



Confraternity of Saint James

Bulletin



December 2006

No 96

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Cover: St James the Great,
cloister of St Philibert
Abbey, Tournus
Photo: Marion Marples

Editorial

Gosia Brykczynska

It would appear that just as Mother Nature is beginning to wind down for the year, the CSJ calendar is revving up - preparing itself for the grand finale which is the AGM. The sheer number of events and activities on this year's autumn calendar was impressive and perfectly challenged the time-management skills of the CSJ members and trustees. There was the enormously successful Guildford Cathedral exhibition, the wonderfully evocative CSJ Burgundy trip, the Miraz Appeal celebration at the Spanish Embassy, the Constance Storrs lecture at the beginning of December and the well attended open days at the office, not to forget the happy time that was had by all at the CSJ *hospitaleros* Saturday pub lunch in late November and the official blessing of Miraz in October. Fortunately, many of these events are recorded in this *Bulletin*.

This festive December *Bulletin* has a decidedly French flavour to it, beginning at the picture on the front cover, and with much emphasis on Vézelay in the articles and commentaries. It even has a seasonally appropriate recipe for an interesting hot drink (look under *The Smoking Bishop* by Linda Poulsen) which even St Vincent - the patron saint of wine-growers and the Guild of wine-tasters from Beaune - would have approved of (for more information on this early Spanish martyr revered in Burgundy, see Priscilla White's article). But in order not to appear overly partial to matters Burgundian, there is also an article concerning pilgrims' routes in Scandinavia by Pamela Harris, and a translation by Janet Richardson of a thoughtful pilgrim poem originating from Majorca.

Therefore at the end of this busy period in the name of the entire *Bulletin* production team and all CSJ committee members and trustees let me raise a toast of Smoking Bishop to you all and thank you for your hard work in supporting the CSJ and keeping alight the ideals of pilgrimage. I wish you all a happy and restful Christmas, and a Joyeux Noël, Wesolych Swiat and last but not least to those members in Spain and in Santiago and on the camino this Christmastide - ¡Feliz Navidad!

May the last words however be those of our chairman who upon

the occasion of the formal blessing and opening of Miraz in October said:

“...What is a pilgrim? A pilgrim is someone who, because of his great desire to reach the Sanctuary, leaves the security and comforts of home, family and friends, and sets out into the unknown. He becomes dependent on the hospitality of the people in the villages through which he passes. Here in Miraz, the church and the people have already been giving this kind of welcome for years to passing pilgrims. We also, the Confraternity of Saint James in Great Britain, have for 15 years been receiving pilgrims on the Camino Francés, in the province of León, in the place called Rabanal del Camino. Hearing of the growing need in the Caminos del Norte, Divine Providence has guided us to Miraz to join with you in building on the foundation you have already laid. We rejoice and give thanks that you have made available to us this *Casa Rectoral* to be a true home for the pilgrims who pass through Miraz. We rejoice and give thanks that pilgrims will prepare for their arrival at the Tomb of the Apostle by praying in this beautiful Church of St James in Miraz. We commit ourselves to continue working with you to be the family and the friends of pilgrims here in Miraz.”

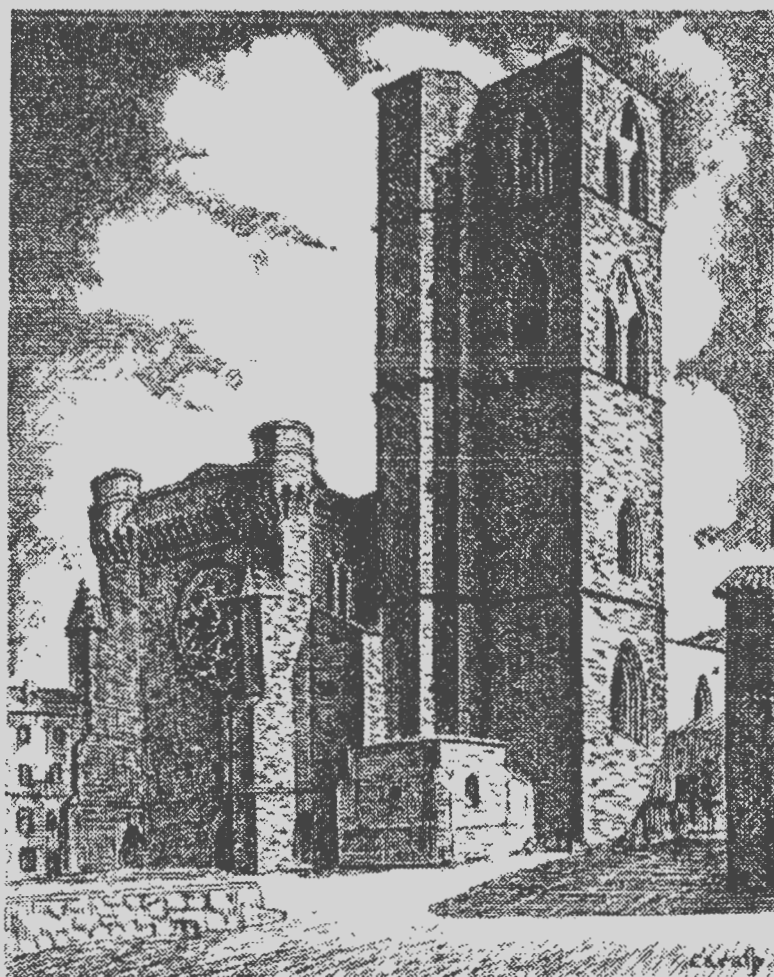
A Further Incident on the Arles Route

John Revell

The French are better than most in siting their cities in loops and bends of rivers. Take for instance Cahors on the pilgrim route from Le Puy to the Pyrenees. Cahors nestles in a wide loop of the River Lot which is spanned by a couple of bridges to die for. At the western end of the Pont Valentré the *sportif* option of the GR65 takes pilgrims with mountain goat aspirations to a point on high where the aerial perspective of Cahors reinforces the fairy tale image..... Take for instance Besançon in the Franche-Cômté. Besançon doesn't spring immediately to mind in a pilgrim context, but it is home to the Hôpital Saint-Jacques which dates from 1182 and was established by monks to serve pilgrims journeying to Rome, Jerusalem and Compostela. I can certainly vouch for the fact that pilgrims come *from* Besançon because I crossed tracks repeatedly in 2004 with two brothers from the Franche-Cômté and they made agreeable drinking companions between the Loire and the Creuse as we walked the northern branch of the Vézelay route. Besançon is set in its loop of the River Doubs and the neck of the loop is so narrow that it is closed by the Vauban *citadelle* which in its various levels houses a zoo, an aviary, an aquarium, an insectarium, several museums and any other variation on the theme which the lively mind of the visitor wishes to conjure up..... But most relevant of all (for this article anyway) is Lodève on the Arles route. As the pilgrim moves westward towards a Compostela which can only be imagined at that stage because it is so distant, Lodève is practically the last bastion of Languedoc-Roussillon before tumbling into Midi-Pyrénées. The loop in the River Lergue only becomes a loop with the assistance of the incoming lesser Soulonde but in complementing one another they provide a fine setting for the cathedral of St Fulcran.

In the Confraternity's guide to the Arles route authors Marigold and Maurice Fox allow pilgrims from St Jean-de-la-Blaquière to Lodève a tally of 13km. Those covering the distance on a Sunday morning last May were inclined to think that the Foxes were being economical with the distance because it seemed to take most of us four or five hours

St Fulcran's
Cathedral,
Lodève



before we settled down to Sunday lunch at the Restaurant de la Bourse in Lodève. Sunday lunch is an impressive institution, both in France and in other countries, and the Restaurant de la Bourse faces the Pont de Lergue and has a commanding view of all incoming pilgrims as they cross the river into the inner core of Lodève.

With various arrivals and departures Sunday lunch took three hours and it was mid-afternoon by the time fellow-pilgrim Max and I decided to head for the cathedral to have our pilgrim records stamped. On arrival we found the cathedral fully occupied by an array of people in wonderful livery – feathered hats, capes, banners, regalia of different kinds and a general air of pomp and circumstance – so we paused to consider what was happening. Apparently we had blundered in on an annual commemorative service organised by various local *confréries* of vintners and bread-makers. Those familiar with the expertise of the *artisan boulanger* will be able to appreciate the scale of what we had run to earth.

At the end of the service I became aware that Max was warmly embracing two ladies he'd spotted in the congregation. They turned out to be sisters Nellie and Berthe whom Max had met previously on

the camino in Spain in 2002. The cathedral service was followed by a procession through the streets to the bandstand and promenade of the Allées de la Resistance and speeches were made to honour the occasion. By this time Max and I (still clad in our rucksacks) had been issued with invitations to attend a celebratory dinner at the Hôtel de la Paix, so we bowed out of the ongoing festivities in favour of finding our accommodation for the night and trying to order our sparse wardrobe to cope with “honoured guest” status.

Came 7.30pm and we presented ourselves at the Hôtel de la Paix. Formal attire for me consisted of a Confraternity T-shirt which had fortunately been washed a day or so previously, plus the only pair of Rohans I possessed zipped appropriately to long rather than half-mast or short. Despite our earlier hefty lunch we managed to stay the course (three actually, and definitely *cordon bleu*) throughout the evening. Our table companions were Nellie and Berthe, together with Berthe’s husband Eugène, who with his chain of office seemed well-fitted for the dual role of *professeur du pain* and, later, toast-master. We drank a very good red from the Béziers region, which caused me to remember a long ago occasion when I had passed through Béziers at the time of the *vendage* and found the atmosphere so heady that I felt that it was quite possible to accomplish intoxication without the physical necessity of imbibing. With the conviviality and the conversational versatility called for in negotiating a language not our own Max and I began to wilt later in the evening and we wondered how we might make a convenient exit without offending our hosts. At that point Eugène rose to his feet and asked the assembled company to raise their glasses to Max and John who were setting off next morning to walk to St Jacques-de-Compostelle (more or less). The response was enthusiastic and Max and John, no doubt aided by an intake of Béziers red, replied in fractured French. We took the opportunity to plead an early start on the morrow and staggered off to our repose weighed down with acclamation and gifts of bread rolls which lasted for days and provided shared nourishment in high places.

Sic transit gloria Sunday.

An account of the CSJ Autumn 2006 Burgundy Trip

Doreen Hansen



When we arrived at Beaune, the start of our trip, no taxis were to be seen at the station so we set off through darkened streets, over uneven cobblestones, to walk to the *Hôtel au Grand St Jean*. This proved an excellent base for exploring Beaune.

On Sunday morning we walked to the Collegiale Notre-Dame de Beaune to attend Mass. This daughter church of Cluny was started in 1120 and is a fine example of Burgundian Romanesque art, despite successive additions and damage caused during the French Revolution. The church has 15th century frescoes representing the raising of Lazarus, attributed to Pierre Spicre. In addition, in the choir, wool and silk panels trace the life of Our Lady, based on cartoons again by Pierre Spicre and made to the order of Cardinal Rolin, son of Nicolas Rolin. These were offered to the church in 1500.

In the afternoon we visited the famed Hôtel-Dieu. This is described in guide-books as “a marvel of Burgundian-Flemish art”. Founded in 1443 by Chancellor Nicolas Rolin to provide care for the citizens and poor of the town, it has survived down the years in a remarkable state of preservation. It was originally designed as a hospital and served the community in this role until 1952, continuing to provide care for the impoverished until 1971! In the past on ‘high days’ the beds were covered with the tapestries which are now kept in the museum. In

1443 Nicolas Rolin ordered from Rogier van der Weyden (1399-1464) a polyptych of the Last Judgement for the space above the chapel altar. This very famous work of art may now be seen in the hospital's museum. In the hospital chapel, a copper funerary plaque recalls the memory of Guigone de Salins, wife of Nicolas Rolin, who was co-foundress of the hospital. Monday morning provided further time to explore Beaune; the Musée du Vin de Bourgogne, the Hospice de la Charité (now a retirement home), the town's ramparts, and the church of St Nicolas - a 13th century church set in the wine growers' quarter.

Later that morning we arrived at Tournus to the sound of the midday tolling of the bells of the Romanesque church of St Philibert. Formerly an abbey church, this was built before, and remained independent of, Cluny. To enter the church we passed through two round towers, one of pink stone and the other of grey. These mark the principal entrance to the precincts of the former abbey which include rather impressive cloisters and which today contain a wonderful modern statue of St James (see cover). The church has many treasures among them a 14th century fresco portraying the crucifixion. In the nave there are traces of further wall paintings. Behind the high altar are remains of ancient mosaics depicting the seasons and signs of the zodiac. Tall cylindrical pillars of rose-coloured stone reflect the sunlight and provide a warm pink glow throughout the church. In a south aisle side chapel there is the famed 15th - century statue of the Virgin and Child carved from cedar richly painted and known as *Notre-Dame la Brune*. The crypt is built on the site of the tomb of St Valerian who arrived in Tournus from Asia Minor in 179. It has a 12th century fresco of the Virgin and Child and Christ in Majesty, and these are the best preserved wall paintings in this magnificent church.

A plaque in the church commemorates Pope Calixtus II, who was a Burgundian and had consecrated the abbey church at Cluny. It is to this Pope Calixtus II that the manuscripts of the Codex Calixtinus (1160) held in Santiago Cathedral are dedicated and which contain the words and music of several medieval hymns which CSJ members often sing. To mark the second millennium, this ancient abbey church, which is still home to a thriving Christian community, commissioned new sanctuary furniture and fittings from the Georgian-born silversmith (now a French citizen) Goudji.

Tournus also has a medieval church dedicated to St Mary Magdalene. We were dismayed however to find this church had been

'rough cement rendered' inside, presumably to fill many cracks in the stonework. Whatever the reason, it now presents a sad and bleak interior, though there is a beautiful gold painted statue of the saint herself in a side chapel. A hymn in honour of Mary Magdalene was sung here.

The next day a coach arrived to convey us to Cluny. En route we stopped at the La Chapelle des Moines de Berzé-la-Ville. The *chapelle* originally formed part of the private sanctuary of Hugh of Semur, Abbot of Cluny (1049-1109), and is set amidst rolling wooded hills and vineyards. The interior walls and ceiling are richly decorated with frescoes. Use of vivid colours in the wall paintings, for example the brilliant blue, results from the use of ground-up *lapis lazuli*, and demonstrates an eastern influence introduced to this Burgundian chapel by the artist who was from the Benedictine monastery at



Monte Cassino. Among the saints depicted are St Blaise and St Vincent of Zaragoza being roasted on a gridiron, a challenging portrayal which caused Priscilla White to do some research when she returned home; hence the article which follows this one. When newly completed, the *chapelle* must have looked stunning; the richness of the decor defying description. Moreover, of interest to CSJ members was the fact that pilgrims travelling to Santiago are known to have stopped here. We therefore sang *Domus Venerabilis* in this abbatial retreat to commemorate our brief pilgrim visit. This was followed by a brief stop at the 11th century parish church in the village. Here we saw more wall paintings some of which were very damaged. In honour of Our Lady we sang the *Salve Regina*.

On then to the Abbey of Cluny which is set in a valley, ringed by rolling hills where dairy farming and mixed woodland provide pleasing patterns of neatly chewed green fields interspersed with

blocks of autumn colours. After sitting on a fine low stone wall to eat our picnics, we lugged our cases a short distance to our hotel as coaches are not able to negotiate the narrow central streets of Cluny.

Making a preliminary visit to the abbey ruins we could only marvel at the achievements of the medieval stonemasons. The abbey church of Cluny III was dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul and is situated in extensive grounds which include later monastic buildings, huge storage barns, and a museum. On display in the museum are a few original carvings saved from abbey buildings which suffered wilful destruction in the late 18th century. In the museum, a carved roundel showing a donkey carrying a cross on its back was thought particularly beautiful.

Great care had been taken throughout the town to dress the shop windows attractively and seasonally in autumn colours, including a *boulangerie* which had as centre piece a grape harvest complete with wine press – and this creation had recently won the baker a major prize in a local competition.

Choosing our first dinner in Cluny raised smiles. The menu helpfully carrying translation in English for non-French speaking visitors read: *Côtes d'Agneau* - Dimensions of lamb, and *Pav de Boeuf Charollais Grille* - The Ox Paving Stone Charollais Roasted and one seafood item was 'blazed with the whisky' which sounded especially good. Despite some misgivings about when beef is considered *cuit*, or *bien cuit* we enjoyed our meal, and the convivial group atmosphere which marked the tour throughout.

On All Saints' Day, a national holiday in France, some chose to walk with Marion to the nearby village and religious community of Taize along an old railway line path, close to the river and TGV line. Others chose to go to Mass at the church of Notre-Dame et St Benoît, while others continued with their exploration of Cluny. In the church we found a statue depicting St Odilon who was made Abbot of Cluny in 994 and a tableau showing the several saints associated with the Benedictine order that lived and prayed at Cluny Abbey for over seven hundred years. It is Abbot Odilon who made the important liturgical innovation of instituting the feast of All Souls Day which is held on 2 November. Fulbert of Chartres called Abbot Odilon the 'archangel of monks'.

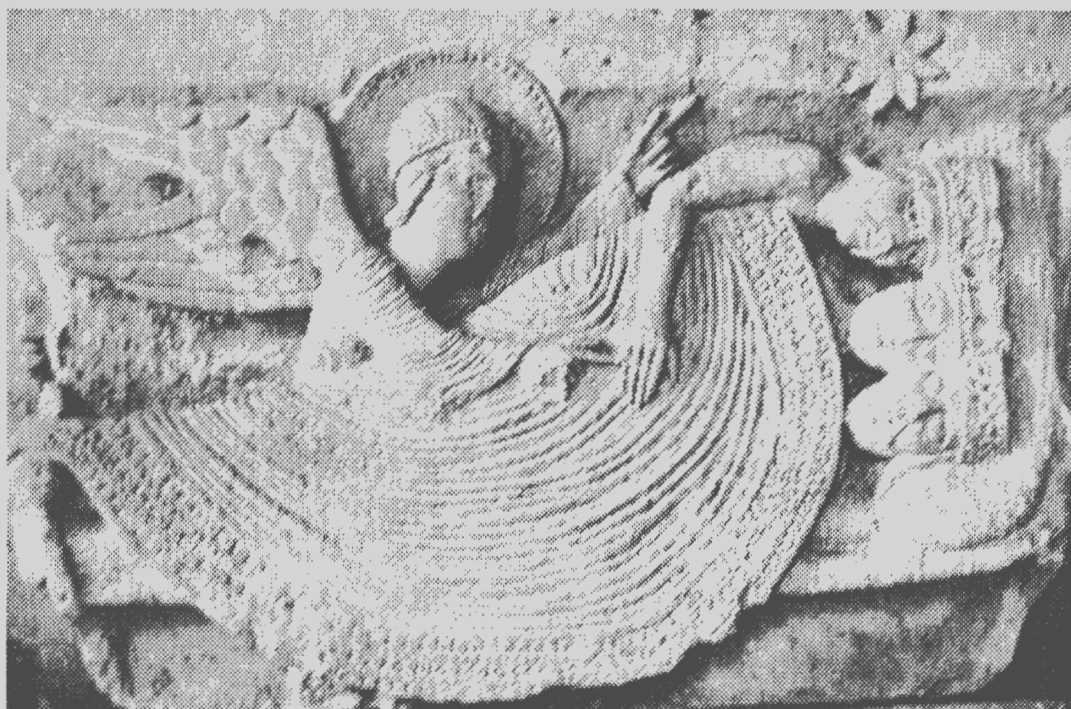
While some were walking and others were at Mass, two group members wishing to locate an open pharmacy met a man who kindly took them in his car to the next village, where he knew it could be

found. On returning to Cluny, he took them to a church near the Town Hall and asked if they could identify for him an unnamed archangel below the crossed keys of Cluny Abbey. The kindness shown by this man, who described himself as a true European because of his French, German and Jewish ancestors, maintained the tradition of offering help to pilgrims in need.

The local bus service from Cluny to Taizé arrived after lunch on time. It was only a short journey of eight kilometres or so, through pretty country lanes. Marion was waiting to welcome us at the bus stop close to the main gateway into the Communauté de Taizé. A community volunteer told us the history of Brother Roger's establishment of the community in 1940 with the aim of promoting reconciliation among Christian churches. We heard how Jewish refugees were sheltered during the war, and of the continuing work today undertaken with the young visitors from across the world. Not far away, I had noticed a roadside memorial to the Resistance. Setting up such a refuge must have taken courage by Br Roger, and the brave discretion of those French citizens living in the immediate vicinity of the brothers' home. Following the talk, we spent some time in the Romanesque village church of St Augustine which is next to the brothers' enclosure. It is small and dark inside, and as our eyes adjusted to the minimal amount of light shining through the small windows of gold-coloured glass, the otherwise stark and plain interior was suffused with a warm golden light. In was displayed a solitary icon with a burning candle in front of it. One can understand why this was a favourite place of meditative prayer for Br Roger. Sadly, he was killed last year by a distressed woman. He is buried alongside the graves of other brothers of the community in the small graveyard adjacent to this ancient place of worship. A quiet, reflective time was spent at his graveside where Marion lit a votive candle on behalf of all CSJ members, and before leaving we sang *He who would valiant be* followed by *Ad Honorem*. Returning to the community compound, we visited the community's large church of Reconciliation, admiring windows designed by Marc Chagall.

The next morning the weather was crisp and cold and after shopping for picnic items, we boarded a coach to take us to Vézelay via Autun. Autun is an old Burgundian town already an important and substantial city in Roman times, located on the north-south route to the Mediterranean from Boulogne. Many Roman ruins including the northern gateway into the city and the temple of Janus

remain standing. We arrived in good time to explore the Cathedral of St Lazarus before lunch. The cathedral has many connections to the Abbey of Cluny and Cardinal Rolin (son of Nicolas Rolin and Guigone de Salins who built the Hôtel-Dieu in Beaune) became Bishop of Autun and was responsible for the building of the cathedral belfry and tall spire. The cathedral is famous for its wonderfully carved tympanum and exquisite interior capitals carved by Gislebertus the famous stone carver. On the fine tympanum below the Last Judgement scene which depicts Christ sitting in Majesty is a carving of a pilgrim with a scallop shell on his bag, who is fortunately located among many of the “saved”!



Within the cathedral on one of the capitals is depicted the scene of the angel of the Lord visiting the three kings. They are all sleeping in the same bed, and the angel is telling them to return to their lands by a different route. Carved delicately in the hard stone the angel gently reaches out to touch the nearest king on the arm; this king's eyes are open with in a shocked expression! Meanwhile, the other two kings sleep on, oblivious to the momentous happening taking place so close to them. Wonderful!

At midday, though sunny and bright it was also very cold with an icy swirling wind so most of the group took refuge in warm inviting restaurants close to the cathedral. After lunch we visited the Musée Rolin, where amongst important medieval paintings, sculptures, mosaics and carvings, we saw the carved panel of the temptation

of Eve which was once located in the cathedral. The corresponding panel depicting Adam is apparently now incorporated into the wall of a local house, and the owners have refused to allow the museum or cathedral to reclaim it. Also notable was an unusual statue showing the Virgin with a swaddled Christ Child and a fine statue of St James.

Later that afternoon on a day made memorable by the beauty of the natural colours of the countryside, and the medieval craftsmanship we had seen so carefully preserved, we continued onwards to Vézelay. As the coach climbed to the top of the Morvan plateau the first signs of autumn frost were observed on shaded patches of grass. We approached Vézelay under the setting sun as Gosia read to us a poem about St Mary Magdalene by Brother Kilian McDonnell OSB of St John's Benedictine Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota. St John's Abbey in Minnesota is producing the famed St John's Abbey Bible to commemorate the second Millennium, and Brother Kilian's poems are inspired by illuminations from that Bible.

Accommodated in a comfortable hotel at the lower end of the main street leading to the Basilica, we soon set off to climb the steep hill to attend Vespers. *Les Fraternités Monastiques de Jérusalem* - a relatively new religious foundation - have been entrusted with the care of the Basilica and the pastoral welfare of visiting pilgrims. The community sang Vespers, while candlelight and soft spotlights played on the warm, honey-coloured stone pillars and walls. We were enveloped by the reverence of the singing and the sanctity of the periods of quiet reflection. We were then privileged to have a short guided tour of the Basilica from Br John Patrick, who pointed out to us the large narthex and within the Basilica some of the interesting carvings on the capitals. William Griffiths had sent Marion a letter of greeting from London, to be read on arrival in which he stated firmly "you have left the best till last!" How true that statement was.

The final day dawned bright and cold. For some in the group this was their first visit and further serious exploration was a priority. Relics of St Mary Magdalene were retrieved from Ste-Baume in Provence in the 9th century by the monks of Vézelay, and these now lie in a beautiful reliquary in the crypt of the Basilica. The capitals skilfully carved are in good order, but over the years the tympanum has suffered much damage, first from the Huguenots in 1569, and then the church was partially razed during the French Revolution and then left to slowly disintegrate. In 1840 the architect Viollet-le-Duc undertook the difficult (and controversial) work of overseeing

the restoration of the Basilica, and this task was not completed until 1859. From the terrace behind the Basilica, formerly the site of the abbey palace, there is a fine view of the northern part of the Morvan plateau and the valley of the River Cure. With its beautiful setting high on a hill, its ramparts, old houses, trees and gardens, Vézelay is a veritable treasure of Burgundy. In the evening we attended Vespers sung by the sisters of the community followed by Mass. Never before had I witnessed such a fluttering of white veils and cloaks as the sisters came to the congregation to offer the sign of peace. As the lights in the Basilica dimmed at the end of Mass we made our way to the side chapel of St Jacques where a votive candle was lit by Gosia and we all sang to our patron *Dum paterfamilias*. We then went to seek our end-of-tour celebration dinner, which was most enjoyable and as with all our dinners enhanced by good Burgundian wines!

The week passed all too quickly, and the next day it was time to leave Burgundy in the morning to catch the TGV from Montbard. But one further treat awaited us - a visit to the Abbey at Fontenay. Designated a Unesco World Heritage site in 1981, the Cistercian abbey was built in 1118 by St Bernard, and is claimed to be the best preserved Cistercian complex in France (if not Europe). It is set in a lovely and secluded valley, surrounded by mature trees, water courses, and pools. The Abbey church was built in part in the 12th century, due to the generosity of Ebrard, Bishop of Norwich, who had taken refuge at Fontenay. The Abbey church was consecrated by Pope Eugenius III in 1147. During the French Revolution the abbey became a paper mill but this new usage actually saved it from the destruction so familiar to other religious houses. In 1906, new owners undertook to restore Fontenay to its original appearance and tore down the additions added by the paper mill industry. We were truly sorry to be leaving the peace of Fontenay, but it was time to resume our normal lives in the UK.

The TGV to Paris took us comfortably and swiftly away from all the wonders which had been opened up to us by the meticulous planning of Marion and Gosia. This splendid week provided us with much of interest to see, appreciate, enjoy – and remember. Some of us however, managed to leave our hearts behind in Burgundy... with a promise to return some day. *Merci bien!*

St Vincent of Zaragoza

First Spanish Martyr and
Patron Saint of Wine Growers

Priscilla White



Vincent was born in Huesca near Zaragoza around 282AD; it is believed that his father was a consul called Eutricius and his mother was Enola, a native of Osca.

He spent most of his life in the city of Zaragoza where he was educated and instructed in the Christian religion. He was ordained by Valerius, Bishop of Zaragoza, and commissioned to preach in the diocese. He was well known for his care of the poor, widows and orphans.

Because Valerius suffered from a speech impediment, Vincent acted as his spokesman. When the Roman Emperor Diocletian began persecuting Christians in Spain, Vincent spoke up in the Bishop's name and both were brought before Dacian, the Roman Governor. He spoke eloquently for both his Bishop and his Church, proclaiming the word of God and condemning paganism.

By order of Dacian, he and his Bishop were dragged in chains to Valencia where they were imprisoned for some time. Valerius was then released and exiled, but Vincent remained a prisoner and subject to various hideous tortures; he was stretched on the rack, torn with metal hooks, and strapped to a frame of sharp iron bars heated from beneath by hot coals. Lard and salt were rubbed into his wounds to increase his agony, but throughout his torments Vincent kept his eyes raised to heaven and remained silent. When his torturers failed to break his spirit, he was thrown into a dungeon covered with broken tiles to add to his agony.

In his cell Vincent declared that God had sent angels from heaven to comfort him. He said that his cell was illuminated with a heavenly



light and the floor felt as if it were strewn with flowers. He sang hymns throughout his suffering so that even his gaoler was astounded. As he looked into the cell of the tormented saint he saw him upon his broken knees singing praises to God. He was so impressed that he converted to Christianity. On hearing this, the Roman governor was infuriated, but finding all his efforts against his victim were useless, gave orders for the torture to stop, perhaps to prevent Vincent becoming a martyr.

For a time, Vincent had some relief. The faithful were permitted to gaze upon his broken body, probably in the hope that they would abandon their faith. Instead, they came in great numbers, kissed his open sores and carried away as relics cloths dipped in his blood. Christian women tended his wounds, but he did not survive for long and died of his injuries in prison on 22 January in the year 304.

After his death the authorities decreed that his body should be thrown onto wasteland to be devoured by wild birds and beasts. But a raven mounted guard over the body and drove away any animal or bird who tried to attack Vincent's mortal remains. Thwarted yet again, Dacian had Vincent's body sewn into a bag tied with a stone and cast into the sea. But the sack would not sink and it was washed ashore. There his body was recovered and buried secretly. After peace was restored to the Church, a chapel was built over his remains outside the walls of Valencia. His feast day has been celebrated on 22 January every since the persecutions ended in 312.

The Feast of Saint Vincent is celebrated on 22 January, above all by the wine growers whose many confraternities carry his name. He is also patron saint of sailors, being able to calm stormy seas and find great shoals of fish. He also protects the tilers, perhaps because he lay on a bed of broken tiles.

Smoking Bishop

Linda Poulsen

When we returned home late at night from the Confraternity's visit to Burgundy, our house felt as cold as the abandoned Cistercian abbey of Fontenay which we had visited that morning. The abbey lies in a secluded valley and along the lane the low early morning sun had not yet reached the wooded margins where frost still glittered and the light seemed blue with cold. The refrain from *Peter and the Wolf* kept running through my mind. As we explored the abbey buildings a cold wind blew through the open doors as a reminder of the onset of winter, despite the autumn sunshine.

At home once more we made the house cosy, put the heating back on and lit the fire, but the house was slow to warm. For the second time that day we felt chilled to the bone - I felt as cold as old Bishop Ebrard lying in his tomb in the choir of the abbey church. "Time," we thought "to thaw ourselves out with a glass - or two - of Smoking Bishop, and drink to Bishop Ebrard."

We first made the acquaintance of Smoking Bishop in the works of Charles Dickens. His great-grandson, Cedric, researched the recipes of many of the drinks referred to by his great-grandfather, of which there were many. Forty years ago, as part of his attempts to develop his own vineyard, Cedric visited Burgundy. He had been wined and dined in Beaune, and was even elected to a confraternity - *Le Confrérie des Chevaliers du Tastevin*. Cedric refers to Smoking Bishop as a "... grand medicinal drink" and that "...you can feel it doing good. Temperatures go up, from the top of the head - bald heads turn red, right down to the toes."

We carried out our own research (as one does!) and this is our own improvised version, based on Cedric's recipe:

Ingredients:

- Home-made Seville Orange Marmalade (Seville oranges available in January/February)

- Dark brown Barbados Sugar
- Spanish red wine
- Port
- Cloves

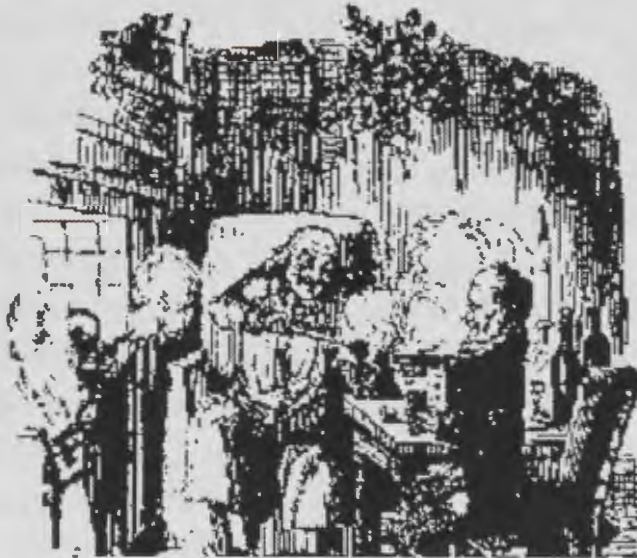
Method: Using a stoneware jug (i.e. resistant to Microwave) pour in and stir:-

- $\frac{3}{4}$ bottle red wine
- 2 tablespoons of marmalade
- 6 or more cloves to taste
- Sugar

Heat in Microwave to *below* boiling.

Remove from heat and top up with Port.

Serve in front of open fire.



Scrooge to Bob Cratchit, "We will discuss your affairs this very afternoon, over a Christmas bowl of smoking bishop!" (A Christmas Carol)

Drinking with Dickens by Cedric Dickens, 1980, New Amsterdam Bks. NY, ISBN : 0-941533344

A message to pilgrims

written on a wall in the Monastery at Lluc,
Mallorca

*Hermano peregrino,
ven al santuario.
"Marcha hacia el esplendor.
Tu Dios va contigo".*

*Prepara tu corazón
para caminar
con alegría y confianza,
solo o con tus hermanos,
pero ven.*

*Sigue el camino
trazado desde antiguo
quienquiera que seas;
tienes tu rincón en
la casa del Padre.
Encuentra a tus hermanos,
invita a los santos,
escucha a María,
vive en la Iglesia.*

*Si tienes sed de amor,
de paz, de alegría,
de perdón y de justicia,
ven a sacar el agua
de las fuentes de la salvación.*

*Joven lleno de ardor
o enfermo traspasado
por el sufrimiento,
tú que te sientes
marginado,
o bien gozas de la dulzura
de la vida en familia,*

*Brother pilgrim,
Come to the sanctuary.
"March towards the splendour.
Your God goes with you."*

*Prepare your heart
To travel
With joy and confidence.
Alone or with your brothers.
But come.*

*Follow the way
Marked out long ago
Whoever you are;
There is a corner for you in
The Father's house.
Meet your brothers,
Invite the saints,
Listen to Mary.
Live in the church.*

*If you are thirsty for love,
For peace, for happiness,
For forgiveness and for justice,
Come to draw the water
From the springs of salvation.*

*Young and full of passion
Or old and wracked
With suffering,
You who feel
Excluded,
Or who enjoy the sweetness
Of family life,*

*déjate iluminar
por la luz del Evangelio.*

*Let the light
Of the Gospels shine upon you.*

*Ve,
y vuelve reconciliado,
reconfortado, renovado.*

*Look,
And come back reconciled,
Comforted, renewed.*

*Anuncia, pues, la Buena Nueva
A tus hermanos.
Dios nos ama
Y nos espera.*

*Announce the Good News, then,
To your brothers.
God loves us
And is waiting for us.*

*Marcha hacia el esplendor.
Tu Dios va contigo.*

*March towards the splendour.
Your God goes with you.*

Discovered by a friend of Kevin Healey and translated by Janet Richardson

Questions, Questions

Eric Walker

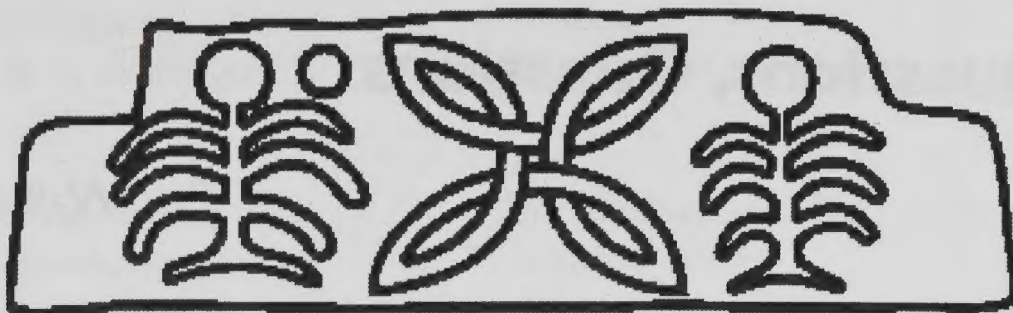
The later stages of the *Camino Primitivo*, just before and immediately after the old walled city of Lugo, have some of the most interesting and memorable small churches that are to be found anywhere along any of the northern pilgrimage routes.

Two such sites are the atmospheric abandoned village of Soutomerille and its 10th century church with a unique window carved from a solid block of granite and the 12th century Romanesque church of San Miguel de Bacurín with its intricately carved *caneillos* (consoles/corbels) and triple arched doorway echoing that of the doorway of the cathedral in Lugo. There is also the elegant simplicity of the two Romanesque churches of Retorta, San Román and San Vicente with its early example of a solid, carved, lattice window, zig-zag decorated arch and naïve carvings of Christ flanked by the sun and the moon.

All of these stay in the mind but the one that has fascinated me most has been the smallest and most remote of them all, the church of San Salvador of Merlán. My interest in this church started some four years before I actually saw it for the first time when I read about it in an old guidebook produced by the Galician Authorities and given to me by a former member of the Confraternity who took a special interest in this part of Spain, John Durant.

The phrase that stuck in my mind, describing a feature of this church, was, “...es una pequeña iglesia románica... con rústica decoración de posibles árboles apocalípticos en el dintel de la puerta sur” (...this small Romanesque church... with naïve decorations possibly of the trees of the Apocalypse on the lintel over the south door.. That phrase still sticks in my mind.

This is a drawing of that lintel, although the actual carving is more weathered and less crisp than the drawing, the isolated circle at the left may not be a perfect circle but is so badly worn that it is difficult to decide exactly what it is.



I have puzzled over this carving ever since I visited the church in 1999. What are apocalyptic trees?

If referring to the trees mentioned in Revelation xxii ; v2 - where are the twelve pieces of fruit that would be expected on the trees, or is it just a more modern use by the guidebook author of the word apocalyptic and simply means catastrophically damaged?

What is the isolated, circular object in the top left-hand corner of the carving and are the circles at the top of the trees meant to be heads or faces?

What does the central, Celtic styled figure represent and has it to be read as part of the whole meaning?

We must have someone in the Confraternity with the knowledge, scholarship and ability to decipher this for me.

From Sweden to Trondheim

August 2004

Pamela Harris

Olav I Tryggvesson was King of Norway from his election in 995. He began the conversion of Norway to Christianity, but it was Olav II Haraldsson who became King of Norway in 1015 whose zeal for Christianity and bloody death resulted in him being declared patron saint of Norway in 1164. Norwegian history tells us that Olav's life and death were seen as a reflection of the life and death of Christ. Nidaros Cathedral arose around his grave.

Olav had sacrificed his life by throwing away his sword at Stiklestad. This has been interpreted as being decisive in pointing the way to a completely new way of life – that by losing, one can win. Tore Hund, the man who killed him, immediately set off on pilgrimage, but we are not told where! From the Middle Ages pilgrims met at Nidaros. At last Christianity had reached the northernmost corner of the earth: the east had Jerusalem, the south had Rome and the west had Santiago de Compostela.

As King, Olav was lawmaker. The Law of St Olav, up to the 14th century, protected the individual, regardless of rank or occupation, man or woman, child or adult. It is written that he not only judged others but himself too. He presumably forgot the day of the week and was found by his servant doing some carpentry on a Sunday so he took the pieces of wood and burned them in the palm of his own hand.

It is said that wherever Olav travelled, springs welled up and also that healing was connected with him. An old, blind man who came into contact with the blood of the dead king at Stiklestad had his sight returned. In Nidaros there is a well, located in the Octagon, which according to legend, sprang from St Olav's grave.

So with all this history to lure us, two Swedes, two Germans and this English woman set out from the Swedish border to follow St Olav's way, the *Pilgrimsleden*, across Norway to Trondheim and the cathedral of the Christ Church at Nidaros in August 2004. Anyone thinking about walking in Norway would imagine a mild climate in August but not this year: the temperatures reached a ten-year record high and we all felt it.

We began in Stugudal by circling back towards the Swedish border so that we could experience the mountain terrain. The route was not easy to find and we came to the conclusion that the *Tydal og Sylan* map does not mark all the features such as huts that would have helped us. Nevertheless we eventually picked up the pilgrim route from the Swedish border which told us we had 155km to Nidaros. We had to negotiate a number of streams, some via boulders and some involving removing our boots and wading across – sticks are really very helpful for balance in such conditions. We heard a plaintive bird calling but it must have been very well camouflaged because I did not see it. However, I did see many alpine plants and two small frogs which is unusual at such a height. We stayed the night in Stugudal in two *hyttes* (huts) and ate the smoked reindeer we had carried with us.

Next morning, after visiting Stuedal Kapell, a *Pilegrimskirke*, we made for Neatun. The views of the snowy mountains were beautiful which offset the many biting insects in the woods. We were able to swim in a river to refresh ourselves and eventually arrived at a very comfortable hotel. This seemed to be a conference centre and both the accommodation and food were the best of the whole trip. We had picked mushrooms on the way and they were cooked for us.

The next day took us to Tydal and the ancient church at Kirkvold. It dates back to 1696 but unfortunately this was locked. The garden however provided a comfortable place for our lunch. After this walking became more difficult trying to find the posts marking our pilgrim route among all the trees. We crossed many streams, small bridges and went up and down. I think that it would be difficult for a lone walker to find the route and we certainly needed five sets of eyes to locate the posts which are about waist high with the top two or three inches painted red on three sides and the fourth sign has a *pilegrimsleden* sign. The posts are angled in the direction of the next post but are not a standard distance apart and are easily obscured by the trees and lush vegetation at this time of year. That night was spent at Graslimogard in a traditional farmhouse furnished and decorated in period – it was rather like staying in a museum, very pretty but not very convenient, and extremely expensive. The host was dressed in traditional costume and asked us to make ourselves at home! We had elk stew beneath the stuffed head of a moose killed in 1921. This had been a day for animals: in the morning we had come across a tame fox who liked being stroked and the farm had three puppies whose breed hunt elk. They were very playful and I was tempted to bring

one home to England. The day had been very hot and we had slept with our doors open but in winter the temperature can drop to minus 30 degrees.

The next day was equally hot and there were few views because the trees were so dense and underfoot was treacherous with rotting wood, roots and young trees. Luckily we were able to drink from the streams as the water is unpolluted. When we arrived at Flora we were met by the priest who had brought a coolbox filled with grape soda and non-alcoholic beer – a very thoughtful and welcome gesture. He conducted a special service for we five pilgrims and we were able to sing the Norwegian hymns we had been practising during our journey. We slept on mattresses on the floor and next morning he met us with his car and trailer for our bags and sticks and took us a few kilometres along the road to shorten our day's walking.

Mist greeted us after a night of rain. The valley he drove us through was very scenic and enjoyable. At first we walked along a quiet road and then struck off to the right up a very overgrown, wet and difficult path. Later on the route eased and we passed a house where a lady gave us water. Very soon after that we came down to Selbu. Here there is a museum, the *Selbu Husflidsentral*, dedicated to knitting and other traditional crafts and artefacts. The hall we stayed in had no showers but luckily there was a river nearby. There were delicious raspberries growing here. The priest was officially on holiday so he gave us the keys of the church and we were able to look around. Alcohol is very expensive in Norway and not readily available: this is the first pilgrim path I have trodden that is not through vineyards! We did have a slug of whisky though, as the only man in our party had brought a hip flask with him. His feet were badly blistered, probably because of the heat, damp, and difficult vegetation. The next day he took a taxi to our destination of Mostadmark and awaited our arrival.

The walking was much easier now and the scenery more scenic. It was obvious that these paths had been walked before whereas this was not the case on the earlier days. Here we were made very welcome and a special open-air service was arranged for us at the Mariakapellet. Many local people came and the service was conducted in German and Norwegian by married priests, Ingrid and Jorg Kunzendorf, using bread they had made themselves. There was also a singer with a beautiful voice who sang in Hebrew, Latin, German and Norwegian. A spring on this site has attracted people for generations and is reputed to be on a ley line with powerful energy. We enjoyed

wonderful refreshments afterwards of coffee and many types of home-made cakes. The priests invited all five of us to stay at their house the next night in Saksvit. We were interviewed here and photographed by the press for the second time on our journey (the first time had been at Graslimogard).

We had planned to walk the longer route around the lake but blisters meant that we took the slightly shorter route via the road. We went through Jernverk – iron works – with many of the buildings and machinery remaining from the last century. We were now above the tree line and the smell of pine in the warm sun was delicious. We walked as far as Storsand and then rang for a taxi to take us to Saksvik where we were made most welcome by the family's three children. We had a delicious meal of salmon followed by various ice creams.

Two of the children and their father joined us on the last day of the walk to Nidaros: they were good company and it was their first taste of pilgrimage. We walked along the 'old king's road' and through some parks to the sea's edge. The sun was shining strongly and when we stopped to eat our picnic lunch we sat in the shade whilst all the local holiday-makers sunned themselves. We visited Ranheimkirke which once had been Ingrid's parish church. Luckily for us, as well as being a priest and teacher, Jorg is also a Trondheim guide so he pointed out to us the grand merchants' houses, the houses built for the occupying German officers in the war, the back houses with poor insulation and the music museum and botanic gardens where we stopped for refreshments.

Our accommodation for the last night was in a students' residence near the centre of Trondheim. Without stopping to shower we made our way to the cathedral and met the *pilegrimmer* priest, Sveenge. He is new to the job and a little shy but he stamped our credentials and gave us a sticker for free entry to the cathedral and then conducted a service especially for us in the Women's Memorial Chapel. This service was in English which I greatly appreciated and he quoted from I Peter ii, 5 referring to us as stones on which the church is built - "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house" I thought that this was a lovely idea and he suggested that our sometimes difficult journey was a metaphor for life. He sang in a beautiful voice to us and we sang in less melodic tones to him in Norwegian. After blessing us he departed and left us to wander around the cathedral.

At first the cathedral seemed very dark to me but as my eyes became adjusted it seemed to lighten and I was able to admire the

wonderfully coloured windows and the Union Jack which was on the English vessel which came to the relief of occupied Norway in WW II. We stayed for the pilgrims' service in the main body of the cathedral which was conducted in Norwegian, English and German by a female priest in high-heeled boots. During this service meditative music was played on the organ and the acoustics were wonderful. The rays of the setting sun shone through the central blood-red eye-stone of the rose window casting a pink glow on us all. After all this we went to enjoy our last supper together.

Next morning we breakfasted together and I made my farewells as I was to travel back to Oslo by train whilst my Swedish and German friends were returning via Sweden. I fully recommend making this train journey in daylight as it is spectacular reaching the highest point at Hjerkin at 1016m. The train passed snow-covered mountains, lakes, gorges, waterfalls, and fast flowing rivers. After this point the rivers began to flow south rather than north, naturally. There were a number of train passengers with dogs which all travelled peaceably. At stations where the train stopped for several minutes the dogs were exercised and then returned. I arrived safely in Oslo after the 7 hour journey intending to visit the cathedral but arrived 10 minutes after it had closed at 4pm. I walked around and then made my way to the bus station to start my journey home.

This pilgrimage to Nidaros had been harder in some ways than the various routes I have walked across Europe, possibly because of the unexpected heat, but we were welcomed warmly wherever we went and I feel very privileged to have been able to do it.



Refugio Gaucelmo News

Graham Scholes



Hospitaleros

August: David Garcia, Marion Gunn and Elena Tadiello
Ken Bowyer, Dennis Fitzgerald, Manuela Scafati &
Billie Spencer
September: Michael Krier, Graham Scholes and Friedrich
Wallwitz
Pat Chambers and Alan Brown
October: Conrad Halloran and Brigid McCormick
Tom & Di-Anne Gibson

2006 has been an unusual year at Gaucelmo for a number of reasons. Pilgrim numbers have been unusually low, especially the number of Spanish pilgrims, although there was a marked increase in the number of German and Italian pilgrims at the back end of the year. These statistics support the theory that the World Cup has had an effect on numbers and also, according to one Rabanal resident, an indication that Spain is going through a period of recession at the moment. The reason for the low numbers at Gaucelmo in particular may also be due to Angela opening her refugio at the entrance to the village. The other main contributory factor was Foncebadon. The village has now three refugios and pilgrims starting at Astorga can rest for lunch at Rabanal and walk on to Foncebadon in the knowledge that they will have a bed for the night and an easier next days walking.

As you may have read in the press and on the CSJ website, the refugios along the *Camino Francés* has been beset with problems of bedbugs. Fortunately Gaucelmo has escaped the problem, probably due to the scrupulous cleaning regime that the *hospitaleros* employ. There have been pilgrims arriving with evidence of spots and bites, but thankfully no problems were reported within the building. As a precautionary measure the whole building is being fumigated prior to the opening of Gaucelmo next April, so if there have been any bugs that have survived the winter, the fumigation process will make sure that we start the year free from unwelcome guests!

This year also saw Gaucelmo closing its doors to pilgrims for a period of nine days during October. The reason was due to a number of factors: Safety – the main gas boiler ignition was not working and therefore there was no hot water for the pilgrims showers; the outbreak of bugs/infestation along the camino – but thankfully not at Gaucelmo; and withdrawals from volunteer *hospitaleros* – some who couldn't take up their duties due to last minute family, illness or work commitments.

The Working Party at Gaucelmo have concentrated their efforts in maintaining the structure of the building after closure at the end of October this year, instead of carrying out the tasks prior to opening in April. The working party consisted of seven members: Paul & Cristina Spink; Tricia & Stuart Shaw; Alison Raju; Trevor Curnow and Graham Scholes. The maintenance tasks carried out, in addition to the general cleaning work, included Stuart re-staining/varnishing and repairing where necessary, of all the windows, shutters while Cristina set to work on the wooden balcony and handrails. Paul concentrated on repairing and re-painting the rendering/plaster work on the walls where the old telephone equipment had been removed and in the kitchen. The salon, main dormitory and *hospitaleros* main bedroom also had a recoat of paint with the efforts of Tricia, Alison, Trevor and Graham. Alison spent many a happy hour weeding the garden area in the patio, in the rain, while Trevor made numerous trips from the *huerta* to the entrance porch with logs ready for fuelling the fire in the chilly spring months. All in all it was a very productive week. Unfortunately, the planned replacement of some of the light pendants with globe type light fittings, especially in the areas where there are very low ceilings and also in the bathroom/toilet areas, had to be postponed due to the parcel containing the light fittings having been temporarily stored in a distribution depot somewhere in France! The parcel delivery service mistakenly copying the address and labelling the dispatch note not as León in Spain, but Lyon in France! Thankfully, Antonio has taken receipt of the parcel and is storing it for us until the spring.

A list is now being assembled of prospective *hospitaleros* for 2008. If you would like to know more about the role, or wish to volunteer for 2008, please contact Tricia Shaw via e-mail at stuartandtricia@vbtinternet.com.

Pilgrim's Eye

Exhibition at Guildford Cathedral

John Revell

Michaelmas Day alternated sun and showers for my visit but the lofty heights of Guildford Cathedral provided a light and airy amphitheatre for the Confraternity's autumn exhibition of pilgrim-inspired art. The showing ran from 19 September to 11 October. As a setting the cathedral lends itself to thoughts of pilgrims striving towards higher understanding; because of its relatively recent consecration (1961) it does not conform to the standard English cathedral pattern of being down there among the people but stands high on Stag Hill suspended midway between heaven and the town below.



Paintings on display along the north and south walls of the nave ranged from the photographic to the abstract and conjured up memories of many days on the camino in France and Spain. The dust and the haze came mixed with the challenge of hope and despair. Confrontational but intriguingly memorable in retrospect was the shrine triptych of Alex Menzies who describes in the catalogue his fascination with his initial exposure to the architectural ostentation of Spanish Catholicism. "My vague religious education in Scotland was Presbyterian and Methodist," he writes and then goes on to use the nicely chosen word *vulgarity* (the italics are his) to indicate the paradox which his work so adequately shows. In an altogether different vein was the wonderful symmetry of Rosalind Billingham's collages recalling French days in the Gironde and the Lot.

Michael Newgass's contribution "The ground at my feet" reeled off a kaleidoscope of black-and-white images with hand-held camera aimed marginally ahead of his questing boots. Muddy trails, leaf-fall, cobblestones, arrows on pavements are all captured in succession. I was tempted to count the number of shaped prints, but refrained as I felt that somehow a mathematical tally wasn't within the spirit of his free-ranging introspection. For an overlay of serenity - the end-of- the-day pilgrim feeling when all or nearly all has been accomplished - I enjoyed sharing Mark Hoare's vividly gentle memories of the high places between Astorga and Ponferrada. Closer to the coal-face by which I mean the powerhouse at 27 Blackfriars Road, if you have ever wondered what Christine Pleasants does when she's not answering the office telephone or despatching publications to avid readers the evidence is there in her painting of the "Phoenix" which conveyed its pilgrim crew from Cornwall to northern Spain in Holy Year 1999. Thanks are due to all those involved in assembling this vista of pilgrimage. The exhibition catalogue is available for perusal at the Confraternity Office for those who may wish to view the panorama in retrospect.

Santiago Pilgrims' Pictures

The new CSJ digital gallery is now open

Michael Krier, ARPS
CSJ Digital Library Project Manager

It is more than two years since it was first suggested that the Confraternity should create a library of digital photographs of the Camino de Santiago. This was not intended to replace or challenge the long established Slide Library managed by John Hatfield - which remains a separate collection and continues to fulfil its original function - but rather to build on his achievement and provide the means to collect, display and make available digital photographs of high quality, both technically and photographically on the Confraternity's website.

A key feature of the project, agreed by the Trustees at the outset, was that the collection should be indexed in depth and searchable using Boolean logic, by means of a controlled thesaurus of Keywords, so that researchers, be they students, journalists or would-be pilgrims, could easily locate images, for example of a particular location or on a particular theme. The Gallery is thus intended to be a contribution both to fostering the pilgrimage to Santiago and to serious research.

A second key feature is that although contributing photographers retain the copyright in their work, they grant the CSJ the right to make their pictures freely available for non-commercial use without prior permission, ie on Creative Commons terms. Users are required by these terms to acknowledge the photographer and the CSJ and, if they pass on the pictures, even in altered form, to do so on the same terms as they received them.

Since last January's AGM much has been done: first, to choose appropriate software; second, to adapt that software for our particular requirements; third, to set up the search system; fourth, to agree the terms for submission and use; and finally, to start uploading and cataloguing images.

For the technically minded, the digital image records are held as separate tables in the MySQL database which already holds the on-line library catalogue, and they are similarly addressed by a set of PHP scripts. In setting this up, Howard Nelson, the CSJ Webmaster and

Librarian and instigator of the project, has been able to call for help from Mary Ransom who built the on-line library package for us. The JPEG images are displayed at the correct size for digital projection, and also for making prints of at least A5 size.

So it will be easy for users of the Gallery to download images (free of charge), for example to make a PowerPoint presentation of their pilgrimage or to illustrate a diary. Many of the images will also be available in file sizes appropriate for commercial use so that journalists will have access to high-quality images to support their writing about the Pilgrimage to Santiago, though commercial users will be expected to pay fees to the CSJ at standard rates.

Although it was our intention to start with just the *Camino Francés* and the *Vía de la Plata*, our respective journeying this year has meant that we are also able to begin to cover the Arles Route, the *Caminos del Norte* and the route from Le Puy to the Pyrenees, as well as Santiago itself. As well as recording the variety of architectural and natural sights along the caminos, we hope that the images will also convey something of the spirit of the pilgrimage.

However I need to stress that the digital image gallery is not intended to be a showcase for just Howard's and my photographs. It is intended to be *your* Gallery and a showcase for *your* best pictures. We hope that former and returning pilgrims will now select appropriate and indeed better - images of whichever route they have followed and offer these for inclusion in the Gallery so that it may become, in time, a comprehensive resource for all who are interested in the Pilgrimage to Santiago. The introductory page, now on the website (www.csj.org.uk/digilib-intro.htm) includes information on how to use and how to contribute to the collection, including the terms on which we invite you to do so.

At the moment we have called the digital image gallery *Santiago Pilgrims' Pictures*; if you would like to suggest an alternative name, please send me your suggestion (via the office).

In the meantime I would encourage all readers with Internet access to go to the CSJ website, follow the link under "Information and Resources" to "Picture Gallery" and enjoy rekindling memories of your pilgrimage - and please do send in your pictures!

Being a *hospitalière* on the Vézelay Route

Margaret Anderson

Two years ago in September I responded to a last-minute request for a French speaker to man the refuge at Corbigny in Burgundy. This was part of a convent which has been converted into a small dormitory for the pilgrims, a kitchen and box-room for the warden. The presence of the sisters in the convent with their chapel open to all for daily prayer is a comforting reminder of the purpose of pilgrimage. They are also extremely good company on the occasions when no pilgrims appear so that much hilarity was had in shared meals and conversation. The days, after the departure of the pilgrims, were free to visit local churches, to walk and to read.



Last year I spent two weeks at the refuge at Sorges in the Dordogne. Sorges is the capital of the black truffle country, though *foie gras* and *truffes* were not on the pilgrim menu! Comfort was minimal: a dorm shared with the pilgrims, a basic kitchen, shower and loo. The setting was peaceful: right up against the 12th century church in the tiny square where a constant toing-and-froing of locals who called in during the evening to chat, ensured that one was rarely alone. The high point of this part was the *Festival of the Lentil* in a local village. Thereafter I returned to the nuns in Burgundy and was lucky to have a detailed tour of the Basilica at Vézelay given by an English monk there. He was lecturing the Friends of Durham Cathedral on architectural aspects of the great cathedral including the symbolism of the ninety-nine capitals. The delights of being a warden are

- being in the open air following ancient

tracks through gorgeous countryside

- meeting people of various nationalities (mainly French speaking here)
- visiting the network of medieval churches and monasteries and
- having “time out” of life to reflect and to pray.

It is impressive how individuals cope with adversity: some pilgrims are handicapped yet persist when blisters, discomfort and exhaustion overwhelm them. Many speak of generosity from ordinary villagers who offer them refreshment, shelter and encouragement. The return to normal life was disconcerting after one had been an *hospitalière* living among pilgrims. Daily concerns had shrunk to enable providing hospitality to pilgrims without interference of the intrusions of home life. One’s nearest and dearest are not always enthusiastic to hear upon one’s return home all the details of pilgrims’ woes or the day-to-day stories about existence in tiny French villages!

Invitation for Vézelay Route Wardens in 2007

John Hatfield

Many CSJ Members, having completed the camino or other pilgrim routes, wish to give something back to the movement. A number of possibilities arise, including that of serving as wardens at a *refugio*. Over the last 13 years, some have given their time at the Refugio Gaucelmo at Rabanal del Camino and more recently at Miraz and at the two small refuges on the Vézelay Route at Corbigny and Sorges. In 2007, Les Amis et Pèlerins de Saint-Jacques de la Voie de Vézelay APSJVV, are opening two new refuges at Bouzais (5km SSW of St Amand-Montrond) and in Périgord at La Coquille. If you speak good French the opportunity of being a warden, or *hospitalier*, at one of these four small, recently developed hostels at Corbigny, Sorges, Bouzais or La Coquille on the *Voie de Vézelay*, is a possibility. These refuges usually accommodate around six pilgrims. The season runs from 15 March to 15 October. Since 2000, the enthusiastic and dedicated APSJVV have way-marked the historic pilgrim route from Vézelay to Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port,

led by the dynamic couple Monique and Jean-Charles Chassain. Though based in Périgord they monitor all the activities on the route and are often at the Vézelay Office to welcome pilgrims. They have produced an excellent guide with maps, which is regularly updated, and they are energetically negotiating with local municipalities along the route for the establishment of new pilgrim refuges. For pilgrims, the Vézelay route is a “Route de Solitude” as yet unspoiled by commercialism. The aim of the APSJVV is to keep it that way. In 2006 over 1000 pilgrims were recorded as coming down that route to Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port. In 2006, the CSJ has collaborated with them so that several of our members have served as wardens for two weeks each, at the refuges at Corbigny, on the Southern branch out of Vézelay, and at Sorges, a day’s march short of Périgueux. They have all returned speaking of their warm experiences there as attested by the reflections of Margaret Anderson in this *Bulletin*. If this opportunity appeals to you, John Hatfield will be happy to give you background information, after which you may wish to contact Monique Chassain to negotiate, in French, the possibilities and to arrange dates for your *hospitalier* sojourn. I can be reached at 9 Vicary Way, Maidstone, Kent ME16 0EJ, Tel:01622 757814 . APSJVV

*Contact: Amis et Pèlerins de Saint Jacques de la Voie de Vézelay
24 Rue Saint Pierre, 89450 Vézelay Tél: 0033 3 86 32 38 11
email: contact@amis-saint-jacques-de-compostelle.asso.fr*

Reviews

Pilgrimage to the End of the World

Conrad Rudolph, 2001, University of Chicago Press, 138 pp, £9.50pbk, ISBN 0-226-73127-8

As there is already a plethora of written accounts by those who have walked, cycled and even travelled with a donkey along the camino, any new account of a personal pilgrimage to Santiago needs special qualities in order to command our attention. These, in Rudolph's book, might be summarised as poetry, precision and practicality.

Rudolph is a professional art historian and an experienced hiker, and this combination in itself makes the book rather unusual. He is primarily concerned to make some sense of the reasons people go on pilgrimage, even when, like himself, they are not practising Christians. "For the modern pilgrim," he writes:

"the undertaking is spiritual not in the sense of being religious, but in the sense of having to do with the spirit. In the same way that a non-religious person can listen with sensitivity to a Gregorian chant or read an unusually evocative passage of medieval religious prose or verse, he or she can, to a degree, still experience the pilgrimage."

Here is someone who deserves our respect: Rudolph walked to Santiago before writing this, and so cannot be dismissed as a man making meaningless comparisons with passive experiences.

On the contrary Rudolph states "the pilgrimage begins with the right boots", and follows this with detailed advice on how to choose the most suitable pair. Similar helpful remarks are given on the subject of waterproof clothing and, a few pages later, he lists everything he carried with him, down to the last safety pin. This precision gives the armchair pilgrim far more sense of the scale of the operation, and of the physical hardship involved, than the written clichés about blisters and minor injuries. He comments on these painful realities and his remarks could well be useful at a practical pilgrim weekend, but he does not linger over these matters. Because Rudolph is concise and informative such details do not become boring.

He also gives us the details of his chosen route succinctly; again this is of value for the reader first contemplating the walk:

The entire pilgrimage from Le Puy to Santiago is around 1000 miles (1600 kilometres) and takes 2 1/2 months. This includes getting to Le Puy, the occasional

rest day along the way (I had rest days at Conques, Moissac, Burgos and León because of their interest), a three day hike beyond Santiago to Finisterre, a day or two at the celebrations of the Feast of St James, and the return.

Thus in a few sentences, the burden of chronology is lifted and space allowed for some unusual observations and reflections.

Rudolph is Professor of Medieval Art at the University of California, and thus will be used to asking to whom, ie to what section of the public, works of art were addressed. His remarks on the sculptures of St Foy at Conques reveal the influence of his journey on the understanding of those works. When he approached them, staff in hand:

In the blink of an eye, I saw something in the sculptures... I had never seen before... It struck me immediately and instinctively as a pilgrim, that the tight band of the saved in this Last Judgement scene - an unusual number of whom are holding staffs of some sort - were meant to be directly identified within the Middle Ages by their original audience of pilgrims, virtually all of whom would have been carrying staffs as well.

Rudolph is also interested in how he is seen as a pilgrim and, by extension, how most such travellers are viewed. "A pilgrim is not a tourist," he writes. "You have a deeper experience precisely because you are not an observer in the traditional sense of the word... the locals look to you as a special experience, as authentic". That may well sum up many people's feelings, but it is doubtful whether they are expressed so well.

He is also extraordinarily perceptive about the purpose of the cult of relics and of those of St James in particular. He is not cynical about their economic potential. He reminds us that the sacred was fundamental to everyday life and that the "premise of the pilgrimage was that the holy could be localised". This is something that gives meaning to the more unlikely legends of the pilgrimage roads and to the uncorroborated tales of healing. It was also the force that gave rise to an extraordinary flowering of art and ritual in the twelfth century, when the pilgrimage was at its height. "Art was in part used to fulfil the expectations of the crowd, and even came to be equated with the holiness attributed to the relics themselves." In this context it becomes particularly interesting that Rudolph's strongest impression of Santiago Cathedral was that it was a truly public building and that, in this respect, it reminded him not only of St Peter's in Rome, but also the US Capitol in Washington DC.

It is his interest in social contexts that leads him to comment so

favourably on the work of the CSJ at Rabanal, where he notes that the “popular new *refugio* has been a significant factor in the economic revival of the small mountain village”. In another section listing helpful pilgrimage organisations, he also describes Rabanal as “one of the most charming of all the *refugios* of the pilgrimage route”, besides giving his assessment of the CSJ as a “model for pilgrims’ organisations outside Spain”.

The value of the book is not only in its helpful suggestions for those intending to walk the camino or simply as a souvenir for those who have done so, though these groups should find it useful and enjoyable, especially as there are bibliographies and some unusual illustrations. It should also encourage other people to make the pilgrimage. When Rudolph writes of “the enormous silence and solitude” and of the sense of timelessness that came to him, or when he narrates his encounters with colourful characters he met along the way, he makes his readers want to experience these things as well. By seeing beyond the blisters and exhaustion, he gives his readers some real sense of the deeper reasons why so many people are interested in the camino.

Reviewed by Rosalind Billingham, copy in CSJ Library

Walk With Me: the Pilgrim Road to Santiago

Althea Hayton, 2006, 3 CDs and booklet, Verulam Productions, St Albans, ISBN 0-9525654-7-1

Writer and counsellor Althea Hayton takes us with her on the 400 miles she walked in 2005 along the Camino Francés. So what is new about that? With her CDs, we can actually *hear her voice* as we accompany her on a physical and a spiritual journey during which she recorded her meditations at different points along the Way. Linked by gentle guitar music, each of the 30 pilgrimage stages has the same formula. First is the scene setting, when, in her calm, clear voice she records where she is and what of significance happened during the day - the landscape, the people she met, incidents and mood. These reflections lead into a simple ‘story’ which illustrates the theme for the day and is followed by a short prayer.

Each stage considers the pleasures, problems, disappointments and joys, encountered on the camino and relates the actual and metaphorical walk through Spain to the journey through life. We are invited to ‘progress’ with her in terms of spiritual growth and to share in the experience by hearing the birdsong, voices, music and

traffic noise. Like footsteps, the repeated pattern of music, place, thoughts, story and prayer imparts a reassuring sense of movement and progress.

The accompanying 'Workbook' is also divided into 30 Stages, each with a different title such as 'Silence', 'Slowing Down', 'Regret', 'Boring Days', 'Pain', 'Gratitude'. Each mirrors her transforming experiences on the road but is relevant to those of everyday life. For each theme she suggests Bible readings, books and two activities which build self awareness and interaction with others. Althea's approach is inclusive and enabling and although these are essentially Christian based reflections, the universal nature of the themes could appeal to anyone interested in personal development, regardless of their beliefs. Her spontaneity and quiet reflection carry the listener gently forwards on their own personal journey but the concepts and tasks present challenges, so the listener's journey of the mind is not necessarily a comfortable one.

One of the attractions of these CDs is that you can engage in the pilgrimage by following Althea's physical progress on a map, recognising familiar places and landscapes if you know the camino, or using your imagination with the 'sense of place' that the recordings give us. You could listen all in one - somewhat indigestible - session, so better to journey with her day by day, giving time to live the moment and reflect with Althea on this pilgrimage of heart and mind. The meditations would also be enriching when listened to as and when needed throughout the challenges of everyday existence.

These CDs, accompanying booklet and Althea's website (www.altheahayton.com) open up a novel means of a true pilgrimage at home. Hayton's calm voice brings the camino to life, reassures us, encourages and challenges us to imagine, to dream, to confront painful issues and to grow during our own inner journeys.

Reviewed by Helen Willson, copy in CSJ Library

Members' Pages

From Adele Birnbaum

When I read the passage in *The Canterbury Tales* where the Wife of Bath claims that she had made a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, as well as many other pilgrimages in addition to the Canterbury one, the penny dropped. I thought, if she, as a woman of a certain age, could make a pilgrimage to Santiago, then perhaps I, as a woman of a certain age, could too. What followed is my new book, *The Santiago Tales*, published in August 2006. The book is an account of the misadventures of my own pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, based on my travel journal. As a retired Professor of Medieval Literature at Willamette University in Salem Oregon, USA, I found that the old adventure of pilgrimage is still alive. I discovered the Confraternity of Saint James and its publications just last year, to my delight, even though by then my own pilgrimage was over. I hope to encounter other lovers of pilgrimage when I visit your office in Blackfriars Road in April 2007.

From Sandra Collier

Next meeting of Australian Group - Saturday 9 December 2006

Venue: Spanish Club, Liverpool Street, Sydney, Time: 12.30pm

Doors open - noon, DVD showing at 1.00pm. Tapas \$15

DVD showing of film *Within the Way Without*. Rob Jorritsma, the winter pilgrim will be speaking before the screening regarding his role in *Within the Way Without*. Rob will be travelling from Victoria and we also plan to dine at the Spanish Club this night.

Within the Way Without - is Larry Boulting's stunning film weaving three pilgrims' stories together. The film was made over several years and features disillusioned, middle-aged Dutchman Rob Jorritsma (winter pilgrim), Japanese Haiku Salgado (spring pilgrim) and Brazilian Milena Salgado (summer pilgrim). The other pilgrims, the camino and the weather complete the picture in an engrossing, authentic and beautiful evocation of the pilgrimage and the pilgrims' lives before during and after the camino. The DVD is available from www.csj.org.uk/bookshop price £15 plus P&P £2. For more information contact sandra_collier@hotmail.com Tel : 0414 677 386

From Peter FitzGerald

Spring Working Party at the Miraz Refugio

Are you interested in joining the working party? There are a few places available. It is intended that the working party will take place from Wednesday 21 March to Tuesday 27 March 2007 inclusive. We will be self catering and intend to carry out maintenance works such as painting, general DIY tasks, including gardening and getting the *refugio* ready for the start of the pilgrim season.

It would be an advantage if you speak Spanish. If you are interested and would like to discuss volunteering please contact Peter FitzGerald: peter_of_chichester@tiscali.co.uk or telephone 01243 785681.

From John Hatfield – Slide Librarian

Planning to give a talk about your pilgrimage? Why not use the CSJ Slide Library to help you?

Did you know that the CSJ's growing collection of over 3300 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.

From Julian Nayar

In *An Incident on the Arles Route* in *Bulletin* 95 John Revell ends his narrative ".....we little imagined what awaited us in Lodève the next day. All will be revealed in the December Bulletin." Well I wonder if it was the same thing that befell me when I walked into that town's square late one evening in 1995 on the way to Santiago. While I was watering at the fountain by the public toilets a young Arab who spoke good English rode over on his moped and tried to block my way and demanded my wallet. I shoved him back and walked on. He then shouted at me that he had a knife. I shouted back that I had Karate and he replied that he had judo by which time I got out in the open. He did not pursue me. I then realised that earlier in the day there had been another incident in which another Arab, again English speaking, who kept pestering me to show me the short cuts through the woods was not being kind to a very tired pilgrim. Later at St-Martin I met a family (who turned out to be academics at Monash University in

Melbourne who told me that the chronic unemployment at Lodève made the Arab mine workers there turn to crime.

From Sr Elly Maria

At the beginning of June this year I finished the first part of the Camino. It had been experience and a half, not at all what I thought, read about and hoped for. But I know too that everybody experience of the Camino is different.

Part of this I think, was my hope and desire that my enablers who were coming with me, could after all the preparations we had done, realise that it is different from ordinary being abroad.

Although when preparing, we tried to think about all the eventualities regarding my needs. I am a severely disabled woman, needing an electric wheelchair amongst other things. No one thought that quite a new motor would blow up, and that it was impossible to get it repaired in Spain.... And a front wheel would collapse, again, no repairs possible.

The plan was that we would stay at a campsite, and walk two days on either side so to speak.

Unknown to me, I had planned to stay at a campsite in Castrojeriz, which incidentally is part of a Refugio. I thought that that would be an experience and a half. That Refugio is run by Dutch people, wonderful I thought, as I am Dutch, but as a catholic... The Refugio was out of bounds, so I stayed at the campsite for a week, so I was not a pilgrim.

I am determined to finish the Camino in 2007 and that is where I do need YOU!

Are you willing to walk with me and to plan where to stay? I do need the support of people who are willing to be part of the journey. A journey different for all of us, but which can come together for some time. June I feel will be the best month. Please can YOU help? I 'walked' as far as Sahagún.

Many times I think, I don't want to go and finish, but I know that I need to, and I need you to travel with me.

Please contact Sr Elly on sisterellymaria@vblinternet.com or phone 07973 164055.

There is an account of the first part of her pilgrimage in the CSJ Library. In 2006 she was awarded £500 from the St Christopher Fund towards the cost of her companion.

From Aileen O'Sullivan

Further to the review by John Cairns in *Bulletin* 95 of *Pilgrimage: the Great Adventure of the Middle Ages* by John Ure I picked up on in the Carthusian 'Merry Andrew' who drew up a detailed Guide to the alcoholic drinks along the pilgrim roads to Compostela, including 'whey'-which doth come of butter; 'metheglyn' -honey, water and herbs and 'posset' hot milk and cold ale.

From Robert Sellick

After walking for 9 weeks and mostly carrying our 2-year old son Martin, we were very disappointed that at the Pilgrim Office he was refused a *compostela* on these grounds: he was not confirmed; he did not choose to go on pilgrimage; he was unable to express his spiritual experience. Martin learnt so much from the pilgrimage, patience and sensitivity and awareness and sharing with other pilgrims the space and distance of the camino. He also brought smiles to many peoples' faces and doubts to others "pobrecito, un niño tan pequeño".

Secretary's Note: *having received this sad tale we tried to check eligibility for the compostela. The Walloon Association has advice which concurs with the Pilgrim Office, though they say it is not written down anywhere. Sylvia Nilsen who is an habituée of various Santiago discussion forums asked for other people's experiences and most had had a similar story. However, some children had been offered the certificado and others had had their names added to their parents' compostelas.*

From Frank Mackey



I wonder if any other family can boast three generations of pilgrims? I have cycled, my son Ian has walked the *Camino francés*, *Vía de la Plata* and Northern route and is thinking about the route from Valencia and my grandson Paul walked from Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port to Santiago and Finisterre, where we all three met together.

From Secretary's Notebook

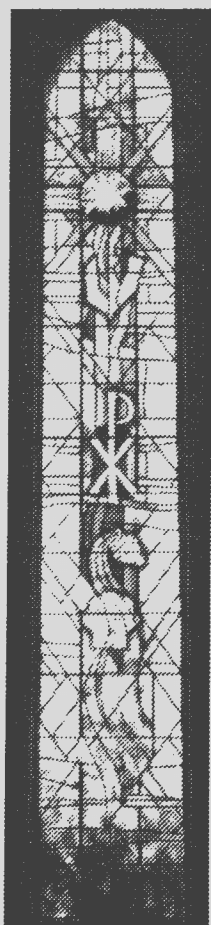
Marion Marples

Mary Clarkson 1931-2006 RIP

Mary, who lived in Birmingham, generously donated her sister Angela's award-winning Guild of St Gabriel special collection of postage stamps on the theme of Pilgrimage to the CSJ Library:

Julián Campo and José Santino Manzano RIP

You may recall hearing a news item in August about a train crash in Spain which involved pilgrims returning from Santiago de Compostela. At the time this was not well covered in the English-language news but the October edition of *Peregrino* magazine pays tribute to these 2 men who were long time *hospitaleros* at Castrojeriz, San Antón and San Nicolás de Puente Fitero who were killed in the accident. Both men were not only members of the Burgos Amigos but also members of the Italian Confraternità di San Jacopo de Compostela.



Christabel Watson

Last year Christabel Watson published an excellent account of her 801-mile walk across Spain from Gibraltar to la Coruña which took 42 days. Proceeds were to go towards a new lancet window for St David's church in Christabel's home village of Newbold-on-Stour, near Stratford-on-Avon. The window design by Derek Hunt combines features of the Santiago pilgrimage, including a map of Spain with the route of the *Via de la Plata*, and a scallop shell, with symbols of St David as the 'Water Man'. Copies of Christabel's book are still available £4.95 plus £1 p&p

Dr Alison Pinkerton

Our congratulations go to Alison Pinkerton of Salisbury on the presentation by the Bishop of Salisbury (fellow CSJ member Bishop David Stancliffe) of the Cross of St Aldhelm. This is an award for lay people for a 'selflessly generous contribution to the life of the church and the

Diocese'. Alison has visited the Sudan on a number of occasions as a medical volunteer and raised large amounts of money for medical equipment and drugs. She is better known to the CSJ for the 4 years of 'selflessly generous' work as Rabanal warden Coordinator.

Santiago, Rome & Jerusalem

These three pilgrimage cities are working together to promote themselves and to extend the interest from Santiago to Rome and Jerusalem. See www.holycities.info

Confraternity of Pilgrims to Rome

A meeting was held on in the CSJ offices on Saturday 18 November to found a British group devoted to helping pilgrims to Rome in a similar way to the CSJ does for those going to Santiago. It is to be called the Confraternity of Pilgrims to Rome. (CPR)

The objective of the confraternity is to aid those making a pilgrimage to Rome by foot, bicycle or horse with practical help and information. Membership of the CPR will be open to all interested in pilgrimage to Rome by foot, bicycle or horse. Initially membership will be free and will remain so as long as possible.

The CPR will aim to provide a source of information that will make pilgrim's journey easier. This will require a website which we will look to set up over the next 2 months. We will help way-marking the routes. The CPR will meet together from time to time to enable those who had completed the journey to exchange information with each other and to pass it on to new pilgrims.

We will help to find low cost accommodation in England and to find as much accommodation information on the route as we can.

We will not seek to publish a route-guide but would base the structure of information we supply on the CSJ model of constantly updated content. We will provide a pilgrim passport for the route.

The CPR will work in cooperation with the Association International *Via Francigena*, CSJ, Canterbury City Council, etc.

If anyone is interested in joining please e-mail me at w.marques@cuphoso.co.uk

Amis de St Jacques Belgique

Congratulations to our friends in the Walloon Association on their recent 20th Anniversary. The CSJ was represented by John Hatfield at a celebratory weekend of lectures, visits and music.

Pilgrim's Eye Art Exhibition

Thank you again to all who contributed to the success of this Exhibition especially our artist contributors and Mary Moseley who not only climbed ladders and transported paintings but also ensured that the Exhibition looked as professional as possible. We have had a letter of thanks from the cathedral who were pleased that the Exhibition encouraged many who had previously only passed-by to actually venture into the building. Our thanks go to the Dean Victor Stock and Alexandra Gresswell for helping the exhibition to take place. We plan a virtual exhibition on the CSJ website for those who were unable to visit Guildford.

St Nicholas Kirk, Aberdeen

Recent archaeological excavations have found the first two scallop shells to be found in Aberdeen. The first, found in week 25, was on its own and is pierced with four holes for attaching to hat or cloak. In week 36 another was found in association with a burial, placed at hip level, where the scrip might have been placed. See www.aberdeencity.gov.uk for pictures and report .

Camino News

Travelling by Brittany Ferries from Plymouth

Pilgrims in Plymouth in term time are invited to the Pilgrims Café at the University of Plymouth for a wholesome Blue Table meal for £1.99. see www.pilgrims.plymouth.ac.uk

Ryanair from Nottingham - East Midlands

Flights to Santiago three times a week will start from 27 February.

Bedbugs

In the last year there have been many more reports of bedbugs found in the *gîtes d'étape* and refuges along the ways of St James and some people have found themselves badly affected. Some refuges have been closed for fumigation eg the Madres Benedictinas in León Those responsible for Rabanal and Miraz are considering what to do for the best. We shall try and keep the website up-to-date with the latest news and developments.

Vézelay Route

If you are thinking of walking the Vézelay route next year but are worried about using a guide that is all in French you may like to know that a new “English” version of the 3rd edition of Monique and Jean-Charles Chassain’s guide, *Itinéraire du Pèlerin de Saint-Jacques sur la Voie Historique de Vézelay*, will shortly be available. This latest edition of their guide contains a lengthy Introduction in English and a comprehensive glossary to enable those with only a limited knowledge of French to understand the route-finding instructions, accommodation details and information about historic monuments and places of interest. It costs 30 euros, £24, has excellent maps and we expect it to be on sale at the AGM.

Le Puy Route: Moissac

Rom Bates who lives in Moissac reports that a new path into the town is to be built. He has also presented to the Library a booklet of walks in the Moissac area.

Xunta de Galicia

Refuges run by the Xunta de Galicia are charging 3 euros a night but also, as from 2007, pilgrims will be allowed to stay more than one night in low season (*temporada baja*), space permitting. This is intended to give (e.g. foreign but also other) pilgrims the chance to visit historic monuments etc. It wasn’t clear from the article in *El Correo Gallego* whether this applies only to the *Camino Francés* or whether it also refers to their *refugios* on other routes as well.

Are you a gardener?

Paul Graham
at the request of the Rabanal Committee

The Rabanal Committee wish to explore the possibility of creating a better garden and patio at Refugio Gancelmo.

From time to time there has been a flurry of 'garden' activity from an enthusiastic *hospitalero* or member of a working party. This has necessarily been transitory – soon the *hospitalero* or working party member has to go home. So how would it be if a member of the CSJ were to create and maintain a garden and patio as a setting suitable for the contemplation, delight and relaxation of pilgrims?

How would it work? The 'gardener' would make an initial visit to assess the soil, climate conditions and plants and trees grown locally. He or she would then draw up a plan for planting within a pre-determined budget – always bearing in mind that there needs to be shade, some fruit-bearing trees and some colour around the place. The budget would take into account the need to buy garden implements, sprays, fertilizers and tubing for water 'drips'.

Having done the planting, what then? The planting would have been so organised having in mind that the gardener does not live in Rabanal. The gardener would make perhaps three or four visits each year, each one being for about a week. He or she would devise a simple 'maintenance' programme (and this would require some skill) so that the *hospitaleros* need spend no more than about ten minutes a day in maintenance. This would include, for example, activating the 'drips' that water the trees and plants.

Are you interested? If so, please contact Paul and Cristina Spink (co-chair of the Rabanal Committee) – 01908310323 and spinkroua@hotmai.com - for further discussion.

Note: 'Paradise' is the Greek word for 'garden' – there's your benchmark!

CSJ Events

Saturday 27 January

Annual General Meeting

The Refrain in Spain, Stephen Shipley: Senior Producer, BBC Religion & Ethics

See separate AGM Papers and Accounts for full programme

Saturday 17 February Practical Pilgrim, Nottingham

Pilgrimage from le Puy :Jane & Mike Bradshaw

Saturday 3 March

Practical Pilgrim, London

John Marshall Hall, 27 Blackfriars Road, SE1

Saturday 17 March

Practical Pilgrim, Glasgow

Our Lady & St George Church, Glasgow

Wednesday 21 March Miraz appeal Lecture Recital

The Musical Road to Santiago de Compostela: following the 15th century route from Einsiedeln of Fr Hermann König von Vach. Dr Mary Renmant, Instituto Cervantes, 102 Eaton Square, London SW1. See application form on back of Miraz newsletter. Tickets will also be on sale to members of the public so early booking is advised.

Saturday 31 March

Office Open Day

10.30am-3.30pm. The office is open for advice and the library for browsing. 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1

Saturday 30 June

Office Open Day

10.30am-3.30pm. The office is open for advice and the library for browsing. 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1

Monday 23-Thursday 26 July**Rabanal**

celebrations in Rabanal del Camino for the 100,000th Pilgrim, St James's day and the visit of the Arch Abbot of St-Otilien, the order to which the monks next door belong. Organised by Paul Graham and Walter Ivens

Wednesday 25 July**St James's Day****Saturday 29 September****Office Open Day**

10.30am-3.30pm. The office is open for advice and the library for browsing. 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1

End October**Poland**

Possible informal 'reccy' visit to Poland with visits to places connected with St James. Organised by Gosia Brykczynska.

Friday 2-Sunday 4 November Returned Pilgrim Retreat

at Ampleforth Abbey, Yorkshire
24 places, approx £100.

Saturday 17 November**Practical Pilgrim**

Other Routes including Rome (in association with the Confraternity of Pilgrims to Rome), the *Via de la Plata*, the *Camino del norte* and the St Olav's route in Norway.
John Marshall Hall, 27 Blackfriars Road, SE1

Saturday 24 November**Office Open Day**

10.30am-3.30pm. The office is open for advice and the library for browsing. 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1

Other Lectures and Events still to be arranged.

Other Events

Sunday 21, 28 January & 4 February

City Lit

Art & Pilgrimage: Three Sunday afternoon sessions from 2.30pm to 4pm at the City Lit Institute, 1, Keeley Street, London WC2. For more information contact : 020 7492 2700 or 7492 2703; www.citylit.ac.uk

Saturday 3 February

Study Day

Medieval Christian Pilgrimage Study Day
10.30am-4.30pm at the City Lit Institute, 1 Keeley Street, London WC2. For more information contact: 020 7492 2600; www.citylit.ac.uk

To 4 February 2007

Exhibition

Faith and Fortune: Pilgrim Memorabilia
Open 9.30am-5pm (Closed Mondays)
Bruggemuseum, Grunthuse (Dijver 17), Brugges 8000
For more information see www.geloofengeluk.be

Thursday 19 April

Lecture

The Way of St James: Pilgrims' Roads from France to Santiago de Compostela
Dr Steven Blake, 7.45pm, The Bacon Theatre, Dean Close School, Shelburne Road, Cheltenham, Glos. Tickets £9, (group rate for 10 or more £7), from the Bacon Theatre 01242 258002, Cheltenham Art Gallery & Museum, Clarence St 01242 237431 or at the door. Good parking. Café and bar open from 7pm

April/May

Nürnberg – Konstanz

Annual Jakobusweg Pilgrimage 2007, Nürnberg - Konstanz
Each year Gerhilde Fleischer organises a group of pilgrims to walk the *Jakobusweg* and update the waymarking as and when required. This takes place over a three-week period, starting in Nürnberg and finishing in Konstanz on the Swiss border, but pilgrims interested in joining the group do not have to participate in the entire journey: they can, if they wish, join/leave the route in Nürnberg, Nördlingen, Ulm, Bad Waldsee or Konstanz
Accommodation is in guest houses and small hotels and prices per

day (including a copious breakfast) are in the region of 25-30 euros per person (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 20 and 28km (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 Australia, Britain, Holland and Sweden, and who are always made very welcome.

The programme for 2007 will be as follows:

- 04.04 Travel to **Nürnberg**.
- 05.05 Nürnberg - Unterreichenbach,
- 06.05 Unterreichenbach - Abenberg,
- 07.05 Abenberg - Kalbensteinberg,
- 08.05 Kalbensteinberg - Gunzenhausen.
- 09.05 Gunzenhausen - Heidenheim,
- 10.05 Heidenheim - Oettingen,
- 11.05 Oettingen - **Nördlingen**.
- 12.05 **Nördlingen** - Neresheim,
- 13.05 Neresheim - Giengen,
- 14.05 Giengen - Nerenstetten.
- 15.05 Nerenstetten - **Ulm**,
- 16.05 Rest day in Ulm,
- 17.05 **Ulm** - Donaurieden,
- 18.05 Donaurieden - Maselheim,
- 19.05 Maselheim - Muttensweiler,
- 20.05 Muttensweiler - **Bad Waldsee**
- 21.05 **Bad Waldsee** - Weingarten,
- 22.05 Weingarten - Brochenzell,
- 23.05 Brochenzell - Markdorf,
- 24.05 Markdorf - **Meersburg/Konstanz**.

Anyone interested in taking part should contact Gerhilde in writing (she speaks excellent English) by 15 March at the latest: Gerhilde Fleischer, Rainstrasse 11/3, D-88316 Isny, Germany, tel/fax 00-49-(0)7562/55 385

New Members

Information is provided for members' personal use only.

UK - LONDON

Mrs Bernadette Barber	020 8994 8265
2 Ramilles Road, Chiswick, London, W4 1JN	
Mr David Egerton-Smith	020 7603 2599
2 St James's Gardens, London, W11 4RB	
Dr Sheila McKenzie	020 8505 7481
69 Gordon Road, South Woodford, London, E18 1DT	
Mr Schzen Ooi	020 7731 7765
45 Carrara Wharf, Ranelagh Gardens, London, SW6 3UJ	
Miss Kelly O'Rorke	020 7720 8555
16 Gambetta Street, London, SW8 3TU	
Mr Nigel Parker	020 7008 2576
17 Salcombe Gardens, Clapham Common North Side, SW4 9RY	
Mr Grant Slabber	
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UK - SOUTH

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Mr Roger Mills	01202 763081
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Confraternity Publications

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

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

Pilgrim Guides to Spain

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

Pilgrim Guides to the Roads through France

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | <i>Paris to the Pyrenees</i>
£5.00 | Marigold Fox, 19 Maple Way, ROYSTON, Hertfordshire SG8 7DH
(01763) 244525 |
| 2 | <i>Vézelay to the Pyrenees</i>
n/a | John Hatfield, 9 Vicary Way, MAIDSTONE, Kent ME16 0EJ (01622) 757814 |
| 3 | <i>Le Puy to the Pyrenees</i>
£5.00 | Alison Raju, 21 Hall Street, Sherwood, NOTTINGHAM NG5 4BB
alisonraju@btopenworld.com |
| 4 | <i>Aries to Puente la Reina</i>
£7.50 | Marigold Fox, 19 Maple Way, ROYSTON, Hertfordshire SG8 7DH
(01763) 244525 |

Pilgrim Guides to the Roads through Europe

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| 2 | <i>Nürnberg to Konstanz</i>
£5.00 | Alison Raju, 21 Hall Street, Sherwood, NOTTINGHAM NG5 4BB
alisonraju@btopenworld.com |
| 4 | <i>Via Gebennensis</i>
£3.00 | Alison Raju, 21 Hall Street, Sherwood, NOTTINGHAM NG5 4BB
alisonraju@btopenworld.com |

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------|
| Practical Pilgrim Notes | <i>for Walkers</i> | £1.50 |
| | <i>for Cyclists</i> | £2.50 |
| | <i>Winter Pilgrim</i> | £1.00 |
| | <i>Which Camino?</i> | £2.50 |

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

Confraternity of Saint James

Registered Charity number 1091140

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

Information and Publications available from Registered Office:

27 Blackfriars Road, LONDON SE1 8NY

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

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H E The Spanish Ambassador

Secretary

Marion Marples

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

Pilgrim Records Secretary

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

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*Membership Secretary
and Database Manager*

Membership applications should be sent to the office

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and Website Manager*

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Gift Aid Secretary

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

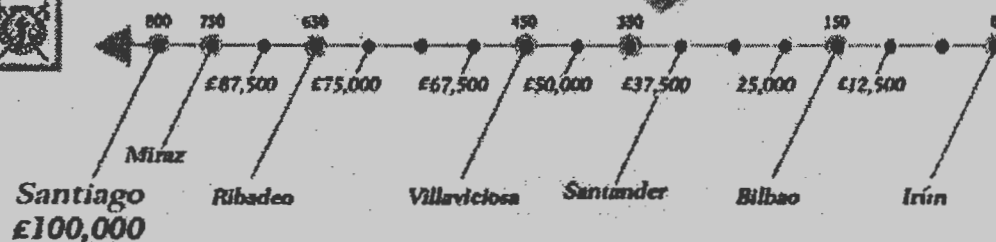
Slide Librarian

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

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



How has the *gaítero* progressed?



- *Appeal Total £40,217 - THANK YOU*
- Phases 1 & 2 completed. Phase 3 - awaiting architect's report
- See inside for
Reports on the Refugio Blessing and the Spanish Embassy Reception, Working Party - help wanted, Raffle Tickets, Lecture Recital

*** *The Blessing of the Miraz Refugio* ***

On 28th September, after a mass in the church the *refugio* was blessed. The Bishop of Lugo was to have officiated but due to illness, the Dean, Don José Fernandez Fernandez, came instead. The Dean welcomed everybody in English and said mass in Spanish. William Griffiths gave the Bidding Prayers in English and Esperanza, a Confraternity member originally from Galicia, sang in *Gallego*. It was a very moving service. Following the blessing by the Dean (see photo below), William and the *Alcalde* of Friol each gave a speech (in Spanish). Everyone at the church received an earthenware scallop shell made in St Neot by Tony Ward's neighbour and these were very much appreciated. Then there was an enjoyable *fiesta* with about 40 people present, half from the Confraternity and the other half were Spanish from the *Obispado* in Lugo, the *Ayuntamiento* in Friol, the local priest, the *hospitalera* Conchi, from Baamonde, and local villagers including Pilar from the bar and Jesus the verger. Five pilgrims added to the air of celebration.

*** *Spanish Embassy Reception* ***

On 23rd November, 110 Confraternity members and guests negotiated some forbidding scaffolding on the corner of Belgrave Square in London to discover the warmth and splendour of the Spanish Embassy within - to which we had been kindly invited by the Ambassador, the Count of Casa Miranda, and the Countess, to a fundraising reception in aid of the Miraz Appeal.

We have long enjoyed the support and friendship of the Spanish Ambassador, who since the early days of the Confraternity has agreed to be our honorary president, and it was a pleasure on this occasion to get to know the current Ambassador and his wife. In his speech of welcome, he spoke warmly of the Confraternity's contribution to Spain and the discovery of its cultural heritage, and offered his support to this, our second *refugio* project. William Griffiths, our Chairman, presented him with a specially designed Pilgrim Passport, in the hope that he will one day discover the pilgrimage for himself; and Colin Jones gave a detailed account of the origins, progress, and future needs of the Miraz project.

One of the Embassy's security staff revealed in the course of the evening that his mother comes from Baamonde, the pilgrim halt one stage before Miraz. It was hard to say whether he or we were more delighted with the discovery!

The reception realised £2,800 for the Miraz Appeal, and took our total to £40,000, which means that our *gaitero* (follow his progress on the Miraz pages of the CSJ website!) is not far short of the half way point in his pilgrimage along the Camino del Norte.

*** *Thank You* ***

I have tried to write a thank you to everyone who has donated but it has been hard to keep up with the enormous number of donations, so I do sincerely apologise if I have missed you. Please be assured that your gift is very much appreciated and accept our very grateful thanks - Miraz would not have been possible without your support .

Alison and the fundraising team

*** Raffle Tickets ***

Enclosed with the December Bulletin you should have found a book of raffle tickets. We hope the international nature of the prizes will particularly encourage anyone who has so far been unable to attend any fundraising events to take part in our appeal. Please return the ticket stubs and payments as soon as possible to arrive at the CSJ office by Friday 26 January 2007, the day before the AGM. We will be very happy to send you more tickets if you need them - just ask the CSJ office or Alison (*Tel: 01372 274398 or email alison.thorp@virgin.net*). Thank you.

*** Working Party ***

There may be spaces left (depending on your skills !) on the next Miraz working party 21-27 March 2007 inclusive. *Please contact Peter FitzGerald - Tel: 01243 785681 or email: peter_of_chichester@tiscali.co.uk*

*** eBay for Charity ***

We are registering on eBay so that you can will be able to sell items on eBay and allocate part of the proceeds to the Miraz appeal.

*** Forthcoming Events ***

Due to the AGM and Practical Pilgrim meetings early in the year, Miraz fundraising events are being delayed until the Spring. Please look out for more details in the March Bulletin and newsletter and on the website.

Wed 21 March Lecture Recital- Mary Remnant & the CSJ Choir UK - London
6.30pm. At The Instituto Cervantes, 102 Eaton Square, London SW1. *Please see Bulletin for further details and the back of this newsletter for the application form.*

Sat 12 May Eco - Open House UK - London
12 noon - 7pm. Advanced Notice! You are warmly invited to an informal Open House afternoon at John & Wendy's eco-friendly home in SE London, Unusual design with glass tower, solar-assisted heating, rainwater harvesting and living roof. Stay as little or as long as you like. Drinks and nibbles provided. All donations to Miraz.
Please contact John or Wendy Beecher for an invitation and directions - Tel: 020 8690 6974 or email: john.beecher@ntlworld.com

Sat 19 May "Just Walk" (60km !) UK- W Sussex
Angelika has offered to do this charity walk (60km all in one day!) in aid of the Miraz Appeal. Please support her by sponsorship or cheering her along on the day.
Further details from Angelika Schneider - Tel: 02476 365610 or email: amhschneider@hotmail.co.uk

TBA "Within the Way Without" UK - NE
Michael Naessens would like to organise showings of the film in Yorkshire and the NE as soon as he can find a suitable projector and venue. If you are interested or can help, *please contact Michael at 12 Dean St, Ilkley, W Yorkshire LS29 8JR or Tel: 01943 603149.*

*** Spanish Recipes wanted ***

We're thinking of producing a book of Spanish recipes to sell in aid of Miraz and would be grateful for any contributions. Please contact the office or Alison (*see contact details above*).

*** *Items for Sale* ***

Please see previous newsletters or our website for details of Miraz mugs, pilgrim staffs, holiday cottages in France, "Compostelle" CDs and "My Camino" books.

Name

Address

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

Raffle Tickets

All tickets must be returned to CSJ office by Friday 26 January 2007

☐ I have sold _ _ (number) raffle tickets at £1 each £.....

and I enclose the ticket stubs

☐ Please send me _ _ further books of 10 tickets

Lecture Recital - Wed 21 March 2007

Book early as tickets are limited and are also on sale to the public

☐ Please send me _ _ tickets at £10 (Concessions £8) £.....

Donations

☐ I wish to support the appeal by making a donation of £.....

=====

Payment

Total £

=====

☐ I enclose a cheque made payable to "CSJ - Miraz Appeal"

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

Visa / Mastercard Number - - - - / - - - - / - - - - / - - - -

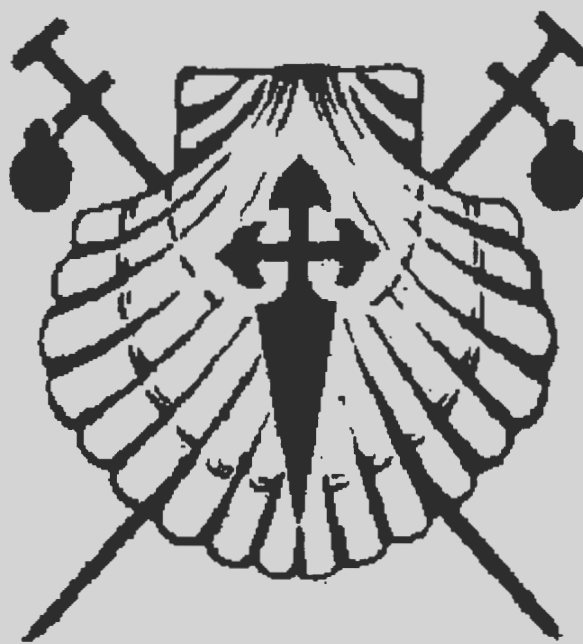
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Signed

Date

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

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



The Confraternity of Saint James

(A company limited by guarantee)

Report and Financial Statements

Year ended: 30 September 2006

Company no. 4096721

Charity no.1091140

www.csj.org.uk

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Legal and Administrative Information

Status

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

- - o - o - o - o - o - o - o - o -

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HE The Spanish Ambassador

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Dr M M Brykczynska

Mr P Graham

Dr W E O A A G Griffiths

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Revd C Jones

M/s Catherine Kimmel

Appointed 28th January 2006

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Mrs A B Raju

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Revd W J Yates

Secretary

Ms M Marples

Company Secretary & Treasurer

Mr A. Ward

Rabanal Committee (appointed annually by the directors)

Paul & Cristina Spink, Chairmen

Marion Marples

Tricia Shaw, Wardens' Co-ordinator

Alison Raju

Laurie Dennett

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Mr I S McLaughlin FCA

23, West Farm Avenue, ASHTEAD Surrey KT21 2LD

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 30 September 2006

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2006. The Board of Trustees confirms that the annual report and financial statements comply with current statutory requirements including the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 2005 (SORP 2005).

Structure and Objects of the charity

The object of the CSJ is to advance the education of the public in and to promote the pilgrimage to Saint James of Compostela in the north-western Spanish region of Galicia and the related history, art, architecture and music. Activities include promoting research, presenting educational programmes, identifying and preserving monuments, providing information on routes, establishing paths, maintaining hostels, and working in close co-operation with other bodies in furthering similar aims and objectives. The trustees continue to pursue all these objectives with rigour although it is not possible to fully quantify how the organisation meets these other than the positive feed-back received from returning pilgrims and others with a personal interest in pilgrimage.

Under the Articles of the company, the members of the Committee are elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve for a period of two years, half of their number being subject to re-election each year. The directors of the company are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees. The Chairman and other honorary officers are appointed by the Committee at its first meeting after the Annual General Meeting. An invitation is included with each annual report asking for members to act as trustees. Existing trustees also make recommendations to the committee regarding suitable candidates.

Financial Review & Future Developments

Having celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2003, the CSJ has continued to prosper in the last financial year. However, the total membership shows a slight reduction. A small deficit arose on the unrestricted general fund. Additional expenditure in the year included an up-date of the Maximiser membership software and cost of the digital development of the CSJ library and picture gallery. Sales of educational literature continue to grow with the annual publication of the Guide to the Camino Francés being the best selling item. It continues to support both the Refugio Gaucelmo in Rabanal and the newly established Refugio at Miraz, both refuges for pilgrims in Northern Spain. The CSJ continues to provide a personal information service to, and answer queries from, the public whether in person, by telephone, email, through the website or by arranging speakers and visits. Interest in our website has continued with over 59,500 visits in the year to 30 September 2006, up from 47,500 in the previous year. The website continues to be developed as more and more potential pilgrims use the resources provided.

During the financial period, the trustees continue to reinforce the principles of good practice recommended within the charity sector, having carried out a Risk Assessment Review, established a Financial Policy, and a reserves Policy. A review of the administrative and internal control systems is ongoing. In March 2007, the Trustees will be considering the contents of the new Charities Act which received the Royal Assent on 8th November 2006, in particular the possibility of changing legal status to a "Charitable Incorporated Organisation" which may mean that accounts and reports only need to be filed with the Charity Commission. The salaries paid to the Secretary, Systems Manager, and, Office Administrator were reviewed during the year. A further review of salaries and conditions will need to be undertaken in early 2007.

The increase in membership rates in 2004 has not materially deterred renewals. However, it should be recognised that there will always be a number of members not renewing their subscription as they complete their pilgrimage or lose interest in the aim and objectives of the Confraternity. The first discount offer for remaining a member for 3 years will end in Autumn 2007. Some of these members may also not renew their membership.

The membership software system (known as Maximizer) originally introduced in June 2003 has now been substantially updated and continues to be a great success, especially with membership renewals procedures. The system enables the membership work to be shared between several members thereby reducing the general risk exposure. It also helps to identify members in a particular geographic area or with a particular expertise.

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

Risk Management

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

The trustees consider the most significant risks to this charity continue to be the loss of key personnel and those risks related to, or arising from, loss of or damage to property. Lesser risks were financial irregularity and incompetence of trustees. Risk Assessment Tables were drawn up and each individual and function perceived to be at risk was prioritised according to the Charity Commission's guidelines. The trustees approved an action plan early in 2003, as a result of which the tables have been reviewed and the appropriate steps taken to minimise the risks. These steps have included cover / deputies for key personnel, increased insurance cover, and improved documentation of systems and back-ups of data. A further review of the tables took place at the trustees' training day held in February 2005. A training event is being planned for early 2007 to cover Risk Management and the contents of the new Charities Act as mentioned above.

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

Reserves Policy

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

General – Unrestricted funds

The free unrestricted reserves at the year-end were £39,000, after deducting £1,000 for known contingencies and a designated fund of £10,000 (Miraz). The trustees consider the most appropriate level of free reserves at 30 September 2006 would be £45,000 to cover 6 months of operating costs.

Rabanal – Restricted Income Fund

The level of reserves required to cover 12 months operating costs is £2,500 which leaves a surplus of £3,100 at 30 September 2006. This is retained for use on future repairs and improvements to the property and to the facilities for pilgrims.

Investment Powers

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

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

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

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

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

Approved by the trustees on 12th December 2006 and signed on their behalf by

Dr W E Griffiths
Chairman

Report of Reporting Accountant

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

Basis of Opinion

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

Opinion

- (a) The accounts are in agreement with the accounting records kept by the company under section 221 of the Companies Act 1985;
- (b) having regard only to, and on the basis of, the information contained in those accounting records
 - (i) the accounts have been drawn up in a manner consistent with the accounting requirements specified in section 249C (6) of the Act; and
 - (ii) the company satisfied the conditions for exemption from an audit of the accounts for the year specified in section 249A(4) of the Act, as modified by section 249A(5), and did not, at any time within that year, fall within any of the categories of companies not entitled to the exemption specified in section 249B(2)

I S McLaughlin FCA
Reporting Accountant

23 West Farm Avenue
Ashted, Surrey, KT21 2LD

Statement of Financial Activities for Year to 30 September 2006

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted Funds (note 2)				Total	2005
		General Fund	Rabanal	Miraz	Bursary	Other		
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES								
from generated funds								
Voluntary Income								
Donations	3	1,310	1,002	32,146	-	311	34,769	12,371
Subscriptions	4	53,063	-	-	-	-	53,063	55,404
Books and Publications - Sales	5	36,769	-	-	-	-	36,769	31,448
Other Items - Sales	6	6,313	-	-	-	-	6,313	1,565
Visit Income	7	2,350	-	-	-	-	2,350	9,312
		99,805	1002	32,146	-	311	133,264	110,100
Investment Income	8	2,856	282	-	442	186	3,766	3,755
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		102,661	1,284	32,146	442	497	137,030	113,855
RESOURCES EXPENDED								
Representative Conferences	16	1,374	-	-	-	-	1,374	-
Grants	9	-	-	-	500	750	1,250	1,350
Refugio Gaucelmo	10	-	2,438	-	-	-	2,438	2,567
Miraz	11	-	-	25,046	-	-	25,046	10,499
Bulletin	12	10,601	-	-	-	-	10,601	10,405
Library	13	3,659	-	-	-	-	3,659	2,244
Speaker Meetings	14	(109)	-	-	-	-	(109)	(216)
Books and Publications - Costs		20,318	-	-	-	-	20,318	17,642
Other Items - Costs		6,022	-	-	-	-	6,022	851
Exhibition Costs etc.	23	310	-	-	-	-	310	920
Visit Expenditure	7	2,493	-	-	-	-	2,493	8,595
Direct Charitable Activities		44,668	2,438	25,046	500	750	73,402	54,857
Other Charitable Costs	15	33,723	-	-	-	-	33,723	29,165
Governance Costs	16	28,247	-	-	-	-	28,247	24,615
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		106,638	2,438	25,046	500	750	135,372	108,637
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	24	(3977)	(1154)	7,100	(58)	(253)	1,658	5,218
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		54,194	6,764	(3,366)	8,128	4,101	69,821	64,603
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		50,217	5,610	3,734	8,070	3,848	71,479	69,821

Balance Sheet as at 30 September 2006

		Unrestricted	Restricted Funds				Total	2005
		General	Rabanal	Miraz	Bursary	Other		
	Notes	Fund						
FIXED ASSETS	17	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Computer		485	-	-	-	-	485	nil
Works of Art		3,900	890	-	-	-	4,790	4,790
		4,385	890	-	-	-	5,275	4,790
CURRENT ASSETS								
Stocks and Work-in-progress								
Books and Publications for Sale	22	5,196	-	-	-	-	5,196	5258
Other Items for Sale	22	653	-	-	-	-	653	1050
Postage Paid Envelopes		1,284	-	-	-	-	1,284	1330
		7,133	-	-	-	-	7,133	7,539
Debtors	18	6,774	-	-	-	-	6,774	13,576
Cash at Bank and In Hand		67,924	4,720	3,734	8,070	3,848	88,296	79,866
NET CURRENT ASSETS		81,831	4,720	3,734	8,070	3,848	102,203	101,080
CURRENT LIABILITIES								
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	19/20	(35,999)	-	-	-	-	(35,999)	(36,049)
NET ASSETS		45,832	5,874	3,734	8,070	3,848	66,204	65,031
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		50,217	5,610	3,734	8,070	3,848	71,479	69,821
TOTAL FUNDS		50,217	5,610	3,734	8,070	3,848	71,479	69,821

Audit Exemption

- For the year ended 30 September 2006 the company was entitled to exemption under section 249A (2) of the Companies Act 1985 ("the Act").
- Members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 249B (2) of the Act.
- The directors acknowledge their responsibility for:
 - ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 221 of the Act; and
 - preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year, and of its profit or loss for the financial year, in accordance with the requirements of section 226 of the Act, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company;
- The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions in Part VII of the Act relating to small companies.

Approved by the trustees on 12th December 2006 and signed on their behalf by

Dr W E Griffiths Chairman

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2006

1. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP) which came into force in March 2005, applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 1985. The length of the current and previous accounting periods was one full calendar year.

(b) Donations and similar incoming resources

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

(c) Investment income

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

(d) Resources Expended

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

(e) Tangible Fixed Assets & Depreciation

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

(f) Exchange Rates

Moneys received and paid in euros are converted at the actual exchange rate on the transaction date with the exception of moneys received and paid at Miraz on a daily basis where the seasonal mid point exchange rate is used.

2. Restricted Funds

	At 1 Oct 2005	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	At 30 Sep 2006
	£	£	£	£
Rabanal	6,764	1,284	2,438	5,610
Miraz	(3,366)	32,146	25,046	3,734
Bursary	8,128	442	500	8,070
Ted Dickinson Fund	2,477	185	-	2,662
Galicia Disaster Appeal	25			25
Pat Quaife Fund	50		-	50
St Christopher Fund	1,549	312	750	1,111
	15,627	34,369	28,734	21,262

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

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

Miraz – Funds are held on behalf of the Refuge at Miraz. A bank account is held at Banco Pastor in Lugo but operated from Blackfriars Road to pay expenses such as electricity. This account also receives cash via donativos from pilgrims.

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

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

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

St. Christopher Fund – founded in 2002 to enable frail or elderly pilgrims to take a companion with them to Santiago.

3. Donations

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

4. Subscriptions & Gift Aid

Subscription income has increased due to the new annual membership fees and this is mirrored by the total of Gift Aid reclaimed. Tax reclaimed amounted to £8.834 (2005 £9.791).

Current subscription rates are: -

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

5. Books and Publications

Turnover rose by 17% to £36,769 owing to the continuing popularity of our secure, on-line bookshop. Income from postage has been split between books and publications on a pro-rata basis. This gave rise to a trading surplus of £2,699 on books and £13,752 for publications, £16,451 in total. This compares with an overall trading surplus of £13,806 in 2005.

6. Other Items

Sales of other items (principally badges and sweatshirts in previous years but this year includes the DVD "Within The Way Without") produced a surplus of £291 compared to £714 in the previous year.

7. Visits

The major visit for the year was a Retreat to Ampleforth. The CSJ visit to Burgundy took place in October 2006 and will be reflected in the accounts for next year. However, costs relating only to a preliminary visit to the area to arrange the itinerary are included in these accounts. Other visits have been classified as speakers meetings and details of these are shown in the secretary's report.

8. Investment Income

Investments which generate income consist of interest-bearing deposits with the Charities Official Investment Fund and one interest-bearing account with CAF bank.

9. Grants

Bursary application forms are issued to universities and colleges of further education at the start of the academic year. Students between 18 and 25 are asked to submit proposals for the research they wish to undertake and to indicate how it would be facilitated by financial assistance from the Confraternity. Short-listed applicants are invited to interview before a panel consisting of Mark Hassall, Lecturer in Archaeology at UCL, and James Maple, Hon. Vice-President of the CSJ, and awards may be made for one outstanding project, or shared between several, up to a maximum of £1,000 per applicant. They are generally paid in two tranches, part in advance of the research and the balance when the resulting dissertation has been commended after being academically reviewed. The best of these are published in the Bulletin. A bursary of £500 was awarded to Lucy Keany to develop a creative response on "The Journey"

10. Refugio Gaucelmo, Rabanal del Camino

Expenditure of £2,438 for this year includes	£
- Wardens Workshop and first-aid courses	578
- Postcards and Printing	1,405
- Travel & subsistence	455

NB. Pilgrim donations for the period March to November 2006 amounted to €23,433 (average € 3.95 per pilgrim) and related expenditure on food, hospitality, cleaning etc was €12,814. Any surplus is put towards overheads such as electricity, bank charges, repairs etc. These are for the benefit of the refugio and do not form part of the Confraternity funds or its accounts.

11. Refugio de Peregrinos de Miraz

Apart from donations and income from fund-raising events, the income for the year included £4,378 of donations from pilgrims (treated as Confraternity income due to our sole tenancy agreement for the property) and £6,766 tax recovered under Gift Aid.

Expenditure of £25,046 for this year includes	£
- Meetings – room hire etc	551
- Fund Raising Costs	1,761
- Day- to-day Running Costs	5,007
- Bunks	2,629
- Renovations	14,150
- Opening Event	526
Other Costs e.g. food, stationery, printing, translations, insurance etc	422

12. Bulletin

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

13. Library

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

14. Speaker Meetings

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

15. Other Charitable Costs

The costs directly attributable to charitable activities are

	£
Personnel	32,199
Other Direct Costs	<u>1,524</u>
Total	<u>£33,723</u>

16. Governance Costs

	£
Personnel	10,052
Accommodation	5,598
Office Running Costs	7,388
Finance charges	572
Member Meetings & Sundry	<u>4,637</u>
Total	<u>£ 28,247</u>

Personnel costs include £622 paid to 5 trustees for reimbursed personal travel expenses, £1,375 was also spent on sending a delegation to the Ponferrada conference, the costs of which are shown separately on the statement of financial activity for the year.

17. Fixed Assets

Costs	Works of Art £	Office Equipment £	Total £
At 1 Oct 2005	4,790	7,400	12,190
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>780</u>	<u>780</u>
At 30 Sep 2006	<u>4,790</u>	<u>8,180</u>	<u>12,970</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 Oct 2005	-	7,400	4,408
Charge for year	<u>-</u>	<u>295</u>	<u>295</u>
At 30 Sep 2006	<u>-</u>	<u>7,695</u>	<u>7,695</u>
Net Book Value			
At 1 Oct 2005	<u>4,790</u>	<u>nil</u>	<u>4,790</u>
At 30 Sep 2006	<u>4,790</u>	<u>485</u>	<u>5,275</u>

Works of Art comprise a mediaeval oak carving of Saint James (valued at £3,400) and an embroidered banner (valued at £500), both in the assets of the General Fund, and an icon of Saint James (valued at its cost of £890, covered by donations in memory of Stephen Badger) in the Rabanal Fund. The only addition to equipment this year was a digital projector with the appropriate accessories.

18. Debtors

	2006 £	2005 £
Prepayments	4,280	1,907
Accrued Income	<u>2,494</u>	<u>11,669</u>
	<u>6,774</u>	<u>13,576</u>

19. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2006	2005
	£	£
Trade Creditors	4,903	4,698
Deposits and payments held for CSJ Visits after accounting date	4,385	1,480
	21,720	27,771
Deferred Income - Subscriptions in advance		
Accruals	1,200	1,200
Sundry Creditors	3,791	900
	<u>35,999</u>	<u>36,049</u>

20. Deferred Income

Subscriptions paid in advance total £21,720 of which £17,317 relates to the year 2006/2007, £4,058 to the year 2007/2008 and £345 for later years. These have been shown as falling due within 1 year as the actual subscription has been received.

21. Related Parties

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

22. Stocks

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

23. Exhibition Costs

These costs relate to the Art exhibition to be held in Guildford Cathedral in October 2006. (2005 – donation of £250 made to St. James Church, St. Kew Cornwall and £ 670 towards the first British showing of "Within the Way Without" a film about the Camino de Santiago by Larry Boulting)

24. Net Movement in Funds

The levels of primary purpose trading income, subscriptions and donations mean that there are significant funds carried forward which will provide further funding for new projects which may arise out of the strategic review of future possible activities.

Supplementary Report for Members & Supporters

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

Refugio Gaucelmo

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

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

The cost of administering the refuge on a day-to-day basis during the pilgrim season (usually April to October) and maintaining the fabric of the building is largely met from the voluntary donations of pilgrims

staying there overnight. El Bierzo is responsible for organising the insurance of the property, paying for the utilities of the refuge and for compliance with all statutory and local regulations.

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

Since its opening in 1991, Refugio Gaucelmo has been run by the CSJ with the object of providing simple overnight accommodation for pilgrims on their way to Santiago de Compostela. So far (by October 2006) 97,600 pilgrims have stayed there.

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

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

The CSJ's objects include the maintenance of buildings on the Camino de Santiago and the provision of pilgrim accommodation. The Rabanal Committee fulfils both these functions, attempting always to enhance the service that it provides to pilgrims. Even in the busy periods, the wardens continue to strive to provide a particularly 'homely' atmosphere with freshly picked flowers on the table, homemade jam for breakfast and cups of tea on a pilgrim's arrival. We are often told that it is appreciated. In the less-busy months of April, May and October there is a greater opportunity for the wardens to assist with other chores such as cutting wood. In 2006, we opened the refuge on 1st April and it will close at the end of October.

Paul Spink

Secretary's Review of 2005-2006

The Trustees welcomed Catherine Kimmel and Graeme Taylor (to represent Scottish interests) to the committee. Howard Nelson stood down as a Trustee.

The Trustees have continued to concentrate on the work of developing the Refuge at Miraz while supporting fully the work of hospitality at Refugio Gaucelmo. The Miraz Fundraising programme has led to more local meetings; the best supported involved walking and food. The climax was the Blessing of the refuge at the end of September which brought together many of those involved with the Dean of Lugo – see Miraz report. The Trustees are very grateful to Maureen and Keith Young, Alan Cutbush, Peter FitzGerald, the Fund raising team especially Angelika Schneider and Alison Thorp, and all the *hospitaleros* who have given so much time and energy to bringing the project to fruition.

Paul Graham stood down as Chairman of the Gaucelmo sub-committee after 6 years and was replaced by Paul and Cristina Spink. New committee members are Michael Krier and Graham Scholes, who assist Tricia Shaw with the support of *hospitaleros* at Rabanal.

The Programme of Practical Pilgrim days and lectures continued during the year. Most notable was the Art Exhibition, *Pilgrim's Eye*, held in Guildford Cathedral in the autumn, which involved thirteen CSJ artists and others in its preparation. Mary Moseley oversaw the final dramatic display in the cathedral.

Seven members attended the Conference of the *Federación de Amigos del Camino* in Ponferrada and William Griffiths represented the CSJ on the *Via de la Plata* in Extremadura in the spring and at a conference in Malta in the autumn. Marion Marples attended the annual Gathering of the American Pilgrims in Boulder, Colorado in March, speaking about the development of CSJ and about St James connections in England. Eric Walker attended a conference in Santander about the Northern Routes.

Website developments include making the Library Catalogue fully searchable online. The Digital Image Library is well underway under the guidance of Michael Krier and Howard Nelson and there is now a page of information for Australian pilgrims. Paul Turnbull is compiling a Register of all CSJ members who

have received *compostelas* since 1983. The CSJ has bought a digital projector which is now available for all events.

A Bursary of £500 was paid to artist Lucy Keany, who is developing an exhibition on the theme of Journey for 2007. The Bursary is being reviewed during 2006-7 to try and widen its appeal to students. The St Christopher Fund paid individual sums of £500 and £250 to 2 members to defray the costs of companions for their pilgrimages.

The CSJ publications continue to be in demand with sales of over 1800 Guides to the *Camino Francés* and the volunteers and staff enjoy meeting visitors from all over the world when they are not fulfilling internet bookshop orders or are giving advice on the phone. The office entrance has been improved by some medieval-style planters. Eric Walker has issued 654 Pilgrim Records. The Membership Secretary role continues to be office based to ensure the prompt processing of membership applications.

Marion Marples

Miraz – 2nd Annual Report

The second season at Miraz has been very successful with numbers of pilgrims up to over 1,300. Apart from some difficulties with groups, pilgrims seem delighted with the welcome of the *hospitaleros* and the facilities.

Some 30 *hospitaleros* have been involved and they have created an excellent environment in the house with a vegetable garden and a well-mown lawn. A well-stocked dry foods shop has been created to compensate for the fact there is no shop in the village and that evening meals are not provided.

The winter caretakers have kept the house in good order, cutting a large pile of logs for firewood and overseeing the construction of a new bathroom and electrical work amongst other things. This arrangement was very successful and will be continued.

The working party in March managed, despite the rain, to lay a beautiful path of large irregular slabs of slate between the house and the outbuildings, to put up guttering on the garden side of the house, to repair the broken windows, to paint the walls, ceilings, doors and windows, the garage door and the back gate, to install a new cooker, to change the locks and install a key safe, to put up a message board and a *donativo* box, to convert an old bedside cabinet into a first-aid cupboard and an old wardrobe into a tool cupboard, to put up the signs, and to scrub and polish throughout.

Following the working party's visit, the roof has been repaired, some electrical work done and a number of emergencies dealt with by local help. Because of two dry years in Galicia, the well has run dry and a new one is being bored. The roof has been treated for woodworm and a wireless telephone point put in, but as yet there is no telephone!

On 28th September after a mass in the church the *refugio* was blessed. The Bishop of Lugo was to have done the blessing, but as he was ill the Dean, Don José Fernández Fernández came instead. The Dean welcomed everybody in English and said mass in Spanish. William our Chairman did the Bidding Prayers in English and Esperanza, a Confraternity member from Galicia, sang in Gallegan. It was a moving service. Our Chairman and the *Alcalde* of Friol both gave speeches. Everyone at the church received an earthenware scallop shell made in Cornwall and these were very much appreciated. After the blessing there was an enjoyable fiesta with about 40 people present, half from the Confraternity and the other half were Spanish representing the village and other friends and connections.

A safety manual and policy document and *hospitaleros* guide have been prepared and these will be reviewed and updated periodically.

Relationships with the village continue to improve and this is an important function for *hospitaleros* as at Rabanal. All of this has only been possible because of the superb work by the fund raising group and the generosity of Miraz supporters. Over £33,000 has been raised covering phases 1 and 2 of the work, including the building of the new bathroom, sinking of the well, electrical work, repairs and woodworm treatment to the roof as well as all the work done by the working party and others. Under phase 3 it is proposed to rebuild the outhouse, priority being given to extra beds, WCs and showers and £45,000 has been budgeted for this purpose. A Spanish architect is drawing up plans and the current aim is to have this completed by 2010, the next Holy Year. This of course is subject to sufficient funds being raised and there is still a long way to go.

Keith & Maureen Young

Membership Statistics

Membership at 30 September 2006 stood at 1,874 paying members (1,888 at 30 September 2005) plus 139 (142) honorary and honoured (aged over 70 with 10 years' paid-up membership) and 38 exchange subscriptions with kindred organisations. The paying members were split as follows (2005 numbers are shown in brackets): -

	Individual	Joint	Institutional
UK	1,026 (1,060)	442 (432)	18 (17)
Europe	85 (90)	33 (36)	4 (4)
Rest of World	<u>178</u> (172)	<u>85</u> (76)	<u>3</u> (1)
Total	<u>1,289</u> (1,322)	<u>560</u> (544)	<u>25</u> (22)

Analysis of Other Charitable & Support costs

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

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

Salaries & NI – The company employs a Secretary, a Finance & Systems Manager and an office administrator, all on a part-time basis. The increase in salaries from £33,932 to £40,142 is due to a general review of salaries and the first full year of the increased working hours.

Travel & Subsistence – trustees are generally required to attend 6 meetings per annum. The travel costs shown below for personnel included the payment of an air flight to enable the secretary to attend the American Pilgrims' Meeting in Boulder, Colorado. More trustees now live out of London resulting in travel and subsistence costs for all committee members of £2,097.

Member Meetings – This represents the net cost of various members' meetings including the AGM. Income this year was £689 and expenditure £3,444 compared to £892 & £2,079 respectively for 2005.

Other Charitable and Governance Costs

				2006	2005
		Other Charitable Costs	Governance Costs	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£
Personnel Costs					
	Salaries & NI	32,114	8,028	40,142	33,932
	Travel & Subsistence	85	2,024	2,109	2,097
		<u>32,199</u>	<u>10,052</u>	<u>42,251</u>	<u>36,029</u>
Accommodation					
	Rent	-	6,785	6,785	6,461
	Insurance	-	683	683	630
	Depreciation	-	295	295	1,430
	Office Maintenance	-	97	97	80
	Office Equipment < £500	-	nil	nil	222
	Less Library Recharge	-	-2,262	-2,262	-2,154
		<u>-</u>	<u>5,598</u>	<u>5,598</u>	<u>6,669</u>
Office					
	Telephone	-	751	751	907
	Post	6	123	129	66
	Printing & Stationery	-	2,583	2,583	2,351
	Computer Support & Consumables	-	3,931	3,931	2,595
	Book-keeping	-	1,481	1,481	1,481
		<u>6</u>	<u>8,869</u>	<u>8,875</u>	<u>7,400</u>
Other					
	Legal & Professional	-	50	50	84
	Bank Charges	-	66	66	65
	Credit Card Charges	1,518	506	2,024	1,793
	Member Meetings	-	2,755	2,755	1,187
	Sundry	-	351	351	553
		<u>1,518</u>	<u>3,728</u>	<u>5,246</u>	<u>3,682</u>
TOTALS		<u>33,723</u>	<u>28,247</u>	<u>61,970</u>	<u>53,780</u>

Analysis of membership

	Honorary	Honoured	Individual	Joint	Group	Exchange	Total
UK							
E Anglia	1	2	58	35			96
Home Counties - N		15	100	47		1	163
Home Counties - S		15	125	51	2	1	194
London	5	10	148	56	3	3	225
Midlands E		7	44	24	1		76
Midlands W	1	9	92	42	3		147
N Ireland		1	17	3	1		22
NE		4	65	34	1		104
NW		6	77	26			109
Scotland		1	86	31	2		120
Southern		13	80	36	3		132
SW	2	11	97	40	1		151
Wales		2	33	14	1		50
Channel Islands		1	4	3			8
	9	97	1,026	442	18	5	1,597
EUROPE							
Austria				1			1
Belgium		6		1		1	8
Czech Republic			1				1
Denmark			2	2			4
Finland			3	1			4
France	1	2	15	6		4	28
Germany		6	6	3	1	1	17
Gibraltar			2				2
Italy			2	2		2	6
Luxembourg					1		1
Malta				1			1
Netherlands			1	1		2	4
Norway			2			1	3
Poland			2	1			3
Portugal		1	1				2
Republic of Ireland	1	1	30	8	1	1	42
Spain	4	3	15	2	1	18	43
Sweden			2	4			6
Switzerland		1	1				2
	6	20	85	33	4	30	178
REST OF THE WORLD							
Africa	-		5	2		1	8
Asia	-		5				5
Australia	-	1	81	43			125
Canada	-	1	18	6		1	26
New Zealand	-		6	8			14
S America	-			1	1		2
U S A	-	5	63	25	2	1	96
	0	7	178	85	3	3	276
	15	124	1,289	560	25	38	2,051

Confraternity of Saint James



Annual General Meeting

Please bring this booklet and the Accounts with you

**Notice of the 7th Annual General Meeting of the
Confraternity of Saint James (the Company) to be held on**

Saturday 27 January 2007

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

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of the 6th Annual General Meeting (28/1/06)
4. Chairman's Report for 2006
5. Annual Report & Accounts 2005-2006
6. Report on Refugio Gaucelmo, Rabanal del Camino
7. Report on Refugio de Peregrinos de Miraz
8. Report on the Slide Library
9. Programme for 2007
10. Election of Trustees: Half the directors ie 4 should stand down, the longest serving first. One officer should remain. Gosia Brykczynska, Catherine Kimmel, Mary Moseley, Alison Raju and Graeme Taylor remain (having been elected last year) and William Griffiths, Jane Bradshaw, Paul Graham, Colin Jones and Ricky Yates stand down. Jane Bradshaw and Paul Graham are not standing for reelection.
11. Any Other Business

Programme for the Day

11.00	Doors open	Coffee available
12.00	Ten Best Slides or Digital Images	Main Hall
	Picnic Lunch (drinks available)	
2.30	Annual General Meeting	Main Hall
3.45	Tea	Main Hall
4.30	Lecture <i>The Refrain in Spain</i>	Main Hall
	Stephen Shipley. Senior Producer, BBC Religion & Ethics	
6.00	Annual New Year Party	Main Hall

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

Trustees: Would you like to help by serving on the Committee? For further information about what is entailed please contact any existing committee member. The Committee would benefit from the skills of one or two new members, especially those interested in developing the Programme, or with an interest in Rabanal or Miraz.

A full list of nominations and existing Trustees will be available at the AGM.
Standing for re-election in 2007:

William Griffiths: William Griffiths joined the CSJ in 1984 and has been Chairman since 2003. He has been an *hospitalier* in Estaing and Corbigny.

Colin Jones: Colin Jones has been a member of the CSJ since 1991. He has explored many of the pilgrim routes in Spain and has been a *hospitalero* for a variety of *albergues*. From his experiences he sees that the modern pilgrimage fosters a spirit of hospitality and co-operation which he also believes is the heart of the CSJ. This year he will continue following the route from Valencia.

Ricky Yates: Ricky Yates is the Anglican Rector of 10 churches in North Oxfordshire. He made a walking pilgrimage from Le Puy to Santiago in 2002-3 and more recently has walked part of the route from Arles. He was a member of the first Miraz working party earlier this year. He has been a Trustee of the CSJ since 2003 and has twice organised a Service for Returned Pilgrims.

Cristina Spink: Cristina will stand as a Trustee to represent the Rabanal sub committee

Other Trustees

Gosia Brykczynska: Gosia Brykczynska has been an active member of the CSJ since 1983. For the past six years she has been editor of the CSJ Bulletin. To keep her pilgrim soul inspired she has been walking the various pilgrim routes through France, having completed the *Camino Inglés* and *Portugués*. She also enjoys walking pilgrim paths in England with fellow like-minded pilgrims and paying in-depth visits to pilgrim shrines in the UK and on the Continent.

Alison Raju: Alison Raju has been a member of the CSJ since 1990, when she made her first pilgrimage to Santiago, and its vice-president for the last five years. She is the author of various CSJ guide books, has organised several Practical Pilgrim days, served as a warden twelve times in the CSJ run refugio in Rabanal del Camino and twice in its new venture in Miraz.

Helping and participating on the AGM day

Hospitality

We are able to offer accommodation in London members' homes to people from far away who otherwise would not be able to come to the AGM. You are invited this year to make a donation to the Miraz Appeal. If there are more London members able to offer accommodation, please make sure you indicate on your AGM Form. Thank you.

Badges and Friendship

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

New Year Party As usual we ask people to contribute food rather than pay if possible. If you would like to help with the food shopping, preparation or serving please contact Sally Grover on 01869 331306, email sallyg@actuaries.org.uk . If you bring food to the value of £6 you do not have to pay to come to the party. If you contribute food to a lesser value we ask you to pay the balance for the Party. Otherwise the charge for the day and party is £6. Please complete the enclosed form or you can do it online.

Ten Best Slides or Digital Images

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

Important Things to Bring with You

- this copy of the Agenda, and the Accounts
- any outstanding Library books you wish to return
- any photos/albums of your pilgrimage you would like to share
- any jiffy bags for recycling
- your contribution of food
- Money /cheques for
- Publications, including 2007 Camino Francés Guide and especially for the

**The Miraz Fundraising Raffle will be drawn: Good prizes. Please return
your tickets stubs in advance
(preferably by Friday 26 January
at the latest) to the Office**

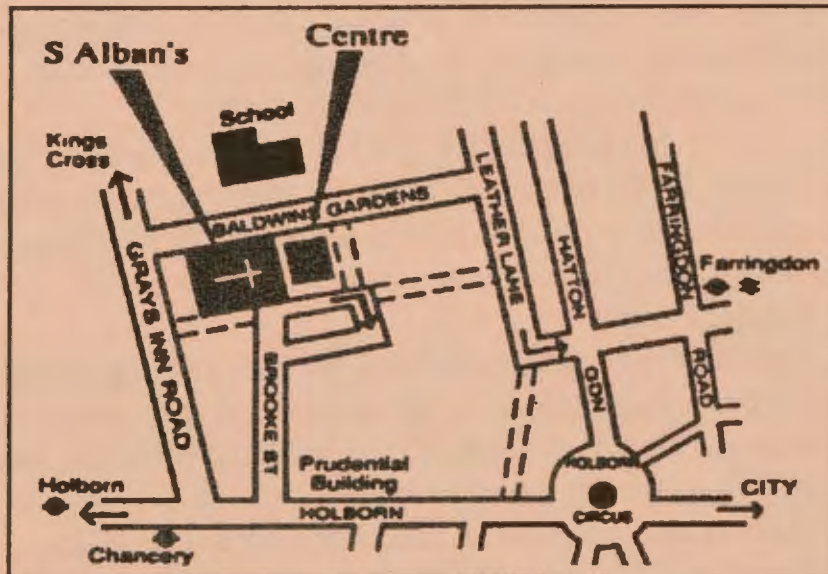
Things to do

Sponsor-a Week now extended

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

Exhibitions : East & West Seminar Rooms *upstairs*

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



Gray's Inn Road.

Arriving & Parking

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

Underground
Chancery Lane (Central line) or Farringdon (Circle, Metropolitan).

Buses serving
Holborn Circus or

Minutes of the 6th Annual General Meeting of the Confraternity of Saint James (the Company)

Held on Saturday 28 January 2006

1. Welcome and Introductions: The Chairman, William Griffiths welcomed members, in particular Ulla Kobberup of the *Pilgrimscentrum* in Viborg, Denmark, those attending the AGM for the first time and bringing greetings from Adelaide Trezzini of Rome.

2. Apologies: 35 apologies from every continent had been received; the illness of Rob Neillands, first Chairman, was particularly noted.

3. Minutes of 5th AGM of the CSJ (Company)

There being no corrections to the Minutes, the Chairman proposed acceptance: agreed *nem con*

4. Chairman's Report for 2005: for full text please see Bulletin 93, March 2006. William Griffiths spoke about the complementarity of the two CSJ refuge projects at Rabanal and Miraz. He thanked the Trustees, staff, Rabanal and Miraz sub-committee members and others who give extremely generously of their time and expertise. He also encouraged members to participate in events for returned pilgrims, especially the Service, Retreat and particularly Practical Pilgrim days to pass on their experience to prospective pilgrims.

5. Finance: Annual Report & Accounts: Tony Ward presented his second set of Annual Report & Accounts year to 30 September 2005. The increased rate of subscription had brought in greater income as had improved sales of books and CSJ Publications. Advance subscription payments were allocated to future

years. Salaries had been reviewed with Marion Marples receiving an extra ½ day and Alison Thorp an extra day for Miraz Fundraising. Christine Pleasants continues as Office Administrator. There are sufficient reserves and there is cash in hand for future projects. He paid tribute to the hard work of all three and the volunteers who had contributed to the overall surplus for the year.

Proposed: to accept the Accounts & Report for 2004-5: William Griffiths, carried unanimously.

6. Report on Refugio Gaucelmo: Paul Graham reported that Gaucelmo had been open from 25 March to 1 November and been served by 45 *hospitaleros* in the season. The running total of pilgrims is now c91,000. He noted that in 1991 c70% pilgrims were Spanish, now 25%. There is now more accommodation in Rabanal with the monks (10 beds), Angela's refuge (20) and a different pattern of pilgrims staying in the village. Gaucelmo has a new gate to the *huerta* and a fire escape from the barn. He thanked Laurie Dennett for her work negotiating a new agreement with the El Bierzo committee and the Bishop of Astorga, Tricia & Stuart Shaw on recruiting and supporting the *hospitaleros*, and the Rabanal committee for support throughout his 6 years as Chairman. Paul & Cristina Spink would be taking on responsibility for Gaucelmo for the next 2 years. He encouraged members to join the Sponsor-a-Week scheme to support both refuges and keep in contact with the life of the camino.

7. Report on Miraz: Maureen Young introduced a short presentation on all achieved so far at Miraz. Peter FitzGerald presented the property report about work completed and scheduled for 2006, Alan Cutbush spoke about the *hospitaleros'* experience and Mary Moseley spoke about the need for further fundraising.

Victor Hill asked why the work could not be funded from current funds: Tony Ward responded that the money on deposit is in a restricted fund and we need to maintain reserves for contingencies. Miraz should anyway be self supporting. Name for Miraz: so far known as Refugio de Peregrinos de Miraz: other suggestions were requested.

8. Report on the Slide Library: John Hatfield said he had supplied slides for 20 Lectures and that 75 new slides had been donated. Eric Walker supplies Gap Lists to pilgrims on the Northern Routes, Vézelay and German *Jakobusweg* routes. Slides for other routes are available for loan and John encouraged members to make use of the collection.

9. Programme for 2006: outlined by Marion Marples

10. Election of Trustees

Standing for reelection: Gosia Brykczynska, Mary Moseley, Alison Raju, Graeme Taylor, Catherine Kimmel: all reelected. William Griffiths, Jane Bradshaw, Paul Graham, Colin Jones, Ricky Yates remain as Trustees.

11. Any Other Business

1. John Hatfield reminded members that slides were available for presentations at Practical Pilgrim days.

2. Ulla Kobberup of Denmark spoke of the work of the *Pilgrimscentrum* in Viborg., encouraging the development of routes in Denmark and Scandinavia.
3. Pat Quaife spoke of the 550th anniversary of William Wey's pilgrimage to Santiago (in 1456) and the forthcoming Exhibition on Pilgrimage at the Ashmolean, Oxford. Francis Davey had contributed a paper to the catalogue.
4. Mark Hassall announced Pilgrim Treasures: Byzantium & Jerusalem exhibition at the Hermitage in Amsterdam.

December 2006 News

New Publications

The Pilgrim Guide to the Camino Francés 2007 will be ready by mid January
Price £6.

Pilgrim Guides to Spain 4. *Los Caminos del Norte F Camino Primitivo*
Eric Walker has prepared the third edition of his Guide, £5

Office Holiday

The Office will be open as usual on Thursday 21 December, closed on Thursday 28 December and will be open as usual on Thursday 4 January.

Practical Pilgrim Days

This year we are running only three Days due to lower numbers last year.

Sat 17 February in Nottingham, Saturday 3 March in London and Saturday 17 March in Glasgow. See forms overleaf for more details. Recent Pilgrims are invited to contact Alison Raju for Nottingham meeting, Marion Marples for the London meeting and Graeme Taylor for the Glasgow meeting if they would like to take part and give something back to the Camino.

Saturday 17 November 2007: For Pilgrims wanting to explore Other Routes there will be a day in London exploring the Route to Rome (in association with the Confraternity of Pilgrims to Rome), the *Via de la Plata*, the *Caminos del Norte* and the St Olav's way in Norway.

Practical Pilgrim Form

Practical Pilgrim Days are designed to inform prospective pilgrims about the ethos and practicalities of the pilgrimage in general, mainly referring to the Camino Francés in Spain. There is advice about preparation, clothing, daily routine and much else. There is a general Question & Answer session followed by smaller more detailed practical groups. Lunch gives an opportunity for further contacts and advice for the purchase of CSJ publications. Former pilgrims will then share their particular journeys and the day ends with a short walk and shared meal.

Please try and stay for the whole day for maximum opportunities to feel really prepared for your pilgrimage.

Saturday 17 February 2007, Nottingham

New Mechanics Institute, Nottingham-confirm address details later

10am-6pm

Programme includes:

Question & Answer: Camino Francés

Specialist groups for walkers and cyclists

Slide presentation: Jane & Mike Bradshaw: Pilgrimage from le Puy

Walk around central Nottingham, with Stuart Goldie

Meal at Italian Restaurant

I am a walker ☐ I am a cyclist ☐

I am a new ☐ returned pilgrim ☐

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

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

Number of people ☐ (specify number)

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Tel (with code) _____ **email** _____

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

Please return whole form with an sae, to Alison Raju, 21 Hall Street, Sherwood Nottingham, NG5 4BB, 0115 962 6728

Practical Pilgrim Form

See general Information on other side of page.

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

Saturday 3 March ☐ John Marshall Hall, Blackfriars Road, SE1

Saturday 17 March ☐ Our Lady & St George Church, Glasgow

I am a new Pilgrim ☐ I am a returned pilgrim ☐ with
experience on French or Spanish

routes _____ (specify)

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

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

I am a cyclist ☐

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Tel (with code) _____ **email** _____

Please return whole form, enclosing a cheque payable to
CSJ of £3 per head per meeting, with an sae to
**London Practical Pilgrim, Confraternity of Saint James, 27
Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NY or
Graeme Taylor, Glasgow Practical Pilgrim, 132 Zena Street,
Glasgow G33 1JD**