

LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS

ASSOCIATION AND HOLIDAY GUILD

AFFILIATED TO
THE RAMBLERS FEDERATION

CLUB NIGHT EVERY THURSDAY
ST. SEBASTIAN'S HALL
LOCKERBY ROAD, FAIRFIELD

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Monthly News-Letter

No. 18

First Edition

August, 1939.

A Trip to London



THE FIRST VISIT TO LONDON ever organized by the Association takes place on Sunday, 1st October. A special leaflet giving full details will be published early next week, but we are able to state that the total cost per head, including train fare, two good meals on the train and a conducted tour round the Capital will be about 22/-.

Our party will be accompanied by a Guide Lecturer during the Tour of London and every place of interest will be visited - among them Brompton Oratory, Buckingham Palace, St. James Palace, British Museum, Kew Gardens, Scotland Yard, Law Courts &c.

Special arrangements will be made with the Railway Company for the party and we hope that a large number of members will take part in the outing. Relatives and friends of members are specially invited. Why not commence to save for the great occasion now? 3/6 per week put away between now and then should at least provide the 22/-.

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BADGES To meet the wish of many members, the Committee intends to order a fresh supply of Badges, but before doing so they must be reasonably satisfied that they will all be disposed of. Members who require a badge are therefore requested to give their name to Mr. King or Mr. McCallen as soon as possible. The price will be 1/3, and we hope that all members will take this opportunity to buy a badge.

SNAP ALBUM. Very few snaps are handed in for the Snap Album these days, and we ask all who have some good photographs taken on the Rambles please to endow the Association with one or two for our Book. The Album forms a pleasing pictorial record of our doings on Rambles, and we would hate to see it fall into disuse through lack of support. Mr. King will be glad to receive the snaps.

Six Exposures

After each issue of the News-Letter we have a certain amount of speculation as to who the various contributors are. I mean, of course, those contributors who, like myself, write under another name. Such questions as, "Who is this 'Pop'?", or wild guesses like, "I believe so and so is 'Little Audrey'" are common, and we even hear an occasional threat, like "Wait till I find out who it is". Well, I have a method, marvellous yet simple, which I can pass on to you puzzled ones, whereby all your wonderings will cease, (except that you'll wonder why you never thought of it before). From now on, you'll know exactly who is who, and you'll be able to scoff, throw things, laugh, or retaliate, at the actual people who use these pen-names. No longer will you have to withhold vengeance just because you didn't know for sure whether 'Zingari' was Freddie Norbury or Tom Inight. No longer will you be afraid to open your mouth on Sundays lest 'Little Audrey' report your remarks - for now you will know Little Audrey personally, and be able to talk WHEN SHE'S NOT THERE. Ha! Ha! Ha!

You see, at last these snakes in wolves clothing are to be exposed (I seem to recall another John Bull who does a spot of exposing. However) and my method will do it. At first I thought of selling this idea to you, but something told me not to, so out of the goodness of my heart, I'm giving it away. "And the people to be exposed?" you ask, impatiently. Ah! yes - here they are, six of them, Little Audrey, Ernest Walker, Pop, Zingari, Mac, and yes, John Bull, and we'll take them one by one. First, Little Audrey, for she is the most recent writer. I'll take this as an example, just to demonstrate my wonderful system. To begin, you must look for the most obvious thing about her. Maybe that wouldn't be too clear to you, but to me, it is, judging by her reports on the Sunday Sayings, the fact that she hears a lot. Quite so; therefore - if she hears a lot - she must have Big Ears. That's the whole secret, something BIG. So all you have to do now is - look out for the person with big ears - and you have Little Audrey. Simple, isn't it?

Of course you'll be sensible enough to realise that I can't very well give you actual names of people, because those oysters the N.L. Staff would immediately suppress this article; so I'll just give you everything but the actual names.

Well, now that you know who Little Audrey is, we'll take the next on turn - "Ernest Walker". D'you know, for months and months I wondered who Ernest was, but now, of course, since my method was perfected - proof - I know everything. Just do as before, ask yourself what is the most obvious thing about Ernest Walker? Got it? Of course you have - it is that he walks in earnest. And what, do you suppose, would be the Big thing connected with an earnest walker? Right first time - Big Boots. There you are again - look for the bloke with Big Boots - that's Ernest Walker.

I think it begins to appear too easy, but the next ones are not quite so, they need a little defining. We'll take 'Pop', shall we? Pop! Say it to yourself - 'Pop'. Now what? Well, isn't it obvious that a pop is a noise of sorts? Certainly! But there's a snag in this one - the noise must be Big, and a pop is usually a little noise. Therefore, in my system, the words "little" and "big" mean exactly the same. 'Little Audrey' was proved to be 'Big Ears', and so a little 'Pop' is obviously a Big Noise. See? A Big Noise.

And so to 'Zingari'. This one should be easy but it isn't, for there is nothing obvious about him except that he doesn't report half-day rambles. Which, I think, is a great Big Shame. Now you just go around asking people if they know anything about a Great Big Shame, and who-

ever says "Yes" that is Zingari! (Sounds a bit like Nobby, doesn't it - but it AINT). That's four exposed. Now for "Mac" whose Articles cover a wide range. Let's apply the system. The obvious thing about Mac is that she belongs to the fair sex. That's her own admission (or boast). That being so, of course she's a big attraction. You need only half an eye to see that. So you have "Mac" - the Big Attraction,

That leaves only myself. John Bull. Well, we'll see. What is the obvious thing? (Keep quiet, you know-allist!) Some might say the Bulldog; others - the absence of the Bulldog. Actually, you've probably got it right. I talk through my hat. Consequently, as there is a lot of talk - the Hat must be Big. Hit Hatted Arthur, that's not. But I've pawned the Hat - and anyway - that implies a Big Head. Or a Fat Head. Yet, lots of fat heads have Big Ideas. That sounds better - the Fella with the Big Ideas. Now you know all of us. Wonderful thing, a system, isn't it?

JOHN BULL.

Our Social Reporter

At long last a dramatic society has been formed and a play is actually being rehearsed. As all heroes are reputed to have curly hair, our Benny has no alternative but to play the romantic lead. Of course, the fascinating cad, has also been known to have a top note worthy of note, but then I don't know if the C.R.A. Play calls for such a being. Miss May Doyle plays the sweet young heroine, and if any of the boys want to know just how sweet she can be, ask Benny. (By the way, May - does Benny make up for Nelson Eddy's unfaithfulness?) The Play also includes popular Mr. C(omedian) Kelly and with Mr. Frank Harvey directing proceedings it should certainly prove a success.



In an effort to outdo Inspector Hornleigh I found out why it was that Mac interposed so much German in her Articles. It's because she had to make herself proficient with the language so that she could fool the natives when she descended on Hitler's territory for her holiday this year. You know, Mac, its rank rebellion in the camp, for you to go to hiking a deux when the Club is making such valiant efforts to entertain us en-masse within the boundaries of the British Isles. (Forgive me but I don't know any German and my French is obviously of the very wonky variety, but then I must sir what little knowledge I have). Never mind, Mac, you weren't the only one to let the Club down, as Harold Rathbone graced Switzerland with his presence whilst Gerry Moritz favoured Luxembourg. On the quiet I'm sorry that I didn't learn German, so that I too could make a long nose at Mr. Hitler, but maybe he would have taken exception to the compliment - and what would you do without your Social Reporter? (Don't tell me - I can guess!) (Editors note - we might point out that Mr. Rathbone did do a week's Holiday with the Club in addition to going abroad).

Talking about Holidays, we have good reason to be satisfied with the result of this year's Campaign. Our Guest House scheme seems much more practical than it did a few years ago, when it was then only a dream for the Founders of the Club.

My-o-my, aren't we Ramblers coming on? Here we actually have a Jazz Band starting in our midst, and with such popular artists as Mr. Tom Inight and Mr. Johnny Byrne acting as sponsors, it should prove to be quite a success. Johnny has a craze for drum-sticks and uses it to advantage, and I understand that the Misses Eileen Browne and Mary Cramer perform very professionally on their violins. What about playing for the next C.R.A. Dance, Maestro Tom, with Babies Jeanne and Joseph doing a spot of crooning for us?

Our Club has certainly been responsible for quite a number of matrimonial ventures on the part of its members, and now it has to render accounts for yet another match, as one of the elder members, Mr. Ted Byrne, has become engaged to Miss Eileen McKeon. I think its about time we employed our own Priest to perform these so frequent ceremonies. Joking apart, however, I want to wish Eileen and Ted all the very best of good wishes.

Our Annual Mass was celebrated recently at the Pro-Cathedral, and the Club was quite well represented. The Canon made a speech a little speech after Mass about the objects of the Club and expressed his personal approval of the organization. "Faith of our Fathers" was sung as a finale.

Norah Tasker.

SOME RECENT RAMBLES - by Zingari.

HOLYWELL, Sunday, 17th June. A fine day for a fine Ramble. In sharp contrast to the recent heat wave, there was a certain element of chill in the air which made for pleasanter walking and, needless to say, considerably keener appetites. There were 42 of us out, and led by Michael McCallen (the fair fellow with the brown velvet shorts and the walking stick!) we first of all paid a visit to St. Winifrede's Well, the famous Welsh Shrine. The crypt is an interesting place containing quantities of crutches, leg-irons, surgical boots, etc. - mute testimony to the efficacy of the Saint's intercession. I noticed that many of the cures recorded were of rheumatic complaints.

We spent some time examining the Well, and after saying the Prayer to St. Winifrede we departed for the dinner place. A very illuminating discussion as to the respective merits of feeding a baby with a ham bone was spon in progress at one table. The suggestion of a rope and pulley as a solution was positively Heath Robinsonish in its ingenuity, but then, one can never really tell the effect of the bracing Welsh air.

The afternoon walk was excellent, even if some of us found it a bit strenuous. We had paths, woods, high moors and a bit of road. The high moors were particularly interesting in that they afforded constant views of the sea coast from Hilbre Island down to Neston and from the Great Orme down to the Lancashire Coast at Formby. Visibility was exceptionally good, Moel Famau in one direction and Liverpool Anglican Cathedral in the other being easily recognisable landmarks.

Shortly before we arrived at Pantasaph Monastery we crossed a patch of wild land which was formerly Pantasaph Race course. Michael informed me that the last race meeting was in 1842 when there were six walk overs in the Grande Finale of eight races! Now all that remains is a ruinous grandstand and the base of what was once a judge's box.

We had tea at the Monastery, being entertained during the process by members of the St. Christophers Cycling Club who had arrived earlier. After tea we wandered about the grounds, visiting the Church and Calvary. One of the lay Brothers entertained us with bits of local history and stories of the Monastery's foundation. On being told who we were, he promptly referred to us as "Roaming Catholics!"

We had to leave our interesting hosts soon after 8 p.m. in order to catch our train. There were some doubts as to whether we could manage in the time - but we did.

The journey home was accomplished with varying degrees of riotousness (not to be confused with righteousness) - the degree varying with the number of strangers in the carriages. (I leave to your own imaginations the effect of 100% C.R.A. occupation of one carriage). However as Fat Emma used to say "All's swell that ends swell" and we managed to get to Lime Street intact.

Nice work, Michael!

Zingari.

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

August 17th

COME AND DANCE TO THE C.R.A. JAZZ BAND!
Dancing 8 to 11



REFRESHMENTS (Perhaps)
(if you're lucky) SPOT PRIZES

M.C. (Muddler of Ceremonies) T. INIGHT

6d. No Cloakroom fee

August 24th

JOURNALISTS BALL; King Carnival, Streamers
Balloons, Blowers, Favours, Prizes, Button-
hole for everybody, lively Music,
Loads of Fun, This is the News-
Letter Staff Night, assisted by
Messrs. Frank Harvey and Fred
Norbury. ROLL UP! ROLL UP!!



August 31st

OLD TIME NIGHT with Mrs. Formby.
Sprightly Dances, Ancient and
Modern, Hot Music, Crazy Rhythm!
Atch-ch-ch-ch! BOOMPS-A-DAISY!!

RAMBLES PROGRAMME

August 20th

HINDERTON. Meet Pier Head 2.15 p.m. Fare 6d. Leader Miss
May Morris. We have pleasant recollections of the previous Hinderton
Ramble- the walk through the fibrous paths of Hinderton Woods was ideal.

August 27th

STONEVHURST. Meet Exchange Station 10 a.m. Fare 3/6. Leader
Mr. King. Those who intend to take part in this Ramble are asked to give in
their names to Mr. King. Permission has been granted to go through the
grounds of the Historic College.



DON'T FORGET OLD TIME NIGHT,



31st AUGUST!

LOOK OUT FOR SENSATIONAL SOCIAL PROGRAMME
IN OUR SEPTEMBER ISSUE!

RAFFLE.

We are holding a Raffle in Aid of the Tennis Section and the
News-Letter Staff (for its office requirements). Many members have been
kind enough to take quantities of books - some indeed have done
exceptionally well and have returned their sold books. Now we want
all members to sell as many tickets as possible, and would they be
good enough to return the counterfoils by 31st August? The tickets
are in books of four, one penny each, four for threepence, and two
Ten Shilling Notes are offered as Prizes.

And the consequence was:- He took to rearing chickens.

So the toothpaste said to the toothbrush "Squeeze me and I'll meet you outside the tube".

Tell MY fortune now.

Goose stepping definitely slows down the pace, doesn't it?

That old grandstand is a unique place of interest.

Hello, Christopher Wheelers!

Tea please. More tea, please. MORE TEA, Please!!



Good-bye, Christopher Wheelers!

The martyr's remains were discovered in the Catacombs - 9d. each, I'm sorry, but Business is Business! - and we were fortunate enough to receive this precious relic.

Step on it to the station.

I know a short cut.

I always read the "News Review".

Where are we now? At Hovis.

Where are we NOW? Still at Hovis.

That little light? That's for taking snaps in the dark!

Did you stop for a drink, Driver???????????

Show me the way to go home!

(17-6-1939)



Some important points for Ramblers - by Frank King (Assistant Secretary).

As members of the Association you are expected to support its many and varied functions, as Ramblers you have also a certain responsibility in as much that you must uphold and safeguard the prestige of the Rambling movement. The subjoined are a few ways in which you can effectively co-operate, and by so doing you will be serving the Association and also the Rambling movement.

1. As rambles you should be keen supporters of the Anti-Litter movement. On rambles therefore please refrain from leaving litter and rubbish lying about. At meal places all papers, tins, peel, cigarette ends etc. should be carefully collected and deposited in some appropriate spot. A word concerning conduct at meal places - bear in mind that the place belongs to somebody else and let that fact be your first counsellor. The practice of throwing waste paper, orange peel and other things at each other must not be indulged in.
2. When crossing footpaths care should be exercised that you are not trespassing. If the nature of the path is such that it permits of the passage of one person only at a time, please walk in single file even if in doing so your conversation is interrupted. This is exceedingly important especially where the path runs alongside or through a cultivated field.
3. The last person or persons in the party are expected to close any gates that have previously been opened by the leader to allow the party

to pass through. Failure to observe this practice may cause a farmer inconvenience and trouble - it allows cattle and sheep to wander.

4. If at any time singing is indulged in no harm is done providing the following are borne in mind. There should be no singing when passing through a village even if the party is travelling in a privately hired bus. Sing by all means if you desire, but please remember there is a distinction between singing and Bawling. You should get the Proprietor's permission before starting to sing at a dinner or tea place.
5. The success of the Club rambles depends on many things and should not be left solely to the Leader. Members are requested to mix as much as possible during the outing and should endeavour when new members are out to try and make them feel at home.
6. Where possible please keep behind the leader and if one is desirous of falling out from the party for any particular reason please let the leader know so as to obviate any doubt later.
7. At tea places it is not the duty of the person who is leading to be at the service of the party. If anything is required it is up to the individual to get it his or herself.
8. Do not lag behind unduly but co-operate with the leader by keeping up with him. Besides causing delay it is not fair to the rest of the party to hold them up. Time is often an important factor, especially when trains have to be caught.

For Tennis Fans ...



The inferior weather of the past few weeks has certainly had an adverse effect on the attendance at the Tennis Courts. At the time of writing however the sun is shining brightly and there is every indication of some real summer weather. So now all you tennis fans, root out your racquets again and along to the Tennis Courts. Remember, we have only six or seven weeks left in the season, and it is up to you to make the most of it.

The final instalment of the Subscription became due on the last day of July, and members of the Tennis Section are asked please to give this matter their attention. Some there are indeed who have not yet paid their second instalment which fell due at the end of June. Such members are admittedly few, but we want all to bear in mind that, fine weather or no fine weather, the rent of the courts has to be paid, and we can only pay the rent out of subscriptions.

We have noticed that some players tend to prolong their game when others are waiting to play. This is not as it should be, and if others are waiting a set should end when one side has reached six games. There is also a whisper that some players do not 'mix' and invariably play with the same partners or form a little 'clique' of their own. This of course might be a natural tendency, but is not in accordance with the true spirit of the Tennis Section. If we are to make any progress as a Tennis Club we must do our best to make newcomers feel at home and try to give them as many games as possible. Their subscriptions help to keep things going; to-day's beginners might some day form the backbone of the Section.

An American Tournament will be held on the first Saturday in September and as the nights are drawing in we would like everybody to turn up in good time, so that the competition may end early in the evening.

We are not without hope that next year we might be able to secure better courts. Your Committee is already on the look-out, and your Prayers are solicited for the success of their search.