



Confraternity of Saint James

Bulletin



March 2008

No 101

About the *Bulletin*

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Editorial

Gosia Brykczynska

It's hard to come down to earth gracefully after all the frantic celebratory activities of the past few months and dare I say after all the "hot air" that was expended during the 25th CSJ Annual General Meeting. By all accounts it was "the best one yet"; but if members think that the committee and trustees will be venturing down thespian by-ways again they may have to reconsider; unless being a pilgrim and being an actor are somehow related activities. Certainly "breaking a leg" is not advised for either of these occupations. Stuart Frost's interesting account delivered at the AGM about the V&A Cast Rooms and the cast of the Pórtico de la Gloria in particular, may well encourage many a camino-sick returned pilgrim to make their way to the museum to gaze once more at Master Mateo's wondrous sculpture. It is a nice feeling to know that even in foggy and misty London one is not that far from those sunny memories of Santiago.

But CSJ celebrations are not over yet – indeed they have barely started. Please look at the CSJ activities page to see the programme for the coming year... Additionally, if members locally would like to organise celebrations please let the office know and we will advertise these events in the *Bulletin* and on the website.

What better way to celebrate this CSJ anniversary year than by going off on another pilgrimage, and so it is with great joy that I can announce that one of our founding members – Jocelyn Rix – will be setting out on pilgrimage from Santiago Cathedral to Le Puy on 1 April and I will be concluding my Arles Route pilgrimage at the beginning of May by finally crossing the Pyrenees. Indeed all around me I hear of CSJ members planning their next pilgrimages.

Some members however prefer instead to volunteer to toil-and-labour on working-parties in Miraz or Rabanal while others prepare themselves for the task of *hospitalero* (see Timothy Wotherspoon's historic account of wardening in Rabanal in the really early days of that establishment and Pat Quaife's account of affairs in Estella that promoted the camino). Meanwhile Tony Green recounts his adventures of being a first-time *hospitalero* at Rabanal and there is also a short report of the Vézelay Route *hospitaliers'* meeting in London

on the Members' Pages). So if you are a returned pilgrim and feel you would like to give something back to the camino – read on; this *Bulletin* might inspire you.

As usual at this time of year many returned pilgrims have been offering splendid advice and counsel to prospective new pilgrims during the several Practical Pilgrim Days conducted by the Confraternity around the UK. If I had advice like that in 1981 when I first went out to Santiago – who knows how far I may have got to – Rome, Istanbul, maybe even Jerusalem?

This *Bulletin* has an article about pilgrim activities from Ireland by John O'Keeffe and two archival articles that were considered so good that it was felt they needed to see the light of day again. There was not enough room for these wonderful past articles in the Special Edition so it was decided to include some of them in subsequent *Bulletins* throughout this anniversary year!

Therefore following our Chairman's Report of the CSJ activities of the past year this *Bulletin* will cover matters musical - see Kathleen Jowitt's article about humming and singing one's way down the camino; matters practical, poetic, and historical (see Doreen Hansen's account of excavations in Rabanal) and finally matters ecological – see Martyn Tonks's interesting article on taking the train to reach the camino. Did you know that among the Rev Wilbert Awdry's books on *Thomas the Tank Engine* there is a locomotive named James? In this *Bulletin* there is also the reprint of the adventures of Mr Bates of Hinderton Hall, who traversed the camino route by automobile – over eighty years ago!

Spring is definitely here and with it spring-madness and another CSJ pilgrim year. Even the venerable medieval poet Chaucer knew that pilgrimages start in Southwark or, as the modern Londoner would say, in SE1. For

...befell that in that season on a day
In Southwark at The Tabard as I lay
Ready to wenden on my pilgrimage...

Enjoy therefore this springtide and the early Easter festivities - while planning your next pilgrimage of course.

NB For the benefit of our overseas readers – the office of the CSJ is located in the Southwark district of London.

Chairman's Report

William Griffiths

The Confraternity of Saint James is 25 years old. It was on 13 January 1983 that Ian Dodd, Peter Johnson, the late Robin Neillands, Pat Quaife and Jocelyn Rix were invited to the home of Dr Mary Remnant and founded our Confraternity. That happy anniversary makes this annual meeting a special time for celebration, for giving thanks and for hope in what lies ahead. We were hoping to have with us today the person who assisted as midwife at the happy birth of the Confraternity. I mean Mlle Jeannine Warcollier, Secretary of the *Société des Amis de Saint Jacques* of France. She it was who wrote to our six founders, after they had individually joined the *Société*, to suggest that they should meet. Sadly, ill health prevents her from being with us today. We have other dear and distinguished guests with us. From the office of the *Xacobeo*, the section of the *Xunta de Galicia* that deals with the pilgrimage, we welcome Doña Rosa Vázquez Santos. From the *Amigos del Camino de Santiago de El Bierzo*, who are our partners in the *Refugio Gaucelmo* at Rabanal, we welcome their President, Don Domingo Sánchez Álvarez and his wife Doña María Teresa de Sanchez, together with their Treasurer Don Bernardo Rodríguez Fernández and his wife Doña Irene de Rodríguez. From the Irish Society of the Friends of St James, we welcome Pádraig MacSweeney, their Chairman. I am delighted that in a week's time I shall be able to give the Confraternity's greetings to the Irish Society in person, as Pádraig has kindly invited me to attend their annual dinner. Finally, in a short while we will be privileged to hear one of our own members, Stuart Frost from the Victoria and Albert Museum, talk about the cast there of the *Pórtico de la Gloria*.

It seems to me fitting that on such a glorious and hopeful occasion we should be invited to contemplate the *Pórtico de la Gloria*. It reminds me of one of the great works of pilgrim poetry of the 20th century by Charles Péguy *Le Porche du Mystère de la Deuxième Vertu* - "The Portal of the Mystery of Hope". Charles Péguy, who was killed in the First World War, was largely responsible for the revival in modern times of the pilgrimage to Chartres. "The Portal of the Mystery of Hope" is the second of his great trilogy of poetic dramas. Why does he refer to it as

a portal? It seems that he was thinking of the great cathedral porches of the Middle Ages, like the *Pórtico de la Gloria*, in which the mysteries of salvation were presented not only in sculpture but in drama, when used as a stage for mystery plays. All of us as pilgrims have learned by experience that hope is the virtue most needed by a pilgrim. All of us, entering that portal, would delight in the multiple images that Péguy offers us to contemplate hope. The main recurring image is of Hope as a little girl, contrasted with her fully-grown adult sisters Faith and Charity. Here is one passage, using much pilgrim imagery:

*On the uphill path, sandy and troublesome.
On the uphill road.
Dragged along, hanging from the arms of her two older sisters,
Who hold her by the hand,
The little Hope
Pushes on.
And in between her two older sisters she seems to let
herself be carried.
Like a child who lacks the energy to walk
And is dragged along the road in spite of herself.
But in reality it is she who moves the other two
And who carries them,
And who moves the whole world.*

We are 25 years old. We celebrate, we give thanks, and we have hope, the virtue most needed by a pilgrim. You remember that Dante in the *Paradiso* has three Apostles come to question him about Faith, Hope and Love. St Peter deals with Faith, St John with Love, but to learn about Hope Dante encounters St James:

*Behold! see now the Baron for whose sake
Galicia's shrine on earth is visited.*

Hope is the virtue most needed by a pilgrim. We are 25 years old, we celebrate, we have hope and hope seems to be in the air. It was only two months ago that Pope Benedict XVI, the Pope who delighted us by placing the scallop shell at the centre of his coat of arms, published his second encyclical letter *Spes Salvi* on the subject of Hope. One doesn't have to read far before coming on pilgrim imagery, right in the introductory paragraph:

"We have been given hope, trustworthy hope, by virtue of which we can face our present: the present, even if it is arduous, can be lived and accepted if it leads towards a goal, if we can be sure of this goal, and if

this goal is great enough to justify the effort of the journey.”

We have hope, we celebrate and we give thanks. For whom do we give thanks? For St James and all the heavenly beings sent to support us in our hope. For each other: we are a Confraternity; what we do we do together. We give thanks for our six founders, and all who helped them in those early days. We give thanks for all those, living and dead, who have been part of our pilgrimage over these 25 years. We give thanks for all of you, all 2000 or so of you, who are on our pilgrimage now. We give thanks for all who have given us help and hospitality in our pilgrimages. We give thanks for all we are linked with in the other associations of St James around the world. And as it is part of my task to be your mouthpiece in these matters, I give thanks for all those who have performed a special task in the Confraternity over the past year: our President H E the Count of Casa Miranda. Those who serve on our Committee, our Vice-Chairmen Alison Raju and Revd Colin Jones, our Secretary Marion Marples, our Treasurer Tony Ward, our Systems Officer Alison Thorp, our *Bulletin* Editor Dr Gosia Brykczynska, (who has surpassed herself with issue No 100 to celebrate this anniversary), Sue Goddard, Catherine Kimmel, Mary Moseley, Angelika Schneider, Cristina Spink, Graeme Taylor, and Revd Ricky Yates. The Committee has been very grateful for the help of Pat Watson and Anne Froud in recording the minutes. In the Office, receiving members and enquirers, as well as Marion and Alison Thorp, we find Christine Pleasants and many volunteers, notably Wendy Beecher, Willie Bossert, Robin Dorkings and Schzen Ooi, especially on the Saturday Open Days which I commend to you all. For the Library and the Website Howard Nelson, for the Slide Library John Hatfield, for the Digital Library Michael Krier. Assisting Gosia with the *Bulletin* are James Hatts and John Revell and the band of stuffers. All those who write our much-admired guides and other publications, and the Publications Subcommittee under Ricky Yates, and Paul Turnbull who keeps the pilgrim register. Eric Walker, known to pilgrims for so many years as the man who has sent their pilgrim record, is standing down, knowing that every one of the pilgrims he has assisted joins us today in thanking him.

I have said nothing as yet about our two *refugios* at Rabanal and Miraz, which are the two most public visible ways in which we assist pilgrims. I feel constrained by the fact that so many people have been involved in giving through Rabanal and Miraz: those who serve on the two Subcommittees, who serve as *hospitaleros*, on working parties, in

fundraising. I shall leave Cristina Spink to tell you more fully about Rabanal, Colin Jones to tell you more fully about Miraz. And I can also reassure you that our link with the *Amis de Saint Jacques* of the Vézelay route, energetically fostered by John Hatfield, continues to thrive, with some 20 of our members serving this year as *hospitaliers*. But, in connection with Rabanal, I must give special thanks to two dynamic couples. Coming just after the wonderful year in which Rabanal welcomed its 100,000th pilgrim, Tricia Shaw is stepping down as co-ordinator of *hospitaleros*, the mission she has shared for most of these last years with her husband Stuart. And in overall charge of the Rabanal *refugio* we have had the wonderful double-act of Cristina and Paul Spink. Their energy, devotion, and tact have left a permanent monument in the warmth of our relationship with the people of Rabanal, our friends the monks, and our partners the El Bierzo Association. And finally, thanks to all of you who have spoken about pilgrimage at our Practical Pilgrim Days, at the Retreat for returned pilgrims led by Fr Benjamin Griffiths, at our meetings, and at meetings held in all the places where you live.

At that first meeting of the Confraternity 25 years ago, one task proposed by Mary Remnant was to track down the pioneer of pilgrimage research in this country, Constance Storrs. They did track her down, and after her death we instituted the series of Constance Storrs Memorial Lectures as our way of relating the finest scholars of the pilgrimage to that pioneer. Our Constance Storrs Lecture in 2007 was given by Professor Klaus Herbers, from Nürnberg, on the many faces of the *Liber Sancti Jacobi*, and I then had the pleasure of showing him and his wife Gertrud around some of the St James sites of London. I took them to a church which perhaps deserves to be better known, the Catholic Church of St John the Evangelist in Duncan Terrace, Islington, London N1. This church was founded in 1843, and is currently conducting an appeal for its restoration. Why is it a St James site? Well, there is a statue of St James, once part of a Transfiguration scene. But there is something much rarer than that, something almost on a par with London's copy of the Pórtico de la Gloria. You have heard that Mantegna in 1451 painted in a church in Padua a series of the Life of St James, including the colourful legendary figures such as Hermogenes and Josias who are named in the *Codex Calixtinus*. All except one of these paintings were destroyed in the Second World War. Fortunately, they had previously been photographed, and so we are able to appreciate Mantegna's art in books such as the one

in the Confraternity library. But we in London can do something much more concrete than that. In the Baptismal chapel of St John's Church, Islington, is a Victorian copy of one of Mantegna's paintings. Appropriately for the Baptismal chapel, it shows St James baptising the repentant magician Hermogenes.

In 1993, two compatriots of mine, Charles Camilleri and Peter Serracino Inglott wrote an opera *Compostella* that was performed in Malta. My review of it was published in our *Bulletin* 49. The libretto draws heavily on Dante, and Hope appears as a character. The programme included photographs of the Mantegna St James cycle, and I took it with me to Islington to show Klaus and Gertrud. When we came out of the church, we stood in the portico and read the last few lines of the libretto, ending with the line *Speriamo!* - "Let's hope so!" We paused and reflected. "Well," I said, "the Pope has just given us his new encyclical about Hope." "Yes", replied Klaus, "and his last encyclical was about Caritas." A woman had entered the portico and stopped to listen to us, seeming uncertain whether or not to enter the church. Hearing Klaus's words, she began to sing the familiar chant from Taizé:

Ubi caritas et amor

Ubi caritas

Deus tibi est.

Klaus, Gertrud and I joined her in singing for a few precious moments. Those moments were of the kind that we have all experienced on the camino: a small miracle of St James.

Our Confraternity is 25 years old. Is this perhaps just a portico, leading into more glories of our cathedral? Let's hope so.

An open letter

Laurie Dennett

I have much enjoyed reading Robert Gussman's two-part article on the spirituality of the pilgrimage to Compostela in recent Confraternity Bulletins. Thank you for producing such an interesting and evocative piece.

I am, however, prompted to question his rendition of the "powerful Legend of the Blessed Sacrament" at O Cebreiro. Since this event is so significant in the history of the pilgrimage, and since I have had occasion to study it in some detail, I don't feel I can let that account pass without comment.

This is not just legend. The facts are recorded in bulls issued by Popes Innocent VIII and Alexander VI, but the authority most often cited is the Benedictine historian Yepes. His 18th-century account records what he was told by the monks of what was then the small monastery attached to the church in O Cebreiro (today restored as the Hospedería San Giraldo de Aurillac).

Several 15th-century commentators suggest a date in the 1320s for the event. In giving you the documented version I will paraphrase Yepes and Don Elías Valiña Sampedro, the most reliable modern authority.

Those involved were a peasant (according to local tradition, one Juan Santín from the village of Barxamaior, about 2km away in the valley on the Galician side of the mountain – you can see it from the road) and one of the monks from the monastery. The peasant (Juan) was a devout man and attended Mass whenever he could, hurrying up to O Cebreiro whenever he heard the Mass bell. The monk was "a man of little faith". On the day in question there was a heavy snowstorm, but the peasant appeared at Mass just the same (if possibly a little late). At the moment of consecration, the monk inwardly thought to himself "what a fool that man is, to come out on a day like this just for a bit of bread and wine" - at which point, the consecrated host visibly altered to flesh that stained the altar linen, and the wine to blood that "seethed in the chalice". The peasant's faith was rewarded and the monk's restored.

Your version differs from the historical accounts available, and I am

wondering where you found it? The protagonist was certainly not “a traveller” – however much we might like to imagine the involvement of a pilgrim! And there was no parish priest in the sense you seem to suggest until 1858.

The “legends” of the Camino often have a strong historical basis. Those of us who study and write about the camino have an obligation to pass them on as accurately as possible. I feel particularly strongly in this instance because the historical versions of O Cebreiro’s miracle are so readily available (for instance, in the leaflet – an extract from one of Don Elías’s books – available at the back of the church) and make it clear that the circumstances surrounding it are not merely matters of opinion.

P.S. As it happens, I know the descendents of Juan Santín – they proudly show anyone interested an ancient tree in their yard he is said to have planted!

Early Pilgrims to Santiago from Ireland

John O'Keeffe

We know the famous St James's Gate in Dublin as the home of Guinness. Every bottle sold throughout the world has the logo and full address of the brewery: Saint James' Gate, what is less known is that it was also a major assembly point for pilgrims from Ireland to Spain in the early days before the brewery.

1995 marked the 800th year of the granting of City status to Waterford on the south coast of Ireland - *urbs intacta manet*. To mark this celebration (1195-1995) the Lord Mayor and Corporation had a *History of Waterford and its Mayors* compiled by five contributors, one of whom, Eamonn McEneaney, also edited the volume.

Waterford was, following the Celts, a major Viking trading port. With the arrival of the Normans came the merchants from Norman Britain, the Franciscans and the Dominicans. The family of Rice (Ryse) came, it is thought, from Bristol and the name, of Welsh origin, was well known in medieval Bristol; and Waterford was a major trading partner with Bristol.

One of the most illustrious mayors of Waterford was one James Rice, son of Peter and Anne Rice. Peter Rice is mentioned in the *Liber Primus* of the city as being one of its leading citizens. He held the office of mayor on two occasions, 1426-1427 and 1427-1428. Politics was in James Rice's blood. His religious philosophy would no doubt have been that of a typical devout Christian of the period, that is, he would have believed the journey through life was a pilgrimage in itself.

We know from records held in the Vatican archives of the Roman Curia and the Chancery and Exchequer Rolls held in the Public Record Office in London that James Rice as Mayor went on pilgrimage to Santiago on at least two major occasions.

The first time he travelled was in 1473 and prior to setting out he had to obtain permission from the Irish Parliament to appoint a deputy mayor. The second time he travelled was in 1483, a jubilee (or holy) year of St James. On this occasion he received special permission from King Richard III to appoint a deputy as he decided to take with him the city's two bailiffs and members of the Corporation.

The *Irish Annals* and the *Anglo-Irish Chronicles* record the death of many such notables, both Gaelic and Anglo-Norman, on pilgrimages from Waterford to the port of La Coruña.

It is recorded that in 1473 the vessel '*La Mary London*', with 400 pilgrims returning from Santiago was captured by pirates. The pilgrims were held to ransom and eventually released not at their port of destination, Waterford, but along the coast at Youghal in County Cork. On this voyage the pilgrims paid seven shillings and sixpence for the return journey (1400 sea miles) – the equivalent of several weeks' wages for a merchant's worker.

At that time the trade between Ireland and Iberia was extensive. Hides, wool, finished products such as the famous Spanish woollen shawls, fish etc were all exported from Ireland, with wine, brandy and spices filling the ships on the return journey.

Before his jubilee year pilgrimage in 1483 James Rice built in the cathedral a chantry chapel dedicated to St James and St Catherine (his mother was a Catherine Brown). This was to be the culmination of over thirty years of service to the city and the chapel was consecrated by the Bishop of Ossory on 6th December 1482.

Within this chapel a large Gothic *mensa* tomb was sculpted for him. Cadaver tombs of this kind are rare in Ireland and the Rice monument is the best example. The sculpture of a partially decomposed corpse lies on the top of the tomb.

Part of the inscription reads

Lord Christ we beg of thee,

We implore thee

Be merciful to us!

Thou who hast come to redeem the lost,

Condemn not the redeemed.

Rice died in 1488 before he could make a further pilgrimage which he had planned.

Archaeological Works on the Church of Santa María de la Asunción in Rabanal – an update

Doreen Hansen

Last year in Rabanal, over the festivities for St James's Day, Don Juan Antonio, the Prior of the Benedictine Monastery of San Salvador del Monte Irago in Rabanal, delivered to the group of CSJ members assembled there at the Church of Santa Maria an interesting and informative lecture. The talk explained in great detail the nature of the archaeological excavations, the stories behind the recent discoveries and the plans for the future of the Romanesque church.

The church has a small stream running underneath it (which re-surfaces a few metres later close to the entrance to *Refugio Gaucelmo*) which has unfortunately undermined the foundations of the church. Surveyors found considerable wet rot in the building, together with subsidence and both issues need to be addressed. The east window has been altered several times over the centuries and the present format is an 18th-century remodelling.

Don Juan Antonio stressed that some parts of the church are more important than others, eg the Romanesque arches. Under the arch which had a chapel to Our Lady of Sorrows a question arose about the balance of the design and when archaeologists scraped away earth and plaster they found another arch – and in time four arches, and the same on the opposite side of the church! In design these arches are typical of the prevalent French Romanesque influence found in other places along the camino. Scraping higher up the wall however revealed that the apse is not of the same period. In 2003-2004 discussions were held with the diocese of Astorga, after which permission was given for the walls to be cleared and the church to be reinstated as it was (so far as may be established) to its original design. Meanwhile there is on-going scientific research into the history of the church.

In the church itself under the flagstones over a hundred skeletons have been found, layered one on top of the other and facing east. Excavations have stopped at this point as it there was no wish to disturb the skeletons. It is thought that among the skeletons was an abbot and

a child; and four or five coins were found scattered around but these were so decayed/rusted that they proved unidentifiable. It is believed however that coins indicated the presence and/or passage of pilgrims through the area/village. Next, graves of stone with a tile used as a pillow were also discovered. Up until now these do not yet appear to have been accurately dated.

Early 19th-century books in the parish archives mention Napoleon and his troops passing through the area and damaging the cathedral in Astorga. A little history of the church is known from the start of the 18th century because of extant Rabanal parish books in the regional and diocesan archives. It is known for example where donations of money came from and for what purpose they were used, for example an entry which says 'we buy stones for a new arch'. In 1773 a new sacristy was built together with a new door to the altar and new steps. Papers from 1776 refer to the existence of a new arch. In 1834 the roof was taken away, with the evidence for this found in record books for the time, showing the purchase of new bricks for repair works. Of particular interest to CSJ members were church records of the 18th century referring to the parish priest giving financial help to pilgrims! Obviously a long tradition in Rabanal del Camino.

Permission of the Spanish Heritage Fund is now being sought to restore the building to its original Romanesque design. A preliminary meeting was held of all the interested parties to agree the project. The architect has suggested the roof should be removed and the arches restored using wood for the structure of the arches and on the exterior – there is a thought to excavate right around the church to the level of the water incursion to decide best how to deal permanently with the problem. Don Juan Antonio posed the question: "Where is the other part of the Romanesque church waiting to be discovered?" He explained that it is impossible to ever know the exact structure, pointing out the obviously new south wall for which parishioners had given to one of their past parish priests up to ten percent of their (often meagre) income for necessary work inside the church, including building the new wall. Maybe they too ran into budget problems when they discovered a much older structure situated on unstable foundations?

We were informed that Ferdinand VII gave instructions after the French invasion that bodies should not be buried inside churches in the future because of the health risks (and stench) associated with decomposing bodies. The Spanish knew that the French were likely to pass through Rabanal on their way to La Coruña, and Don Juan

Antonio raised the fascinating question: "Is there any treasure waiting to be found which has been secured in a cache here, but not yet reclaimed?"

There are records of the damage wrought in the locality by the French, together with descriptions of what was bought afterwards to replace broken and damaged items.

Finally, a question was posed to Don Juan Antonio whether DNA testing and carbon dating has been used to identify some of the skeletons but these techniques are thought not to be of much help in the present work – and of course they are very expensive. The question of funding and costs may limit the range of investigative tests which might be carried out and the full extent of the restorative work. Fortunately the Spanish Authorities recognise this is a much-used church and wish for a 'safe' and quick restoration of the building to its former glory.

Dom Juan Antonio is a very modern (and busy) monk as was demonstrated by the number of times his mobile phone rang (!) while he was delivering his talk. The talk was delivered in excellent English, and for this courtesy, and for the time he set aside for us at a very busy time in his year, we thank him very sincerely.

* * * * *

Janet Richardson, a member of the Rabanal Working Party in 2000, recalled the start of further discoveries just after the CSJ had helped to pay for the renovation of the church tower. Following last year's visit to Rabanal Janet provided me with a copy of a paper (which she had translated from the original Spanish) entitled *The Romanesque Church of Santa María de la Asunción at Rabanal del Camino* by José María Luengo y Martínez (a copy of which is in the CSJ library). Janet recalls being told that the writer was the nephew of the then village priest, but this cannot be confirmed. In the document is a quotation from folio 2 (of the right hand page margin) of the *Libro de Cuentas de Fabrica de Rabanal del Camino*, a description of 26 August 1811 signed by Don Alonso Cutanda, parish priest at the time. He describes how the French desecrated and sacked the parish church, removing all of value apart from three chasubles and a set of black vestments. Of all the silver lost, only the incense boat and a piece of thurible came to light afterwards.

My grateful acknowledgement to Janet for providing the information included in the above paragraph.

The Pilgrim Way to Santiago

Althea Hayton

The Milky Way was always there to guide the men to Finisterre
All dressed in skin and woad -
For the journey made the meaning and the footsteps made the road.

Then routes from England, Spain and France brought pilgrims here, and
not by chance:
Santiago was the node -
So the journey was the meaning and the footsteps made the road.

Each pilgrim step a perfect prayer and psalms and praises filled the air
But hunger was the goad -
In the journey was the meaning and the footsteps made the road.

With scallop shell and staff and hat they had no rucksack, boots or mat
They took the lightest load -
The journey was the meaning and their footsteps made the road.

Now from all nations pilgrims walk; they laugh and struggle, share and
talk
In every style and mode.
The journey is the meaning and their footsteps make the road.

And in each heart a mystery: Santiago is the key:
They walk to crack the code -
And the journey is the meaning and their footsteps make the road.

For those who seek for meaning in depression, pain, despair and sin
Then count each episode -
For the journey is the meaning and the footsteps make the road.

Walk on, Pilgrim! In your heart the healing is about to start;
You'll find a safe abode,
For in your journey is the meaning and your footsteps make the road

The Ecological Pilgrim

or Travel to the Camino by Train

Martyn Tonks

Last summer one intrepid *hospitalero* decided to try to get to Miraz by train and by this decision try out the practicality and feasibility of this slightly alternative way of getting to his post of duty. He just turned up at Waterloo Station* in central London and caught the next Eurostar to Paris. At Paris Gare du Nord he had no difficulty in getting the appropriate SNCF and RENFE rail tickets and an appropriate couchette and seat reservations for immediate travel! It was an easy walk (but could be a cycle or metro or taxi ride) to Gare Austerlitz from where the night train to the frontier station at Irún departs. The Spanish train even had a restaurant coach.

The train from Irún goes through Vitoria, Burgos, Sahagún, León, Astorga and Ponferrada to reach Galicia. Then on to Monforte de Lemos, to Santiago de Compostela itself and A Coruña. At Monforte our *hospitalero* changed trains. Monforte is a small town but has a spacious station with a buffet. Opposite the station is a café-bar which seems well patronised by the locals. The pedestrianised old quarter and pleasant river is a short walk away. The castle, now a *parador*, is located slightly further down the road. There is only an hour in Monforte before catching the connection on the local train onward to Sarria, Lugo and Parga. From Parga it is five miles of gently undulating green countryside to Miraz. If need be one could take a taxi from Parga. In this manner, London to Miraz *refugio* front door took our brave *hospitalero* almost 27 hours - but what an interesting, stimulating and restful journey it was! So you see, *hospitaleros* need not take planes to get to Spain or France. It is quite possible to get to Rabanal or Miraz by train.

Astorga rail station is only twelve miles from Rabanal and Parga station is five miles from Miraz. Indeed trains can be used to get near to most other camino starting points. The Eurostar and SNCF will take pilgrims to points north of the Pyrenees, while for points in Spain itself there is the RENFE or FEVE.

Moreover rail reservations can be made in the UK, at any Flight Centre shop which deals not only with planes but trains or via the

web - www.flightcentre.co.uk - and at most Thomas Cook outlets. Thomas Cook have officially given up dealing with trains although they still publish the European Rail Timetable which is updated each month. For those with access to London at RailEurope, 178 Piccadilly, London. www.raileurope.co.uk Another travel agency is Trainseurope which is very useful with help required and for reservations and tickets on 0871 700 7722 or email them at info@trainseurope.co.uk. Their website is www.trainseurope.co.uk Another agency that deals with trains in Europe is Journeycall Ltd, Brumac Centre, Lourecekirk, AB30 1AJ at Tel : 09065 500 000. www.NationalTravelHelpline.com

European train tickets can be obtained at almost any time up to the time of departure at European railway stations and tickets can be obtained for travel all over Europe. However, there are bargains to be had when booking in advance when many tickets become a lot cheaper. There are also reductions in price for certain categories of people, like those pilgrims aged over 60 and for groups travelling together. One can also buy rail-rover tickets that might be an attractive option if planning to do some travel in France or Spain afterwards.

* *Note from the Secretary:* Eurostar trains now depart from St Pancras International and I am not sure that one can *always* obtain a same day ticket.

Note from the Editor: Many years ago, your editor took the night train to the Pyrenees (on her way to Lourdes) and promptly fell asleep. She woke up in Irún, which was a little past her intended stop!

Back in 1963...

Pat Quaife

Do you remember the early Sixties? Perhaps you hadn't been born then. If not, let me highlight one or two events. Harold Macmillan was Prime Minister and in the spring of 1963 the country was recovering from one of the coldest winters on record. Londoners at least, if not most of the population, were both appalled and fascinated by the activities of the then Minister for War, John Profumo and Christine Keeler and her associates. The media had a field day for months. The last thing on people's minds was pilgrimage to far-off Spain and very few on this side of the Channel were aware of the existence even of the Camino de Santiago despite the fact that the *Société des Amis de Saint-Jacques de Compostelle* had been founded as long ago as 1950. Late 1962 had seen the setting-up in Spain of the Estella-based *Amigos del Camino de Santiago* and in early 1963 their members were full of enthusiasm for the camino and the pilgrimage.

Despite the support of General Franco for the pilgrimage, actual pilgrims were in short supply and the far-sighted President of the Estella Amigos, Don Francisco Beruete, knew that much needed to be done to develop facilities and to make the camino known to a wider public. In April 1963 he wrote to a number of parish priests along the camino, including 'el Señor Párroco de Foncebadón' in the Montes de León, the next village after Rabanal del Camino. (This priest also served Rabanal and a number of other villages.) The purpose of the letter was to announce the visit of three members of the *Amigos*, whose particular mission was to revive and animate the camino as well as to make their own pilgrimage on horseback to Santiago. The three men would be carrying the Cross of Roncesvalles – forged out of iron in Estella and blessed in the Real Colegiata of Roncesvalles – which would be presented to the Cardinal Archbishop of Santiago as an offering from the *Amigos* to the Apostle James and as a symbol of fraternity between Navarre and Galicia. Don Francisco went on to say that the *Amigos* were seeking to rally everyone living on the route and to promote the cultural, religious, economic and touristic potential of the camino, particularly in view of the forthcoming Holy Year of 1965.

He added that the pilgrim envoys would be wearing medieval dress, singing medieval songs and following the itinerary described by Aimery Picaud in his famous *Guía de los Peregrinos* (the Pilgrims' Guide which forms Book V of the twelfth-century *Liber Sancti Jacobi*). Leaving from Roncesvalles, they would have with them a cart containing prints and banners which would be distributed free of charge to people living on the Jacobean route. If the three pilgrims spent the night in his village, the priest was asked to make arrangements for both their accommodation and that of their horses. They would also be happy to accept any donations that people might like to make and these would go towards the construction of refuges along the camino. Indeed a special bank account had already been opened in Estella at the *Caja de Ahorros de Navarra*. (As you can see Don Francisco had thought of everything.)

In addition, the pilgrims would be making a study of the camino with a view to having drinking fountains and petrol pumps installed (in 1963 car-borne pilgrims were not overlooked) and would collect information on possible accommodation en route. Later, following further research, the *Amigos* would publish a complete guide to the camino, based on information collected by 'our pilgrims'. (This they did and the Estella guide was the forerunner of many subsequent pilgrim *manulas*.)

The letter ends with a rhetorical flourish, recalling St James as one of the Sons of Thunder and begging for the priests' assistance in the 'collection of the spiritual and material fruits of the project, which would benefit all Spaniards'.

Postscript

The original letter to the priest of Foncebadón and Rabanal in 1963 was found in early 1992 by Timothy Wotherspoon and Pat Quaife as they sorted through a mass of documents left in the barn at the *Refugio Gaucelmo* in Rabanal del Camino.

Two Months is Not Long Enough

Timothy Wotherspoon

(Custodio Timoteo, Refugio Gaucelmo, abril y mayo 1992)

L León is very cold at four o'clock in the morning, and pitch dark at that time on the last day of March. With little prospect of any more than the three hours' sleep which I had snatched on the train from Santander, after checking all the nuts and bolts on my bicycle I set off for Astorga, expecting the sun to rise by the time I had left the street lamps. But I had reckoned without the combined effects of southern latitude and timeshifts, so that the sun did not rise until half past seven. I stopped to thaw my fingers. The road swept past the Roman walls under the cathedral and bishop's palace and I located the road to Castrillo de los Polvares out of the junction of the N120 with the NV1 without too much trouble.

The weather worsened as I emerged from my inspection of the over-restored cobbled village. Rain turned to sleet as the road climbed into the mountains. By El Ganso the snow was too thick for me to be able to continue riding. The blizzard became extremely painful as I pushed my bicycle against the gale because deforestation has exposed the road to the full force of the winds. Hailstones pelted my face like gunshot.

You can imagine my relief on wiping the ice from my glasses to read 'Rabanal del Camino' on a signboard just before noon. It was a struggle to push through the deep drifts covering the track into the village, but I was quietly delighted to see the squat statue of St James come into view as I rounded the apse of the church. The clock mechanism had frozen. I made enquiries at one of the bars, to be told that the hostel was closed! After establishing that I was the warden, not a pilgrim, Antonio directed me to the two Madrileñas, who beckoned me inside to share the fire with Maruja, Maxi's wife.

They showed me inside the hostel and left me to get the fire going. The place was filthy! Workmen re-roofing the side wing had thrown all the loam from the top of the building to the ground, coating everywhere with a thick layer of fine mud. The kitchen was empty in readiness for laying a new floor. I took as many slides as conditions allowed before Charo and Asumpta gave me lunch. You know the joke

about the masochist who likes a cold shower every morning – so he has a hot one instead! Well, it had been more than ten years since I last enjoyed this luxury, but I hadn't gone to Rugby School for nothing. By rubbing myself vigorously it was just possible to keep warm under the literally freezing water. I slept the rest of the day.

It was still snowing next morning. I mucked out the tiled floors of the library and sitting room before taking the first of many memorable meals at Chonina's. The clouds lifted during the afternoon, and my first guest arrived on foot early in the evening. He wisely took one of the small bedrooms rather than the refrigerated dormitory. My forty-eight hour competence in his language was hardly adequate but we got along fine. As promised, we were open for business on the first of April.

The day after brought a German and two more Spaniards who were at pains to get across to me their need of *un tornillo*. Was I really expected to know the Spanish for a screw on Day 2? The following week an infirm pilgrim was taken ill during the night and I found myself having to interpret between German and Spanish concerning the nature of the ailment and the difficulties of obtaining treatment when the road to Ponferrada had again been cut off by a heavy snowfall. Fortunately his condition was not life-threatening and he lived to see the day.

His companion a judge who presides over civil cases in Frankfurt, stayed a second night to wait for his recuperation. The menagerie of strange characters who had already passed through in the first ten days had put me on my guard, but nothing had prepared me to be confronted by a judge brandishing a rake which he had found in the barn. My fear, but not my surprise, subsided a little when he asked 'Can I buy this?' 'You want to buy the rake?' I checked, playing for time. Calm was restored as he specified that all he needed was the handle. I was not sure whether the said garden implement belonged to the hostel or to the builders, nor if I was authorised to sell it even if it had been ours. 'Would this broomstick do instead?' I enquired. His eyes lit up in affirmation. After removing the brush we agreed a price and he took possession of his new purchase. And would I please stamp it for him! Struggling to keep a straight face I branded his staff with an impression of the rubber stamp which normally certifies a halt at the Refugio Gaucelmo in one's pilgrim record. He took it to the fire, to dry the ink I thought. Still ignorant of the reason for his request, some time later I was alarmed to find him charring the end in the embers to

sharpen the stake to a point. 'It is for the wild dogs at Foncebadón,' he explained and it suddenly became clear that if any of these reputedly ferocious creatures threatened his passage through the next village (which is abandoned except for a lady called María and her son) the poor hound was to be pole-axed!

Frank Taylor's presence was a prelude to the arrival of the Confraternity spring working party. After their settling-in period they soon got down to an assortment of useful jobs, though Freud and Marx cast their long dark shadows over the proceedings, still dominated by reactions to the general election result. The highlight of Holy Week for me was a lavish three-course breakfast at which the guest of honour was Millán Bravo, Professor of Philology at Valladolid University*. He is blessed with an elevated air of self-importance, a mischievous sense of humour, an acute mind and quick wit, all of which helped us to get on sportingly. He bullied me into accepting, against the rules, two students whom he was driving in his big car. He intended to take a room at Antonio's. 'If they stay here then so do you,' I insisted. It helped that I recognised him from a television programme in which he appeared in a discussion on the future of the pilgrimage with Patricia Quaipe and others. He was so struck by the manner and style of his reception that he donated copies of his Castilian translation of Aimery Picaud's medieval Latin guide to me and the library, both with Latin dedications. The working party left on Easter Monday, and after three weeks sleeping by the fire in the sitting room it was at last warm enough for me to move into the warden's quarters, though the snow caps on the distant peaks persisted until mid-May.

On the subject of fire, I may one day come to be grateful for learning how to breathe through a damp cloth in a smoke-filled room, when the range in the kitchen preferred to issue its exhaust fumes through every orifice except the chimney, perhaps blocked by repairs to the roof. Subsequent condensation of the resin vapours left a thin layer of sticky brown tar all over the brand-new tiled floor, which took some effort to clean when the air had cleared two days later.

One of the most pleasant requests was for me to drill holes in two scallop shells for string to pass through to hang them as badges round the necks of two pilgrims who had chosen to start from Rabanal. The most rewarding part of all, however, remained escorting pilgrims after breakfast to the top of the village, pointing out across the hills, encouraging them with the news that Santiago lay just over two hundred kilometres to the west and asking them to give the apostle a

hug from me.

On the down side, I was disappointed that the Spanish, as a nationality, saw less obligation than others to contribute towards the cost of their stopover and invariably gave the least donations, sometimes leaving nothing at all, but often adding insult to injury by dropping no more than fifty pesetas into the box. I know about the widow's mite and all that, but people who can afford to drink in the bar have money to spare. And they were generally the least punctilious about observing the first rule of the house – *no fumar*. The other aspect of the job which least appealed to me was dragging people out of the bars after eleven o'clock, the official Gaucelmo closing time.

The sacristan performs a blood-curdling rhythmic drubbing on the church bells each Sunday to summon the village to Mass. Other manners of ringing it signal various emergencies, and on one occasion I was conscripted in this way to assist in the extinction of a field fire which had got out of control. And, of course, a slow, mournful, plaintive tolling announces a death.

For much of the daytime, relentless noise of clattering hammers, surreal movement of seemingly unscaffolded workmen past the windows (four regulars – Paco, Manolo, Tomás, Jesus – and occasionally up to eight altogether), constant danger of falling objects, and ever-present clouds of dust, permitted one to escape from the fact that the hostel was a building site. On the first few days in May frequent showers of bent nails and slate fragments made a hard hat obligatory headwear outdoors. What annoyed me most was that the presence of foreign bodies on the roof interfered with my reception of *Radio dos clasica* which broadcast music twenty-four hours a day. I was transfixed by being woken in the middle of one night by Ferneyhough's Third played by the Arditti String Quartet, more than a surprise in a programme called *musica callada* – silent music. It was quite a come-down to return to Radio 3 taken over by the cricket.

Maurice Fox, who came for a fortnight on the 8th May and I removed the tiles, mud and boards from the roof of the barn. When I tell you that many of the wooden boards supporting the tiles were rotten and there was no safety net you will understand why I remember it as quite the most dangerous task that I have ever undertaken, and in this case it was love rather than money! I lost three pairs of trousers in the process and stuck a rusty nail through one of my boots. Fortunately I had recently been boosted for tetanus.

Rogelio, the builder, delivered five props to support the roof

timbers on the 22nd May and his reluctance to supply shoring to protect the work below the bulging wall prompted me to give the thin skin a gentle push to help it all come tumbling down. During my last week Peter Tompkins and Nicol Smith sorted the rubble from the collapsed wall into piles of stones of similar sizes and riddled all the mortar through 5mm and 3mm sieves.

Meanwhile I continued 'mowing the lawn' and sawing the stack of wood for the fire. The three of us were exhausted before we had finished. Peter Tompkins and I were relieved to set off on our bicycles for Santiago, and Nicol Smith was probably delighted to be able to take a rest on assuming his full duties as the next warden. We left the barn fully prepared for reconstruction by the September building party.

Tearing myself away from the village at the end of May was a heart-rending experience, and the only way to contain my grief was by not saying farewell to anyone. A week before my departure Maxi's mother died. He had lent me his scythe with which I almost completed mowing the meadow, and I was incredibly honoured to be invited not only to the funeral and interment but also to the wake beforehand and a meal with the family afterwards. It was most fitting that the coffin was sealed into the vault with some bricks left over from the new front wing of the hostel. Having been embraced so intimately by the villagers it seemed inappropriate anyway to say goodbye.

If I had to sum up my tenure in one word it would be 'dust'!

*died 1997

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Experience of a new *hospitalero*

Tony Green

I flew from Liverpool to Madrid, and then caught the bus from the Estación Sur to Astorga. Luckily there was a toilet on the bus, since Astorga was the first stop, after nearly three hours! After a taxi ride with Alejandro to Rabanal, I entered the *refugio* hot and tired, and very apprehensive, only to be greeted by the outgoing *hospitaleros* with glasses of wine and a welcome lunch. They were great, and made me feel really comfortable, at least until the phone rang. It was my companion *hospitaleros*, Terry and Ann from Newcastle, calling to say that they weren't able to arrive that day because their flight to Santiago had been cancelled. That meant that I had to do the takeover and open up the next day alone. You can imagine how I felt, completely inexperienced in greeting pilgrims and everything else. Anyway, about half an hour after I opened, there they were! I've never been so glad to see anyone in my life! Well, we got on with settling everyone in, and from then on it was good. The weather during the whole fortnight was beautiful - cold, clear mornings and evenings, with hot afternoons. Because of the heat, we often had pilgrims queuing from 11am and we were full every day except two. About 25% of the pilgrims were German - apparently there had been a TV series on the camino in Germany. We thought that Germany must have been empty! Fidel at Antonio's said he thought they were invading Spain by stealth! One day, we had to send a group of 17 down to El Pilar - we just hadn't the room left. Many Danish people told us that there was a new guide to the camino in Denmark which said that Gaucelmo was the best *refugio* on the route, so all the Danes headed for us. In fact one Danish guy had started from his home in Denmark in April, having walked nearly 3000km. How he was going to adjust to his normal life after reaching Santiago was a real worry to him, and we all could understand how he felt. The younger generation of Germans were great, real ambassadors for their country. They were unfailingly polite and friendly, and spoke excellent English. Unfortunately, the majority of older Germans gave a rather different impression... We were only caught out a couple of times by people using transport,

but most were genuine, I think. One case was a group of six Poles who genuinely didn't understand that we don't take people with support vehicles. Maybe this can be emphasised in the next issue of the guide? What a lovely place Rabanal is! The people were unfailingly friendly and helpful. Rafa and Meribel at the shop were just lovely, and Isabel at El Pilar and Angela and Damian at El Tesin couldn't have been friendlier. All of the staff at Antonio's and Gaspar's were great. I just loved it there. Silly questions from pilgrims (usually German):

- When is the free soup served? (We don't know where that came from.)
- Have you a room for 2/4?
- Can you arrange for my rucksack to be sent to León to be stored for the next two weeks?
- How much is a call to (enter name of country here)?

Ninety-nine percent of the pilgrims were lovely people, and it was my greatest pleasure to be the person signing them in, since I speak French and Spanish. I had two great compliments about my languages:

- Two French ladies had checked in, and one said, 'You speak French very well, with just a little accent. And that's very attractive!'
- A lady from the village, visiting on the fiesta day (14 September) asked if I was Spanish! Cool, I think.

The spin dryer was a big hit. Most of the younger people had never seen one, and it was quite a performance sometimes getting their stuff balanced so it didn't rock itself across the patio. We did have cold showers for a while one day, when both of the propane cylinders went off together. It took *ages* to light the pilot, and then, of course, quite a while to heat the water again. Luckily, most of the pilgrims were very understanding; some were happy to have a shower of any temperature after a long, hot day. My fellow *hospitaleros*, Terry and Ann, were wonderful. Terry had done the camino a few weeks after me, in early 2005, and they had been *hospitaleros* in 2006. We got on like a house on fire. Ann is a great cook, and we always had a great lunch, and a couple of nights, when we ate in, a great dinner, too. I'll never forget them, they were fantastic. Before going to Rabanal, I felt I had unfinished business with the camino. The Spanish have a lovely word *enganchado*, meaning 'hooked', and that was how I felt about it. I really had intended to walk the Le Puy route last year, but decided to volunteer instead. While there, I realised that I wasn't ready to walk again, then finally found that my unfinished business was now finished. The camino has done with me,

and I feel great about it. It's a kind of closure spiritually and I now feel I can go on with my life, remembering the camino with great affection, and Rabanal with love, but it's not pulling at me any more. At least, not yet. Maybe sometime it'll call me back, but that remains to be seen. There's loads more I could say about my stay, but that's enough for now, I think. Thanks to the Confraternity for allowing me this great opportunity. It was wonderful, every minute.

In the voice of praise and thanksgiving

Some vocal recollections of the camino

Kathleen Jowitt

Was it you who were singing in the kitchen last night?' We darted a glance at each other before admitting, a little awkwardly, that it had indeed been us. There was not much else, in fact, that could have been done in the kitchen; it was, while commodious and sparkling clean, so ill-equipped that it was not difficult to imagine *how* it had remained spotless since the *refugio* had been opened (as we were informed by a plaque in the lobby) in March. There is only so much destruction that one can wreak armed only with a plastic sieve.

The kitchen in the Palas de Rei *refugio* was by no means the first spot we had adopted as an unofficial oratory. We had said Matins under the Croix de Galzetaburu on our second day of walking, in the church at Puente la Reina (while two ladies bustled around cleaning it), on the benches outside the Monasterio de Irache, under the motorway bridge on the way into Sahagún. Evening Prayer – or, if we were more tired, Compline – happened on bunks in several *refugios*. Occasionally a *refugio* had the luxury of a dedicated prayer room; when we found one we made use of it. I had been warned not to try to impose myself on the landscape, rather to let the landscape impose itself on me, but somehow these very Anglican rituals slotted comfortably into the Catholic landscape of the camino routine. *Sleep, eat, walk, eat, walk, rest, eat, sleep* became *sleep, eat, pray, walk, eat, walk, rest, eat, pray, sleep*. True, saying the office normally deprived us of half an hour's walking, and if we sang the psalms or canticles it could take nearer three quarters of an hour, eating away at whatever head start we had made by getting up early, but we thought it was worth it, particularly during Holy Week (Logroño to Burgos), when we were feeling particularly homesick for the familiar Anglican services.

I met Anne, my best friend and walking companion, in the Chapel Choir in our first year at Exeter University. She, an ex-chorister of York Minster, was a confident soprano scholar. I bumbled along on the alto line, usually relying on better – and louder – sight-readers than myself to keep me in the right bar. We moved into a house together, with a

counter-tenor, a bass, and two non-singers, in our second year, and got into the habit of singing together. Mendelssohn and Purcell duets, church anthems, hymns, whatever the Choral Society was attempting next – and, when we were in a particularly silly mood, entire Gilbert and Sullivan scores – drove the rest of our housemates crazy on a regular basis. Music remained an important part of my spiritual life and an integral part of my friendship with Anne.

As our camino plans progressed we came to suspect that the rather exclusive nature of Mass would leave us, as non-Catholics, feeling rather out of things. We were aware, however, that we would appreciate some form of religious routine, and made preparations accordingly. Thus it was that I wrote, 'I'm being very obsessive, and very Anglican' in my blog the month before we set off. What I was doing was, in fact, adding pointing to the Psalms in my Book of Common Prayer, and copying a few chants from the Cathedral Psalter into the diary I planned to take with me. The BCP was the smallest and lightest devotional text that either of us possessed. I found a tiny King James Bible on e-Bay to accompany it. I do not think that either of us was particularly aggrieved that the constraints of weight forced us into this rather archaic model of worship. We were both comfortably familiar with Evening Prayer – Choral Evensong, for preference, though the said version was equally acceptable – and I have always loved Matins, mainly on the strength of the *Te Deum Laudamus* and the Third Collect.

As it happened, I only got round to copying out ten chants before becoming distracted by more pressing matters of preparation. It did not matter; we only began to learn them at Burgos, after two and a half weeks' walking, nor were we so dedicated as to sing all the set canticles and psalms at both services. Once we had worked out a system we sang the canticles at Matins and the psalms at Evensong and said everything else. We learned a loud, cheerful chant and a quiet, meditative one for short psalms of varying moods and the *Venite*. Then we learned a loud, cheerful, *double* chant suitable for longer psalms and the *Te Deum*, and a quiet, meditative double chant suitable for longer psalms and the *Benedictus*, and a couple of others for the sake of variety. The psalms that spoke of journeying, of the wilderness, of the natural world gained a new significance (*I was glad when they said unto me: let us go unto the house of the Lord*); others were simply amusing, such as the one that asserts that 'the fir-trees are a dwelling for the stork'. We saw plenty of storks, but never in fir trees. Once we had got over such difficulties as pitching sixths or finding our starting notes from what might conceivably be a D major arpeggio we had little trouble singing unaccompanied; the

beauty of psalm singing lies in its simplicity, and it works almost as well in a kitchen as it does in a cathedral. 'Very good,' Matthias, of the San Antonio de Padua *refugio*, commented. (Evensong had happened on the sun loungers on the front lawn that day.) 'One high, one low. One soprano, one contralto. It works well.'

Singing proved to be a valuable connection with other pilgrims, too. We appreciated some splendid Basque songs, a Canadian ditty that might have been about a cuckoo and the Brahms *Wiegenlied*. It is difficult to appreciate the true global significance of the Beatles until one has joined with forty other pilgrims of all ages and nationalities in belting out *Yesterday*. Taizé chants were also well known. I remember lying in my bunk at Carrión de los Condes, having been packed off to bed following a dehydration scare, wishing I could join the party downstairs in *Bless the Lord, my soul*. A couple of pilgrims brought guitars; I shuddered at the thought of the extra weight, but the potential for accompaniment was much appreciated. Marie-Noëlle of the Emaús *refugio* in Burgos kept one in the house for such eventualities; she got us all to sing *Nada te turbe* after supper and introduced us to the *Ultreia* song. We would sing such snatches of it as we remembered along the rest of the camino.

In some places *Guide me O thou great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land* seemed more than usually appropriate (for after all we had both learned to sing in church, and hymns were what we both knew best), but then so did *Jerusalem the golden... I know not, ah, I know not What joys await us there*. To keep our spirits up in the face of bad weather and physical discomfort we worked our way through the complete works of Tom Lehrer and my collection of family drinking songs and, inspired by the redoubtable Marvin, who never walked less than 30km a day, improvised a spoof of *Tipperary*, thus:

*It's a long way to Santiago,
It's a long way to go,
It's a long way to Santiago
Where the censer swings just so
Goodbye Roncesvalles,
Farewell Carrión,
It's a long, long way to Santiago
But we'll keep right on.*

And so we did. Singing, we found, had a most salutary effect upon us in our journey along the camino. It sustained us in the walking; it calmed us in the resting; it focussed us in the prayer and it connected us with our fellow pilgrims. For me and Anne it was an integral part of our pilgrimage.

An Edwardian on the Camino

Travels with Miss Berliet in Iberia

John Hopkins

Now and again happy discoveries are to be made among the holdings of county record offices. (I avoid the media expression 'the dusty archives', much beloved of news reporters who have probably never been near such places.) Diaries and journals survive from the recent to the distant past and record the thoughts, feelings and experiences of private individuals.

I recently came across a holiday diary kept by a gentleman by the name of Bates, of Hinderton Hall, Neston, Cheshire. It was purchased by the Cheshire Record Office twenty years ago, and despite having worked there for fifteen years, I have myself only recently encountered it. It takes the form of a quarto volume, bound in dark blue morocco, with the family crest on the cover. Its eighty-one manuscript pages are accompanied by (coincidentally) eighty-one original black and white photographs. The diary describes a holiday by car in May and June 1908, lasting forty-four days, through Portugal, Spain and France. The author and his wife travelled (eastwards) along part of the Camino de Santiago, though he does not mention the road of the pilgrims and may have been unaware of its existence.

His style makes pleasant enough reading as he describes the scenic pleasures of the trip, along with the difficulties due to appalling roads, dubious food and lodging and the vagaries of the Iberian temperament and customs.

The author does not identify himself in the course of writing the journal but further investigation revealed that the occupant of Hinderton Hall from about 1907 to at least 1939 was Sir Percy Elly Bates, Bart, Chairman of Cunard. His wife was Mary Ann Lefroy Bates whom he refers to in the diary only as 'Puss'.

Sir Percy begins with a wry note on holiday discussions with his wife: *'The house went into committee on the subject of the annual holiday'* and it was decided to explore Iberia and France, *'accidents and the King's enemies always excepted'*. Having seen the car, known to its owners as Miss Berliet, boxed at Liverpool docks, they sailed on 21st May on the SS Orissa. (No doubt Sir Percy's shipping contacts and

experience helped with the arrangements.) They sailed via La Rochelle (where the Rows were compared to those of Chester) to La Coruña and Vigo, where third-class passengers boarded and the doctor had to examine them, especially their eyes – *'Some of the girls were awfully shy, they thought he was going to kiss them'*. On 27th May they arrived in Lisbon where the car was checked by customs to ensure it was not a security risk. The recent assassination of the king and his heir had induced a thoroughness bordering on neurosis among police and bureaucrats.

Maps were purchased, cut up and the relevant sections joined together. Reactions to a foreign couple travelling in a motor car were mixed – *'Only in one or two places did the people seem to scowl at us'*. At Leiria the hotel was *'weird to a degree....the vin ordinaire improved on acquaintance'* though they had to remonstrate with the head waiter and/or factotum and/or bottle washer for clearing his throat and spitting out of the window.

They progressed (on surfaces the car did well to cope with) through Batalha, Leiria, Pombal, Coimbra, Vizeu, Sao Pedro de Sul, Castio Leire, Lamego, Regos, Vila Real, Amarante and Guimaraes to Braga, where at Dom Jesus de Monte *'a pilgrim resort situated on a hill outside the town'*, they noticed that on an artificial lake nearby *'the pilgrims amuse themselves rowing up and down...'*

By 8th June they had reached the Spanish border and via Tuy and Redondela they arrived at Vigo, having driven over the bumps at 40mph. In Pontevedra they discovered that a driving licence was required anew in each district and acquired a *'patent tin-opener which we wanted rather badly'*. *'The road to Santiago via Cuntis is excellent'*, he remarked. Their exploration of the city of St James, however, was surprisingly and disappointingly brief. They took several photographs (not a quick process) and enjoyed a tour in the afternoon of 10th June with a Señor Ramón García and Señor Pastor and so *'saw Santiago properly'* (between 1.15pm and 4.10pm) *'The town and streets interested us much more than the cathedral, they were so very quaint. The heat was terrific and we walked in single file in the shade. Under each narrow street runs a sewer and there are frequent holes through to the surface, the smells were varied and numerous but all-powerful. The cathedral itself was cool, in fact quite chilly....What took my fancy most was a cross and two candlesticks made of rock crystal, most beautiful work it was. The silver gilt bust of St James attracted our attention as it was studded with precious stones. We were shown a great selection of saints' bones but I*

think the priest who showed us everything was much more interested in those treasures which were works of art than the relics of particular saints. The tapestry we saw was very fine and in beautiful order. Once a year they have out the entire stock and it goes all round the cloisters.'

Sir Percy's photographs of the cathedral bring out the fine details of the Obradoiro facade though he struggles somewhat to include all of the building in the frame – perhaps still a problem for the amateur today. The picture of the Catholic Kings' hospital shows how the present-day *Parador* looked eighty-nine years ago.

From Santiago the couple drove east, presumably by or along the camino – *'A great, broad road magnificently engineered, it had good surface from side to side....Pigs were the only trouble, every cottage had pigs, lots of them all over the road, on the whole the dogs behaved better. Magpies were very common and so were jays, also lizards up to nearly two feet long. I saw a hoopoe twice, the first I have seen out of India. The country was mostly moorland, heather and rough grazing which supported great flocks of sheep both black and white. Vines were absent and were replaced by grain, barley and maize wherever the land was cultivated.'*

The hotel room at Lugo had a musty smell *'which I tried in vain to get rid of with Macdougall's powder'*. There was an excellent tiled bathroom – *'The only drawback was that it was not possible to obtain water except very slowly and never decently hot. The food was Spanish to the last degree and rather unappetising.'* Just as frustrating was an encounter with a rifle practice by the *guardia civil* firing across the road, *'...there was no-one to warn the passers-by. I saluted the officer in charge and we went on while more bullets whistled over the road.'*

After Lugo they rejoined the camino. *'There were numbers of little dirty villages with thatched houses and pigs... shade was very scarce. In Villa Franca (del Bierzo) we were kept waiting to get over a bridge in course of construction....It seemed a very quaint place but we did not wait as we were pestered by children and it was very hot. (Two evocative photographs illustrate the scenery at this point in the narrative.) Then came a long climb over a bumpy road exposed to the full glare of the sun....Then came many more miles over a treeless plain of grain crops. Snow-flecked mountains were visible in the distance. Then at last we reached Astorga, a mud city with a stone cathedral.'* They did not stop, other than to take photographs, including a most atmospheric view of a medieval bridge and church *'near Astorga'*, in fact at Hospital de Orbigo, scene of the exploits of Don Suero de Quiñones.

León was reached on 12th June, the Hotel Noriega providing fair food but filthy rooms and Sir Percy experiencing a twenty-four hour fever. Fully recovered by the 15th, he records that they *'went out to look at the cathedral and the doctor kindly showed us around. It is quite one of the most beautiful buildings I have ever seen. The delicate masonry was delightful. The stained glass is magnificent and quite in its proper place here... we looked round the old walls which are much more built up than at Lugo and seem largely constituted of cement and rubble.'*

After a bad night's sleep due to noise in the café below their room, Sir Percy and Lady Bates headed north for Oviedo, leaving the camino for good. In very wet weather they arrived in Santander where he took a dog whip to the touts competing for the chance to garage the car. They crossed from San Sebastián to Biarritz and made their way up through Bordeaux, Blois, Chartres and Rouen to Boulogne. Back in England, they drove first to London, proceeding *'very cautiously for fear of the police'*. Only two punctures had been incurred on the whole of the trip though the car needed some work on its return.

Spain in particular had made an impression on the diarist as well as on his car. He does not record his wife's views on the holiday experience, apart from a dissatisfaction with a hotel. It would be interesting to know whether they had any pre-conceived notions of what to expect or whether they had been to Iberia before. They seem to have had a clear plan of their route and the places they felt worth visiting. Sir Percy's car maintenance skills were both necessary and considerable. He carried out many improvised repairs en route. He does not recall his overall feelings about the journey or whether he felt it to be worthwhile. The last page or two of the account is concerned with the minutiae of the drive back to the Wirral. Perhaps he was relieved to be on King Edward's soil again. One feels, however, that the holiday, in conception and execution, was a not inconsiderable achievement in 1908, even (perhaps especially) for an English baronet and his wife, and that it did have some of the arduousness and rewards of a pilgrimage.

Extracts from: The diary of Sir Percy Bates (doc ref. DDX 442) are reproduced with the permission of Cheshire County Council and the owner/depositor to whom copyright is reserved.

Members' Pages

From Janet Skinner

I could have been in Northern Spain on a warm September afternoon except that the women wore their national costumes with bright full skirts and various colourful hats to tell otherwise.

Cusco in Peru had been the capital of an Inca-led civilisation first appearing in 1200 and wiped out by Pizarro in the 1530s. On the site of the Inca's palace were built three adjoining churches. The small ones dedicated to the Holy Family (Mary, Joseph and Jesus) and the Triumph of Spain over Inca stand each side of the large cathedral that looks as if it were built in Spain and relocated across the world.

A local guide showed us the cedar wood pulpit, gold and silver altars and the famous painting of the Last Supper complete with roasted guinea-pig. My attention was drawn to a painting of St James. The guide had never been to Spain but she described the painting as Santiago Matamoros. The depiction of St James is very similar to the painting in the Cathedral at Santiago de Compostela but instead of Moors he is killing the Inca's people.

Further on I found a statue of St James on a white horse but unlike the one at Santiago with dead Moors depicted this one has a sole Inca underneath the horse, lifting it. The guide said the local man was fighting back.

On the Inca Trail, Camino Inca, to Machu Picchu I learned I was in fact on a pilgrim route used by Peruvians to recall their Inca past.

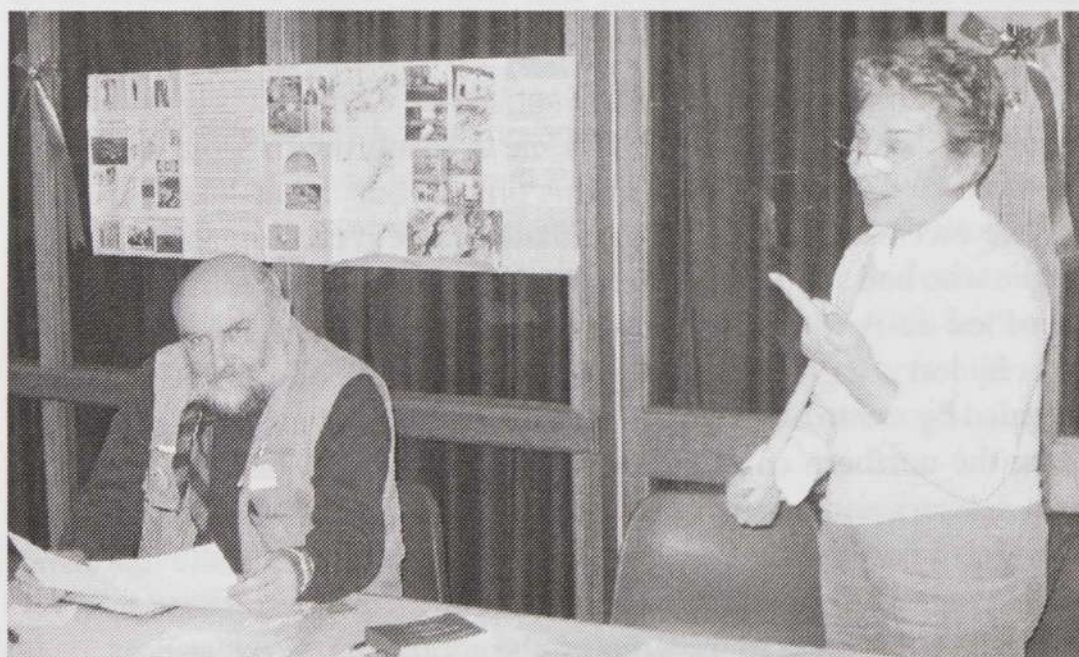
From Austin Cooke

Austin Cooke, coordinator of the Ottawa Group of the Company of Pilgrims in Canada, walked the *Camí de Sant Jaume* in 2008 and has provided a fact sheet about it which is now in the Routes Section of the CSJ website. Three hundred kilometres long it leads from Montserrat to link up with the *Camino Aragonés* in Jaca and is suitable for both walking and cycling pilgrims. For more information see www.csj.org.uk/route-cami-de-sant-jaume.htm

From John Hatfield – Slide Librarian

Planning to give a talk about the pilgrimage? Why not use the CSJ slide library to help you? Did you know that the CSJ's growing collection of over 3600 slides, available to UK members, covers not only the Camino Francés, but also the other main routes in France and Spain? Please give at least a month's notice so that a catalogue can be sent to you and your choice made. As soon as I hear from you, I can reserve the slides and dispatch them two weeks before your talk. I can be contacted at: 9 Vicary Way, Maidstone, Kent ME16 0EJ; Tel: 01622 757814 [Please note that John may be less than usually accessible during March and April]

From the Briefing of Vézelay Route Wardens



On Saturday 15 December 2007 we were delighted to welcome at the CSJ office Mme Monique Chassain, President of the Amis et Pèlerins de St Jacques de la Voie de Vézelay for a briefing of veteran and new CSJ members who have volunteered to serve as wardens in 2008 at one of the refuges at Corbigny, Bouzais, Sorges or St Ferme. It was an opportunity for the group to meet Monique, get to know each other and exchange experiences. It was a happy occasion and very encouraging that the participants had come from places as far afield as Cumbernauld and Salisbury.

From James Cruickshank

Further to *Elements of the Camino* on page 24 of *Bulletin* 99:

*Dear folks, of course, I don't complain
About the mix-up with my name
Though, if deep truth can be admired
And if kind deeds could be inspired,
The name of 'David', chap and dames,
Would be replaced with that of 'James'
For that has been my name, you see,
From babe-in-arms to OAP.
Errata's course I don't propound
If sequel's spelling would be sound....etc.*

Many, many apologies, The Editor.

From David Whitmore

My wife Kathie and I travelled to Santiago de Compostela by bicycle in August/September 2005 and flew home to Heathrow. In September 2007 we travelled the route again but this time in our motor-home. On this trip we met two Australians, grandfather and grandson, and a French couple who had a problem in common. Getting their bikes back to Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port after a successful pilgrimage. The Aussies sent their bikes by lorry at great expense. The French went back on the train and returned by car to Santiago to collect their bikes. It is possible to travel along the northern coast of Spain from Ferrol to Bilbao on the FEVE train network and take your bike on the train, but this does not seem to be widely known. May I suggest that you do an article in the magazine on this topic. It is much more of an adventure to return home by train and ferry rather than to fly. Keep up the good work! Best wishes.

Editor's note: See article by Martyn Tonks in this Bulletin.

From Catherine Kimmel and Doreen Hansen

We are arranging a South West/Wales area local meeting – Sunday 29 June 2008.

Would you be interested in building up a local CSJ group? If so, please come along on Sunday 29 June to meet, eat and chat about what we want to do. This will be an early afternoon meeting to give everyone a chance to meet, chat and eat. We will be meeting in the Forest of Dean (border of Wales and England). We are trying to judge the level of interest so, if you would like to come along please contact Doreen at gfgv40-csj@yahoo.co.uk or Marion at the CSJ office.

Book Reviews

Conqueror's Son, Duke Robert Curthose: Thwarted King

Katherine Lack, Stroud: Sutton Publishing, 2007 228pp, index, 8pp b/w photos, 11 maps, 9 family trees, ISBN 978-0-7509-4566-0, £20.

There is a copy in the CSJ library.

This is the third book from the author of *The Cockleshell Pilgrim: A Medieval Journey to Compostela* (SPCK 2003) and with which the reader may already be familiar. This time, however, she turns her attention to the eldest son of William the Conqueror, Duke Robert of Normandy, who never, in fact, succeeded to the throne of England as he should have done. In this new book she redresses the balance of opinion on a man who has had 900 years of bad publicity as a rebel, lazy ruler and incompetent idler, and what emerges instead is a portrayal of someone who was, in fact, quite the contrary and who, in some ways perhaps, had too much integrity for his own good.

Very thoroughly researched but with a fast-moving narration, this book is accessible to the non-specialist and revises our understanding of William the Conqueror and his complex relations with his sons, painting a vivid picture of the royal and aristocratic families of northern Europe and their carefully maintained, though always fragile, alliances.

But what, the reader may well be asking, does all this have to do with pilgrimage? A substantial section of the book deals with Duke Robert's participation in the First Crusade. It describes the routes taken and provides insight into the logistics of mounting such an enormous operation, into the way it was financed, "marketed" to attract participants, the details of day-to-day travel, lodging, equipment, battles, losses, sickness and surviving the winter and of those, many of whom returned home after reaching Rome, who had never intended to go to the Holy Land at all but who had joined the Crusade purely in order to undertake a pilgrimage under the protection of such a large group.

The text is accompanied by eight pages of photographs, eleven maps, nine family trees to help the reader understand the complex relationships of the key participants and an extensive bibliography.

ALISON RAJU

Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela: Chronicle of Love

Jack de Groot. University Press of the South, Inc. (New Orleans) 2007

ISBN 1-931948-50-X: viii, 166pp. map frontis; paper covers

There is a copy in the CSJ library.

As pilgrim books go, Jack de Groot's account of his solo journey along the 1200 year-old *Via Aquitania*, from France to Northern Spain reads as an above-average chronicle of pilgrimage and self-discovery. The write-up on its rear jacket describes the author as a 'non-Catholic' man 'journeying and intersecting' with a number of fellow pilgrims who are 'questioning and discovering their beliefs' whilst in the process of their individual journeys, but one might initially be forgiven for wondering whether the author ever truly set out from Roncesvalles, so wedded does he seem to its misty atmosphere, returning to it as a kind of *genus loci* throughout its duration. For a relatively short book, the author manages to cram in a wealth of information, but it is tempting to conjecture whether his narrative succeeds to any great degree as either a personal diary or indeed as a kind of historical primer for the Great Pilgrimage routes to Compostela. There would appear to be a conflict of intent, stemming largely from the fact that de Groot's own narrative tends more often than not, to be overshadowed by lengthy sections quoted from early texts on the Pilgrimage, when really it is *his* thoughts and experiences that should be engaging us throughout. He includes, for example, some weighty excerpts from Picaud's *Codex Calixtinus* which, whilst of some use to the reader, does tend to frustrate his attempts at recording his journey *per se*, and in some respects this can make for awkward reading, particularly given the fact that where de Groot *does* evoke a sense of place or a dynamic particular to those he encounters during the course of his pilgrimage, he succeeds at it admirably.

In addition to the lengthy sections from the *Codex*, the author also throws in a mish-mash of other literary sources, from Ovid to Amado Nervo, the modernist Mexican poet whose quoted stanza is used by de Groot to sum up the forward-moving sense of the journey to Compostela:

'...Because I see at the end of my rough road, that I was the architect of my own destiny...'

As in most accounts of the camino, de Groot includes the somehow inevitable section on St James and the consequent history of the Great

European Pilgrimage, which similar authors understandably feel reluctant to omit because the story lends context to personal narrative. De Groot's take on the account of Santiago's life, death and subsequent journey to the westernmost point of Europe is delivered in a colloquial, entertaining style which also succeeds in being informative for those readers perhaps less well-acquainted with the Compostela story, and in this particular chapter, one feels that the author has sifted fact from fiction, and layered it with an acutely personal take on the story of James's miraculous journey and the subsequent re-animation of the Pilgrimage in our contemporary age.

Most pilgrims would admit to the fact that, given the acute sensory nature of the camino, the sheer burden of history, coupled with an ever-present sense of place that such a journey inevitably evinces, making sense of a fluid narrative of one's personal journey is a daunting task to undertake in book form, no matter how adept its creator. De Groot succeeds in creating vivid pen-portraits of his fellow pilgrims, and one has the sense that, like most of us who have been in a similar dynamic with other travellers, he does so with the knowledge that by their very nature, relationships forged with fellow pilgrims in the *refugios*, in bars and in restaurants are, by the very nature of the experience, temporal, not necessarily friendships forged for the journey beyond. There are, however, moments when the liveliness of a recollection of place, or the immediacy of a personal encounter can seem hijacked by the interjection of yet another chunk of Picaud, or because he has subjugated personal sentiment in favour of another's, and this can sometimes feel frustrating. That stated, despite the rather scatter-bullet approach to his onward narrative, de Groot perfectly evokes, for example, the act of reaching O Cebreiro, skilfully juxtaposing the experience of arrival there with an amusing account of an impromptu concert that just happens to be taking place, and as a consequence a night of denied sleep! And again, the very singular atmosphere of Roncesvalles to which he returns frequently in his story; a place so freighted with an sense of expectation that every new pilgrim must experience at the outset of the journey that it cannot but leave its impression on anyone who has been there, or slept a night beneath its rooftops. Elsewhere in the book, he gives good account of his *meseta* experiences, and offsets the legend of the live chickens at Santo Domingo de la Calzada with that of an evening spent in the Cistercian *Hospedería*, punctuated throughout with the animated banter of those whom he encounters over supper there. For

those familiar with his prose-style, there is a definite air of Otto Sebalde about de Groot's particular take on his camino experiences, and this is in no sense to its detriment. There is, however, a certain reliance on the reader's familiarity with the specific 'stages' of the journey to Compostela, as suddenly he drops you there with little warning, leaving the uninformed reader to conjecture as much as those that are familiar with them, very much to the reliance of their memories.

By and large, de Groot's *Chronicle of Love* sustains a strong evocation of the pilgrim experience throughout and, whilst there may be more suitable primers for those wishing to undertake the camino for the first time, it is nevertheless a worthy addition to any pilgrim's library.

GRAHAM WARD

Obituaries

D José-María Alonso Marroquín RIP 1926-2008

Many pilgrims will surely have a memory of this wonderful priest, who, alongside D Elias Valiña and others, helped to breathe life into the camino in the 1980s. I first met him on our CSJ visit to Burgos, when he graciously welcomed us to San Juan de Ortega where he was parish priest for over 30 years and gave us a guided visit to the old monastic and hospital buildings. He relished showing off its treasures-I especially remember the flourish with which he opened the door of an altar piece, revealing a display of a dozen or more relics, each housed in a model of the arm or leg from which it had come. Even then he was hoping for money to help restore the buildings to their former glory. But this surprisingly never seemed to be forthcoming, and pilgrims continue to baulk at the cold water and perhaps less than hygienic conditions. However, those who determine to live within the traditions of the pilgrimage and accept the hospitality offered, learn valuable lessons. The communal 'sopa de ajo' is universally known but the joyous description and Bible study conducted in a seemingly impromptu manner about the carved capital in the church showing the visit of Mary to Elizabeth and the recognition that we can all say 'yes' with pleasure to God's call is perhaps less talked about.

If you have particular memories of this fine priest, please send them to me at the office so we can compile a Pilgrims' Tribute to this remarkable character.

Ben Burrows RIP 1925-2007

Ben and his wife Muriel did not quite make it to Santiago on foot, though they had walked in stages since 1991. But they did arrive there with a Familiarisation Tour for potential group leaders organised by the now defunct Catholic Travel Service. Several members of CSJ, including me, and some from the Cornish Bredereth Sen Jago took part as well a number of other characters who subsequently joined the CSJ.

It was a journey of many adventures and Ben and Muriel kept good natured throughout. They took great pleasure in seeing the places only half-glimpsed on their earlier journey.

Ben died shortly before Christmas and was remembered in a thanksgiving service in his beloved Chichester Cathedral in January.

After working in Birmingham (and incidentally getting to know Colin Jones) and Dorset they 'retired' to Chichester. They started walking the camino in stages, joined wildlife groups and continued their interest in bee keeping and bell ringing and Ben in particular played a full part in the life of the cathedral community. They were regular attenders at Southern meetings of CSJ and also the AGM.

Audrey Timmins RIP 1926-2007

Audrey and John (RIP, see *Bulletin* 97) celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1993 by walking from le Puy and arriving to press coverage and acclaim in Santiago. Later they walked the Camino primitivo. Audrey was the church goer and continued making less arduous pilgrimages, especially to Walsingham, which she loved.

William J McGuire RIP 1925-2007

Dr William McGuire of Yale university had been a CSJ member since 1999. He made his camino to Santiago on foot in 2000, at the age of 75, described by his wife, Claire V McGuire, as one of the highlights of his life. His death in late 2007 allows us to learn a little more about a not inconsiderable life. In an obituary by former student John T Jost of New York University he is described as 'for several decades the field's premier researcher of the psychology of attitude change and persuasion.' He published many papers and edited the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* for several years. Jost concludes 'And by now, his reputation is secure as one of the most creative, witty, and erudite writers ever to ponder the social mind.'

From the Secretary's Notebook

Marion Marples

New Year Tribulations

Many members noticed the sorry note on the front page of the CSJ website early in the year, noting the theft of the CSJ computer. By a miracle of St James (good housekeeping by our computer-fixer Howard Nelson) everything was backed up so we have not lost data. Coming at one of the busier times of year –the AGM, the Miraz fundraising lunch, Practical Pilgrim Days, publication of the new 2008 Pilgrim Guide to the Camino frances we could have done without it. We then suffered another break in where the office and store room doors were quite badly damaged, but nothing was taken. Police have footprints and are, as they say, investigating.

Annual General Meeting

There was an even larger than usual attendance for this year's AGM.

A great surprise was the play written by pilgrim and member Ruth Gibbs while walking from le Puy some years ago. The Trustees presented The Cock and the Hen to everyone's delight. Unexpected talents were uncovered, from Cristina Spink as the cunning innkeeper's daughter trying to entrap lanky Scot Graeme Taylor who played the saintly and innocent Hugonell, focussed only on his pilgrimage to St James. Colin Jones ran the inn with a firm hand and William Griffiths strode on as the magistrate to the manner born. Gosia Brykczynska played the daffy wife and Paul Graham the long suffering husband as the bickering pilgrim couple made their pilgrimage. Cameo performances by Mary Moseley, a very authentic chicken, and Ricky Yates, the ghost of Santo Domingo completed the triumphal production. With thanks too to Angelika Schneider and Catherine Kimmel who helped get everyone on at the right time.

New Trustees for 2008

Paul Graham returns as Chair of the Gaucelmo sub-committee, taking over from Paul and Cristina Spink. Roger Davies from Bridport, Dorset, has been elected as a Trustee for the first time, bringing valuable experience as a hospitalero at Rabanal and from work as a

magistrate and in youth work.

Pilgrim Passports/Pilgrim Records/*Credenciales* in 2009

We were alarmed to learn early last year that the Pilgrim Office were stipulating that only *credenciales* issued by the Cathedral would be acceptable for consideration for the issue of a 'compostela'. The aim of this was to reinforce the Christian nature of the pilgrimage and remove some of the more frivolous *credenciales*. We have been grateful to learn from D Genaro Cebrián, the canon-in-charge at the Pilgrim office that this ruling does not apply to the overseas associations and that the CSJ will be able to continue the issue of its own Pilgrim Records as before. What is not quite so clear at present is which *credenciales* will be acceptable in the refuges/albergues.

Pilgrim Statistics for 2007

From the Pilgrim Office in Santiago

Total number of pilgrims 114,026

ROUTES TAKEN

Camino Francés	91,872
Camino Portugués	8110
Camino del Norte	5871
Camino Primitivo	2569
Camino Inglés	1085
Other	326

Men 66780, women 47,426 – the proportion is gradually evening out

On foot	93,953
Bike	19,702
Horseback	364
Wheelchair	7

For the first time more *compostelas* (58,700) were issued to 'foreigners' than to Spanish pilgrims (55,326).

Pilgrims from Ireland

After last year's successful sailing from Dingle to la Coruña another 40-strong group is sailing in the restored sail training ship Jeanie Johnston, this time from Dublin. On arrival at la Coruña the group will then walk the Camino Inglés to Santiago, as did their forbears.

New Gites d'étape

At Lectoure on the GR65: Le Pelerin d'Occident, 28 rte Ste Claire, 32700 Lectoure. See www.lepelerindoccident.com, contact@lepelerindoccident.com

Le Gite du Camp Romain is opening at St Jean le Vieux, 4 km before St-Jean-Pied-de-Port. It will have 2 twin rooms, one 4 bed room, each ensuite. 30 euros per night per person including supper. It will be run by Carol Etchandy, wife of Jean-Jacques who runs the gite d'étape at orison. Tel 06-86-99-82-03 or email gitecampromain@orange.fr

New refuge on Camino Francés

Terradillos de los Templarios, 24km after Carrion de los Condes: Los Templarios. Single, double, triple and shared rooms (56 beds), all with private bathroom. From 6 euros. See for more information and pictures in www.alberguelostemplarios.com or tel 0034 667 25 22 79

New Refuge in Zamora (Via de la Plata)

A new refuge was opened by the Municipality and Amigos de Camino de Santiago de Zamora in January 2008. It will provide accommodation for 22 pilgrims on 3 floors, with kitchen, lift and terrace.

List of websites

It is nearly impossible to keep up-to-date with all the websites devoted to the camino. A useful list, sorted by country of origin, has been compiled at www.rencesvals.com/xacowebs. www.rencesvals.com itself gives a lot of information about the history, wildlife and crossing of the Pyrenees at Roncesvalles.

Useful kit

People who cannot carry heavy loads may like to investigate this lightweight Swiss-made trolley which attaches to the waist. For travelling the handles can be folded back and the trolley pushed forward. See www.carrix.ch, info@carrix.ch, tel 0041 31 961 64 75

CSJ Walking Pilgrimage in 2009

We should like to organize a walking pilgrimage along the Pilgrim's Way /North Downs Way to Canterbury and to invite some of our friends from the Normandy Association and others to join us. It would be really helpful if several people were interested to join the St Martins-in-the Fields pilgrimage this Spring Bank Holiday and to treat it as a 'reccy' for our own pilgrimage. See Other Events section of the Bulletin. If you plan to go please also let me know at the Office.

Applying for a Pilgrim's Record

Please note that the new Records Secretary is now Mrs Doreen Hansen.

Please try and give at least 5 weeks notice of your requirements for a Pilgrim Record – to avoid stress and disappointment.

With your request please send a strong SAE (with sufficient adhesive to stick the envelope flap down) to avoid having the pilgrim passport landing on the floor of the sorting office instead of in your post-box. Also your membership number and the date and place of the start of your pilgrimage.

Doreen Hansen

1 Kingscote Close, Hatherley, Cheltenham, Glos. GL51 6JU

CSJ Events

Please see the Diary sent with this *Bulletin* for a more complete list.

various dates

Saturday Office Open Days

10.30am-3.30pm

29 March, 28 June, 27 September, 25 October, 22 November

27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NY

May

Book launch

There will be a launch event for a new colour booklet *Roads to Santiago* published by Redemptorist Publications and CSJ in honour of our 25th Anniversary. It contains 25 reflections about the pilgrimage by members and is illustrated with pictures from the CSJ Digital Library. Please watch the website for notification of date and place.

Friday 25-Sunday 27 July

St James's Day weekend

ST JAMES'S DAY WEEKEND IN WARWICKSHIRE

St James the Great Church Snitterfield appears in the CSJ's new Guide: Warwickshire and the Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela. The parish will be celebrating St James's Day on 25 July (and not transferring to the weekend, which many churches do). The church is very excited that CSJ is coming and are going to invite other nearby churches of St James to celebrate with them. This will be a wonderful occasion to give thanks for the 25 years of the CSJ. The building dates from the 13th c-15th c, and has a stained glass window of 1877 and fresco by Hardman of 1884. There is pilgrim (?) graffiti and a 16th c St James on the choir stalls. I think they are the only church in England to have the stylised blue and gold scallop design on the altar kneeler.

During the weekend we shall visit other places dedicated to St James. See overleaf for a draft programme.

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Friday 25 July

St James the Great, Snitterfield
7.30pm Eucharist for St James

Saturday 26 July

am Talk on the pilgrimage
Pilgrim lunch

3pm Visit and Guided Tour (£6.40) by
the Master of Lord Leycester Hospital,
Warwick. These late 14th c almshouses
around the west gate of Warwick, with 12th
c chapel of St James now serve
ex-servicemen and their wives.

Tea in Brethren's Kitchen

5pm Visit to 12th St Mary's Warwick with
fine 15th c Beauchamp chapel

Evening meal together

Sunday 27 July

10.30am Church St Mary's Warwick
(Choral Eucharist) –known for fine musical
tradition or 9.30am Mass at St Francis of
Assisi Baddesley Clinton or 11am Mass
St Gregory the Great, Stratford upon Avon

On way or after visit Church of St David
Newbold on Stour to see new St James
window, commissioned by CSJ member
Christabel Watson

Walk on long distance path, possibly
Monarch's Way

Pub Lunch

Depart

ACCOMMODATION

Snitterfield is about half way between and 6 miles from Warwick and Stratford –upon-Avon. I have so far reserved various types of rooms in and around Snitterfield:

Hill Cottage 1 x T 1 xS [2 x D]

Ingon farm: 1 x T,[1 xD]

Shakespeare View: 1 x T, 1 x D

I hope to find further accommodation in Warwick and/or Stratford.

The Youth Hostel (outside Stratford at Alveston) is completely booked one night and has a few rooms the other.

TRANSPORT

This will work best if we have quite a few cars to transport the non car drivers around. We can book taxis to Snitterfield from Warwick Parkway (good frequent service to London Marylebone and Birmingham), or Warwick or Stratford.

Please see form enclosed with this *Bulletin*.

Friday 25 July

St James's Day

Service for St James's day, Christ Church Morningside, Edinburgh

Autumn

Returned Pilgrim Service

In the early autumn we shall have a Returned Pilgrim Service.

Saturday 22 November

Storrs Lecture

3.30pm Prof Dame Jinty Nelson, title to be confirmed. John Marshall Hall, 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NY (Also Office Open Day 10.30am-3.30pm)

Other events

12-13 May

Nürnberg-Konstanz pilgrimage

Each year Gerhilde Fleischer organises a group of pilgrims to walk the *Jakobusweg* and update the waymarking as and when required (though with time this is needed less and less). The pilgrimage takes place over a three-week period, starting in Nürnberg on Monday 12th May and finishing in Konstanz (on the Swiss border) on Sunday 1st June. Pilgrims interested in joining the group do not have to participate in the entire journey but can join/leave the route in Nürnberg, Nördlingen, Ulm, Weingarten or Bad Waldsee, i.e. the places printed in **bold** in the programme. Accommodation is in guest houses and small hotels and prices per day per person (including a copious breakfast) is in the region of 25-30 euros (note that there are very few single rooms). Participants pay for their accommodation and meals as they go along and carry their own rucksack (there is no back-up vehicle). Daily distances vary somewhat according to the availability of accommodation but are normally between about 20 and 25km (the route is not particularly strenuous). Many members of the group come from different parts of Germany but there are frequently participants from other countries as well, such as Britain, Holland, Sweden and Australia. An ability to speak German is obviously an advantage but is not essential.

The programme this year will be as follows:

Monday May 12th travel to **Nürnberg**, Tuesday 13th Nürnberg - Unterreichenbach, Wednesday 14th Unterreichenbach - Abenberg, Thursday 15th Abenberg - Kalbensteinberg, Friday 16th Kalbensteinberg - Gunzenhausen, Saturday 17th Gunzenhausen - Heidenheim, Sunday 18th Heidenheim - Oettingen, Monday 19th Oettingen - **Nördlingen** Tuesday 20th **Nördlingen** - Neresheim, Wednesday 21st Neresheim - Giengen, Thursday 22nd Giengen - Nerestetten, Friday 23rd Nerestetten - **Ulm**, Saturday 24th **Rest Day in Ulm**. Sunday 25th **Ulm** - Oberdischingen, Monday 26th Oberdischingen - Maselheim, Tuesday 27th Maselheim - Muttensweiler, Wednesday 28th Muttensweiler - **Bad Waldsee** (26km), Thursday 29th **Bad Waldsee** - Weingarten, Friday 30th Weingarten - Brochenzell, Saturday 31st Brochenzell - Markdorf, Sunday June 1st Markdorf - **Meersburg/Konstanz**.

Anyone interested in taking part should contact Gerhilde *in writing* (either by letter or fax - she speaks excellent English): Gerhilde Fleischer, Rainstrasse 11/3, D-88316 Isny, Germany, tel/fax 00-49-7562/55 385. If you would like more information in general about this "German

Camino” you may or may not know that the Confraternity publishes a guide to the route, describing the places it passes through and the many “sights” of Jacobean and pilgrim interest, as well as details of accommodation and services and full route-finding instructions. Pilgrim Guides to the Roads through Europe to Santiago de Compostela series, 2. *Nürnberg to Konstanz*, £5.00 Alternatively, for a brief introduction, you can find a short description of this route either on the CSJ’s web site (“Other Routes” section) or in the CSJ’s *Which Camino?* booklet.

Friday 16 May

Goerlitz – Zittau – Prague

We have received an Invitation from the Polish Confraternity of St James the Apostle in Jakubów to attend the formal opening of the St James’s way through central Europe from Goerlitz – Zittau – Prague. If you would like to attend this celebration please contact the editor on office@csj.org.uk On 1 March the opening of the latest new *refugio* at Goerlitz was attended by both Polish and German pilgrims. You might also like to borrow the new Guides we have: Zittauer Jakobsweg: Sudlicher Teil des Jakobsweg Gnesen-Goerlitz-Prag (in German) and the Droga sw. Jakuba Via Regia (in Polish, route from Glowgow and Jakubow). We also have a copy of the guide in German for the route from Goerlitz

Friday 23 – Monday 26 May

London-Canterbury

The 18th annual pilgrimage from St Martin-in-the-Fields church, London to Canterbury cathedral on behalf of homeless people.

Roger Shaljean, Pilgrimage Manager writes:

Each year on the Friday preceding the Spring Bank Holiday a group of pilgrims sets off from the steps of St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church. Over the ensuing four days they walk about 18 miles daily to the cloisters of Canterbury Cathedral, there they lay flowers on the tomb of the Revd Dick Sheppard on Spring Bank Holiday Monday.

‘Dick’ was Vicar of St. Martin’s from 1914-1927 and in that time he turned the church upside down and put people’s needs at the heart of the place but with splendid life-changing effects. It is a ‘tradition’ that has been displayed by every vicar since and anyone who has seen the church recently (the whole site is being developed and refurbished) will know that our present vicar is no exception to that rule!

Our pilgrims come from every background and they walk the

72 miles for the benefit of the Connection at St. Martin's (an agency providing social care and opportunities to homeless people of all ages) so there is a good representation of project work Staff, Volunteers, supporters and our clients themselves. There are folk too fascinated by the Chaucerian aspect to the journey, those who love walking, those who love Kent and those who love the human race in all its diversity! We walk in groups of about ten each group developing its own character and interest, we spend the night at Church and village halls. Food and accommodation is provided and worship and entertainment are on offer most days.

What is it really about? It depends who you might ask ... a fundraiser might say it was essentially a sponsored walk; a visitor from abroad might say that it touches a very English nerve and that history and Thomas Becket are never far from our thoughts; a homeless person might say that it is an event where there is a rare equality and some-one with a home might say the same thing. Some-one else might see it as a physical challenge, others will see it essentially as a spiritual journey.

None of this will surprise anyone who has walked to Santiago though we are different in that our groups are fairly large and there are healthcare and refreshment constantly available.

Registration forms are available now and the standard fee of £15 per day (inclusive) may be paid now. All comers welcome!

Contact details: www.smitf-pilgrimage.org.uk, email roger.shaljean@cstm.org.uk, tel 020 7766 5544 or write to Pilgrimage Manager, The Connection at St Martin's, 12 Adelaide Street, London, WC2N 4HW.

Saturday 21 June

Polish celebration

Invitation from the Polish Confraternity of St James to attend the all Polish celebration of parishes and organisations dedicated to St James, at the national Marian shrine of BVM at Jasna Góra (Częstochowa). For more information contact the editor on office@csj.org.uk

Thursday 14-Saturday 23 August

Singing

Singing Course *De L'Ancien aux Nouveaux Mondes: de Hildegarde Von Bingen à Gershwin* with the Ensemble Venance Fortunat and the Centre de Culture Européenne at the Abbaye Royale, Saint-Jean d'Angély. For all levels of singers, accommodation in the Abbey building. Cost of teaching: 375 euros, accommodation from 511 euros (single room) to 326 euros (sharing room for 4), non resident rate inc coffee/dinner: 153 euros. See www.cceangely.org, www.venance-fortunat.org or contact the Office for a copy of the brochure.

Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 November

Switzerland

Weekend to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Swiss Association Les Amis du Chemin de Saint-Jacques to be held at Crêt-Bérard, Puidoux, Switzerland. Crêt-Bérard is between Lausanne and Vevey see www.cret-berard.ch It would be good if someone would like to represent the Confraternity at this celebration.

New Members

Information is provided for members' use only.

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Dr Robert Sharp 0061 4 1113 1217
46 Thomas St Lewisham N S W 2049 Australia
Mr Christopher & Mrs Christine Walters 0061 4 0010 1398
1/30 Alfred Street Lilyfield NSW 2040 Australia
Mr Andrew & Mrs Marilyn Wilson 0061 8 9361 0844
45 Sunbury Road Victoria Park W A 6100 Australia

1. The first of these is the fact that the
 2. number of cases of this disease has
 3. increased in the last few years.
 4. This is due to the fact that the
 5. disease is now more common in the
 6. United States than it was a few
 7. years ago. This is due to the fact
 8. that the disease is now more
 9. common in the United States than
 10. it was a few years ago. This is
 11. due to the fact that the disease
 12. is now more common in the United
 13. States than it was a few years
 14. ago. This is due to the fact that
 15. the disease is now more common
 16. in the United States than it was
 17. a few years ago. This is due to
 18. the fact that the disease is now
 19. more common in the United States
 20. than it was a few years ago.

Editors of Confraternity Publications

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

Pilgrim Guides to Spain

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

Pilgrim Guides to the Roads through France

- 1 *Paris to the Pyrenees* Marigold Fox, 19 Maple Way, ROYSTON, Hertfordshire SG8 7DH
(01763) 244525
- 3 *Le Puy to the Pyrenees* Alison Raju, 21 Hall Street, Sherwood, NOTTINGHAM NG5 4BB
alisonraju@btopenworld.com
- 4 *Arles to Puente La Reina* Marigold Fox, 19 Maple Way, ROYSTON, Hertfordshire SG8 7DH
(01763) 244525

Pilgrim Guides to the Roads through Europe

- 2 *Nürnberg to Konstanz* Alison Raju, 21 Hall Street, Sherwood, NOTTINGHAM NG5 4BB
alisonraju@btopenworld.com
- 4 *Via Gebennensis* Alison Raju, 21 Hall Street, Sherwood, NOTTINGHAM NG5 4BB
alisonraju@btopenworld.com

Practical Pilgrim Notes *for Walkers*
for Cyclists
for Riders
Winter Pilgrim
Which Camino?

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

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Secretary Marion Marples
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Pilgrim Record Secretary Please apply with SAE (quoting membership number) to:
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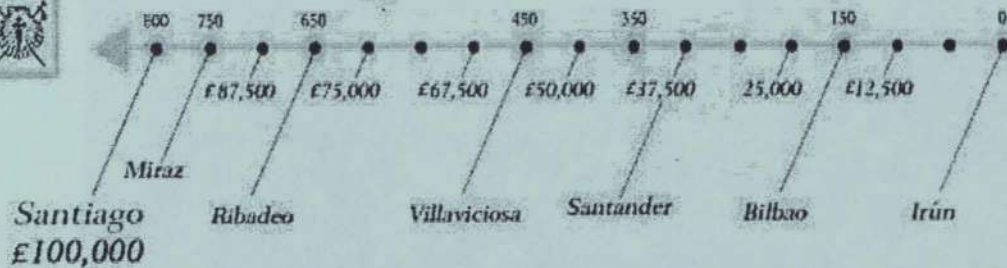
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How has the *gaítero* progressed?



Appeal Total £74,976 - THANK YOU

- Extension Plans
- ¡Que Aproveche! (Spanish recipe book)
- Sponsor-a-Week

*** *The Miraz Appeal* ***

History - In May 2005, the Bishop of Lugo gave us use of the *Casa Rectoral* (priest's house) in the village of Miraz in Galicia, to provide a pilgrim *refugio*. Whilst structurally sound, the building needed to be renovated, equipped and perhaps extended, if pilgrim numbers justified it, We originally aimed to raise £100,000 to cover both these and future running and maintenance costs.

"A Taste of Spain" & "There are Two Courts: the King's Court and Hampton Court"

On 20th January, more than 60 members and guests gathered near Hampton Court Palace in Surrey as part of the CSJ's 25th anniversary celebrations.

Maureen Young tells us - *"The day started with a leisurely and interesting walk from Hampton Court Station, through Hampton Court Palace Gardens and into Bushy Park, (the second largest of the Royal Parks and home to more than 300 deer) with William Griffiths giving an informative talk on the area as we walked.*

An excellent lunch was had at the Don Pepe restaurant at Hampton Court, the tapas included 9 different dishes, and the main course an impressive paella which had to be seen to be believed.



After lunch there was a quiz, supported by photographs, which tested some of us quite a bit !

Thanks are due to William Griffiths, Alison Thorp, Angelika Schneider and Catherine Kimmel for all their hard work in making the day such a great success".

Thank you to everyone who supported the event and helped to raise £660 towards the Miraz Appeal. (Don't worry if you missed it - we've had requests to repeat it and we look forward to seeing you next time!)

*** ¡Que Aproveche! ***
Spanish Recipe Book

Bring a touch of Spain into your home !

Get the First Edition !

Invite some friends round !

Try out new recipes, or old favourites !

And help support the Miraz appeal at the same time !

This collection of favourite Spanish recipes will be available by the end of March. There are sections on Drinks, Tapas & Starters, Salads, Soups, Vegetarian dishes, Fish & Shellfish, Chicken, Beef, Lamb, Pork, Ham & Sausage, Puddings & Cakes and a few Miscellaneous surprises too. It includes over 60 recipes, some simple (and a few not quite so simple).

Our grateful thanks to all those members who sent in their contributions and comments and to Maureen and Keith Young not only for putting it all together but also of course for the many hours of typing.

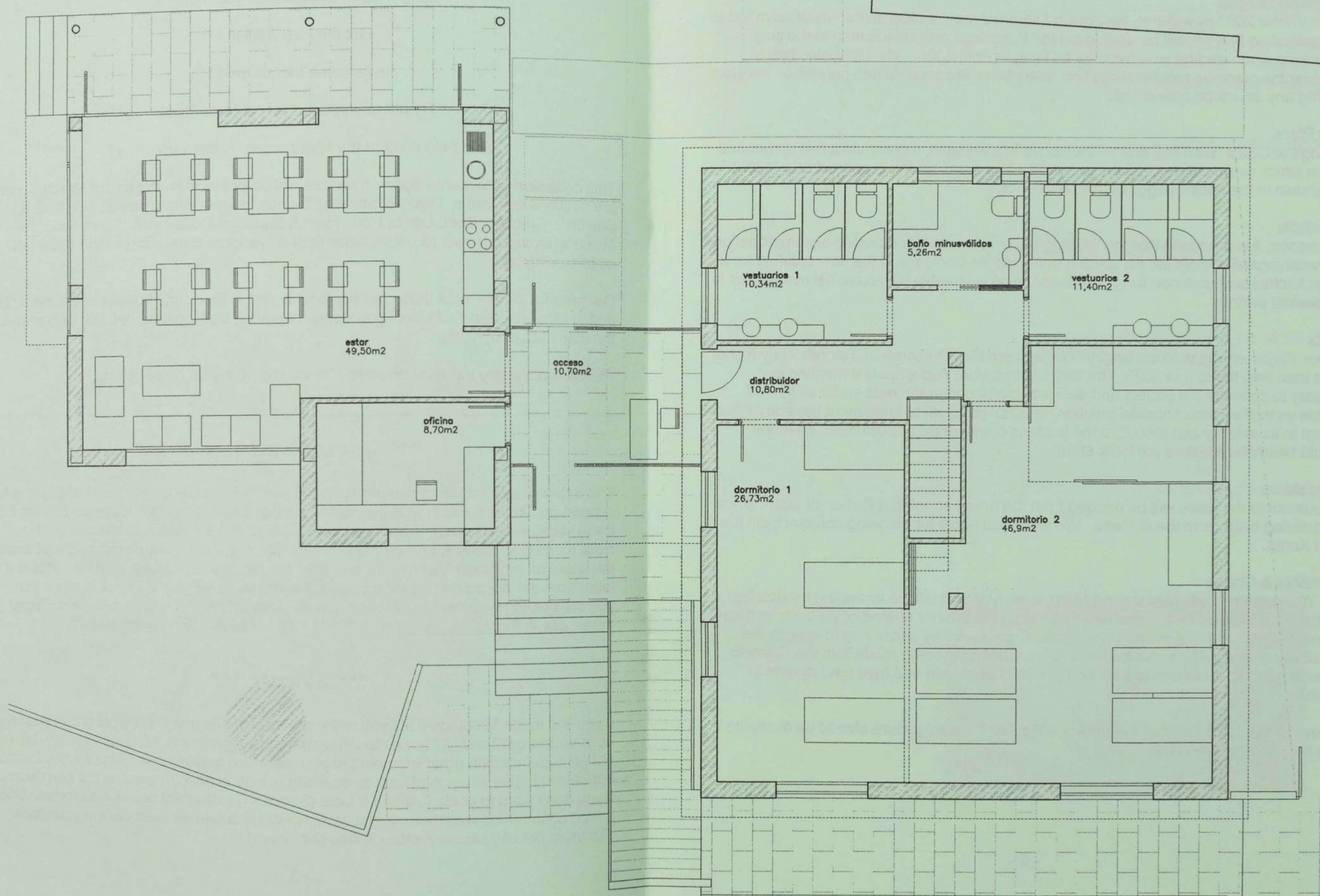
Please order using the form on page 8 or via the CSJ website Bookshop.

*** *Sponsor-a-Week* ***

This scheme was introduced in the early days of Refugio Gaucelmo to allow pilgrims to support and keep in touch with events in Rabanal by sponsoring-a-week for £50 (or £25 if you share with a friend), When we opened Miraz, the scheme was extended. The extra funds help provide for any major works that need to be carried out over and above the usual running costs, which are met from the pilgrims' *donativos*. You will receive a letter from the *hospitaleros* telling you the pilgrim news for your week, and know that you are helping pilgrims too. *Please use the form on page 8, or contact Alison Thorp email: alison.thorp@virgin.net or Tel: +44 - (0)1372-274398 for more details.*

*** *Events* ***

If you live in the Midlands (UK) you will know by now that there is a local group starting up in your area. The CSJ hopes to set up more local groups in the coming year. Why not get together with other members in your area and maybe raise some money for the appeal too? The addition of food to an event is a great encouragement but don't worry if you don't want to cook, just find a local (Spanish?) restaurant or ask everyone to bring a food contribution with them. If you wish, we will circulate the members in your area. *For more details, please contact Alison (as above)*



* * * *Miraz Development* * * *

Extension needed

In the Winter 2007 newsletter, we detailed some of the considerations which have led to the realisation that we will be unable extend the refuge accommodation in the way envisaged when we first took over the building in April 2005. We have also had to consider the planning requirements and restrictions which come into play when we start making any structural alterations.

New Plans

Taking the CSJ's "wish list" and all the above into account, the architect has developed a plan which seems to meet all these needs. The plans for the proposed new layout are shown in the centre pages of this newsletter.

Proposals

In essence, it is proposed that the existing building is used for sleeping accommodation and washing/toilet facilities, the garden buildings for storage and the new building for a larger kitchen and common room, the latter being adaptable for additional mattresses in the busiest periods.

Costs

These major changes to the original concept are likely to come at a significantly higher price than was thought in 2005. The trustees therefore had a special meeting in January to consider the project and decided to proceed to the next stage which will enable us to clarify the financial position. It is not practical to implement the above plan except in its entirety and therefore the trustees consider that all the required funds should be in place before the work starts.

Permissions

Agreement to the plans will be needed from the newly appointed Bishop of Lugo, since the building belongs to the diocese. We shall also apply for planning consent from the local Xunta.

Estimates & Grants

The Working Party who are visiting Miraz in early March will be arranging for detailed quotes from local builders. Added to that there will be other related costs such as those for local project management. Investigations are currently under way to assess the possibility of a grant from the Xunta of 40%. Contact is being made with the Spanish Cultural Attaché in London to help find potential corporate and trust fund donors in Spain.

Following the outcome of all the above, a clearer financial picture should be available in time for the next newsletter.

**** Thank You ****

We are equally grateful for ALL donations, of every type and type. People have found many ways to contribute e.g. by giving lecture fees, showing films, donating in memory of members who have died, making pendants, selling artwork and also simply making a donation. Even the smallest amounts quickly add up to a considerable sum and have made a big difference to the current amazing total of almost £75,000.

Our particular thanks go to Andrew Grant who has raised over £300 since the start of the appeal by selling copies of his CD "Compostelle -The Ceaseless Tramp of Feet". Also to Sally Roberts and Gillie & Andrew Evans who have again donated a significant share of the funds raised from their annual charity tennis tournament.

Thank you so much to everyone for your very generous support.

**** Fundraising Offers ****

¡Que Aproveche!

A selection of Spanish recipes to be published at the end of March in aid of the Miraz Appeal. See page 3 for further details and page 8 to order your copy.

"My Camino : a personal pilgrimage"

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

*** *Miraz Contacts* ***

If you have any suggestions, offers or comments, please contact the following by email or via the office

Co-ordinator	- Colin Jones	- pacharan@btinternet.com
Fundraising / Newsletter	- Alison Thorp	- alison.thorp@virgin.net
Operations/ <i>Hospitaleros</i>	- Alan Cutbush	- alan@cutbush35.fsnet.co.uk
Property	- Peter FitzGerald	- peter_of_chichester@tiscali.co.uk

Confraternity of Saint James

2008 DIARY

See also Bulletins & Miraz Newsletter for other meetings

Saturday 19 January	AGM, Talk and Party: Baldwin's Gardens, EC1, speaker Stuart Frost: The Cast of the Portico de la Gloria (V&A)
Saturday 2 February	Practical Pilgrim: London SE1. 3pm Performance: One Day I'll go to Compostelle: Marie Céline Lachaud (Paris)
Saturday 16 February	Practical Pilgrim: Camino Francés, Great Barr, Birmingham B44 8RB
Saturday 1 March	Practical Pilgrim: Camino Francés, Edinburgh EH10 4DD
Saturday 29 March	Office Open Day, 10.30-3.30pm
Saturday 26 April	Office Open Day, 10.30-3.30pm
Sunday 27 April	Midlands local meeting
Saturday 28 June	Office Open Day, 10.30-3.30pm
Sunday 29 June	Forest of Dean local meeting
Friday 25 July	St James's Day Mass, St James's Ch, Spanish Place, W1, 6pm Eucharist, Christ Church, 6a Morningside Rd, Edinburgh, EH10, 7.30pm followed by wine & nibbles Eucharist, St James the Great Church, Snitterfield, Warwks, CV37, 7.30 followed by party. Start of
Fri 25-Sun 27 July	St James, Shakespeare and Warwickshire: weekend of walks and visits inc Lord Leycester's Hospital & Chapel of St James
Saturday 27 September	Office Open Day, 10.30-3.30pm
Saturday 25 October	Office Open Day, 10.30-3.30pm
Saturday 15 November	Rabanal Hospitaleros workshop, John Marshall Hall, 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NY, 10.30-5pm
Saturday 22 November	Office Open Day, 10.30-3.30pm Storrs Lecture: <i>Criticising and defending pilgrimage in the early Middle Ages</i> , Prof Dame Jinty Nelson: 3.30pm, John Marshall Hall, 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NY, £5

For further information on any of these and additional events please contact:

Confraternity of Saint James,

27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NY

Tel 020 7928 9988 • Fax 020 7928 2844 • Email events@csj.org.uk • Web

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Confraternity of Saint James

Publications List / Spring 2008

Order by post or through www.csj.org.uk/bookshop

Guides, Historical & Contemporary Accounts

Association Rhone-Alpes	De Genève au Puy-en-Velay , 2007, 60pp (Guide in French, German to 350km way, accomm and facilities)	£6.50
Association Via Francigena	Vademecum A , 2002, 95pp (Guide to route London-France –Alps, in French, Italian, English)	£7.00
Association Via Francigena	Vademecum B , 2002, 95pp (Guide to Alps -Rome, in French, Italian, English)	£7.00
Association Via Francigena	Topofrancigena A , 2004, 42pp (Route maps in colour Odiva (CH)-Great St Bernard Pass)	£5.00
Association Via Francigena	Topofrancigena B , 2004, 42pp (Route maps in colour Alps-Rome)	£12.00
Baldwin, David	Santiago de Compostela - the Way of Saint James , 2001, 86pp (Account of walk from Le Puy & selected devotional material)	£1.95
Brierley, John	A Pilgrim's Guide to the Camino Fisterra , 2003, 95pp (Practical guide with sketch maps to way to Finisterre and Muxia)	£9.95
Brierley, John	A Pilgrim's Guide to the Camino Francés , 2008, 315pp (Practical guide with sketch maps of way in Spain)	£17.99
Brierley, John	A Pilgrim's Guide to the Camino Portugués , 2005, 175pp (Practical guide with sketch maps of way in Portugal)	£12.95
Champion, Christian	miam-miam-dodo en el Camino Francés, 2008 (Schematic guide in French, with glossary, to route and facilities in Spain)	£13.50
Clouteau, Jacques	miam-miam-dodo, GR65, 2008 (Schematic guide in French to Le Puy route with food and rest info, plus glossary)	£10.00
Chassain, J-C & M	Itinéraire du Pèlerin de Saint-Jacques: Voie de Vézelay , 2005, (Notes, route description, maps, accommodation, in French plus introduction and glossary in English)	£24.00
Davey, Francis	William Wey: an English pilgrim to Compostella in 1456 , 2000, (illus, 2 maps, includes translation from Latin of Wey's Itineraries)	£5.50
Foot, Judy	Foot by Foot to Santiago de Compostela , 2003, 100pp (Author's pilgrimage from St-Jean)	£7.00
France, Robert	Ultreia! Onward! (Daily readings selected from modern authors for the pilgrim)	£6.00
Frey, Nancy Louise	Pilgrim Stories: on and off the road the road to Santiago , 1999, 313pp, illus, b/w photos (Detailed anthropological study of modern pilgrims)	£12.00
Gallard, Babette	Riding the Milky Way , 2006, 247pp (Account of author's ride to Santiago with practical information)	£11.00

Gallard, Babette	Riding the Roman Way , 2007, 183pp (Author's ride Canterbury to Rome with practical information)	£11.99
Gitlitz, David & Davidson, Linda	The Pilgrimage Road to Santiago: The Complete Cultural Handbook , 2000, 440pp, illus (Authors' commentary on Camino and changes since 1974)	£18.00
Higginson, John	The Way of Saint James: a Cyclist's Guide , 2005, 203pp (Route from le Puy to Santiago on minor roads, height profiles)	£12.00
Hoare, Mark	A Painting Pilgrim : a journey to Santiago de Compostela, 2003, 93pp (Diary of walk le Puy-Santiago, illus with watercolours)	£22.00
Javier, Pascual	Way of St James on Horseback (in Spanish)	£5.00
Lack, Katherine	The Cockleshell Pilgrim , a medieval journey to Compostela, 2004, (Possible journey of pilgrim buried in Worcester Cathedral)	£9.99
Moon, Michael	My Camino : a personal pilgrimage, 2006, 124pp, colour illus (Account of camino in footsteps of William de Mohun)	£12.99
Mullins, Edwin	In Search of Cluny : God's Lost Empire, 2006, 245pp (History of powerful Burgundian abbey and links with Santiago)	£16.99
Mullins, Edwin	The Pilgrimage to Santiago , 1974, reprint 2000, 235pp (Classic historical account of the Pilgrimage through France and Spain)	£10.00
Phillips, Mefo	Horseshoes & Holy Water : on the hoof from Canterbury to Santiago, 2005, 276pp (Author's ride from Canterbury)	£7.99
Poë, Emma	Diary of a Pilgrim , 116pp, b/w illus (Walk from St Jean Pied de Port to Santiago, May-June 1992)	£7.50
Raju, Alison	The Way of Saint James: Le Puy to the Pyrenees , 2005, 186pp (Walker's guide, illus, sketch maps)	£11.00
Raju, Alison	The Way of Saint James: Pyrenees-Santiago-Finisterre , 2005, 218p (Walker's guide, illus, sketch maps)	£12.00
Raju, Alison	The Via de la Plata: Seville/Granada to Santiago , 2005, 310pp, illus (Includes route finding, accommodation, historical background etc)	£12.95
Raju, Alison	The Pilgrim Road to Nidaros: St Olav's Way , 2002, 224pp, illus (Complete guide to 643km route from Oslo to Trondheim)	£12.00
Retail, Mireille	miam miam dodo Voie d'Arles to Puente la Reina , 2008, (Schematic Guide in French to Arles route and Camino aragonés)	£12.00
Robberstadt, Knud Helge	The Road to Santiago , 1997, 160pp (Account & photographs of author's walk from Le Puy)	£25.00
Rupp, Joyce	Walk in a Relaxed Manner , 2007, 264pp (Gently spiritual reflections on process of pilgrimage)	£8.50
Spanish Diocesan Commission	St James the Apostle and his place in history , 1993, 92pp 10 Study Themes (illus background to the pilgrimage for study groups)	£5.00

Storrs, Constance M	Jacobean Pilgrims from England to St James of Compostella: from early 12th century to late 15th century, 1994, facsimile, 202pp	£7.00
Valiña Sampedro, Elias	El Camino de Santiago , 1993, 112pp (Hand-drawn maps by man who revived the Camino)	£4.95
Watson, Christabel	A Walk from Gibraltar to la Coruna , 2000, 64pp (Account of 1999 walk encompassing the Via de la Plata)	£4.95

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1. The Camino Francés, 2008, 96pp, ed. William Bisset	£6.00
Practical annual guide in English to the traditional route in Spain for all pilgrims	
2. The Camino Mozárabe, part A, Seville to Santiago, 2005+ update, 60pp, Alison Raju	£5.00
Part B, Granada to Mérida, 2004, 48pp, Alison Raju	£5.00
Part C, Zamora-Braganza-Santiago, 2005, 8pp, Alison Raju	£3.00
3. Finisterre: 2004, 28pp, Alison Raju	£4.00
4. Los Caminos del Norte : Introduction, 2004, 12pp, Eric Walker (intro and map)	£2.50
A: Ruta de la Costa: 1. Irun-Villaviciosa, 2007, 88pp, Eric Walker	£5.00
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6. Madrid to the Camino Francés (Sahagún), 2000 + update, 36pp, M & M Fox	£4.00
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4. <i>Via Gebennensis</i> : Geneva-Le-Puy-en-Velay, 2005, 8pp, Alison Raju	£3.00

PRACTICAL PILGRIM NOTES

The Walking Pilgrim: Advice on training, kit and itineraries, prepared by walkers	£1.50
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1. St James in English Literature, 1990, 20pp, Patricia Quaife	£2.50
3. The Pilgrimage and Path to Saint James, trans John Durant, 2001, 32pp	£4.00
4. Pre Reformation Pilgrims from Scotland to Santiago de Compostela, 1997, 15pp, Phinella Henderson	£2.50
5. Pilgrimages to St James of Compostella from the British isles during the Middle Ages, R Brian Tate, 2003, 32pp	£5.00
6. Pilgrim Souls: Marjery Kempe and other Women Pilgrims, 2004, 22pp, C Barron	£5.00
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Paris Pilgrim, 2007, 40pp, Hilary Hugh Jones & Mark Hassall £5.00

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Leicestershire, 1995, 32pp, Edward & Marguerite Harper £3.00

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Body & Soul: hospitality through the ages on the roads to Compostela, 2001, 92pp, £5.00

OTHER ITEMS

The Pilgrim's Guide: A 12th Century Guide for the Pilgrim to St James of Compostella, 1992, 98pp, trans. James Hogarth £6.00

A Pilgrim Blessing, 1989, 4pp £0.30

The First English Pilgrims to Santiago de Compostela, 12pp, Derek Lomax (offprint) £1.00

Map of St James' churches in England & Wales, 1996, hand drawn & notes £5.00

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Welcome (Benvenido), José Alvarez, 120mins, 2007 £15.00

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