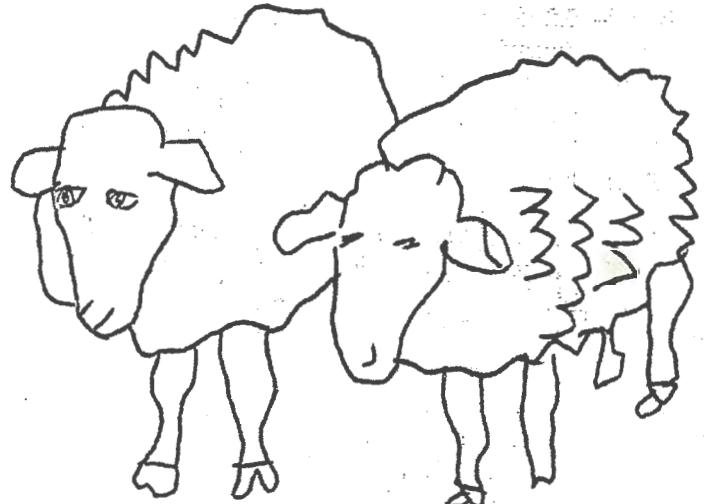




LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS

Newsletter



Newsletter No.4 (Fifth Series) November 19th 1987

Editor: Dave Newns

Welcome to the following new members who have all joined recently:

Joan Boardman, David Brookfield, Philip Stanley Wills, Dennis Jewry, Colin Molloy, Fran Keen, Christine and William Nelson, Mary Merrill, Anne C. Cusack, Celia Levy, David Barwick and Leonard Sangster. There were, of course, many membership renewals during the past two months as.....

....ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS WERE DUE IN SEPTEMBER - Cost of membership is:

Single £4, Married couples £5. Bernadette Doyle (Registrar) is the person who has all your information down in the book and can tell at the flick of a page whether you have renewed your subscription or not, so please see Bernadette if you have't yet renewed. Members not renewing in the near future will be presumed to be no longer interested in the Club and cease to get newsletters sent to them. Maureen McCoy is Bernadette's assistant.

YULETIDE RAMBLE, January 3rd 1988. This is our big day out with Rivington Barn bursting at the seams as we have our ramble(s), hot-pot and barn dance. Advance booking is necessary and Dave Newns will be taking your money in the near future. Cost has not been finalised but as a guide, last Jan. it was Adults £3.50, children £1. Seats on the coach are extra to this. Please book early.

SWAP SHOP - Any rambling gear surplus to requirements, boots, etc, please bring down to the club any Thursday night. People needing anything keep your eyes peeled.

R A M B L E R I T E

Here is a resumé of the rambles that have taken place since the last newsletter:

Oct 4 - ANGLE TARN PIKES. Both walks started from Hartsop village, near Brothers Water. Peter Kennedy led the A party along Pasture Beck, ascending to Thornthwaite Crag (2569ft) via Threshwaite Mouth. Having a break at the foot of the 14ft beacon the party then walked along High Street to The Knott, descending then to Angle Tarn Pikes onto Ullswater and Patterdale. Anthony Brockway took the B party up Hayeswater Gill then ascended The Knott (2423ft) leaving Hayeswater far below. The descent to Patterdale was then the same route as the A party. Owing to wet weather and low cloud the views were unfortunately severely restricted. The rain from previous days, as well as on the day, made the going very sloppy underfoot and not one pair of clean boots could be seen at the end of the day. The coach was nearly full and the pub stop at Milnthorpe on the return journey was, as usual, very popular.

Oct 11- INGLETON. Unfortunately I couldn't make this walk and on seeing the weather (bright and sunny) regretted missing it.

Oct 16-18 was the Keswick Weekend and there is a separate report on the activities which took place there elsewhere in this newsletter.

Nov 1 - PENDLE HILL. The Nick of Pendle was the starting point for both walks. Mike O'Shea led the A along the ridge to the top of Pendle Hill, passing several hang-gliding enthusiasts on the way. The B party led by Dave Newns took a divergent route turning off a short distance from the top and descending to pick up the Pendle Trail following signposts with witches on broomsticks. On this, the day after Hallowe'en, both parties called at the village of Newchurch-in-Pendle where the souvenir shop has three life-size witches outside, then on to Sabden village via farm tracks and roads. Garswood was the hostelry stopping place....the Stag Inn.

Nov 8 - HAYFIELD. This village, nestling on the opposite side of the Kinder Scout Plateau to Edale was the start and finish of the rambles. Brian took the B party to the kiosk in the car park on the way to the reservoir where he got a free drink and bar of chocolate for taking custom to the place! (There could be a sudden surge forward for leaders next time we do this walk). Meanwhile Dave stayed in Hayfield, paying for waitress service in the cafe with the A party. Both parties met in the mist on the top of the Plateau, then continuing along the Pennine Way to Kinder Downfall, passing masterpieces of weatherbeaten sculptured rocks and getting some rewarding views through the clouds below occasionally. Both parties split up after the waterfall and the B party managed to arrive back in Hayfield just a fraction ahead of the A party. Everyone managed to board the coach before the heavens opened with really heavy stuff after a relatively dry day (mist excluded).

IAN FREEMAN, Rambling Chairman

RAMBLING PREVIEW, ETC.

Nov 22 - VALLE CRUCIS ABBEY. Starting from Llangollen, the B party led by George Riley will be following the Llangollen Canal to the Trefor Rocks, then across undulating country to the ruins of the Abbey and then back to Llangollen. The A party led by Dave Connolly will be starting from the Horseshoe Pass to do the Llantisillio Mountain, finishing off in Llangollen via the Chain Bridge. A 10.15 departure time. Torches would be an advantage on the last stages of the ramble (as on all winter rambles).

Nov 29 - RETREAT: "A period of withdrawal from worldly activities for prayer and meditation" - Oxford Dictionary. This is an annual event and not as intensive as it suggests. See separate notice in this newsletter.

Dec 6 - ARNSIDE KNOTT is a small hill overlooking Morecambe Bay. Mike Hendrick (A) and Christine Welsby (B) both leading their parties up to the summit of this hill and hopefully rewarded with good panoramic views of the Southern Lake District mountains. Partly wooded, partly coastal walking. Always popular. 10.15 departure.

Dec 13 - HOWGILL FIELDS. These are the hills overlooking Sedbergh, a small town just a few miles east of the M6 near Tebay Services. It is a 9.30 start and Peter Wilkinson leads the A, following many of the tracks that A. Wainwright has trodden and written about. Summits visited will most likely be Winder, The Calf and one or two more which escape my memory, probable descent via Cautley Spout, a huge waterfall. The B will be a shorter route in the same group of fells and Dave Connolly leading. This is the last ramble of the year so make the most of it.

DAVE NEWNS

THE COUNTRY CODE

The Committee have recently received complaints regarding **infringements** of the Country Code, namely:

1. Dogs not on leads
2. Disposal of litter.
3. Picking of wild plants and flowers

The Country Code tells you to keep dogs under close control, then clarifies this by saying "there's only one sure place for him - on the lead." Cows and sheep are easily frightened.

What is litter? Anything alien to the area. If you take it with you then take it home. Apple cores, orange peel and banana skins may rot in time, but they look unsightly so take them home.

Countryside, hedgerows, woodlands are fast disappearing. These and mountainous areas are difficult places for plants to survive. The difference between life and death, between survival and extinction, is a slender thread. These areas are worth seeing because of the plants and wildlife. Don't damage them - protect them!

THE COUNTRY CODE

Guard against all risk of fire
Fasten all gates
Keep your dogs under close control
Keep to public paths across farmland
Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls
Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone
Take your litter home
Help to keep all water clean
Protect wildlife, plants and trees
Take special care on country roads
Make no unnecessary noise.

If everyone keeps to these simple rules the countryside will remain a pleasant place to spend a Sunday afternoon.

ANTHONY BROCKWAY

A N N U A L R E T R E A T

This is at Sandymount, Burbobank Road, Blundellsands. Meet at 1.45 for 2pm start. Cost £2.50 includes afternoon tea. This is a kind of spiritual M.O.T. and is a very short retreat compared to the average retreat, finishing around 6pm. Mass is included during the afternoon. Non-Catholics are invited to come along. Further details and definite bookings to Dave Newns before 25th November (0744 892791) or contact Mona Roberts if you are a Family Section member.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29th, 2pm

OCTOBER 16-18 - KESWICK WEEKEND

Thirty-one members enjoyed a superb weekend at Lakeside House. Saturday was a fine day and mostly dry. Two walks were organised over breakfast with Brian Keller leading the 'A' and myself leading the 'B'. Both walks took in Grisedale Pike, a steep ascent from any start point. The 'A' walk took in Grasmoor (with fine views of the Buttermere area), Crag Hill, Sail and Causey Pike. The 'B' walk was not so demanding but still covered several 'peaks' including Ladyside Pike, Hobcarton Crag and Hopegill Head. I must apologise to those on this walk for the confusion in finding the start point; I can only read a map whilst walking, not riding in a car!

The evening entertainment was varied with at least two pub crawls, a theatre visit and show of slides of 'Winter in Lakeland'. These activities were followed by the usual knees up in the basement of Lakeside House (Extra practice or maybe professional tuition in limbo dancing is definitely required for next time - maybe Maureen McCoy can organise! As this has nothing to do with rambling I will say no more!).

Sunday turned out to be a very wet day (Keswick had 4" of rain that day) and looking around the breakfast table I saw a lot of lethargic bodies, few with heads and limbs working in complete co-ordination (was this disappointment in the weather change, or 'alcoholic remorse' following the over indulgence of the night before). However, two low-level walks were organised and although those who took part assure me they enjoyed themselves, they looked very wet and bedraggled on return. Spirits were re-aroused at meal time when we sat down to an excellent roast chicken dinner which matched the roast beef from the night before.

Summing up, this was an excellent weekend and I know all who went would like me to express our thanks to Brian Keller for organising it so smoothly and also to the staff at Lakeside House for making our stay so enjoyable.

The next weekend at Keswick will take place in March - DON'T MISS IT. I intend to put my name down with at least a deposit as soon as the date is fixed.

Ian Freeman

RAMBLING PROGRAMME - February to August, 1988

ALL MEMBERS are invited to attend the meeting of the Rambling Sub-Committee on Monday, 6th December to plan the February-August programme. The meeting will be held at Birch House, Green Lane (off Woolton Road), Childwall, at 8pm. You don't have to be a committee member for this meeting. ALL INTERESTED MEMBERS meet first in the bar at Birch House and then proceed upstairs to discuss the forthcoming programme, or volunteering to lead a ramble, making suggestions, etc, so that at the end of the evening a balanced programme suiting the Club's desires can be drawn up.

We are short of leaders for both A and B walks. Why not volunteer as a leader or, if you feel you would like to gain a little experience first, then you can be a leader's assistant. If you are unable to attend the meeting please let me have your suggestions by Thursday, 3rd December.

The Club has been going for sixty years and with the active support of members it will flourish for a further sixty years even though by then we will have 'hung up our boots'.

Ian Freeman

LOST PROPERTY

Anyone who may have picked up the wrong pair of overtrousers at Lakeside House on the recent Keswick Weekend please contact Bernadette Doyle (051-733 2538).

Lost property on rambles (usually gear left on the coach) is often unclaimed. If you have lost or lose anything on the coach, please contact Brian Keller, Dave Newns or any committee member as soon as possible.

FAMILY SECTION PROGRAMME 1987.

NOV. 29. ANNUAL RETREAT. Father Wareing will be giving it at Sandymount, Burbobank Road, Blundellsands. It lasts from about 2 - 6 p.m. and Mass is included. The cost is around £2.50. We have to inform Fr. Wareing of numbers partaking by about Wednesday 25th November so could you, please, ring me on 733 2122 before then.

DEC. 3. The HOUSE MEETING is at Amie Shaw's, 12 Greenwood Road, Allerton. Directions as last newsletter.

DEC. 13. The RAMBLE is in the Frankby area. Arthur and Vera Brockway are leading. I'm always amazed that what we sometimes think of as the dormitory of Liverpool can yield such excellent walks with the Brockways. Meet in the car park at Royden Park. We start walking at 12.30 p.m. A walk for everybody.

JAN. 3. YULETIDE. Leo is leading. Meet in the OLD Barn at Rivington, for a 12 o'clock start. Pat Pearson is collecting names for the Hotpot and Barn Dance after the walk, and suggests that you bring your cheque books with you on any of the above events, by which time she hopes to know the cost. If your cheque-books+those who want their newsletters to continue after Christmas can pay their subs at the same time but on a separate cheque! Subs are £4.00 +(can stand it) for singles and £5.00 for doubles.

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HAWARDEN, 11TH OCTOBER, 1987.

The dreadful weather of the previous two weeks had given way to unseasonably bright sunshine, which lasted the whole day through. A dozen of us under the benevolent leadership of Jack Highton met on the car park at Hawarden for the day's walk.

The path led immediately into a wood, which still had not dried out after the torrential rain and across fields which had been harvested, leaving foot high soaking stubble, which soaked our boots as we made our way. On occasions Jack used his imagination in deciding the existence of a path - streams, fences, brambles he took in his stride. Our mid-afternoon break was taken on one of the few patches of dry ground within miles i.e. the hard shoulder of a motorway. Here the roar of cars disturbed the tranquility of a pleasant Sunday afternoon.

Later on as we re-entered the woods we were treated to buckets full of trivia about the diseases of oak leaves, the sleeping habits of the tsetse fly and the edibility or otherwise of various fungi. We couldn't decide which was the most boring bit of information, as we were all seized by a surfeit of galloping apathy at this point.

Jack at this stage ran out of luck. He decided to consult a map and we got lost in the wood for a half-hour or so. Still, we made it back to the car park before twilight.

many thanks, Jack, a lovely day, a delightful walk and nature lessons thrown in to boot.

Tony Roche.

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Pat Pearson's phone number for Yuletide information is 489 0746

FAMILY SECTION. NATTERJACK COUNTRY. 8TH NOVEMBER 1987.

Freshfield Station proved a chilly venue for the start of Marcia's ramble. Poor Tony had hurt his back whilst lifting a table, or sussed out the weather and quickly found a table to lift. Family reinforcements provided the whippers-in.

Skirting the railway and crossing heather and slack, twenty-three of us and two dogs headed for Woodvale and Ainsdale, along the nature trail and into the rain.

Our butty stop was a stand up affair in a stand of trees (what else) where we sheltered beneath a scant canopy of Scots pine. It was here that Mona produced the highlight of the day; whiskey in a bottle labelled tonic water, which she swigged manfully, generously sloshing the liquid (as with an eye dropper) into passing cups of coffee, whilst maintaining she really fancied a cuppa. Jack gallantly obliged with a fresh PG tip on a string - her favourite brand.

We followed the trail between dune and slack where the Natterjacks breed (toads to you) and toads to you too, eventually reaching the beach through the bikers and speed merchants, onto the hard sand towards Freshfield.

The tide was out, but through the rain shrouded mist we could see a flock of herring gulls resting on the sand, luck devils. After a couple of miles of beachcombing without finding a sausage, we reached the wooden walkways of Freshfield leading us through the squirrel pinewoods, and the last few hundred yards back to base.

Once there, of course, Jean and Gerry disappeared into the nearest - and only - cafe. Are they undercover agents for Egon Ronay?

Our thanks to Marcia and her daughter (and friend) for a lovely relaxing ramble and a good turnout.

A.L.P.

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Any (first) house meeting which started off with Chairman Bill wielding a gavel cum football rattle to call us to order had to be different. Noel made it more so by suggesting that we might regard February and March as Spring rather than Winter rambles, and start walking at, say, 9.30ish in the lakes or other distant venue. Personally I'm afraid that we aren't catering for the less strenuous minded among us. How about 'B' parties? I thoroughly enjoyed the one we had at Ullswater. The shock waves were still subsiding when he reported that the General Committee would like suggestions and even leaders from our section for the joint walks. Meanwhile Maureen was digesting this information and trying to incorporate it and the as yet unknown Chalet dates into her programme. Good material for a migraine there!! Gerry arrived quite late, having collected Jean from her knitting circle. I'll believe the guitar class story when we're invited to buy tickets for a recital at the Bluecoat in aid of some deserving charity!

Thank you, Chris, very much for your few words at our Sixtieth Anniversary Dance, and the 'body of the hall' for the more than generous applause which followed. I'd thought that being a guest just meant that one got in 'for free'. I definitely haven't moved in the right circles, and was very pleasantly surprised when what happened did.

S O C I A L I T E

(An update account of the social scene)

Hello there!

In recent weeks a great deal has happened. I trust everyone enjoyed our Diamond Jubilee Dance held recently at the Everton Football Club. All the feedback the committee had been getting from the event has been very favourable indeed, and thanks must go to Brian Keller for organising the selling of the tickets, also to Anthony Brockway, Dave Newms, Gerry Penlington and all who helped to produce the special club brochure. The work and planning for that newsletter started way back in January and many hours of planning went into making our Diamond Jubilee Dance the success it was. To others who helped in any way I thank you most sincerely. (Spare copies of the Anniversary Newsletter are available from Bernadette Doyle)

On November 5th we had a wonderful hot-pot down at the Liverpool. Delicious food for all, with food left over even after pleading with everyone to have more. I hope we can repeat this event in the future. If we ask Bernadette Doyle and Maureen McCoy nicely they may well cook another superb hot-pot for us. Well done girls!

Still on the theme of food, 25 ramblers had a successful Greek meal at the Kebab House in Hardman Street last Saturday. This was followed by a smashing of plates, a surprise visit from Tarzan and some really professional Greek dancing by a talented lady plus most people dancing the night away well into the early hours.

Now to future events: Our Christmas Party night:

| | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| (Note:
No
Club
on
Thurs
17th) | CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHT
<u>Friday</u> , December 18th in the upstairs room of the Liverpool pub with Road Runner professional disco
8 till late Cost £1.00 | CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHT
Bar till 11.45pm | <pre> i xxx xxxxx xxxxxxx xxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxx x xxx xxxxx </pre> |
|--|---|---|--|

The disco doesn't finish till around a quarter past midnight. Hope you can all make it - past Christmas parties have been a lot of fun and very memorable.

There will also be a clubnight between Christmas and New Year on TUESDAY, December 29th (The Liverpool will be closed on Thursday December 31st - New Year's Eve).

And finally, the Matches and Hatches:

John Murphy and Marie O'Loughlin recently tied the knot at St Edward's RC Church, Wigan. They will both make each other happy, that I'm sure of. Congratulations to you both. That's the match, now here's the hatch:

Tony and Linda Byrne are now the proud parents of a wonderful baby boy. What a lucky boy to have such a wonderful father and mother.

On that happy note I sign off till next time,

Ta-ra from Paul Healy

DOOR ROTA

Committee members' door rota for the next six weeks are:

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| November 26th | BRIAN KELLER | December 18th (Fri) | COMMITTEE |
| December 3rd | PAUL HEALY | December 29th (Tues) | MIKE NORGATE |
| December 10th | IAN FREEMAN | January 7th (Thur) | TONY BOND |