


# Liverpool Catholic Ramblers' Association

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80th Anniversary 1927-2007

# NEWSLETTER



 Eightieth Anniversary Dinner Menu inside this cover

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Autumn 2007

Issue No. 64 Seventh Series

# Liverpool Catholic Ramblers' Eightieth Anniversary Dinner

at Christ The King Parish Club  
Saturday, October 27 at 7.30pm

*Reminders are placed on the appropriate tables of  
what each person ordered from the menu below.  
No changes possible.*

## Menu

### Starters

Soup (Cream of Vegetable)  
Prawn Cocktail  
Melon and Parma Ham

### Main

Roast Chicken with Stuffing  
Roast Beef  
Roast Lamb  
Vegetarian

All with Roast Potatoes, New Potatoes,  
Seasonable Vegetables and Gravy

### Sweet

Apple Pie  
American Cheesecake  
Fresh Raspberries/Chocolate Sauce  
Chocolate Fudge Cake  
Carrot Cake

All served with cream or ice-cream

Coffee and Mints

*Towards the end of the meal there  
will be a Loyal Toast to*

The Queen, The Duke of Lancaster  
by Will Harris

*followed by*

The Liverpool Catholic Ramblers'  
Association  
by Dave Newns, President

*A Vote of Thanks will be given by  
Mike Riley, Chairman*

*Honoured Guest is Fr Frank Johnson  
Master of Ceremonies is Will Harris*

## How many members have passed through the club?

OVER the years our average annual membership has been around 160-200. Generally, members joining roughly cancelled out the ones that left. There were 110 members in the Autumn of 1928. So if an average of 25 new people joined annually, apart from the war years, it would total close to 2000 members passing through.

Our fortieth anniversary newsletter actually gave the names of officers on the committee each year since 1927. It would not be practical to do that now, so instead, here is a list of all the past chairmen and chairwomen:

## Club's Chairmen and Chairwomen

1927	Tom Marquess	1970	Des Titherington
1928	Tom Marquess	1971	Dave Newns
1929	W. G. Smith	1972	Dave Newns
1930	Tom Marquess	1973	Dave Newns
1931	Tom Marquess	1974	John Clarke
1932	J. F. Harvey	1975	John Clarke
1933	T. Joyce	1976	Frank Mullin
1934	J. F. Harvey	1977	Pat Unsworth
1935	T. Joyce	1978	Lesley Clarke
1936	J. F. Harvey	1979	Maria McDonnell
1937	J. F. Harvey	1980/81	Vacant
1938	J. F. Harvey	1982	Paul Stevens
1939/45	J. F. Harvey	1983	Paul Stevens
1946	T. Inight	1984	Dave Newns
1947	F. C. Norbury	1985	Dave Newns
1948	F. C. Norbury	1986	Angela Platt
1949	F. C. Norbury	1987	Paul Healy
1950	Gerry Penlington	1988	Paul Healy
1951	M. Walsh	1989	Bernadette Doyle
1952	W. J. Roberts	1990	Bernadette Doyle
1953	W. J. Roberts	1991	Bernadette Doyle
1954	Cyril Kelly	1992	Bernadette Doyle
1955	Cyril Kelly	1993	Bernadette Doyle
1956	Cyril Kelly	1994	Bernadette Doyle
1957	Cyril Kelly	1995	Bernadette Doyle
1958	Cyril Kelly	1996	Bernadette Doyle
1959	Cyril Kelly	1997	Bernadette Doyle
1960	Cyril Kelly	1998	Bernadette Doyle
1961	Cyril Kelly	1999	Tom Reilly
1962	Cyril Kelly	2000	Tom Reilly
1963	Cyril Kelly	2001	Tom Reilly
1964	Cyril Kelly	2002	Tom Reilly
1965	Chris Dobbin	2003	Tom Reilly
1966	Chris Dobbin	2004	Vacant
1967	Bernard J. Manley	2005	Mike Riley
1968	Bernard J. Manley	2006	Mike Riley
1969	Des Titherington	2007	Mike Riley



## Happy 80th Anniversary

THIS PAGE is just our normal bi-monthly newsletter. The rest is all full of anniversary nostalgia. Old photographs were avoided this time as the quality gets lost with the high-speed photocopying method of present-day newsletter production. I hope you enjoy reading it.

[davenews@hotmail.com](mailto:davenews@hotmail.com) – Editor



## New Members

WELCOME to all new members who have joined our ranks recently. We hope you have many happy years rambling with us.

## Recent Accident in Snowdonia

Brian Keller is on the mend after injuring himself badly on a wet and slippery ramble in Snowdonia last month. He needed a complex operation on his broken ankle in Bangor hospital and now has metal pins, etc, inserted.

The plaster cast is off now but one thing is certain: In future Bionic Brian will have fun setting the alarms off when going through airport security checks. We all wish you a speedy recovery, Brian.

## Hamper draw

Mike Riley is now collecting your donated items for our usual Christmas hamper draw at our Christmas Buffet Dance on December 14.

## Prizes for anniversary dance

Thanks to Hilda Laycock and her 'young' group of past ramblers for kindly donating a dozen good prizes for our anniversary do.

## Our club's Christmas Buffet Dance

at New Century Hall,  
Near Walton Church

FRIDAY, 14th DECEMBER

Buffet served at 9.30pm

Tickets £8.50 Hamper Draw

## Ambleside at New Year

Our usual three-night stay at Ambleside Hostel with our organised walks and a big hot and cold buffet on New Year's Eve.

Cost is £109.80 per head for three nights. I think this time we have booked all twin-bedded and double rooms, meals included.

Give your name and at least £10 deposit to Will Harris, or the person taking bookings on the coach. Don't leave it too late as total numbers have to be confirmed in the near future. We will be using our own cars, so make sure you can get a lift up there when booking.

## Cheese and Wine Nights

on the first Thursday of each month

Thursday 1st November

Thursday 6th December

at the Ship and Mitre (upstairs)

Only £1.50 including cheese and wine

## Obituaries

### Christine Potter

One of Bill Potter's daughters, Christine, sadly died several weeks ago. Many ramblers, family and friends were at the funeral in Maghull. We offer our condolences and sincere sympathy to Bill, family and friends. May she rest in peace.

**Ken Regan's father** sadly died recently. May he rest in peace. We offer our sincere condolences to Ken, his mother, relatives and friends.

**Pauline Strype**, a member who rambled with us for a few years in the seventies, sadly died last week. We offer our sincere condolences to her family and friends. May she rest in peace.





## Our first 25 years including the war

FOUNDED in 1927, we were named 'The Catholic Holiday Guild' and 12 months later over 110 members had joined. A few had a holiday for a week in Hope, Derbyshire but the most popular activity was the rambles – twelve rambles had been held in the summer.

And so the title soon evolved to our present day title. In the summer of 1931 the rambles started to be held on a weekly basis but on alternate Saturdays and Sundays. It was three years later when our regular Sunday rambles commenced, in the summer of 1934.

We expanded our activities from 1930, and by 1936 we included a tennis section, a football section, choirs, and concert parties with our own pianists plus theatre visits and a library.

Thirteen years after we were founded, about half of the club members suddenly got sent abroad. But this was no holiday. It was early 1940 and the men were being called up to fight for their country.

All rambling activities ceased but a dedicated small nucleus of members met quarterly and also organised a few dances. The ladies kept up continuous correspondence with the men who were stationed on active service.

After the war some organisations had gone out of existence. We only survived due to that small band of young men and women who were determined to keep the Association going during the war years.

Rambles were resumed in 1945, and our 21st anniversary was celebrated in 1948 with a dinner dance in Reece's Café with Archbishop Halsall presiding. We acquired our own committee room when we moved to the Cathedral Buildings in 1952 and we also held our weekly socials and dances there until May 1967.

Now Chris Dobbin picks up the rest of our story on the next page with his personal reflections.

### Rambling on . . .

by Hilda Laycock

Back in 1927  
some folk got together  
deciding they'd go rambling,  
no matter what the weather:

They formed a small group,  
now the LCRA  
and kept right on walking  
to this very day.

The 30s and 40s  
their numbers expanded.  
Despite dreadful war years  
they never disbanded.

The 50s and 60s  
brought many a new face.  
Soon lots of young people  
were setting the pace.

The Beatles replaced  
old Victor Sylvester.  
Not quite to the taste  
of the staid, older sector.

Rambling in Derbyshire,  
Cheshire and Wales.  
With lots of good fun  
and comical tales...

Like old Mr. Jolly  
of reservoir fame,  
who ranted and raved -  
not at all like his name!

Retreats often taken  
for saving the soul.  
But trips to Church Stretton  
meant saving a goal!

Lakeside, The Gales,  
with spirits so high.  
Apple pie beds  
and 'Desperate Dan' pie.

At Rivington Barn -  
oh what a din!  
The Circassion Circle  
with hot-pot thrown in!!

Badminton at night school,  
tennis in Lance Lane.

holidays on skis.  
Sailing on the Norfolk Broads,  
mooring - what a wheeze!!

40th Anniversary -  
scaling 14 peaks.  
A wonderful achievement,  
after practising for weeks.

August, 1968 -  
brought sorrow and pain.  
Dear friends dying tragically,  
crashing in a plane.

But life carried on,  
just as it should.  
The bad times were few,  
outweighed by the good.

Now 80 years on  
and still going strong.  
The Liverpool Catholic Ramblers  
are ambling along.

To founders now gone  
our gratitude is owed.  
For a legacy of friendship,  
so lovingly bestowed.

*Our thanks to Fred Norbury, (his brothers), Cyril Kelly, Gerry Penlington  
and all the other dedicated kind people who made the club what it is.*

# Personal reflections

*Midway through the Association's history there were several other activities other than rambling, and Chris Dobbin's informative reflections in our last anniversary edition are repeated here today with just a little updating.*

THE ASSOCIATION reaches another milestone as we celebrate its 80th birthday. I can recall joining in similar noteworthy celebrations, and I never cease to marvel at the fact that an organisation which sprang from such humble beginnings, has continued to survive.

Its foundations were built in 1927 on a small number of young people whose common denominator was that they were Liverpool Catholics with a love of the countryside, and we are now, arguably, one of the oldest Catholic organisations in the Liverpool Archdiocese.

I recall joining the Association in the late 1950's, being attracted initially, it must be said, by the Tennis Section, which was based at Lance Grove, Wavertree, behind the Cenacle Convent, and conveniently situated for me, at the bottom of my road.

It was a thriving Section of the Club, with a full membership of 50, embracing two courts. Ladies and Gents teams were entered in the Liverpool Group Tennis League, and many happy hours of Social tennis were enjoyed there, including American Tournaments followed by a Social Evening with refreshments provided by the ladies of the Tennis Club. The Club was obliged to give up the courts in the early 1970's when they were required for building purposes and the Section folded.

The Club held weekly Socials in Cathedral Buildings, Brownlow Hill; at the time, dancing being to records, with tea and biscuits provided in the interval. A Committee Room was also available.

The Socials were well attended, the Christmas Parties being particularly memorable, for which occasions we were allowed to decorate the room. On one occasion, thick fog descended on the evening, resulting in an attendance of seven. The ladies of the Club provided the refreshments for these occasions, very often conveying cakes, sandwiches and home-made trifles on Public Transport, and even fog on that night didn't prevent at least one trifle getting through to the valiant seven.

We left Cathedral Buildings in 1967, and there followed a series of venues for the weekly gathering, and at the same time, waltzes, quick-steps and Country Dancing, gave way to Discos, as tastes changed.

Rambling prospered in those times, mostly by Public Transport supplemented by one Coach Ramble per month. I remember in particular, the annual Yuletide Walk, Hot Pot and Barn Dance, which took place for many years at Rivington Barn. We graduated from records to a Country Dance Band and Caller over the years, and these occasions took on a reunion atmosphere, as former members brought along their families.

The Club also had a Football Team operating in the Liverpool Central Amateur League, playing at Calderstones Park. I recall taking the team and supporters twice a year between 1958 and 1968 to play the Montfort Fathers Students at their Scholasticate at Church Stretton. These were marvellous days out in scenic Shropshire surroundings, and the game was followed by Benediction, tea and a Concert given by the Students.

These are just a few memories of my half a century with the Association. I have made many friends through it, and I would like to pay tribute to those who down the years have served the Association on the Committee.

At this time, I think we should particularly remember such stalwarts as Fred Norbury, Cyril Kelly, Gerry Penlington and Harold Burns who made contributions to the continuity in the conduct of its affairs, an ingredient which has been so vital in enabling the Association to celebrate its 80th birthday.

I offer my sincere congratulations to the Association at this time. Long may it continue to give pleasure to all its present members, and to those who are to come after us.



**Chris Dobbin**

Vice-President and Trustee



# The Seniors' Section

*Newcomers often ask: "What is the Seniors' Section?"*

*Well, Leo Pearson, new chairman of that section, now explains:*

A NEW Section was formed 37 years ago by a group of mainly ex-ramblers from the club, most of who were then married with young children. We had formed firm friendships when in the club, and some suggested that we could perhaps get together with our old friends and children at the club's (then) annual January Rivington ramble which included hot-pot with country dancing in the barn afterwards.

Well a surprising total of 70 rambling parents and children turned up! This massive turnout was in addition to the usual hundred or so active adult club members.

Well, the outing was so successful that they all wanted to come walking again. The children had to be over 18 before they could actually go out with the main club, and so it was that a new section of the club was born in the summer of 1970.

We initially called ourselves the Family Section and formed a committee to ensure that the section ran smoothly and we could liaise with the main club. Word got around and news of our existence spread to other families and friends via the children, and numbers swelled. It was not unusual to see 80 or 90 parents and children turn up in their cars for a Family Section walk for several years.

As the children got older, a younger generation of our club started forming their own parents and children group, and in October 1992 it was suggested passing the title on to the newly-formed section, and so we were renamed the Seniors' Section.

*(Alas, that new younger generation Family Section lasted for only about six years).*

Today, the Seniors' Section's 'children' are now in their late 30's or early 40's and many have gone their separate ways, but many still maintain friendships.

We, their parents, are older (but I am not sure any wiser!) and continue to enjoy cherished friendships. About forty members are still involved and monthly meetings are still being held in members' houses.

For some time now our rambles have been reduced to once a month for a variety of reasons, including old age and infirmities, but still attract an average of ten each walk. However, a good active social interest is maintained seeing visits to theatres, concerts and places of interest. Although we are all now well past retirement age we are still young at heart.

*Leo Pearson*

## *Editor's Footnote:*

Seniors' Section members were actually enjoying a holiday together in Llandudno as this newsletter was being printed but they would be back in time for our anniversary do.



## **Fred Norbury**

*Founder member who died in 1972*

Fred Norbury, who, along with his brother and several other young Catholic men founded the Association in 1927.

I wonder if he visualised that we would still be following in their footsteps 80 years later.

Fred was the last surviving founder member who took an active part in everything that the Association had tried to do and he had served on every committee as Registrar, Secretary, Treasurer, Chairman and finally Trustee and Vice-Chairman, until his untimely death in 1972.

I think Fred was about 20 years old in 1927, and so that would have made him 100 this year.

He steered us through many turbulent times and gave his wise counsel to many of his fellow committee members.

Quite a number of us today still remember Fred. He wasn't doing any rambling when I joined in 1966, but one of my memories was the occasional meetings that he held at his house – his wife serving us all with refreshments.

The other two main stalwarts (but not quite founder members) who served as officers on the committee for many years until their death were Cyril Kelly (joining in 1934, he was a Chairman for 11 years) he died in 1976, and Gerry Penlington (he joined a few years after Cyril) who died in 1997 after over 50 years with the club and serving 36 years as Treasurer.

*Dave Newns*

A little further down on the far side there was the remains of the mine's engine house. We had previously noticed the line of a former canal running alongside us on the far bank of the river. Rounding a bend we came to the piers of a aquaduct with building ruins up in the trees on our left. This was the site of another mine, and the canal would have crossed on the aquaduct to bring water power to pump out the mine. These mines had run out of workable lead by the 1850s.

Pressing on we emerged from the wood at Haddon lodge (originally a corn mill) at the foot of the lane up to Over Haddon. The river was now flowing with water and within the next mile down to Conksbury Bridge there were numerous weirs creating fish ponds with strikingly green weed cover. Crossing the bridge we passed the humps and bumps of a medieval deserted village and continued down the south bank passing Raper Lodge to reach Alport. This is now a small cluster of attractive old stone houses but it had once had a lead smelting mill to make its air foul!

Crossing the bridge we climbed out of the dale by Dark Lane until we reached a range of barns and turned to the right towards Haddon Hall

In walking Dark Lane we had been on one of the prehistoric English routes known as Portways – used long before the Romans came.

The path we now took had also once been a road down to the former village of Nether Haddon. It stood opposite Haddon Hall and was removed in the 15<sup>th</sup>C to improve the view! The hall was first built by William the Conqueror's illegitimate son William Peveril but is now owned by the Dukes of Rutland (of Belvoir Castle). Ironically, because they preferred Belvoir, they neglected Haddon for 250 years with the result it is now one of our best preserved medieval mansions and well worth a visit. Opposite Haddon Plantation we turned on a path towards Wigger Dale and shortly reached the outskirts of Bakewell. Pressing on past back gardens we were pleased to see the coach waiting so that we could shed our wet gear. 9 miles.

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## Fred Norbury

16, Keswick Close,  
Maghull, Merseyside. L31 9BS  
26<sup>th</sup> November

In our 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary newsletter was a tribute to Fred Norbury who was one of the main founder members of our Association,

We are reminded that Fred was both an active Vice-president and Trustee of the Association when he died in 1972.

But Fred wasn't very old when he died – he was only 64. His wife also sadly passed away not long afterwards.

They left behind two daughters, one son, and grandchildren.

As a result of that photograph and tribute, I got a gratifying surprise when checking my incoming e-mail last week in the form of this nostalgic letter (shown on the right) from one of Fred's daughters.

It is interesting to note that it would have been Fred's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday next month.

To Dave Newns and all members,

Last weekend at the end of Mass I was approached by a parishioner who I see regularly but with whom I have no more than a "Good Evening" acquaintance. He came towards me with your 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Newsletter and the question "Recognise anyone?" The newsletter was opened at the Seniors' Section page and staring out at me was my Dad. I was totally taken aback, after 35 years to see him looking out at me from the page.

I greatly appreciate your tributes to him and the other founder members, and hope you don't mind if I make a copy for my brother and sister.

I well remember the tennis club in Lance Lane, I think we went along occasionally ourselves, but I was (and probably still am) hopeless. I also remember the committee meetings in our house and the names Gerry Penlington and Cyril Kelly are also very familiar to me. I am still on 'Christmas card terms' with Cyril's daughter Maureen (now Johnston).

I married in 1962 and had 2 children at the time that Dad died. Sadly both he and Mum did not meet their last 6 grandchildren but I know he would have been so proud to see how they have turned out.

Thank you so much for the article and the pleasure mixed with sadness it gave me and I am sure will give to my brother and sister also.

Regards, Maureen Matthews (Norbury)

[m.f.matthews@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:m.f.matthews@blueyonder.co.uk)

Oh!! and his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday is actually 24<sup>th</sup> January next.

## LCRA Senior Section Llandudno Holiday October 2007

Sixteen members of the Senior Section recently enjoyed a holiday in Llandudno at the Ambassador Hotel, so many thanks to Jean for arranging another splendid holiday with fine sunny weather as an extra bonus.

Three walks were planned and enjoyed. The first was Conwy mountain. Jean, Gerry, Tony, Marcia, Freda, Lilian and Anne set off from the town and followed the North Wales Path to the summit – or rather to the series of summits. We did them all and had superb views in all directions, with the benefit of a clear blue sky and constant sunshine. On one cliff top we were amused by an amusingly altered notice which read “Beware! Sheep drop.” After exploring the summit and the site of an old iron age settlement, we descended to the Sychnant Pass and ate our lunch beside Gwern Engen. After eating, we came down to the road near Llechwedd and, having crossed the fields to Crow’s Nest Farm, returned to Conwy along the lower slopes of the mountain.

Next day Rosemarie joined us for a walk from Trefriw, along the river Conwy to Llanrwst. The path goes along the top of the Cobbs, which are there to prevent the area from flooding, although even these were breached in 2004 when the whole area was cut off. In Llanrwst, there is a delightful café by the bridge. This was our lunch stop, after which we all had our photos taken by the Stone circle, before continuing along the river as far as Gwydyr Forest entrance and then returning to Trefriw via the Forest trails. This was delightful as the leaves were in their Autumn colours and the streams were full and joyful. The day finished with tea and *shopping* in the Mill shop at Trefriw.

On the final day, only Gerry, Jean, Marcia and Tony were walking and it was decided to do the Little Orme for a change. This involved walking the whole length of the Promenade and then joining the North Wales path again to get up to the Trig point. The whole area was criss crossed with paths and, after exploring some of these, we came back to the road and made our way back to Llandudno through the woods of Penrhynside and the top of Nant-y-Gamar.

We had four lovely days. Those who weren’t able to join us on the walks, explored the surrounding area, including Bodnant Gardens, Penrhyn Castle and the Great Orme. We also enjoyed two good concerts by Welsh Male Voice choirs.

Thanks again to Jean for organising a great event.

**OBITUARY – KATHERINE CRITCHLEY** (*Née Highton*) aged 34, treasured daughter of club members Jack and Betty Highton. She died peacefully in hospital on Nov 19th. We offer our sincere condolences to Jack and Betty, her loving husband Andrew, daughter Josephine, and all her loving family and friends. May she rest in peace.



# Over the sea to Skye . . .

... but don't miss that Skye boat!

HAVING joined the Ramblers around 1971 I was an active member until 1977, the Golden Jubilee year, and a year in which I served on the committee. Friendships formed all those years ago have stood the test of time, as I am still in touch with many ramblers of that era.

Of the many memorable occasions enjoyed with the club, perhaps the most unforgettable was the holiday to Skye in 1976. One day we took a boat trip to spend a day on the Isle of Harris. That afternoon, as three of us were enjoying a pint in a pub close to the harbour, I said, "We'd better get a move on, the boat's due to leave in 5 minutes." "Don't worry," said one of the others, "we're in Britian - nothing ever leaves on time!" Needless to say, the boat was bang on schedule, and we arrived at the quay-side to see the boat moving out of the harbour and our friends waving to us from the upper deck! Consequently, we had an unplanned overnight stay in Harris.



My active time with the Ramblers came to an end around 1978, as I became more and more involved in the Focolare Movement, an international movement for unity. I lived for a short time in the Liverpool community house, before going to the Focolare international centre in Tuscany, where I spent a couple of years from 1981-83. After my time in Italy I lived in our community house in London.

In May 2005 I was ordained priest at St Mary's, Leyland, a ceremony attended by many of my old friends from the Ramblers. In 2005 and 2006 I was privileged to be able to celebrate the Catholic Ramblers' annual Mass in the cathedral crypt, but this year, due to a prior commitment, I was unable to do so.

*Father Frank Johnson*

## The midges on Skye

INCLUDING those unforgettable midge bites (I think they must have a midge breeding factory there!) the above article brought back memories of Skye in the 70's. I was also on the above unforgettable caravan holiday near Portree and remember that haggis and chips could be bought from the mobile chippy above the harbour. After a couple of very wet days the forecast for Skye the next day was rain yet again, but on the distant Hebridean Isles of Lewis and Harris it was forecast wall-to-wall sunshine. Well we put our faith in the weather forecasters and got up early next day to take a day trip to both those Islands.

It was still raining cats and dogs when we sailed off, but sure enough, the sun soon came out and stayed with us for the rest of the day. When we all returned to Skye that night (minus the three of our gang harassed on Harris!) we discovered the forecast was dead right - it had been raining all day on Skye!

In contrast we also had many memorable days of beautiful Septembers in the Scottish Highlands. And in those days there was no Skye bridge from the Scottish mainland - we had to get the boat over the sea to Skye.

*Dave N.*

## *Please sir, can I have ☺ another biscuit?*

A CUP of tea and a biscuit were served at our weekly socials in the early years, and there was our famous committee meeting in hard times when that night they actually debated on whether people could have an extra biscuit. With some deliberation, and after first consulting the treasurer, it was finally decided that an extra biscuit could be given.

It may seem funny now, but on reflection any blood donor today still feels a bit like Oliver Twist if they fancy a second cup of tea and biscuits!

In the late 60's we moved from the Cathedral Buildings to the Design Centre in Hope Street for a year or two. Some members were then tempted to sneak over the road to the Philharmonic pub for a drink. After that the General Section started using rooms in licensed premises and has done ever since.

# Milestones over the years

- 1927 After a few preliminary meetings, our first AGM was held in July. Annual subscription one shilling.
- 1928 Membership soared to over 110. Ramble reminders were sent to members by individual postcards.
- 1929 First printed rambling programmes were supplied to members.
- 1933 Joint walks with other Catholic rambling clubs commenced.
- 1935 Club's first Football Team was formed at Queen's Drive, Stoneycroft.
- 1936 YHA holiday in Ireland. Club's Tennis Section formed, but using public courts at Newsham Park.
- 1938 Tennis Section moved to Cherry Lane, Walton, but short-lived with the intervention of the war.
- 1940 Last pre-war social held in an air-raid shelter as clubroom was badly damaged by bombs.
- 1940 No rambles during the war but a small nucleus of members held quarterly meetings and maintained contact by corresponding to many members called up to serve overseas.
- 1945 First post-war social held in October at St Oswald's Hall, Old Swan, and rambling resumed.
- 1946 Tennis Section revived, first at The White Sisters Convent in Sefton Park, then at Garden View, West Derby. Newsletter resumed publication in June. Membership was 46.
- 1948 Football Section resumed. Twenty-first anniversary dinner and dance held at Reece's Cafe with Archbishop Halsall presiding.
- 1952 Clubroom moved to Cathedral Buildings, Brownlow Hill. Netball Section formed (short-lived?).
- 1955 Thriving Tennis Club (50 members) moved to Lance Grove, Wavertree where many successful years were spent with organised dances and American Tournaments for everyone in the LCRA.
- 1957 First of 38 years of Yuletide Walks at Rivington Barn. Many previous Yuletide venues were varied.
- 1959 First of a decade of trips to Church Stretton for football and a social at the De Montfort College.
- 1966 Groups within the club now booking skiing holidays to Austria and Italy almost annually until 1990.
- 1967 Changed clubrooms from Cathedral Buildings to Design Centre, Hope Street, triggering a change of clubrooms every three years on average. Metropolitan Cathedral opened on May 14th.
- 1968 Eight of our young lady members tragically killed in an air crash on way to Austrian walking holiday.
- 1970 Family Section formed with approval of General Committee. Orienteering introduced in the club.
- 1972 Fred Norbury, last of our active founder members, and a popular vice-president, died suddenly.
- 1973 Sad demise of the Tennis Section as land was sold for building on. Some joined another tennis club.
- 1976 Cyril Kelly, another stalwart, and vice-president, died. Joining in 1934, he was chairman for 11 years.
- 1982 Club thought we'd found ideal clubrooms at Atlantic House, Hardman Street, holding dances on two open-plan floors. Memorable Christmas/New Year buffets there. Sadly, we had to move out in 1985.
- 1990 New influx of 'mature' members and a sudden demand for regular 'C' walks.
- 1992 Family Section renamed to be called the Seniors' Section and a new young Family Section formed.
- 1995 End of an era of 38 years of Yuletide Walks, Hot-pot and Dancing at Rivington Barn.
- 1997 Gerard Penlington, a vice-president, died, after over 50 years service in many roles, including a record of 36 years as treasurer of the club.
- 1998 Chris Dobbin was elected as first lay-President (some of our Archbishops presiding in the past). Some 30 members went to Zakopane in southern Poland, walking in the Tatra Mountains.
- 2000 Millennium weekend celebrated at Ambleside Youth Hostel by about 32 members. A spring holiday in hostels at Loch Lomond, Glen Nevis, Torridon and Edinburgh, attracted 30 members.
- 2001 Foot and Mouth outbreak stopped our normal walks in mid-February for a few months but we organised walks along permitted canal paths, etc and day trips walking around Chester and York.
- 2002 75th Anniversary was celebrated with a dinner dance at Devonshire House, Edge Lane.
- 2004 Club nights were now held on the first Thursday of the month, with cheese and wine plus a quiz.

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## Annual Subscriptions are due

Just £5 for single membership, £6 for married couples. Contact Will Harris or send a cheque made out to LCRA to him at 57 Higher Road, Halewood, L26 1TA, or see the person taking bookings on the coach