

NEWSLETTER October, 1956.  
LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS ASSOC.  
& HOLIDAY GUILD.

Editor: G. Penlington,  
43, Alexandra Drive.  
Liverpool.

Registrar: M. Roberts,  
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E D I T O R I A L

This year's Annual General Meeting, our 30th, was as well attended as any in recent years, which, you may say, sounds as if I'm not very impressed.

As far as numbers go, I'm not tremendously impressed, gratified though I was to see some 70 members present. These however, made up in interest and enthusiasm for their absent comrades and the result was quite a lively meeting. Including the Treasurer's Report, which seems to leave everybody stone cold at the best of times, the general body gave ear and voice to all matters and items brought up, and if you yourself didn't get your oar in, that's your lookout.

The number of people willing to serve on the Committee was a most encouraging sign and to the unsuccessful ones we say "Better Luck next time!"

To those retiring members of last year's Committee a vote of thanks for their hard and sustained work, deserved, coupled with an appreciation of the labours of those who are able to 'slog' on.

The meeting brought out a few items for our, and your, future consideration and decision, including the perennial "A" and "B" Parties and The Catholic Enquiry Centre, about which there is a special Notice elsewhere in this Newsletter.

I feel we should be pleased generally with our 30th A.G.M., but should not rest on our oars. Press on and progress still further with rambling, socials, tennis, football, dances and the rest. Our membership has surpassed the pre-war peak - NO LET THE SPIRIT OF OUR ACTIVITIES DO LIKEWISE.

91. Gateacre 1233.

Archbishop's House,  
Woolton,  
Liverpool.  
26th September, 1956.

Dear Mr. Penlington,

I learned from Monsignor Turner that the Liverpool Catholic Ramblers Association has recently donated £50. to the Cathedral Building Fund. The efforts and generosity of the Members are greatly appreciated. Would you kindly convey my thanks to them together with a cordial blessing

With all kind wishes,

Yours sincerely in Christ,  
William  
Archbishop of Liverpool.

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R A M B L I N G   P R O G R A M M E

DATE.	DESTINATION.	LEADER	MEET.	TIME.	APPROX. COST.
Oct. 20th	Burwarden.	J. McColgan.	Pier Head.	10.30.	£.
Nov. 4th.	Staleybridge.	J. Peloe.	Exchange St.	9.45.	7/-d.
" 11th.	Chalet Weekend.	Details at Clubroom			
" 18th.	Farrington (Ben)	B. Potter.	Special Coach,	details Clubroom.	
" 25th.	Hardcastle Crag.	S. O'Neill.	Exchange St.	9.45.	6/9d.

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BETTWS-Y-COED

The Coach trip to Bettws-Y-Coed was unique in that it started on time. The day was rather dull but very few seemed to notice, everyone being in good form after the Dance at Bootle Town Hall, and so with Garth Edwards cracking the whip we got under way.

On arrival at Bettws, nine of the party of 29 decided to make it an easy day and have a look at the local beauty spots, the remainder carried on to Capel Curig. The long trek to Moel Siabod started across open land covered in ferns which made it rather hard going, in fact we nearly lost some of our smaller members in the under growth. Good progress was made and an hour later we struggled through the last of the ferns and a halt was called for dinner. This had to be a short break due to the cold wind and to the fact that we wanted to climb to the top before the mist came down. It soon became obvious that the post was going to beat us but undaunted we pushed on and were now on bare rock, which had been made slippery by the damp mist and care had to be taken. One ridge had a drop of about 500 feet on one side. There were numerous requests for parachutes. The going became easier as we climbed higher and the summit (2,860 feet) was eventually reached by one and all. We celebrated with sweets and cigarettes, the usual photographs were taken.

The magnificent views usually seen from our high vantage point were completely blotted out by the mist. No sooner had we settled down to a nice long rest when Bernie decided to bring out the whip and take us back to tea at Dolwydelan, which was reached after plodding through acres of very wet bog land and over a river. I believe one or two tried to swim across while a few more scared the bulls peacefully eating in a near by field. After tea we had about two miles of road work before taking the short cut over the Roman Road to Bettws. The mist had by this time lifted and we all realised just how wonderful Snowdonia looks on a calm autumn evening.

It was dark before we arrived at the Coach and our driver wasted no time getting away. The choir then took over and the usual (unusual) noises were kept up all the way home. The only complaints heard, were from a party who found the back seat in the coach too cold.

A word of congratulations to the girls for walking so well and to Bernie and Baz for a grand Ramble.

T & P.

SOUTHPORT BATHS. 9th Sept.

For this our last swimming outing of the year, the sun which up to now had been in hiding took pity upon us and decided to show his face. Eight keen swimmers set out from Exchange Station, their destination being Southport Baths. Upon arriving there we were met by Vera & Arthur who scorned the British Railways in favour of a soap box on wheels.

We changed immediately into our swimming togs, the hardier ones taking the plunge right away, even daring to go down the chute. Eventually the party swelled in number, Kath and Frank being the latest additions. By that time some blue and shivering bodies had crawled out of the water and managed to eat their butties. We adjourned to the Cafe to quench our thirst and improve our circulation; eventually our numbed hands returned to their normal colour (purple !!) When we had got thoroughly warmed up, we once again took the plunge, Claire and Anne being helpfully assisted by two stalwarts.

As the evening was drawing in we made our way to the fun fair. Three brave souls ventured on the cyclone, the screams of sheer enjoyment (or otherwise) could be heard in Liverpool. The helter skelter was another attraction. One member came sliding down minus a shoe, which luckily for her followed on behind. Our leader Bernard had by this time left us to go to a christening.

If anyone happens to find assorted biscuits on the speedway, ring Anf.6024 to return them to their rightful owner.



Southport Baths/contd.

As the events of the day began to take their toll, we decided it was high time to hit the homeward trail (and leave the ducks to rest in peace)

Ta Edwards for helping us to enjoy our last plunge of the year.

C & C.

CHALET WEEK-END. 1st Sept.

Catching the ten to seven bus on Friday evening, Mona, Bernard, Tony Joe Ferns, Joe Kennedy and myself, all agreed that the weather gave every indication of being fine for our Chalet week-end. Just how wrong can you be??? Still that's jumping on ahead of time.

We really enjoyed the walk from Loggerheads, and were secretly relieved to realise that the noise we had thought was distant thunder was really only Mona's empty stomach complaining of neglect. On reaching the Chalet it was another relief to find that the previous party had left only that day, and the place was well aired. Some wealthy ones arrived in a car at the same time as us and it wasn't long before we were all sitting before a good fire eating our 'usual'. When the final group of Friday-nighters arrived we had a sing-song and settled down for the remainder of the night.

Saturday was a lovely day - and skipping lightly over the mornings happenings, which included amongst other things, a wonderful exhibition of supervision on the part of Arthur, who was genuinely thrilled at the progress of his Spud-bashing prodigies of last years' instructional course for backward housewives, I'll pass on to the afternoon ramble.

We set off over Moel then over Moel Fannau, around Loggerheads, and finally over the fields to the Chalet. Mention must be made here of the splendid way the 'first-timers' kept up (I was told to put that in), and also special mention of Marie who did exceptionally well (I was told to leave that out), and the hat which Kath wore, giving the vital clue as to why no-body wants an old-fashioned gal. Oh how we enjoyed that dinner when we returned.

We had a new M.C. for the evening social - Joe Ferns. It seemed reasonable to suppose this to be the most effective way of keeping him otherwise occupied, and it was most successful. The girls could relax without fear of being sat upon, shied at, squirted on, etc. Bob arrived with the news that the Footballers had won 2-1, and this great news was received by a tremendous ovation and was duly celebrated with a square dance. Then came the last arrival - Richard. He couldn't afford the bus fare so he had set out on his bike. Just when he got that puncture I can't say, but we sympathised, and offered to give generously towards his bus-fare next time.

After supper we had our usual sing-song, prayers and then bed. I must mention specially the 'cabaret' which Mona gave us, quite spontaneously and unrehearsed, and I believe, also quite unintentionally. Thank you Mona - what vitality, what facial expression, what exquisite grace of movement, what perfect control. I repeat, what - vitality??? what facial expression!!! what - exquisite grace of movement ??? What ever got into you Mona ?????

Sunday was a dreadful day and to crown it all we had to walk to Mold for Mass. Coming back we all got a soaking from head to foot and a complete change of clothing was necessary for most. I am now in a position to inform anybody who is interested, that Arthurs hip measurements are  $39\frac{3}{4}$ " - but don't dare ask how I know. A ramble was definitely out, and I would like to apologise to the Sunday party who came expecting a walk, and who more or less wasted a day - but please don't hold us responsible for the weather. (No living soul wants that responsibility placing upon him).

Consequently we all got the early bus home and were back in L'pool by 7.30.p.m. A more bedraggled group would be difficult to find. When I came out of James Street Station my Mum and Dad walked right past me. I was cut to the quick - hadn't they recognised me? or hadn't they wanted to?? I can't bring myself to ask them. Poor Richard - did he pedal or did he swim home I wonder!!!

Marie-Louise.

CATHOLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE.

At the recent Annual Meeting a suggestion was submitted that the committee should consider the possibility of encouraging promoters and sponsors for collecting funds for Catholic Enquiry Centre. This idea was given a welcome but the meeting has since been carefully considered by the committee.

It has been accepted by one committee after another that our club room should not be used as a meeting place where raffle tickets, dance tickets and similar may be sold. Only with authority may tickets be sold in the Club room, and this authority is not lightly given. We have restricted such activities to the 1d. Cathedral collection and to the Annual collection (usually during the Christmas Party) for some approved charity in the city.

With such thoughts in mind your committee decided to postpone a decision until the next quarterly meeting when any members sufficiently interested in the scheme might volunteer to pay 1/-a. per month to the appropriate fund.

WEAVER VALLEY

I've got an awful job to do. I've to do a write up for a walk which was very pleasant but not outstanding in comparison with lots of our walks. Yet it was a wonderful happy and memorable day. Something different happened. I'll tell you about it later.

Owing to a change from Summer to Winter times by B.R. we did not meet our leader until we got to Chester, but, without further ado we left the Station and boarded a bus to Helsby. Once there we proceeded to climb the hill. At the top those who hadn't eaten did so - and so did the local midges - on us! It didn't take long to finish our meal, but the latter had a slightly longer course. We then walked across over the Hill and down towards the Weaver. It was all very pleasant, but the weather was heavy and made us all very sleepy and listless.

There were a number of new members on the walk and Peggy Starkey was one of them. About 3.30. Peggy and a couple of the gang suddenly started to step out and leave the rest of us well behind. As I said it wasn't a perfect day for walking and I for one rather admired their effort. Some half an hour later when we approached a farm Don said "This is it". It appeared that when Len and he pioneered the walk they stopped at "it" for a drink of water and to their surprise found out that no other but Peggy lived there. She introduced them to her mother and sisters and Mrs. Starkey said we must call on the day of the walk "for a cup of tea". Mrs. Starkey's cup of tea was some brew. Sandwiches, home made cakes in variety were ready for us - not to mention a wonderful welcome. Needless to say we cleared the deck. Soon it was time to leave and after goodbyes off we went. Peggy took us across the fields to the river and we continued along its banks to Frodsham. Here we attended Benediction and again met the Starkeys. From Frodsham it was bus to Chester.

Chester Station is a delightful place! You go to Platform 1 hoping to catch your train - there you are informed to go to Platform 3. Platform 3 your told to go to Platform 14. The train there is packed and is going to Blackpool - when it goes (when is the operative word) the Birkenhead train (due 8.2 and its now 8.45) will come in. We wait. No Birkenhead train. Back over the cheerfully gaslit bridge to No. 1 or 3. We board same. Get seated. Someone yells "Train at No.4 going to Woodside. We swarm out - and board it. At last we're off. 50 yards. We stop. 5 mins. wait. Move another 10 yards. We stop 10 minutes this time! What comfort What bliss. 13 of us in a space 1 yard wide x 6 feet in length. Mid such luxury we speed along our merry way. Rock Ferry reached. Here we say Goodbye to Don and continue to Liverpool.

X IS THIS THE NAME ???



FOOTBALL NOTES BY "WINGER"

The opening fixture of the season was against Waterloo at Wavetree Playground. They had been quite a force last year and had finished in one of the top half dozen places in the league, so we were not too optimistic before the match. However, after half an hours play it was obvious that we had a good chance of winning, for the whole team was playing good hard football; and with Joe Connell on the line urging us on we soon scored two goals. In the second half our opponents did manage to get a goal - but only one, and at the final whistle we found ourselves with two points from the first game. A nice feeling!

The same team was picked for the game the following week against Silver Juniors at Calderstones. Football however, is a strange game, for our lads played like a lot of old women and we were thrashed 11-2. True we had three players injured and as a result positions had to be altered, but that apart, we can't manufacture excuses for poor football. We are hoping to make it a closer result in the return match.

There was no game the following week which gave pulled muscles etc. a much needed rest, and on the next Saturday we met the Navy. Their team Mersey R.N.V.R. is drawn from all the Naval Reservists on Merseyside so we expected to meet a strong side. Our team was changed for this match with Bob Forshaw playing at full back, and only Jim Murray and Eddie Summers retaining their original positions in the forward line. Sean O'Neill playing his first game of the season, came in on the right wing, with Bob Doyle moving to inside right, and Alec Mitchell filled the inside left berth. For those who are baffled by the above it suffices to say that with the swapping and changing it was intended to put more fire into the attack. It succeeded too, for after leading three-nil at half time we ran out winners by five goals to two.

One important feature of the game was the number of shots we had at goal. This has been one of our failings in the past, but no one could complain today, for apart from the goals scored five shots hit the cross bar and many others were either saved or were just wide of the post. (The last time we scored five goals in a League match, by the way, was in the first game LAST Season when we lost 7-5. to Broadgreen Hospital.

The following week we were at Woolton Woods playing a team that had beaten us twice last year - Diamond F.C. Due to Alec Mitchells late arrival Frank Martin played at inside left, and the only other change was at full back where Alec Webster came in for the injured Eddie Jones. This was a game in which neither side had much idea - for there was little football, and few scoring attempts - and it was from a poor shot in the first half that our opponents took the lead. We were still losing 1-0 five minutes from time when suddenly our attack woke up and bombarded Diamonds goal - and yes - we had equalised! There were only two or three minutes left now and everybody put all they had into a final effort. Terry Roache was given the ball thirty yards out and by sheer determination only, he managed to bring the ball into a shooting position. Wham! It was there! With only a minute to go we had taken the lead -and we held onto it. It had been a poor game but the two points were most welcome. The game was also marred by an injury to Alec Webster in those closing minutes which required a couple of stitches at the Hospital.

Well there we are at the end of September, having played 4 matches, won 3 and lost 1. We have scored 11 goals and have had 15 goals scored against us and so have six points out of a possible eight. The goals have been scored by Bob Doyle(3), Eddie Summers(2), Jim Murray(2) and Bill Burns, Alec Mitchell, Frank Martin, and Terry Roache. one each.

We hope to continue our winning ways in October so come along to Calderstones some Saturday and give us a cheer, or if we are playing an away match in your neighbourhood - pop over with your dad's football rattle - you'll be welcome.

XXXX P E R S O N A L XXXXX

Congratulations to John and Joyce Naylor on the birth of their first born - A Son.

Condolences to Joe Sands and Bill Wildes who have each lost their Mother during the past month. Masses have been offered.

Best wishes to Tony and Molly on their recent marriage.

Belated 21st Birthday wishes to Kevin Murphy.

Congratulations to Bas and Bernedette on their recent engagement.

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SOCIAL PROGRAMME.

	<u>M.C.</u>	<u>Refreshments.</u>	<u>Washers Up.</u>
Oct. 24th.	Bill Roberts	M. Lamb	
" 31st.	Halloween Night.	V. Callaghan.	
Nov. 7th.	John Carroll	M. Smith	Bernadette & Pat Murray
" 14th.	Gerry Penlington	J. O'Neill	M. Brennan & J. Dobson.
" 21st.	Bill Potter	P. Naylor	M. & E. Maxwell.
" 28th.	Harry O'Neill	F. Johnston	Annes Corrin & Dorricot.

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One annual moan coming up. It isn't that I don't adore my work as Registrar and look forward with wild enthusiasm to going on the scrounge for your five bobs every Wednesday; it isn't even that I regret the beautiful friendships that are broken when I ask somebody for their 5/-d who coughed up weeks ago; or even that I regret the occasional dance I don't get because a prospective partner loses interest while I divest myself of biro, visitors' book, receipt book and "cash box"; nor am I, as some suspect, on a commission basis. Anybody who has been a member since before the end of July now owes another five shillings for the 1956/7 year. Please do the necessary. Its so much more pleasant if you come to me instead of having to be sought out.

THE REGISTRAR.  
(Mona Roberts)

Since the Registrar WILL get her "Dear Sir / Unless" notice in about this time of the year, it hasn't left me much space.

The Annual Mass and Retreat were a great success. The numbers at Mass were rather fewer and our Chairman missed for the first time owing to car trouble on the way home from an earlier Mass. Mr. Wildes Junior was able to attend and in about eighteen years time looks like being as good a walker as his Pop was!

Bootle Town Hall dance wasn't quite the riot it was last time but appears to have been more enjoyable for being less crowded. We omitted to let the Wallasey Catholic Social Club know definitely that we were definitely going to be 'among those present' last Friday, but once they faced the awful truth they gave the thirty-odd members who turned up a really good time. They'll be visiting us soon.

Please try to be early for the Rosary next week, the last Wednesday in May. The Social Sub-Committee is putting a spot of effort into Halloween Night next Wednesday, so there's another incentive to come a little earlier.

All for now,

Socialite.