thursdays at the club. The price: 75p instead of £1 and rightly, I think. Admission on a normal night remains at 60 pence. The bad news - It's still £1 when a professional disco performs for us.

Another visit to the theatre is envisaged in the near future after our successful outing to the Everyman recently when a series of sketches called "Infirmity Tales" by local playwrights were given on an evening enjoyed by most.

The ceilidh held on February 5th was well attended and besides having an enjoyable time on this charity night in aid of Cystic Fibrosis a sizeable cheque was presented towards this charity. The exact amount of cash raised is somewhere in excess of £250, and the excess over the cheque will be given to them shortly.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday, March 3rd - Gerard Bouch turning the records at the club.

Thursday, March 10th - Mike Fishwick and Mark Naylor doing their DJ thingy.

Thursday, March 17th - As we all know is St Patrick's Day, so a late extension is booked for this night with Solid Gold professional disco - £1.

Thursday, March 24th - Welcome return of John McLindon spinning the records for 60p.

KNOCKOUT SNOOKER TOURNAMENT

This is being organised in the near future, with games being played on Thursday nights. Please contact Martin Dooley and get to the end of the queue!

Finally it's my pleasure to announce that the club has increased in size by at least two since the last Socialite Ged and Ann Courtney have produced their second child, a girl (Sara). Richie and Colette Cannon are also to be congratulated on the birth of their little girl (Laura). Best wishes to both couples.

Signing off until next time,
PAUL HEALY, Social Chairman.

Ramblerite

After a great start to the year with well over 250 turning up at Rivington in fine weather, a fortnight later, again in fine weather, only 18 went on the Berwyns ramble. However, numbers seem to be increasing now with Spring just around the corner, hopefully.

Winter was still very much in evidence on the Malham ramble last week with snow covering most of the high ground above Malham Cove when 35 braved the elements (wind and rain) in between the odd snowball fight. There were large patches of snow on the Llanarman Hot-pot ramble when nearly 40 huddled around the open fire of the Raven Inn in the evening after a cold but dry day.

PROGRAMME CHANGE

The Keswick Weekend is the next major attraction but (as many already know) the date is wrong. It is a week later on the 18th March. Consequently Ingleton has been brought forward a week to Sunday, 13th March when the waterfalls will be included on the walk (30p admission) - well worth a visit.

At Keswick we will be staying at Lakeside House as usual where there will be plenty of walking, dancing, eating and drinking - definitely not recommended if you fancy a quiet weekend! Coach leaves St Johns Lane on Friday night at 6.45, returning Sunday night. Further details from Brian Keller who is collecting £10 deposits.

Looking to the future, to the first weekend in May, there is the Club's attempt at the Fourteen Peaks. This is a strenuous trek across fourteen 3,000ft-plus mountains in Snowdonia. We need plenty of helpers for this marathon event which we have also made into a sponsored charity for Hosanna House Trust (in which a few of our members are involved). If you intend to compete or would like to be part of the back-up team helping to feed and encourage or nurse the competitors on various stages of this 26-mile route, climbing a total of some 8,500 feet, then please let me know as soon as possible so that plans can be made. Sponsors are also needed for this worthwhile cause. The money raised will enable handicapped people to get to Lourdes.

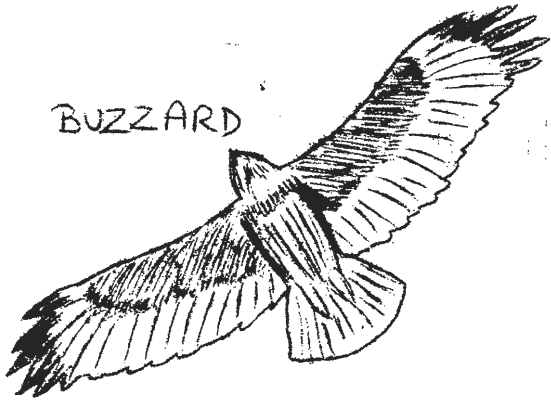
EASTER WEEKEND

We are still putting feelers out for accommodation in the Snowdonia area at Easter. Most likely at the moment will be in Caravans at Caernarvon as last year.

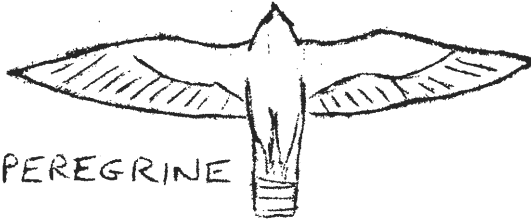
PETER WILKINSON,
Rambling Chairman.

WOULD YOU RECOGNISE THESE BIRDS? (See opposite)

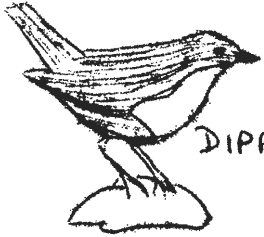
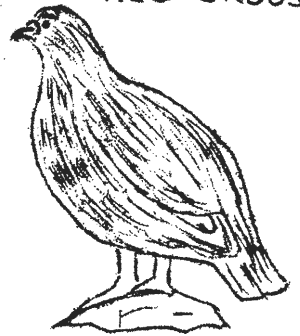
BUZZARD



PEREGRINE



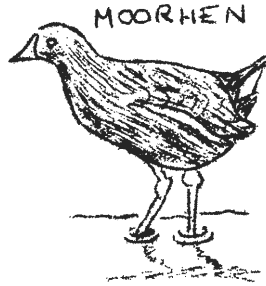
RED GROUSE



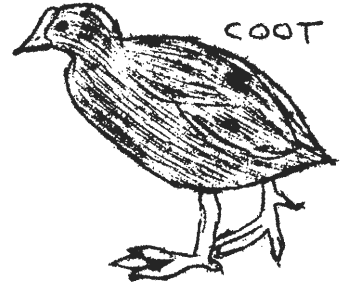
DIPPER



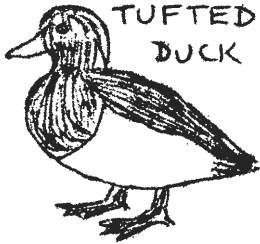
GREY WAGTAIL



MOORHEN



COOT



TUFTED DUCK



SHOVELER



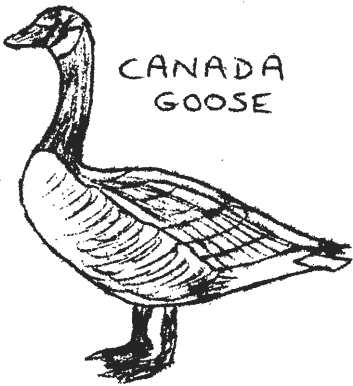
MUTE SWAN



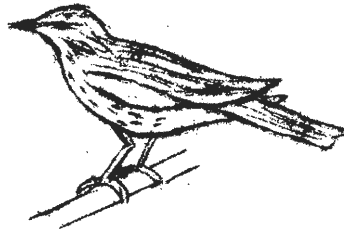
WHOOPER SWAN



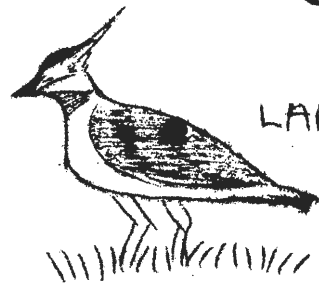
WREN



CANADA GOOSE

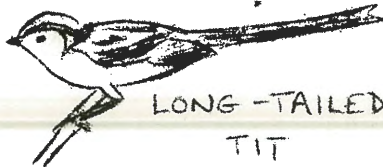
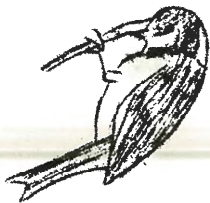


REDWING



LAPWING

COAL TIT



LONG-TAILED TIT



CHAFFINCH

BUZZARD (20-22"). Flies often in searing leisurely sweeps when its broad rounded wings, short head and broad, slightly rounded tail are characteristic. Voice: A constant mewling note.

PEREGRINE (15-19"). This is our largest breeding falcon. Dark-headed with conspicuous black moustachial stripes.

RED GROUSE (13-16"). A rather stout bird easily recognisable with its dark red-brown plumage. Flight: Rapid beats of its short wings interspersed with long glides low over moorland, usually heather.

DIPPER (7"). Has the shape of a giant wren, with a conspicuous white throat and chestnut belly. Wades and can feed underwater.

GREY WAGTAIL (7"). Blue-grey upper parts, yellowish rump and longer tail prevent confusion with yellow wagtail. Nests usually beside fast-flowing water.

MOORHEN (13"). One of our best-known waterside birds. Continuously flirts tail showing conspicuous white undertail coverts.

COOT (15"). Stoutly built with a white frontal shield and bill. Often in large flocks and generally very quarrelsome. Flight: Patters along the surface before taking off, feet outstretched once airborne. Makes a high-pitched 'kowk'.

TUFTED DUCK (17"). Only duck adorned with a tuft at back of head. Flight: Rapid and like most diving duck has to patter along the water surface before taking off.

SHOVELER (20"). The enormous bill is the outstanding feature of this dabbling duck. Drake has green head, white breast and chestnut underparts. Female is brown all over.

MUTE SWAN (60"). Usually silent, even when in flight (apart from wing noise). Has an orange bill, differing from other swans by having a basal knob between eyes and bill.

WHOOPEE SWAN (60"). Normally holds its neck stiffly erect. The bill, in contrast to that of the mute, is black with a large yellow area at base. Noisy with a bugle-like 'ahng' in flight.

WREN (3 $\frac{3}{4}$ ""). Russet brown plumage and a short, usually erect tail. Voice: A hard scolding 'tic-tic-tic' and a loud, shrill hurried song.

CANADA GOOSE (36-40"). Largest of the goose family with mainly brown body and black neck. Regularly flies in 'V' formation.

REDWING (8 $\frac{1}{4}$ ""). Darker brown than song thrush with a pale eye-stripe and reddish flanks. Voice: A thin 'seeip'.

LAPWING (12"). Our only wader to support a crest which when viewed closely is metallic green, as are the underparts.

COAL-TIT (4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ""). The white nape patch and double white wing-bars distinguish it from other tits. Habitat: Woodland/conifers.

LONG-TAILED TIT (5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ""). Small black, white and pinkish bird with a tail over half its total length. Habitat: Hedgerows, woodland.

CHAFFINCH (6"). Commonest finch. Wing-bars and white outer tail.

FAMILY SECTION. Scarth Hill, 13th February, 1983.

The day started with a flurry of snow but later brightened up to produce a few periods of sunshine. The weather was cold and ideal for walking. The ground was fairly hard with many patches of icy water.

Our walk took us along country lanes and through fields typical of the fertile South Lancashire plain. The paths are conspicuous by their lack of stiles. The fields are devoted exclusively to arable farming, the only livestock to be seen were horses and game birds.

Not long after the start young Susan decided to take a dive into the mud and later fell once again but, this time, on a harder surface. She seemed disappointed she was not bleeding! On walking through the village of Bickerstaffe, we had to deny Monica the use of the swings.

It was gratifying to see so many friends some of whom, due to circumstances beyond their control, had not been out with us for some months. I counted them out - I counted them in. Fifty-one persons in all. Well done, Family Section.

Happy Wanderer.

P.S. Has anybody had the courage to face Brussel Sprouts yet?

MARCH 3rd. The House Meeting is at Vera and Pat Jeffers home at 77 Moss Way, Liverpool 11. Ring 546 2490 if you need instructions on how to get there.

MARCH 13th. Pin your ears back for this one, please. As the promised Wharfedale Walk to be led by Leo and Pat Pearson co-incides with the Chalet Weekend, they've very kindly agreed to lead a walk on the Sunday, leaving the Chalet at 1 p.m. prompt. If in any doubt as how to get to the Chalet ring the Athertons, Potters, Ellisons, and Uncle Tom Copley and all. Its a great area, and you'll love it. Thank you, Leo and Pat. We'll take you up on the Wharfedale area in the next programme!

The Retreat on Sunday the 20th February was very enjoyable. Ten of the Family Section took part with the young Club. We had a talk by Father Wareing, followed by a little discussion among ourselves. Quite a few of us took advantage of the confession period to achieve our Easter Duties, and we had a laugh or two choosing the hymns with Sister. The tea break before Mass was very pleasant, though those plastic chairs, comfy though they were, seemed an anachronism in the lovely old house with its lovely fireplaces, and panelled rooms. I personally fell in love with the grand staircase.

Do remember the changed walk for March. You'll feel pretty lonely if you turn up in Wharfedale.

Yours,

Mona Roberts.