

Liverpool Catholic Ramblers Association

News Letter



EDITOR

Mr. E. J. Kavanagh
13, Shakespeare Street,
Bootle L20 4JF
Lancs.

REGISTRAR

Mr. P. Mulhall
76, Outer Forum,
Liverpool 11
226 6578

ISSUE No. 22

FOURTH SERIES

NOVEMBER 1970

Editorial

NON CATHOLIC

In my editorial last month I made very brief comment on the question of Non-Catholics being allowed to join the club. It was brief because the discussion which took place during the Any Other Buisness at the A.G.M. was equally brief.

However, someone who read these words felt strongly enough to write about the subject and his letter is printed elsewhere in this issue

In this Newsletter you can express your views; If you find the time to write them, we will print them.

KESWICK

Autum in the Lake District. Will you be there? To date Dave Newns has 41 names for the Club weekend, so it looks like being a bumper weekend. I also notice that the Motorway (M6) is now open all the way to Fenrith, so perhaps the journey time will be reduced somewhat.

RE - UNION DANCE.

It's not very far off now, even though it is next year. But what is this I hear about our Chairman, Dave Newns not being able to attend this, our greatest event in the callender just because he will be Ski-ing in Austria.

SOCIALITE

Gentlemen, I must draw your attention to the Socialite in this issue of the Newsletter. The ladies, bless their 'wiggling' have told the Social Chairman a thing or to, but what about the 'Lazy, imobile, bar propping men?'

HALLOWEEN

The punch which will be given out at the Tennis Pavilion during the Halloween Party is the liquid variety, not one which Cassius Clay may distribute - nor I trust the manner in which the men will reply to the above paragraph.

Eric Kavanagh.

1971

1971

1971

P R E S I D E N T
* * * * *

His Grace, The Archbishop of Liverpool

V I C E P R E S I D E N T
* * * * *

Mr. Frederick Norbury

T R U S T E E S
* * * * *

Mr. Cyril Kelly

Mr. Bernard Manley

O F F I C E R S
* * * * *

CHAIRMAN	Dave Newns
VICE CHAIRMAN	Keith Scott
TREASURER	Gerry Penlinton
GENERAL SECRETARY	Maureen Mason
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Monica Moran
PUBLICITY SECRETARY	Hilda O'Keefe
REGISTRAR	Pete Mulhall
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR	John Wilson

C O M M I T T E E
* * * * *

LADIES

Winnie Gately
Marie McCormick
Jesie Fletcher

GENTS

Kevin O'Keefe
Eddie Dunican
Brian Keller
Paul Brereton
Mike Parr
Billy Carruthers

Ramblerite

FOOTPATH

The attendances on rambles are still very variable, although the average is on the increase and last week (Ribble Valley) we had our best attendance for some time, but we had to have a car ramble the week before as we did not have sufficient support to book a coach. We hope to have more regular support for the Winter programme, and to welcome more of our Wednesday night regulars on the rambles. We are after all a rambling club, but we must have many members who have never been on a ramble, or have only been out once or twice.

RAMBLING PREVIEW

1st November - Berwyns

In the Corwen district of Wales. A good "A" walk will be led by Eddie Webb, with a "B" walk provided for the less energetic.

6th - 8th November - Keswick Weekend

Staying at Lakeside House as usual. Meet St. John's Lane 6.30 p.m. on Friday, returning Sunday evening. It is advisable to book early for this weekend, as a number of members have had to find alternative accommodation on previous occasions, due to Lakeside House being full. Names to Dave Newns.

15th November - Arnside Knot

A combined ramble, suitable for beginners, in the Silverdale Area. Leader: John Wilson

22nd November - Lancashire Moors

A pleasant ramble in North Lancashire, led by Margaret Smith.

RAMBLING PREVIEW CONTINUED.



SUNDAY 29TH NOVEMBER, 1970

To-days ramble will be a light hearted attempt at Orienteering. We will endeavour to show you not only the fun you can have on such an event but also illustrate that one of the principles of Orienteering (Map reading) is something of which every Rambler already has a basic knowledge.

We will run three events simultaneously:-

- Course 1. For married couples with children
- Course 2. For ladies
- Course 3. For gents (with or without ladies)

Transport to the venue will be by private car unless Numbers dictate the use of a coach. So book early to reserve your seat. We will start the morning by dividing the party into small groups who will be conducted on a short demonstration course by some of our more experienced rambles. Do ask as many questions as you wish. This will be followed by a lunch break.

After lunch, armed with a large-scale map supplied by the club, and a compass (a number will be available on loan), you will be unleashed into the forest (in pairs) to try your luck (or skill) in completing your particular course. The lesser experienced once again in the company of a more experienced Rambler.

If you don't find all the markers don't worry, make your way to the finish, where we will supply you with free orange juice.

The last act of the day will be to collect the markers. If you didn't find one and you want proof of its existence, then you can do the rounds once again and we will show you exactly where they were located.

More details will be issued later but if you have any questions, ask Dave News, Paul Brereton, Hugh Malloy, Chris Scott or myself, Eric Kavanagh.





The Editor,
L.C.R.A. News Letter,
13 Shakespeare Street,
BOOTLE, L20 4JP.

15 October, 1970.

Dear Sir,

It may be thought somewhat impertinent of me as a temporarily inactive member to write to you on a subject which some may think concerns only those presently attending the Club functions, viz. the astonishingly casual mention in the October News Letter of a proposal to allow non-Catholics to become members of the L.C.R.A. However, on such an important subject I do not intend to keep quiet.

The only inference I can draw from the proposal - which I pray will not be taken too seriously - is that the present membership includes some people who have a rather distorted view of ecumenism. It is surely not to be considered reprehensible to have a Catholic Club comprised exclusively of Catholics: one wonders at times whether the term "Catholic" is viewed with disfavour. Perhaps those approving the motion will wish to go a step further and drop what seems to be a lightly-regarded adjective. Some, I know, view the canonisation of the Forty Martyrs as a bit of an anachronistic joke. It wasn't for those involved.

I hope my fears prove groundless, but I wish most strongly to oppose the proposition to allow non-Catholics to join. I have several non-Catholic friends whom I should very much like to become members - as Catholics! There do not appear to me to be sound reasons for the proposal as the L.C.R.A. is not the only rambling and social club on Merseyside: there are several others without religious qualifications. What is rather special in this area is a specifically Catholic rambling club, and I for one am proud to be a member of it. Were the notion carried I could not see much point in continuing membership of what would probably deteriorate into just another nondescript association. There are such things as tradition and loyalty, of which newer members may not yet be aware.

Please excuse the vehemence of my remarks which I could easily stretch as far as an 'A' walk! May I, through you, send my best wishes to all members ancient and modern; I hope to renew acquaintance one of these days.

Yours truly,

..... B. DUFFEY

A.O.C.R.

BURTON "MISTERY DETOUR"

A.O.C.R.

On Sunday 11th October 45 Mums, Dads, children and others gathered at Burton Village Hall at 12.15 p.m. sharp (except Peter Atherton - he got there 10 minutes early, despite the fact we told him not to get there before 12 o'clock!) to start the second walk of the A.O.C.R. A hearty welcome to Joe Kennedy etc, Jim Joyce etc., Bill and Pauline Roberts, George Skillicorn etc., Mona Roberts and Maureen Howard, all with us for the first time.

The weather tried to put us off again, but despite a few little set-backs (no curtains in the ladies) we deposited anything we did not need, in the hall, and set off with the chatter of 22 children breaking the 'silence' of picturesque Burton Village. Due to an unexpected field of cows on the pioneer, the route had to be altered and the leaders hoped to be able to find the 'Acorn Tree' and the 'Toffee Treasure Trove' without any difficulty. Luckily no-body had rubbed the big X's off the trees. We stopped for lunch somewhere (X marks the spot) and had a pleasant sit and a natter.

Butties finished, the children were anxious to rush off to find the next Toffee Tree. The leader strode off like the Pied Piper with a male voice choir singing 'Green Grow the Rushes Oh' till he heard the plaintive cry of his wife "Hey wait for us!" So we trudged on through Hadden Woods after a slight error on the leaders part - he should never have believed the 'old man' he met on the pioneer - by devious routes back to Burton Village Hall dead on schedule where we all got a welcome cup of tea, coffee, or pop from the capable hands of Betty, Kath and Maureen. Bill Roberts did offer to wash up! The children all made friends very quickly, but missed those from the first ramble who were not able to come. Somebody remarked "It's not like the old days, the leader knew where he was going!"

Some of us finished the day at the 'Rubber Tree Cafe' in Neston. - How would you like dozens of ramblers descending on you? - at tea-time too. Still the proprietor and his wife (Bernard and May Edwards) gave us a great welcome, only to be expected from ex-ramblers. Harry O'Neill took a couple of late risers to Mass in Neston while the tea brewed - their youngster was left in the capable hands of the children.

Apologies were received from Joe Whitfield, Bill Potter and Nancy and Harry Sheridan - sorry you could not come. - Nancy said when the little boy found they couldn't come because the baby was ill "Put him to bed, get someone to look after him and we can go" - KIDS!

John E. Walker

Hoped you enjoyed the day as much as I did.

Social.

There is always a note of triumph at a Newsletter meeting from someone who has received a response, a letter even, in reply to some article they have written. Never having been able to inspire anyone into action with my own articles, I decided to make one desperate attempt to provoke people. I wrote a brilliant, masterful condemnation of the club; I attacked the members from all angles; I opened up all the old sores, played on all the weaknesses. Such an inditement, I thought was sure to bring floods of protests and poison pen letters.



Not a ripple.

Some three months after, whilst writing my next shattering article proclaiming the end of the world, I received the following piece of causticity. Obviously till now the paper just burned beneath the pen:-



Dear Mr. Chairman,

In answer to your lett/article in the last issue but one of L.C.R.A. magazine, we, as members of the said 'little, wiggling knots of girls,' would like to point out as follows:-



1). The reason for these all female dancing groups should be obvious, i.e. the lack of any males with enough energy, manners etc. to get up and join in, or start any other (maybe country) dances. The man is supposed to lead the dance after all.

2). The point about the aforementioned groups of girls being unsociable; - many others could be as justly, if not more so, accused of unsociability, e.g. those who prop up the bar all night (in the Design Centre, those who deserted to the nearest pub. Also those who remain transfixed in the T.V. room all night - very sociable!

3). Country dancing - Very enjoyable, when circumstances permit it, but then again there aren't many men willing to dance (we occasionally get cramp from all our wiggling and may welcome a good, old fashioned dance).

Some of these dances may be easy to pick up, but others (e.g. Dashing White Sergeant, which had us confused at first) not so easy for beginners. So what about some of



4). In defence of the Modern Dance - Dancing is after all a means of self-expression and a way of finding pleasure. Everyone to their own tastes. We also enjoy the country dancing.

5). Last, but not least, don't you find the space rather restricted - another reason for said groups of girls and perhaps the fewer instances of country dancing, which is sometimes rendered impractical when there are many people in such a small space.

We are but a minority who felt that our views needed voicing and feel sure that others must see our point of view. So please print this - unbridged - in an **effort** to remedy the situation.

Yours faithfully,

Two indignant "Wigglers"

This obviously turns the whole thing into a battle of the sexes - great - I hardly feel inclined to defend the men though, as I agree largely with everything in this letter. The men in the club are a lazy, inobile, bar proping lot.

However, this letter has very little that is positive. In a club like ours where everyone should know and be friendly with everyone else, is it really necessary for the girls to sit waiting to be asked to dance? The first night I came to the club, I was dragged protesting onto the floor by a very attractive (I won't mention her name to save embarrassment) girl, to dance some Dashing something or other. I doubt if Heaven or earth would have induced me to start dancing of my own free will even to this day. And then again, Ladies Nights were dropped as being unnecessary and old fashioned years ago. There were even times when we had Lady M.C.'s, think of that!

The point is people have been stirred into writing replies so how about someone stirring themselves into action and doing something about our socials.

REMEMBER WE ONLY ORGANISE THE SOCIALS,

YOU MAKE THEM A SUCCESS !!.

The Weekend for Light Sleepers

(or The Chalet Weekend)

Eighteen lads and lasses descended upon the Ramblers Association Chalet at Maeshafn recently. Frequent visits were made to the Miners Arms. (In fact, I don't see why we don't stay at the Miners Arms and visit the chalet occasionally!)

Most of the mob arrived on the Saturday and they were immediately given the task of spud bashing. Weak with the effort of unaccustomed work the spud bashers had to be fortified with tea - bread and jam before they would even consider joining the afternoon posse to search the 'Big Valley' for 'Pot Holes'.

Our first stop was the 'Cow Saloon' where Sheriff Dave made arrangements for the purchase of Milk. Our second stop was when we encountered a bespectacled 'Lone Ranger' who turned out to be one of the local cave dwellers. The posse then separated into two groups, one to continue the search in the valley for 'Pot Holes' and the other to search the forest for the Chalet.

Good fortune smiled upon us for we all found our way back to the most enjoyable dinner produced in the chalet for many noons. This was followed by a visit to the local saloon 'The Miners Arms' and later in the Chalet, by a Barn Dance, when the moon was high in the sky, we had Lights Out and attempted to get some shut-eye.

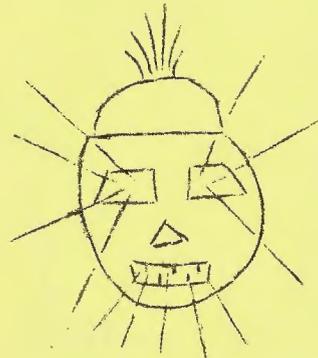
However, two hombres who had decided to do a night attempt of Moel Fannau returned just as sleep drew nigh and bursting into the Cabin (Chalet), they switched all the lights on (hence the title of this story). But to be fair, they redeemed themselves by brewing tea for everybody who was still awake.

Despite this late entry these same hombres were up bright and early the following morning, and after saddling their horse (car) rode off to pioneer the 'Ponda Rosa' for some future ramble. The rest of the hombres and honbresses only managed an 11 a.m. Mass and an attempt on Noel Fannau.

Translated from MOHICAN by "The Last Mohican" CHINGACHOOK



halloween



nite

SATURDAY
OCTOBER
31st.

AT THE
TENNIS
PAVILION

FOLK SINGING
PUNCH
REFRESHMENTS

8 p.m.

6/6