



Liverpool Catholic Ramblers

# NEWSLETTER



**November 1997**  
**7th Series Issue 10**

## Editorial Briefs

LAST MONTH'S special anniversary newsletter (given out at the dance) contains many historical facts of our club, some only recently coming to light. Following on from this, more material from the archives will be published in our newsletters. Thanks to all who helped me to produce that souvenir edition in any way including the donator's of old photographs. There's still a few copies available.

We may have missed out on being stars of the new BBC TV series showing everyday life at the Adelphi, but we put in a good turnout there at recent our Anniversary Dinner Dance. Thanks to all who helped to make this special occasion a success including Tom and Mike who realise that in spite of many phone calls and trips to the Adelphi, you can't please everyone. Also to the donators of prizes including Ellis Brigham's and voucher prizes from Jack's SOF shop (see Jack for details of discounts).

Our recent annual Mass was attended by about 100 former and present members. Thanks due to our usual musicians for supplying and playing the music and hymns. Monsignor Richard Atherton (an honoured guest at our Dance) who said the Mass is also conducting our Retreat at Loyola Hall.

This newsletter is a bit overdue but there will be a Christmas edition. Roy has gone up market by finally typing his own computerised report boldly done after a few false starts. Apologies for marginal errors. Thanks Roy and also to other contributors.

Now it really would be nice to see a few more stories, quizzes, etc, from other members out there. How about it? Material for the Christmas edition should be either handed personally to me or posted to 7 Abbots Way, Billinge, Wigan WN5 7SB.

*Dave Newns*

### MORE NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following who have joined our club over the past few months: Ruth O'Connor, Tom Kirwin, Brenda Horan, Edgar Jones, Francis and Julia Hyland, Peter Kahn, Denise Griffin, Ian Gough, Roy Fletcher, Paul Cokley, Andrea Thompson, Lynn Nelson, Maureen Coyn and Gusti Mueller.

## Christmas Buffet Dance

FRIDAY, 5TH DECEMBER

at CHURCHILLS, CHURCH ROAD, WAVERTREE



PROFESSIONAL DISCO



8 till Late

Hamper Prize Draw

Tickets now on sale at £5 including buffet (£7 on the night)

### DONATIONS FOR OUR CHRISTMAS HAMPER

At the above Christmas Disco we will be having a draw for a Christmas Hamper in the same form as last year. Donations of suitable items for the hamper will entitle that person for a **FREE TICKET** for the draw. Give your items to **MIKE RILEY** as soon as possible or have a word with him first for any special items that he may be short of to complete the hamper.

### FAMILY SECTION

**December 14th: FRODSHAM HILL.** Leader Peter Wilkinson (01695 421681). Meet in the Mersey View Car Park at the top of the hill at 12.00.

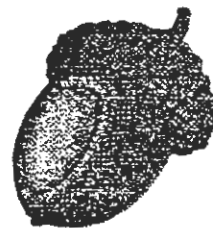
**January 4th: YULETIDE** (not the 10th Jan). Ramble, Hot-Pot and Barn Dance at Carnforth. Details in our Christmas Newsletter or contact Anthony for Family Section bookings.

## Ramblerite

I recently went away for a few days with the Club secretary. We stayed in Borrowdale again and on this occasion decided on an assault of Cat Bells. For me and millions of others Cat Bells was my introduction to fellwalking when my lads aged 8 & 10 dragged me up there many years ago and though totally shattered (some things never change), I was hooked on the Lake District. On this occasion a high pressure area from the east had settled over the country for a few days, blue, cloudless and sunny with an early frost it was the sort of day that sometimes occurs in the Autumn ~ the very best for walking.

The Derwentwater area at this time of year is a marvellous mixture of brown oaks and orange bracken, there's still plenty of green about and just occasionally splashes of red acers. On descending to Hawes End and braving the falling acorns we were just in time to catch the boat to Lodore.

Returning to the hotel in the last of the evening light we heard first, then saw a large flock of Canada geese take off from their "grazing" grounds in the fields for their short flight back to the lake for the night. Suddenly the scene was shattered as a "Green Welly" stepped out of the reeds and fired off both barrels. Not an anti-bloodsports person I was nevertheless relieved that he missed the geese and yes ~ me too!



*Ray McIntosh* 

## Beware

During the last month the membership has been informed about the Committee's intention to ensure that all members conform to the basic courtesies on a ramble. Some members have continued to "do their own thing" despite repeated requests to conform. With the publication of this Newsletter we will be entering into a phase of ensuring compliance. If a walker is, in the opinion of the leaders, deliberately arriving late at the pre-designated assembly point, then he or she will be left. People who charge ahead or lag behind deliberately are imposing their will on the rest of the group. In the past, this type of behaviour has ruined walks for the leaders and those who stay in the group, as they have had to wait around, search for or change the planned route to accommodate the minority.

The Committee is of the opinion that any members who leave the group without permission are responsible for their own safety to the extent that they can find their own way back to the coach ~ or Liverpool.

We will of course continue to care for those struggling through illness, accident or ill fortune and the majority need not be concerned about these measures.

**Our intention is to ensure the enjoyment of everyone.**

## Forthcoming Socials at the CORNMARKE



- |     |      |  |
|-----|------|--|
| Nov | 6th  | ~ Cheese & Wine  |
|     | 13th | ~ Bring & Buy  |
|     | 20th | ~ Quiz ( <i>Ken Regan</i> )                                  |
|     | 27th | ~ Food & Drink Tech. Quiz ( <i>Will &amp; Chris Harris</i> ) |
| Dec | 4th  | ~ Club Night   |
|     | 11th | ~ Christmas Bingo & Mince Pie Night                          |

## Rambling Social Meetings at Birch House, Bishop Eaton.

These meetings, at 7.30 till 8.30 pm. on the second Monday of each month, are an ideal opportunity for the general membership to be more involved in the Club's decision making and planning.

If you would like to come along to express your opinion, or just to observe, you will be most welcome.

## **HOT STUFF AT INGLEBOROUGH**

**Hot, clammy & sweaty, and this was even before you got off the coach! With the expression of a smiling assassin the BBC weatherman was joyfully predicting a top temperature of 28c for inland areas.**

**All walks need an element of luck and today's came in the form a easterly wind, which our lucky crew of 11 would be eagerly walking into. Only a couple of problems though, some height would be required and the actual wind was more akin to a hot air dryer. But all that did not matter because... 'By gum lad, we are 'ere lad to enjoyed thy selves'**

**Ingleborough's distinctive shape could well be Yorkshire's answer to Cape Town's Table Top mountain. In fact if you place your ear to the nearest suitably size rock you can almost heard that famous invitation .... 'Why don't you come up and see me some time.' Without further prompting we were off, leaving Ingleton by a quiet back door. As the altitude was gained so were the extensive views including Whernside.**

**At Crinea Farm a vintage photographic point is observed and is seen in many a walking guide. Understandably too, with the white wash farm nestling in the foreground and the background being totally dominated by Ingleborough. With a keen eye our path could be traced all the way to the summit, which proved a distinct advantage as the party became quite stretched out.**

**A few empty water bottles later we were on top of the world, well... 2372ft to be exact. The plateau was amazingly flat (listen mate, most plateaus are), with the stone clad trig point looking like a lonely referee. Views were now quite limited due to the increasing heat haze, but at least our main climbing was over and we could basked in our intensive care booty break.**

**All too soon its time to wake up the ole boots up and move on to Little Ingleborough and the impending tundra (i.e. moors) beyond, a mere stroll for us kids. All this area is well known for its large number of pot & shake holes. Some parts of the landscape look like those RAF chaps had been practicing bombing runs, but no, I am assured those all various-size craters are very natural indeed. It was decided a worthwhile small detour should be made to Long Kin West Pot, a fearsome fissure some three-hundred feet deep.**

Dropping stones and counting the tell tale click/clonks confirmed nearly everybody's suspicion that this was a d..e...e..p hole. I say 'nearly' because yet again a number of our gallant party had totally exploited the situation by crashin' out and straight into a bronzing session! How standards have dropped this far I never know, years and years ago the only bit of white you would likely to see would be one of John Cavanagh's ole £5 pound notes, a rare sight indeed nowadays.

Fully clothed and striding across these moors soon brought it home how remote this place must be when the cloud is down and the rain is horizontal. But in today's heatwave the moors felt more like walking on Grand Ma's mattress.

Newby Cote saw the end of the moors and the beginning of civilisation as we know it, that is, a direct road to Ingleton, a temptation a number of tired & tested leggings soon succumb to. The prospect of three miles of black tarmac ensured the majority of us took the more pleasant route to Newby. Another good reason for our expedition was the desperate need for a pint, so the hunt for the lesser spotted pub was now of some urgency. Arrival at the village brought us upon the local green with its mandatory stream and staring kids. The temptation to say 'we come in peace' was quickly quashed as we lock on to a couple of gleaming XR3's, a sure indication the inn of happiness must be around the next bend. A fast pace and the licking of the lips had us around that bend in record time only to see the mother of all signs...'You are now leaving Newby -Have a nice day'.

The usual solution of trying to kick down a 8ft high dry stone wall is not recommended as you only end up with a pair of hippie sandals and feet that feel like they been run over by a tractor (twice). The best thing you can say that there was a 'slight' disappointment amongst our group.

Final miles to Ingleton consisted of the usual field paths...not there, map wrong, barb wire and more stiles than the Grand National, but certainly good fun

In summary a serious mountain walk no less, with Ingleborough well truly in the bag and the 10 miles feeling more like 20 due to the hot conditions. Well done to everybody that took part; good company to have on the fells.

Cheers

Roy This

# 1998 Walking Holiday in Poland

ARE YOU interested in a walking holiday in the Tatra Mountains in southern Poland staying in the small town of Zakopane adjacent to the Tatra National Park or just having a holiday doing your own thing, etc?

If you are, then please join us at a meeting at the Cornmarket on Thursday, 20th November, at 8pm. If you are unable to attend but require further information contact **Dave Dickel** on 01244-533995 or **Mike Riley** on 0151-521 2268.

The holiday will be arranged through New Millennium Holidays. Accommodation will be at a "Pension," double rooms with private en suite (shower) including satellite TV in each room. Single rooms are available at extra cost. Meals

include breakfast and evening meal.

The holiday duration can be 10 or 17 days by coach from Ramsgate or by air from Gatwick for 8 of 15 days duration. Transport from Liverpool can be arranged to Ramsgate and return.

Cost by coach on 1997 prices for 10 days holiday range from **£248 to £270**, included in the price one extra night in Ramsgate, B/B on the outward journey, insurance, plus £40 supplement for those who will be on the walking holiday (i.e. Guide and transport costs). The price doesn't include transport from Liverpool to Ramsgate. Discounts are available if sufficient people wish to go, including non-walkers who will not pay the £40 supplement. **D. W. Dickel**

## SUBS NOW OVERDUE

Annual subscriptions were due before October 31st, so if you haven't renewed yours the bad news is that you are now no longer a member and will have to re-apply for membership. Singles £4 membership plus £4 joining fee; married couples £5 membership plus £5 joining fee.

## FROM OUR ARCHIVES - 66 years ago

A copy of our 1931/32 winter programme below shows there were many half-day rambles but look at some of those full day ramble mileages such as Dec 6th (20 miles) or Nov 15th (18 miles). Have we gone downhill since or is it more because we now go uphill? We now, of course, take longer travelling time on the road.

### 1931/32

#### WINTER RAMBLES.

##### PROGRAMME.

- Sunday, Oct. 4th, '31.** (Half Day) **Mystery.** (10 miles.) Royal Liver Buildings, 2-15 p.m. *Leader*—Mr. R. J. Duffy.
- Saturday, Oct. 10th, '31.** Hough Green. (10 mls.) Woolton Tram Terminus, 2-45 p.m. *Leader*—Mr. J. Shaw.
- Sunday, Oct. 18th, '31.** (Whole day). Shotwick. (16 mls.) Royal Liver Buildings, 10-30 a.m. *Leader*—Mr. F. Rooney.
- Saturday, Oct. 24th, '31.** Meols, West Kirby. (7 mls.) Royal Liver Buildings, 2-15 p.m. *Leader*—Mr. Marquess.
- Sunday, Nov. 1st, '31.** (Half day). Crank. (6½ mls.) Selton Place Tram Terminus, St. Helens. 2-30 p.m. *Leader*—Miss Powell.
- Saturday, Nov. 7th, '31.** Lydiate, (10 mls.) Exchange Station. 2-15 p.m. *Leader*—Mr. R. Joyce.
- Sunday, Nov. 15th, '31.** (Whole day). Neston, (18 mls.) Royal Liver Buildings, 10-30 a.m. *Leader*—Mr. E. McDonald.
- Sunday, Nov. 22nd, '31.** (Half day). Ince Woods, (6 miles.) Crosby Bus Terminus, 3 p.m. *Leader*—Mr. T. Joyce.
- Saturday, Nov. 28th, '31.** Willaston, (10 miles.) Royal Liver Buildings, 2-15 p.m. *Leader*—Mr. F. Harvey.

- Sunday, Dec. 6th, '31.** (Whole day). Burton, (20 mls.) Royal Liver Buildings, 10-30 a.m. *Leader*—Mr. J. Shaw.
- Saturday, Dec. 12th, '31.** Oglet, (7 mls.) Garston Tram Terminus, 2-30 p.m. *Leader*—Mr. J. Chambers.
- Sunday, Dec. 20th, '31.** (Half day). Wallasey, (6 mls.) Royal Liver Buildings, 2-15 p.m. *Leader*—Mr. J. McKay.
- Sunday, Dec. 27th, '31.** (Half day). **Mystery 7,** Aintree Tram Terminus, 2-15 p.m. *Leader*—Mr. J. Duffy.
- Saturday, Jan. 2nd, '32.** Irby, (6 miles). Royal Liver Buildings, 2-15 p.m. *Leader*—Mr. Harvey.
- Saturday, Jan. 9th, '32.** Formby, (8 miles) Exchange Station, 2-15 p.m. *Leader*—Mr. T. Joyce.
- Sunday, Jan. 17th, '32.** (Whole day). Pex Hill, (11 miles). Woolton Tram Terminus, 11 a.m. *Leader*—Mr. J. McKay.
- Saturday, Jan. 23rd, '32.** Whitby, (8 mls.) Royal Liver Buildings, 2-15 p.m. *Leader*—Mr. J. Shaw.
- Sunday, Jan. 31st, '32.** (Half day). Kirby, (10 mls.) West Derby Tram Terminus, 2-30 p.m. *Leader*—Mr. F. Norbury.
- Saturday, Feb. 6th, '32.** Fivelanes End, (10 mls.) Royal Liver Buildings, 2-15 p.m. *Leader*—Miss N. Kerrigan.
- Sunday, Feb. 14th, '32.** (Whole day). Dunkirk, (16 mls.) Royal Liver Buildings, 10 30 a.m. *Leader*—Mr. J. Shaw.

# Seniors' Section Ramble Write-ups

## Slaidburn/Newton

NINE enthusiasts met at the Public Hall (not to be confused with House) Newton, on a promising day. What the leader was promising he did not say but it turned out to be a mathematical conundrum. He was making use of a written guide which, so he claimed, confused him to such an extent that he walked in the wrong direction and his loyal and trusting band followed him!

The instruction at issue was: "Go diagonally left across a field." George maintained that if one is to walk on a diagonal there is no left or right as there can only be one diagonal from any one corner. Comments in a sealed envelope, please!

We orientated ourselves and made our way to Gamble Hall Farm where we had lunch, in a field made use of by sheep for various nefarious purposes. Talk was of holidays, the famous five having recently returned from a walking spell in the Trentino Highlands. Bowland, by comparison, seemed rather tame though beautiful. Tony regaled us with some of his experiences during his backpacking trip to the States.

We continued to Pain Hill seeing no-one but an

occasional farmer in this delightful, sparsely-populated landscape. In a little while, however, we arrived at Slaidburn where the world and his wife and his dog disported themselves beside the picturesque river setting. We did, of course, avail ourselves of the civilised facilities before continuing along the banks of the Hodder and eventually, by way of a little diversion, came within sight of Hammerton Hall.

Peter, the iconoclast, preferred to ogle the fish in the nearby stream, as the rest of us admired, or at least looked at, the mullion windows.

We moved on to reach Bell Sykes and Harrop Hall Farmyards and descended to the river bank at Cockshutts Farm. From here our way was mainly along a lovely riverside path along which Marie stoically persevered though our leader offered to send her by road. She declined as he failed to specify whether it was a rolling road, the road to nowhere or the road paved with good intentions.

We eventually arrived at the Public Hall and were disappointed to find no civic reception committee to meet us, because I think we'd done rather well.

GEFA

## Whitegate Way - 12th October

WHITEGATE WAY is in central Cheshire and a very pleasant part of the countryside. Twelve ramblers met at the Whitegate Way car park which used to be the old station on this now defunct line. I think Dr Beeching did ramblers and dog walkers a good deed when he closed down all these lines.

We followed this pleasant path for a while and came to the ex-station Catsclough, the only place where the old iron rails can be seen. The station house is now a 'des-res'.

The weather was perfect for rambling and plenty of chatter, it being a beautiful autumn day. The route followed the old trackway for a while before turning onto the Weaver Navigation Canal. Here we stopped for lunch at a picnic area - very civilised - but our

tyrant of a leader soon led us off again. This time along the canal-side where an abundance of fishermen were plying their lines. There was great excitement while we watched a fisherman fight to bring in his catch - all four inches of it! We had to be careful and athletic along here to miss and jump over their gear stretched across the path. Why do they need so much equipment for catching (or not) fish?

The walk continued across the fields, over well-kept stiles and through varied woodlands and at one point across a golf course in the making. We eventually arrived back at a point on Whitegate Way and so back to the cars after nine miles of very enjoyable walking.

Many thanks Bill for a good day.

## Seniors' Section ramble to Brinscall

TWO EVENTS took place on this day - the Seniors' Section ramble starting from Brinscall, the other, the Royal Lancashire Show - both of which contributed to some traffic congestion in and around Chorley!

A pleasant surprise awaited us at Brinscall - the arrival of Anna, Tony and Molly Roche's daughter, who lives nearby, but unfortunately we were unable to accept her offer of elevenses, as it was noon, and a member had still to arrive (guess who?).

Eventually all who were expected started the walk with an uphill lane opening to moorland, and a lunch stop, with Winter Hill ahead, just peeping over the eyeline. The route to our next objective, a hill curiously named 'Round Loaf,' took us downhill to a clough, where a stream had to be forded, after which Tony must have decided he preferred the horizontal to the vertical, as he was seen lying supine in the heather! I could see then that it was going to be one of those days, and so it proved, as we bog-hopped across Anglezarke Moor, from which there were superb panoramic views, stretching from Longridge and the Forest of Bowland in the north

across the Lancashire Plain, taking in the hills of Belmont, Billinge and Parbold, to the distant Frodsham Hill in the south.

With Anglezarke Moor behind us, and now on a more or less level terrain, the route took on a more familiar aspect until it dawned on me that we were now on a path used on many a Yuletide Walk. What memories it conjured up - wet days, windy days, crisp days and snowy days, of snow fights and slides, of children's laughter and some tears and the anticipation of hot-pot, games and square dancing at Rivington Barn to end the day.

Tony and Molly guided us via further paths and stiles to White Coppice - an idyllic hamlet of white-painted cottages ablaze with flowers, and a verdant cricket pitch, where the stalwarts of the area fought valiantly with leather and willow.

In the cool of the early evening the River Goit guided to Brinscall and the end of another ramble to be tucked away and recalled in years hence.

Many thanks Tony and Molly.

G.

## Parbold and Harrock Hill

IT WAS a question of the 'Old Faithfuls' again for this walk and I'm afraid that I do mean 'old'! And I suppose that means I now have five fewer friends than before but, to be serious, we should thank The Lord that we are still able to participate.

It was a pleasant day when we set off through the Fairy Glen, a delightful woodland path taking us above a deep chasm. Emerging to Appley Bridge, we turned along the canal towpath and it was at this juncture that the leader was faced with his first problem: How to keep Jean from the charming teashop which we encountered. However she proved so tractable that he needn't have worried. Then his next problem: How long was Peter going to hang on before the lunch stop? Again, no need to worry. Peter confessed to having had his lunch! Marie had gone on a trip to Buckingham Palace. When the cat's away, etc.

When we did stop for our break, who was seen tucking in with relish? At this point we were confronted by a cyclist even older than ourselves who insisted on regaling us with a short history of his schooldays. It would probably have been a long

history had we been slightly more enthusiastic listeners. Still, a pleasant chap.

Our route continued along the leafy Wood Lane, across the main road and up across pastures to High Moor where our lunch was there to greet us though complete with plumage and gizzards. Turning round we had a superb view to the west and to quote the old cliché, if the visibility had been right, one would have been able to see Snowdon. Well, never mind, we could see Fiddlers Ferry cooling towers.

We continued up the very gentle incline where Bill bumped into an old buddy from B.R. and on to our highest point, the site of an old windmill. I would have thought that carrying the corn up there would have gone against the grain! We now walked through someone's garden, on to Hill House Fold and down eventually to Boar's Den Farm. We were soon back at the cars, having had lovely weather, excellent company and a splendid walk almost on our doorsteps, except for Tony who'd had to come all the way from Wirral.

Thank you to everyone out.

GEFA

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## All Sections - Yuletide Ramble, Hot-pot and Barn Dance

Our Yuletide event takes place at Carnforth on Jan 4th. We are having the same band as last time. Full details will be in our Christmas Newsletter. We are expecting to get a full coach, but some members will be using their own cars. Don't leave it until the last-minute to book or you may be disappointed.