

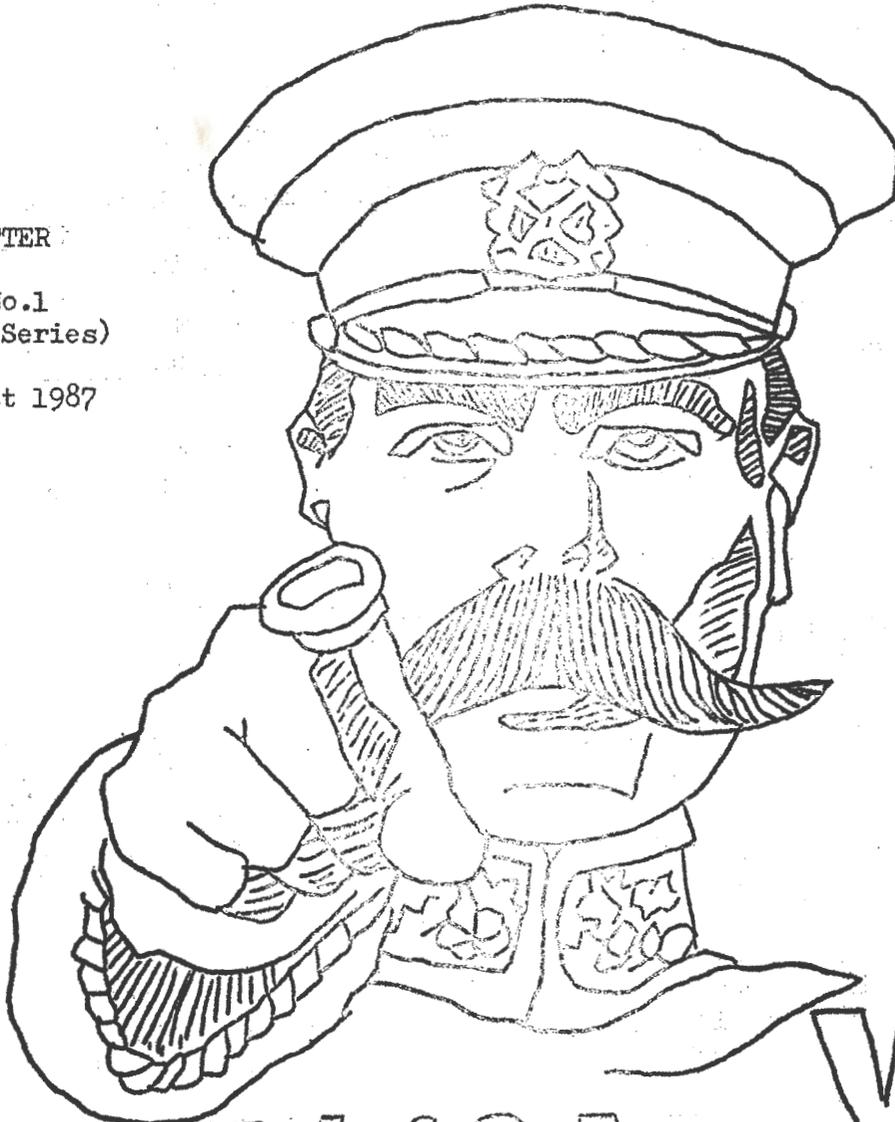
# LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE No.1  
(Fifth Series)

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Editor:  
Dave Newns  
7 Abbotts Way  
Billinge  
WIGAN, Lancs  
WN5 7SB



THE L.C.R.A.  
NEEDS

YOU!

## ....TO LEAD A RAMBLE

Yes we are looking for new leaders to help cope with our increasing numbers on rambles. There is a necessity for at least three walks at the present time as we have filled a 53-seater coach on the last two rambles with the same promise for today's to Wetherlam in the Lake District. The ideal numbers would be for 17 people on each walk, with an extra B or C walk organised to facilitate this, otherwise we could end up with a crocodile trail of some 30 or 40-odd ramblers on the B walks which are a bit of a headache for the leader and whipper-in and also not recommended regarding the safety aspect. See appeal in Ramblerite.

## ....TO COME ON THE COMMITTEE

Yes we have at least three vacancies on our committee. Have a word with one of the officers shown on your membership card, .i.e Paul Healy, me, Brian Keller, Anthony Brockway, Christine Welsby, Mike Hendrick or George Riley. We will fill you in with what you might be letting yourself in for. You may even ENJOY coming to our meetings.

The more observant may have noticed that this newsletter is different from previous ones. It is  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " deeper and  $\frac{1}{4}$ " wider. Yes we have gone metric (A4 size instead of the old quarto size). The main difference is that the cost is actually half the price of the old quarto paper due to astute dealings with a different stationer. Issue No.1 (Fifth Series) may have escaped your notice but we have had 137 newsletters since Christmas 1968 (Issue No.1, Fourth Series) - an average of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  each year, but before I bore you with any more statistics (I'll leave that to the opinion polls!) I have the Christmas 1968 newsletter in front of me and there are some interesting contrasts to today's club. The Ramblerite is appealing for people to come out on rambles...after a spate of Saturday evening parties very few people have been turning up for the coach on the day, in spite of having given their names (no deposits) to the leaders.

The social scene then was really swinging with sixty on a Friday night out by coach to the Neptune Club, Preston Brook, near Runcorn (a few cars were used including my Morris Minor), 45 turned out on a very cold night for November gathering at the old tennis club for a Folk Night and dance. refreshments included hot soup with paraffin heaters helping to keep the room temperature slightly above freezing.

Ballroom dancing had been introduced for a trial period for the first hour on a Thursday night (between 7.30 and 8.30), then back to the usual Country Dancing for the rest of the evening.

An industrial Concert at the Phil was a sell-out (tickets 7 shilling each) Tickets were also on sale for the Annual Dance in January at one guinea each (£1.05) including buffet!

There was a Country Dance night out by the club to St Oswald's Church Hall, Old Swan with the 'Poachers' - (I was there. It was very similar to the Rivington Barn night at the Yuletide events that we still have every January). There was a Christmas Pantomime with many committee members taking part at the Christmas party (cost 1/6d).

Tickets were on sale for a carol concert; eleven new members had joined the club that month. There were many Saturday night parties. With such a swinging Social scene no wonder the rambling side was suffering! There had been, however, the previous three months, a sponsored walk with about eighty members taking part over the Clwyd Hills with a maximum of 20 miles to cover. 200 Guineas were made and presented to Bishop Harris at the annual buffet dance.

A 'Cottage Fund' had been started with over £1000 promised by members to purchase the club's own cottage in the country, possibly Wales. (Sadly only £400 was raised over the next few years and the idea lost enthusiasm as property prices rocketed, finally this £400 was used to purchase premium bonds, we had a win of £100 last year).

At the end of the newsletter the late Cyril Kelly was reminiscing about the club before and during the war years when the club was only just kept alive by the girls who wrote to all the many lads who had been called up to the Services. On a sad note he also asked us to remember the recent tragic air crash (in August 1968) when seven of our girls lost their lives on their way out to Austria. I remember them still in my prayers, some were committee members.

Well, in the 21 years that I have been in the club, rambling attendances have never been better, the social scene isn't quite as hot, but I think that the balance is possibly about right. Whenever the social scene starts to really swing the numbers on rambles always take a plunge. There is, however, a certain lack of interest for the Floating Bistro or Wine Barge next Saturday, June 6th from Maghull. The last few have been really good and a super night out is promised once again. Hope you can join us - See Socialite.

The weather has been kind to us on many of the recent rambles. I have never known that boggy morass known as Kinder Scout to be so dry on April 26th and leading a walk across there was a doddle. Those who missed it would have enjoyed it just as much as we did. The B walk even found a farmhouse serving refreshments at the foot of Edale (Hope end), Family Section note! (Re Lathkill Dale report on green pages (Family Section)).

## R A M B L E R I T E

Some good news for all you walkers: If you pay in advance the full amount for your seat on the coach, it will cost you only £3.50 (£2.50 unemployed) - i.e. a 50p reduction. Otherwise the cost will be as now at £4 and £3, paying the usual £1 deposit. The committee has made this possible because of the superb level of attendance on recent walks. It will be for a three-month trial period starting from the first ramble in June. Make sure you get this reduction - save yourself some money and hopefully it will become a permanent practice.

We also hope to organise some extra rambles in the next programme, talking of which:-

Q: 'How about leading a walk?'

A: 'I do not know how'

Anybody who is willing to have a go, but maybe a little unsure, just ask Brian, Dave or myself first and we will gladly show you the ropes and assist you to lead walks until you are confident. Also any ex-leaders floating about, come out of retirement and lend us a hand.

## F U T U R E T R I P S

### June 14th - CARNEDDS-ABER, 10.15

Dave Newns leads the long A walk following the Carneddau ridge, taking in five 3,000-foot peaks. Paul Healy takes the B on a route from Bethesda to Aber with views of the North Wales coast and Anglesey. The A starts at Llyn Ogwen.

### June 19th - ELTERWATER YHA WEEKEND

See Paul Healy about this Lakeland Youth Hostel trip. At the time of writing there is a shortage of people with cars for this cheap weekend away. Ring Paul on 426 0162. You don't have to be a member of the YHA for this weekend.

### June 28th - JOINT WALK (THE LONG MYND), 9.30

If travelling by car meet in the car park at Church Stretton, just off the A49 in Shropshire at about 12.30. The coach will probably be stopping at Shrewsbury for a cafe stop. Church Stretton is about 12 miles South of Shrewsbury. This is one of the few occasions when we join forces with the Family Section. Mike O'Shea and Mike Hendrick lead us round this green rolling area of Shropshire.

### July 3rd-5th - SPECIAL WALK

This will be an attempt on the 14 3,000 peaks of Snowdonia, only to be tackled by hardened A walkers and is one of the special events to celebrate the club's sixtieth anniversary. There is a need, however, for a back-up party to feed the people taking part in this gruelling full-day trek starting at dawn. The attempt will take place on either Saturday or Sunday, depending on the weather forecast. See me for details of walking or assisting.

### July 12th - SCAPELL PIKES, 9.30

The dome of England, in the heart of the Lake District. Terry Tucker leads the A route to the summit, taking in superb scenery. Dave Newns leads the B over the Langdale Pikes passing the spectacular Dungeon Ghyll waterfall.

### July 19th - ADDITIONAL WALK (Malham area), 10.15

The coach will head for the unique Limestone Country on which A. Wainwright has written one of his famous guides for walkers. Dave Newns will lead one of the walks incorporating several routes given in the guide around this popular part of Yorkshire. Further details of this additional walk will be available nearer the date. Make a note in your diary/programme of this date.

July 26th - PEN-Y-GWYRD HOTEL, 10.15

The hotel sits below Glyder Fawr at the foot of Pen-y- Pass. Brian Keller leads the A and Dave Connolly the B. Further details from them.

Note: All the above rambles may well have three separate walks mainly for safety reasons, so that parties are of a more manageable size.

ANTHONY BROCKWAY

### S O C I A L I T E

Hello once again, Let me first start the Socialite section by thanking one and all for selling and buying the recent Orrell draw tickets to help boost our club's funds. The winning time is 7hrs 13mins 58secs and winners have been notified. A full list of prizewinners will be available in the near future.

Having got that out of the way, most of you when reading the Socialite will have either just been to or missed the recent Ceilidh at the Irish Centre. You may get this in time for a last-minute booking for the wine barge trip on the Leeds-Liverpool Canal from Maghull on June 6th (Phone Linda Bakewell on 486 4137). Now, Question: What is important about the 11th June? Yes, you have got it in one - the General Election Day! But also, not advertised in the national press so far, is the fact that we are having a Cheese and Wine Evening down at the Liverpool on the same day! So what I am really suggesting is that when you have voted, come down to the clubroom, and continue the political arguments if you wish while nibbling your cheese and sampling the wine. A late bar extension is also provided.

Looking slightly ahead we have a professional disco night, along with a late licence on July 2nd (Thurs). Dancing will be to Tom's Blue Ice Disco. Admission £1.

Now we come to the part I really like writing about - the matches and hatches! Congratulations to George Riley and Colette Hannah who recently had a B walk especially for two when they walked down the aisle at the Cathedral recently to get wed. The rumour goes that why they did this was to get their membership to our club collectively cheaper! Also congratulations to Marie Rothwell (née McDonnell) and Dave who recently had a wonderful baby boy, Kevin on May 1st. They resisted suggestions of naming it Karl Marx, etc. as being born on May Day was a mere coincidence.

Finally, on a sad note, commiserations must go out to every road user on Merseyside. Mick Norgate has passed his driving test - so look out!

Until the next Socialite then, it's ta-ra from

PAUL HEALY

### DOOR ROTA - Thursday nights

4th June	George Riley	2nd July	Tony Bond (Prof. Disco)
11th June	Dave Newns (Cheese & Wine)	9th July	Joan Finegan
18th June	Anthony Brockway	16th July	Christine Welsby
25th June	Linda Bakewell	23rd July	Mick Norgate

### AMERICAN TENNIS TOURNAMENT

On Saturday, July 18th at the Electric Supply Club, Thingwall Road, Wavertree, we will be holding our annual American Tennis Tournament at 1.45pm. It is not important whether you play tennis regularly or not, as long as you can use a racket you can be sure of a chance of winning a prize on this very sociable occasion.

WEAVER VALLEY, 12TH APRIL, 1987 (FAMILY SECTION).

I often wondered where the One O'clock Gun ended its days. Now I know. John and Cath Peloe acquired it to ensure that its firing would start their ramble on time. What One O'clock Gun?? Ask your Grandad. Having landed on the wrong side of the railway line at Acton Bridge Station at two minutes before the hour, Amie and I were obviously going to be tailenders for a little time at least. "After several false starts" (Cath's notes to enable me to do this write-up said, but I'm sure she exaggerated) we trailed over some field paths to our toilet stop. This was at Acton Bridge Cruising Club, where John awaited us, pointing out their boat, moored a little distance away. No strawberries on the poop deck or whatever. They weren't in season as yet and our leaders had sterner things in view for us!

We all swung, appropriately enough, over the big white swing bridge on to the Trent and Mersey towpath, high on the embankment overlooking the River Weaver. It was a gorgeously sunny day, but not too hot. Lunch was partaken of on the railway embankment to the accompaniment of trains thundering by almost overhead. We asked Bill Potter what trains they were. "South-West" he said (I think it was him) and those of us who don't know our North from our East were most impressed. He also told us which trains they were as they passed. It was only when he said something like "that's the 6 a.m. to Cockermouth" and of another "that's the midnight express to Acton Bridge" that we realised that this wasn't the kind of info by which to catch a train to anywhere specific.

It was quite a day for the canines, too. Cindy Rollerson had her first swimming lesson and seemed to enjoy it reasonably well. The landing was the tricky bit and two of the men had to help her out. Another two - no names no pack-drill - had a short sharp fight, but they soon settled their differences and the rest of the day was very placid dogwise.

Leaving the towpath we followed a lane to Dutton Lodge Farm then on to a field bridleway to Aston. From here a wide winding track led down to the River Bank. This was a lovely part of the walk in the soft afternoon sun. The River Weaver here, I gathered from official sources (John and Cath) is a commercial waterway, with sea-going vessels going to the I.C.L. (plug for Leo this time) at Winnington. However, all the ship's captains were observing the Sabbath very seriously and not a ship was seen. Theo did a nice job of translating a notice in German on the lockside, even repeating it for the latercomers. We should change our title to "The Cos,opolitan". This was a fine spot for snaps with the railway bridge crossing the river, and many were taken.

After crossing the Dutton Locks we followed a way-marked route which eventually led back to the Railway and Carpark. I, and two fellow sufferers, wouldn't know about the way-marked bit because some bright spark or sparks towards the end of the party turned off the main path without making sure first that there weren't any walkers behind them. Never mind, we made quite a few friends among the locals while asking enquiries as to the main party's whereabouts on the way to the Station. Couldn't spoil a lovely walk, though.

Many thanks to John and Cath with Trixie.

F.M.R.

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Regarding the Joint Walk (The Long Mynd) on June 28th, Bill Potter will have the starting time for the non-coach users. They're on 486 7952 if you haven't the information by then.

