



Confraternity of Saint James

Bulletin



December 2005

No 92

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The *Bulletin* is published quarterly in March, June, September and December. The deadline for copy is the beginning of the preceding month.

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Cover picture:
St James Church at
Christmas, Audlem
– Cheshire by Howard
Hilton

Editorial

Gosia Brykczynska

November is not the friendliest of months and it is just as well that once the feast of St Andrew passes and Advent is under way, there is the assurance that Christmas cannot be far behind. Meanwhile dreary autumnal days are good for reflection and as I attempt to sum up this past year I am beginning to lose count of all the exciting and pleasant and moving things that have happened in the past twelve months – there have been so many.

Certainly this past year has been on a rather musical note, with Dr Mary Remnant delivering a Lecture-Recital in May about Saint Francis of Assisi and his pilgrimage to Santiago as a rehearsal for the November lecture to help raise money for the Saint Francis Leprosy Guild. Whether St Francis actually reached Santiago we are not really sure, but he certainly met and cared for patients with Leprosy and all medieval pilgrims would have also been aware of the disease and the many leprosy lazar-houses usually situated outside the town walls and sometimes taking in stranded pilgrims. The year also ended on this musical note, with a most gracious account of the Lecture-Recital with the participation of members of the CSJ choir and the choir of Cardinal Vaughan School — in the *Catholic Herald*. In between, CSJ members have managed to sing their way through several open Saturdays and *Bulletin* stuffing sessions at the office (see Members Page), a walk around central London on Saint James's Day, explaining pilgrimage to young people for the World Youth Day in Cologne, a trip to Ponferrada, Miraz and Lugo in the October, Returning Pilgrim Retreat at Ampleforth Abbey and Miraz Open Day in London – all events at which ardent CSJ pilgrims were caught spontaneously bursting into song. I am told by reliable sources that along the camino we are called the singing pilgrims – and long may that reputation last.

Singing, is what we also tend to do a lot of around Christmastide – one way and another – so while you give your throats a rest and read this December *Bulletin* – dry and safe and cosy at home – I trust you will find the articles about the rights of medieval pilgrims and modern franking postal-marks in France and the account of Oublines from Rabanal, not mention the fascinating conclusion of Philip Wren's article and the accounts of pilgrimaging around France – of interest.

In a rather wistful poem, John Henry Newman tells us about a pilgrim. The pilgrim would have loved to stay a while and linger in the woods of Dart but had made a vow not to “*give his heart To streamlet bright, or soft secluded grove.*” His lot was to traverse “*O’er happy meads which soon its print forgot*” because a pilgrim is a special type of person who looking at everything and loving everything – has managed to understand that they need to keep moving forward and onward till they reach their goal and thereby make it possible to keep

“*safe his pledge, prizing his pilgrim-lot.*” Perhaps that is what our “true-pilgrim” debate is all about, as you can be read on the Members Page. So long as beauty and music accompany the pilgrimage – I am convinced that the pilgrim will not be overburdened. Its not easy being a pilgrim and we are assured that our members who have died this past year have reached their pilgrim-goals and we pause to think and pray for them.

Meanwhile, from all the Trustees and committee members and office-volunteers and the entire production team of the *Bulletin* we wish all our CSJ members a happy, joyful and song-filled Christmas break and look forward to meeting you at the AGM at the end of January 2006 and *buen camino*.

A Novice Hospitalero

Paul Graham

Well, can you please get rid of all the suckers in the *huerta*?" Little Thelma stared at me in astonishment as if to say "I didn't come all this way from the States to be the pilgrim equivalent of a night club bouncer!"

As I was cutting the new shoots that had appeared at the base of the trees in the patio one sunny afternoon in Rabanal, Thelma had come to ask if she could help with this task – but it seems they are not called suckers in the USA! Such offers of help were frequent during my first-ever tour of duty at Refugio Gaucelmo.

How did we structure our day? Breakfast was organised in the kitchen for 6 o'clock (until 7.30am) At 6.30am when the initial rush was over, I would water the plants on the patio and trees in the *huerta*. Returning to the kitchen, I would then relieve Alison Raju who would then change the sheets in the dormitory. Everyone was away by 8am. We felt it best to open each day at 12.30pm when there was usually a queue of about twenty and we had done all the cleaning and counted yesterday's 'takings'. Opening at this time enabled pilgrims to have a shower, wash their clothes, go for a meal (or cook one in the kitchen) and still have time to relax in the *huerta* (every day was sunny), chat on the patio or rest on their bunk.

I was struck by the real delight expressed by pilgrims at being at Gaucelmo. They enjoyed the monks singing Vespers and Compline, appreciated the cleanliness of the *refugio* and enjoyed the atmosphere.

We had a full spectrum of nationalities – all of whom were happily welcomed by Alison in whichever language the pilgrim offered. There was a predominance of Germans, such that one of the monks from the monastery of St Ottilien in Munich was despatched to Rabanal for their benefit. Fr Siegfried – a passionate Wagnerian – would be a frequent visitor to Gaucelmo, delighting everyone with his gentle sense of fun.

Just before we left, Cristina and Paul Spink – two of our replacements – brought with them in their campervan some very welcome extra clothes dryers and chairs for the *huerta*. Two other significant wants were the arrival of the garden bench made by Santos, a local carpenter, and donated by Jane La Roche in memory of Tony, and the installation of the newly-made little door from the *huerta* into the lane that runs alongside. Both will greatly enhance the facilities of the *refugio*. August 2005

Snail Mail

(as carried by one with his house on his back)

John Revell



While the closure of local post offices becomes a more and more hotly debated issue in the UK and Royal Mail moves ever closer to losing its monopoly on national postal delivery it is interesting to direct our thoughts across the Channel to what is happening in France. In an earlier *Bulletin* (No 77 – March 2002) I aired some pilgrim reflections on French postal matters and threatened more should the occasion present itself. **Now is the time.**

In walking from Vézelay to Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port last year I decided to journey as much in the medieval pilgrim mould as possible. No camera, no laptop, no mobile phone. Real *Desert Island Discs* stuff – but allowing myself the customary one indulgence. (The Bible and Shakespeare would have been too heavy!) My luxury would be to try to record my progress in the form of postmarks en route on letters to home-base. Such a challenge was to involve face-to-face conversations in Franglais with counter staff in post offices from Burgundy to Aquitaine

– and without exception the business-in-hand was conducted with unfailing bon homie and in many cases intense interest. In large cities like Bourges and Périgueux helpful people in philatelic bureaux hand-stamped missives before my very eyes. In smaller places the exercise was its own reward. In Roquefort des Landes madame in charge of *La Poste* was a fountain of knowledge about local amenities, and in Limoges and Saint-Sever I was offered a consumer choice between the hand-stamp and the *mechanique*. In Mont-de-Marsan I struck pure gold as I was permitted to stamp my own letter after suitable trial runs and recalibrations of the technology.

Random observations along the way seemed to indicate that the French Post Office sees itself as an effective cog in the wheel of society. In transit through Limoges I found all the necessary services housed in temporary premises while the state-of-the-art *Hôtel des Postes* was undergoing extensive refurbishment to fit it for its role for the next few centuries. My series of postmarks is a source of happy memory and inspires affection for postal people who sped my way to Saint-Jacques with zeal and good cheer.

Legal Protection for Pilgrims in Medieval Spain

(REVISTA TECNICA Y PROFESIONAL DE CORREOS
No 45, 1 July 1945)

Janet Richardson

The three extracts translated here were published in the *Geography and History* section of a 1945 Spanish Post Office magazine. One wonders why. Perhaps it was because in 1943-44 the Post Office had for the second time issued a set of stamps commemorating Holy Year. Until General Franco's promotion of St James as a figurehead to unite the various different forces opposing the Government during the 1936-39 Civil War, and the consequent issue of the first Holy Year stamps in 1937, there had been little general interest in pilgrims and pilgrimage.

The first extract is taken from the collection of the laws of Castile promulgated in the 14th century in Alcala de Henares. (Are these Alfonso X el Sabio's *Siete Partidas*, which were promulgated in 1348, long after his death?)

The second is from the collected laws of Spain published in 1567 on the orders of Philip II.

The third extract, earlier than the second, is taken from the code of laws of a local *seigneur* or lord of the manor. Its place of origin is not stated but, although the language shows some differences from what came to be standard Castilian Spanish, it probably originated somewhere in the kingdom of Castile and León.

Which speaks of how the main Highways may be safe

(Ley 49, Titulo 32, del Ordenamiento de Leyes de Alcala)

"The main Highways, the one which goes to Santiago, and the others which go from one City (*Ciudad*) to another and from one town (*villa*) to another and to the markets and to the fairs, shall be guarded and shall be protected, that none may use force on them, neither assault nor robbery; anyone so doing shall pay a fine of 600 *maravedis* in his usual coinage to the King."

That Pilgrims and Travellers and their companies may be safe coming to these Kingdoms on pilgrimage, both coming and returning
(Ley 1, Titulo 12, Libro 1 de la Recopilacion)

“All the Pilgrims and Travellers (*Romeros y Peregrinos*) who go on pilgrimage through our Kingdoms, chiefly those who go and come on pilgrimage to Santiago, shall be safe, and we confer on them our privilege of safety, that they may come and go and stay in them, and their companies, sure that no wrong nor injury will be done to them, and we forbid that anyone should dare to do them violence, neither wrong-doing nor any other injury, and both going and coming to the aforesaid pilgrimages they shall take shelter and lodge in safety in Inns and Places of refuge and Hostels, and they shall freely buy whatever they need and none shall dare to alter the measures nor the correct weights, and anyone who does so shall incur the penalty for dishonesty.”

How the Keepers of Hostels and Inns must receive Travellers, and look after them, and their belongings.
(Ley 27, Titulo 8, Partida 5)

“In the same way as Merchants and other men who travel over sea and over land with the intention of earning something, so the Travellers, or other pilgrims, go on their pilgrimages, with the intention of serving God, and earning forgiveness for their sins, and Paradise.

“And since we said in the law before this one that Hostel-keepers and Ship Captains who receive Noblemen, Merchants and other men who travel the roads, in their houses, or in their inns, or on their ships, must guard them from suffering harm to them or their belongings, it is much more just that they should do that for Pilgrims who are travelling in the service of God.

“Wherefore we hold it right and proper and command all Innkeepers and Ship Captains in our Domain who may receive them in their houses, or in their inns, or on their ships, to guard them from suffering harm to them or their belongings; it is much more just that they should do that for Pilgrims who are travelling in the service of God.

“Wherefore we hold it right and proper and command all Innkeepers and Ship Captains in our Domain to receive them in their houses, and on their ships, and to do whatever they can for their good and to guard their persons and their belongings from harm and from

all wrongdoing, and to sell them everything they might need with the same measures and the same weights and at the same price as they do sell to others who are resident in every part of our Domain: not stinting them in any other way whatsoever: and those who contravene this shall receive such punishment as the Local Judge shall dictate, according to the misdemeanour or to the harm they inflict.”

Notes

Centres of population, in ascending order of importance, were described as:

Aldea = hamlet, with no jurisdiction of its own; Lugar = village, place; Villa = small town or manor with more privileges than Lugar; Ciudad = city or town.

Romero = originally one who had made a pilgrimage to Rome, later any pilgrim.

Peregrino = originally a traveller in foreign parts, later specifically a pilgrim

Oublines: Sexton in Rabanal

Etienne Van Wonterghem

In June 1991, Nelly my spouse and I went to work as hospitaleros in Rabanal del Camino for the first time. We had responded to an appeal from Spain and had the privilege to be put to work there. We were just dropped there without anybody giving us any information. Luckily there were two neighbours, two ladies from Madrid, who spoke French and English and so it was not too much of a problem for us to find out something. The little Spanish we knew we had picked up along the camino and from attending evening classes for about a year but unfortunately it was of no great use. However, we learned rapidly, as once out of sight of our neighbours we had to communicate with the villagers. At first they were somewhat suspicious and thought we were English people posing as Belgians, like those from 'Balduino and Fabiola', the former Belgian king and queen. Over the years we have been working there, some eight months in total, we have got to know the villagers and they us. We have become *vecinos* or neighbours as the villagers say.

One of the most striking personalities among the villagers is Bladimiro Carrera Fernandez. Never ask for Bladimiro, as he is locally only known as 'Oublines', whatever that may mean. He is a born and bred Rabanalian, a simple man who knows everything about the village and the people. He is their confidant, does all kinds of things and helps where needed. He particularly has an important function in this small community; he is sacristan-sexton.

Oublines is now 74 and was born in the village. Since the death of his parents some twenty years ago he lives on his own. The small house where he was born has been sold as a ruin and demolished. In its place now stands 'La Posada de Gaspar', a modern hotel restaurant. However, once Oublines's chickens did run there. They were once the village's most beautiful ones and laying its tastiest eggs. In his garden, a bit further on, he grows potatoes, the finest of the village.

It was thus that we got to know Oublines. One night, curious like any other villager, he knocked at our door with a little hamper. 'Surely you want to prepare something for yourself, once in a while?' was his question as he offered us the little hamper. At the same time he had a foot in the door, because they surely are inventive there. We graciously

accepted the potatoes and eggs and I must honestly agree: we have never had better potatoes and eggs. Thereafter we regularly went over to him to replenish our supplies. Obviously, the man had once been young and as with everyone in the small villages of the Maragatería, would have been expected to help out on the small farm of his parents. The property consists of 33 small pieces of ground spread around the village. Through inheritance and acquisitions this was an inextricable patchwork quilt of small plots and it has changed little. He also herded the sheep of the villagers. Then, there were four shepherds to look after the 700 sheep the villagers possessed.

After his military service, he worked for about three years in a coal mine as driver and assisted with drilling. When the production from the mine began to diminish he left to help with the construction of the high voltage line that passes through Rabanal. Later he went to work in forestry which permitted him to help out on his parents' small farm where they had cows, sheep and also a horse. At the same time, despite his busy and sometimes long working days, Oublines was also sacristan-sexton. For more than fifty years Oublines has wound the clock movement in the church tower, and prepared everything in the church for Mass. He is the leader when the church has to be decorated for holidays and processions as only he knows exactly how it has to be done and has always been done; he says this is something he will never, never forget. He is also responsible for the *Ermita of San José* and the *Ermita of Santo Christo* at the entrance of the village when coming from Astorga or Santa Colomba. There one can also find the cemetery very well maintained by Oublines. Over the years in his role of sexton-gravedigger Oublines has dug 46 graves.

He is also the confidant of absent villagers who sometimes leave their houses empty for several months on end. In his small home, opposite the Posada, hanging in the living room is a large board with keys, mostly large keys hanging from nails. In former days he had 30 or so hanging there, nowadays there are less as more people are returning for retirement and live in the village permanently again. He still supervises some 20 dwellings that are uninhabited for long periods. He goes to air these houses and see if anything needs to be brought to the attention of the owners. In short, Oublines is irreplaceable, Oublines is Rabanal.

His knowledge of the village's history is perfect and he has even put it to rhyme. In 120 *coplas*, or verses of four lines, he extols the history of village and region with a central role for the *Maragatos* who in the

past were waggoners providing transport over large distances. The visit of Philip II in *Cuatro Esquinas* a house in the Calle Real is mentioned. Also mentioned are the festivities graced by the *tamboritero* who with a drum and flute accompanied the revellers on the cadence of the rattling *castañuelas*. Obviously Oublines was a *tamboritero* and occasionally he picks up his flute, but he does not have much time for it.

Everyone who has been to Rabanal and by lucky coincidence heard the bells ringing for Sunday Mass or some feast day has surely stopped to listen as Oublines lets the bells sing while practically dancing, hanging onto their chains. It's a beautiful sight and it is unique music he creates. He is not just a bell ringer, he is a champion! This is no exaggeration as Oublines holds various diplomas of first prizes and certificates of excellence for ringing bells. In former days, trials or championships were held regularly and people came from afar to hear the bell ringers ringing, but even more to see them ringing. As bell ringer, it was also his duty to ring a warning about bad weather especially when thunderstorms were approaching to let the people know that they were on their way. He therefore got very annoyed when pilgrims started to climb on the tower and started to ring the bells for fun. It did not take long before a notice to desist was put up. However, as *touristas* generally are unable to read, a railing was put up and this worked. Strangers can no longer climb without permission on to the tower. Only for the *consejo*, the council meetings, has the treasurer asked for the bells to be rung to call the population together.

Oublines is everywhere. Every day he walks through the village. There is always something that needs to be done, he has never known boredom. You hear him whistling in the Calle Real or you hear him speaking loudly on the Plaza. He is somewhere helping a *vecino* or you can find him having a meal in Antonio's restaurant at his regular table, or sipping from a glass of wine in the Posada. On Tuesday mornings he occasionally goes to Astorga to the market, one of his few outings.

Rabanal is his place, his village, and may that stay so for a long time to come.

NB: Our thanks to Jan van Lelijveld for translating this article which originally appeared in *De Pelgrim* 79, December 2004, magazine of the *Vlaams Genootschap van Santiago de Compostela*, and editor Dirk Aerts for permission to publish.

From St James to St James and Back

Phil & Enid Bennion

This is an account of our pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, looking particularly at the beginning and the end. We are cyclists and our travels have taken us to many pilgrimage places - Bardsey Island, Canterbury, Rome, the Holy Land and so on. Our Santiago pilgrimage came about in a way that defines it as "special" for us.

We had followed St Augustine's route from Rome to Canterbury in 1997 by bicycle. We were looking towards Santiago in early 1998 when Enid was hospitalised for a long period. So that changed our plans dramatically. In the early stages Enid was in a coma, but strangely she has a very clear recollection from that time. At the time she was quite convinced that she had gone back to Rome - with all the nursing staff, and cycled along the route again!

We started gentle cycling (on a tandem) late in 1998, and as strength returned began to think earnestly about Santiago. But complications delayed our start until 2004. During Enid's illness, we knew we had experienced the power of prayer, of faith and for us a miracle. So our pilgrimage to Santiago became one of thanks and an affirmation of that faith. As our plans evolved we considered completing the whole journey from home (and back) by bicycle. Had we been walking it would have seemed an impossible task, and yet that is how many ancient pilgrims would have done it. Cycling brought it within our reach.

Having decided to start and end at home we thought it logical to link our neighbouring parish church of St James in the village of Wick with the cathedral in Santiago. We would return to Llantwit Major (home) and our church of St Illtud's. Our earlier plans had been to join the camino at Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port and we decided to stay with that route. So we started at St James in Wick where our vicar, gave us a pilgrims' blessing and a scallop shell. We headed for the old Severn Bridge which retains a cycle track and crossed into England heading towards Portsmouth. We called in at Winchester Cathedral and received a very warm welcome as pilgrims and obtained a stamp in our records.

We crossed to Bilbao where the ancient routes would have been westwards along the coast or southwards to join the Camino Francés

at a convenient point. First we went into the centre of Bilbao to take a look at the Guggenheim building and were suitably impressed. Then following the east bank of the river, we went back to the coast to meander along the coastal roads to Biarritz. We went through Gernika and were reminded of the horrors of the Civil War. This was a hilly ride through lovely country rather like Switzerland, but with the sea on one side.

So far the weather had been good, mostly sunny, but as we turned to Saint-Jean the clouds came down and rain soon followed. We arrived very wet, checked into the *Accueil Saint Jacques* and stayed in the municipal refuge. Now we had joined the flow of pilgrims along the camino. So far we had remained in our “cycle tourist” mode. But now we felt a change. In the refuge we had become quite introspective, as most of our temporary companions seemed to be. When we are touring, there is a certain laissez-faire feeling which turned into a very different commitment to the journey of pilgrimage. Part of the anticipation shared in the refuge was, of course, the thoughts and concerns for the first climb over the Pyrenees, almost like a barrier that must be overcome in order to continue.

We were reluctant to set out, partly due to the persistent rain, but this lasted only about one and a half hours. Leaving Saint-Jean there were many words of encouragement exchanged. There was a small number of cyclists and those proceeded each at their own pace and so no groups formed. The greyiness of the rain clouds stayed with us, but the temperature dropped and a cold wind came. The climb has quite reasonable gradients and we stayed with the road route. The coolness meant that we made steady, but not rapid, progress. On the Ibañeta it was biting cold and we learned later that the temperature had been as low as -2°C . I can't remember how long the climb took (Enid was first over the top) but we set out at about 8.45am and managed to have our records stamped at Roncesvalles before the lunch time shutdown. There the café bar provided some much needed hot soup, hot bread, cakes and tea!

We departed a little from the camino by going down the Erro valley, passing Eunate and making our first stop at the Puente la Reina. Our ride along the camino followed the pattern widely reported, so we will not describe it now. Suffice to say that we had all the experiences: hard days, easy days, wet cold days, sunny warm days, some places welcoming (most) but some seeming so cold and rejecting. Days of horrendous road works where even the camino

itself became impossible for the walkers. And oh! how we admired the walking pilgrims. Pressing on steadily no matter what the conditions – no easy freewheeling for them! And all the time the ever changing companionship – no loneliness. And constant calling of “*buen camino*” from all sides; mini-reunions along the way. Each day we felt more confident that we would reach Santiago.

Twelve days later we arrived at the Cathedral of St James in Santiago. We had travelled 516 miles from Saint-Jean and 894 miles from home. As you would expect there was a great feeling of joy (and relief) that we had reached Santiago, thankful that there had been no major setbacks.

We registered at the pilgrim office and began to soak up the atmosphere. We spent quite long periods in the Cathedral – always full of pilgrims. The city was also busy with pilgrims arriving in huge numbers both under their own steam or with coach and train parties. One large group arrived on horseback. It was a time for many reunions with travellers encountered along the way and joyfulness abounded. It was also time to look back on the “whys” of a pilgrimage. Did our original thoughts still hold? Some thoughts crystallise into quite definite form: others remain vague, hard-to-express ideas. For many who look into, but do not enter, the spirit of pilgrimage, thoughts shuttle between penance and piety.

For all, travelling the pilgrim road helps to put thoughts in order. We had set out on a journey in faith, and found that faith amply reinforced. We had wished our pilgrimage to be an expression of our thanks for Enid’s remarkable recovery: for the expert help she had received and for the countless prayers that surrounded her then, and continue to surround us now. Prayers made in faith are so strong as to be almost tangible. So strong that we know they helped to bring about a miracle. In the hubbub of a crowded cathedral we stood quietly thinking of all that had happened and giving our heartfelt thanks to all.

By now we had decided that we could tackle the last part of this road – to Cabo Fisterra. We took two days to ride there, stopping at Muros where a school of dolphins put on a wonderful leaping display for us. At Finisterre we went out to the lighthouse at the end of the world, just beyond the town and port. Here earlier pilgrims could board a ship to take them home, but the owners would insist that they burnt their clothes before boarding to ensure that no infectious diseases were carried onto the ships. This tradition still goes on today as some pilgrims make a token burning on the Cape before turning for home.

We also took a deep breath and turned for home. We continued around the coast of Finisterre to A Coruña and on to Ferrol. Here we followed up a long held idea and took a short ride on the narrow gauge railway – quite an interesting experience. Then we followed the north coast towards Santander (more or less the northern route in reverse). This was again a hilly ride, but beautiful. Just beyond Villaviciosa we made a change from the planned route and turned inland through Cangas and onto the road running parallel to the coast in the Picos Europa. A quite challenging ride, but wonderful scenery. We rejoined the coastal route at San Vicente. The overnight ferry took us from Santander to Plymouth and on the way the Bay of Biscay gave us a “swell” time. It was some relief the next morning to learn that I was not alone in feeling queasy. From Plymouth we cycled north through Okehampton and Barnstaple to Ilfracombe. After all our mountain climbing and pass-storming in Spain, it was north Devon’s notorious hills that finally reduced us to walking – oh, the disgrace of it!

To round off our pilgrimage journey we boarded the paddle steamer Waverley and crossed calmly to Penarth, pedalling the last few miles into the dusk, St Illtud’s and home. So there we are, pilgrimage completed. The scallop shells blessed in Santiago brought back to St James’s and St Illtud’s. Apart from the special train journey, the land travel was completed under our own power. This must be close to the ways early pilgrims from this area tackled the job. Bicycles reduced the time scale and modern accommodation reduced the discomfort. It is easy to discount that those early travellers spent up to twelve months on the road, with little help or backup in physical terms.

We bicycled 1500 miles, travelling for 36 days (away for 40 days). Our average day was 42 miles. It should be noted that many of the walkers we spoke to were doing 20 – 27 miles per day with a full pack on their backs. They could not free wheel downhill as cyclists could for a rest. We have great admiration for those walking pilgrims. For all those feeling set back by illness and misfortune, Enid’s problems were serious. The only concession she has made is that I now carry the entire luggage! Enid was 72 in August last and as ever, I follow close behind her.

So we are grateful for all the support we have received: from difficult times, through recovery and on to the present. We feel that each prayer definitely helped the wheels go round, just as they help the world go round.

A Pilgrim Tale (2)

Philip Wren

In my previous article in *Bulletin* No 90 I reflected upon the question, who is a pilgrim? For myself the Jubilee Year of 2004 had thrown this sharply into focus and I still find myself returning to another aspect of it.

When I walked 500km of the camino in 1998 it seemed comparatively empty to the numbers I encountered in 2004. Furthermore, I cannot remember meeting pilgrims in 1998 who were travelling to Santiago on an organised coach trip. Nor was I conscious of the sort of person that I met in 2004 – those who would travel part of each day by taxi, bus or train. In 1998 I did meet pilgrims who had done what Brian and I had been forced to do, namely jumping sections due to illness or deadlines. What was different was that there was no attempt to deny to oneself or to others that we had done this thing. As my pilgrimage continued my dislike of those who were taking a daily vehicle journey began to get out of hand. It didn't help to get to a refuge and find people who had clearly taken some form of transport being there ahead of me, **in a bunk while I was on a mattress on the floor.**

My first encounter with those whom I came to label tourist-pilgrims was at Uterga. A group were sitting outside the bar where I was going to have lunch. I grabbed a beer and sat beside one of the group. Nearby a young Spanish guide was explaining to a couple about the importance of the camino to pilgrims and locals alike. I engaged the gentleman beside me in conversation. They were a group from New Zealand who regularly travelled the world together, though because this trip was very special it had been by invitation only. I was still trying to get my head around this when a lady from the party came out of the bar clutching a pilgrim passport. "I've just got a very pretty stamp from the bar" she said. She was so excited I thought she might have an accident, while I felt somewhat nauseous.

My initial response to tourist-pilgrims was therefore very negative.



As I met other groups along the camino this initial impression was only bolstered.

What irritated me was that tourist-pilgrims seemed to me to be like people who are inoculated against a disease. You get enough of the disease to prevent you catching the real thing. For the tourist who was thrown off the bus to do a little walking there was the experience of what the camino felt like underfoot, what the countryside looked like, of being in the kind of bar that pilgrims eat in and the church they attend. You get the drift. But what was missing was the uncertainty of where the next bed is, will my water last until I can get to my next supply, what are the tendons doing, and can I carry this weight all the way to Santiago? Above all, will I make it?

This is by no means certain. I met a pilgrim who had started walking in Le Puy. She had walked many hundreds of kilometres, but a leg injury developed out of nowhere and she had to return home just after leaving Burgos. If, like me, you fear failure, then the camino can be daunting, challenging and disappointing.

Tourists miss this. The sad part I thought was that many would go away from the camino believing that they have experienced it, when all they would have experienced is but a shadow of the real thing.

So I thought. But, of course life is profoundly complex and contradictory. Once the walk to Santiago was complete I went the next day to the Pilgrim Mass.

This confirmed my prejudice. The Cathedral was packed, but only here and there did I recognise those who had walked in. The rest were tourists. Many had arrived early and were occupying the best seats, forcing the walkers into the side aisles. The Cathedral's own leaflet issued for this Holy Year states: - "To be a pilgrim, one has to make the pilgrimage with a religious/Christian motivation - in a greater or lesser degree...When, added to this motivation the journey is made on foot (which is the pilgrimage par excellence)", yet walking pilgrims had to queue for quite some time, some with rucksacks on their backs, to complete the four traditional rituals of St James amongst the crowds of tourists. Furthermore, it was obvious that many people did not know about one ritual and got another one badly wrong.

My anger was further fuelled when I met a walking pilgrim whom I'd occasionally travelled with. I showed Cheryl the pillar where she would go to touch the Tree of Jesse and then place her forehead on that of Master Mateo. A cathedral guide came up and told us that we had to join the end of the long queue. Behind all the tourists and she had a rucksack on her back!

It felt as if all these non-walkers were intruding into both the space and territory of the true pilgrims. This holy and sacred space, which is the Cathedral of Santiago, was being invaded by those who had not earned the right to be there.

With the Mass finished I went and sat on the front row of the Cathedral and seethed with inner rage. How dare these tourists play at being pilgrims?

Though cross, I needed someone to take a photograph of myself standing in front of the high altar. As I sat on the front row, I realised that the retired couple seated beside me were speaking English. I engaged them in conversation. They did not know it, but they poured cold water on the fire of my indignation and firmly put it out. It would turn out that not only were they English, they were Methodists to boot. Furthermore, they came from Epworth, a village less than 25 miles from where my parents live and the birthplace of John and Charles Wesley, the founders of Methodism.

Ron and Jean Sims were driving across northern Spain. They were not strictly following the Camino route, nor were they just tourists. It became clear that they were also pilgrims. They too were on a physical journey that also sought to be spiritual. Just because their mode of transport was the motorcar it did not mean they were not genuinely on a pilgrimage. They too had to stand throughout the service and like me had only moved to the front row when the service had ended.

The three or so hours I spent with them, enjoying their company and hospitality, were amongst the best moments of my journey and I was forcibly reminded what a wonderful family Methodism can be. In my two pilgrimages, apart from Brian, they were the only Methodists I ever met. I could not escape that God had brought them to Santiago on this day and for this purpose. I walked away knowing that the tourist in tourist-pilgrim should always be silent.

I was also aware that a friend of mine would be on the camino just as I was leaving it. He too would be driving. John had told me how much he was looking forward to spending time on the camino. He too wanted to spend time on this way, creating, as we all do, something of a holy sacred space where we might find God and discover ourselves. That he was travelling by car was immaterial.

I had to face up to the fact that the disappointment that I experienced in 1998 in only walking 500km of the camino had coloured my judgement. I was simply projecting my own frustration on to these tourist-pilgrims. In looking down my nose at them I was releasing the hurt and – yes – the shame I'd felt in the six years between the two journeys. I claimed the

title, *Peregrino-Camino-de-Santiago*, but felt that I had not really earned the right to call myself that. The transference of my own sense of failure was profoundly colouring my judgement of those travelling by coach and car. Now that I had walked all the way from Saint-Jean to Santiago – from brother to brother – I could begin to vent the frustration that had built up in the past six years and let it go.

The sin of the Pharisee is to be blind to one's own faults. I was aware that in doing the Camino a second time I was better prepared, especially mentally, for what I would have to face. My 2004 rucksack was half the size I carried in 1998, my load was lighter and I chose to travel alone so that I could set my own agenda. Some of those I had been critical of for taking a daily bus or taxi were responding to what they had to do to stay on the camino. Instead of berating them for their "cheating", I should have been commending them for their perseverance in the face of too much weight, injury and not being properly prepared.

In the gospel stories we hear of a time when parents brought their children to Jesus for him to bless them (Matthew xix, 13-15; Mark x, 13-16; Luke xvii, 15-17). Instead of welcoming them, the disciples try to keep the parents and children away from Jesus. We are not told why the disciples acted as they did, but no doubt they thought they had a perfectly good reason for doing so. However, when Jesus saw what was happening, he berated his disciples and gathered the children into his arms and blessed them. Here is a warning for the angry pilgrim. Who was I to deny anyone the opportunity to travel the Way of St James? Be it by vehicle, bike, horse or foot, if the motivation is to seek God and what He is teaching, then the camino is for all. The Way of St James is about motivation rather than locomotion.

The people I met and walked with on the Way of St James taught me what I knew in my heart – there are many different ways of **authentically being** a pilgrim as there are many different ways of **authentically being** a Christian. Furthermore, it was not my place to judge the motives of any other. I should only look to my own soul.

Why did I write these articles? I was not the only angry pilgrim on the Road in 2004. Others were also cross at the tourist-pilgrims and those who travelled each day by some sort of vehicle. I share my thoughts for those who felt like me and so that the forgiving, the generous, and the kind may know that some of the awkward, blinkered and angry camino squad are not beyond redemption.

The Rev. Philip J. Wren, CSJ member, is a Methodist minister in the Liverpool South Circuit.

Canigou – Holy Mountain

Chris Masters

The Catalan flag hangs in shreds from an iron cross on the summit of Mount Canigou in the Eastern Pyrenees. Next to it I have wired a cockle shell, the symbol of the pilgrimage to St James. This seems as appropriate a place for the shell as it is for the Catalan flag, as it is for the Cross. These are all transitory symbols set on a mountain that will outlast them all, a mountain which was there long before the symbols had evolved, and which will be there long after, even though it is being eroded bit by bit. Eventually my shell will disintegrate and find its way back to the Mediterranean Sea, nine thousand feet below, and some thirty miles eastward.

The Canigou is Catalonia's Holy Mountain. I suspect that this is at least partly because it has been seen as the gatherer of rain, distributing it to the valleys at its feet, supplying the orchards of apples, pears, cherries, peaches and nectarines, as well as the plots of vegetables. There are complicated systems of irrigation here with stone and concrete channels which collect the water from the streams and run for miles around the hillsides, feeding the fields and orchards through little sluice gates at intervals.

I have been here in May when the rivers are rushing with snow melt, and in September when the snow has gone but thunder rumbles deeply around the great ravines that run upwards for thousands of feet towards a summit so often concealed by cloud. The Canigou is a benevolent giant generating water in what would otherwise be a dry landscape, and discharging alluvium into the valleys at its feet, the Tet and the Tech.

The French insist that the Tet valley formed one of the Ways of St James. This, together with a notion that I would somehow be connecting with something older, more earthy, more primitive, seemed a good enough reason for me to finish a short journey on the summit of this mountain. I travelled from Montpellier (a town on the prescribed pilgrim route from Arles) at the bottom end of the Rhone Valley by bike, along the line of what my map described as the Roman road to Narbonne and which was now only a narrow track servicing the vineyards, a road that I felt must have at one time carried its fair share of pilgrims. At Beziers I left it for the Canal du Midi which I

followed westward briefly before heading south again towards the hills known as the Fenouilledes. My motive here was to catch a glimpse of the Cathar castles of Peyrepertuse and Queribus, relics of a religion defined as heresy in the XIII century and destroyed by the Albigensian crusades. The Cathars didn't believe in pilgrimage, considering it an earthly occupation, but I felt no need to apologise to their ghosts for including their castles in my journey. The manner of the destruction of the Cathars and their religion has given them an enduring place in the history books, attracting more sympathy and interest than if the militant Church of the time had left them alone.

After descending through the vertiginous Gorges of Galamus I spent the night at St Paul de Fenouilledes, after which I crossed another range of hills before descending into the valley of the Tet. This valley hums with traffic and seemed unbearably busy after the peace of the previous two days. I camped next at Vernet-les-Bains, seven thousand feet below the summit which was my destination; I had imagined that the mountain would reveal itself by degrees on my journey from Montpellier but this was not to be, for it remained persistently cloaked by cloud. I spent a day reconnoitring some of the paths that lead up the ravines to the summit and trying to assemble the strength and courage to do it. In the end I chose to take a track which started some way around the mountain to the east and which serviced the mountain refuge on a plateau two thousand feet below the top. If I could ride and push my bike to the refuge in one day I could ascend the mountain the following morning on foot and descend in the afternoon from the refuge by bike.

This, then, was what I did, and my cockle shell was duly fixed to the cross, on a day when the clouds were all below me. I think that day climbing to the refuge was probably the hardest in my life with over six thousand feet of riding and pushing up a forest track which zigzagged its way endlessly up a colossal ravine. I descended it five times faster than I climbed it, with my eyeballs leaping around in their sockets, and my modest amount of luggage (mostly extra clothing) crashing around in my panniers. It was certainly more exhilarating than going up and I was certainly fit for nothing when I crawled into my tent in Vernet-les-Bains that night. However, a good nights sleep was all that I needed to prepare myself for the easy ride down the Tet valley next day to Perpignan from which I was to take a train home.

On reflection I think my journey was too brief to qualify me as a pilgrim. I was something between mountaineer, cyclist, and spiritual

tourist. Yet in the context of my other journeys (this was my fifth) over the last ten years I felt I had created another piece to fix to the structure of memories that are my pilgrim experience. Each piece that I fix to that structure adds another dimension, another layer, another piece of a jigsaw without boundaries. I carry no vision of a finished structure because this is an organic thing which will grow as long as the thing which is essential to it, my enthusiasm for the idea of pilgrimage, is sustained.

Confirmation and Pilgrimage in Norway

Maureen Measure

Confirmation is an important stage in the life of young Norwegians and there are two ways in which they can be confirmed. One is the secular way – *borgerlig konfirmasjon* – when the young people take citizenship classes and learn about different faiths. The other way is *kirkelig konfirmasjon* – confirmation in Church. I have relatives in Oslo. My husband and I attended Fredrik's magnificent civic ceremony in Oslo's *Rådhus* in May last year, and I went to the civic naming day of his little sister Frida in March that year. In September this year his aunt, Siri, (who is six months younger than he), was confirmed in church. All three ceremonies were followed by a huge party for family and friends, with much good food and wine and many speeches. The baptised and the confirmed receive quite a lot of money!

For both civic and religious confirmations the preparations are very important. At age 15 both groups attend meetings and study groups. The religious group also have to attend at least eight Sunday services. Siri, born of secular parents, had never been baptised. She and about five or six of her confirmation group were baptised in May this year.

An important part of this group's preparation was to go on pilgrimage to Trondheim. About 35 young people, boys and girls, went on pilgrimage to the shrine of St Olav. St Olav (995-1030) was King of Norway and brought Christianity to that country, as well as a lot of law and order. He was killed in the Battle of Stiklestad and his supposedly undecomposed body was taken to be enshrined in Nidaros Cathedral Trondheim. Many miracles were ascribed to him. Trondheim became an important pilgrimage centre, with the usual resultant economic benefits.

The boys and girls did not walk the whole of St Olav's way that Michael Shearer described in *Bulletin* No 90, but walked several hours a day for a week. They carried day packs; their sleeping bags, mats and changes of clothes went on a van. They slept in tents and ate their meals in the open. Siri had to borrow boots, backpack and sleeping bag.

Siri's confirmation ceremony was as magnificent as Fredrik's civic

one. The church, one of Oslo's largest and most important, was overflowing with relatives and friends – in fact numbers were limited. To the accompaniment of a choir and organ, the young people entered the Church, many wearing the traditional Norwegian dress under their white robes. It was a spectacular service, although the sermon did last rather a long time. I understand enough Norwegian to follow the service, but not to join in hymn singing, just the Creed and Lord's Prayer in English. During the lengthy sermon, the priest made reference to the *pilgrintur* and all my Norwegian family smiled at me. Sure enough, there was a shell decorating the programme. Although the church was crowded and some people did not have seats, we all saw the actual confirmations. As each young person was confirmed, first the girls, then the boys, their family and friends stood up. The priest said an individual prayer, from a selection of four or five, as he put his hand on the head of each girl and boy.

Everybody wears their best for Norwegian confirmations, as though going to a wedding, with their smartest clothes and best jewellery. Many people – children, adults and old people wear the *Bunad* – the traditional Norwegian dress in its many forms and colours – with silver jewellery and clasps and special shoes. It is a really important occasion.

Refugio Gaucelmo Newsletter

Tricia and Stuart Shaw, Hospitalero Co-ordinators

As we write this we are approaching the end of this year's pilgrim season, not quite true of course as there will always be some hardy soul somewhere on the camino. But it is almost the end of the Refugio Gaucelmo season as this year we are closing mid-November.



So, almost inevitably, at this time of year we have some numbers to review. To the end of October 7,088 pilgrims passed through our doors. The most common sources were Spain with 1,764 pilgrims, Germany 1,043, France 822 and Italy 678, and there were 256 pilgrims from Great Britain. Our new countries this year were Korea and Malaysia and over the years we have had pilgrims from 60 different countries. In 2005, 45 hospitaleros worked at Gaucelmo, coming from Australia, Belgium, Eire, France, Germany, Norway, the UK and the USA. We had 26 returning and 19 new hospitaleros. As is almost inevitable when planning a year or more ahead hospitaleros were forced to withdraw and in every case volunteers appeared and the gaps were filled. There were occasions when we felt St James looked after us very well. Our most sincere thanks go to all of them, especially those who stepped in at very short notice. At Gaucelmo we have new garden furniture which was very much appreciated by our pilgrims and a new door is being put in the barn leading into the *huerta* - work which was held off until the barn was unoccupied. Over the last few years the windows in the original building have been slowly deteriorating and it had become apparent that, sooner or later, they would need either major repairs or replacing. When the glass fell out of one window this summer the writing was on the wall that they had to be replaced. New ones have been commissioned from a joiner in Astorga and these will be in place before the start of next year's season. In Rabanal the installation of the land-line telephone system is still 'work in progress' and the loop of wire which has been dangling by the front door since November 2004 will continue to dangle until some unspecified future date. Angela's business suffered when the new shop opened at the top

of the hill and this year she has converted her shop into another *refugio*. This year only the ground floor was in use with accommodation for about 18 pilgrims. Finally, Ramon, one of the twins, has become the hospitalero at the municipal *refugio* and Hannah has been working in Astorga. Our hospitalero calendar for 2006 is complete with a nice mix of returning and new hospitaleros and again our thanks go to everyone for coming forward. Indeed, we have names already in place for 2007. So, our usual closing paragraph. We always welcome enquiries from members who would like more information regarding the role of the hospitalero with a view to volunteering to go either on the reserve list for 2006, or to go in 2007

Wanted: An old-fashioned mangle (as the spin drier motor keeps burning out!) and 2 NEW recruits for the Working Party from 18-25 March 2005. Special talents required include painting windows and chopping wood.

Please contact us either via the CSJ office or e-mail us direct at stuartandtricia@btinternet.com

Miraz News

Maureen Young

After a successful season, although the hospitaleros had some initial problems, we are now going ahead with renovations and improvements to the refugio.

Gerald Heselwood, a friend of the Confraternity has started rewiring the building and putting in a power circuit. The well was bored in the *huerta* and a jet of water immediately gushed forth and we can now begin to be linked up to the main drainage system. The new bathroom is being started with a shower, two toilets and three hand basins.



We had a reception at the refugio for local people while a group from the Confraternity were visiting following a meeting of associations of Saint James in Ponferrada. The confraternity group included our chairman William Griffiths, Marion Marples and five other members. (see picture) It also included the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Friol, the village council president, the village priest and the priest from the Bishops Palace. It was a happy occasion and we hope it helped everyone to get to know each other. (see also members page for report of event)

Miraz fundraising update

Alison Thorp writes: We just wanted to say thank you, from all the Fundraising group, to everyone who came along to support Miraz Day on 19 November – particularly those who came all the way from Cornwall, Wales, Scotland and even Ireland !

Also, we are delighted to report that, thanks to your generosity on Saturday, £1,457 has been added to the appeal fund which brings the total to date to £13,811.

Please do let us know if you are interested in joining in or organising a fundraising event for local members and friends eg a walk, a coffee morning, wine-tasting, visit to local places of interest not generally open (all it may take is a phone call), etc. The fundraising group have lots of ideas, (from very small to very large!) and we are in the process of getting together a “fundraising pack” which will have more ideas, information, and maybe even Galician recipes. I have already been approached about the possibilities of a Spring walk in Norfolk, a visit to a Devon historic building and a wine tasting. We would very much appreciate hearing your ideas which we can add to the list. If you are organizing your own event, we shall be pleased to circulate the CSJ members in your area to tell them of your event. (see CSJ events page in this *Bulletin*)

In the meantime if you have any queries, please do call me (01372 274398) or email me (alison.thorp@virgin.net) and thank you again for all your support of every kind particularly on Saturday.

Please remember too Pilgrims' Purchase: www.pilgrimstogether.org.uk/CSJ/PilgrimsPurchase.html to buy donated goods online to benefit the Miraz Appeal.

Book Review

Peter FitzGerald

The Pilgrimage Road to Santiago; the complete cultural handbook, David. M Gitlitz and Linda Kay Davidson, 2000 , 440 Pages, NY , ISBN 0 - 312 - 25416 - 4 Paperback

I have been reading this book which is described as a cultural handbook. It includes art, architecture, geology, history, folklore, saints' lives, flora and fauna, and that is a lot to cover in one book. I found the history, architecture, geology, folklore and the people fascinating. Even though the book has already been reviewed by Marion Marples in *Bulletin* No 71 I decided that I must do a further article on it. I feel it is such a good book that I should bring it to your attention again.

It has given me a lot of enjoyment. Now what is so special about this book? I like the way it is laid out. The authors take you along the Camino Francés pointing out places of interest and places where history has been made. They point out sites where once a fort or pilgrim hospice stood. It also tells of places just off the route that have an interest. One of the authors tells us that she and a group of her students first started going along the camino in 1974. At that time they did not meet any other pilgrims. In 1979 she again was on the camino with students and they met one Frenchman. What a difference from today. She has been going along the camino ever since. I looked for Rabanal del Camino in this book because I thought I knew the village. I learnt that the Hospital de San Gregorio also called Gaucelmo was in the village and that Aimery Picaud stayed there in the twelfth century. The church authorities visited the hospital several times in the 1720s and ordered that there should always be a hospitalero on duty and that the hospital continue to open its doors to pilgrims to take refuge from the inclement weather. In the interest of hygiene the straw on the floor should be changed once a year and also they were to have four cartloads of firewood a year to keep them warm and to cook by. I would like to recommend this book to you. If you can only have one Christmas or birthday present, this must be it. My only regret is that I would like a copy in hardback.

New Publications

Walk in a Relaxed Manner: life lessons from the Camino, Joyce Rupp, New York, 2005, ISBN 1570756163. An excellent exposition about the experience of the camino written by a sensitive and insightful Servite sister from Iowa. She illuminates her themes eg 'Live in the Now' or 'Keep a strong network of prayer' from her own pilgrimage and includes several prayers and hymns she found helpful. She does not labour the Christian lessons of the pilgrimage but her words will help all pilgrims be more attentive to the experience they are having. I hope we shall be able to obtain copies for our online bookshop; in the meantime it can be bought through www.amazon.co.uk, £8.99

Horseshoes and Holy Water: On the hoof from Canterbury to Santiago de Compostela, Mefo Phillips, Virgin Books, 2005. ISBN 0753510383. Launched on 8 December. A full review will appear in *Bulletin* 93. Mefo Phillips and one of her sisters, Susie Grey, set off from Canterbury on their frisky Appaloosa horses to ride to Santiago. Mefo's husband drove the horsebox (and took the winning photo in the Vega de Valcarce photographic competition!) One of Mefo's poems was published in *Bulletin* 91 and she and Susie gave a talk about their experiences at St Etheldreda's last December. I hope we shall be able to obtain copies for our online bookshop; in the meantime it can be bought through www.amazon.co.uk £7.99

The Pilgrim's Guide to the Camino Francés, John Brierley, Findhorn Press, 2005. The revised 2nd edition, described as 'lightweight'—still 350g, £15.99. Maps, height profiles, historical notes and prompts and space for your own meditations along the Way.

Peace Walker Calendar

The Peace Walker Society in Canada is a non-profit organization. As well as giving workshops and presentations on peace, it also takes a small group of pilgrims on the Camino every spring. Last year they published a calendar which had black & white photos of the Camino, and inspirational quotations on every page. It was so well received, that it was decided to print a larger run this year, with new photos and quotations. For more details and to purchase see website www.peacewalker.com

Members' Page

From Stewart Macpherson in Scotland



Having fellow pilgrims in the congregation has been marvellous as there are not too many people familiar with the camino up here in the Presbyterian north! Patsy and Sandy have done the camino – walking on two occasions now (2004 and 2005), the most recent being the Portuguese route. Alpin and I with two friends cycled the camino from Saint-Jean this year.

Therefore, when four returned pilgrims, members of the congregation of St James the Great Scottish Episcopal Church in Dingwall, Ross-shire, having completed their pilgrimage were inspired to commission a votive candle stand as a focus for prayer, it was a special occasion. The stand was made in Ayrshire, but we also wanted an icon. The icon was eventually made by Sr Petra Clare of the Benedictine Skete at Glen Cannich, Inverness-shire. I had a great deal of trouble finding an icon of St James the Great, and on one google search the Confraternity website came up with the picture and description of the icon made for the CSJ by Sr Petra Clare! I searched on her name and – lo and behold – came across her Skete only 40 minutes from where I live! The whole thing was very exciting! It took a while to get made

(a year in fact) as she is very busy; when I saw her at Glen Cannich she had stopped taking orders. I have some anxieties that this short piece of information might generate a whole lot of requests for icons of St James as they are very difficult to find and we were so pleased with the one we now have in the church. It is very beautiful and we feel extremely honoured to have the icon in Dingwall.

The votive stand was blessed by the Bishop of the Diocese of Moray, Ross and Caithness, the Very Rev John Crook and with him in the photograph are the members of the clergy, the Rev Ian Pallett and the Rev Valerie Saunders with returned pilgrims, Patsy and Sandy Thomson, Alpin Stewart and Stewart MacPherson.

Eileen Terry and Sue Goddard posed a direct question in Bulletin No 91 September 2005. Representative of replies received are the following: -

From Dick Watson

My heart warmed to Eileen Terry and Sue Goddard for their slightly apologetic description of walking the Camino Portugués and then the stretch of the Camino Francés in stages, using hotels. Their final comments 'What do other CSJ members think?' and 'Are we missing an essential part of the camino by doing it this way?' raise some interesting questions, which I can try to answer from my own experience.

My wife and I did the pilgrimage from Le Puy to Santiago on bicycles in 2000. We camped in some places, used a *gîte d'étape* in one, and used small hotels in others (including the lovely one run by the nuns at Santo Domingo de la Calzada). After Roncesvalles, preference was given by the *refugios*, quite rightly, to walkers: so we had no choice but to use hotels. This was August, and as we got closer to Santiago the pilgrims on the road grew in number, so that the *refugios* were full to overflowing.

We are both old age pensioners now (in 2000 one of us was, and the other was on the brink). As Eileen and Sue say, the thought of sharing two toilets and two showers with 46 people is not very inviting at our age (though I know people who do it, and I admire them greatly). So we used hotels, which were usually fine (with one conspicuously grotty exception). I think that we probably did miss *something*, although we met some fascinating people on the journey. What we did have, however, was a wonderful experience in its own right: we looked in to the churches, swam in the local rivers, drank good and bad wine,

ate strange food (Galician stew contains pig's ear). Helped by John Higginson's excellent 'cyclist's guide', we covered on average about 50km a day, for 28 days, arriving in Santiago on 23 August, the eve of St Bartholomew's day, so that the next morning we had a grand Mass with the *botafumeiro*; and we raised £750 for Farm Africa.

It was an extraordinary time. Even now, five years later, I look back on it with awe and wonder, and with profound thankfulness. I wrote in my journal of the pilgrimage that it was almost as if I had not done it myself, but that I had been taken in hand by a force stronger than my own – it was a kind of *non nobis domine* feeling: not unto us, O Lord, but to thy name be the glory. And the whole journey was a kind of microcosm of life itself: the first few days, from Le Puy to Conques and Cahors were like youth, full of new energy and hope; then we settled into a kind of early life, through to Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port; then came the traverse of Spain, like middle age; and from then, over the mountains to Santiago, we looked to the end, as well as looking back on all that we had passed through, much as one does in old age. It was a pilgrimage which was a strangely powerful image of the journey of life itself (there were bad moments as well as good, downs as well as ups).

I think – to return to Eileen and Sue's questions – that it doesn't much matter how you do the pilgrimage, so much as the frame of mind in which you do it. And here I believe that we of mature years (their phrase) have one inestimable advantage (among a lot of disadvantages). We bring to the pilgrimage all our life experience, our hopes and fears, our choices and destinies: we carry these things with us, carrying them on our backs as surely as our rucksacks.

We are not young any more. Waiting for the shower or stumbling about in the dark looking for the lavatory is the privilege of the young (and I envy them in many ways). But we older people have other things to take on the pilgrimage: reflection, humility, habits of devotion, thankfulness. Above all, I think, we know how to value our joys: the good fortune of tiredness at the end of the day, the chance to eat when you are hungry, the changes of the landscape, the uphill and downhill, the wind and weather, the blessing of sleep. And on the pilgrimage there is so much beauty, especially I think on the French side of the Pyrenees.

And at the end of all this, there is the place itself, the goal of it all, the end (in more senses than one). I wrote in my journal on the last day that 'I shall probably never make sense of it all. Maybe it lies on the other side of rationality, along with the whole sense of pilgrimage

itself. A pilgrimage is an emblem of life, as we know from *The Pilgrim's Progress*: it has its own birth and death, its own beginning and middle and end. It is also *multum in parvo*, a kind of life-experience crammed into a few weeks.'

Trying to sum up the whole experience, I thought of a line by WH Auden, written when he was an old man too, looking back at his own life: 'Let your last thinks all be thanks'. I hope to do it all again before I die, but none of us knows the day or the hour of our end, and it would be foolish to presume that one can do it again in a year or two (I am hoping for 2010, when I shall be 76). Meanwhile I would say to Eileen and Sue: do not be put off by the impression (which I think is sometimes given – probably unintentionally – in the *Bulletin*) that the only way to do the pilgrimage is on foot and using *refugios*. There are many ways of doing it, and yours, with all its accumulated wisdom and experience, may be one of the best. If it works for you, as it did for us, then count your blessings – and go for it! (see also article by Philip Wren in this *Bulletin*)

From Richard Taylor

Why do we go on pilgrimages? There must be a multitude of motives and expectations, some more worthy than others. But who is to determine their degree of worthiness? I think that Eileen Terry and Sue Goddard are concerned that, by taking a softer option than others who backpack and stay in *refuges*, their pilgrimage will be somehow less worthy. We need to ask, therefore, about their motives and expectations.

If it is their intention merely to complete the Camino under their own steam, well and good. However, if they see the Camino not necessarily as a penance, as they put it in their letter, but as a test of physical and mental stamina, they are perhaps going to feel dissatisfied with themselves. "No pain, no gain."

I guess that the majority of pilgrims in fact, whatever their other motives and expectations, spiritual or religious, do see the Camino as a test, and it is surely up to each to set the parameters of this test. Ten miles a day or 25? Hotels or refuges? Refuges or camping? Backpacking or portage? Rest days or not? Only by pushing yourself to or beyond a predetermined limit can your physical and mental stamina be tested and satisfaction gained, if this is what you are looking for.

There are other sources of satisfaction in a pilgrimage, one of which Eileen and Sue may well be missing out on with their hotel-based

journey. This is of course the companionship and support they would find in virtually every refuge. There is nothing like sharing experiences and difficulties to create bonds of respect, friendship and love, and there is surely nothing more heartening than these.

Like Eileen and Sue, Edna and I were also of mature years when we walked from Le Puy and we could have afforded to stay in hotels most nights, but we chose not to and I am sure that our experience was the richer for it.

From Rosemary Kimmel

I walked from Tui to Santiago this year between 24 July and 3 August with my daughter (Catherine) and I had no problem with getting into refugios (except Arena where there was not one). Most refuges had only 4-8 people there. Don't miss the joy of being with the young pilgrims. I too carried my rucksack but found it got easier every day. Sign in at the refugios and leave a message - people caught up with us to talk to us. Incidentally I'm 70 with a hip replacement and 2 great grandchildren -so please no excuses- the journey was one of the best experiences of my life. You have to queue for the 'loo' everywhere, even in the best hotels and theatres. Courage-don't miss any part of the pilgrimage.

Congratulations to Gerard & Edith de Lisle

On 31 August this intrepid couple left Leicestershire by tandem to raise funds for Marie Curie Cancer Care. Their route was Portsmouth, St Malo, Rennes Nantes, Saintes, Bordeaux, Dax, Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port and the Camino Francés to Santiago, which they reached on 1 October, c 10 days ahead of schedule. They write: *High Mass on Sunday was very special-when we were mentioned-and we are very proud of our Compostela and the magnificent support we received psychologically from the family and friends on a daily basis - by mobile phones - and financially from friends, relations and acquaintances.* They hope to have raised £25,000.

From John Hatfield

INVITATION FOR VÉZELAY ROUTE HOSPITALIERS

Many CSJ members, having completed the camino or other pilgrim routes, wish to give something back to the movement. A number of possibilities arise, including that of serving as *hospitalier* at a *refugio*. Over the last 13 years, many have given their time at the Refugio Gaucelmo at Rabanal del Camino and more recently at Miraz. If you speak good

French, the opportunity of being a *hospitalier* at a quiet refuge at one of the small, recently developed hostels at Corbigny or Sorges, on the *Voie de Vézelay*, is a possibility. These refuges usually accommodate around six pilgrims. The season runs from 15 March to 15 October.

Since 2000, the enthusiastic and dedicated *Association des Amis de St Jacques de la Voie de Vézelay* (ASJVV) have waymarked the historic pilgrim route from Vézelay to Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port, led by the dynamic couple Monique and Jean-Charles Chassain. Though based in Perigord, they monitor all the activities on the route and are often at the Vézelay Office to welcome pilgrims. They have produced an excellent guide, with maps, which is regularly updated and they are energetically negotiating with local municipalities along the route for the establishment of new pilgrim refuges.

For pilgrims, the Vézelay route is a *Route de Solitude* as yet unspoiled by commercialism. The aim of the ASJVV is to keep it that way. In 2004 just over 850 pilgrims were recorded as coming down that route to Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port.

In 2005, the CSJ has collaborated with them so that five of our members have served as *hospitaliers* at the refuges at Corbigny, on the southern branch out of Vézelay, and at Sorges, a day's march short of Périgueux. They have all returned speaking of their warm experiences there.

If this opportunity appeals to you, John Hatfield, (9 Vicary Way, Maidstone, Kent ME16 0EJ, tel:01622 757814) will be happy to give you background information, after which you may wish to contact Monique Chassain to negotiate, in French, the possibilities and to arrange dates for your *hospitalier* sojourn.

Mary & Peter Pryer

Like many members Peter and Mary have been tempted to visit the Baltic states—in Riga, Latvia, their hotel was next to the St James cathedral. Does anyone have information on St James and pilgrimage links in Riga, Vilnius or Tallinn? Please contact them at Peter@pryer24.freemove.co.uk

From David Kempton

Next September 2006, together with a group of five other cyclists, I propose to continue our pilgrimage which we have already started in Le Puy five years ago. This section is from Burgos to Leon, and then we wish to continue on foot thereafter. We know we can rent bicycles

in Burgos and have them collected by the renter in Leon. However, we are unsure of the road suitability for cycling and of places to stay along the road in this section. One of our members is a nervous cyclist and finds tracks difficult, so our inclination is to cycle on the main roads. I wonder whether any members have undertaken this section on a bicycle and I would appreciate any comments on the road suitability and hostelrys. (18 Earls Court Gardens, London SW5 OSZ Tel : 020 7370 5254)

From William Griffiths

Hengrave Hall near Bury St Edmunds was the location for the first (very successful) CSJ conference in 1990, having been run by the Sisters of the Assumption first as a school then as a beautiful and ecumenical conference centre. It is now for sale. We thank the sisters for their immense contribution to the spiritual life of the centre including the development of the pilgrim spirituality among us.

From Jane Bradshaw

Over the weekend of 11 to 13 November twenty-two of the Confraternity's returned pilgrims, in age ranging from early teens to late seventies, met at Ampleforth Abbey in north Yorkshire for a retreat led by Father Ben Griffiths, the parish priest of Haworth. The Benedictine monks and the team at the Grange made us very welcome, fed us well, and we were invited to join the monks at their services. Fr Ben led three sessions, focusing on the pilgrim staff, shell and gourd as symbols of setting out, walking the pilgrim way and returning home. There was a singing session on the Saturday evening with contributions sung and spoken by different members, and plenty of chances, formally and informally, to exchange thoughts and experiences.

On Saturday afternoon the threatened storms did not materialise and on a clear, crisp afternoon we walked from Helmsley to the ruined abbey at Rievaulx. Unfortunately the short daylight hours meant we had to turn and walk back as soon as we arrived, and even so the last walkers came into Helmsley in the (almost) dark.

On Sunday morning we joined the congregation in the packed Abbey church for Mass on Remembrance Day – a salutary reminder of the shortness of the earthly pilgrimage for some.

It was a most worthwhile weekend, and our thanks go to Fr Ben for suggesting and leading it, to Ampleforth for hosting it, and to Marion for organising it.

From an anonymous Bulletin Stuffer

Did any of our readers detect a faint aroma hovering about the pages of their September *Bulletin*? Or the echo of a lingering musical note released from the enclosing envelope? Perhaps an explanation would be helpful. The team of four working on the second day of dispatch on 21 September was faced with a deadline of 2pm when Royal Mail would arrive to collect the sacks of envelopes already processed. Lunch was scheduled for 3 o'clock – but intermediate sustenance was to hand in the form of two plates of chips and roast potatoes which made their way upstairs from a lunch in the John Marshall Hall down below. We tried to keep the dual activities of stuffing volunteers and stuffing envelopes apart from one another, but if we failed the noses of our readers can be the only judge. There is nothing more penetrating than the smell of roast potatoes.

The musical overhang had a different origin. Two of the team-of-the-day had on the previous day been to the city church of St Mary Woolnoth to an afternoon event organised by the Friends of the City Churches. Confraternity member Sue Booth, wearing her alternative hat as a Friend of the City Churches, gave an overview of church clocks within the City of London. Her address was followed by a rendering by a quartet of that nostalgic favourite “My Grandfather’s Clock”. Twenty four hours later your *Bulletin* team found that they were all conversant with the words and a spirited version of the song went into a number of envelopes somewhere between “L” to “Z”. A veil will be drawn over the precise identities of the choristers. Suffice it to say that the shortcomings of the two who are not members of the CSJ choir were masked fairly adequately by the two who were.

And what of the December *Bulletin* which you are now reading? Was there a vague whiff of mince pies when you opened the envelope? Or did you prick your finger on a stray piece of holly? Our editor has strange ways of showing her love and affection for her readers.

From the Secretary's Notebook

Marion Marples

Mary Kelly: RIP died All Souls Day 2005

Mary was the quiet and devoted wife of Vincent Kelly, who is a long standing member of CSJ. In summer 1996 Mary's kitchen in Caversham was commandeered for three days by the formidable team of Doreen Hansen and John Hatfield who ran a production line for the making of sandwiches to provide lunch for 50+ pilgrims walking the northern section of the St James's Way from Southampton to Reading. Even the neighbours were co-opted to butter! We send our condolences to Vincent on his sad loss.

Shirley Snell RIP 1933-2005

Peter FitzGerald writes: Shirley Snell died of Cancer on 18 November 2005. We first met Shirley and John at Chateau Gontier in France in 1988, when they were cycling from the Mediterranean to Northern France. At that time we were on our first pilgrimage to Santiago. We met them later in 1989 at Oxford on a Practical Pilgrim Day.

Shirley joined the Confraternity in 1989 with her husband John. They were cycling pilgrims. They cycled from their home in Sherborne to Santiago, they also cycled the Arles and Vézelay route. Shirley has cycled along the Camino many times: on the last occasion they took their campervan to the Pyrenees, leaving it there and then rode on to Santiago. Riding back into France and coming across pilgrims who would call out 'you are going the wrong way'

Shirley and John were not only Santiago Pilgrims. In 1999 they cycled to Rome on the *Via Francigena*, following the route taken by Archbishop Sigeric on his return to Canterbury from Rome in 990AD. At a pageant in 2000 at Orio Litta they were taken across the River Po by boat at Calendasco on the original route to celebrate the new ferry service across the river at the point where Sigeric made his crossing 1000 years before. Shirley and John were invited to take part as English Pilgrims accompanying Sigeric. Shirley was dressed in medieval pilgrim costume, and was known as Sister Shirley of Sherborne. There is a photograph of her in the Confraternity *Bulletin* No 74 with an article on their visit. They have been back to Oria Litta near many times since, and it has been suggested that they were honorary citizens.

As with everything that she did in life Shirley threw herself wholeheartedly into all that she did. For many years Shirley was involved with John in the Twinning Association of Sherborne with Granville in Normandy and San Gimignano in Italy which is also on the Via Francigena. Shirley was a member of many Rabanal working parties, the last one being in March this year.

Shirley was a qualified teacher and part of her education was in France where she learnt her French. We will remember Shirley as a friend, with a great sense of humour, full of zest for life, who never had a bad word for anyone. Two of her greatest joys were her grandchildren Freya and Alfie.

Our heartfelt sympathies are with John their son Stephen and Carol, their daughter.

Robin Gard RIP 1926-2005

I never met Robin Gard, but in speaking on the phone, I quickly discovered he had a huge knowledge of local and church history. Leigh Hatts, my husband, was at that time researching the Passion Sunday custom of serving Carling peas in bars in the North-East (don't ask!) and Robin immediately put a request for information in the local paper and looked up his books for further snippets. In spring 1997, at the age of 71, Robin made the first of his six pilgrimages: on the Camino francés, from Burgos. He started the same route from Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port in 1999 and 2000. In 2001 and 2002, he walked with pilgrims met on previous journeys (including member Acey Teasdale from Australia) from Seville on the Via de la Plata. In 2003 he walked from Le Puy amid the exceptional heat of that August, to Lescar and then on the Arles and Aragonese Routes to Santiago. On that final occasion, he at last had time to reach the Atlantic at Finisterre.

Writing home to a friend every few days, he described each journey, mixing personal reactions and comments on the places seen. On his return his habit was to type up each account having retrieved the letters. He claimed that this was just one further way to reduce his backpack weight!

Bishop Kevin Dunn in an Appreciation said Robin's faith was rooted in history. In 1974 he had set up the North East Catholic History Society and when he retired from work as an Archivist in 1985 he transformed the Diocesan archives for Hexham & Newcastle by his careful work. Bishop Dunn further said "Robin knew Jesus. He was a man of faith. It shone through his life and most especially in his

profound acceptance of his new pilgrimage in the last year. He accepted his final illness with amazing resilience and a serene abandonment to the will of God.”

Robin’s elder brother, Ben, now living in Tasmania, also made the pilgrimage in 1997.

MARION MARPLES, with thanks to MARTIN GARD.

Paul Murray writes: I only met him the once and was immediately struck by the humility and quietly spoken nature of the man. He showed remarkable resilience to walk the Via de la Plata in his seventies and proudly showed me a selection of the photos he had taken.

Membership Renewal

Thank you to all those members who have renewed their subscriptions for 2006 and beyond. If you have received a Renewal letter with this *Bulletin* please remember that you should renew by 28 January 2006, the date of the AGM. After this you will be asked for a new Joining Fee!

Office Volunteers

This year we have had a good routine with three volunteers: Francesco Mattioli, Bill Marchant Smith and Willie Bossert. Francesco and his wife have decided to return to Italy to live: we thank him warmly for his help in the Office (between pilgrimages!) since 2004. He will also be a useful link between the Confraternity and the Italian Confraternity and Compostellan Study Centre. I am now hoping to recruit another couple of Office Volunteers for 2006 – about one Thursday a month, to answer pilgrim questions and help process the online publications orders: please contact me at the Office if you would like to help.

Pat Quaife Study Grant

This annual Study Grant was established in 1999 to recognise the tremendous contribution made by Patricia Quaife to the life of the Confraternity as Founder Member, Hon Secretary, Bulletin Editor, Chairman and now as Hon Vice President.

The Study Grant is for research on a topic related to the pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, where work is required in archives abroad or in Britain, at a distance from the applicant’s home. Preference is given to applicants wishing to study a topic relating to the pilgrimage in the UK.

If the applicant wishes to research abroad s/he must have an

adequate command of the necessary languages.

Submissions must be made in writing and give a clear and concise statement of the proposed research, including a note of the materials to be consulted, the travel and maintenance costs involved.

When the research is completed the applicant should submit a report for the CSJ Library and possibly provide an article for the *Bulletin* or material for a Lecture.

Who may apply? Confraternity members of any age

How much is payable? Up to £500

Closing Date: 30 March 2006, addressed to The Secretary,
CSJ, 27 Blackfriars Road,
London SE1 8NY

Confraternity of Saint James Bursary 2006

Bursary Leaflets and Application Forms have not been sent out to academic institutions this year. However, if you know a young person aged 18-25 who would like to complete a project on the Camino de Santiago please ask them to apply to the Secretary for an Application Form before the 9 January 2006. Up to £750 is available.

Slide Library

Members are reminded that the Slide Librarian is available to loan you slides from the Slide Library to illustrate any talk you may be giving about your pilgrimage. This is also an encouragement for anyone who is thinking about how they could raise money for the Miraz Appeal: how about a slide evening with local members looking at slides of 'Another route' eg the Via del Plata, the Northern routes etc. The catalogue, available from John Hatfield, 9 Vicary Way, Maidstone, Kent ME16 0EG, 01622 757814 gives a brief descriptive note of each slide. This together with a map of the route would make an interesting evening.

Farewell and Congratulations:

To D José Ignacio Díaz, parish priest of Grañon, who is moving to the parish of Santiago el Réal in Logroño. D José Ignacio used to be the editor of *Peregrino* magazine and is the convenor of the *Hospitaleros Voluntarios* for the Federation of Spanish Associations. Grañon is known for the warm welcome pilgrims receive and for the 'open plate' policy—pilgrims are invited to 'Give what you can, take what you need'.

Within the Way Without – now on DVD



Good news! The DVD of Within the Way Without, Larry Boulting's stunning film weaving three pilgrims' stories together is now available through www.csj.org.uk/bookshop, Price £15 plus p&p (UK £1, Europe £1.50, Rest of World (£2)). The film was made over several years and features disillusioned, middle-aged Dutchman Rob Jorritsma (Winter pilgrim - pictured left at BAFTA), Japanese Haiku poet Madoka Mayuzumi (Spring pilgrim), and Brazilian Milena Salgado (Summer pilgrim). The other pilgrims, the

camino and the weather complete the picture in an engrossing, authentic and beautiful evocation of the pilgrimage and the pilgrims' lives before, during and after the camino. There was hardly a dry eye at the Première at BAFTA held in January this year!

Congratulations:

To Hugh Richards of Poole, Dorset, who won First Prize in the 2nd Vega de Valcarce Photographic Competition with his picture 'La alegría de colores del otoño'.

Pilgrim Leaders

Pilgrim Adventure is a small not-for-profit company founded in 1987 which provides an annual programme of Pilgrim Journeys through Celtic Christian, Britain and Ireland, with occasional journeys on continental Europe.

Pilgrim leaders plan and lead the journey programme, with two leaders taking responsibility for each journey.

For an Information pack on how to become a Pilgrim leader with Pilgrim Adventure, please contact: David Gleed, Pilgrim Adventure, 27 Oldbury Court Road, Fishponds, Bristol. BS16 2HH. tel: 0117 9655454, email: pilgrim.adventure@virgin.net, or visit www.pilgrim-adventure.org.uk

Iberian Adventure Cruise

Fund raising cruise for The Rowans Hospice, Purbrook, Hants: 7 night cruise on P&O ship Artemis from Southampton 16-23 September 2006, calling at Vigo (optional visit to Santiago), Lisbon, La Rochelle, Brest, Southampton. Booking Form from Hospice Travel (BF_PC), Orchard Cottage, 34 West Street, Southwick, Hants PO17 6EA (send 9"x4" sae) tel 01329 237890 or email rowanstravel@yahoo.co.uk

St Jacques...la Mecque:

Posters for this new film have been decorating the Paris Metro and elsewhere. We are grateful to member Rom Bates, who lives in Moissac, who acquired one for the Office. He writes: Its about the route from Le Puy to Santiago. Its a "comedy" about a dysfunctional family whose mother dies and states in her will that they get nothing unless they do the walk from Le Puy to Santiago. They join a walking group, which includes an illiterate Arabic boy who thinks he is walking to Mecca! hence La Mecque. Don't worry, sounds odd, but demonstrates that anyone or religion can make the journey and be received the same at the end. Its not terribly intellectual, and doesn't show a lot of the route, but what it does is good. I did think though that all the good things about the walk were there, and all the characters were better off after the walk, so the ultimate story is positive to the cause.

Gite for Sale:

The gite d'étape 'Sous les étoiles' at 21 rue d'Espagne in Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port is up for sale. Jean, the hospitalier, has welcomed thousands of pilgrims to his delightful 17th century building with garden, but has now decided to move on himself. See www.jeangite.free.fr or phone /fax 0033 5 593 72071.

Via Francigena news

Romano Prodi, the Italian opposition leader, has pledged to develop the infrastructure of the roads to Rome if he beats Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi in the elections in 2006.

Pilgrim Register Analysis 2004

Paul Turnbull

I have been privileged, in the last few days, to analyse the Pilgrim Register returns for 2004. I use the word 'privileged' because the reading of your notes has enabled me to share the trials, tribulations and great joys of your pilgrimages. It has brought back fond memories and I concur with the oft repeated fact that the 'Camino experience' is 'life altering'

I wondered as to how to present these results. Computers enable vast quantities of coloured charts to be produced but then I thought of both the space in, and the black and white print of, the *Bulletin*. So here, in simple words, are the facts. (The figures in brackets are percentages. Rounding to whole numbers can produce totals slightly greater than 100%.)

Pilgrim Profile

Of the 785 issued with a pilgrim *Credencial* last year few (18) returned their Pilgrim Register Form. Of those pilgrims gentlemen (62) outnumbered the ladies (38). This is contrary to the overall picture put out by the Pilgrim Office in Santiago where the ladies (56) outnumber the men (44). Of our pilgrims more set out alone (56) than in groups (44) with 'family' being the most common relationship for groups. Whilst walking (77) is preferred to cycling (23) no one in 2004 'rode'. The greater proportion cycling, compared to the 'Santiago' figures (12), reflects, in some respects, the longer routes we CSJ pilgrims use. As to age, no request is at present made on the form. I can, however, reveal that I gleaned that the youngest pilgrim was three years old and rode in mum's bike trailer, whilst the oldest was 72. A majority of pilgrims (62) were making the pilgrimage in the same year as they joined the CSJ. Some (13) joined the previous year, whilst others were long standing members from as far back as 1990 and were probably not on their first pilgrimage. I hope at some stage in the future to be able to report on those undertaking their second or subsequent pilgrimage. This years forms recorded very few (2) 'repeaters'. We go on pilgrimage at different times in the year to our European counterparts. The 'Santiago' figures peak in August (25) whereas we peak in May (27) and October (23). Of course not everyone makes the pilgrimage in one stage, thus some

(1) report taking three years and others (4) taking two to complete it. CSJ members reside world-wide and those walking on the Caminos reflect that fact. Of our pilgrim returns we had, along with residents of these Isles, residents of Australia (4), Canada (1), Denmark (1), France (1), Gibraltar (1), New Zealand (2), Spain (1) and the USA (3).

Route Profile

The Camino Francés is by far the most favoured route (72) with the routes that come down through France to join it adding (13) further to that route's popularity. Routes following the northern coast (6) along with the Camino Inglés (4), the Camino Portugués (3) and the routes out of Southern Spain (4) make up the rest. Some pilgrims cycled, and one even walked, from their own front door.

Of those taking the Camino Francés, the favoured starting point is Saint-Jean Pied-de-Port (39) with others (5) joining almost as soon at Roncesvalles. Other popular starting points are Burgos, Fromista, León and Ponferrada (each one 9). Whilst few of us (5) join at that favoured starting point of Sarria. Of those who commence at Saint-Jean most walked (75) taking on average 35 days to reach Santiago. The rest (25) cycled there in 14 days on average.

Not everyone finishes their 'physical' pilgrimage at Santiago a few (7) go on to Finisterre, fewer (2) go all the way back home, and even fewer (1) go on to La Coruña. Some who went on to Finisterre found it to be a more fitting place to end their pilgrimage than Santiago, bursting, as it was, to the seams, in Holy Year 2004.

CSJ Events

Saturday 28 January

AGM

CSJ Annual General Meeting

St Alban's Centre, Baldwin's Gardens, Holborn, EC1— see enclosed papers for details

Saturday 4 February

Galician Lunch

A Galician Lunch (no empanada!) for the Miraz Appeal.

Come along 11:30am onwards and taste the delights of Galician Cuisine and also hear about the new refuge and Miraz. No charge but, in the spirit of the Confraternity, generous donations towards the Miraz appeal will be welcome. 13 Dunsley Drive, Wordsley, Stourbridge DY8 5RA – just call Colin Jones on 01384 400709 or email pacharan@btinternet.com to say that you are coming, that will help with the catering.

Saturday 11 February

Talk & Wine Tasting

7.45 p.m. Church Hall, Christ the King Church, Castle Street, Thornbury, S.Glos.

1 000 Miles and a Few Glasses of Wine: the walk from Le Puy to Santiago.
An illustrated talk by Mike and Jane Bradshaw accompanied by wine from the Way.

Proceeds will be divided between the Miraz fund and the church building fund.

For further details contact Jane Bradshaw, The Bank House, Oldbury on Severn, S.Glos. BS35 1PR. E-mail: jane.bradshaw3@btinternet.com
Tel: 01454 413199.

Practical Pilgrim 2006

We are changing the format of our Practical Pilgrim Days this year. Each Saturday will be in two sections. In the morning there will be a short general introduction to the Spiritual pilgrimage and the Camino Francés, followed by question and answer and small group discussions. After a picnic lunch (hot drinks provided) there will be an Introduction to and question and answer session about one other secondary route.

Saturday 11 February

Arles

Speaker Marigold Fox, author of Arles–Puente la Reina
New Mechanics Institute, Nottingham

Saturday 25 February

Le Puy

John Marshall Hall, 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1

Saturday 4 March

Northern Routes

Speaker Michael Gaches

Woolton, Liverpool

Saturday 18 March

Vézelay

Speakers Monique & Jean-Charles Chassain, authors of *Itinerarie du Pèlerin Voie de Vézelay*

Our Lady & St George, Glasgow

In addition to these dates

Saturday 11 March

Other Routes

Paris, Via de la Plata, Camino Portugués

Christ the King Church, Thornbury, nr Bristol

See forms and details included with AGM Papers

Saturday 18 March

Coffee Morning

10am–12 noon Methodist Church Hall, Oldbury on Severn, S. Glos.
Coffee morning in aid of the Miraz fund.

For further detail contact Jane Bradshaw, The Bank House, Oldbury on Severn, S.Glos. BS35 1PR. E-mail: jane.bradshaw3@btinternet.com Tel: 01454 413199.

Office Open Days

Check to confirm nearer the time

Saturdays 25 March, 30 April, 24 June, 23 September, 25 November

Looking Ahead

Friday 26 May –Monday 29 May Exploring Cuthbert, Bede and the Northern Saints, to include visits to Durham Cathedral, Hexham, Jarrow, Godric's cell at Finchale. Accommodation in twin or single rooms at Ushaw College, 4 miles north-west of Durham. We hope we can use a combination of cars and if necessary, a minibus to explore the area. Send £50 deposit to the office to reserve a place stating room required..

Tuesday 5–Friday 29 September

Art Exhibition

Works of art, inspired by the Camino made or commissioned by our members will be displayed in Guildford Cathedral during the month.

Choral Evensong is sung at 5.30 daily except Wednesdays so it might be a good idea to combine a visit to the Exhibition (free!) with Evensong. The Official Opening and Reception will be on Tuesday 19 September.

Saturday 28/Sunday 29 October –Saturday 4 /Sunday 5 November **Visit to Burgundy**

Two-centre visit, probably Auxerre and Autun with visits to Romanesque churches and pilgrimage sites including Vézelay, Cluny, Taizé, Beaune, Paray-le-Monial. Cost around £600, to be confirmed. To be led by Marion Marples and Gosia Brykczynska. Please send deposit of £100 per person payable to CSJ to the Office to reserve a place.

Other Events

Wednesday 4 January

Lecture

Breton craftsmen in Tudor Devon, Dr John Allan
British Archaeological Association, Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1, 5pm. Please sign the Visitors' Book, free.

Wednesday 11 January - 2 April 2006

Exhibition

Pilgrimage: The Sacred Journey – at The Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont Street, Oxford OX1 2PH. Entry is free, Tuesday to Saturday 1000–1700, Sunday 12noon–1700, Bank Holiday Mondays 1000–1700.. For more information please contact the Museum, tel : 01865 288298 or look at www.ashmol.ox.ac.uk . This exhibition explores the role of Pilgrimage in Christianity, Islam, Judaism and the religions of South East Asia. Common aspects of pilgrimage are covered viz Departure, Sacred Space and the Return. A fully illustrated book Pilgrimage –The Sacred Journey, with contributions from CSJ members Francis Davey and Caroline Friend is published by the Ashmolean.

Saturday 21 January 2006

Day School

Themes in Christian Art – Oxford University Continuing Education Day School

Rewley House, 1, Wellington Square, Oxford Tel: 01865 270380 or 270368 email : ppdaywk@conted.ox.ac.uk or check www.conted.ox.ac.uk

28 April 2006 – 19 May 2006

Walking Pigrimage

Jakobusweg: Nürnberg - Ulm - Konstanz

This group walking pilgrimage (no back-up vehicle to carry luggage) will take place from 28 April to 19 May 2006. Daily stages vary between 20-25km and accommodation is in simple

guesthouses and small hotels, 25-30 euros per night in double rooms (*very* few singles are available) and participants arrange their own travel to and from the starting point. Those who do not wish to undertake the whole journey can start/finish in any of the places given in **bold**. 28.04 **Nürnberg**, 29.04 Nürnberg - Unterreichenbach, 30.04. Unterreichenbach - Abenberg, 01.05. Abenberg - Kalbensteinberg, 02.05 Kalbensteinberg - Gunzenhausen, 03.05 Gunzenhausen - Heidenheim, 04.05 Heidenheim - Oettingen, 05.05 Oettingen - **Nördlingen**, 06.05 **Nördlingen** - Neresheim, 07.05 Neresheim - Giengen, 08.05 Giengen - Nerenstetten, 09.05 Nerenstetten - **Ulm**, 10.05 Rest day in Ulm, 11.05 **Ulm** - Donaurieden, 12.05 Donaurieden - Maselheim, 13.05 Maselheim - Muttensweiler, 14.05 Muttensweiler - **Bad Waldsee**, 15.05 **Bad Waldsee** - Weingarten, 16.05 Weingarten - Brochenzell, 17.05 Brochenzell - Markdorf, 18.05 Markdorf - **Meersburg/Konstanz**. A detailed programme will be sent with confirmation of booking. If you are interested, please contact (*in writing*) Gerhilde Fleischer, Postfach 1229, 88306 Isny, Germany, by 15th March 2006.

International Competition – Diaries from the camino

The Association of the Friends of the Santiago in Astorga and Comarca, are organising a competition of diaries written by pilgrims who have undertaken the pilgrimage and reached Santiago de Compostela. One of the languages of the competition is English, but your diary can be written in Latin or Basque or Gallego among several other European languages. First prize is 3000euro and the deadline for submission of diaries is 31 December 2006. For more information about the competition you may enquire at the CSJ office or write to The Astorga Association as follows :

Asociación de Amigos del Camino de Santiago de Astorga y Comarca

II Certamen “Liber Peregrinationis”

Apartado 35

24700 Astorga (León) SPAIN

New Members

Information is for members' use only.

LONDON

2005522	Miss Magdalena Auron	07971 474367
27 Victoria Road	Kilburn London NW6 6SX	
2006032	Mr Russell Bateman	020 7820 1576
8 Chapter Road	London SE17 3ET	
2006031	Mr Piers Bedford	07795 471097
27 Chesham Mews	London SW1X 8HS	
2005517	Canon Martin & Mrs Eve Clark	
020 7274 4733		
St John's Vicarage, 49 Wiltshire Road	Brixton London SW9 7NE	
2006021	Miss Eleanor Darley	07890 496556
20 Albion Square	London E8 4ES	
2005486	Mr Nigel Harkins	020 8675 9078
Flat 3, St Martins House	27 Nightingale Lane London SW12	
2005523	Mr Mark Markham	020 7923 7851
Flat 2, 39 Colvestone Crescent	Dalston London E8 2LG	
2005497	Miss Una Murphy	07812 121887
197 Swaton Road	London E3 4EP	
2005546	Mr Dominique Tonnesmann	020 7313 3516
95 Great Tichfield Street, Flat 2	London W1W 6RR	
2006029	Mr Christopher Tanfield	020 7289 4920
Flat 4, 153 Sutherland Avenue	Manor Vale London W9 1RS	
2006041	Dr Anne Wiggins	07951 410299
40 Queencourt	24-28 Queen Square London WC1N 3BB	

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2006026	Mr Fernando Bautista-Parra	01344 305930
39 Chesterblade Lane	Forest Park Bracknell Berks. RG12 0GQ	
2005498	Mr Charles & Mrs Aby Bidwell	01865 558034
1A Davenport Road	Oxford Oxon OX2 8BT	
2005505	Mr Mike & Mrs Sue Boon	01865 762368
47 Ramsay Road	Headington Oxford Oxon OX3 8AY	
2005495	Mr John Cotton	01296 681226
Dimmocks, Nup End Lane	Wingrave Aylesbury Bucks. HP22 4PX	
2006039	Mr Alphonse Elsenburg	01296 682479
1 Twelve Leys	Wingrave Aylesbury Bucks. HP22 4QL	
2006008	Mr Noel Hannan	01349 303575
52 Walsh Avenue	Warfield Berks. RG42 3XZ	
2005499	Ms Sheila Richardson & Mr Anthony Nixon	
01787 835826		
70 Warwick Road	St Albans Herts. AL1 4OL	

2005488 Mr Dex Shaw 01582 862779
37 Leafields Houghton Regis Dunstable Beds. LU5 5LT

HOME COUNTIES SOUTH

2006014	Mr Mike Brown	01273 510795
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2005534	Mrs Liz Davis	01273 770462
14B York Villas	Brighton E Sussex BN1 3TS	
2005525	Mr Chris & Mrs Pat Jenkinson	01243 672334
30 Marine Drive	West Wittering Chichester W Sussex PO20 8HQ	
2006013	Revd Bruce Nicole	01276 21682
The Vicarage	286 London Road Camberley Surrey GU15 3JP	
2006018	Mr Dave Shiers	01233 623225
134 Sandyhurst Lane	Ashford Kent TN25 4NT	
2006015	Mr David Welsh	01276 26470
2 The Mallards	Frimley Surrey GU16 8PB	
2005507	Mr John & Mrs Kate Williams	01483 898234
Mellstock, Barnett Lane	Wonersh Guildford Surrey GU5 0SA	
2006030	Dr Jacky Woolcock	01273 453540
6 Beach Road	Shoreham by Sea W Sussex BN43 5LJ	

SOUTH

2005501	Mr Tom Askew	07961 068008
14 Anglesey Road	Alverstoke Gosport Hants. PO12 2EQ	
2005533	Revd Clive Burland	01983 753949
5A Orchard Close	Freshwater Isle of Wight PO40 9BQ	
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12 Haddington Road	Bournemouth Hants. BH7 6JT	
2005538	Mr Roger & Dr Jo Shrubb	07767 663562
4 Warwick Road	Swindon Wilts SN1 3JL	

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2005528	Mr Chris Crompton	01380 723848
1 Northgate Gardens Devizes Wilts SN10 1QY		
2006011	Miss Rosemary Goodchild	01872 862147
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2006004	Mr Oscar Jans	01626 355282
33 Abbotsbury Road Newton Abbot Devon TQ12 2NW		
2005529	Mr Robert Milner	01285 641520
37 Mount Street Cirencester Glos. GL7 1TJ		

WALES

2006035	Revd Dafydd, Mrs Joanna & Mr Jonathan Jones	
01874 625862		
4 The Watton	Brecon Powys LD3 7ED	
2005539	Mr Barry Morgan	01656 648426

Nyth Clud Heol-Yr-Ysgol, Coity Bridgend CF35 6BL
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 8 Padeswood Drive Padeswood Nr. Mold Flintshire CH7 4JQ
 2006028 Mr Chris Watts 01497 847789
 Bridge House Velindre Brecon Powys LD3 0SW
 2005515 Dr Thia Malan & Mr Owen Rennie 029 2021 7998
 32 Belle Vue Crescent Llandaf North Cardiff CF14 2FJ

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MIDLANDS WEST

2006016 Mr William & Mrs Winifred Kelly 024 7667 3491
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 2005535 Mr Mark Lewis 07765 077202
 40 Rufford Road Stourbridge W Midlands DY9 7LU

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 2005530 Mr John Gouldstone 01223 891720
 By the Willows Cardinals Green Horseheath Cambs. CB1 6QY
 2005542 Mr Richard & Mrs Susan Morgan 01371 830978
 65 Newbiggen Steet Thaxted Dunmow Essex CM6 2QU

NORTH EAST

2006009 Mr Bob Bevan 01709 874525
 21 Stokewell Road West Melton Rotherham S Yorks S63 6ND
 2005516 Ms Sonia Buckle 01302 751713
 7 Oxford Drive Harworth Doncaster S Yorks DN11 8PQ
 2005513 Mr John Crawford 01132 869471
 31 Montague Crescent Garforth W Yorks LS25 2ER
 2005512 Mr Dennis Marshall 01937 574122
 "Kenwood", Harewood Road Collingham Wetherby LS22 5BY
 2006036 Mr James McLean
 45 Dene Court Birtley Chester le Street Co Durham DH3 1QH
 2006002 Mr Peter Saxon 01904 788041
 65 Millfield Lane Nether Poppleton York Yorkshire YO26 6NB

NORTH WEST

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 6 Keith Street Barrow-in-Furness Cumbria LA14 2NN
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2005540	Ms Ena Lund	01539 821496
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2006012	Dr Alexander Bell	01314 671103
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2005500	Mr Denis & Mrs Lana Chanarin	01387 760621
Saint Bride, Loch Arthur Community Beeswing Dumfries DG2 8JQ		
2005493	Ms Sue Evans	07952 805311
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2005526	Mr Rodney Bessolo	001 415 435 5043
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 Mass MA 02138 2005502 Ms Gayle Hall 001 812 332 3592
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 68 Park Street South Yarra Victoria 3141
 2005543 Mr Kevin Casey 0061 2 9868 2142
 11 Hanover Avenue North Epping NSW 2121
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 2005527 Ms Leonie Scott & Ms Eleanor Sullivan
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 Philippines

Confraternity Publications

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telephone (020) 7928 9988 fax (020) 7928 2844
or through our secure online bookshop at www.csj.org.uk/bookshop

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 |
| 5 | <i>Camino Portugués</i>
<i>new edition in preparation</i> | Rod Pascoe, The White House, Pensilva, LISKEARD, Cornwall PL14 5NA
(01579) 362819 |
| 6 | <i>Madrid to Sahagún</i>
£4.00 | Marigold 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

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | <i>Paris to the Pyrenees</i>
£5.00 | Marigold Fox, 19 Maple Way, ROYSTON, Hertfordshire SG8 7DH
(01763) 244525 |
| 2 | <i>Vézelay to the Pyrenees</i>
£4.00 | John Hatfield, 9 Vicary Way, MAIDSTONE, Kent ME16 0EJ (01622) 757814 |
| 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 Fox, 19 Maple Way, ROYSTON, Hertfordshire SG8 7DH
(01763) 244525 |

Pilgrim Guides to the Roads through Europe

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| 2 | <i>Nürnberg to Konstanz</i>
£5.00 | Alison Raju, 21 Hall Street, Sherwood, NOTTINGHAM NG5 4BB
alisonraju@btopenworld.com |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------|
| 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

Registered Charity number 1091140

Company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales, number 4096721

Information and Publications available from Registered Office:

27 Blackfriars Road, LONDON SE1 8NY

usual opening hours Thursday 11am to 3pm (other times by appointment)

telephone (020) 7928 9988 fax (020) 7928 2844 email office@csj.org.uk website www.csj.org.uk

Honorary President H E The Spanish Ambassador

Secretary Marion Marples

Please contact her via the office (above) except in an emergency.
45 Dolben Street, LONDON SE1 0UQ (020) 7633 0603

Pilgrim Records Secretary *Please apply with SAE (quoting membership number) to:*
Eric Walker, 4 Gawthorpe Avenue, BINGLEY, W Yorks BD16 4DG

Committee 2005 Charity Trustees and Company Directors

Chairman Dr William Griffiths, 8 Glenville Road, KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES,
Surrey KT2 6DD (020) 8549 2080 w.griffiths@ukonline.co.uk

Vice-Chairman Alison Raju, 21 Hall Street, Sherwood, NOTTINGHAM NG5 4BB
alisonraju@btopenworld.com

Other Members Jane Bradshaw, Gosia Brykczynska, Paul Graham,
Colin Jones, Mary Moseley, Ricky Yates

Rabanal Committee

Chairman Paul Graham, Somer House, The Street, CHILCOMPTON, Somerset
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Wardens' Coordinator, Tricia Shaw, 159 Browns Lane, STANTON ON THE WOLDS
Refugio Gaucelmo Nottinghamshire NG12 5BN stuartandtricia@btinternet.com

Other Members Laurie Dennett, Alan Howard, Marion Marples, Alison Raju, Cristina
Spink

Research Working Party

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Coordinator of Ann Clark, 49 Gledhow Wood Avenue, LEEDS, West Yorkshire
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Other Officers

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alison.thorp@virgin.net

Treasurer Tony Ward, Syracuse, ST NEOT, Cornwall PL14 6NJ
and Company Secretary Work (01579) 343215 mail@tonyward.biz

Membership Secretary *Membership applications should be sent to the office*
and Database Manager

Librarian Howard Nelson, 71 Oglander Road, LONDON SE15 4DD
and Website Manager howard@csj.org.uk

Gift Aid Secretary Rosemary Wells, 154 Rivermead Court, Ranelagh Gardens
LONDON SW6 3SF

Slide Librarian John Hatfield, 9 Vicary Way, MAIDSTONE, Kent ME16 0EJ
(01622) 757814

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



The Confraternity of Saint James
(A company limited by guarantee)

Report and Financial Statements

Year ended: 30 September 2005

Company no. 4096721
Charity no.1091140

www.csj.org.uk

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Legal and Administrative Information

Status

The Confraternity of Saint James (CSJ) is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 25 October 2000, registered in England & Wales (Company no.4096721), and registered as a charity (no.1091140) on 15 March 2002. The governing documents are the Memorandum and Articles of Association, both as amended on 26 January 2002, 31 January 2004 and 29 January 2005. The company grew out of an unincorporated association founded on 13 January 1983 and registered as a charity (No. 294461) on 19 August 1986. The liability of the members (1,888 in total) is limited to £1 each in the event that the Confraternity is dissolved.

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Honorary President

HE The Spanish Ambassador

Directors and Trustees

Mrs J Bradshaw

Dr M M Brykczynska

Mr P Graham

Dr J G Greene

Resigned 25th July 2005

Dr W E O A A G Griffiths

Chairman

Revd C S Jones

Mrs M C T Moseley

Mr H G H Nelson

Resigned 29th January 2005

Mrs A B Raju

Vice-Chairman

Mr G Taylor

Appointed 6th September 2005

Revd W J Yates

Company Secretary

Mr P Graham

to 5th February 2005

Mr A Ward

after 5th February 2005

Secretary

Ms M Marples

Treasurer

Mr A Ward

Rabanal Committee (appointed annually by the directors)

Paul Graham, Chairman

Marion Marples

Stuart & Tricia Shaw, Wardens' Coordinator

Alison Raju

Laurie Dennett

Cristina Spinks

Alan Howard

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CAF Bank

25, Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, WEST MALLING. Kent ME19

4JQ

Lloyds TSB

364/366 Lordship Lane LONDON. SE22 8NA

Reporting Accountant

Mr I S McLaughlin FCA

21 West Farm Avenue, ASHTEAD Surrey KT21 2LG

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 30 September 2005

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year.

Structure and Objects of the charity

The object of the CSJ is to advance the education of the public in, and to promote the pilgrimage to, Saint James of Compostela in the north-western Spanish region of Galicia and the related history, art, architecture and music. Activities include promoting research, presenting educational programmes, identifying and preserving monuments, providing information on routes, establishing paths, maintaining hostels, and working in close co-operation with other bodies in furthering similar aims and objectives.

Under the Articles of the company, the members of the Committee are elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve for a period of two years, half of their number being subject to re-election each year. All Committee members serve as directors of the company. The directors of the company are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees. The Chairman and other honorary officers are appointed by the Committee at its first meeting after the Annual General Meeting.

Financial Review & Future Developments

Having celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2003, the CSJ has prospered in the last financial year, with new levels of subscriptions, increased sales of educational literature and the maintenance of existing number of its members. It continues to support the Refugio Gaucelmo, a refuge for pilgrims in Northern Spain, and to provide a personal information service to, and answer queries from, the public whether in person, by telephone, email, through the website or by arranging speakers and visits. Interest in our website has continued with over 47,500 visits in the year to 30 September 2005, up slightly from 45,000 in the previous year. In addition, the adoption of a new refugio at Miraz (see separate report) has enhanced the promotion of the objectives of the Confraternity.

During the financial period, the trustees continue to reinforce the principles of good practice recommended within the charity sector, having carried out a Risk Assessment Review, established a Financial Policy, a Reserves Policy. A review of the administrative and internal control systems is ongoing. A Risk Assessment Review was carried out at the Trustees' training day held in February 2005. The salary paid to the Secretary was reviewed during the year to more closely reflect the current salary market, although she continues to work many more hours on a voluntary basis. An extra day was added to the working week of the Systems Manager which is allocated to time to be spent in the development of the new refugio and associated matters.

The trustees continue to build on the strong foundations of the CSJ. The change in our main bankers in January 2004 from Lloyds TSB to CAF Bank (where interest is paid on current account and bank charges are minimal) has contributed to the year's surplus as also has the interest paid on the funds received from membership subscriptions paid in advance. The recent increase in membership rates has not deterred renewals. However, it should be recognised that there will always be a number of members not renewing their subscription as they complete their pilgrimage or lose interest in the aim and objectives of the Confraternity.

The membership software system (known as Maximiser) introduced in June 2003 continues to be a great success, especially with membership renewals procedures. The system enables the membership work to be shared between several members thereby reducing the general risk exposure. It also helps to identify members in a particular geographic area or with a particular expertise. A full analysis of membership is shown on page 18 of these accounts.

Both members and trustees recognise that the primary purpose and duty of the charity is to provide benefit for its beneficiaries and to care for the public at large. In order to maximize this benefit, the members of the CSJ provide a valuable source of expertise and ideas as well as income. The survey sent to members in October 2003 gained much information and many suggestions on how to retain members, to improve the CSJ's services and to identify the type of major projects that the members would be likely to support in order to continue achieving the charity's objectives. The very first results were available at the AGM in January 2004. New initiatives over the last months have been moves towards the holding of regional meetings and reunions of returned pilgrims. The survey still continues to provide the trustees with the names of members who can assist with the work of the CSJ.

Risk Management

Early in 2003, the trustees conducted a thorough analysis of the CSJ's activities, in the light of the Charity Commission's "Practical Risk Management Guidance", in order to identify areas where action might still be needed to safeguard the charity's assets and to ensure its continuity.

The trustees consider the most significant risks to this charity continue to be the loss of key personnel and those risks related to, or arising from, loss of or damage to property. Lesser risks were financial irregularity and incompetence of trustees. Risk Assessment Tables were drawn up and each individual and function perceived to be at risk was prioritised according to the Charity Commission's guidelines. The trustees approved an action plan early in 2003, as a result of which the tables have been reviewed and the appropriate steps taken to minimise the risks. These steps have included cover / deputies for key personnel, increased insurance cover, improved documentation of systems and back-ups of data. A further review of the tables took place at the trustees' training day held in February 2005.

The whole of this activity is being treated as part of an overall Financial Policy which is conceived as the core element in the development of a business continuity plan.

Reserves Policy

The trustees review the level of reserves annually, based on financial results for the current year, the forecast for the following year and the results of the annual review of risks. In particular, they wish to ensure that the charity can continue to fulfil its current objects and activities in the event of a significant fall in membership. The charity maintains a level of unrestricted funds which consists of a) a period of 6 months of operating costs (12 months for Rabanal and Miraz due to their seasonal nature) and b) sufficient funds to cover known risks, contingencies and capital expenditure. Further reviews may occur during the year as and when urgent requests for funding are identified or when it is considered necessary to revisit the current investment of any surplus funds.

General – Unrestricted funds

The free unrestricted reserves at the year-end were £41,000, after deducting £1,000 for known contingencies and a designated fund of £10,000 (Miraz). The trustees consider the most appropriate level of free reserves at 30 September 2005 would be £38,000 to cover 6 months of operating costs.

Rabanal – Restricted Income Fund

The level of reserves required to cover 12 months operating costs is £2,500 which leaves a surplus of £4,300 at 30 September 2005. This is retained for use on future repairs and improvements to the property and to the facilities for pilgrims.

Investment Powers

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the charity has the power to make any investment which the trustees see fit. The tangible investments currently held are interest-bearing deposits with the Charities Official Investment Fund and one interest-bearing account with CAF Bank.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year. In doing so the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. Mid-year accounts are prepared on the same basis as the annual accounts and are available to any member who wishes to inspect them. These are not subject to the same external scrutiny as the annual accounts and therefore readers ought not place the same reliance on them.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by

Dr W E Griffiths
Chairman

Report of Reporting Accountant

As described above, the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, and they consider that the company is exempt from an audit. It is my responsibility to carry out procedures designed to enable me to report my opinion.

Basis of Opinion

My work was conducted in accordance with the Statement of Standards for Reporting Accountants, and so my procedures consisted of comparing the accounts with the accounting records kept by the company, and making such limited enquiries as I considered necessary for the purposes of this report. These procedures provide only the assurance expressed in my opinion.

Opinion

- (a) The accounts are in agreement with the accounting records kept by the company under section 221 of the Companies Act 1985;
- (b) having regard only to, and on the basis of, the information contained in those accounting records
 - (i) the accounts have been drawn up in a manner consistent with the accounting requirements specified in section 249C (6) of the Act; and
 - (ii) the company satisfied the conditions for exemption from an audit of the accounts for the year specified in section 249A(4) of the Act, as modified by section 249A(5), and did not, at any time within that year, fall within any of the categories of companies not entitled to the exemption specified in section 249B(1)

I S McLaughlin FCA
Reporting Accountant

21 West Farm Avenue
Ashted, Surrey, KT21 2LG

Statement of Financial Activities for Year to 30 September 2005

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted Funds (note 2)				Total	2004
		General Fund	Rabanal	Miraz	Bursary	Other		
INCOMING RESOURCES		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations, Legacies etc								
Donations	3	3,933	1,255	7,133	-	50	12,371	8,753
Subscriptions	4	55,404	-	-	-	-	55,404	45,148
		59,337	1,255	7,133	-	50	67,775	53,901
Operating Activities								
Books and Publications - Sales	5	31,448	-	-	-	-	31,448	26,677
Other Items - Sales	6	1,565	-	-	-	-	1,565	2,367
Visit Income	7	9,312	-	-	-	-	9,312	-
		42,325	-	-	-	-	42,325	29,044
Investment Income	8	2,849	281	-	440	185	3,755	2,050
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		104,511	1,536	7,133	440	235	113,855	84,995
RESOURCES EXPENDED								
Grants	9	-	-	-	1,350	-	1,350	742
Charitable Activities								
Refugio Gaucelmo	10	-	2,567	-	-	-	2,567	2,076
Miraz	11	-	-	10,499	-	-	10,499	
Bulletin	12	10,405	-	-	-	-	10,405	11,495
Library	13	2,244	-	-	-	-	2,244	2,580
Speaker Meetings	14	(216)	-	-	-	-	(216)	428
Books and Publications - Costs		17,642	-	-	-	-	17,642	18,866
Other Items - Costs		851	-	-	-	-	851	2,098
Donations	23	920	-	-	-	-	920	-
Visit Expenditure	7	8,595	-	-	-	-	8,595	-
		40,441	2,567	10,499	-	-	53,507	37,543
Support Costs	15	29,165	-	-	-	-	29,165	20,639
Administration	16	24,615	-	-	-	-	24,615	25,654
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		94,221	2,567	10,499	1,350	-	108,637	84,578
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	24	10,290	(1,031)	(3,366)	(910)	235	5,218	417
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		43,904	7,795	-	9,038	3,866	64,603	64,186
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		54,194	6,764	(3,366)	8,128	4,101	69,821	64,603

Balance Sheet as at 30 September 2005

		Unrestricted	Restricted Funds				Total	2004
	Notes	General Fund	Rabanal	Miraz	Bursary	Other		
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS	17							
Computer		nll	-	-	-	-	nll	1431
Works of Art		3900	890	-	-	-	4790	4790
		3,900	890	-	-	-	4,790	6,221
CURRENT ASSETS								
Stocks and Work-in-progress								
Books and Publications for Sale	22	5258	-	-	-	-	5258	5051
Other Items for Sale	22	1050	-	-	-	-	1050	538
Postage Paid Envelopes		1330	-	-	-	-	1330	1950
		7,638	-	-	-	-	7,638	7,539
Debtors	18	13,576	-	-	-	-	13,576	6,085
Cash at Bank and In Hand		61,383	5,874	380	8,128	4,101	79,866	74,877
		82,597	5,874	380	8,128	4,101	101,080	88,501
CURRENT LIABILITIES								
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	19/20	(36,049)	-	-	-	-	(36,049)	(30,119)
Miraz Adjustment	2	3,746	-	(3,746)	-	-	-	-
NET CURRENT ASSETS		50,294	5,874	(3,366)	8,128	4,101	65,031	58,382
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		54,194	6,764	(3,366)	8,128	4,101	69,821	64,603

Audit Exemption

- For the year ended 30 September 2005 the company was entitled to exemption under section 249A(2) of the Companies Act 1985 ("the Act").
- Members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 249B(2) of the Act.
- The directors acknowledge their responsibility for:
 - ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 221 of the Act; and
 - preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year, and of its profit or loss for the financial year, in accordance with the requirements of section 226 of the Act, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company;
- The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions in Part VII of the Act relating to small companies.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by

Dr W E Griffiths Chairman

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2005

1. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Statement Of Recommended Practice on Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP) issued in October 2000, applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 1985. The length of the current and previous accounting periods was one full calendar year.

(b) Donations and similar incoming resources

Except as specified in Notes 3 and 19, these are included in the year in which they are receivable, (which is when the charity becomes entitled to the resource), and any conditions for receipt are met; the trustees are reasonably certain that they will receive it; and the trustees are reasonably certain that the value can be reliably measured. Incoming resources from tax claims are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) at the same time as the gift to which they relate. Subscriptions paid in advance under the new discounted membership scheme are recognised in the membership year to which they relate.

(c) Investment income

Income from investments is included in the SOFA in the year in which it is receivable.

(d) Resources Expended

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis and, except as specified in Note 17, is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for it. All costs have been directly attributed to one of the functional categories of resources expended in the SOFA. The charity is not registered for VAT and accordingly expenditure is shown gross of irrecoverable VAT.

(e) Tangible Fixed Assets & Depreciation

Fixed assets currently include Works of Art both historic and contemporary. Depreciation is not charged on these as their residual value is considered to be higher than their carrying value. The Library is held in the unincorporated association for the time being for the benefit of the public and does not form part of the assets of the company. All expenditure on the new refugio at Miraz is written off as spent including any improvements on the building, on the basis that any expenditure is of a purely charitable nature and of no future major financial value to the Confraternity. All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised. Depreciation of computers and other office equipment is charged over two years.

2. Restricted Funds

	At 1 Oct 2004	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	At 30 Sep 2005
	£	£	£	£
Rabanal	7,795	1,536	2,567	6,764
Bursary	9,038	440	1,350	8,128
Ted Dickinson Fund	2,292	185		2,477
Galicia Disaster Appeal	25		-	25
Pat Quaipe Fund	50			50
St Christopher Fund	1,499	50	-	1,549
	20,699	2,211	3,917	18,993

The Rabanal Fund is a restricted income fund; the remaining funds are expendable endowments. All funds have accumulated through donations, interest and allocations by the trustees, and have therefore already been recognised as income rather than capital receipts.

Rabanal Fund – for capital projects and upkeep of the fabric at Refugio Gaucelmo.

Miraz – expense exceeded income for the year. The deficit is carried forward as this will be recouped from donations received in the following year.

Bursary Fund - for educational scholarships for young people. It was established by the committee in 1995-1996 and allocated an endowment of £10,000. The Bursary Fund has been utilised recently and now stands around the £8,000 mark and awards are generally paid out each year.

Ted Dickinson Fund - raised by special subscription in memory of a member who died in 1994. It is for helping pilgrims in financial hardship and associated purposes.

Pat Quaipe Fund – discretionary awards for members, primarily out of general funds towards study grants.

St. Christopher Fund – founded in 2002 to enable frail or elderly pilgrims to take a companion with them to Santiago. Contributions to this fund are sometimes made in memory of deceased members or from ad-hoc donations.

3. Donations

General donations and donations to Rabanal have fallen back from the previous year, but, have been balanced by donations for the new refugio at Miraz. These are funded partly from legacies but mostly from the many generous voluntary contributions made by members in addition to their subscriptions.

4. Subscriptions & Gift Aid

Subscription income has increased due to the new annual membership fees and this is mirrored by the total of Gift Aid reclaimed. Tax reclaimed amounted to £9,791 (2004 £8,466).

Current subscription rates are: -

1 year				
Individual Members	UK and Europe	£20.00	Overseas	£25.00
Joint or Institutional Members	UK and Europe	£25.00	Overseas	£30.00
3 years				
Individual Members	UK and Europe	£54.00	Overseas	£67.50
Joint or Institutional Members	UK and Europe	£67.50	Overseas	£81.00

5. Books and Publications

Turnover rose by 18% to £31,448, owing to the continuing popularity of our secure, on-line bookshop. Income from postage has been split between books and publications on a pro-rata basis. This gave rise to a trading surplus of £2,264 for books and £11,542 for publications, £13,806 in total. This compares with an overall trading surplus of £7,811 in 2004.

6. Other Items

Sales of other items (principally badges and sweatshirts) produced a surplus of £714 compared to £269 in the previous year.

7. Visits

The major visit to Oviedo and Santiago organised by the CSJ took place in October 2004 and the income and expenditure is shown on these accounts. Other visits have been classified as speakers meetings and details of these are shown in the secretary's report.

8. Investment Income

Investments which generate income consist of interest-bearing deposits with the Charities Official Investment Fund and one interest-bearing account with CAF Bank as a replacement for the Lloyds TSB account which was closed during the accounts year.

9. Grants

Bursary application forms are issued to universities and colleges of further education at the start of the academic year. Students between 18 and 25 are asked to submit proposals for the research they wish to undertake and to indicate how it would be facilitated by financial assistance from the Confraternity. Short-listed applicants are invited to interview before a panel consisting of Mark Hassall, Lecturer in Archaeology at UCL, and James Maple, Hon. Vice-President of the CSJ, and awards may be made for one outstanding project, or shared between several, up to a maximum of £1,000 per applicant. They are generally paid in two tranches, part in advance of the research and the balance when the resulting dissertation has been commended after being academically reviewed. The best of these are published in the Bulletin. Bursaries of £600 were awarded to Rowan Guthrie studying *Communitas and conflict on the Camino de Santiago*, £250 to Seth Woodmansterne writing on *the Wall paintings at San Isidoro in León* and £500 to Will Anderson submitting a paper on *Medieval pilgrim signs from Santiago*.

10. Refugio Gaucelmo, Rabanal del Camino

Expenditure of £2,567 for this year includes	£
- Wardens Workshop and first-aid courses	1,097
- Postcards and Printing	458
- Travel & subsistence	838
- Other eg insurance, printing, translations, etc	174

NB. Pilgrim donations for the period March to November 2005 amounted to €27,164 (average € 3.83 per pilgrim) and related expenditure on food, hospitality, cleaning etc was €15,300. Any surplus is put towards overheads such as electricity, bank charges, repairs etc. These are for the benefit of the refugio and do not form part of the Confraternity funds or its accounts.

11. Refugio Miraz de Peregrinos de Miraz

Apart from donations, income for the year included £2,229 of donations from pilgrims (treated as Confraternity income due to our sole tenancy agreement for the property) and £171 tax recovered under Gift Aid.

Expenditure of £10,499 for this year includes	£
- Meetings – room hire etc	816
- Fund Raising Costs	1,526
- Travel etc	907
- Bunks	2,790
- Renovations	3,453
- Other Costs e.g. food, stationery, printing, translations, insurance etc	1,007

12. Bulletin

The Bulletin is published quarterly and the costs include printing and distribution.

13. Library

This item represents a grant to the unincorporated association, registered charity number 294461, for managing the Library.

14. Speaker Meetings

Speaker Meetings are those held to further the charitable objects of the Confraternity.

15. Support

The costs directly attributable to charitable activities are

	£
Personnel	27,340
Office Direct Costs	481
Finance Direct Costs	<u>1,344</u>
Total	<u>£29,165</u>

16. Administration

	£
Personnel	8,689
Accommodation	6,669
Office Running Costs	6,919
Finance charges	514
Member Meetings & Sundry	<u>1,824</u>
Total	<u>£ 24,615</u>

Personnel costs include £776 paid to 6 trustees for travel expenses.

17. Fixed Assets

	Works of Art £	Office Equipment £	Total £
Costs			
At 1 Oct 2004	4,790	7400	11,116
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,074</u>
At 30 Sep 2005	<u>4,790</u>	<u>7,400</u>	<u>12,190</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 Oct 2004	-	5,969	5,969
Charge for year	<u>-</u>	<u>1,431</u>	<u>1,431</u>
At 30 Sep 2004	<u>-</u>	<u>7,400</u>	<u>7,400</u>
Net Book Value			
At 1 Oct 2004	<u>4,790</u>	<u>1,918</u>	<u>6,708</u>
At 30 Sep 2005	<u>4,790</u>	<u>nil</u>	<u>4,790</u>

Works of Art comprise a mediaeval oak carving of Saint James (valued at £3,400) and an embroidered banner (valued at £500), both in the assets of the General Fund, and an icon of Saint James (valued at its cost of £890, covered by donations in memory of Stephen Badger) in the Rabanal Fund. There were no only additions to equipment this year.

18. Debtors

	2005 £	2004 £
Prepayments	1,907	4,641
Accrued Income	<u>11,669</u>	<u>1,444</u>
	<u>13,576</u>	<u>6,085</u>

19. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2005	2004
	£	£
Trade Creditors	4,698	4,456
Deposits and payments held for CSJ Visits after accounting date	1,480	10,580
Deferred Income - Subscriptions in advance	27,771	14,264
Accruals	1,200	565
Sundry Creditors	900	254
	<u>36,049</u>	<u>30,119</u>

20. Deferred Income

Subscriptions paid in advance total £27,771 of which £15,465 relates to the year 2005/2006, £11,585 to the year 2006/2007 and £721 for later years. These have been shown as falling due within 1 year as the actual subscription has been received.

21. Related Parties

During the year, Ward Randall Ltd, a Chartered Accountancy Firm in which the treasurer Tony Ward has a material interest has carried out the bookkeeping function of the CSJ. He is not a trustee of the organisation or a director of the company. The amount provided for this service within the accounts is £1,481.

22. Stocks

Stocks have been valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value. Dated stock has been assumed to be of negligible value.

23. Donations

A donation of £250 was made towards the restoration of a medieval stained glass window at St. James Church, St. Kew, Cornwall. Assistance of £ 670 after deducting members' entrance fees was made towards the first British showing of "Within The Way Without" a film about the Camino de Santiago by Larry Boulting.

24. Net Movement in Funds

The levels of primary purpose trading income, subscriptions and donations mean that there is a sufficient surplus in this financial year to provide further funding for new projects, which may arise out of the strategic review of future possible activities.

Supplementary Report for Members & Supporters

The main report gives information required by the Charity Commission and by the Companies Acts. This supplementary report is intended for all those supporters, past, present and future, who are interested in more detailed information of the CSJ's activities.

Refugio Gaucelmo

Refugio Gaucelmo is situated in the village of Rabanal, lying between Astorga and Ponferrada in the Montes de León. It is a refuge for pilgrims travelling to Santiago de Compostela and is owned by the Diocese of Astorga.

Following the CSJ's offer of help, made via the Federation of Spanish Associations, the Diocese entered into a contract in 1989 with the Asociación de Amigos del Camino de Santiago del Bierzo ("El Bierzo") whereby, for a peppercorn rent, El Bierzo would develop what was at that time a tumble-down house and orchard, making it available for the overnight accommodation of pilgrims. Thanks to the Federation, El Bierzo had by then formed an alliance with the CSJ for the necessary fund-raising for the rebuilding of the house and its subsequent administration.

The cost of administering the refuge on a day-to-day basis during the pilgrim season (usually April to October) and maintaining the fabric of the building is largely met from the voluntary donations of pilgrims staying there overnight. El Bierzo is responsible for organising the insurance of the property, paying for the utilities of the refuge and for compliance with all statutory and local regulations.

During the pilgrim season, postcards and Pilgrim Guides are sold at the refuge. These are donated by the Confraternity and do not form part of the pilgrim donations. Spanish Pilgrim Passports are also available.

Since its opening in 1991, Refugio Gaucelmo has been run by the CSJ with the object of providing simple overnight accommodation for pilgrims on their way to Santiago de Compostela. So far (by October 2005) 90,000 pilgrims have stayed there.

Each year, a relay of wardens welcome and care for pilgrims staying there overnight. There are about forty-five beds and floor space is utilised when necessary. Wardens work in pairs (sometimes threes or fours) and usually stay for a period of two weeks. Apart from providing a bed for the night, the wardens also provide a simple free breakfast and are responsible for maintaining the property in a clean and tidy condition.

Each Spring, before opening the refuge for the season, a group of about eight volunteers forms a working party for a period of a week, during which they re-paint and thoroughly clean the place and replace any equipment as necessary. More extensive building or maintenance work is usually done in the autumn or early spring.

The CSJ's objects include the maintenance of buildings on the Camino de Santiago and the provision of pilgrim accommodation. The Rabanal Committee fulfils both these functions, attempting always to enhance the service that it provides to pilgrims. Even in the busy periods, the wardens continue to strive to provide a particularly 'homely' atmosphere with freshly-picked flowers on the table, homemade jam for breakfast and cups of tea on a pilgrim's arrival. We are often told that it is appreciated. In the less-busy months of April, May and October there is a greater opportunity for the wardens to assist with other chores such as cutting wood. In 2005, we opened the refuge on 25th March and it will close in mid- November.

Paul Graham

Secretary's Review of 2004-2005

The Trustees have continued to implement the findings of the 2003 Members' Questionnaire. Chief of these was the desire to open a new refuge. The Confraternity is immensely grateful to Maureen and Keith Young who have worked extremely hard with an impressive team of members to bring about the reality of a second refuge at Miraz, near Lugo on the Camino de la Costa in Galicia – see separate Report. Another request was for more support for returned pilgrims and to this end a successful and popular Retreat for returned pilgrims was organised at Ampleforth Abbey, led by one of our members, Fr. Ben Griffiths. We plan to alternate the weekend Retreat with the Service as held in 2004.

In the Spring, five Practical Pilgrim days were held in various parts of the country, and Saturday Office Open Days enabled more people to visit the office to plan their pilgrimages. An innovation was a successful 'An afternoon with St James' held at St James's RC Church, Peckham, when more than 150 people from all over the world had the opportunity to learn more about the biblical St James, the medieval and modern pilgrimage and pilgrim music before a feast of tortilla and Tarta de Santiago.

Autumn activities have included fundraising walks for the Miraz Appeal and it is expected that there will be more local fundraising events organised in the next year as more members become involved with the Appeal.

The website continues to be the first point of contact for many enquirers. The site has been given a new look and the content reviewed. Howard Nelson continues as webmaster as well as Librarian. He has been working towards a searchable online Library catalogue as well as developing a specification for a Digital Image library, for which an organiser is still needed.

The Bulletin, edited by Gosia Brykczynska, continues to be widely read and enjoyed by members, with many submitting contributions.

The Bursary was divided between three winners: Rowan Guthrie, studying *Communitas and conflict on the Camino de Santiago*, Seth Woodmansterne writing on the *Wall paintings at San Isidoro in León* and Will Anderson submitting a paper on *Medieval pilgrim signs from Santiago*.

The Confraternity continues to give support and advice to Associations abroad, especially to a new group in the US and an embryonic group in Australia. Laurie Dennett spoke at the 9th annual N American Gathering in Toronto in May and at the 7th International Congress of the Spanish Federation in October. The latter was also attended by 7 CSJ members who were able to make links with Associations in Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Mexico and Brazil. We support the Association Voie de Vézelay by recruiting *hospitaliers* for the refuges in Sorges and Corbigny.

The Membership Secretary role continues to be split between three people. Eric Walker has issued 781 Pilgrim Records this year. Among the Trustees, Howard Nelson stood down at the last AGM; Gerry Greene resigned for personal reasons; Graeme Taylor was welcomed as Scottish representative; Patricia Watson has been Committee Minutes Secretary. We note with regret the deaths of several members including Maurice Fox, Richard Fletcher, Mary Kelly, Shirley Snell and Robin Gard.

Marion Marples

Refugio de Peregrinos de Miraz

Late in 2004 a New Refuge Development Group was created to find and establish a new pilgrim refuge on one of the less-used camino routes to Santiago. A list was drawn up of essential criteria. These included, among others, being within the scope of the Confraternity's terms of reference, located on the Camino del Norte, filling a gap in available accommodation, acceptable to the local community, flexible with scope for expansion, and with independence and security of tenure.

A property fitting these requirements was found in the *casa rectoral* in the village of Miraz on the Camino del Norte, in the province of Lugo, Galicia. Miraz is between Baamonde and Sobrado de los Monjes which are 42 kilometres apart and fills a large gap in pilgrim accommodation. It is hoped the *refugio* will encourage the growth and popularity of this branch of this camino. It is a pleasant, well-kept village in a pretty and prosperous area dominated by the River Parga.

An agreement was signed with the Bishop of Lugo giving the Confraternity the use of the building for ten years on the proviso that we renovate it; the tenure is renewable thereafter for further periods of ten years and with an option to buy should the diocese wished to sell in the future.

The property needs considerable renovation work to provide suitable accommodation. All the utility services needed replacing and bills charged to the Confraternity, because, being the *casa rectoral*, they had previously been paid for by the village or the priest. New beds, equipment, furniture and fittings were also needed to cope with additional numbers of pilgrims and to comply with health and safety regulations. It is planned to further improve the facilities by converting a bedroom to additional washing and toilet facilities and in later years, if funds and pilgrim numbers support it, we hope to convert the outbuildings for extra accommodation and facilities. An appeal fund was launched in September to raise up to £100,000 to cover all the above work and the running costs for the first 5 years, following which it is anticipated that the refugio should be largely self-financing.

We took over the *refugio* in late May and have welcomed pilgrims from the first day. In line with the ethos of the Confraternity and general practice on the caminos, visitors are encouraged to leave a donation rather than being charged a fixed amount. Thanks to the services of a team of volunteer *hospitaleros*, a total of 894 pilgrims were able to stay between May and early October. The Confraternity is also extremely grateful to all members and friends who have given so much time and effort, as well as finance, to the project so far.

Keith & Maureen Young

Membership Statistics

Membership at 30 September 2005 stood at 1,888 paying members (1,925 at 30 September 2004) plus 140 (142) honorary and honoured (aged over 70 with 10 years' paid-up membership) and 39 exchange subscriptions with kindred organisations. The paying members were split as follows (2004 numbers are shown in brackets): -

	Individual	Joint	Institutional
UK	1,060 (1,094)	432 (426)	17 (22)
Europe	90 (84)	36 (37)	4 (4)
Rest of World	<u>172</u> (173)	<u>76</u> (83)	<u>1</u> (2)
Total	<u>1,322</u> (1,351)	<u>544</u> (546)	<u>22</u> (28)

	Honorary	Honoured	Individual	Joint	Group	Exchange	Total
United Kingdom							
E Anglia	1	3	69	39			112
Home Counties - N		13	99	45		1	158
Home Counties - S	1	15	123	47	3	1	190
London	5	11	147	52	5	3	223
Midlands E		7	43	22			72
Midlands W	1	7	106	43	3		160
N Ireland		1	27	4	1		33
NE		4	72	32	2		110
NW		7	78	24			109
Scotland		1	94	37		1	133
Southern		13	77	43	2		135
SW	2	12	88	31			133
Wales		3	31	11	1		46
Channel Islands		1	6	2			9
	10	98	1,060	432	17	6	1,623

EUROPE

Austria				1			1
Belgium		5	2	1		1	9
Czech Republic			1				1
Denmark			3	1			4
Finland			2	1			3
France	1	2	16	6		4	29
Germany		6	6	3	1	1	17
Gibraltar			2				2
Hungary			1				1
Iceland			2				2
Italy			1	1		2	4
Luxemburg					1		1
Malta				1			1
Netherlands			1	1		2	4
Norway			3			1	4
Poland			2				2
Portugal		1		1			2
Republic of Ireland	1	1	30	8	1	1	42
Spain	4	3	13	8	1	18	47
Sweden			4	3			7
Switzerland		1	1				2
	6	19	90	36	4	30	185

REST OF THE WORLD

Africa	-		5	1		1	7
Asia	-		2				2
Australia	-	1	67	35			103
Canada	-	1	17	7			25
New Zealand	-		7	7			14
S America	-		1				1
U S A	-	5	73	26	1	2	107
	0	7	172	76	1	3	259
	16	124	1,322	544	22	39	2,067

Analysis of Support & Administration costs

Administration costs are those covering an irreducible minimum of administrative costs that cannot be assigned to any directly charitable purpose, e.g. the costs of the Annual General Meeting, processing subscriptions, balancing the books, and just keeping the organisation ticking over

Support costs are directly attributable to supporting the charitable activities of the Confraternity e.g. providing information about the Camino de Santiago, supporting pilgrims, lobbying for protection of the routes, selling relevant books and publications and fostering European networking

Salaries & NI – The company employs a Secretary, a Finance & Systems Manager and an office administrator, all on a part-time basis. The increase in salaries from £24,232 to £33,932 is due to the review of the salary of the Secretary, an increase in the hours of the Systems Manager and also the first full year of the new Office Administrator.

Travel & Subsistence – trustees are generally required to attend 6 meetings per annum. More trustees now live out of London resulting in travel and subsistence costs for all committee members of £2,097.

Member Meetings – This represents the net cost of various members' meetings including the AGM. Income this year was £892 and expenditure £2,079 compared to £1,109 & £2,174 respectively for 2004.

Support and Administration Costs

			2005	2004
	Support	Admin	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Personnel Costs				
Salaries & NI	27,133	6,799	33,932	24,232
Travel & Subsistence	207	1,890	2,097	2,431
	<u>27,340</u>	<u>8,689</u>	<u>36,029</u>	<u>26,663</u>
Accommodation				
Rent	-	6,461	6,461	6,295
Insurance	-	630	630	445
Depreciation	-	1,431	1,431	1,561
Office Maintenance	-	79	79	78
Office Equipment < £500	-	222	222	581
Less Library Recharge	-	-2,154	-2,154	-2,098
	<u>-</u>	<u>6,669</u>	<u>6,669</u>	<u>6,862</u>
Office				
Telephone	-	907	907	1,510
Post	6	60	66	1,128
Printing & Stationery	475	1,876	2,351	3,752
Computer Support & Consumables	-	2,595	2,595	2,341
Book-keeping	-	1,481	1,481	247
	<u>481</u>	<u>6,919</u>	<u>7,400</u>	<u>8,978</u>
Other				
Legal & Professional	-	84	84	50
Bank Charges	-	65	65	647
Credit Card Charges	1,344	449	1,793	1,882
Member Meetings	-	1,187	1,187	1065
Sundry	-	553	553	146
	<u>1,344</u>	<u>2,338</u>	<u>3,682</u>	<u>3,790</u>
TOTALS	<u>29,165</u>	<u>24,615</u>	<u>53,780</u>	<u>46,293</u>

The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country. It is a very interesting and informative study of the country's development. The second part of the report deals with the specific details of the country's development. It is a very detailed and thorough study of the country's development. The third part of the report deals with the specific details of the country's development. It is a very detailed and thorough study of the country's development.

General Situation			Particulars
Year	Value	Unit	
1950	100	100	100
1951	105	105	105
1952	110	110	110
1953	115	115	115
1954	120	120	120
1955	125	125	125
1956	130	130	130
1957	135	135	135
1958	140	140	140
1959	145	145	145
1960	150	150	150
1961	155	155	155
1962	160	160	160
1963	165	165	165
1964	170	170	170
1965	175	175	175
1966	180	180	180
1967	185	185	185
1968	190	190	190
1969	195	195	195
1970	200	200	200
1971	205	205	205
1972	210	210	210
1973	215	215	215
1974	220	220	220
1975	225	225	225
1976	230	230	230
1977	235	235	235
1978	240	240	240
1979	245	245	245
1980	250	250	250
1981	255	255	255
1982	260	260	260
1983	265	265	265
1984	270	270	270
1985	275	275	275
1986	280	280	280
1987	285	285	285
1988	290	290	290
1989	295	295	295
1990	300	300	300
1991	305	305	305
1992	310	310	310
1993	315	315	315
1994	320	320	320
1995	325	325	325
1996	330	330	330
1997	335	335	335
1998	340	340	340
1999	345	345	345
2000	350	350	350
2001	355	355	355
2002	360	360	360
2003	365	365	365
2004	370	370	370
2005	375	375	375
2006	380	380	380
2007	385	385	385
2008	390	390	390
2009	395	395	395
2010	400	400	400
2011	405	405	405
2012	410	410	410
2013	415	415	415
2014	420	420	420
2015	425	425	425
2016	430	430	430
2017	435	435	435
2018	440	440	440
2019	445	445	445
2020	450	450	450

Confraternity of Saint James



Annual General Meeting

Please bring this booklet and the Accounts with you

Notice of the 6th Annual General Meeting of the
Confraternity of Saint James (the Company) to be held on

Saturday 28 January 2006

at the St Alban's Centre, Baldwin's Gardens, London EC1 at 2.30pm

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of the 5th Annual General Meeting (29/1/05)
4. Chairman's Report for 2005
5. Annual Report & Accounts 2004-2005
6. Report on Refugio Gaucelmo, Rabanal del Camino
7. Report on Refugio de Peregrinos de Miraz
8. Report on the Slide Library
9. Programme for 2006
10. Election of Trustees: Half the directors ie 4 should stand down, the longest serving first. One officer should remain. So William Griffiths remains, as do Jane Bradshaw, Colin Jones and Ricky Yates. Graeme Taylor was coopted in the year and stands for election. Gosia Brykcynska, Mary Moseley and Alison Raju stand for reelection.
11. Any Other Business

Programme for the Day

11.00	Doors open	Coffee available
12.00	Ten Best Slides or Digital Images	Main Hall Picnic Lunch (drinks available)
2.30	Annual General Meeting	Main Hall
3.45	Tea	Main Hall
4.30	Lecture tba	Main Hall
6.00	Annual New Year Party	Main Hall

The **Annual General Meeting** is the main event of the Confraternity's year. It is friendly and fun and a good way of meeting other pilgrims. Please help us by returning the form to speed Registration and avoid seating problems.

Trustees: Would you like to help by serving on the Committee? For further information about what is entailed please contact any existing committee

member. The Committee would benefit from the skills of one or two new members, especially those interested in developing the Programme, or with an interest in Rabanal or Miraz.

Helping and participating on the day

Hospitality

We are able to offer accommodation in London members' homes to people from far away who otherwise would not be able to come to the AGM. In the past we have asked that those receiving hospitality make a donation to the Rabanal Appeal: this year we ask for donations to the Miraz Appeal. If there are more London members able to offer accommodation, please make sure you indicate on your AGM Form. Thank you.

Badges and Friendship

Everyone attending the AGM is asked to wear their name badge given on arrival. If you have any spare clip badges with your name on please bring them with you for recycling! Those attending for the first time will have a distinctive badge.

New Year Party As usual we ask people to contribute food rather than pay if possible. If you would like to help with the food shopping, preparation or serving please contact Sally Grover on 01869 331306, email sallyg@actuaries.org.uk. If you bring food to the value of £5 you do not have to pay to come to the party. If you contribute food to a lesser value we ask you to pay the balance for the Party. Otherwise the charge for the day and party is £5. Please complete the enclosed form or you can do it online.

Ten Best Slides

Members are invited to show 10 slides relating to their pilgrimage, perhaps on a specialised topic or 'other' route. A maximum of 10 slides is stressed to allow as many as possible to participate. This year we shall also have a digital projector so that 10 digital images can be shown. Members have requested that you provide a Briefing Sheet with names of places/routes referred to. Alison Raju will arrange the Programme: please contact her on 0115 9626728 or email alisonraju@btopenworld.com to ensure a place.

Important Things to Bring with You

- this copy of the Agenda, and the Accounts
- any outstanding Library books you wish to return
- any photos/albums of your pilgrimage you would like to share
- any spare paperback novels which could be taken to Gaucelmo for pilgrims to enjoy
- any jiffy bags for recycling
- your contribution of food
- Money /cheques for
- Publications, including 2006 Camino Francés Guide and especially for the

Raffle with pilgrimage related prizes
Contributions of prizes , value over £5 only please, are gratefully received.

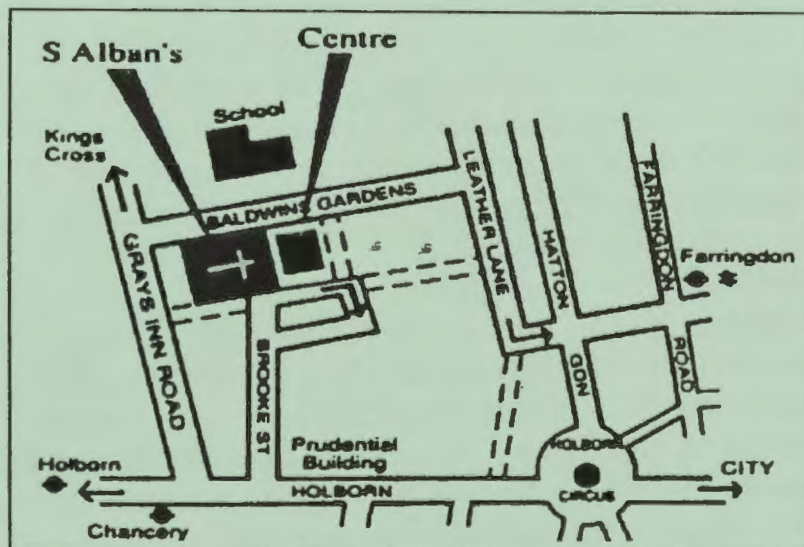
Things to do

Sponsor-a Week now extended

This scheme allows pilgrims to continue supporting our work at the Refugio Gaucelmo or at the Miraz refugio. Keep in touch with events in Rabanal and Miraz by sponsoring-a-week for £50 (or share with a friend), receive a letter from the wardens telling you of pilgrim news and know that you are supporting the pilgrims. See Walter Ivens at the AGM for details of weeks available.

Exhibitions : East & West Seminar Rooms *upstairs*

John Hatfield's display on the Vézelay route, and the development of pilgrim routes stretching back into Eastern Europe. Eric Walker has information on the North Coast Route. Any further displays welcomed.



You are strongly advised to travel to the AGM by public transport as there is little street parking in the area.

Underground
Chancery Lane (Central line) or Farringdon (Circle, Metropolitan). **Buses** serving Holborn Circus or Grays Inn Road.

Minutes of the 5th Annual General Meeting of the Confraternity of Saint James (the Company)

Held on Saturday 29 January 2005

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** The Chairman, William Griffiths welcomed members, in particular Adelaide Trezzini of the Association Via Francigena.
2. **Apologies:** 29 apologies had been received; the illness of Maurice Fox and Anthony Brunning was particularly noted.
3. **Minutes of 4th AGM of the CSJ (Company)**
12. AOB.5. Peter FitzGerald asked for this to be corrected to 'Peter FitzGerald said Rabanal *should* welcome cyclists. Agreed.
4. **Chairman's Report for 2004:** for full text please see Bulletin 89, March 2005. William Griffiths spoke on the themes of Desiring, Giving and Jubilating developed by Archbishop J Barrió Barrió in his Holy Year pastoral letter. The

desire for a new refuge was being carried forward by Keith & Maureen Young and in no way lessened the CSJ's commitment to Rabanal. Opportunities to give are to be found in voluntary work in France or Spain and he particularly thanked all Trustees for their work in the year. Jubilation came through the shared experience of pilgrimage both in England and abroad.

5. Finance: Annual Report & Accounts: Tony Ward presented his first set of Annual Report & Accounts, having taken over from Alison Thorp as Treasurer in May 2005. Ronnie James asked for clarification over credit card charges- Tony Ward agreed to review whether we should increase prices to allow for transaction charges. Alison Thorp said we do substantial business with abroad and credit cards were the easiest way to receive payment. Rosemary Wells and said that she preferred the accounts in the old format and not as required under the accounting rules.

Proposal to adopt Annual Report &Accounts: William Griffiths

Seconded: Howard Hilton. Agreed, with thanks to Tony Ward for the increasingly user-friendly format.

Proposal to Add to Article 6.1 of MAA: Where authorized, the electronic approval by a designated trustee for internet bank payments of sums not in excess of £1000 shall be sufficient. A further amendment was made: delete 'designated' and after £1,000 add (with the exception of expense claims for trustees or committee members): Proposed by Tony Ward, seconded by Tony Morewood-Leyland; agreed, 1 vote against.

6. Report on Refugio Gaucelmo: Paul Graham spoke about the ongoing work of Working Parties and Hospitaleros at Rabanal. Around 80,000 pilgrims had been welcomed since 1991. New items included a brass plate and a coffee machine in memory of Tony La Roche. He regretted that in peak seasons cyclists and others had to be turned away. John Hatfield thanked Paul and the sub committee for the much-enjoyed Reunion for Working party members and Bernard McDonnell thanked the wardens for their interesting reports sent to those supporting 'Sponsor-a-week'.

7. Report on the Bulletin

Editor Gosia Brykczynska thanked members for the steady flow of written contributions and asked for sketches, cartoons or jokes to complement the more serious articles.

8. Report on the Slide Library: John Hatfield said he had supplied slides for 27 Lectures and that 82 new slides had been donated. Eric Walker added that Gaps lists are only sent to those taking routes with less complete sets of slides. The committee has considered a Digital Library and Howard Nelson is working on a specification for cataloguing pictures.

9. Programme for 2005: outlined by Marion Marples

10. Election of Trustees: To clarify the position of Trustees all had stood down, with Gosia Brykczynska, Paul Graham, Gerry Greene, William Griffiths, Mary Moseley, Alison Raju and Ricky Yates all standing for election. All these

were reelected. Jane Bradshaw and Colin Jones were standing for the first time: elected.

11. A New Refuge: Maureen Young reported that about 100 members had expressed interest in the new project and were participating in the discussions, with separate Fundraising, Practical Skills and Hospitaleros sub groups. Information about possible locations was being gathered on the Via de la Plata and Northern routes.

12. Any Other Business:

1. James Maple encouraged members to promote the Bursary among 18-25 year olds-the result does not have to be an academic paper and commended the St Christopher Fund, which has not yet been used. Contributions can be made in memory of deceased members or friends.

2. Howard Nelson spoke on the Digital Library project. He had drafted a specification for an Indexing system and welcomed comments. A lead person is needed to bring the project to fruition.

3. Adelaide Trezzini spoke on the work of the *Via Francigena* Association promoting Sigeric's route to Rome.

4. Piers Nicholson asked for help with indexing all Camino websites for his www.santiago-compostela.net site.

5. Michael Mears asked if members would provide briefing sheets to accompany 'Ten Best Slides' to help members follow up interesting routes/places.

6. David Moorat raised the problem of a large number of thefts experienced in Spain and the lack of warnings to pilgrims. He asked if CSJ could take this up with Spanish authorities and put warnings that care of possessions is needed in Publications and Practical Pilgrim material.

December 2005 Newsletter

**Check out the Website /Online bookshop for the DVD of
Within the way Without
A film on the Camino by Larry Boulting**

New Publications

The Pilgrim Guide to the Camino Francés 2006 will be ready by mid January, or by the AGM at the latest. Price £6.

Office Holiday

The Office will be open on the *mornings* only of Wednesday 21 and Thursday 22 December and closed on Thursday 29 December and will be open as usual on Thursday 5 January.

Don't forget to order!!!

MUGS
Miraz

2006 CALENDARS
Camino Portugués

DVD-WITHIN THE WAY WITHOUT
Order online or from the Office

£15 plus

p&p UK £1, Eu £1.50, Rest of World £2

Practical Pilgrim Form

Important Change

We are changing the format of our Practical Pilgrim Days this year. Each Saturday will be in two sections. In the morning there will be a short general introduction to the spiritual pilgrimage and the Camino Francés, followed by question and answer and small group discussions. After a picnic lunch there will be an Introduction to and question and answer session about one other secondary route.

I wish to attend the following Practical Pilgrim session: *please tick*

Saturday 25 February +*Le Puy* ☐ John Marshall Hall, Blackfriars Road, SE1

Saturday 4 March +*Northern routes* ☐ St James Methodist Church, Woolton, Liverpool

Saturday 18 March +*Vézelay* ☐ Our Lady & St George Church, Glasgow

Saturday 11 March ☐ Christ Church, Thornbury, Bristol

Other Routes inc Paris, Vézelay, Camino Portugués & Via de la Plata

I am a new Pilgrim ☐ I am a returned pilgrim ☐ with experience
on French or Spanish routes _____ (specify)

I could give a talk about _____ with slides/powerpoint?

I am a walker ☐ [*this is to help with arrangements*]

I am a cyclist ☐

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Tel (with code) _____ email _____

Please return whole form, enclosing a cheque payable to CSJ of £3 per head per meeting, with an sae to **Practical Pilgrim, Confraternity of Saint James, 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NY**

see over for 11 February/

Practical Pilgrim Form

Important Change

We are changing the format of our Practical Pilgrim Days this year. Each Saturday will be in two sections. In the morning there will be a short general introduction to the spiritual pilgrimage and the Camino Francés, followed by question and answer and small group discussions. After a picnic lunch(hot drinks available) there will be an Introduction to and question and answer session about one other secondary route.

Saturday 11 February 2005, Nottingham

(Further information will be sent when ready)

New Mechanics Institute, Nottingham-confirm address details later

Morning: Camino francés

Afternoon: Other route: **Arles-Puente la Reina**

Speaker: Marigold Fox, author of *Arles-Puente la Reina*

I will attend: morning afternoon both sessions *(please circle)*

I am a walker o [this is to help with arrangements]

I am a cyclist o

I am interested in an evening meal £10-£15 o

Number of people o (specify number)

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Tel (with code) _____ email _____

The charge for the day will be £3 per head, payable in advance. Cheques payable to Confraternity of Saint James.

Please return whole form with an sae, to Alison Raju

If you want to book for any of the other Practical Pilgrim Days too, Alison Raju will forward the form to the relevant organizer.

see over for other dates/

Confraternity of Saint James

The AGM Form 2006

Please return the whole form
or go to www.csj.org.uk/agmform2006.htm to reply online

Name(s) _____ Please write clearly, incl first name in full

Postcode _____

I/we shall attend the AGM ☐ (please tick)
Party ☐

This will be the first AGM I have attended YES ☐ NO ☐

Party

I/we shall contribute some food YES ☐ NO ☐ approx value £ _____

Homemade speciality Quiche ☐ Dips ☐ Salad ☐ Tortilla ☐ Other ☐ _____
(please tick and indicate detail where appropriate)

I/we would like to help with the preparation and serving of the food YES ☐ NO ☐
(if yes, please phone Sally Grover 01869 331306, sallyg@actuaries.org.uk)

Accommodation

Please indicate if you can offer ☐ need ☐ accommodation for the night of Saturday 28 January.

Type Double ☐ Single ☐ Twin ☐

Payment

I/we enclose a cheque payable to the Confraternity of Saint James for the Party £5.00 per head if not bringing food

Total enclosed £ _____

Nomination of Trustees

NEW Trustees are invited to nominate themselves; please speak to William Griffiths or Marion Marples for more information. There is a maximum of 6 Trustees meetings a year, travel expenses are available for those outside London. Nominations, plus brief biography, must be received 7 clear days before the AGM. OR please think carefully about nominating those who can make an energetic contribution to the CSJ.

I nominate _____ to stand as a Trustee of the Confraternity
(prior consent should be obtained)

Signed _____

Return whole form with payment (cheques payable to Confraternity of Saint James) to:
AGM, CSJ, 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NY
by Friday 20 January 2006



The Miraz Fundraisers need your Support - and it's VERY easy to do !

***** *YOU CAN HELP by joining in local events* *****

Many members have previously said they would like to meet others in their local area so here is your chance to do just that and maybe raise funds for Miraz at the same time.
Below are some events that have already been confirmed and which you are welcome to join - all proceeds go to Miraz unless otherwise stated.

Saturday 4 Feb 06 - 11 a.m. onwards *UK - W. Midlands*
A Galician lunch + slides, photos & chat

Venue : 13 Dunsley Drive, Stourbridge DY8 5RA
Proceeds : In the tradition of the Confraternity there is no charge for the meal but you will be asked for a donation towards the Miraz Appeal
Booking : It would be helpful though not essential, for catering purposes, if you could phone / email just to say that you are coming
Further details : Colin Jones at above address, *tel:* 01384 400709, *email:* pacharan@btinternet.com

Saturday 11 Feb 06 - 7.45 p.m. *UK - SW*
“1,000 Miles and a Few Glasses of Wine : the walk from Le Puy to Santiago” - *An illustrated talk by Mike & Jane Bradshaw accompanied by wine from the Way.*

Venue : Church hall, Christ the King Church, Castle Street, Thornbury, S.Glos
Proceeds : Divided between Miraz Appeal and the church building fund
Further details : Jane Bradshaw, The Bank House, Oldbury on Severn, S.Glos. BS35 1PR.
Tel: 01454 413199 *E-mail:* jane.bradshaw3@btinternet .com

Saturday 18 Mar 06 - 10-12 a.m. *UK-SW*
Coffee morning

Venue : Methodist Church Hall, Oldbury on Severn, S.Glos.
Further details : Jane Bradshaw - details as above

Your event

How about planning your own get-together and arranging a local walk or a coffee morning or a visit to a local place of interest (all it may take is one phone call to arrange) or ??? Just tell us about your plans and we will send the details to other members in your area (and list it in the Bulletin or on the CSJ website if you wish). We are in the process of creating fundraising “packs” which we can send you and maybe provide a volunteer to talk about Miraz

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 : CSI - Miraz Appeal, 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NY, UK

***** You can help by supporting the efforts of others *****
(All proceeds to Miraz unless otherwise stated)

- 2006 Calendars** Views of Camino Portugués. Created & designed by Mary Moseley & Sue Booth
Available from CSJ online bookshop or the office . £5 + p&p UK 50p, EU £1, Other £1.50
- “Compostelle - The Ceaseless Tramp of Feet”** CD - including over 300 photos - written diary of a member’s experiences along the route from Le Puy to Santiago.
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. Minimum of £4.50 per CD donated to Miraz
NB: CD suitable for playing on computer, not on DVD player
- Miraz mugs** White with blue / yellow design (as on front of appeal leaflet.)
Available from CSJ online bookshop or the office. £5 + p&p UK £1.50, EU £2, Other £3.50
- “Pilgrims’ Purchase”** Online Auction.
Go to “www.pilgrimstogether.org.uk/CSJ/PilgrimsPurchase.html” for details of Howard Nelson’s answer to eBay ! New items urgently needed. Contact Howard via this website
- German lessons on telephone** Conversational German for all levels, with qualified native speaker. £15 per hour.
Contact : Angelika Email: amhschneider@hotmail.co.uk

***** You can help by sending in your fundraising ideas *****

- If You*
- have any fundraising ideas you would like us to try
 - have personal contacts with trusts or companies or other organisations who might be willing to help or contribute to the appeal
 - need more fundraising ideas from us
 - are interested in joining the fundraising group
- then please contact either Alison Thorp (*Tel:* 01372-274398 *email:* alison.thorp@vrgin.net) or Marion Marples in the CSJ Office or any of the Fundraising Group

Miraz Order

Name

Address

		Enter Quantity	Enter Amount Payable
Miraz Mugs	£5 + p&p (UK £1.50, EU £2, ROW £3.50)		
2006 Calendars	£5 + p&p (UK 50p. EU £1, ROW £1.50)		
“Compostelle : The Ceaseless Tramp of Feet”	Apply Andrew Grant - see above details		0.00
Miraz Donation			
		TOTAL	

- Payment**
- ☐ I enclose a cheque for £ made payable to “CSJ - Miraz Appeal”
- ☐ I authorise the CSJ to charge my credit card with £ as follows
- Visa / Mastercard Number - - - - / - - - - / - - - - / - - - - Expiry Date - - / - -

Signed Date:.....

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