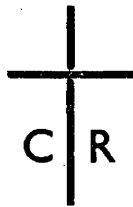


LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC  
RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION



LIVERPOOL

# NEWS LETTER

Socials 7-30 p.m. each Thursday.

~~Socials 8-0 p.m. each Wednesday~~

at

~~Cathedral Buildings~~

~~Brownlow Hill~~

~~Liverpool 3~~

Building and Design Centre,  
Hope Street,  
Liverpool.

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Bootle. 20. Lancs.

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In this year of "FORTY" a call to "arms" will surely not go unheard. The arms I'm rallying wield racquets - tennis racquets!

For as far back as any present member can recall tennis has been an outdoor activity available during week-days (and Sundays for that matter).

No not everybody is exactly fanatical about tennis, but then when one compares the number of members with the number attending rambles not everyone gets too excited about walking!

Tennis has been one of those things that has helped to knit this club together in one way or another at one time or another with football, netball, table tennis etc., but over the years tennis more consistently than the others.

Tennis is a fine sport and in a club such as ours, a very socialble one. We have two hard courts and a pavilion at Lance Grove, just by the Cenacle, but we won't have them much longer if we don't get more support than last year.

The annual subscription is 51/- (30/- if under 21) - 1/9d. a week! - where else would you get the amenities and the company for that price - not in the public parks.

I'm not a tennis fan but I'm loathe to see it die and feel in my bones onemust preserve it for the future. John Donne might have said no section is an island, each is part of the main thereby. I really feel that if we lose tennis the bell could toll for part of the main.

Melodramatic? Maybe, but I wanted to make a point - and cathhyour attention. If I succeed it will have been well worthwhile - and those of you who heed will also be grateful for many hours of a good sport in good company. Don't waste those summer evenings!!!

'Editor'

Preliminary Details of the Rambling Programme

Summer 1967

May

Area:

14th      Opening of Cathedral - no walk

21st      Hope Mountain      Wales

29th      R.A. Train - details from Press

June

4th      Tryfan and Glyders      Wales

11th      Delamere      Cheshire

18th      Carneddls      Wales

24/25th      Midnight Ramble - Moel Famau  
(Car Ramble)      Wales

July

2nd      Petty Pool      Hartford

9th      Clewydd Walk      Wales

15/16th      14 Peaks      Wales

23rd      Wirral Perambultion (and social)

30th      Berwyns      Bala

August

6th      Peckforton      Beaston

13th      Hunters' Hill      Parbold

20th      Dovedale      Derbyshire

28th      R.A. Train - details from Press

From the Chairman

By now you will all be well aware of the move of weekly socials to the Design Centre. The purpose of this message is to ask all members to endeavour to give us as much support as possible.

Support as far as the club is concerned can be divided into two categories:-

- 1) Active to the extent of serving on committees, leading rambles, being an M.C., catering, etc.

or

- 2) Moral and physical to the extent of sympathising with what is happening and joining in whenever possible.

Obviously everyone must fall into one of the above categories.

The change in venue is the biggest thing to happen to this club in many years. There is much thought and time involved in practically all the activities of the club. They don't usually just happen! The Social Committee is busy arranging all sorts of entertaining evenings to take place at the club-rooms as well as the normal weekly socials. The Rambling Committee has just produced what I consider to be the most exciting programme we have had for many years. The Tennis Committee have just started a new season - a few brave souls have spent many hours early in the year preparing for this season. And so it goes on.

After all this effort the various committees only wish, I would think, is to see all these things go off well. Help us now by giving us your support - please.

Our new club-room is so attractive you would be proud to bring a friend. The membership is increasing - let's keep it that way.

Yours sincerely,

Bernard J. Manley,

Chairman.

April 4th, 1967



## Ramblerite

On Saturday, 15th July a number of club members will make an attempt to climb 14 peaks in Snowdonia, over 3,000', in less than 10 hours. An invitation is now extended to any member who is fit enough and has adequate knowledge of the route, to take part in the attempt. If anyone would like to have a go, please give their name to Bill Clay as soon as possible.

Before any attempt can take place, there must be a support party to assist the members actually making the attempt. Therefore a special request is now made for helpers. If you can cook, or are willing to assist in any way, please give your name to John Keenan as soon as possible. Car owners will be specially welcome. Remember - the number of people to actually make the attempt depends completely on the number of supporters available.

THIS IS A CLUB VENTURE? SO PLEASE GIVE ALL THE SUPPORT YOU CAN.

Soon you will receive your copy of the summer rambling programme, and you will notice it is a special souvenir edition to mark the 40th anniversary of the Association. You should also note that coach rambles will leave Liverpool at 9.30 instead of 10-15 a.m.

Some special events that may interest you are, firstly the outing titled "Be Our Guest". Many parents must wonder where their sons and daughters disappear to every Sunday, so this is an opportunity for them to find out where they do go. The outing will be a tour of Snowdonia with, weather permitting, a gentle stroll from the Pen-y-pass Hotel to Llyn Glaslyn at the foot of Snowdon. For energetic rambles there will be, at no extra charge, a climb up Snowdon.

Midnight ramble on 25th June to Moel Fammau. Watch the Notice-Board or see any rambling committee member for details.

"Operation Where" . This is to take the form of a map and compass reading exercise in the Winter Hill district, so start swotting up on how to use a compass.

Wirral Perambulation - 5th February, 1967

At 11 o'clock on Sunday, 5th February, 20 fool hardy ramblers met at Woodside, basking in the winters sun and getting frozen whilst waiting for our leader. He (Larry Fagan) eventually arrived and we all departed on the No. 64 'bus for Broadway.

Alighting from the 'bus some 20 minutes later we made our way through the glorious countryside of the Wirral, with rows of houses on both sides of us. Eventually we left the road and started off down a cart track, and across country towards Brimsage. We had no sooner done this when we wished we had stuck to the road, as our leader was taking us through thick mud and a "Dung Tip".

Up to now there had been no incidents amongst our 20 strong contingent, but upon reaching the mud it was noticed that four of our party were wearing NEW boots, so naturally these boots had to be initiated. This duly completed we proceeded on our way again through Lever Brothers Estate, and more mud, in which one young lady, whose name shall not be disclosed to protect the innocent, lost her shoe, (not boot but shoe) Until Prince Charming came along, and retrieving it with a squelch, replaced it on the Princesses foot.

After being like the hypopotimus, and having our blood cooled in the mud, we reached the road again. This being the A.540 from Chester to West Kirby. A short distance along the road we left it again, this time along the "Public Footpath" to Parkgate, as that was where we were going, or so our leader told us. It was at this point that Brian and Mike, to name but two, noticed that there was only 30 minutes to go before closing time. However, pressing on at no undue haste, the whole party arrived in Parkgate at 1.50 p.m. After a short walk, at the double, down the prom some of our party (six to be exact) managed to get some liquid refreshment, while the others were refused upon enquiry.

After our lunch break we proceeded along the picturesque banks of the Dee, with the chimneys smoking in the distance, past the golf course and down onto the beach itself. We walked on past Gayton, Heswall and Oldfield

to Thurstaston where another break was had after scaling a small sandy bank. We then headed back for the bus via the "Cottage Loaf" and so home to Liverpool.

An enjoyable day was had by all. Thank you Larry.

"Cusin"

Double LL, March 5th, 1967

At 10.35 a.m on the morning of March 5th, a startled 'bus conductor had his 'bus commandeered by 25 rambblers, who spread themselves comfortably over most of the upper deck. Despite all appearances we were quite harmless and when we changed 'buses half way along the route, the conductor favoured us with quite a friendly smile. Conductor No.2 waved u farewell at Burscough, which was the starting point for the "L.L" walk, lead by Keith Scott.

Off we went, with Keith clutching the map eventually arriving on the banks of the Leeds/Liverpool Canal. Pointing our noses in the direction of Parbold we spread out along the bank, and during this part of the walk, certain members of the club showed themselves to have a very peculiar sense of humour, by trying to organise a Skin-Kicking Competition. (Any interested parties, see Des Titherington).

After a very posh "butty break" in the Windmill Inn, we proceeded up the road to Fairhurst Hall, met a horse and fed it about half a pound of sugar lumps, then leapt across a stile and wandered across the fields towards the River Douglas. About this time Kieth counted heads and discovered that two of the party were missing. On the off-chance that they were still with the horse, Tom Chambers and Terry Williams back-tracked, but rejoined the party later having been unable to find them.

Disaster struck again, when we had to cross an eighteen inch wide drainage ditch. Two young ladies FELL IN... Another dispairing soul, faced with this enormous expanse of water, threw her bag in. Eventually, and with no loss of life, all managed to cross the ditch, and we followed the river to the White Bridge, where we rejoined the road.



At 6 o'clock we arrived back at Burscough and just had time for a leisurely cup of tea, before boarding the 'bus back to Liverpool. And so the ramble ended, having been enjoyed by one and all. Well done Mr. Leader!

### Hollingworth Lake

Twenty six set off for Hollingworth Lake one wet Sunday morning. We arrived at Rochdale just in time to miss our connection with the 'bus because the train was late. However, we eventually reached our destination despite delayed train etc. Much to our surprise the rain stopped at lunchtime and did not start again, although it threatened to until mid-afternoon when the sun appeared. The weather remained dry but we did not as we had to cross several streams on our travels. The majority of the party crossed the first stream by means of a large pipe, some, however, went over the bridge. This obstacle safely behind us we went through lots of mud to a second stream. Here there was no bridge and gallant Terry helped all the girls (and some of the boys) over while balancing on rocks in mid-stream. Of course there were some who crossed elsewhere. Tony was one and he got rather wet when he landed in the stream. Tommy's hat also got slightly more than 'Rather Wet' when it was thrown into the stream. We then continued on our merry way past the danger signs to a cafe by the side of Hollingworth Lake where we refreshed ourselves with coffee or tea before proceeding to the station to catch the train for home.

Thank you Hilda for an enjoyable day, and for turning off the rain even though you said you couldn't.

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### F O R                      S A L E

- 1 Gent's Anorak - in excellent condition.
- 1 pr. Gent's Ice Boots
- 1 pr. Gent's Rambling Boots.

Enquiries to Bernard Manley.

## SKI-ING, '67 - SAALBACH

We got our first feeling of the holiday spirit when we were turfed out of the London train at the unearthly hour of 5 a.m. on Saturday morning. Bernard Duffey and a couple of friends had wisely booked sleepers and when we were evicted from the train they were peacefully sleeping - much to our disgust.

Upon reaching the West London Air Terminal a booking-in clerk with a rather sick sense of humour informed us we were a little early for our flight which didn't leave till 10.30 a.m. What a cheek - by this time it was all of 5.30 a.m. Seven of us from the Club - Terry Crutchley, Monica Byrne, Maura Hogan, Hilda o'Keefe, Des Titherington, Tom Chambers and Bernard Duffey gathered at the Terminal. We were travelling with seven other friends and were to be later joined in Saalbach by Bill Potter and Hughie Molloy who were making the journey by train.

We arrived safely in Salzburg and a coach conveyed us to Saalbach. The coach journey went without a hitch apart from the fact that we nearly kidnapped a German frontier guard.

Saalbach is a beautiful little place nestling amongst snow covered mountains and I have only one complaint - the church bell. That church bell rang morning, noon and night and believe me it's no joke when you're trying to sleep with what sounds like Big Ben gone mad booming down your ears every fifteen minutes.

Sunday morning found us on the nursery slopes - flat on our backs mostly - trying to find our ski legs. Have you ever felt like a duck with two overgrown feet? Well, that's just how we felt and looked. Late in the day Bill and Hughie arrived to join our happy band.

We joined our ski class on the Monday morning and this is when the real fun started. For the first few days we literally flattened the nursery slopes and then our instructor decided to take us up on the baby lift - poor misguided fellow. It's a great sight to see someone fall off the drag lift. However, it's not much fun being dragged along by your legs whilst lying flat

on your back - it's not the most elegant of positions I can assure you. It's even funnier when the lift grinds to a halt and everyone falls down like a row of skittles.

There's nothing like a ski-ing holiday to convince you that your hips, knees and ankles are deformed. All day long you hear the instructor shout "bend ze knees and ze ankles". One smart instructor used to shout at the beginners "bend ze knees backwards" - you should laugh, they nearly killed themselves trying to do it. Our instructor, George, didn't know the English word for bottom and we had hysterics when he kept telling us to keep our "basin" in.

The night life over there was really fabulous. You could dance just how you pleased to lively Alpine music and in particular there was one dance called "La Boustella" which we all loved and awaited eagerly each night. We also had lively pre-dinner parties (sounds good doesn't it) in our rooms and we usually ended up having a really good sing-song. The noise was foul but we enjoyed ourselves.

Meanwhile, back on the nursery slopes. Our basins by this time were badly dented and a b-e-a-u-t-i-f-u-l shade of blue. Not that we were falling over very much you understand. Monica and Maura managed to ski beautifully whilst sitting on their skies - they looked a real treat, but somehow our instructor just didn't appreciate this unique performance. Terry on the other hand perfected a fantastic trick - ski-ing between other skiers legs and knocking them for six. Not always popular with the poor victims I'm afraid. It's a good job they were foreign because I got the feeling that some of the comments they made weren't very friendly. Des also managed the difficult art of knocking people down, but he was better known for falling flat on his face (a great sight to see) - hence the reason for his odd appearance (sorry Des). However, I think Tommy must take the medal for being the ace stunt man. His falls were, to say the least, spectacular and perhaps his most famous feat was shooting downhill BACKWARDS - yes BACKWARDS. I still

think someone should have told him the pointed end of the ski was meant to go downhill, not uphill. I somehow think he would have managed better had he known. Bill and Hughie managed to stay on their feet most of the time, but we knocked them over now and again just so that they wouldn't feel out of things. Hilda (otherwise known as "bomber") would shoot off at 80 m.p.h. holding onto her hat - she vanished clear into the next village one day. Bernard I'm afraid rather put us to shame - in our eyes he was good enough to be an instructor which shows you how bad we were (I'm only joking Bernard).

Sadly our last day came round and our instructor cheerfully informed us that we were to take a proficiency test. There was a horrified gasp from the class, but despite our feeble efforts to bribe him with Yaga Tea the test took place and we passed with flying colours. A certain person didn't take the test and consequently didn't get his badge - gosh was he annoyed, but I promised I wouldn't mention your name Tommy so I won't.

We had a very pleasant flight back to London and most of the party returned immediately by train to Liverpool. A small contingent (who shall remain anonymous for various reasons) spent a very amusing week-end in London seeing the sights etc., and exploring attics. Strange things they keep in attics these days - but that's another story and I just haven't the space to print it.

So ended a very enjoyable, if hard on the basin, holiday.

'Black n Blue'

## Tennis

The Courts are open at last after much toiling to get them ready. The A.G.M. was held on 29th April when it was reported that the probable membership this season would be about 36 (22 ladies, 14 men). The men's team commenced playing matches on 9th May with a home game against Bibbys. The ladies' team will again not be operating in the league this season, but friendly matches will be arranged for later in the season.

The committee will be composed as follows:-

Chairman & Treasurer	Chris Dobbie
Secretary	Maureen Howard
Match Secretary	Mike Marsden
Captain - Men's Team	John Burns
Vice Captain " "	Mike Marsden

Other committee members:-

Pauline Cunningham  
Betty Turner  
Eric Kavanagh  
Fred Norbury

All members are asked to note that the Anniversary American Tournament and Barbecue will be held on 10th June not 17th June as previously announced. As this is our special effort for the Anniversary Year, please do your best to support this function.

On behalf of the committee I wish all members a happy season, and lets hope the weather will be kind to us.

'Umpire'

## Socialite

I trust that you all had a pleasant Easter in spite of it being a little on the chilly side at times. The few days break at least provided an opportunity for the less energetic to forget about work and the more hardy to make their customary Bank Holiday weekend sojourn into North Wales for a few days camping. In between these two categories, we had sixteen members who travelled to South Wales for a caravanning weekend at Harlech - an idea of Des Titherington, who along with his aide Tom Chambers is also fostering the idea of Car Rambles with considerable success.

Indoors Eric Kavanagh's slide show was a very entertaining evening, composed as it was of contenders for the C.R.A. Academy Awards for 1967. Deciding the winners was by no means an easy task, and John Burns needed all his skill and artistry to claim the first prize. Slide shots of the club in action gave way a few weeks later to movie shots when the World Premier of the film on Club Activities was held. There was a decided lack of the Lords and Ladies who normally grace these occasions, but Charlie Chaplain was kind enough to come along and do the warm-up for us before the big picture. Eric Kavanagh was our film director, but there is no truth in the rumour that he got so caught up in his work that he painted his name on the backs of all the chairs at home. In congratulating Eric on the results of his labours let us not forget the Camera Crew, Maureen Howard and Ken Bird. A commendable first effort which might perhaps encourage them to tackle a 3-hour epic next, in line with the current trend in the film industry.

By the time you read this, we will have moved house and commenced socials on Thursday evenings at the Design Centre in Hope Street. One can not but be a little nostalgic about leaving Cathedral Buildings, which over the past 16 years has been the venue of many happy occasions spent in good company. Happily we will still retain some connection with the building, as Room 77 will still be our Committee Room.

Thus another page in the history of the C.R.A. is turned

and as we look to our new premises, I am asked to remind you of forthcoming attractions arranged by the Social Committee (See Page 4 for details).

One final note - don't forget in the midst of all this activity to reserve your ticket for the Anniversary Dinner-Dance on 21st October. Over a hundred applications have been received in response to the circular sent out before Easter, and I just can't bear to think that some of our regular readers may be unable to get a ticket for this great occasion.

Cheerio

'Socialite'

The following is a copy of a letter from Archbishop's House in response to our invitation:-

Dear Mr. Manley,

Thank you for your letter and invitation to the celebrations you are planning. I did not realise that the Catholic Ramblers' Association was in its fortieth year.

I have booked in Saturday October 21. I hope to be with you on the great occasion. No doubt nearer the date we can arrange the details.

May I wish you and all the members of the Association every blessing.

Yours devotedly in Christ,

signed

Augustine Harris

Auxiliary Bishop of Liverpool.

Letter to the Editor:-

Dear Sir,

I would like to say a word about the Slide Competition on March 15th. First and foremost, for myself, I enjoyed it, and I think the people who were connected with the arrangement and production of the programme deserve the highest praise. I would point out that the producers were not Committee members, and this makes the performance all the better, because although the committee is expected to organise all routine procedure for the members, it is a great help when programmes of this type can be arranged by "outsiders". Who will be the next with their own ideas? It is not always necessary to put your own ideas into practice, although naturally this would help, but if you have any new ideas for the Club, either in the Socials or the Rambling side, or in suggestions for outings etc., don't be afraid to let the committee know what you would like.

Thanks again to Johnny Burns and Eric Kavanagh for their efforts with the Slide Show. I would, however, make one suggestion for any future show or highlight of this type, and that is, that the Social should be organised to start at the usual time, with dancing etc., and that the show itself, which depends so much on "audience participation", should take place immediately after the interval, when the greatest number of members is usually present.

Here's hoping for more "outsider" shows in the future!

' Onlooker'



Greetings & Congratulations to:-

Birth

A boy for Tony and Marcia Thompson, Matthew Jeseeph,  
9 lbs. born in Nairobi on 26th April, 1967.

21st Birthday

Mary Jackson attained her majority on Saturday,  
May 13th.

Weddings

Agnes Vaughan & Ron Boardman were married early  
in March.