



NEWSLETTER



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FOURTH SERIES

NOVEMBER 1976

October 1976

Dear Members,

As your new Chairperson, may I first offer thanks on behalf of the Club to Past year's Chairman, Frank Mullin, his Committee and the Trustees for all their work during their year of office - a rather difficult year in the life of the Club, but I hope not too unrewarding for the efforts made. It is with sadness and a feeling of great loss that we will remember Cyril Kelly R.I.P., a devoted club member for over forty years, as well as a good friend to many of us.

With regard to this years Committee I hope that you will accept my assurance of a whole - hearted effort to make the coming year a really successful one. However, it is on you, the individual Club Member, that we rely if this is to be achieved.

As you are, no doubt, aware, we will soon be entering the Golden Jubilee Year of the Liverpool Catholic Ramblers Association. This is indeed something to celebrate and something of which we should all be proud, but especially, perhaps, those members who have supported the Club during its earlier years, not all of them easy, I'm sure. To all those members we owe our sincere thanks.

Plans are already underway for the 50th Anniversary celebrations, and you will be given the details of these in due course. We hope that you will give them as much support as you are able.

So, let us all look forward to an active and thoroughly enjoyable year - it is up to each one of us to make it so.

Pat Unsworth.

RAMBLERITE.

As members may now be aware, the rambling programme has been reintroduced. We now need 30 people on the coach to avoid losing any money, but we are permitted to take the coach out with 26 people. There has been a very encouraging sign with the numbers on the last two rambles being 38 and 27. In the coming months it is hoped to have special attractions on walks; after the walk on NOVEMBER 21st . . . ERRYRYS MARY BARRETT. There will be a night at the Glwyd Gate consisting of chicken in the basket meal and musical entertainment. PRICE £1 plus coach fare.

JANUARY 9th RIVINGTON BARN COMMITTEE.

This is the annual walk with the family section and is followed by a HOTPOT SUPPER and, hopefully, a Country Dance. This will be the first event of the GOLDEN JUBILEE YEAR and it is hoped that as many members as possible will come along to make it a successful event.

We would like to ask any member, who in the last year has led a walk, if they still have any Club equipment - maps, compasses, torches or first-aid, if so, would they please return them as soon as possible in order to save the club unnecessary replacement and expense.

Members not at the club on a Thursday night will be able to know when special events are taking place by listening to "WHATS ON PROGRAMME" on Radio City and Radio Merseyside, and also in various supplements such as "ARTS ALIVE" and "WHATS ON IN LIVERPOOL".

Notices of walks will be appearing in the Rambling notes in the "LIVERPOOL ECHO".

M.LEWIS.

EDITORIAL

It seems an age since the last Newsletter appeared. A combination of lack of material and mechanical problems in the duplicating department combined to bring the production lines to a halt. The Newsletter Committee has been reformed after a period of years, to counter the first problem, and Eric Kavanagh who has had a wealth of experience in the past, dealing with the eccentricities of our contrary duplicator has kindly agreed to remedy the second problem. We trust that 'normal Service' can now be resumed.

Much has clearly happened since the last issue, and by no means all to the good, but overshadowing all, was the death of Cyril Kelly, two days before the A.G.M., an event which both saddened and shocked everybody who knew him. Elsewhere in this issue appears a tribute to Cyril but speaking personally, I met him when joining the Association 18 years ago, and I have never failed to be impressed by the loyalty which he sustained for the C.R.A. as a member of over forty years standing, much of that period being spent in its service. I have no doubt that the strength of the Association to-day, is due in no small part to the continuing interest which Cyril showed in the Association's affairs over the years, and I am sure his wise council will be sadly missed for some time to come. May he rest in peace.

The A.G.M. was a rather quiet affair but, in spite of the apparent gloom, a Committee emerged headed by Pat Unsworth, who becomes the first lady to occupy the Chair in the Association's history. Pat deserves our grateful thanks for taking on the job, at a time when the Association is going through one of its "less enthusiastic" periods and I am sure all members will join in wishing her and her committee every success in the coming twelve months. I have no doubt that the committee deserve the full support of all members and the benefits of such support will undoubtedly, revert to the members.

The committee is in fact, nicely sprinkled with past committee members and those serving for the first time, and there appears to be no lack of enthusiasm for the job. Already, Rambling which has been under some pressure recently due to poor attendances, is staging a strong revival, and our expensive Disco Equipment, which has tended recently to "play up", and not "play the game", has been overhauled, and we hope it now proposes to behave itself rather better in the future. If it does not one feels that "decks will roll."

In conclusion, please remember this is our Golden Jubilee Year, which is officially to be celebrated in October 1977. Further information regarding this Celebration will be given in the near future but I would ask that all members will join in the special events we hope to arrange, to celebrate this wonderful achievement of our Association, and so make this year a year worthy of such a fine achievement by our organisation which grew up out of the enthusiasm of a few Liverpudlians for Rambling in 1927.

Chris Dobbin

YOUR LETTERS

2, Poverty Lane,
Maghull.

Dear Members Past and Present,

I wish to thank you all most sincerely for the many Mass Cards and letters of sympathy on the sudden death of Cyril. It was comforting to know we had so many friends and that Cyril's work for the club was so much appreciated. Please pray for him and for me.

Yours sincerely,

May Kelly.

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13, Shakespeare St,
Bootle,
Merseyside. L20 4JP.

Dear Club Members,

You have not seen a Newsletter for some time now, but we hope to change this and keep you informed of all the latest club activities.

To supplant this, we would like to publish your views. If you have anything to write about, put pen to paper and either put it in the post to me or give it to one of your friendly committee members.

Regards,

Eric Kavanagh.

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CYRIL KELLY, R.I.P.

With the passing of Cyril Kelly, suddenly on 21st September, we most certainly suffered a very great loss indeed. In over 49 years of our existence there have been many people who have contributed much time and effort but, with the exception of the late Fred Norbury, none have done so for so long a time, covering the whole gamut of the Club's activities.

Rambling, tennis, football, socials, concert parties, Dances, special functions, the Newsletter, anything, you name it where the Club was concerned and Cyril would be there, in the forefront. When it came to organising anything at all for the Club Cyril was supreme, his experience, foresight and wisdom doing much to ensure the success of any venture.

In almost 43 years it would be impossible to count the Committee meetings Cyril attended, more likely chaired - Annual Meetings, Monthly Committee, Rambling, Socials, Newsletter, Tennis Meetings - meetings for Dances, special anniversaries, the buying of proposed premises and so on.

Cyril was our longest serving Chairman (11 years) but he served as Vice-Chairman both before the war and for some vital years after the war. Since 1965 he was a Trustee and from 1971 Vice President. Add for measure his helping to form the Family Section, remaining with them in membership and becoming as it were the 'bridge' between the Family Section and the 'young' Club. In the meantime he found time to sponsor and foster 'Jospice' and 'Survive', world-wide organisations for the relief of disease and suffering.

Finally, but by no means lastly, Cyril played a considerable part in the formation just before the war of the Catholic Holiday Guild and was one of those burdened with its winding up in 1962. In recent years and until his death, he represented the Club on the Council of the Catholic Holiday Fellowship which succeeded the Catholic Holiday Guild and now runs Lakeside House at Keswick.

The Club and its activities were indeed Cyril's life with a consequently profound effect on the continued existence and success of the C.R.A. and we must never forget.

At my first Social at St. Oswald's it was Cyril who stepped forward, introduced himself and welcomed me to the Club. His personality was such that I have no difficulty in recalling the occasion and I was to find that this was Cyril - a most friendly nature, ever ready to help and seldom without a smile or a quip. His strongest points, however, were his absolute integrity, his strong and steadfast character, stemming from his lifelong adherence to his Faith and everything he believed in. He was an example and an inspiration to all who knew him, and we who knew him can never forget him.

EUXTON WALK - FAMILY SECTION.

5th September,

About sixty people turned up for John and Maureen Johnson's walk on a lovely Autumn day. Cars were parked in St. Mary's Churchyard, lunch was taken and off we set.

The path went westerly through pleasant woodland and to our left the keen gardeners could envy the local householders their massive plots. The first of many stiles was climbed, we crossed the motorway (by bridge of course) and eventually after traversing open country, reached Rursham Hall. A rest and snack were called for whilst the younger fry disported themselves according to their various tastes. A few stiles later we reached Worden Park near Leyland - more food, swings, ball games etc. The less energetic threw themselves on the yellow turf and all too soon, in the beautiful sunlight, we were summoned to arms (or legs) for the long last lap. Eventually we reached a more southerly motorway crossing and would our way back to Euxton. A delightful day. Thank you, John and Maureen.

GEORGE.

Dear Family Section,

You should all have your programmes (if not ring Mona Roberts on 733 2122) but there is a very important alteration to be marked up on them. The monthly House Meeting has been moved to Thursday, Not Friday, so the dates will be Oct. 28th for the Roberts' (Chalet names will be taken at this one) Nov. 25th for the Potters and January 27th for the Pearsons. Please don't forget the change and make the meetings if this is a more convenient night for you.

ADDITION. We're getting up a party to go to the Christ the King's dance on 20th November. The cost is £1.25p. and Bill Naylor on 526 3179 is taking names. The cost includes good refreshments. Be sure to get there around 8 p.m. for car space.

SUBS. There are still a few of us shy, so please pay up on any walk or at any house meeting. Your Committee, surprise, is the same as last year, so you know whom to pay.

Yours,

Mona Roberts.

P.S. Another important change is the date for the Pantomime. It was to have been the 8th January, but in order to get better seats Bill had to take the following Saturday, January 15th. We hope this will be convenient to all ticket holders.

FAMILY SECTION RAMBLE.

3rd October,

Our meeting place was the Loggerheads car park, where we arrived in pouring rain for what promised to be a very wet walk. Some families, no doubt had already been put off by the unfavourable weather forecast. As we ate our sandwiches in the car park the sun began to break through and, by the time we were ready to leave, the Slacks arrived and it was bright and sunny, and stayed so for the afternoon.

The party, 16 adults, 16 children and one dog, set off with Bill and Pauline Roberts as leaders, in the direction of Cilcain. We soon left the road and climbed Ffrith Mountain - 1196 ft! As we approached, Bill thoughtfully suggested that the more energetic members of the party take the steeper slope while the rest took the gentler way to the summit, where we stopped for our second and longer break. Here we were joined by the Potters, bringing our numbers to 36.

Now began the easier part of the ramble - downhill. We made our way along footpaths bordered by Holly, Hawthorne and Rowan with their bright red berries, and Kath Pelde found some Elderberries for her winemaking. Disappointment was to follow when Bill, who had gone ahead, told us that the bridge across the River Alyn, which he assured us was there a fortnight ago, had disappeared. Might it have been a time consuming detour to justify advising some ramblers to pay 15p to park, rather than use the free parking which closed at 4.30 p.m. Soon we had retraced our steps and reached the next bridge, clearly a more substantial structure, which carried us dry-shod over the swollen river. Although the sun still shone brightly through the tall trees, ramblers were few along this popular Leet path.

The final surprise came at the end of the ramble when we found the last crossing place submerged under six inches of water, with no alternative but to get our feet wet and paddle through. The fast flowing stream provided the inevitable attraction for our children, and a novel ending to an enjoyable afternoon. We hope that the members of the main club, who had been walking in the same area, had as good a time.

Maureen.