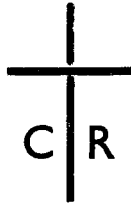


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NOV 63

LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC  
RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION



LIVERPOOL

NEWS LETTER

Socials 8-0 p.m. each Wednesday

at

Cathedral Buildings

Brownlow Hill

Liverpool 3

Registrar: Miss W.O'Conner, 77 Lyme Grove,  
Longview, Huyton.

Editor: Mr.G. Penlington, 43 Alexandra Drive,  
Bootle.20. Lancs.

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Liverpool loses another Archbishop to Westminster!  
Were it not such an honour we could be very sad indeed. All the portents point to Archbishop Heenan being an austere and eminent figure - well may we be proud that he was our President. In his letter to Cyril Kelly (printed inside) His Grace asks for your prayers - we know you won't stint them.

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This year's A.G.M. was quiet compared with recent years, even though it went on longer than last year's. There were some 80 members present, and excellent turnout, but more of you seemed to be satisfied with things as they are. I doubt this, personally, and a vociferous minority in confirmation assaulted rambling, socials and other arrangements generally. All suggestions etc are being passed to relative sub-committees, some of whom have already met and acted upon them. We thank you one and all for your generous support; we thank retiring committee members for past services and new members and officers in anticipation.

'Editor'

Rambling Programme

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Destination:</u>	<u>Leader:</u>	<u>Meet:</u>	<u>Approx Cost:</u>
Nov 3rd	Beeston Castle Easy - Beginners.	J. Johnson	James St.Stn.10.20	6/-
" 10th	Moel Famau Moderate.	B. Manley	Pier Head. 10.15.	7/-
" 17th	Lyme Park Easy - Beginners.	C. Scott	Exchange Stn.9.50	9/-
" 24th	* Trough of Bowland Coach Trip	(a)H. O'Neill (b)M. Marsden	St.John's Ln.10-15.	8/6
Dec 1st	Kelsall-Delamere Moderate	J. Burns	James St.Stn.10.20.	6/6

\* Coach Trips, names to be given three weeks beforehand and all bookings render members liable to the full cost.

Any alterations to the programme will be announced in the clubroom.

Names for the Yuletide walk and social of January 5th will be taken shortly.

Sub-Committees

	<u>Rambling</u>	<u>Social</u>	<u>Newsletter</u>	<u>Tennis</u>	<u>Finance</u>
Chairman	W. Potter	C. Debbin	G. Penlington	)	Not decided yet
Secretary	C. Scott	R. Ryan	2 B. Turner	)	
Committee	P. Atherton	2 M. Connor	2 E. Kavanagh	2 P. Atherton	3 P. Atherton
	M. Connor	2 P. Cunningham	C. Kelly	2 C. Debbin	3 C. Debbin
	P. Cunningham	E. Kavanagh	F. Norbury	3 M. Connor	3 C. Kelly
	B. Manley	M. McDonald	2 W. Potter	3 P. Cunningham	2 M. McDonald
	E. Quinn	2 E. Quinn	2 C. Scott	2 C. Kelly	3 F. Norbury
	W. O'Connor	2 C. Scott	3 C. Scott	2 F. Norbury	2 G. Penlington
		E. Turner		2 R. Ryan	
				3 B. Turner	

Christmas Party 18th December in the

Clubrooms

They have plenty of work to do - but any one of them will still welcome your hint, tip, suggestion, criticism, article etc.etc.

LLANARMON DYFFRYN CEIRIOG September 1st.

We left St. John's lane after anxiously scanning the horizons of Lime Street for late comers and settled down to a pleasant ride to Llanarmon. However, the back seat fraternity enlivened the journey with their usual boisterous activities.

In glorious sunshine the 'A' party, 13 strong, tramped off, the inclusion of John W. and John K. meant an easy day for the ladies in 'B' party. At our first grub stop Tony T. sadly informed us that "fings ain't wot they used to be" concerning the club photo album, so as a promise of better things, our smiling faces? were indelibly recorded on film by a variety of cameras ably handled by Tony himself and Margaret G.

We continued our progress over the rolling Berwyns refreshed by a welcome breeze and at our periodic resting halts our energetic leader was ever urging us on the march again with cries of Avanti. At one time some of the more hawk-eyed of the party thought they spied the 'B' party as diminutive dots on a distant height but we too far off for a friendly wave.

We sampled successively Berwun bog, toilsome ascent and then an exhilarating run down to the river from where by way of path and road we strode briskly back to reach the coach to beat a torrential rain shower by seconds, although our three tail-end charlies were rather dampened.

The homeward journey saw our tireless back benches ready to entertain afresh and John W. was made up with the days outing in more ways than one.

'Bootsie'

TRYFAN (B Party) September 15th

We were to have been led by Chris Scott, but he was too busy assaulting the Matterhorn to care, and so we had to make do with Larry Fag-end (he made us puff, anyway) instead. He counted his chicks as soon as

they alighted from the coach, and indeed they were all chicks except Ron and John Burns, the latter of whom came along to give the other two moral and the 6 ladies physical support.

The "A" party were well on their way as we started struggling dutifully up the rocks, mostly on all fours, in the wake of our leader who, as we got higher, kept urging us to stand up straight, even as we were clinging for dear life to some precipice. Possibly he wanted us to have a quick descent, so that he could hurry on and join the "A" party and put an end to this "B" nonsense. However, we survived this first leg and were soon on to what we were told was the terrace, where we flopped down to enjoy a well earned sandwich and drink. But we had scarcely got our wind when we were hoisted to our feet again to continue the trek. After climbing for some time over steep loose stones we eventually reached a sheep wall and at the other side of this some of the party remained. (One could hardly blame them). John B. also couldn't stand our company any longer and made some excuse to join the "A" party. The rest of us, 5 to be exact, continued the journey. This was the last lap, which gave us heart, and as we got nearer the summit, we met supercilious stragglers from the "A" party on the way down. Nothing daunted, we scrambled over the last few large boulders and finally reached the top where we found Harry, Ronnie and Bill Potter having their own private Gipfelkonferenz in a cosy nook bathed with the sun. We rested for about 10 minutes and watched some climbers getting stuck some feet below us. Harry jumped from Adam on to Eve, just to prove that he was with the "A" party and then we started going down the mountain, picking up our C division on the way. As we reached the marshy slopes even our leader got tired of us and handed us over to Ron to finish off the walk around Lake Ogwen and back to the coach, where we waited until all the "A"s returned. They had been delayed owing to Margaret G. and Monica C. not having legs long enough to reach down to the next boulder below them. However, they were eventually rescued and everyone climbed on board the coach.

## MATTERHORN MEANDERINGS



The small red train on a narrow gauge railway twisted its way from the Rhone Valley in Switzerland up through the high mountain villages towards Zermatt, a holiday centre which is cradled among the highest alpine summits. Three travellers looked with surprise at the dark clouds and the thickening swirl of falling snow. It was early September, but already the snow was quite deep.

It should be said that the three travellers are known as Bernard Duffey, Chris Scott and Tony Thompson of the L.C.R.A. They were on their first holiday on the Alps and had two

objectives. The first was to pioneer the Zermatt area which has been a mountaineering Mecca for more than a hundred years, and the second was to climb the majestic Matterhorn with guides via the Hirli ridge.

A small hotel in Zermatt became base camp, and soon the made their way to the Guides H.Q. to enquire about the mountains in general and one in particular. The news was bad - heavy snow every where and it was unlikely th the matterhorn would be fit to climb until next year! The three trudged sadly through the snow to the nearest beer-cellar not knowing that the next ten days were goi to be blessed with blue skies, a hot sun, and a feast o fantastic scenery.

The Following day was Sunday and on leaving the church they saw the Matterhorn for the first time. It seemed

to tower over the village like huge white pyramid, its east face glistening in the early morning sunlight. Some hours later Zermatt could be seen as a dark pattern in the valley below as they followed an easy path to the Gabelhorn (the Alps have grand comical names) and finally looked down on the Zmutt glacier. The awesome north face of the Matterhorn dominated the scene. The whole area was undoubtedly a ramblers paradise, and the white pyramid an irresistible magnet.

The obvious move was to leave Zermatt for a while and stay at the Alpine Club huts in the mountains. With rucksacs filled with provisions, Bernard insisted on bringing a loaf which was at least a yard too long (no food is available in the huts). They set out for the Tasch valley and the Mischabel mountains. The following days were spent making routes through fresh snow, scaling massive rock ridges crested with snow cornices, and generally appreciating the spell-binding panorama of Alpine peaks which were higher than 12,000 ft.

Food stocks ran low, no tea, coffee or sugar and the three were alone in the hut. But necessity is the mother of invention and Chris invented an acceptable brew called raspberry tea made from jam, boiling water and a secret ingredient. The cold wind from the glaciers rattled the shutters and the dim oil lamp hissed, but hot raspberry tea...aaahh!

At the hut Tony became homesick when they told him that breakfast was at 3-30 a.m., but the early rise provided the most spectacular mountain scene he had ever experienced. It was the sight of a sunrise which turned the Matterhorn into a summit of glimmering gold surrounded by a warm fiery haze.

One object remained - could the Matterhorn be climbed? One guide thought that it was 90% possible but he was unable to find another guide to join him. The conditions made it necessary for each climber to have a separate guide; a coin was tossed and fate decided that Chris would join **this one guide for the first attempt.** At 4 a.m. from the Hirli hut the guide Hieronymus and Chris started the climb. Conditions



were difficult and progress consequently slow. Twelve hours later Bernard and Tony at the hut were anxiously wondering what had happened on the Matterhorn. Dramatic decisions were made and Bernard set off on the long trail back to Zermatt. Happily at 6.30 p.m. the guide and Chris reached the hut, safe and well. THE MATTERHORN (14,690 ft) HAD BEEN CLIMBED.

This was a splendid achievement and it is regretted that bad weather prevented Hieronymus from making further ascents to complete a "triple". However, the objects of a wonderful holiday had been achieved and it is possible that the last ascent of the Matterhorn in 1963 was by the L.C.R.A.

"Mark"

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... ..

Archbishop's House,  
Woolton,  
Liverpool.

September, 1963.

Dear Mr. Kelly,

It was kind of you to send your greetings and good wishes on my new appointment. I know I can rely on your prayers that God will guide me in the important work awaiting me in Westminster.

Wishing you every blessing

I am,

Devotedly yours

(signed) John C. Heenan,  
Archbishop Elect of Westminster

come

With the evenings drawing in socials and dances into their own and with the fresh wind of enthusiasm shown by your new Social Committee I am sure that your Wednesday evenings will have a fresh spark and drive. It remains for you to co-operate to the hilt with your hard working Committee Members in making our socials a tremendous success. And by socials I do not just mean the dances. Such attractions as Slide Shows and Films can only be a success if you come early. Officially we start at 8 p.m. but who arrives before 9 p.m. these days?

Two very dark and Suntanned young ladies visited the club the other Wednesday, I wonder who they were? Rumour - (which no one ever takes notice of!) has it that they were once known as the Misses Sweeney and Kershaw, but since their fantastic holiday on the Costa Brava they have taken the names of Mini Hee Hee and Brown Skwark - the "Spanish Omelet". May be Cheyenne Fagan back from Majorca, mountaineering with the R.A. in "cool" (Whew!) October can translate for us.

Our congratulations must go to the members of the Catholic Ramblers Matterhorn Expedition 1963, upon their success in planting the L.C.R.A. national flag on the summit. Even if the flag was only in the weary bones of the successful aspirant and his trusted guide it was a proud moment for the club when Chris Scott and Hieronymus Inderbinen stood on that peak 14,690 ft. high.

It was a pity that our Keswick weekend was so wet. But 'tis typical of the Lakes - still it was nice to be able to renew acquaintanceship with Lakeside House. Apart from the dampness I enjoyed as indeed I am sure did everyone else strolling among the fells.

Two notable absentees from Keswick were Margaret Gilmour, learning how to stir a "MACBETHIAN" brew in Edinburgh and John Potter learning Theology at Osterley, but we remembered them by plastering our names onto a couple of post-cards.

Our attempt at organising weekend retreats for club-members was encouraging although the numbers attending were small. Attending retreats plays an important part in teaching us our faith and in receiving a spiritual refresher. I do hope we can get more members to avail themselves of the opportunities.

Congratulations to:-

Jean O'Malley and Jim Sheeran who were married recently at S.S. Peter & Paul Church, Crosby. Jean's dress was Satin Brocade and her two bridesmaids were dressed in turquoise dresses. Jim Fealy was Best Man.

Also,

Barbara Featherstone and Leo O'Reilly who were married at S.S. Peter & Paul Church, St. Helens. Barbara's dress was Tafetta and net with white embroidered nylon overlay, she carried white carnations and orchids. The bridesmaid's dresses were apple green brocade in a lilly of the valley pattern and they both carried sprays of orange carnations.

Congratulations to Tom Rainford and Cath who we understand were married the other week, and to Terry Crutchley and Terry Lloyd on attaining their majority.

'Socialite'

The following is a letter from John Potter:-

Dear Cyril,

May I thank you very sincerely, and all the Committee and all Club Members (paid-up or not!) for your most wonderful gift, the crucifix.

I have it on top of my cupboard, and my room companions have remarked on its most life-like appearance of Jesus crucified, as well as reminding me of this, as it should, it also reminds me of you all, and your kindness and

excellent example, and thus I remember you all  
sometime during the day, in my prayers.

Many blessings to you Cyril and May & family  
and all Club Members.

Yours very sincerely,

(signed) John Petter.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

Did you know that the club possesses a photograph album? This record of club history shows many of our past achievements and the many moods and circumstances of club activity from the triumphant group portraits on the Summit of Snowden to the zaney get ups of fancy dress dances that we did so well a few years ago. It is at this time of the year when holidays are coming to a close that we survey each others adventures in black & white and colour too. I am sure a few could be spared for the club, and just think of where members have been. Beside the visiting of England, Scotland Ireland and Wales, groups have visited France, Italy, Spain and Switzerland.

Any photographs that you think might be of interest for the Club Album pass them on please. Whether they be of social events or rambling expeditions of members they are all welcome for selection. Tony Thomson is in charge of the album at present. We will pay, of course, for the prints.

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ATTENTION ATTENTION

Your 5/- annual subscription is now due. Don't let Win O'Conner catch you napping - pay up and smile.

TRYFAN (A Party) September 15th

We began to climb Tryfan at about one o'clock and carried on until we reached the top at about three o'clock, when we had our lunch. Monica C. had thoughts of running back for her sandwiches, (she had given them to John Burns to carry thinking he was coming on the "A") but we wouldn't let her.

Before making our ascent Mike had to leave us and go back to the coach because of an injured ankle. After climbing the first peak I thought we had finished, but I soon found out there were two more to be conquered, with only two steps of about five minutes each!

It was a glorious day and the views that could be seen during our climb were wonderful. Now and again various victims were requested to pose in mid-air for a photograph to be taken.

I would like to thank our leader, Tony Gilmour, for a really lovely day.

"Anonymous"

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Grafton Dance Please hand in all unsold tickets and money for our dance at the grafton last month.

Dates to Note 14th/15th December - Christmas Chalet Weekend. 5th January - grand Yuletide walk and social which includes a treasure hunt around Rivington Barn WITH PRIZES, followed by a hot-pot-super and dance.

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News Letter Write-ups Would ramble leaders and budding "journalists" please co-operate by submitting the ramble write-ups. We would also be grateful if anyone could contribute any other article of interest.

Christmas Party - December 18th in the clumbrooms.