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LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION



NEWSLETTER



6th Series Issue 6

November 1994

EDITOR'S BRIEFS

Hello Folks and welcome to all new members.

The recent AGM was well attended at the Legs of Man, then we moved to the Crown with an opening Cheese and Wine night which many of us can confirm, was a huge success.



At the AGM a new Trustee was required to make a gang of three. They were looking for a long-standing committee member to keep one eye on the club's money and the other eye on the committee. Well here I am, duly elected. The new committee is given elsewhere in this edition.

Rambling on, we had a muddy but unusually dry walk (overhead) at Hawkshead recently but the heavens opened once back on the coach and some of us got wet just sitting there. When Ray Mc (who was sat in the middle) was informed that there were some big drips at the back and front of the coach, he promptly looked around and agreed with that statement! Ken, the driver defended himself by pointing out that it was a borrowed coach and anyway it doesn't drip when it's not raining!

Thanks to all who contributed to this edition which me and Ken Clark almost sweat blood to produce. All contributions for the next edition to be given to me or Ken. Now then, it's worth having a go at the Prize Quiz on the back page.

Dave Newns



CHRISTMAS BUFFET DANCE (Friday, Dec 16)

Following on from last year's successful night we are once again at Churchill's, Church Road, Wavertree at 8pm. Tickets will be on sale at £5.00 each inclusive of buffet. There's rumours of an early buffet, so don't be late! Free car park.



YULETIDE WALK (Book early)

The club's annual Rivington Barn outing is on Sunday, January 8th when the whole club takes the Barn over in the evening. Coach departs at 10.15 in the morning for this one. There are the usual walks first, followed by Chicken and Chips, then Barn Dancing for a couple of hours. Cost hasn't been finalised yet but book BEFORE Christmas please as December 18th is our last ramble before the Yuletide walk. Inform Ray Mc if you intend going up by car.



OBITUARY - Sadly, we have to report that JOHN McLINDON died recently. John used to be an active member on the social side of the club some years ago. Our condolences go out to his wife Denise and all relatives and friends. We remember him in our prayers.

Ramblerite



We have had some dreadful weather this autumn, Blaenau Ffestiniog and the Fairfield Horseshoe being totally washed out. So let's hope we can be on the receiving end of a mild winter. Here's a selection of future walks:

NOVEMBER 13 - BOLTON ABBEY

A scenic part of Wharfedale, near Skipton and very popular with multitudes of day-trippers - The ephebic Chris Grice will be leading the "A" up the appropriately-named Valley of Desolation to Simon's Seat - The senescent Will Harris will no doubt have something equally interesting planned for the "B". The senescent Robbie Franks has already reccied the "C" and I'm sure he will have a huge following on the day.

NOVEMBER 20 - ALPORT CASTLES

We may "Snake Inn" for elevenses before starting this trek in the Ladybower Reservoir area. That elusive TBA leading the "A", Ken Clark the "B" and Tom Reilly the "C".

DECEMBER 4 - GRASMERE

Yours truly leading the "A", with Brian Eassom the "B" and Dave Newns the "C".

DECEMBER 11 - CASTLETON

Christmas time at Castleton in the Peak District with Brian Eassom leading the "A", Will Harris the "B" and Joe Rourke the "C".

The programme planning meeting was held on 17th October. The "Flat Earthers" among you will be gratified to know that this was hijacked by the "Gang of Three" namely Ken Clark, Roy Smith and the formidable Joe Rourke "loaded for bear". I emerged from this ensanguined and cowed. It was a triumph for those who find the rugged aspects of our usual programmes a little too much. Amside, the Roaches, Monsal Dale and Wharfedale figuring highly in the programme for early '95. In the ensuing weeks I shall be looking for leaders for these walks.

Ian Freeman will be organising another Scottish weekend at Easter, and there will be a 24-seater for each of the Bank Holiday Sundays.

There has been much criticism of the "C" walks of late, especially with regard to the distances walked. As a result of this, I and the other leaders will be not only encouraging walk descriptions but also monitoring the suitability of the walks very closely. However I would like to strongly endorse Doug Chadwick's comments at the AGM at which he reminded us that all the members comprising a group bear responsibility towards that group and not just the leader. This responsibility includes the reporting to the leader of any deficiencies in abilities, clothing and even health which could seriously curtail the enjoyment of the rest of the party. Finally, our leaders are not professionals, and find it difficult to keep in touch when everyone is spread out over miles of countryside, so please do not charge ahead or deliberately lag behind, and our walks will continue to be enjoyable outings.

Ray McIntosh

EASTER 1995 - Youth hostel trip to Rowardennan on the eastern shore of Loch Lomond - Thursday, April 14th to Monday, April 18th.

Rowardennan hostel is a very comfortable ex hunting lodge on the banks of the loch under Ben Lomond, the most southerly of Scotland's Munros. Those who attended last Easter's trip enjoyed it even though the weather was unkind.

Beryl and I stayed there for a couple of days after Keswick and learnt from the warden that he already has bookings for next Easter so we will have to move quickly. The estimated cost of the weekend is £65 which includes accommodation, food and travel by car.

If you would like to go, please let me have £35 deposit by January 8th 1995 so that bookings can be made. Unfortunately this deposit has to be non-returnable once the booking is made. The balance would be payable by 1/4/95. Further details from

Ian Freeman (The Laird)

KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN NITE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24 at The Crown (upstairs).

Check shirts and Levi's, etc. Cost £2 payable by
Sunday, November 20th to Beryl.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subscriptions are now OVERDUE - £4 single, £5 married couples. If you still haven't paid, this will be your last newsletter and bookings for the coach and any other club activity cannot be entertained. Payments can be sent to the club's registrar, Beryl Baker (cheques payable to LCRA) at the following address:

"Inyangombe," 3a Hale Road, Wallasey, Wirral L45 7QT.

LOST AND FOUND

Two compasses and a map case are missing - please examine the depths of your rucksacks - if items located remove all vestiges of algae before returning them.

I am temporarily in possession of various articles of Ramblers' attire - included are a couple of waterproofs, a broolly, gloves, socks, unmentionables and indefinables. These will be disposed of shortly if unclaimed. There is also, it is rumoured, a pair of boots sculling about somewhere.

Ray McIntosh

COACH ETIQUETTE

The "A walk" leader is responsible, within terms of reference, for setting the timetable on our coach rambles.

It is grossly unfair that persons returning to the coach at the prescribed time, whether it be after a ramble, coach stop, or pub stop, should often be penalised, by being kept waiting, by others, self indulgently and sometimes deliberately.

The committee will take steps to rectify this if there's no improvement after this notice.

THE NEW COMMITTEE were recently elected for twelve months at the AGM:

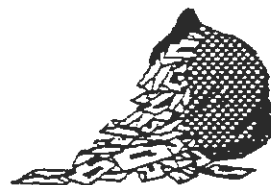
Chairwoman: Bernadette Doyle. General Secretary: Barbara Smith.

Treasurer: Brian Keller. Registrar: Beryl Baker.

Committee: Ian Allister, Tony Bond, Doug Chadwick, Ian Freeman, Chris Grice, Ray McIntosh, Mike Newby, Mike Norgate, Terry Pearson, Tom Reilly, Bob Scott.

Subsequently, Ray McIntosh and Beryl Baker were re-elected as the Rambling Chairman and Social Chairwoman for another twelve months.

POSTBAG



Dear Editor,

I note with sadness the lack of contributors to the last newsletter. The Seniors' Section was as usual, well represented, whereas the General Section, with the notable exception of Roy Thiis's contribution was decidedly sparse. Bereft of a Ramblerite and the acerbic wit and innate charm of Ray McIntosh, this edition suffered greatly. Sally Mason and Robert Gibbard would have been amazed at the spelling of their names, though I suspect Fray and Mank wouldn't, even if the reason the season influenced the butties, probably would. Hopefully your plea to the masses will have brought forth fruit for this currant edition, I will post this one as I have grave misgivings about entrusting my articles to a pigeon, especially as the recipient is a truly, trusty Trustee pie-eater.

Respectfully yours, **Gerome Fisher**

The computer's spell-check blew a fuse on the above letter! - EDITOR

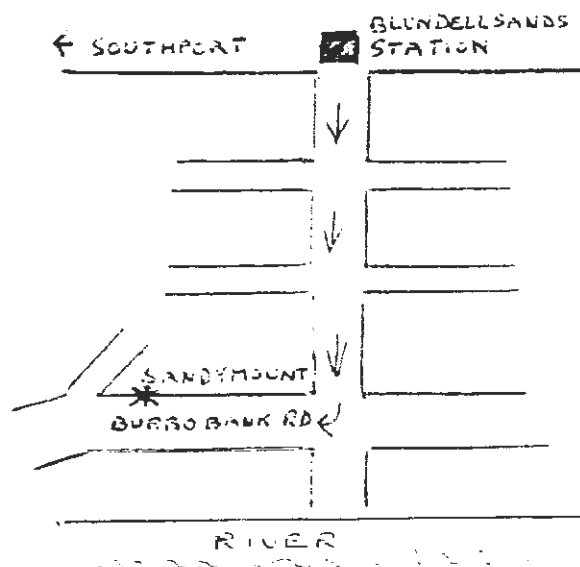
THE LCRA RETREAT (Sun, Nov 27)

The Annual Retreat takes place at Sandymount, Burbo Bank Road, Blundellsands and will be given by Fr Jim Elliott and team.

It is a full day Retreat (10.15am to 5pm) and includes Mass. The cost will be £10 per person which will include a hot mid-day meal. Bookings may be made to Chris Dobbin - 051-722 0621 or at the Club - names to Dave Newns.

RETREAT TRAVEL DIRECTIONS:

Train to Blundellsands Station. Out of station, walk towards river down to Blundellsands Road West. Last road on right is Burbo Bank Road. Walk to top of Burbo Bank Road. Sandymount is second last entrance on right.



TWO MILES, TOO HOURS AND TOO REWARDING

Stonethwaite in Borrowdale is the normal setting out point for the Langstrath Valley leading over the Stake Pass to Langdale or up to Esk Hause, Greenup Gill to Greenup Edge and Wytheburn or even Far Easedale are common destinations as is Eagle Crag and Glaramara. Few, however, even consider the hopelessly steep fell skirted by near vertical buttresses and denser vegetation which tower over the tiny hamlet. Few that is except "Yours Truly".

Craning my neck and squinting against the watery sunlight it appeared to me that a large cleft in the impenetrable wall was a weakness crying out to be explored as an avenue to Rosthwaite Fell immediately beyond. With my new boots (Wainwright's, of course) I set forth diagonally across the lower fells picking my way along the many sheep trails in the generally desired direction. The ground was steep, stony, wet and treacherously slippery.

Eventually I encountered the deep cutting forged by Stanger Gill, the other side of which was a well established path which was obviously going my way. Scrambling down through roots and leaves and moss-covered rocks I picked my way between waterfalls and up the opposite embankment to the said path. Had I read my Wainwright guide before setting out I would have known that my hero had been there before me. The proper path being to the left of Stanger Gill and following its rout all the way. Having recognised this I proceeded upwards, with plenty of rests of course to take in the rearward view of the Stonethwaite valley below. An interesting stile of steps built into a well-structured wall abruptly cut off above a steep drop in to the gill brought me to a winding route with a little scramble over the top of an impressive door carved between steeply enclosed buttresses through which Stonethwaite was neatly framed.

Up and over the brow and I was on to the fells beyond the cliffs, the way now was less steep but no less interesting. The wonderland of hidden combes was threatened by the gill which I continued to follow over waterfalls and unfortunately boggy stretches till I reached the skyline. A cairned outpost at the end of the fell opened out the view as good as any I've seen. It was sunny with dark clouds, the visibility excellent and Borrowdale below was a profusion of oranges, yellows, greens and all shades in between. The High Stile range peeped through the Honister Gap and the Mosedale fells through the Dalehead Gap. Borrowdale was fantastic, Kings How dark and brooding and Derwentwater bathed in bright sunlight.

With great reluctance I eventually turned back on this marvellous vista and made my exhilarating way to the highest point Bessyboot (1807ft). Although from here the surrounding fells cut off the view in the nearby valleys, some of the higher fells towards the Langdales nestled between Bessyboot and the bulk of Glaramara.

Haystacks and Hallen Fell have for a long time been my favourite lower fells. I can now add Bessyboot, the views from which are second to none.

Ray McIntosh

SENIORS' SECTION

TREFRIW WALK - October 9

There were twelve (not "The Twelve") who set out to join Peter and Marie on their chosen ramble. Leaving the above foreign village at twelve noon we set off, skirting Grinlwn, thence via Bron Edda, Penrall, Llyn-Glangors, Castell-y-Gwynt, Lyn Geirianydd, Mynydd Deofn, Afon Frafnant, Gellydan, Gymanog, to Trefriw. No passports, nor (as yet) ID cards, were necessary. The only requirements were a legal roadworthy vehicle and a willingness to get up and go.

So delightful was the weather - warm sunshine, wisps of white clouds drifting across the clear blue sky - verbal wrestling with place names was soon forgotten. Autumn colours in abundance encircled by lakes and hills of the District of Aberconwy provided our reward for the day. Far from the madding crowd this new venture is a must for a future ramble. Keep in touch.

Located to the east of the Carneddys and rising up from the Conway Valley Peter led us along numerous paths where every turn afforded wonderful views of the area. Of the two lakes we visited the Grafnant was preferable, tranquil and undisturbed by the water sports taking place on Geirianydd.

It must be noted that hereabouts Peter permitted lunch to begin five minutes early. Cameras were in evidence, no accidents took place, apart from Maureen in a swamp, nobody got lost and all had a great day, thanks to our leader - oh! and the whipper-in.

WAP

HOUSE MEETINGS

These are Rose and Joe Kennedy at 20 Penrith Crescent, Maghull on 10th November (changed from 3rd), Pat and Leo Pearson at 81 Twig Lane on 1st December, and on 5th January Aime Pritchard (nee Shaw) at 12 Greenwood Road, Liverpool (Allerton). - Please ring 733 2122 if you aren't coming to the November House Meeting.

RAMBLES

DECEMBER 11 - Bill Potter is leading the ramble in the Calderstones Park area. No complaint about the car journey here! 486 7952.

JANUARY 8 - This is the Annual Yuletide Walk. Partics elsewhere in this newsletter.

JANUARY 15 - Ring Peter Atherton on 526 2153.

RETREAT

Our annual retreat is on 27th November. It's a full-day - 10.15 to about 5pm. It includes Mass and there is a hot meal included. See General Section's notice.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS - Due to new insurance rules, these must be in by the end of October. Most of us have met the deadline, so will the other half-dozen hurry up and pay! - Mona Roberts. 7 Elmbank Road, L18 1HR (Cheques payable to LCRA).

OBITUARY - There has been another tragically early death of one of our members. We offer our sincere sympathy to Frank Leyland on the death of his wife May recently. You will both be in our thoughts and prayers.



GRAND PRIZE CHRISTMAS QUIZ

**First correct answer drawn from the hat wins
TWO TICKETS FOR THE CHRISTMAS DANCE**

(at Churchill's, Wavertree on December 16th)

The clues are for DISTRICTS OF LIVERPOOL. Licence for spelling may be needed to obtain the name.

Example: A Jigger

Answer: Aintree

1. Heavy sheep's fleece
2. Wide lawn
3. Swaying branches
4. James the driver was angry
5. Meadow and valley
6. Girl's name with pasture
7. Always a heavyweight
8. Field entrance with its area
9. Rim of high ground
10. Famous American TV family
11. Ancient water bird
12. Young person with solid boundary
13. Embryo coming to life
14. Famous Second World War desert battle
15. Noisy sea bird

Please send answers either on this or a separate sheet numbered 1 to 15 to Beryl Baker at 3a Hale Road, Wallasey L45 7QT.

Closing date for entries is December 1st. Full money will be refunded to any winner who has already purchased dance tickets.



After an extensive search for our ideal social venue

We are moving!

to

THE CROWN

(upstairs)

near Lime Street Station

on

Thursday, October 6th

We are celebrating the move with an opening

Cheese and Wine Night



ADMISSION FREE

Make a note of the date

