



Confraternity of Saint James

Bulletin



September 2005

No 91

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Editorial

Gosia Brykczynska

Just as the June *Bulletin* was going out to members, information reached the CSJ office that long standing member, guide writer and photographer Maurice Fox had died. He will be sorely missed.

Meanwhile, the CSJ has successfully celebrated for the 21st time the feast of St James (see Members' Page for report) and the CSJ office on Blackfriars Road has been exceptionally busy all summer long. Towards



the end of the summer a delegation of CSJ members went to Cologne at the invitation of the German Sankt-Jakobus Gesellschaft to help them with an exhibition of Pilgrimage and pilgrim routes to Santiago (see Members' Page).

This *Bulletin* has a decidedly Spanish tone to it and there are articles ranging from reports about colourful Spanish transport, as reported by David Elliot together with illustrations, to aspects of ecumenical spirituality along the camino, especially in Spain, to accounts concerning our new project – The Refugio at Miraz, which lies on the Camino del Norte. There is also an article about the Oikoten project, a modern aspect of the camino that has links with the medieval history of the pilgrimage.

The camino means many things to many different pilgrims, with a fundamental aspect of this being able to physically accomplish the pilgrimage – traversing the route and having designated places to stay along the way – be they refugios or small hotels. The new CSJ refugio project in Miraz captures that reality beautifully as presented to us in this September's *Bulletin*. Our chairman William Griffiths encourages us to support the new project stating that he feels he has known Miraz all his life – and so it should be; Rabanal or Miraz or any place of refuge along the way – needs to be a comfortable place of rest, a safe haven, a place to write home about and to remember.

Maurice Fox

RIP



Everyone will know that Maurice and Marigold were pilgrims together: they followed the ancient spiritual tradition of going in search of The Other by leaving the security and familiarity of home and becoming strangers in a strange land, until they find their destination, or rather sanctuary. The particular sanctuary that drew them was the tomb of the Apostle James the Great, reputed to be near the edge of the European continent, at Santiago de Compostela in northern Spain.

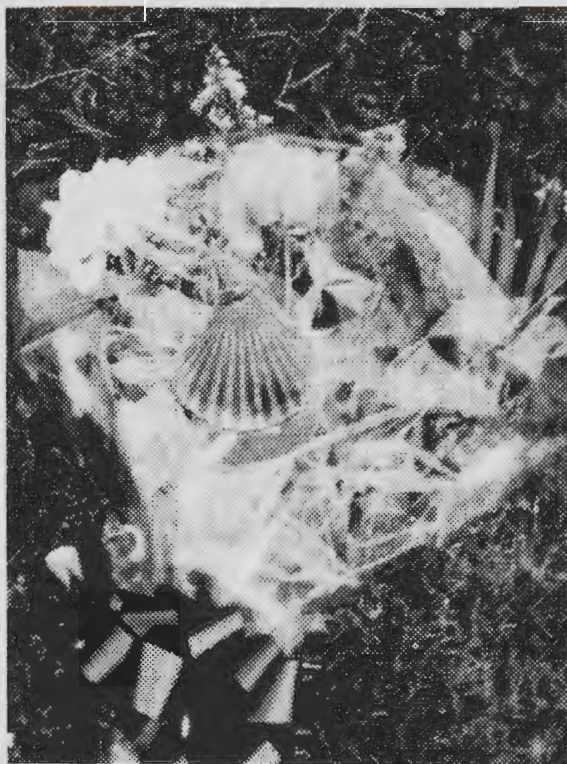
Maurice and Marigold joined our Confraternity of St James in 1989. There is an extensive network of routes from all over Europe leading to Santiago (indeed, it has been said that Europe was created by walking them). Maurice and Marigold threw themselves with immense energy and joy into discovering them.

There is something indefinably personal about an experience of pilgrimage. I was never privileged to walk with Maurice and Marigold, so I cannot share with you the special qualities of their pilgrimages. Perhaps in viewing Marigold's photographs we can share in them a little bit. But Maurice was more than a pilgrim: he was a guide. One of the purposes of pilgrims coming together in a Confraternity, a band of brothers and sisters, is to act as guides to those who come after. When Maurice and Marigold joined us, the number of Guides that had been written to the routes was small. In 1996 came their Guide to the route from Arles in Provence; in 1998 to the route from Paris; and in 2000 to the route from Madrid. In these Guides, in the presentations they made at our meetings, and in offering the hospitality of their home to intending pilgrims (myself included), Maurice and Marigold were major figures in the revival of the pilgrimage in this country in our own time.

Their masterpiece, I think, is the Guide to the Paris route. Pilgrims from Paris can reach Tours via the glories of Chartres or the delights of Orléans. But *from* Tours? Didn't everyone know that the pilgrim route was now the noisy and dangerous main road? I was incredulous when I heard that Maurice and Marigold were researching and walking that route. Their Guide is a triumph. Long before any of the French Guides that have since come onto the market, their Guide made it possible for a pilgrim from England to arrive in Paris, and follow footpaths and quiet roads, and stay in the accommodation that the Foxes indicated, until they reached the Pyrenees to cross into Spain.

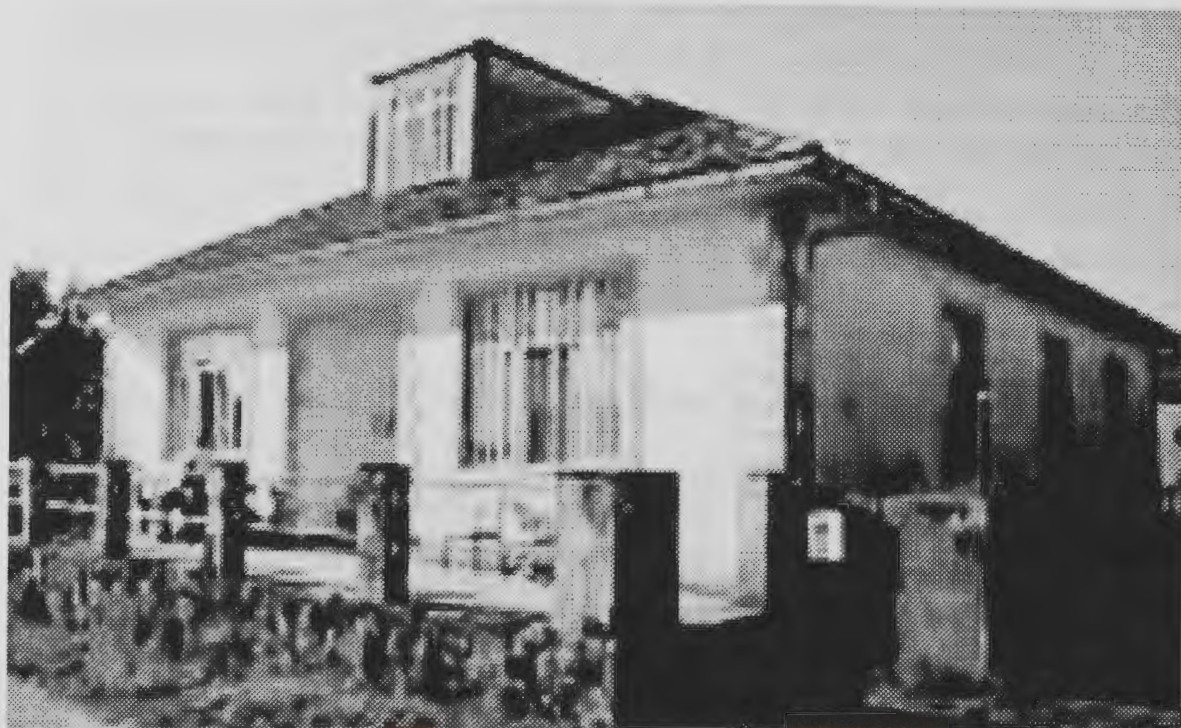
Maurice has gone before us as a guide on so many pilgrimages. Now he has made the crossing that we will all, one day soon, be making. May his crossing be safe, and may he be allowed to welcome us when our time comes to cross.

WILLIAM GRIFFITHS
At Royston Parish Church
20 June 2005



Miraz

William Griffiths



Do you know the *Cantigas de Amigo*, Songs of the Beloved, by the Galician troubadour Martin Codax? (If you don't, try them on Sinfonye's disc *Bella Domna*). The one in which the Woman in Love addresses her sister, *Mia yrmãna fremosa*? Never again will I be able to hear its haunting refrain '*E miraremos las ondas* : We will gaze upon the ocean' without new connotations flooding into my mind. It sings to me now of Miraz.

Miraz - on the *Ruta de la Costa*, but long after it has left the coast, swung inland, into Galicia, in the Bishopric of Lugo, in the long stretch, difficult for pilgrims, between Baamonde and the monastery of Sobrado. Miraz, with its church of Santiago, its statue of the *Matamoros* (but perhaps a statue of Santiago Peregrino may be found to match it?). With its *Casa Rectoral*, where the Rector was already, as best as he was able, helping pilgrims, but where the Rector no longer resides. Miraz - where the Bishop has offered us the *Casa Rectoral* as the new *Refugio de Peregrinos*. Miraz, the latest fruit on the tree of the Confraternity, the tree we have been tending since 1983, and which has already given to pilgrims the luscious fruits of Rabanal.

How did we find Miraz? In brief, we were led there. When the possibility of a new Refugio was first discussed by our Committee in

the summer of 2003, and when the first big meeting of Confraternity members convened on Valentine's Day 2004, all the options were considered. The new project might have been in France, Portugal or Spain, and passionate outpourings of love for the various Caminos were respectfully heard. We were fortunate that Maureen and Keith Young emerged to lead our deliberations, and in a sense to be for the new Refugio what Mary and Walter Ivens had been for Rabanal. Important discussions were held with people on the *Via de la Plata* (not to mention a flurry of activity on the Vézelay route). But our focus gradually moved to the Northern routes. A contact of Laurie Dennett's introduced us to Miraz. With its church of Santiago. How could we refuse?

An exchange of letters with the Bishop of Lugo took place as our first members went out to see the place with pilgrims already on the doorstep! Well, we'd better receive them, hadn't we? So, the new Refugio is already in operation, in somewhat provisional surroundings (but we made sure the bunks were of Rabanal standard). (And the Rabanal Subcommittee lost no time in showing its solidarity by donating generously to the laundry facilities at Miraz). Through the summer, Confraternity *hospitaleros*, including some of our most experienced Rabanal veterans, have been out in Miraz receiving pilgrims and forging friendships in the village and the Diocese. Within the Development Group, fundraisers emerged with breath-taking ideas (led, until her recent move to Ireland, by Angelika Schneider). Suddenly, our member Ian Mackey was running a sponsored marathon in Galician *gaitero* costume, the donations were rolling in, and the *gaitero* was the emblem for the appeal. And we haven't even launched the appeal officially yet... For details of which, see elsewhere in this *Bulletin*. And the next *Bulletin*. And next year's. I think this one will run and run...

Miraz! I look forward to going there in October, but already I feel I've known it all my life.

As you discover Miraz, tell us what it says to you.

E miraremos las ondas.

E miraremos Miraz.

Refugio des Peregrinos de Miraz

Fundraising Appeal

Questions & Answers and an invitation to bring a smile ...

Why Miraz?

In March 2005, the New Refugio Development Group drew up a list of "must-haves" for choosing the new refugio and, from then on, things moved very rapidly. Within weeks we'd found the casa rectoral at Miraz which met all the given criteria, including being situated on a section of the Camino del Norte where there is little other accommodation for pilgrims. The Bishop of Lugo agreed to our adoption of the refuge and by the end of May the advance party of trusty CSJ volunteers (including Colin Jones) were welcoming the first visitors! In this *Bulletin* Colin Jones tells of his experiences there and describes the village itself.

What size is the property?

The house is about 11 metres wide by 14 metres deep. There is a big kitchen with an old-fashioned woodstove that invites a gathering, a single bathroom, a living room and a large, long dormitory room as well as four other small rooms, all joined along a central corridor.

The casa rectoral has a pleasant aspect, set slightly above the roadway; the Camino passes nearby (see photographs). At the back is a huerta of some 600 square metres, with fruit trees and a wide gate at the far end that gives access to vehicles. It is suitable for camping, caravanning, horses, and other livestock. There is a small garden and one dilapidated brick outbuilding.

What's been happening so far?

The advance party installed new bunk beds, stocked up with supplies and made the refugio habitable. They met some of the villagers and the local priest. The bar is almost next door to the refugio and a very good relationship has developed with Pilar the owner! Another party went out in June to survey the house and look at plans for future development. A number of CSJ hospitaleros have volunteered to care for pilgrims between June and September this year. In the 12 weeks up to 7 August 2005, 474 pilgrims have stayed and have been delighted to find a welcome where they'd been told there was nothing.

What needs doing next?

Whilst the building is structurally sound and usable immediately, most of the services need replacing or restoring. These include the electrical wiring, water heating, space heating, gutters and down-pipes, and the drainage generally. The waste water currently empties on to the earth outside the building, and whilst the toilet waste disappears, no-one has so far been able to say for certain exactly where it goes to (although it has been noted that there is an unexplained greener patch at the far end of the huerta!).

There is an urgent need for more washing facilities. One bathroom is not nearly enough - especially when a group of 30 teenage girls turns up! It is proposed to convert one of the small rooms in the house into a second bathroom with toilets, shower and hand basins.

There are many smaller jobs such as the installation of a telephone, safety and security equipment which all add to the expected costs.

And later developments?

The outbuilding is judged suitable for conversion into extra sleeping space, washing, drying and storage facilities. Alternative forms of water heating such as solar panels will also be investigated and may be installed.

How much will it cost?

Initial estimates are for £100,000 which includes £85,000 for the above work and £15,000 to cover the running costs for the first 5 years.

An Invitation to bring a smile ...?

Most of the effort so far has been given by a few core members. Now is your chance to support them and help bring a smile to the faces of more weary pilgrims as they are welcomed at Miraz.

What can CSJ members do to help?

Please join us for Miraz Day on Saturday 19 November 2005, between 11 am and 4pm at 27 Blackfriars Road, London. - see what the refuge looked like when we took it over, what it looks like now, hear from the hospitaleros about their experiences there, buy some calendars or Miraz mugs as Christmas presents, talk to our fundraisers about ideas, support the fundraising efforts of other members and the Bring-and-Buy stall. Or just come along to meet other pilgrims. We hope to have Spanish food and wine available. Offers of help in the preparation of the day or on the day itself will be much appreciated.

- Take a few moments to read the Appeal Leaflets which are enclosed with this *Bulletin*, maybe pass a copy on to a friend. Would your employer be interested in supporting this appeal?
- Keep up-to-date with what's happening. There will be progress updates in future *Bulletins*, and the CSJ website has lots of current information about our fundraising and events.
- Organise your own event. Everyone has some skill or knowledge which can be used to raise funds - enjoy yourself and raise money at the same time. We have lots of ideas to get you started - there are some given on the enclosed leaflet - and please tell us your ideas and events so that we can add them to our list.
- Support the fundraising initiatives of others. Eg. see the enclosed leaflet for more details of CDs, a guided walk and on-line auction. (!)
- Join and / or support the fundraising group. All forms of contribution will be welcomed.

How much has been raised so far?

A total of over £3,400 had been donated by 21 August 2005 and we are very grateful to the following for their generous contributions of time and money.

- To Bethan Davies, Walter Ivens, George Plaxton, delegates to the American Pilgrims Annual Gathering and Anonymous for their donations.
- To Ian Mackey, William Griffiths and Angelika Schneider for organizing their own events and to all those who have supported them.
- To all members of the New Refugio Groups and hospitaleros who have given so much time and effort and have made the project possible.

The emblem of the Miraz Appeal is a gaitero, as shown on the *Bulletin* cover, and you will see him progress along the Camino del Norte as we move towards our target of £100,000.

Thank you all for your help and support

ALISON THORP
For the Fundraising Group

Refugio de Peregrinos de Miraz

All is going well at Miraz. From 24 May to August, 474 pilgrims stayed with an average donation of 4 euro per head.

Quite a number of large groups have been booked in this year and we have to honour these arrangements, but we are trying to encourage them not to come to Miraz and to restrict times for showers and cooking to allow genuine pilgrims some space.

In addition to looking after the pilgrims, hospitaleros have been busy decorating and gardening and it now looks much better. Alan Cutbush will be asking for volunteer hospitaleros for next year.

Angelika Schneider has moved to Cork, but will still be supporting the project. The fund raising group, now co-ordinated by Alison Thorp would like to hear if anyone is working for or knows of a company which might give a donation towards the restoration of the refugio or the rebuilding of the outhouses. £3400 has been raised so far, including £742 from Ian Mackey's marathon in Edinburgh dressed as a gaitero. The main fund raising appeal is being launched with this *Bulletin*.

The building and contents are now insured, including public liability and personal accident and a bank account is being opened in Friol.

Two groups are going out in the winter, one in October to start on major projects and a working party in March to decorate and set up for the next season. Howard Nelson is busy developing the website and Rebekah Scott and Marion Marples have been publicising the refugio and the Camino del Norte. We have begun contacting refugios, Jacobean websites and the Federation to let them know about Miraz.

CSJ caretakers have been arranged to house-sit during the winter.

NEW REFUGIO DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Any suggestions, offers or comments please contact:

Maureen Young maureenyoung101@hotmail.com

Alison Thorp - Fund Raising alison.thorp@virgin.net

Alan Cutbush - Operations alan@cutbush35.fsnet.co.uk

Peter FitzGerald - Property peter_of_chichester@tiscali.co.uk

Howard Nelson - Website howard.nelson@tiscali.co.uk

Marion Marples - Publicity (Europe) office@csj.org.uk

Rebekah Scott - Publicity (Rest of the World) rebrites@yahoo.com

Pilgrims, card games and a dead rabbit

or

On being a warden at the new refuge in Miraz

Colin Jones

El Camino se engancha” – you get hooked on the Camino. Increasingly, those who complete their first pilgrimage want to continue their exploration by following routes other than the Camino Francés. As they do so it is important to work with local associations to improve these “alternative” caminos so that they are as rich and fruitful an experience as the Camino Francés. This is why only a few months ago the Confraternity undertook to open a refuge in the tiny village of Miraz (population 58). Miraz lies on the Camino del Norte which shadows the Cantabrian Coast as it heads towards the Apostle’s Shrine.

Like the village of Rabanal, Miraz is a small rural community. Again like Rabanal, the placing of a refuge there provides a crucial place of rest in a stage that is otherwise extremely long and without shops or bars. Unlike the early days of developing the *refugio* in Rabanal, the house that the Diocese of Lugo offered for use as a refuge is actually in very reasonable condition. In a strange way this presents a peculiar problem. When the New Refuge Development Group first visited the house at Miraz it was obvious that, while plumbing and other works needed to be done, the building was secure enough to place beds and equipment in straight away. If this happened we would also have to provide wardens as quickly as possible – and once we did so there was no going back, the coffee-making machine could not be left unattended. Or to put it another way, once we had made a commitment to care for this refuge we had to be consistent. Alan Cutbush, who had a reserve list of volunteers, quickly drew up a rota. That’s how I found myself at the end of June as a warden in Miraz.

Of course, there were normal wardenly duties to do. The kitchen and toilets had to be cleaned daily. Each night 4–6 pilgrims would stay. It doesn’t sound a lot. However, bearing in mind that all the guide books warn pilgrims there is only an abandoned house in the village for shelter and if possible to avoid using it, those were good numbers. The special joy was seeing the surprise and delight on the faces of new

arrivals as it dawned on them that this “ruinous” house had a working shower, comfortable beds and a clean kitchen.

On the other hand, at Miraz I found that as warden there were other tasks to do, not necessarily covered by the helpful “Warden’s Guidelines”. In these early days we have yet to get the “knowledge” as to who to contact in the village when jobs need doing. So for example, I thought that I would start cutting the grass in the *huerta*, at least until I could find someone in the village who could do it on a regular basis. The only thing I could find to cut the grass with was a scythe – Pilar who owns the bar found the whet stone, and late one afternoon there I was swooshing the blade through the greenery. It so happened that four Finnish pilgrims had arrived that very afternoon. Despite being obviously tired, they all came out the back, and after a few minutes of watching me declared that they could not stand by anymore. No, I said, it’s alright. You need your rest. No, they responded, we *know* how to cut the grass with the scythe; it’s you who needs to rest. With that they took it from my hands.

Opening a new refuge in such a small village community means that it is vital to establish good relations and good will with those who live there. There are no shops, no social centre and the church opens only on a Sunday, so the bar – Pilar’s bar – is the natural gathering place for villagers. It is also a butane station, the place where the bread, fruit and fish vans stop, the source of delicious eggs, and for all information. So I made a point of popping into the bar twice a day to catch the lunchtime crowd and then in the evening for the second shift of locals. Playing cards in the bar is the main pastime, certainly for the men. Not having any idea how to play, I positioned myself for several days by the card players’ table, observing, commenting, and asking about the various games. By the second week, my credibility had so risen, I thought, that I was invited to play *chinchon*, a variant of rummy. While the other players set about comprehensively thrashing me, so they ventured approving remarks about the painting of doors or the cutting of the hedge that I had just completed. The opening of the refuge was something that was clearly approved of.

So, where does the dead rabbit come into it? Pilar, the owner of the bar has an Alsatian dog called Fran. Fran quickly learnt that interesting titbits could be had if only she wandered over to see the wardens at the refuge. The bar and the refuge are only separated by a small road, so Fran found the journey to and from the refuge terrace and the bar not too taxing. One evening, as I was sitting in the bar chatting to Pilar in

walked Fran. In her jaw was a dead rabbit which she had caught. For a split second everyone in the bar stopped talking. Then everyone started laughing. Perhaps it's for the pilgrims some called out.

Card games and dead rabbits seemed to have been missed out of the warden's duties list but they were part of making the refuge become what its name says it is: the refuge for pilgrims of Miraz – something that is integral to a living community.



Miraz church (Colin Jones)

The *Camino de Santiago* as an ecumenical encounter/experience

Alison Raju

In May 2004 I attended an interesting weekend conference entitled *The Camino de Santiago as an ecumenical experience*, held in Fuenterroble de Salvatierra, a small village on the *Vía de la Plata*, 50km south of Salamanca. In the different talks and presentations the topic was considered on four different levels: relational, spiritual, theological and pastoral. The theological approach does not apply to the pilgrim experience as such but the other three do, albeit in differing degrees, and listening to the discussions and talking to other participants I began to think more about the subject, a theme that continued to run through my mind after I returned home.

There are obviously various points to consider but from the outset it is important not to talk merely about THE Camino de Santiago but about “the caminos” in the plural. For the pilgrim experience concerns not merely the *Camino Francés* from the Pyrenees but also the *Camino Mozárabe* or *Vía de la Plata*, for example, the different *Caminos del Norte*, or the *Camino Portugués*, to mention but a few, and this distinction will help to underline more clearly the ecumenical character/aspect of the different pilgrims roads to Santiago.

On the *Camino Francés*, just as on the other pilgrim routes to the City of the Apostle, pilgrims from many different countries and many different motives decide to walk to Santiago. And amongst all these different pilgrims there are, of course, many who, although they are Christians, practising or not, are not Catholics. We meet each other along the way, walk, eat and chat together, but without thinking, very likely, that some are Catholics, some are Anglican, for example, while others may be Lutheran, Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian or Protestants from the Dutch or Swiss Reform churches. At other times however, we become aware that some pilgrims have Christian backgrounds somewhat different from others, as happens when, for instance, a pilgrim from an austere Protestant denomination enters a Baroque church for the first time, stunned, quite likely, by its sumptuous interiors, its ornate, gilded altarpieces, its statues, its candles, its lavish decoration, accustomed as he is to the plain, very austere church architecture of his

homeland, bare and devoid of all decoration. If such a pilgrim attends a mass for the first time he may well be somewhat startled too by the ceremony of the liturgy, with its veneration of the Virgin Mary, the use of the rosary, incense and so on. All these impressions can provoke discussion and conversation amongst pilgrims from time to time, even though probably only on a fairly superficial level, raising questions of an ecumenical nature, perhaps for the first time in their lives for many pilgrims. Thus, on a physical level, when people of different denominations walk and/or talk together, this can be seen as a means of viewing the *Camino de Santiago*, whether it is the *Camino Francés* from the Pyrenees or the *Vía de la Plata* (to cite but one example), as a path of ecumenical encounter. That is, in this case, the experience will be on a relational level.

However, if we move beyond the simple act of walking and/or talking together and consider the more active question of praying in common, taking part in services together, singing hymns or psalms together, reading the Bible, it will be obvious that the *Camino Francés* is much more developed in this respect than the other *Caminos de Santiago*. On the *Vía de la Plata*, for example, just as on the *Camino Francés*, the pilgrim from any background can go to mass in any church on the *camino* and for a pilgrim from a different Christian denomination this will serve as an ecumenical experience on a spiritual/pastoral level, even though only in a very passive way. An Anglican, for instance, will have the chance to realise that the text of the Catholic mass is almost identical to the liturgy of the communion service. For the congregation of the church in question it will also form an ecumenical experience though they will normally be oblivious that they are taking part in one and more than likely the priest won't be aware of this either.

If we continue along this route, though and turn to what is actively organized, on a spiritual level, for the pilgrim on the *Camino Francés* and compare it with what does not yet exist on the *Vía de la Plata*, the *Camino del Norte* or the *Camino Portugués*, we will not only see the difference between the two routes in this respect but the ecumenical nature of the *Camino Francés* today will become much clearer. In Roncesvalles, for instance, there is a pilgrim blessing every evening after the 8.30pm mass, for any pilgrim who wishes to receive it, regardless of his background. No questions are asked and if a non-Catholic or agnostic pilgrim wishes to receive the blessing, he or she simply goes up to the altar just like all the rest. However, at present, at least, the pilgrim setting out from Seville, for example, has no opportunity

to receive a blessing before setting out on his journey, either in the cathedral or in any other church in the city

There are regular pilgrim masses in various places along the *Camino Francés* – in San Juan de Ortega, for example, in Triacastela, in O Cebreiro in summer and in other places too, where any pilgrim who wishes can attend the service, regardless of his background or denomination. And in other places along the *Camino Francés* pilgrim prayers are organized and in which pilgrims participate, reading the lesson for example, in many cases in his or her own language, again without anyone questioning the pilgrim about his or her religious origins. The most striking example here is probably that of Rabanal del Camino, the tiny village between Astorga and Ponferrada with a Benedictine monastery whose mission is the spiritual care of pilgrims. Every evening at 7pm there are vespers with Gregorian chant, attended not only by pilgrims but also by the village people as well. The monks offer a short, simple prayer (often in several languages) for all those who are making the pilgrimage to Santiago and seek out pilgrims to read the lesson, not only in Spanish but also in English, German, French and, at times, Italian as well. And at 9.30 at night there is compline, with a pilgrim blessing at the end.

And, of course, on reaching Santiago, there is the special pilgrim mass at twelve o'clock each day, in which pilgrims are asked to read the lesson, say a prepared prayer, once again without asking whether they are Catholics or to what denomination they belong. (I was once asked, for example, to read the Old Testament lesson, the priest knowing full well that I am an Anglican.) All such activities make the *Camino de Santiago* a positive ecumenical encounter in which pilgrims join together to follow a single path towards God.

At the moment this type of ecumenical experience does not yet exist along the other *Caminos de Santiago* but it is to be hoped that, with the passage of time and many more pilgrims along routes such as the *Vía de la Plata*, the *Camino del Norte* or the *Camino Portugués*, that each *Camino de Santiago* will not remain simply a physical and historical pilgrim route to the City of the Apostle but also, at one and the same time, and on all levels, an opportunity for a truly ecumenical encounter.

The Camino as a School for Life

Martyn Tonks

Oikoten is a Flemish organisation that runs projects on the Camino to help troublesome institutionalised teenagers change their own lives for the better. Oikoten runs these Camino projects especially for those teenagers for whom the institutions hold least hope.

These teenagers, aged 16 or 17, occasionally older, have been placed in care institutions by social workers or Juvenile Courts following serious anti-social behaviour like thieving, violence or drug-related offences. Many were sent to the institutions before they were ten. All had had troubled childhoods, often physically abused or sexually abused. They learned early to fear rejection, to trust no one and experienced great emotional distress. The institutions were unable to cope adequately with such distress and the accompanying low self-esteem, bouts of depression, tempers and so many other difficulties. The institutions rate them as poor achievers, untrustworthy, unreliable and with little hope of a better future.

Oikoten's Project is for teenagers to come away from the institution and walk, with a Guide, the whole way to Santiago. Oikoten saw that the different life-style of the Camino would give these teenagers plenty of opportunities to learn something positive about themselves and about relationships. And to see that their lives could be different and that they had the ability to make it different. The Camino is being used as a peripatetic School for Life.

CSJ members will know of the joys and inconveniences of walking the Camino. They are interested in the Camino itself and many decide to walk it with the idea of possibly taking stock of their lives and getting some insights for their future. They are not adolescents and have learned something positive from Life. But what of these teenagers from the institutions? They are still adolescents with the problems of adolescence and as already mentioned even worse problems in addition. These teenagers are easily bored and, from past experience, they see a future no different from their gloomy past. How do these adolescents see the Camino? What is their motivation to do this long distance walk? How are they ultimately affected by it?

For these teenagers the walk to Santiago is more to do with getting

an adventure away from the Institution than about thinking about Life. However, they know it is a chance to show they are capable of responsible behaviour outside the Institution. They know good behaviour could earn final discharge from the Institution. So they go.

They go in pairs with an Oikoten Guide. They carry their camping equipment on their backs. They see much. They have good days and bad days. Soon they are surprised at becoming so physically fit. They are surprised by the kindness of strangers. They are surprised by the growing warm and sensible rapport developing with their Guide.

Walking the whole way from Belgium to Santiago gives these teenagers time to absorb the many, many different, even undreamed of, experiences the Camino provides – scenery, wildlife, towns, food, inconveniences. So many experiences. All experiences are important. Most important of all are the experiences with people and the feeling of being accepted as normal – almost always.

Receiving kindness from strangers, freely given kindness, is often experienced by CSJ members on the Camino. It is appreciated and welcomed. To these teenagers freely given kindness is a surprise and a revelation; a revelation that humans seem to commonly treat each other and outsiders this way.

CSJ members, even those qualifying as eccentrics, are used to being presumed normal. Being presumed normal would be a new, or long lost, experience for these teenagers. On the Camino they find that they are accepted, presumed normal, by almost everyone they meet. They find being normal is possible and is quite a nice way to be. They get the notion that they could become normal all the time.

CSJ members easily make relaxed friendships along the way. They have no need to develop close personal relationships with fellow pilgrims or local inhabitants. These teenagers need, for their Life's sake, the close and sensible relationship with their Guide. It grows through sharing together the labour of the walking and the camping. With their Guide they come to find they can share their moods, troubles and enthusiasms. They share any plans they might have and any hopes and any fears. Their Guide is much more than a mucker-in with the camping and walking. He becomes the father, the older brother, the real friend they may never have had. He is their confessor and counsellor and nurse. He is a role model. These teenagers see him like that despite whatever legal authority he holds. It is another revelation that such relationships are possible for them.

At the end, the sense of achievement at reaching Santiago on their

own two feet reinforces any changes in attitudes made along the way. They now know it is possible that their futures could be different and better than their pasts. They also know this will require an effort and that they are capable of making that effort.

Oikoten's first walkers, two male teenagers and their male Guide, set off from Vézelay to go to Santiago in 1982. It took four months to walk those 2500 kilometres (1562 miles) with their camping equipment on their backs. Since then there have been many walks to Santiago usually with male adolescents. The first trek with females was in 1987. The *Camino Francés* to Santiago is the route most usually used. It is popular and has proved useful. The *Via de la Plata* is occasionally used. And, incidentally, four treks starting in North Africa have continued along the *Via de la Plata* to get to Santiago. There have been treks from Scotland, Norway and Poland to Belgium and once a trek in India. But wherever the trek, the shared work and the warm relationship with the Guide are part of that Oikoten project.

Some readers will be sceptical about the claims made for the usefulness of the Oikoten Long Distance Walk Projects. That's OK. Research into how well these teenagers participate in normal life after Santiago and discharge from the institution has not been done thoroughly enough. However there is ample evidence from education, social work, psychiatry and the hospice movement to show the great value, even therapeutic value, of the type of sensible warm relationships that develop between the Guides and their fellow trekkers.

Over three hundred teenagers have now gone on Oikoten's Long Distance Walks. Each walk lasts 3 to 4 months. Oikoten's only studies of the Walks' effectiveness was done in the early nineties after ten years of treks. It was done by the University of Louvain. Forty-four male participants were interviewed in 1992; twenty females in 1994. A standardised interview was used. All had a warm regard for their time on the Camino. Sixty per cent of this sample, as far as could be judged, were coping well with Life. The remainder were still finding difficulties

One last thing - the name 'OIKOTEN'. It is a Greek word with several meanings. 'Away from home' and 'by your own effort' are two of them; a suitable name for the organisation that uses these long distance projects which are Schools of Life.

There is quite a bit more to tell about Oikoten. Maybe in another *Bulletin*? The organisation is based at Tildonk in Belgium. Its website is www.oikoten.be

And Afterwards

Mefo Phillips

*Faded tracks in long woods,
Muddy intersections
Scrambled, nothing clear
Except a small pebble added to a pile of stones:*

There was a pilgrim here.

*Those were kaleidoscope days
Painted in oils,
Washed to pale watercolour,
Sun and rain in overlap,*

*Land and people spilling
Off the IGN map.*

*Time was just for plotting practicalities,
At the end of every earthy day
No slumping on the sofa,
No slow unwind;*

*And it's only retrospectively
A journey in the mind.*

A Journey through France

Keith Bishop

In September 2003 I gave myself a retirement present of a second cycle trip to Santiago. Our first trip was in 1996 when we cycled from Santander down to the Camino at Carrión de los Condes and then on to the west. This time I proposed to go south from our home in Northamptonshire, pick up the Paris route and so to Santiago. Somewhat reluctantly my wife agreed to come and having arranged sitters for the dog, horse, budgies, and hens we arranged to go a week after Easter 2004. Going at that time would avoid the crowds of a Holy Year and the heat of summer.

In the event we had to start from our son's home at Old Basing in Hampshire and so at 9.30am on 16 April we set off to cycle the 50 miles to Portsmouth. The weather was superb and the countryside so wonderful that we wondered why we wanted to leave England. Perhaps we could find a pilgrimage site nearer home. However near Portsmouth we found a church dedicated to St James which we took to be an instruction to carry on to Santiago. The overnight boat to St Malo left at 8.30pm and arrived the next day at 8.30am, all of which suited us perfectly.

Leaving St Malo we took the advice of a CTC member and followed the main road to Rennes as far as Châteauneuf-d'Ille-et-Vilaine. This was virtually our last journey on anything but a D road. At Châteauneuf we found a cycle sign which took us to Rennes via what was obviously the old main road but now downgraded. Rennes was also the only town of any size that we went to, but which, on a Sunday morning was very easy to get out of with good cycle lanes. Our plan was to head as due south as possible making for centres of population about 40-50 miles apart likely to have small hotels, and by and large we were able to keep to this.

The weather in France was cool and showery but we were able to avoid most of it on the first two days, but at Ancenis on the third day where we crossed the Loire the heavens opened. Normally we had a picnic lunch of bread, fruit and cheese; that day we had a hamburger in a café. However we stayed dry and the ride through the vineyards in the afternoon was sunny and delightful. Thereafter the weather continued to pick up and the fourth day found us making steady progress south

The next two days were to provide us with pleasure and excitement. Near Fontenay-le-Comte we met our first pilgrim, and then like a London bus, our second, two or three miles further down the road. Both were walking and both came from Brittany. The scallop shell was very prominent on their rucksacks. After an exchange of pleasantries and photographs we left them to their long solitary walk. Soon after we were in the Charentes region, the home of our favourite tipple, Pineau des Charentes. We were in a region of canals and ditches and the cycling, which had never been difficult, was very easy. That night, our fifth in France, which we spent in Mauze was our last before we joined the route from Paris.

The following morning we journeyed to Aulnay and duly admired all the carvings outside the church. I personally found the interior equally moving, very plain and sombre. In the afternoon we took the short trip to St Jean-d'Angély following the river Boutonne and found the Centre de Culture Européenne. The accommodation was luxurious and breakfast superb and all free. We met more pilgrims, all from Brittany, and all but two, walkers. Saintes was a short ride away the next morning and we were due to meet some friends there who had moved to France. Saintes is a delightful town in which to break the journey if you are saddle sore. It has splendid Roman remains as well as important Jacobean relics.

We booked into a small hotel we had stayed at previously but found the refuge and had a long chat to the warden and the sole pilgrim, a German, and were given some very useful information by the local association of St Jacques.

Thanks to this information we made the long journey to Blaye, via Pons and Jonzac the next day knowing there was a refuge just outside the town at the village of St Martin Lacaussade. As a result of our phone call we met the warden outside a converted barn which has just been done up. It has four berths but we were the only visitors. The local shop provided the wine and the pizza and we dined outside in glorious sunshine.

We were up bright and early the next day to catch the ferry across the Gironde to Lamarque and so into the Medoc. Rightly or wrongly we made a conscious decision to go round Bordeaux and so we headed south and west to Ste Helene where we picked up a 10km cycle track through the pines to Saumos. From here it was south and east for 37km on a virtually flat and straight road. The sun shone and there was no wind but we did long for some variation. Eventually we arrived at Le

Barp which we knew had a refuge. We found it by the *mairie* and after a phone call a gentleman arrived and signed us in. This was 5pm on a Sunday and he would not accept payment. This refuge had two berths but according to the visitors book people had been known to sleep on the floor! Again the local pizzeria came to the rescue.

Some 30km south of Le Barp is the village of Moustey. Here we saw the two churches, had our *credencial* stamped at a Dutch run restaurant, and saw a gravestone with the words “Compostelle 1000km”. We didn’t know whether to laugh or cry. We should have known. Next day the weather changed for the worse. We pushed on to Sabres where an English speaking waitress kindly phoned ahead to Morcenx to book a bed for the night.

The journey from Morcenx took us out of Les Landes at Buglose but brought us to what I thought was the highlight of the French part of the journey to Santiago. Some 2 miles from Buglose and 3 miles from Dax is the village of Berceau de Saint-Vincent- de-Paul, a popular pilgrimage centre in its own right. Here in 1576, St Vincent de Paul was born and the house is preserved as a shrine along with a nineteenth century basilica. The house contains some interesting facts about the life of the saint. We ate our lunch in the gardens, which were very peaceful if chilly. We warmed up by having a free cup of tea with the nuns who had discovered we were on our way to Santiago. We in turn were asked to pray for them at the tomb of the Apostle, which we duly did.

After lunch we went round Dax to the east and started our first bit of climbing in a long while as we went into the foothills of the Pyrenees. Although it was cloudy we saw more of the mountains from afar than we did for the next two days. Some fifteen miles south of Dax is the village of Cagnotte. Here we found the hotel closed, but were directed to a *gîte de ferme*. This was a renovated Basque farmhouse and that night we dined in style with the family.

Our last full day in France started in rain continued in rain and ended in rain. However it was not cold and there was a certain pleasure in the empty hilly countryside with the mist coming down. It was sufficient of a damper to miss out the Stele de Gibraltar and Ostabat and so we arrived in St Jean-Pied-de-Port about four in the afternoon.

The *gîte* in St Jean was a sharp reminder of what we would meet in Spain; a very busy Tower of Babel with bodies and equipment everywhere. We paid our 7 euros, had a good night’s sleep and were rewarded with a breakfast the next morning. We left St Jean at 8.30am

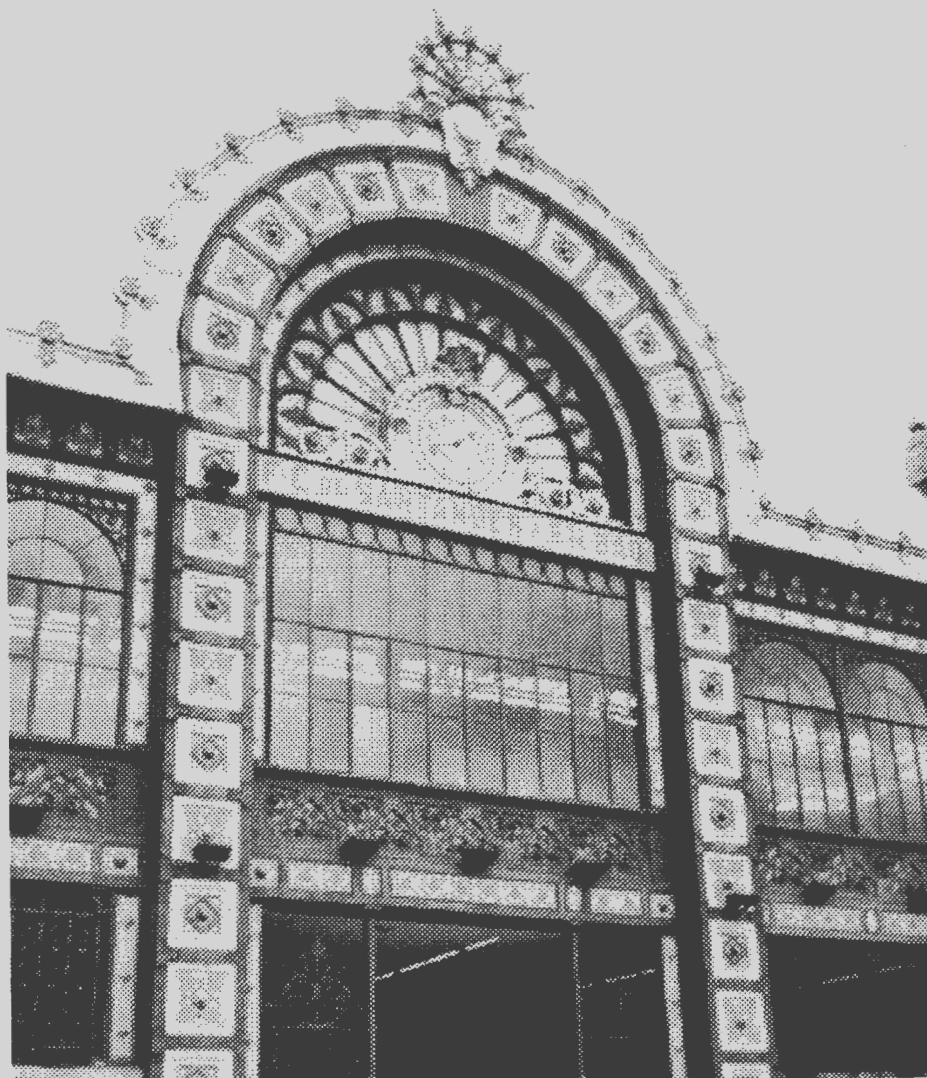
in the rain and crossed the non-existent border about one hour later. The rest is another story.

We used Michelin maps 1:200,000 throughout and had no problems finding roads. Having reached Aulnay we consulted *Paris to the Pyrenees* by Maurice and Marigold Fox frequently as well as the update sheet of January 2003. Although primarily for walkers the information and background is still very useful. The CTC notes referred to at the beginning are also good although we didn't take their route. That cyclist also used camp sites which we did not.

We hope this article will encourage others to think seriously of the routes in France. We found plenty of Jacobean interest on the way we took and know that we missed a lot. Obviously it is less commercialised and we really did have time to meet and talk to the natives!

A run down *La Robla*

David Elliot



In June last year 2004 I was invited to join the celebrations at Rabanal del Camino marking the fifteenth anniversary of the arrival of the first working party at the Refugio Gaucelmo. I flew to Bilbao, and spent the afternoon at the Guggenheim Museum on its riverbank site. My hotel was near the Arriaga Opera House, named after the Spanish composer who died in 1825 at the early age of 19; critics say that had he lived, he would have made a great name for himself in music.

Next morning I looked into the mainly nineteenth century cathedral not far away – no mention of pilgrim James that I could see. So I climbed the two hundred or so steps to the top of the hill, whence I had a fine view of the city in its valley. Incidentally, as a Lord of the Rings fan I was delighted to see that the citizens of Bilbao travel around

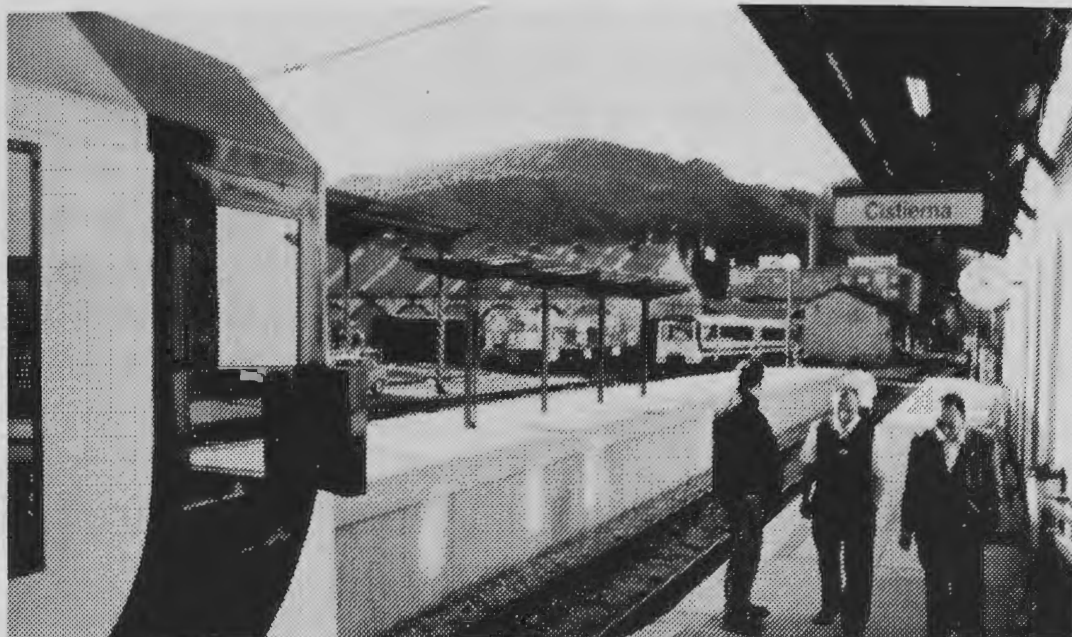
on smart ‘Bilbobuses’. To continue my journey to Rabanal I decided to try the FEVE (Ferrocarriles de Via Estrecha – narrow gauge) railway line, formerly called La Robla which runs a once-a-day service to León, on the pilgrim route and some 150 miles to the southwest, well inland. A little intimidated by the huge nineteenth century window on its façade, I approached the FEVE station across the river from the opera house. Inside, I deployed my minimal Spanish at the booking office, “*León, por favor*”. The clerk handed me the *horario*, pointing out Bilbao 14.30 – León 21.45. I countered with “*Toiletten, si?*” She said “*si*”, so I paid a very reasonable 17.25 euros for 7.25 hours of metre-gauge pleasure, and was not disappointed.

Up the escalator to the two terminal platforms. At one stood a two-car white-painted DMU set (that’s railway-speak for a diesel multiple unit, a train with no separate locomotive and a diesel engine mounted underneath each coach). I took a comfortable window seat. Some 30 or so people got on board; a hoot, and we were off through a tunnel. The line is double tracked and overhead electrified to Balmaseda, so FEVE can run a busy commuter service. After a scenic run along the banks of a river between steep hills, we reached Balmaseda where most of the passengers left the train. We set off on the non-electrified single track with maybe a dozen passengers on board on a sunny afternoon.

I had heard that a few years ago the FEVE to León was in a run-down condition and in danger of abandonment. Instead I found a line in first-class shape, with welded rails, concrete sleepers and modern colour light signals. Stations large and small have been done up and painted in bright colours; level crossings have electric rising barriers. The Spanish or Regional government must have spent a fortune in upgrading the line, and my once-a-day service must enjoy a massive subsidy. The government is no doubt looking ahead to a tourist boom in the country the line serves. Indeed it runs through some splendid scenery – at times the track is laid on a ledge in the lee of a substantial east-west mountain range, with several tunnels.

My little DMU zipped along, taking in its stride steep gradients and sharp curves which gave a good view of the line ahead. We ran along the shore of the good-sized Lake Ebro. The countryside is not yet tourist Spain – I expected to see Don Quixote and Sancho Panza waiting at the level-crossings in tiny villages where the only modern things in sight were the railway and its stations.

The bigger stations have passing loops and sidings. Well past the half-way mark, at Vado Cervera in the shadow of the hilltop, we met



the eastbound two-car set which had left León at 15.30. Soon I had the front car to myself apart from the conductor, a friendly man with a little English. It was like having my own private train! The conductor told me I could safely get out for 10 minutes at Cistierna, a fair-sized town, which I did and took some photos. Every now and then we ran parallel to or crossed over a RENFE broad-gauge line, on one of which I spotted a pair of electric locos hauling a lengthy goods train. The FEVE carries some freight – mainly coal, sand and gravel by the looks of it, loaded into big hopper cars hauled by diesel engines with an American look to them.

It was getting dark as we ran through the León suburbs and drew up beside the barn-like León terminus on time at 21.45. Two crew, a lady passenger and I were the only travellers who made it to León. I had hoped we would arrive near the RENFE station with a rank of taxis, but no such luck – the FEVE is a good mile from the big RENFE station in León. There I was on a Spanish street with not a clue how to find my hotel. However I approached a pair of middle-aged couples in conversation, and after some sign language they put me on my way. Soon I was sitting with a glass of wine and pleasant memories of a leisurely and enjoyable journey which I can recommend to any pilgrim who also likes trains.

I later found that the FEVE station is just off the Avenue del Padre, about half a mile down from the Cathedral in the modern part of the city. In my opinion, a run on La Robla, León to Bilbao, would be a great way to enliven the possibly anti-climactic journey back to England for a pilgrim who has made it the hard way to Santiago.

Book Reviews

Dreaming Santiago

Bas Boorsma, published Indico, 2004, 170pp, ISBN 90 7771303 4

This is a refreshing collection of writings from the author's own diary and from other pilgrims: "As I finalised writing my own story, I realised that no matter how much or how little I had to tell it would be just one tale out of many". From Dutch pilgrim Gerd, for example, I learnt for the first time about the tradition of pilgrims being invited to take a prayer from the box below the statue of St James in Le Puy cathedral – and how the fact of carrying concern for a severely disabled nine-year-old had affected his attitude to the whole pilgrimage. Bas selects from the diary of his journey from St-Jean-Pied-de-Port with girlfriend Dewi and we see his progress in understanding what the camino is all about, through the highs and lows. He is serious but amusing in his observations on refugios, other nationalities, and his dreams. Recommended for those who have already made their pilgrimage to relive the experience of meeting 'the Dutch pilgrim'.

Available for loan from the CSJ Library or to buy via www.amazon.co.uk

MARION MARPLES

Walking Home on the Camino de Santiago

Linda L Lasswell, 2005, 149pp, ISBN 0 9749597 2 3

This is described as a 'fictionalised account' of Linda's pilgrimage on foot from St Jean-Pied-de-Port to Estella to Logroño and then from Ponferrada to Santiago. In the middle she makes a 10-day diversion by car with a friend to the north coast. The 'Home' of the title seem to be a reference to finding out more about her Basque grandfather and noting the similarities with Spain of landscape near her home in New Mexico. She deals well with the issues of 'extra baggage' that we all carry all the time and uses an inner voice 'Simon' to stimulate her thinking.

Available for loan from the CSJ Library, www.pilgrimsprocess.com or www.amazon.co.uk

MARION MARPLES

New CSJ Publications

All available from www.csj.org.uk/bookshop or by post.

Pilgrim Guides to the Roads through Europe to Santiago de Compostela: 4 *Via Gebennensis*, Geneva to Le Puy-en-Velay

2005, Alison Raju, 16pp, £3. (40g)

This Guide is a concise introduction to the pilgrim route from Geneva to le Puy, and is a supplement to the existing Guides published in French by the Association Rhône-Alpes (available from the CSJ bookshop) and the Topo-Guide ref 650 published by the FFRP (available from www.stanfords.co.uk). Alison includes a glossary of French terms and practical information regarding access and accommodation.

Pilgrim Guides to Spain 4. *Los Caminos del Norte A Ruta de la Costa* 1. Irún to Villaviciosa

2005, Eric Walker, 88pp, £5. (130g)

This is a new edition for the 444km stretch along the north coast of Spain from Irún to Villaviciosa. (Part II. Villaviciosa-Arzuza – which includes Miraz – was published last year). The Guide gives route-finding information for walkers and cyclists as well as accommodation and other practical details.

Pilgrim Guides to Spain 4 *Los Caminos del Norte F: Camino Primitivo, Villaviciosa-Oviedo-Lugo*

2005, Eric Walker, 60pp, £5. (100g)

Another new edition to this dramatic route through the mountains along the way it is believed Alfonso II travelled to Santiago when the bones of St James were rediscovered in the ninth century. The link from Villaviciosa to Oviedo allows pilgrims to use the Guide above from the Spanish border, and then continue via Oviedo.

Members' Page

From David P Snelling

Good News! Henry the Donkey has been offered a career move as Village Publicist and Pilgrim Companion based in the prettiest of villages named Rearsby not far from Melton Mowbray and deep into the Midlands where his new owner will be researching pilgrim walks around the area. Henry, being experienced as a pack animal would welcome enquiries from members who may wish to book his services. As a 'Hinny', Father Horse, Mother Donkey, (as against a Mule - Father Donkey, Mother horse!) he is capable of carrying up to 150lbs ! Having taken the *Via Podiensis* over a period of four months in 2002 he is well equipped to assist aspiring pilgrims in training, advising on accommodation and forage!

See www.operationhenry.com Tel contact: 01752 892191

From Doreen Hansen

I noticed on show in the Treasury at Gloucester Cathedral in June 2005, a silver paten given to Gloucester Infirmary in 1767. Hallmarked 1635 (where this was hallmarked is not specified). Maker is unknown. It is engraved with a scallop shell having a rod/staff across it.

From Philip Wren

During evening worship on Sunday 24 July 2005, the churches of the Liverpool South Methodist Circuit gathered together to celebrate the patronal festival of St James (Methodist/United Reformed) Church in Woolton. The service was led by the minister of the church, Rev Jennifer Rayner, while her husband Rev Philip Wren, a Santiago pilgrim, led the congregation through a powerpoint talk which embraced Robert Sutton of Katherine Lack's Cockleshell Pilgrim, purgatory, indulgences, forgiveness, the Keys of Peter, the story of St James and pilgrimage (all in half an hour!).

From Colin Jones

Camino Portugués: a pilgrimage by coach - I am forming a party to follow by coach this beautiful route to Santiago either the last week of September or the first week of October, 2006. Cost will depend on numbers, but accommodation is generally 3 star hotels and the pilgrimage will be for 7 nights. The route includes Oporto, Braga, Tui,

Pontevedra, Padron, Santiago and Finesterra. Interested?

Contact: Colin Jones, The Rectory, 13 Dunsley Drive, Wordsley, Stourbridge DY8 5RA

Or Tel: Fr. Simon Mackenzie at 01213 602 100 or e-mail: pacharan@btinternet.com

From Heather Coleman

Santiago a Capella - The Monteverdi Choir conducted by Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Universal Music Spain 2005 LC00699 - CD £16. duration 66.35 min. Browsing through my daily paper I was about to flip over the CD reviews when my eye caught the word 'Santiago' introducing me to the disc listed above. In 2004 the Monteverdi Choir celebrated its 40th anniversary by travelling along the *Camino Francés* giving concerts in the great gothic cathedrals. Returning home they made this recording in a church well known to the Confraternity, St Alban the Martyr, Holborn. The first item comes from the *Llibre Vermeil*, the Red Book of Monserrat, but the remaining pieces are not 'pilgrim music', but nine liturgical settings dating from the Golden Age of Spanish polyphony during the 16th and early 17th centuries from composers including Guerrero, Lobo, Victoria, Cardoso Rogier and King João IV of Portugal.

St James is not forgotten, as the fifth item is a setting of the antiphon for his feast day. The inlay gives a useful introduction to the period as well as the words in English, Latin and French. The recording was sponsored by the *Caja de Burgos* as a 'contribution to the wider diffusion of highly regarded music of great historic interest'. This is a most enjoyable record: settle comfortably, transport yourself mentally to one of the cathedrals along the camino and spend an hour of sheer joy among almost angelic voices.

From Sandra Collier

The Patronal Festival of St James' King Street, Sydney was held at 10am on Sunday 24 July. The preacher was The Right Reverend Gerald Beaumont, Vicar of St John's Camberwell, Diocese of Melbourne. After the service CSJ members joined parishioners at the Sydney Law Court's Restaurant. The scallop shell was a useful form of identification for past and future pilgrims to join together at one table. The main topic was the September walking journey from Le Puy to Conques that will be lead by CSJ member Almis Simankevicius. Other members discussed their experiences of the Portuguses Way and being an Oz

Wardens at Rabanal. The plan was to meet at St James and walk 14 kms to Bondi Beach in August, as part of the “City to Surf” Fun Run.

We plan to celebrate The Feast of St James the Great in 2006 in the same manner and look forward to meeting CSJ members from Canberra who intend to join The Festival.

From Gosia Brykczynska

A group of CSJ members got together for a St James Day London walk on the Saturday preceding St James Day, which included a tour of Westminster Cathedral, a special visit to St Margaret’s Church Westminster and a visit to the National Gallery to look at paintings concerning pilgrimage, followed by a picnic lunch and a festive evening meal in South London, close to where the CSJ has its office. The group then reconvened on Sunday and some members went to St James Church in Islington, North London while others gathered at St James the Great Catholic Church in Peckham – South London, to help that congregation to celebrate its centenary. Some pilgrims even went to both services. The CSJ sang *Ad Honorem* in the church at Peckham to honour the special occasion. The parish at Peckham then invited the CSJ members to a celebratory lunch. The readings from the Old Testament for that Sunday included the famous passage from Kings I (3.5 – 7.12) referring to Solomon’s request to God for the gift of wisdom. Much wisdom was gained that weekend, about the nature of pilgrimage, the warmth of fellowship and the enduring relevance of communion. Prayers were said for all CSJ members and their families.

From Wilma Foyle

The St James’s pilgrims get-together for the Quebec Province in Canada is going to be held in our region in the autumn. “ Le Rassemblement d’Automne”...Ultreia.

From Eileen Terry and Sue Goddard

Last year we walked the camino Portugués from Tui to Santiago. We booked hotels in Tui and Santiago, but not on the stages in-between, and we carried everything in rucksacks. They seemed to get heavier as the week went on, even though the contents were the same. We managed to find hotels, although one day the hotel recommended in the CSJ guide was full and we had to walk 2km along a busy road to the next one. Nevertheless, we enjoyed our pilgrimage and resolved to do the *Camino Francés* in stages.

So this year we booked with a French company, *La Pèlerine*, for the week from St Jean Pied de Port to Logroño. They booked us into hotels and arranged luggage transport, leaving us free to appreciate walking the camino without worrying about finding somewhere to stay for the night.

Of course, the generally approved way of walking the camino is to stay in *refugios* – but I understand that in the summer months these often fill up quickly. Frankly, some of the descriptions in our guide book – “46 beds, 2 showers, 2 toilets” – do not appeal. We know the camino is a pilgrimage, but need it be a penance as well? As ladies of mature years, we are fortunate that we can afford to stay in hotels, and we take the view that we should leave *refugio* places for young people and others who cannot afford to pay more.

What do other CSJ members think? Are we missing an essential part of the camino by doing it this way? Or is the journey more important than the accommodation?

From Aileen O’Sullivan

Early this year among the stamps I bought were 68p for America, which I put away in my bureau. Some weeks ago I took one out to put on an American letter and for the first time I looked at the picture. To my amazement it showed ‘St James’s Stone, Lundy, South west England’. I wonder if a CSJ member could supply the history of this remarkable stone and how and when it got its name?

Cologne Pilgrims

The CSJ were invited by the *Deutsche Sankt-Jakobus Gesellschaft* (German Association of St James, based in Aachen), to take part in presenting aspects of pilgrimage to Santiago and the work of the CSJ at the WJD (World Youth Day 2005) in Cologne. The motto of this year’s meeting in Cologne was *We have come to worship Him*, and the young people were told that the Three Kings – the wise men from the East, whose magnificent shrine is located in Cologne Cathedral, were the first recorded Christian pilgrims. Moreover, the official hymn of the Cologne shrine was *Adestes Fideles* and even though it was mid-August the otherwise familiar Christmas hymn was sung within Cologne Cathedral with much enthusiasm and pilgrim vigour. The atmosphere was wonderful and many young people showed interest in undertaking the pilgrimage to Santiago (even wanting to start from northern Scotland). (See photographs). We were especially excited to note that



Pope Benedict XVI has continued his appreciation of all things to do with pilgrimage by wearing his splendid inauguration mitre with its beautifully embroidered scallop shells for the final Mass on the Sunday, which was con-celebrated with many bishops – for nearly a million young people from all over the world.

The CSJ made many useful contacts and much positive networking was accomplished with German pilgrims. Everybody was entertained by Galician bagpipers – who must have known that the young Gaitero had been chosen as our logo and mascot for the Miraz project. Much singing was also accomplished by all pilgrims and Kuni Bahnen of the DJG thanked us most heartily for teaching him some English pilgrim songs. We even managed to get in a morning of walking along the beautifully waymarked Jakobusweg, starting from the Cistercian monastery of Altenberg which has wonderfully preserved 13th-century stained glass – illustrating musical angels, among the saints and the Blessed Virgin Mary in its restored great West Window. For information about the DJG and their waymarked routes within Germany see www.deutsche-jakobus-gesellschaft.de and if you would like to walk in Germany consider walking with Gerhilde Fleischer in the spring 2006 (see Other Events).

From the Secretary's Notebook

Marion Marples

Pilar Gough RIP

Pilar was introduced to the Confraternity by Rosemary Wells. She came originally from Chile and had a wonderful warm and expansive personality. She made her mark on several CSJ visits: in Spain her persuasive tongue and enormous smile gained us entry to an otherwise firmly closed monastery and in Brussels, she knew exactly what to do when it was announced that there were no Eurostar trains to London for the foreseeable future, England being cut off by landslips and bad weather. She decided, unlike the rest of us who stole some more holiday, to remain in the station, made friends immediately with a mother and small daughter in order to share the guarding of luggage, buying of food etc, and waited for the first train out. She suffered a number of conditions including a brain tumour and a stroke, but was always cheerful.

Membership renewal

We very much appreciate prompt renewal of membership for 2005-6. Please consider whether you can make your donation to the Miraz Appeal at the same time.

Spanish Courses

For a wide range of Spanish courses to better prepare you for your pilgrimage the Instituto Cervantes, 102 Eaton Square, SW1 has classes for all levels. See www.londres.cervantes.es or phone 0870 7804 742/2 for more details.

Photographic Competitions

1. Vega de Valcarce 2005 - Organised by the Town Hall of Vega de Valcarce in conjunction with the Franciscan community based in Vega de Valcarce. Subject of the exhibition is *Perfect Joy on the Way to Santiago*. For more information please see www.ventealcamino.org Deadline for submissions is 4 October 2005. CSJ members had Highly Commended photos in the last competition: can we repeat our success this time?
2. 'Segue o teu Caminho' 2005 - Organised by Portuguese Associations

of the Camino and the Centre of Galician Studies, University of Minho. There are 2 categories: photos and diaries. See www.caminhodesantiago.org.br or contact the Office for details. Closing date: 30 November 2005.

A Tale of some Walnut Trees



Some years ago, Linda Poulsen and Rodney Alcock, whilst visiting France with a CSJ group, picked up some walnuts from the garden of James Maple's house. At home in Dorchester, they successfully germinated the walnuts. As the shoots came into leaf they wondered what best to do with them. We decided that it would be most appropriate for them to be taken to Rabanal, given that James had been Chairman of the Gaucelmo Appeal and that the nearby villages have rich harvests of walnuts. Paul and Cristina Spinks were leaving by car from

England for their stint as *hospitaleros*, so it remained to get the trees to London. Linda and Rodney were just starting on major works to their house and I did not have time to go down to Dorchester. So I emailed the four members in Dorchester with email and immediately had two offers of help. Roger Cocks was being visited at the weekend by a London friend who commuted daily through Waterloo. So we were able to meet at the platform barrier on Tuesday morning as she came to work. The final piece of the jigsaw was meeting Paul who drove to London early one morning to collect boxes of Guides, postcards, badges and precious walnut trees to take with him to Spain. I just hope they have been nurtured by the *hospitaleros* and survived the summer heat...

Pilgrimage with a donkey

Marko Suklje from Slovenia has a dream. He would like to enable a disabled person to travel the camino with the use of a specially designed saddle for a 'gaited' donkey—that is the sort of donkey used for travelling in many lands and possibly the sort of donkey used by Jesus and his disciples. The saddle could be adapted in several ways to cope with different disabilities. Marko will be coming to England in the autumn and would like to hear from anyone interested in such a project. He would accompany the pilgrim and any companion. This might be a project for which the St Christopher Fund could make a financial contribution. Please contact Marko directly (he speaks good English and he visited the office in the summer) on *markosuklje@email.si* or tel 00386 5 30 88 161

Thursday 7 July

The continuous police sirens indicated all was not well in London early that Thursday morning. Then a call from the daughter of Bill, the day's volunteer. Bill arrived having walked from Shoreditch, where his bus had been terminated. The first visitor at the door was, amazingly, an old Army friend of Bill. Phone calls from various members hoping we are all OK. Emails expressing sorrow and solidarity from The Federation of Amigos del Camino in Spain and from France. Another American visitor arrived on foot from Holland Park: I was later able to reassure her mother that she was OK. Our American intern Abigail phoned in to say she had not been able to get in; later we heard that her father had been interviewed on TV in Birmingham, Alabama about his anxious moments.

Advance Notice

The AGM will be held on Saturday 28 January at 2.30pm. We have been asked if we can supply copies of the New Testament or Gospels for English-speaking pilgrims in the Spanish refuges. So please start looking out for copies, which we will ask you to bring to the AGM.

Office and Garden News

We are fortunate that Christ Church is located in a green oasis in north Southwark. However, there is the constant threat of new developments, including some of the tallest buildings in London, just beyond the garden boundary. The Bankside Open Spaces Trust has been awarded c £500 towards planters and plants to improve the area near our front door. I would like to introduce some plants with a pilgrim connection. We get some early morning sunshine, but are in shade the rest of the day. I would welcome suggestions for hardy pilgrim plants, which do not need too much attention, or for a source for suitable pilgrim planters!



Personal note

Many thanks to all the kind friends who sent good wishes (and some flowers) on the occasion of my licensing as a SPA (Southwark Pastoral Auxillary) and also to those who shared this important day with me. It was an even more poignant occasion as several of us had also been present at the funeral of Maurice Fox in Royston earlier in the day.

CSJ Events

Saturday 24 September

Office Open Day

10.30am-3pm For pilgrimage advice and an opportunity to browse through the Library. Please phone in advance if possible, so that we can gauge numbers.

Sunday 9 October

Walk for Miraz

The Saints of the Camino in London: with special reference to Ste-Foye of Conques, St Edward the Confessor, and the Poor Knights of Christ, commonly called The Templars.

10.15 Meet at St Paul's Cathedral for Mattins (or meet those emerging after Mattins inside the Cathedral). Proceed via the remnants of St Faith's parish in the City, and the Temple Church, and lunch at an inn (or bring picnic) to Westminster Abbey (with its chapel of St Faith) for 6.30 Special Evensong with visit to the shrine of St Edward. Cost £10 (refreshments not included). Please indicate on the Order Form if you would like to come and receive final details, pay on the day.

Saturday 22 October

Office Open Day

10.30am-3pm For pilgrimage advice and an opportunity to browse through the Library. Please phone in advance if possible, so that we can gauge numbers.

Saturday 29 October

Pilgrim's Progress country & The John Bunyan Trail for Miraz

Christine Pleasants will lead a c 7 mile walk between Flitwick and Bedford, part of the 45 mile John Bunyan Trail. The Trail passes through the landscape described in *The Pilgrim's Progress*.

Meet at Flitwick station for 9.15 start (0818 Kings Cross Thameslink from London arr 0908) There is limited car parking at Flitwick (£1 charge).

Walk via Ampthill (historic Catherine of Aragon's cross) to Millbrook (The Valley of the Shadow of Death). Snacks at The Checkers restaurant (cost approx £4-8). Take 1320 local (Silverlink) train Millbrook-Bedford arr 1339. Visit John Bunyan Museum, Mill Street, Bedford for an Exhibition about Bunyan's life and times for tea in the Chapel by 3.45pm. Alternatively visit the Cecil Higgins Museum of Fine Art or Bedford Museum of Local history (both free). This is the

first time we have will have been able to bring our modern pilgrim insights to the consideration of this famous book, *The Pilgrim's Progress*: first published in 1678 and translated into more languages than any other book except the Bible.

For years denied his wanderings across country to village meetings or to repair household utensils, prevented from preaching, cooped up, Bunyan's reaction to Bedford Gaol became that of an unstoppable river which, dammed in its natural course, floods its banks. There is little that could be called longing for his local haunts in Bunyan's prison books. All his longing is for the Celestial City and he merely routes a way for it through the most familiar territory he knows. Did not Christ do the same?

From *Divine Landscapes*, Ronald Blythe

Cost: £5 per head on the door in aid of the Miraz Appeal, not including fares, lunch approx £5 and tea. Please indicate on the Order Form if you would like to come and for final details; pay on the day

Thursday 10 November

Lecture Recital

Saint Francis of Assisi and the Musical Road to Santiago

7.30pm Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School, 89 Addison Road, West London - Dr Mary Remnant will present a lecture recital with the CSJ Choir. Proceeds from the evening are going to the Saint Francis Leprosy Guild (SFLG), now celebrating its 110th anniversary.

11-13 November

Returned Pilgrim Retreat

Fully booked

Saturday 19 November

Miraz Information Day

11 am to 4pm, at John Marshall Hall, Christchurch, 27 Blackfriars Road London SE1

Everything you ever wanted to know about Miraz: presentations, slides, displays, Spanish food, music. Full programme available from the Office nearer the time-some events will be repeated in the morning and afternoon.

Saturday 26 November

Office Open Day

10.30am-3pm For pilgrimage advice and an opportunity to browse through the Library.

Please phone in advance if possible, so that we can gauge numbers.

Saturday 26 November**Hospitaleros' Workshop**

(By invitation – please contact Stuart and Tricia Shaw, stuartandtricia@btinternet.co.uk or phone 01159 374088 if you are interested in being a hospitalero at Rabanal) There will be a Miraz hospitalero workshop next year. John Marshall Hall, Christ Church Blackfriars Road, SE1

Thursday 1 December**Constance Storrs Memorial
Lecture**

7.00pm Title to be announced.

Mme Adeline Rucquoi, Vice President of the Société des Amis de Saint-Jacques, Paris and President Centre des Etudes, de recherche et de l'histoire compostellanes, Paris Sometime Visiting Fellow of John Hopkins University (1987), University of Minneapolis (1999), Mexico (1992,1998), Buenos Aires (1995). Author of some 72 articles and 9 books.

John Marshall Hall, Blackfriars Road, London SE1

Saturday 28 January 2006**AGM, Lecture & Party**

2.30pm St Alban's Centre, Baldwins Gardens, London EC1

February & March**Practical Pilgrim**

Practical Pilgrim days will be organised. Each day will focus on the Camino Francés in the morning and one other route in the afternoon.

Confirmed so far:

Sat 11 February: Mechanics' Institute, Nottingham: Camino Francés and Arles route

Sat 25 February: John Marshall Hall, 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1, Camino Francés and Le Puy route

Sat 11 March: Bristol/West Country, "Other Routes" TBC eg Maris, Madrid, Vézelay

Sat 18 March: Meeting in Glasgow

Other Events

Thursday 6 – Thursday 13 October

Festival

A festival celebrating the thousandth anniversary of the birth of Edward, King and Confessor, founder of Westminster Abbey

This event will include special festive liturgies, concerts, pageants, A day of Prayer led by the Benedictine monks of Chevetogne (Sat 8 Oct), an ecumenical evensong with His Eminence Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor (Fri 7 Oct), a lecture by Bishop Kallistos of Diokleia (Mon 11 Oct), and on Tuesday 11 October a one-day conference on *Edward the Confessor: the man and the Legend*, co-chaired by Professor Jinty Nelson, at King's College London, followed by a concert in the Abbey. There is also an exhibition connected to the event at the Abbey Museum, opened daily from 10.30 – 16.00, except Saturday 8th October 2005. For more information on the programme please contact: www.westminster-abbey.org or call 020 7654 4929 (recorded information).

Wednesday 4 January 2006

Lecture: British Archeological Society

'Breton craftsmen in Tudor Devon', Dr John Allan. (Joint meeting with Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology). 5pm, Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1V 0HS. Please sign the Visitors' book.

Spring 2006

Pilgrimage

Jakobusweg: Nürnberg – Ulm – Konstanz Waymarking Pilgrimage
Any member interested in joining this group, who walk the route each year to update the waymarking where necessary, either for all or a part of the way, should contact the organiser as soon as possible (in English or German) for details: Gerhilde Fleischer, Rainstrasse 11/3, 88316 Isny, Germany. Tel/fax 0049 87562 55385.

New Members

Information is for members' use only.

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18 b Woodland Gardens London N10 3UA		
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U S A

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2005469	Mr Donald Armour	0061 3 9459 4765
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2005428	Ms Kerry Fagan	0061 2 4938 9448
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2005476	Ms Julie Milne	0061 2 9871 2439
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2005416	Mr Daniel & Mr Casper Oxlee, Ms Madeleine & Ms Terece Moore	
PO Box 104	Nimbin NSW 2480	
2005414	Mr Bruce & Mrs Diane Pope, Mrs Elizabeth Malone, Mr Carlo & Mrs Nathalie del Corso	0061 8 9386 5575
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2005459	Mr Jason Wilton	
10 Kean Street	Claremont Perth WA 6010	

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The editors of our guides are always keen to receive feedback. If you have recently been on any part of the pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, have used one of the guides listed below, and wish to pass on the benefit of your experience to those who may come after you, please contact the relevant author/s:

Pilgrim Guides to Spain

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | <i>Camino Francés</i>
£6.00 | William Bisset
editorcf@csj.org.uk |
| 2 | <i>Camino Mozárabe</i>
£5.00 | Alison Raju, 21 Hall Street, Sherwood, NOTTINGHAM NG5 4BB
alisonraju@btopenworld.com |
| 3 | <i>Finisterre</i>
£4.00 | Alison Raju, 21 Hall Street, Sherwood, NOTTINGHAM NG5 4BB
alisonraju@btopenworld.com |
| 4 | <i>Los Caminos del Norte</i>
£2.50 | Eric Walker, 4 Gawthorpe Avenue, BINGLEY, West Yorkshire BD16 4DG
(01274) 562559 eric@gawthorpe40.freeserve.co.uk |
| 5 | <i>Camino Portugués</i>
new edition in preparation | Rod Pascoe, The White House, Pensilva, LISKEARD, Cornwall PL14 5NA
(01579) 362819 |
| 6 | <i>Madrid to Sahagún</i>
£4.00 | Marigold & Maurice Fox, 19 Maple Way, ROYSTON, Hertfordshire SG8 7DH
(01763) 244525 |
| 7 | <i>Camino Inglés</i>
£4.00 | Patricia Quaife & Francis Davey, 1 North Street, Topsham, EXETER, Devon
EX3 0AP |

Pilgrim Guides to the Roads through France

- | | | |
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| 1 | <i>Paris to the Pyrenees</i>
£5.00 | Marigold & Maurice Fox, 19 Maple Way, ROYSTON, Hertfordshire SG8 7DH
(01763) 244525 |
| 2 | <i>Vézelay to the Pyrenees</i>
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| 3 | <i>Le Puy to the Pyrenees</i>
£5.00 | Alison Raju, 21 Hall Street, Sherwood, NOTTINGHAM NG5 4BB
alisonraju@btopenworld.com |
| 4 | <i>Arles to Puente la Reina</i>
£7.50 | Marigold & Maurice Fox, 19 Maple Way, ROYSTON, Hertfordshire SG8 7DH
(01763) 244525 |

Pilgrim Guides to the Roads through Europe

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| 2 | <i>Nürnberg to Konstanz</i>
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alisonraju@btopenworld.com |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|

- | | | |
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| Practical Pilgrim Notes | <i>for Walkers</i> | £1.50 |
| | <i>for Cyclists</i> | £1.50 |
| | <i>Winter Pilgrim</i> | £1.00 |

Contributions to these and other publications should be addressed to the Office.

Confraternity of Saint James

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H E The Spanish Ambassador

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Marion Marples

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Eric Walker, 4 Gawthorpe Avenue, BINGLEY, W Yorks BD16 4DG

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*Members wishing to borrow slides should make their selections
from the catalogue four weeks in advance.*

How you can help



Make a donation

- Complete the enclosed form
- Donate via CSJ website www.csj.org.uk

Organise your own fundraising event

- We can support you with ideas, sponsorship forms, fundraising pack and with publicity.
- Create your own fundraising webpage at www.justgiving.com to collect sponsorship money online and publicise your event.

To keep up-to-date with the Miraz Appeal and to tell us about your event, please visit www.csj.org.uk or contact the CSJ office.

CSJ - Miraz Appeal
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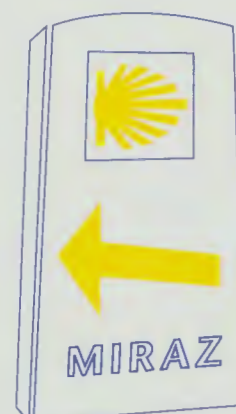


- Founded in 1983 to promote the pilgrim roads through Europe to Santiago de Compostela
- Publishes Pilgrim Guides to routes in Spain, France and Germany
- Has a website for background information and gives advice by phone, in person, by email
- Runs a pilgrim refuge at Rabanal del Camino and - with your support - at Miraz
- Encourages people to volunteer as *hospitales* in France and Spain

The Confraternity of Saint James



Where are all these people going?





We've already made a difference at Rabanal del Camino

For over 1000 years people of all ages and nationalities have made the journey to Santiago de Compostela and the burial place of the apostle James the Great. In the Middle Ages monasteries and hospices were founded along the route to provide pilgrims with food, shelter and spiritual comfort. These welcoming halts, often situated in the least hospitable terrain, were an essential feature of the Camino de Santiago – the Way of Saint James.

Rabanal Before



- **Since 1989 we have raised over £75,000** to rebuild and equip the Refugio Gaucelmo in Rabanal del Camino.
- **More than 80,000 pilgrims** have enjoyed wonderful hospitality at Gaucelmo
- **The village of Rabanal** has been given a new lease of life

Rabanal After



Now we'd like to do it again at Miraz

Thanks to the generosity of the Bishop of Lugo in Galicia we have the use of the former parish house at Miraz. This is a small village with a church dedicated to St James, situated 89km from Santiago de Compostela on the Camino del Norte. Here we aim to continue the traditions of pilgrim hospitality and good relations with the local community which we have nurtured at Rabanal.

So this project will

- Take pilgrims off the often overcrowded *Camino francés*
- Encourage pilgrims to explore the rediscovered other historic routes, among them the *Camino del Norte*
- Revitalise the local economy of a sparsely populated area of Galicia
- Allow us all to give something back to the Camino in recognition of all we have gained from it ourselves



What we aim to do

Target: £100,000
To Cover:

- ➔ **Phase 1 : 2005**
Basic essentials e.g. beds, cleaning, painting, safety equipment
- ➔ **Phase 2 : 2006**
Convert bedroom to additional washing / toilet facilities
Replace wiring, drainage and water heating systems
- ➔ **Phase 3 : 2007+**
Convert outhouse and garage to additional sleeping, washing, toilet facilities
- ➔ **Running costs for 5 years**



CSJ - Miraz Appeal Notes & Donation Form - Autumn 2005

Date	Activity	Details
12 Jun 05	Edinburgh Marathon	Ian Mackey ran in the Marathon, dressed as a Gaitero and raised over £700 See : www.justgiving.com/miraz
Jul 05	Book Sale	Fancy trying this? Angelika did and raised over £100
From Jun 05	Offers German lessons on telephone	Conversational German for all levels with qualified native speaker. £15 per hour. Contact : Angelika Email: amhschneider@hotmail.co.uk
From Sep 05	"Pilgrims' Purchase" Online auction	Go to " www.pilgrimstogether.org.uk/CSJ/PilgrimsPurchase.html " for details of Howard Nelson's answer to eBay ! All proceeds to Miraz. New items urgently needed. Contact Howard via this website
From Oct 05	Miraz mugs	Available from CSJ online bookshop
From Oct 05	2006 Calendars	Available from CSJ online bookshop
From Mid-Oct 05	"Compostelle -The Ceaseless Tramp of Feet"	CD diary of a member's experiences along the route from Le Puy to Santiago. Includes over 300 photos. Send cheque for £6 (UK) or £7 (non-UK) payable to "A J H Grant" to Andrew Grant, 168 Newhaven Rd, Edinburgh EH6 4QB, Scotland. Tel: 0044 (0) 131 554 1737. (Will be sent out from mid – October). Minimum of £4.50 per CD donated to Miraz NB: CD suitable for playing on computer, not on DVD player
9 Oct 05	Guided London Walk "The Saints of the Camino in London"	Via St Paul's Cathedral, Temple Church and Westminster Abbey. Donation : £10 per person Further details from William Griffiths, Tel: 0208-549-2080 Email: w.griffiths@ukonline.co.uk
29 Oct 05	Walk in Pilgrim's Progress country	Meet Flitwick (Beds) Station, 9.15 start. 6.5 mls, pub lunch, visit to Bedford for Bunyan Museum Donation: £5 plus lunch,fares etc. Details from office@csj.org.uk , tel 020 7928 9988
19 Nov 05	Miraz Day, London	Come along and find out all about Miraz, meet those involved in the project so far and catch up with other pilgrims. See September Bulletin for details

Fundraising Ideas

Hosted Events

- Get-together for local pilgrims (we can contact local members on your behalf)
- Wine-tasting evening
- Dinner party
- Ceilidh / line-dance / disco
- Guided walking tour
- Slide shows (any member wishing to do a show around the Camino can make use of the slide library held by the CSJ – contact John Hatfield)
- Lecture evening e.g. talk about the Camino or invite a local celebrity to speak

Sponsored Events

- Parachuting
 - Running
 - Walking
 - Grow a beard !
 - Lose some weight
 - Give up smoking for a month
- You need sponsorship forms, please ask your office or download from the CSJ website. Don't forget you can also set up your own fundraising webpage at www.justgiving.com)*

Sales

- Books
- Bring-and-Buy
- A stand at your local Fete (lucky-dip, tombola etc)
- Selling goods on "Pilgrims' Purchase" (see above)
- Homemade cakes / jams

Offer a Service

- Language lessons
- Gardening time
- Computer help
- Decorating

Enquiries - Please contact CSJ Office - Tel: 0207 928 9988 Email : office@csj.org.uk

Contacts - Please let us know if you have contacts in companies or Trust Funds who may be able to help us

CSJ - Miraz Appeal - Donation Form

Name

Address

Membership ☐ I am a CSJ member and my membership number is(if known)
☐ I am not a CSJ member

Payment I wish to support this appeal by making a donation of £.....

- ☐ I enclose a cheque made payable to "CSJ - Miraz Appeal"
- ☐ I authorise the CSJ to charge my credit card as follows

Visa / Mastercard Number - - - - / - - - - / - - - - / - - - - Expiry Date - - / - -

Signed Date:.....

Gift Aid ☐ I am a UK taxpayer and wish to add 28p to each £1 by authorising the CSJ to claim Gift Aid on my donation

Please post the completed form to : CSJ - Miraz Appeal, 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NY, UK



Confraternity of Saint James

27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NY

Tel: 020 7928 9988 Fax : 020 7928 2844

www.csj.org.uk

email : office@csj.org.uk

Company Ltd by Guarantee, registered in England and Wales no. 4096721, registered charity 1091140

Angel Luis Barreda
Federación de los Amigos de Santiago
Plaza Marqués de Santillana 10
34120 Carrion de los Condes
Palencia
Spain

Dear Sir or Madam

Refugio de Peregrinos de Miraz - Fundraising Appeal - September 2005

I have pleasure in enclosing the latest edition of the Confraternity's Bulletin.

Thanks to the assistance of the Bishop of Lugo, the Confraternity has recently taken over its second refugio, this time in Miraz on the Camino del Norte. There is a lot of work to be done at the refugio to renovate the building, provide facilities for pilgrims and to cover initial running costs. We are therefore launching an appeal to raise £100,000 (approximately €140,000 or US\$ 180,000) to fund the project.

I know that you have your own commitments and responsibilities to the Camino but we would be very grateful if you were able to support us in some way, whether by publicising the appeal or by making a donation (using the form below). There is lots of information in the Bulletin, in the enclosed Appeal leaflets and on our website at "<http://www.csj.org.uk/miraz-intro.htm>". Future Bulletins and the above webpages will keep you up-to-date with activities and the progress towards our target

Thank you for your support

Yours sincerely

Alison Thorp

For the Confraternity of Saint James and the Miraz Fundraising Group.

Please complete this form only if you wish to pay by cheque or Credit card

(If you prefer to pay online please visit the CSJ Bookshop at www.csj.org.uk)

Member no. **1993002**

☐ I wish to make a donation to the Miraz Appeal of

£
=====

☐ I enclose a cheque for the above total, made payable to The Confraternity of St James

☐ I authorise the CSJ to charge the above total to my credit card as follows

Visa / Mastercard Number - - - - / - - - - / - - - - / - - - - Expiry Date - - / - -

Please check the following and correct if necessary

Details Angel Luis Barreda Federación de los Amigos de Santiago
Plaza Marqués de Santillana 10 34120 Carrion de los Condes Palencia Spain
Tel : Email :

Signature Date

Please return completed form to : CSJ 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NY

Confraternity of Saint James * also from www.csj.org.uk/bookshop

Day	Date	Event	Hope to attend: tick or X
Sun	9 Oct	Walk for Miraz: London	
Sat	29 Oct	Walk: Pilgrim's Progress, Bedford	
Thurs	10 Nov	Lecture Recital, W11 Others: tickets £10, conc £7.50, student £2	See flier to order if enclosed.
Sat	19 Nov	MIRAZ DAY	
Thurs	1 Dec	Storrs Lecture	
New Publications: See Bulletin 91 p28			Enter amount payable
a*A Raju	Geneva-Le Puy	£3.00 + p&p UK 29p	
b*E Walker	Irun-Villaviciosa	£5.00 + p&p UK 62p	
c*E Walker	Camino Primitivo	£5.00 + p&p UK 45p	
P&P: EU:a. 78p, b. 1.07, c. 89p. ROW			
Miraz Fundraising: See Bulletin 91 and Appeal leaflet			
*Mugs	£5 + p&p UK £1.50, Eu £2, ROW £3.50		
*Calendars	£5 + p&p, UK 50p, Eu £1, ROW £1.50		
TOTAL			

P T O

Please return whole form

Name

Address *with post code and country*

Credit Card visa/mastercard/debit _____ / _____ / _____ / _____
Exp ____ / ____

Signature..... Date

Cheques payable to "CSJ"

Return to : Confraternity of Saint James, 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NY

Goods will be despatched as soon as they are available.