



Confraternity of Saint James
Bulletin



December 2013

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- 2 **Editorial**
Gosia Brykczyńska
- 4 **Address by D Segundo López Pérez**
- 7 **Via Augusta**
Ruth Abrahams
- 10 **The Concept of *Finis Terrae***
Alexander Woolcombe
- 12 **Our *Camino Inglés* – a poem**
Anna Dickson
- 14 **Life as a Journey**
Chris Goldsmith
- 16 **Possession and arrival**
Marj Winter
- 20 **A Pilgrim Quest**
Ruth Wellburn
- 24 **A Sydney Pilgrim turns pro**
Mary Linnane
- 26 **For All the Saints**
Marion Marples
- 28 **Refugio Gaucelmo News**
Julie Davies
- 31 **Albergue de Miraz News**
Maureen Young
- 33 **Members' Page**
- 35 **Book Reviews**
- 38 **Obituaries**
- 41 **Ministry to pilgrims and Amigos**
- 42 **From the Secretary's Notebook**
- 44 **Non CSJ Events**
- 46 **New Members**

Cover photograph:
St James, Brazil
by Priscilla White

Editorial

Gosia Brykczyńska

In the spring the CSJ helps prospective pilgrims prepare for their pilgrimage putting on Practical Pilgrim (PP) days and answering myriad of questions from would be pilgrims from all over the world, publishing updated guides and selling books. In the summer the CSJ office may even struggle with cover in the office as members of the confraternity take to the open roads and respond to the call of pilgrimage. Work in the office intensifies as pilgrims set out for Santiago. What with credentials to be sent out, last minute advice to be given, and celebrating with as much ceremony and joy that we can muster the feast of St James – summer is truly time of buzzing of activity. In the autumn the CSJ gathers returned pilgrims together to reflect on their pilgrimage, and this year the occasion was blest by the presence of the D Segundo López Pérez of Santiago Cathedral when the CSJ gave thanks for its 30th anniversary.

Autumn is also a time when we have a lecture in honour of Constance Storrs – a very special academic who back in the 1960s wrote a thesis on English medieval pilgrims going to Santiago. She was a great inspiration for the early members of the CSJ. But it is in the winter that the best part of the CSJ year takes place – for in the winter we gather together (from all over the UK and sometimes even from overseas) for an annual review of our work and we have an Annual General Meeting (AGM) followed by a most festive party. Friendships are consolidated and new contacts are made as next year's pilgrimage plans are made and worked out. And all these and even more CSJ activities are reviewed in the Bulletin and can be followed on our own CSJ website which is in the process of getting a long-awaited face-lift.

Meanwhile, in this Bulletin we publish articles reflecting just such familiar cyclicity and ritual pilgrim reflections: among them the final part of Alexander Woollcombe work on the camino having literally come to the end of the road at *Finis Terrae*; while the Rt Rev Chris Goldsmith reflects on life as a journey. Marj Winter reflects on her preparedness (or lack thereof) for undertaking the pilgrimage and the obvious need to remedy the dire situation while echoing the sorrow and anger inherent in any camino – that is, approaching its end – for at some point even the most perfect pilgrimage must come to an end, and how are we to prepare for that most predictable of eventualities? Perhaps

like Mary Linnane in Australia, we could just keep walking and even be paid for doing so! Meanwhile, Ruth Wellburn notes that for all the personal introspective motives for going on pilgrimage perhaps the one which is most enduring is trying to make a deeper acquaintance with oneself – trying to get to understand who we really are. No mean feat at the best of times!

But pilgrims would not be happy travellers if they did not enjoy each other's company and like the enjoyable warmth of high summer a weekend walking with a group of like-minded pilgrims across the English countryside along ancient pilgrim routes is a most heart-warming endeavour. And so it was for a group of CSJ members who recently walked the Saints' Way in Cornwall followed by a concert which included the performance of John Read's *Pilgrimage Cantata*, and described for us by Marion Marples.

It only remains for me to say now on behalf of our Chairman Colin Jones, the CSJ trustees, all the office staff and volunteers and of course myself and the Bulletin production team – a very merry Christmas to you all and a Happy New Year – and (after we have had a merry and lively AGM and party in late January) may we all meet again next year in Santiago . . .



Santiago Cathedral – drawing by Chris Porter

Address by D Segundo López Pérez, Dean of Santiago Cathedral

at the service to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the CSJ, Sunday 20 October 2013, St Mary's Church, Clapham, in London.

Good afternoon dear members of the Confraternity of Saint James here in the United Kingdom. I was smiling to myself when I heard the opening lines of the first reading from the Book of Genesis: "*Leave your country and your people, and your father's house, and go to a land that I am going to show you.*" Because of course I have left my own country and the house of Saint James to be with you today. For me that is a great pleasure because I am delighted to be here to congratulate you on the 30th Anniversary since the Confraternity was formed.

The reading from Genesis narrates the pilgrimage of Abraham from Haran to the land of Canaan...we read how busy he was building altars on his journey to worship the Lord. This Confraternity has also been busy over the last 30 years building an organisation which provides very valuable services for pilgrims. You have an impressive 2000 members and the *albergue* at Rabanal del Camino which you have run for the last 22 years is held in the highest regard by pilgrims walking the Camino Francés. I am delighted that in providing that *albergue* you are working in partnership with the Diocese of Astorga. Also in a house leased from the Diocese of Lugo seven years ago you opened a new *albergue* in Miraz to assist pilgrims walking the Northern Route.

One of the activities distinctive to your organisation are the *Practical Pilgrims' Days* which are very much part of your role in promoting the pilgrimage to Santiago and assisting individual pilgrims. As you "send out pilgrims" in the special ceremony you hold we in Santiago receive them on their arrival and I am delighted that you are active participants in the *Amigos Welcome Service* whereby your members and those from other organisations welcome and support pilgrims arriving in Santiago. This year 70 pilgrim volunteers have come as *Amigos* and they have welcomed 185,000 pilgrims from May until October. It is difficult to

single out individuals but I do want to thank John Rafferty, one of your members, for having the idea of the *Amigos Welcome Service* and for making it a reality. In giving you a brief look at the work of the *Amigos* I would also like to thank Hilary Hugh Jones, another CSJ member, who whilst working as an *Amigo* recognised the distress of an Irish couple whose daughter was missing. Hilary went with the couple to the police, then to the hospital when the girl was eventually found and she stayed with that family through the initial very difficult days.

But I know your activities are not simply practical – you have promoted an understanding of pilgrimage and of the history and culture of the Santiago tradition through the academic aspects of your organisation, the annual Storrs lecture, your library with 8000 books and the papers you have published over the years.

None of these achievements have happened without the devotion and energy of your members. They have raised funds and given freely of their time and energies. None more so than your secretary Marion Marples who has served the Confraternity for many years. I would like to thank her for the huge contribution she has made.

The Gospel reading at today's service could not be more appropriate for a pilgrim organisation: remember the exhortation to travel lightly "*don't even bring an extra shirt*". If only those pilgrims I see arriving at the Pilgrims' Office with huge rucksacks and equally huge blisters would have taken that advice! But it is the next line of that reading I want to focus on now: it says: "*Wherever you are welcomed, stay in the same house until you leave that place*". And that is the message I want to give you from the Cathedral of Santiago, from the home and resting place of Saint James. The House of Saint James is your home. Whenever you arrive in the city I want you to feel welcomed in our Cathedral, to be part of it, because pilgrims are the very stones of which the Cathedral is constructed. As the second reading today concluded: "In the Cathedral of Santiago there is a place for each of us. Everyone."

Our cathedral is of the Catholic Church, but all pilgrims are welcome from whatever religious tradition. I was delighted when we were able to make welcome the Anglican Dean of Southwark who is with us today when he arrived with 50 pilgrims from Southwark Cathedral. The Camino is international and it continues to grow – just the other day a young Canadian pilgrim became the 200,000th pilgrim to arrive so far this year.

As it grows the Cathedral must adapt to changing needs – I am delighted we have opened a new Pilgrims' Office which is much more

accessible for pilgrims... now in one complex we have the Pilgrims Office, toilets for pilgrims, bicycle parking and offices of the national bus and train company.

The changes are not just physical, we have also been looking at how we record the achievement of pilgrims making the pilgrimage to the tomb of the Saint. I am very pleased to announce that we are introducing a new Compostela and Certificate which we have designed to make even more memorable the wonderful completion of the pilgrimage. I have copies of these with me for you to see at the end of the service.

Of course the pilgrimage is not simply a physical journey. It is an act of devotion. An internal journey too of prayer and contemplation. Pilgrimage is a time for reflection, of deepening faith, of commitment to change for the better. Above all it is a time in which we can draw closer to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I will continue to pray for all of you in the Confraternity of Saint James and I ask that you pray for us, your sisters and brothers in Santiago.

This Confraternity was formed in 1983, and as I have learned about your work shaping the future of the modern pilgrimage I was reminded of the work of Diego Xelmirez, the first Archbishop of Santiago and the founder of the pilgrimage to Compostela. In linking ancient and modern I would like to give you this Anniversary gift – the *History of Diego Xelmirez*. Thank you.

Vía Augusta

Ruth Abrahams

My husband has long been fascinated by the tantalisingly short *Vía Augusta* entry on the CSJ website and when my parents offered to dog-sit earlier this year we booked a trip to Cádiz without hesitation.

Cádiz is a compact city in southern Spain, full of life and light, bordered on three sides by the Atlantic. Possibly the oldest city in Western Europe, it has long surfing beaches, promenades, a cathedral and several attractive squares. There is also a good city museum and two coastal forts, Castillo de Santa Catalina and Castillo de San Sebastián, used for modern (and free) art exhibitions. It is an ideal place to stroll in the narrow streets, looking at the old buildings, or eat *tapas* outside a bar while watching the *gaditanos* enjoy the evening *paseo*.

Various local pilgrim organisations have over recent years done an outstanding job in developing, way-marking and promoting a route between Cádiz and Sevilla, known as the *Vía Augusta*, linking it to the *Vía de la Plata*. This route forms a large arc around the Bay of Cádiz, running west to east, and then north, before turning inland to Jerez and north up to Sevilla, covering a distance of 170km. It is estimated to take between six and ten days walking.

Our first day in Cádiz was spent ambling in the city, returning to the old town in the early evening to meet the friendly and helpful people at the *Asociación Gaditana Jacobea* to get information about the route (all in Spanish) and a *sello*. We obtained another *sello* from the Iglesia de Santiago, a handsome Baroque church dating from 1635, which is the official starting point of this route.

The next morning we set out early, along the promenade for a few kilometres, then on a dune path on the narrow isthmus linking Cádiz to San Fernando. The route then took us in a gentle arc between the railway and old salt evaporation ponds. Eventually we arrived hot and thirsty in San Fernando which is a pleasant small beach town with a ruined castle and the Iglesia Mayor dating from 1760. We got a *sello* in the local Tourist Information office from very welcoming staff and returned to Cádiz by train.

The following day we returned by early train to San Fernando, leaving the town via the historic Puente Zuazo (until recently the only bridge to the mainland, where several invading armies have met their match). The

path then took us through an industrial area, alongside new tracks for the tram which is due to link Cádiz to Chiclana de la Frontera. Picking our way under a road bridge next to a wide water channel, we joined a service road to the small village of Jarana, then walked on trails through pine trees and fields until the hospital at Puerto Real when we returned to pavement to enter the main part of town with distinctive grid-patterned streets. Again, we returned to Cádiz by train.

On the final day of walking we arrived in Puerto Real by train, braving a very high and somewhat wobbly temporary railway footbridge built of scaffolding poles at crazy angles. We walked out to the Parque Metropolitan de los Toruños where we took a botanical trail dotted with juniper-pines and then a path winding through salt evaporation ponds. Finally, there was a seemingly endless stretch of hot pavement through an industrial area into El Puerto de Santa Maria, a busy sherry town on the banks of the Guadalete River. We obtained a *sello* from the weathered sandstone fifteenth century Priory Church before we attended mass on Saturday evening.

The section of the *Via Augusta* that I walked is very flat, and with the exception of the dune path, easy to walk, although you should bear



Salt flats on *Via Augusta*

in mind the sun can get very fierce from late morning to late afternoon. Even in October afternoon temperatures reached 29 degrees. It is quite well marked with yellow arrows although there are one or two areas where it is possible to get lost. Guides in Spanish are available to print from various websites and I have written an English version as far as

El Puerto de Santa María, available as a PDF. The route (as far as I have walked) is not particularly scenic, although I understand it becomes more rural heading to Jerez and beyond. The landscape reminds me of the flat and rather desolate areas of the north



Priory church in El Puerto de Santa María

Kent coast. There are several slightly dangerous sections of walking on the hard shoulder or crossing busy roads, but these appear to be unavoidable. Off road tracks are often shared with cyclists and other walkers, although none appeared to be pilgrims.

Since this is not as yet a well-known pilgrim route there are no *albergues* on this section although being an established holiday area there is plenty of other accommodation available. There is also no *menú del peregrino*, in fact we rarely saw a *menú del día*. Fortunately, most bars provide *tapas* and *raciones* all day so it is easy to find a good meal. Similarly, finding a *sello* is not as easy as on the *Camino francés*, particularly in the afternoon when churches and businesses close. Not all Tourist Information offices are aware of the *camino* passing through their town and this is perhaps an area where the local *asociación* can do more to promote the route.

All-in-all, this is a very interesting part of Spain to explore on foot. From the short distance I have walked, the route would appear convenient for pilgrims walking in the traditional manner with full packs and staying in a different place every night. It would also suit those who are less fit and who would like an easier option of staying in Cádiz or Jerez and walking sections of the route with daypacks, using the cheap and reliable Renfe Cercanías commuter trains which follow the route closely all the way from Cádiz to Jerez to get to and from the start and end points of their walks.

For a copy of Ruth's Guide please e-mail office@csj.org.uk

The Concept of ‘*Finis Terrae*’

Alexander Woollcombe

From before the time of the Romans the westernmost point of the Iberian Peninsula, ‘*Finis Terrae*’ or Finisterre, has been considered a place of spiritual importance. Despite the fact that the site of Finisterre had nothing to do with Compostela – St James’s body is meant to have arrived at Padrón, fifty kilometres south, from where it was taken inland to the valley that was to become Compostela – a link has always been made between it and the Apostle. For a shrine totally lacking in true Biblical origins here was an aim that was expressly stated in the New Testament, “*sed accipietis virtulem supervenientis spiritus sancti in vos, et eritis mihi testes in Ierusalem, et in omni Iudea, et Samaria, et usque ad ultimum terrae*”.¹ The last three words of this quotation were exactly what Finisterre was: the furthest, most distant part of the known world. It became adapted into the mythology of St James, who by reaching this place, had fulfilled an aim of Christ.

The victory of Christianity in spreading as far west as was possible was an ideological triumph for St James and Christians, in an area where Christianity continued to fight for its very existence against the Infidel. Like so many other pagan holy places it became adapted into the Christian canon, but it also helped to give a sense of the breadth of the Latin Christian world in the twelfth century through applying an element of symmetry. Finisterre was “a useful symbol for the centralist ambitions of Rome”,² the implication being that Compostela was the western outpost, Jerusalem the eastern, and presiding over both, right in the middle, was Rome. It is probably true that this geographical feature became an additional justification for the importance of Compostela as a shrine, but its importance is easy to overstate. It seems rather too neat a view to be accurate in the messy world of twelfth

1 Acts of the Apostles 1, 8., Vulgate. Quoted in J.L. Barreiro Rivas, *La Función Política de los Caminos de Peregrinación en la Europa Medieval – Estudio del Camino de Santiago*, p. 253.

2 J.L. Barreiro Rivas, *La Función Política de los Caminos de Peregrinación en la Europa Medieval – Estudio del Camino de Santiago*, p. 273.

century ecclesiastical politics. The cult of Compostela grew completely independently of the concept of 'Finis terrae' and it was only centuries later that the association was made. Even in the literature of the twelfth century Finisterre is rarely mentioned which suggests it had less importance attached to it than 21st century pilgrims might expect.

However, it does appear to be too much of a coincidence that St James, just happened to be discovered eighty kilometres from the acknowledged edge of the known world. In a shrine so unique in the Christian world it is noticeable that Compostela's rivals – Rome and Jerusalem – were journeys to the centre of Christendom; whereas a trip to Compostela was a journey to the periphery. The question is, did this mean a great deal to medieval pilgrims? The Beatus maps, highly influential in the Middle Ages, purported to show the spread of Christianity to the four corners of the world. Pilgrimage could be seen as an attempt to journey towards God by travelling away from the distractions of men, until at the edge of the world one becomes as close to Him as is possible on earth.

All of these motivations are possible. The reason why they need to be treated with scepticism is because they use imagery that is not found anywhere in the writings of medieval pilgrims. It is very possible that this imagery means more in a twenty-first century world than in one of the twelfth century. We live in a world which places great importance on achievement in scaling, conquering and pushing boundaries. Maybe this is because ordinary travelling is rather easy. In the twelfth century to reach Compostela was a huge achievement in itself, there was not such a need to prove oneself by going to "the end of the world". In fact most people who did reach the coast did so to collect a cockle shell demonstrating their completion of the pilgrimage, rather than to reach Finisterre which is conspicuous in its lack of medieval buildings. All along the *Camino Francés* there were huge hospitals, churches and monasteries. If Finisterre mattered a great deal to them surely they would have built things there and architectural proof would demonstrate its importance. The ideological power of reaching "*ad ultimum terrae*" was adopted by Compostela, not the actual destination of Finisterre, and seems to have been used sparingly, as a secondary reason for Compostela's importance as a pilgrimage destination and not a major factor within it.

Our Camino Inglés

by Anna Dickson

*Enthusiastic starters
Boats and sea views,
Harbours, ports and big ships sail*

*Smelly waters,
Slowly round and round the bay,
Meeting peregrinos,
Sleeping soundly in our bunks.*

*Dogs barking,
Clear skies,
Hot.
Uphill, downhill, and up again—
And again.*

*Magical plaza,
New albergue!
Beautiful hills—*

Un paisaje tranquilo.

*Slowly walking,
Heavy backpacks,
Beautiful blue hydrangeas.*

*Broken buildings,
Sour cherries,
And finally, cold beer at the wonderful Bar Julia.*

*Still, far to go,
Making our pilgrims' progress,
Glimpses of sunlight,
On we walk, juntos.*

Too many people in one albergue!

Lights blare,

“It’s still dark!”

Rain, rain and more rain

Rain is art?

Faster, faster, on we go,

Finally, arriving

We smile, and we cheer.

And we are not alone,

Pilgrims everywhere,

Filling the cracks in the church of St James,

One pilgrimage has ended,

Another begins.

Anna completed the Camino Inglés with her two boys in August 2013

Life as a journey

Chris Goldsmith

The idea of the Christian life being like a journey really strikes a chord with me. Carved into my (still very new) bishop's pastoral staff is a shell. Not, as some might suggest, a reminder of my former career, but rather a badge of honour from the camino pilgrimage I made last year. I walked the 500 miles and the one million steps, from Saint Jean-Pied-de-Port in France to Santiago de Compostela in north west Spain.

So why have Christians and others made pilgrimage for well over a thousand years? I think there are two reasons. Firstly, walking is good for us. In fact as human beings we are made to take in the world at walking pace. It was my experience that as we walk we become more alert to what is going on within and around us. Even a man like me can multi-task when I'm walking! I can combine walking with thinking; watching; talking; listening; praying. In the same way, faith in Jesus Christ is there alongside all that we do, sometimes consciously and sometimes in the background, but always present.

A walking pilgrimage is also a rich, authentic and intense experience of the Christian life. The Slow Food movement has reminded us of the need to take time and to give attention to what is good and wholesome in what we take in. Pilgrimage is Slow Church.

Now, I know that sometimes we may find that time can drag even in a church service (heaven forbid!). But pilgrimage has a different kind of spaciousness as we consciously and intentionally give room for God to speak to us. That is how we find and follow our Way of Life.

Unsurprisingly perhaps, the Bible is full of references to walking as a picture of living out our Christian faith day by day. It starts with God himself, walking in the cool of the evening in the Garden of Eden. Then, God's people are encouraged to walk humbly, faithfully, uprightly, in obedience, in the light and in the truth. Perhaps it is no coincidence that Jesus' first invitation to discipleship was "come, follow me."

A Jewish encouragement to faithful discipleship was expressed "may you walk in the dust of your rabbi". In other words, stay so close

to the one you are following that the dust he stirs up falls on you. What a great picture of how we should walk closely with Jesus. So close that we are covered with the effect of his presence and his grace.

On my pilgrimage to Santiago, at the end of each day, entering a pilgrim's hostel could seem like coming into a casualty station, with first aid treatment for blisters, pain killing injections and plasters. In one hostel Italian Franciscans washed and massaged our feet as we arrived....heaven!

That's a picture of how we as churches are called to help others on their own journeys of discipleship. Remember that our words hospital and hospitality share the same root. Some who come to us need help, some need a rest, some need healing, some need encouragement, some need guidance; all need a welcome.

So may we all travel this Way of Life together, following Jesus ever more closely, inviting others to join us and sharing this journey together.

May Jesus the Way, go with you.

The Rt Rev Chris Goldsmith is Suffragan Bishop of St Germans in the Diocese of Truro

Possessions and Arrival

Marj Winter

Monday morning, 8:30, outside the *Correos* – the post office – in Lugo. It is a popular place to be. Full fifteen people are standing silent on a grey morning, from time to time looking at their watches, but mostly just standing. There are locals, but half of us are clearly *peregrinos*, clutching bags or boxes, and looking frankly sheepish. It is safe to imagine that we have all travelled from Oviedo, and discovered on the way that our understanding of what is ‘essential’ is capable of evolution.

My own sack contains – a pair of leggings, spare underwear, maps covering the first week of walking, my Spanish phrase book (curious how little of the anticipated phrases apply to the camino routine), my notebook, other notes and documents pertaining to travel. It doesn’t amount to much, less than a kilogram, but that is still enough to make a visit to the *Correos*, and the correspondingly delayed start to the day seem worth it.

The *Correos* opens its rather majestic door, and we queue in silent order to part with our possessions. No. 63, window B. Yes? *Post Restante*, Santiago de Compostela. Return address? None, just *Post Restante*, Santiago de Compostela. The complete lack of surprise or curiosity confirms the evidence of the queue of *peregrinos*; there is nothing unusual in my request. The postman retreats, returns with a sack, and carefully copies my name onto the address label. Perhaps it is not as much as a kilogram, but the distance magnifies the weight. It is not just one kilogram, but one kilogram times one hundred kilometres! I pay the tariff gladly, and depart tardily on my way, leaving Lugo, lighter by eight euro and 0.76 kilograms, the camel through a minor needle’s eye. The long straight road beyond Lugo is conducive to meditation. It is hard not to reflect that the time will come to shed a greater load, with no forwarding address. Cinch tight the hip belt, shrug shoulders, trot on, grateful for that mild ache, that reassurance of life, that sacrifices presently required are voluntary and slight. And be glad.

The *Camino Primitivo* joins the *Camino Francés* in Melide. Melide itself is an attractive town, full of *peregrinos* enjoying themselves, a great choice in café bars and restaurants. The *albergue* there was my

first experience of the large scale civil *albergues* of the *Camino Francés*. The *dormitorios* were a warren of twelve bunk cul-de sacs, of which mine might have been C-136. I cannot remember. I was given a slip of paper to prove that I had paid for the bunk, should I be challenged. While it was clean and reasonably quiet given the number of people sleeping there, the crowd was a shock to me, and I was glad to be on my way and on my own. It was a long hard day to Santa Irena, and I was again glad to pay the extra fee for the privilege of a quieter night in a small private *albergue* with dinner (served, and shared communally with excellent company, of mainly older *peregrinos*) and breakfast included. From there it was not much more than 20 kilometres to Santiago. I had resolved that I would “run” those last kilometres.

That day the path was fretful, worried by jubilant cyclists who gave scant warning of their approach. The cafés were crowded and in a festive spirit on their last day, many were not drinking *café con leche* at these watering holes despite the early hour. The day trippers also swelled our ranks, properly tricked out with staff and shell, their scanty sacks betraying them as travellers of a shortened way. Why should I worry with whom I share the road? My 300 kilometres would seem short to some. But fret I did. Their lightened loads, their shorter roads weakened the community of the Way. We smiled, wished each other *Buen camino*, and passed without communication. We ate and drank at cafés, we did not share. The *fuentes* were mostly dried up or certified as undrinkable, we did not linger there. I was running because I had determined that I would run, but I was not sorry not to linger on that road.

The camino is moderately well sheltered from the urban sprawl in its approach to Santiago. It bends round the end of the runway of the airport without any great evidence of the approaching metropolis. Only once the motorway is crossed does the way become a city slog, through progressively older districts. The brass shells set in the pavement (and often missed) seem an apologetic comma in the context of city life. The heat, the press of routine city dwellers, the high spirits of boisterous *peregrinos* – whose merriment I did not share – all weighed on me as surely as my pack sawing at my shoulders. Joy had left the journey; it was time for it to be over.

It was over somewhat suddenly. Hot, bemused, thirsty, I turned a corner, the Cathedral was there. I entered by a side door, confused in the crowd of tourists, and exited, pursued by woeful beggars, to walk round to the west end. I was glad I did. Even in my worn state, the

facade commanded reverence. This is what you have walked all these miles to see, you have arrived, be humbled. It would have been difficult not to bend a knee.

I did look in and sat wearily in a transept, but in the crowd, it did not feel the time to be there. I needed food. I needed to find an *albergue*. I needed to register the end of my journey with the officials of the camino. In all cities I had got lost, in Santiago de Compostela, I was always lost. By a series of twists I could not have repeated I found myself in the queue to register the conclusion of my pilgrimage. There was a long queue, winding down the stairs and out into the street. I joined the back of it. It moved slowly. I was glad to get into the building, to be able to rest my head against the wall and lean on the handrail. Others were chatting excitedly and admiring their certificates. It was difficult to stay in that queue. The desire to leave this aspect of the pilgrimage increased with every step. This is not what it is about. This is not my place. I have little in common with these excited youngsters.

The pilgrim's passport with all the stamps attests to the authenticity of your pilgrimage. In theory it is studied by the officials, who judge whether sufficient time has been spent on the way, sufficient distance covered, sufficient evidence of proper purpose has been presented to merit the award of a certificate. A simple inspection of the state of shoe and blistered feet should be ample evidence of the former. As I was not requesting the religious certificate, there was perhaps no need for careful scrutiny of the stamps presented as witness to my piety. The inspection required seconds only, I was presented with my certificate and my passport stamped on its front page with the stamp of the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela. The certificate remains in its protective cylinder. I have not even looked at it since.

Lunch in a square immediately south of the Cathedral dispelled the worst of my disenchantment. In a more positive frame of mind I sought out the *albergue* that had been recommended to me; a seminary on the heights overlooking the old town. The man behind the desk took my euros and offered me a slip of paper in proof of payment, certifying that I was entitled to bed number 1093 in *Dormitorio C* on the second floor. It seemed a weary way up, and frustration nearly got the upper hand, when *Dormitorio C* seemed nowhere to be found. Eventually I found it, a sixteen bed appendix off *Dormitorio A*. For the last time I arranged my sleeping bag and my possessions. Here there were no double bunks, merely long rows of single beds in huge and

undivided rooms. Between each bed there was a locker. I arranged my belongings, had a shower and washed my clothes. The silence in the long line of beds was comforting. Here may be strangers, people that I have not shared the way with, but all of them understand this rule of the way; there shall be silence in the *dormitorio*. The way is every bit as much about the body as about the spirit, and about the ties that bind those two together, and rest at the end of the miles is a must, and silence for that rest. This is a law that is understood and respected. Reassured thus of the sanctity of this law at least, washed, refreshed and fed, I was content to go out again into the city, feeling, finally, that I had arrived.

Epilogue

November, leaden skies, biting wind, early dark and slow dawn challenge the imagination to recreate in the mind's eye a sun so bright and hot as to send me scurrying from patch of shade to patch of shade on the dry road into Lugo. Beyond memories, what survives of the pilgrimage? What did I get from 300 kilometres in the company of pack and sticks? In particular, did I get what I was looking for?

There is an advantage in having been very vague about what I had hoped from the pilgrimage. Certainly there was no dramatic divine revelation during the trek, and none has followed. Nor has it changed my place in my world in any measurable way. Angers and sorrows that were before are there still and hurt me still.

But now there is a difference. What hurts now hurts but for a time only. I can let it go, and the hurt is gone. Sorrows have dimmed into mere facts; I can acknowledge them and put them away. I have my hands, my mind free to deal with the needs of the day, and free, also, to enjoy what there is to be enjoyed. At the moment that is tea and a rather fine apple, a late windfall, itself a reminder of so much of what is good; unbidden, unbought, un-thought, but there for those who would stoop to pick it up. So the true gold of the camino itself. I have come back knowing enough to look for little arrows. I have one on my hat, to remind me, if I forget. And perhaps I have begun to understand the meaning of His words, "I am the Way".

And the way goes on.

A Pilgrim's Quest

Ruth Wellburn

A few years ago, a cryptic feeling flitted across my mind. I had a sense of something ancient and unknown within me. I wondered what it was exactly and wanted to make contact with it and explore it, but I didn't know how. The thought was as elusive as the butterflies that flit in and out of view all along the camino. Sometime later, my son told me that his mother and father-in-law had walked a pilgrimage in Spain. This was the first time I had ever heard of the camino, and I knew instantly that if I were ever to understand this ancient part of me, it would be on this pilgrimage.

On my 70th birthday, my son gave me a round trip ticket to Europe, and I was off on my search for the unknown, which I eventually came to recognize as my unconscious mind.

To prepare myself for the inner journey, I read Carl Jung's autobiography – *Memories, Dreams and Reflections* – and I discovered that Jung, himself, had gone on much the same search that I was on.

For a couple of weeks before my trip, I house-sat for a friend on Thetis Island and I spent the time alone reading my book and walking. I slept well, and I began to dream. In one dream, I had a vivid image of a distinctive cross. I felt that if I saw this cross along the way, the place might have some significant meaning, and I watched for it on churches all along the way.

In late August, I flew into Paris, and after spending a few days at the Lascaux Caves, travelled to Bayonne where I caught the train to Saint Jean-Pied-de-Port in south western France. This train was packed with pilgrims – all headed for the camino. There was an immediate common bond, and I knew that even though I travelled solo, I was not alone. We were a community of souls bonded together in common purpose and on an inner journey – a group of seekers, all starting at the same place and walking in the same direction – all forsaking our controlled, busy, anxious lives, all with eyes and minds wide open – inquisitive to what we might discover along the way.

We were all aware of the challenging outer journey that was part of our path. The physical journey would be arduous, but it

was necessary. It would keep us grounded. The sages of old must have understood that the physical and spiritual aspects of man are intricately interconnected. The very act of walking on natural earth somehow anchors us in reality – the term ‘grounded’ took on a clearer meaning. This grounding frees our mind to delve into the wellspring of the unconscious within. It gives us space for reflection. Carrying all my possessions on my back provided a sense of complete self-reliance and cut the tethers that bound me to the consumer driven society from which I came. I was free to walk.

Perhaps it was because I was in a strange land or because of the feeling of adventure, that I found myself living in the now. I was keenly aware of my surroundings. My senses had opened like a flower at the peak of season. I was aware of the smells and the majestic views; I could feel and taste the air around me; I felt the heat from the sun; I stopped to watch the buzzards soaring high in the sky, the butterflies as they darted in and out of view, the expansive fields of sunflowers, the silhouette of fellow pilgrims up ahead, the rhythmic beat of my footsteps and the poles against the earth; I felt the weight of my backpack and I was aware of my breathing that kept pace with my feet.

I walked alone, but I was not alone, I was part of all that surrounded me. In fact the word “alone” lost all meaning. I was certainly a part of the stream of pilgrims – all in motion, all moving westward toward the Holy City. The thought of going backward was unthinkable. There was a strong force drawing us ever forward toward Santiago. Once, I got off on an alternative route and missed the town I had planned to stop at and replenish my water supply. I didn’t have enough water to take me the long distance to the closest town, about 10 or 12 kilometres ahead and I was sitting on a rock contemplating the unwelcome thought of walking back 4kms and the consequences of that when a young woman, wearing a long skirt, sandals and bandana, stopped and asked me if I was all right and did I have enough water. She filled my water bottle and then went off as if she had done nothing important. That act of kindness did more than provide the essential water I needed for survival; it made me feel the need to give something back to someone else and as I heard someone put it so fittingly – the positivity spiralled upward along the way.

The mechanical act of walking leads the mind through the outer layer of conscious thought and into the wellspring of the unconscious below. You can’t hurry, you have the weight of the backpack, there is an incredible distance to travel, and you want to stop on the wayside and

observe. The concept of time falls away and gives space for reflection. I have long wondered why we dream but I think now that dreams are the only contact we have with our unconscious, and I think that this contact might be as vital to humans as food and water. Days of uninterrupted being in the now, in awareness, with our senses, allows our inner wisdom to direct us and guide us on a path that would lead to a more fulfilled life – on a path of enquiry and of self-exploration. As in our outward journey, it enhances our senses so that we can see things with clarity. It even allows us to see things with senses we did not know we had.

One very magical and wonderful evening in the cobblestone square of the Cathedral, under a clear starry night complete with full moon, I saw the scene as an artist might. Everything seemed surreal. I felt that I was seeing it in much the same way that Van Gogh must have seen the sky the night that he painted *Starry Night*. He could never have conveyed what he saw with words.

On my walk through Galicia, I also felt a strong sense of connection to my Irish roots. There were many pilgrims from Ireland on this section, and as I looked into their faces and talked with them, I felt I belonged. I learned to love and accept my red hair and freckles, my Irish countenance, my size and personality. I learned to accept myself for who I was and to love myself.

Reaching Santiago was bitter sweet. I slowed down the last two days, just to prolong the experience, and I walked with four women who I had met along the way. It was a different experience from walking solo. The time for reflection was gone, but we partied and exchanged stories and really enjoyed ourselves. We walked into Santiago together and made it in time for the noon Mass at the cathedral. But somehow I wasn't ready to end my pilgrimage, and after a few days' rest, I went on to Muxia and Finisterre. So what had felt like an anti-climax became a wonder for it was at a Priscillian church in Muxia that I first saw the cross I had seen in my dream. I was thunderstruck that I had actually found it – but why in Muxia? I asked a local woman about the cross and she said matter-of-factly, "Oh, that's the Cruz de Santiago. You must have seen it on the cathedral in Santiago." But it had been pouring buckets of rain when we walked into Santiago, and I wasn't looking at anything outside. I was just dashing from one cover to another and running up the steps of the cathedral into the church. I told her about my dream, and she told me that Carl Jung says that dreams go forward and backward, and that, in

my dream, I was remembering something I had not seen yet. I'm still pondering those concepts and wondering what the significance could be.

Returning home, I realized that, as with the outer journey, with the inner journey there is a strong resistance to going back. I had always prided myself on "*taking the road less travelled*," but what came to mind was that perhaps there is a reason why it is less travelled. Once we dive into the mysteries of our unconscious and experience the soul's awakenings, there is a strong desire to be in motion, to move ahead towards a more fulfilling life. This inner journey cannot be directed by the conscious mind – the conscious mind needs to step aside and allow the unconscious to guide the way. I felt a desire to return to church – the Unitarian Universalist church here in Victoria, British Columbia – and the message of peace and tolerance resonated with me. I listened to the excellence of the music provided by the choir and our music director and the pianist, and I was drawn to join the choir. At age 70, I took my first voice lesson, and the whole music experience has been better than I could ever have expected.

I'm still seeking, and I don't want to turn back to life as I knew it before the camino . . .

NB Editor's Note:

Ruth Wellburn has just published a book for children **Bedbug's Big Adventure**
ISBN: 9780986532214. To be reviewed in the March Bulletin.

A Sydney Pilgrim Turns Pro!

Mary Linnane

After years and years of working indoors, it suddenly occurred to me (while job hunting) how great it would be to work in the great outdoors for a change. And I'd get fit and lose weight! I applied online to be a *Postie* and ages later I fronted up for a three day intensive induction. My camino experiences certainly impressed the interviewers as they were very taken in by my 800km pilgrimage. I tried on the backpack with the required 16 kilograms and wondered if I could get used to that! I was greatly surprised when I found I had been allocated Dover Heights, a costal suburb near the entrance to Sydney Harbour. It's beautifully scenic, but long and hilly. Undaunted, I turned up for my first day on the streets. I start at one of those green boxes you might have wondered about. My first week, I walked with a mentor which was enjoyable though I was pretty tired at the end of each day. I walk with a trolley rather than a backpack but pushing this trolley uphill is no easy feat either. I was surprised at the quantity of mail there is still out there. Don't we all know that no one writes letters anymore? That might be true, but there are still plenty of superannuation funds and bills to help us feel wanted, not to mention all the parcels!

Two years ago I walked the camino in Spain. I'm often reminded of that walk because of the physical nature of this job. Each day I attempt to be physically prepared just as I did each day on the camino. Now I need to have a good night's sleep (without that, everything goes wrong), I need to make sure I have my water, lip gloss, tissues fruit, hat, mobile phone, sunglasses, radio, sunscreen, Vick for my nose.

At first, I was stunned by the beauty of the views. I'd come around a corner and see the waves of Bondi Beach ahead or over to the city where I can see the Opera House, the Harbour Bridge and the whole panorama of the city skyline, even out to the Blue Mountains on a clear day. I soon learned that if I admired the view, I would be walking past houses and have to retrace my steps.

It took me quite a while to learn the route, to learn where all the letterboxes were. It's amazing how many houses don't have numbers on their houses or on their boxes and I have to count. But now I know

SHRINE OF ST JAMES AT ST JAMES CHURCH, READING

JESUS CALLS JAMES AND HIS BROTHER JOHN

Luke 5 1:11

James and his brother John, the sons of Zebedee, were fishermen on the Lake of Galilee. When Jesus was walking along the shore of the lake he called Peter and his brother Andrew and next James and John. At once the two sets of brothers left their boats and nets and went with him.

THE DAUGHTER OF JAIRUS IS RAISED FROM THE DEAD.

Luke 8:40-56

At the request of Jairus, an official at the synagogue, Jesus raised to life his only daughter of twelve years old who had just died. The three disciples, Peter, James and John were present for this great miracle. The parents of the child were amazed when she got up and ate with them.

THE TRANSFIGURATION *Luke 9:28-36*

Jesus invited Peter, James and John to go up the mountain to pray. There Moses and Elijah appeared to them. During the prayer Jesus' 'face was changed', he was transfigured. The three apostles were given a fleeting glimpse of the glory of his risen life.

JESUS PRAYS IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE *Mark 14:32-42*

Before his trial and crucifixion Jesus retreated to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. He took Peter, James and John with him. 'Distress and anguish came over him'. He prayed earnestly for the strength to follow the will of his Father. During this time the three disciples fell asleep. Jesus was distressed that they failed to support him in prayer during his hour of need.



THE SHRINE OF ST JAMES

THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ON THE APOSTLES IN THE UPPER ROOM

Acts 2:1-11

When the apostles had gathered together, the Spirit of God came 'like a strong wind' and tongues of fire came to rest on each of them. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different languages. They were inspired to go out and carry on the mission of Jesus. This event is seen as the birth of the Church.



THE FEAST DAY OF ST JAMES IS CELEBRATED ON 25TH JULY

ARTISTS: PAULO GUILHERME VIEIRA MARQUES &

JULIO CESAR QUARESMA CARAVELLI

ST BENEDICT STUDIO, BRAZIL

ERECTED JANUARY 2013

TO COMMEMORATE THE 'YEAR OF FAITH'

& 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE,

ST JAMES CHURCH, 14 DECEMBER 2012

According to the Legend of St James, after the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles, St James left Jerusalem for the Iberian Peninsula to preach the Gospel. When St James was in Zaragoza Our Lady appeared to him to tell him that it was Christ's wish that he, St James, should return to Jerusalem. Our Lady appeared to St James on a column which gives its name to the Basilica of Our Lady of the Pillar, the first sanctuary dedicated to Mary.



THE CAMINO DE SANTIAGO

Ever since the Middle Ages the scallop shell has been the symbol of the those on pilgrimage to the shrine of St James in Santiago. It is worn by the pilgrims and can be used when thirsty to drink water. The scallop shell is marked with the sword shaped cross of St James.

In the middle of the panel is an outline of the great Cathedral in Santiago, where the body of St James lies. Above the building are stars, reminders that a bright star showed the place where St James's body was found and that pilgrims were said to be as numerous as the stars of the Milky Way.

The Way of St James or Camino de Santiago is one of the great Christian pilgrimages of the world. These days thousands of people walk the route. For those on the walk it is not only an experience of great endurance, the opportunity to enjoy the scenery of the area but also a journey inward. People of all cultures and faiths are attracted to the challenge of walking this historic route.



Helpful advice about the pilgrimage is available from the Confraternity of Saint James which has a strong link with this parish. The Great Abbey of Reading was a place of medieval pilgrimage as it held the relic of the hand of St James which is now kept in St Peter's Church, Marlow.

For more information about the Confraternity and the pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela visit www.csj.org.uk or tel 020 7928 9988.

THE LEGEND OF ST JAMES

It is said that St James (Sant-lago), the apostle, the brother of John, came to Spain to preach Christianity. He returned back to Jerusalem and was one of the first Apostles to be beheaded by Herod for his faith.

After his death his followers put his body into a rudderless boat and this was carried by angels and the wind to the coast of north-western Spain. The bodies of St James and two of his followers were buried at Iria Flavia (Padrón) in Galicia, Northern Spain. The burial site was forgotten for some 800 years. The tomb was re-discovered and the relics authenticated by the local bishop. At this time the church fostered devotion to relics of holy people as a way to be close to God and so began the pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela. In time it became a rival to those to Rome and Jerusalem. For many centuries interest waned but in recent years a very high number of people are now walking the Way of St James, the Camino de Santiago Compostela to visit the great Cathedral and pray at the Shrine of St James.

Tradition has it that St James miraculously appeared as a knight on horseback to fight for the Spanish army during the battle of Clavijo against the Moors, originally from Africa. Today a visitor to Spain will see the contribution of Islam as well as that of the Jewish community in the amazing architecture and culture in so many of the cities.



where all the boxes are, the ones that are around the corner in a different street, the couple that have two different street addresses, the ones that are hidden behind trees, even behind a thorny bougainvillea, behind the rubbish bins and the rusted out boxes! I like the old metal box that appears to be an old car glove-box. Every day I fight with No 99 that is just the wrong shape. In fact, most of the boxes out there are designed to receive only a tiny invitation card which might be delivered in a Jane Austen novel rather than the hefty prospectuses which I have to fold and coax (curse) in.

Three months down the track, I walk in automatic mode. I listen to my radio all day. I still occasionally admire the beautiful views and love the glimpses through beautiful houses out to the ocean when I deliver a registered article. I know all the dogs on my route and still marvel at the beautifully coiffed dog who throws himself at the iron gate barking furiously. Behind him is a much smaller dog that bites the tail of the big one and goes along for the ride. I've watched houses being built and others being demolished. During school holidays I liked that there were more people and kids around who would be delighted to come and collect the mail. People often seem surprised that they've scored a female postie. I still find it amazing that people optimistically await the mail even though they know it's probably going to be bills. I love all the postcards that come from everywhere (I feel travel envy at work now as well as on a Ramblers walk).

I think I've made all the novice mistakes. The brakes on the trolley are not strong and several times it has tried to escape; if it tips over it's a disaster. I've had to get over feeling a place is undeserving of new mail because it's obvious they're not collecting or reading their mail. Each day I think hopefully it might be a lighter day. Even if it is though, there're often leaflets to deliver to every single box. I've experienced really hot weather which is hard work, and horribly wet days which are the worst. Wind can chill me to the bone at the very start of my day which reminds me about the lack of loos on my route (another reminder of the camino and there are certainly no little restaurants with excellent coffee on my Dover Heights route).

I do feel fitter and I have lost weight. And as to the weight loss though, surely there's an easier way? When I reach home, the first thing I do is check my letterbox and feel peeved if there's nothing because I know everyone else received lot!

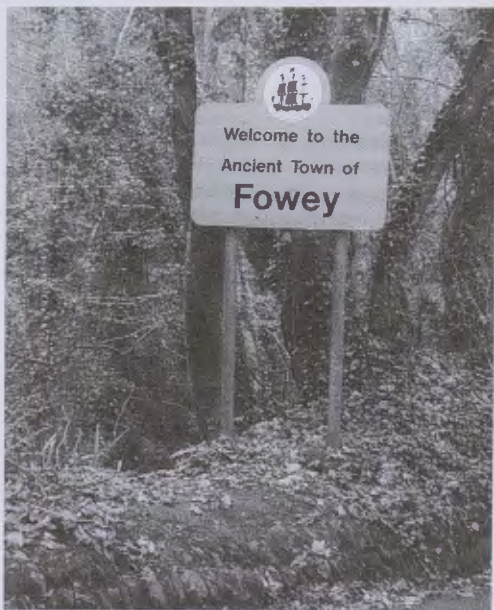
Mary Linnane is a member of Pilgrims to St James in Sydney

For all the Saints: especially St James

Marion Marples

Cornwall is a land of many Saints. It also boasts of the Saints' Way. Starting at St Petroc's church at Padstow (near the St Rick restaurant!) a happy band of pilgrims gathered to walk the 27mile Saints' Way over two days this autumn. The weather forecast was reasonably optimistic but there had been heavy overnight rain. We checked out the 14th century font with a pilgrim St James and set off up the first of many steep hills.

The terrain alternated between steep woodland paths (up and down) and deep 'holloways', as often as not deeply potholed and needing delicate balancing along the grassy edge of the puddles. Thank goodness for walking poles! Past isolated farmhouses, standing stones, ancient iron-age camps, and modern wind-farms we were blown by the wind but only lightly showered upon. We imagined the pilgrims and traders who in medieval times took this strenuous route in preference to the dangerous sea passage around Land's End.



The walkers were a mixture of CSJ members and other pilgrims from the village of St Neot. Tony Ward (a resident of St Neot and our treasurer) devised the logistics and his wife Margaret provided a welcome back-up and fantastic lunch service, which included mugs of hot tea and coffee. On day one Brian lost his boot to the mud and got a welcome lift home. The others continued on to Lanivet.

On day two (Saturday) the walk picked up again at Lanivet, but a couple of miles further on up the road at Reperry Cross. We were joined by new pilgrims and Pickles, a Jack Russell, who walked the rest of the way with us. It was now a bit easier past rocky Helman Tor and down to Lanlivery church and pub, where some of us enjoyed coffee



St. James, St. Neot

and a brief rest. We proceeded gingerly along an ancient hedged drovers' track down to Milltown for a lunch stop and then via Golant and Fowey Creek to Fowey. At St Sampson's church at Golant there was a splendid carved St James on the pulpit.

After a brief stop for a warming soup we were off again, this time by car, to St Neot church for a wonderful performance by the Canoryon Lowen choir, conducted

by Nick Hart. Canoryon Lowen is a mixed choir of thirty singers, based in the village of St Neot, but with members drawn from both Devon and Cornwall. They sang Bob Chilcott's Little Jazz Mass and several shorter songs. The climax was a wonderful performance of John Read's Pilgrimage Cantata, which brought more than one tear to the eye.

Sunday began with a guided tour of the world famous 15thc stained glass which has somehow survived the passing of centuries. There is an unusual series of windows depicting the life of St George, the life of St Neot, and also a creation window. Another tells the story of Noah – the ark looking suspiciously like one of the boats the above mentioned pilgrims to Santiago might have sailed in.

Finally, after hearing how the medieval glass was moved around and how much Victorian glass was inserted, we debated hard on whether the saint shown in St Neot's church is St James, or more likely, only the head of St James added to the body of St Neot, whose name appears engraved below!(see accompanying photo)

We experienced terrific hospitality at St Neot; from Tony and Margaret, from the various pubs along the way, from the churchwardens and choir – and a wonderful Cornish supper – with freshly made Cornish pasties was provided for us. The Vicar and the choir master even asked John Read to play the organ and CSJ members to sing during the Sunday Eucharist. It was a most enjoyable and successful weekend.

Refugio Gaucelmo News

Julie Davies

HOSPITALEROS:

SEPTEMBER

Betty Tuite (IRL), John O'Halloran (IRL), Jean Maguire (IRL), Gabriel Cribben (IRL), Pamela Malo (USA), David McMahon (UK)

OCTOBER

Margaret Simonot (UK), Tony Green (UK), Alison Raju (UK), Robert Mullen (UK)

NOVEMBER

Peter Garlick (UK), Dick Crean (UK), Alison Raju (UK), Dave Arthur (UK)

Our busiest month this year – August, coincided with the hottest temperatures. During this month we received 890 pilgrims. 842 came on foot and 48 by bike. The heat meant that pilgrims arrived later in the day and left earlier next morning. Tea was served in the shade of the pergola, and our *hospitaleros* from the USA introduced



us to the joys of Iced Tea! So far we have received pilgrims from 68 different countries. We had this year our first ever pilgrim from Belorussia, Namibia and Guatemala. In September we received our second pilgrim from Cameroon. It is amazing how they come from all over the world and find their way to Refugio Gaucelmo.

But the blue skies and the incredible heat that created mirages on the horizon in the summer seem a long distant

memory. Now we are in November and the first snow has fallen, the wood burning stove is on permanently drying out clothes and warming the cold bones of pilgrims. This year we are staying open for an extra month, as normally we close at the end of October, however Isabel from *Nuestra Señora del Pilar Albergue* asked if we could stay open whilst she took a very well earned holiday. So, a big thank you to Peter, Dick, Alison and Dave who volunteered to cover the extra duties. Not only did they see pilgrim numbers gradually decreasing but also experienced the plummeting temperature and the beautiful sight of autumnal mists and the first snow on the Mountains of León. Two tons of logs were delivered during the end of October which Alison and Robert took two hours in the pouring rain to stash away. Not all of the *hospitaleros* duty is sipping tea and chatting in the patio!

This year has been a bumper harvest at Gaucelmo, despite some of the apple trees having an infestation. We provided Father Pius with as much fruit as he wanted and in return he helped pick our pears and provided Gaucelmo with some excellent pots of his home made jam. The glut of plums which arrived during the Irish *hospitaleros*' stay all ended up being jammed, stewed and left for the pilgrims to take with them every day.

Although *hospitaleros* at Gaucelmo do not have to cook meals for pilgrims, several have been very creative making cakes, rice puddings, and apple crisps – all to be enjoyed at tea time. *Hospitalera* Hope knitted two tea cosies for our tea pots and sent them to Gaucelmo resplendent with yellow arrows and the Cross of Saint James, while Di-Anne from USA brought hats she had made with her. Grateful pilgrims left with warm hats to wear on their journey over the mountains.

Our pilgrims, as always have been fascinating. There were two young men who walked all the way from Warsaw; a Korean pilgrim who was a mime artist – complete with white gloves, black clothes and a red nose, who performed for the pilgrims accompanied by music from his phone. There was a Portuguese pilgrim walking with his dog Atila all the way from Le Puy. The dog had matching boots to go with his canine jacket – and he slept in the woodshed and didn't bark once. There was a pilgrim making his sixth stay at Gaucelmo! Meanwhile, Ko from South Korea cycled with seven bags! His itinerary was – London, Paris, Prague, Cologne, Le Puy, Santiago, Madrid, Barcelona, Rome, Athens – then flying back home from Istanbul.

Pilgrims will be sad to hear the old Pilgrim Oak which stood at the edge of the village, and was thought to be over 300 years old, has lost a limb in recent very windy conditions. Unfortunately it could not be saved and had to be felled. Sadly, Domingo Sanchez, President of the



Amigos de El Bierzo who we have worked with closely over the care of Gaucelmo, died during November. The Chairman of the Gaucelmo Committee, Dick Crean was fortunately doing a duty at Gaucelmo so was able to attend the funeral along with committee member – Laurie Dennett (and the past Chair of the CSJ).

Refugio Gaucelmo's Facebook page continues to attract interest. It exists thanks to the many contributions of photographs and texts supplied by *hospitaleros* and a few others. Several local people are our Facebook friends. Recently, the taxi driver at Molineseca dropped off a bag of peppers and grapes as a gift for the *hospitaleros* – stating he was one of our Facebook friends.

News from Albergue de Miraz

Maureen Young

A small group of CSJ members started on a new adventure in April 2005. We were going to open a new *refugio* on the Camino Del Norte, in an old priest's house, empty for about thirty years. We travelled to Lugo, an ancient walled city, and stayed there overnight. Two of us went to see the bishop's secretary, as the *Obispado* or diocese was leasing us the house, while the others went shopping for essential stores like blankets, food, saucepans and cutlery etc.

We arrived in this very small peaceful village to meet the priest and sacristan, who had only just learned about this strange group of English people taking over their house. Jesus, the sacristan, was quite angry and upset at the time, but as so often is the case, became a good friend later. He was in his 90s and gave Keith instructions on how to chop and split logs more effectively and how to keep the hotplate of the Galician stove (like an Aga) a shining silver! The priest, Don José Ramon, accepted the bishop's decision more readily. The villagers were surprised by our motives. Were we being paid? Why would we work for nothing? We knew why – we had all walked the camino and wanted to fill this 42km gap between Baamonde and Sobrado de las Monjes with a place for pilgrims to stay. We also loved the tranquillity of this small rural village, and their self-sufficient way of life. The villagers are also pleased that they have been put on the map by our website.



The pilgrims coming through were delighted to find a clean and comfortable place to sleep, with a reasonably hot shower and cooking facilities as well as a friendly welcome. The cows walk past every day and a herd of goats

visited the field opposite the *refugio* with their minders, two humans and two Alsatians. There is no shop or restaurant in the village, but a friendly bar run by Pilar, who now sells some basic food stuffs. The *hospitaleros* find her a tremendous support. In the two nearest small towns, Parga and Friol, we have got to know a lot of people. In fact, when we were once in Friol, the bunk beds were unexpectedly being delivered to the *albergue* in Miraz. Pilar rang José Manuel, the taxi driver from Friol, who managed to locate us and take us back to the *refugio*!

We visited Baamonde and met the *hospitalera*, Conchi, who became another good friend and supporter. Unfortunately she died recently of a heart attack. We try to keep good relationships with people locally and have had a lot of help from them.

In 2010 we had an extension built and raised approximately £85,000 with many donations from generous CSJ members. The fundraising was successfully organised by Alison Thorp.

We now have a centrally heated comfortable and welcoming *refugio* with 26 beds. The garden is being organised into a welcoming and peaceful place in which to spend some time, with the help of Ken Spittal.

From the very beginning we wanted to encourage more CSJ members to get involved and had formed a development group of twenty helpful members. By opening and now running the *refugio*, we hope we are encouraging the use of the *Camino del Norte*, as the *Camino francés* is now so busy. Currently, we have the Miraz committee running the *refugio* and looking after it for the CSJ. In 2013 approximately 3,000 pilgrims were made welcome at Miraz and, judging by their comments, greatly enjoyed the experience. For me this has been a really enjoyable and challenging experience and I would encourage other CSJ members to also get involved, as I am sure they will enjoy being involved with the *refugio*.

Note: We thank Maureen and Keith Young for their many talents and passion throughout the development of the *refugio* at Miraz. They have both done an enormous amount of work and we and pilgrims are indebted to them.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE MIRAZ COMMITTEE OR BECOMING A HOSPITALERO/A please contact AlanCutbush on 01473 687 2039 or email him at alan@cutbush35.fsnet.co.uk

Members' Page

From Pat Quaife

SPRING IN DEVON –

Cat-loving house-sitters wanted for a quiet house in Topsham (Exeter) between 4 February and 22 April 2014. Two bedrooms available, one double, one twin, but no children under 10 and no dogs. Usual amenities including small garden and (outdoor) parking. House-sitters must welcome the visiting cat (Nutmeg, a small grey Burmese) and liaise with her owner next door. No rent to pay, but £25 a week towards bills would be welcome. For further details phone Pat Quaife on (01392)-873251.

From Paul Murray

TWO WEEKS SPENT LAST SUMMER AS A VOLUNTEER HOSPITALERO IN REFUGIO GAUCELMO

Illustrated talk by Paul Murray at Saint Peter's High School, Stroud Road, Gloucester GL4 0DD on Saturday the 15 March at 7.30 p.m. Admission is free and snacks and refreshments will be provided during the interval by the school's HCPT sixth form charity group with all donations gratefully received going to financing the stay of some disabled youngsters in Lourdes at Easter. The "Lourdes Group", the name by which the students are more commonly known as in school, raise their own separate sponsorship to finance their travel and stay in the French Pyrenees when they look after the disabled young people.



Pilgrims on the All Saints' Way

AMIGOS WELCOME SERVICE

Following two successful years the Amigos Welcome Service will run again in 2014 and all of those interested in being an Amigo are invited to apply.

Though the Amigos Welcome Service volunteers live in Santiago in an apartment provided free of charge they are responsible for their own travel and subsistence costs. They work in the Pilgrims' Office providing a warm welcome and congratulations to all arriving pilgrims. They also provide advice, support and information to English speaking pilgrims. The name "Amigos" defines the role.

In 2014 year the programme is being support by the American Pilgrims on the Camino, the Confraternity of Saint James in the United Kingdom, the Dutch Association, Het Nederlands Genootschap van Sint Jacob, the Irish Society of the Friends of St. James and the Canadian Company of Pilgrims. Amigos are ambassadors for these organisations including informing pilgrims of what these associations can offer when they return home. Therefore applicants should normally be a member of one of these organisations.

What skills should Amigos have?

Amigos need:

- To have walked/cycled to Santiago for a sufficient distance to qualify for a Compostela.
- Excellent communication skills with an ability to listen to and empathise with other people.
- To have a pleasant disposition and be able to work as a part of a team.
- To at least be competent in conversational Spanish sufficient to answer questions and give directions. Knowledge of another European language would be an advantage particularly French, German or Italian. We also welcome some applications from people who have embarked on learning Spanish through study and for whom being an Amigo would be a valuable experience. We will try to match them with an Amigo with more advanced language skills.
- To be able to commit to working in the Welcome Service for at least 2 weeks between May and October 2014.
- To be sufficiently physically fit to be active and on their feet for a full working day for a period of at least two weeks.

If you would like further information or to apply please e-mail Jim McNicholas on amigoswelcomeservice@gmail.com

The closing date for applications is 22 February 2014.

To read a report on last year's Amigos Welcome Service see <http://www.johnniewalker-santiago.blogspot.com.es/2013/11/hurrah-for-amigos-brief-report-on-2013.html>

Book Reviews

The Long Road to Heaven - A Lent Course based on ‘The Way’

Tim Heaton, 2013, Circle Books, ISBN 9781782792741

I have always wanted to connect the journey through Lent with the pilgrimage to Santiago, through my own experience and that of hearing others speak. However, for various reasons, I have not managed to sustain my thinking for more than a couple of weeks.

So I am pleased to see this course based on ‘The Way’ – a film which has inspired many to make the camino. The course is designed for weekly sessions with selected clips from the film and the reflections are stimulated by the experiences of the characters in the film. However I was sorry to learn that the author actually made the pilgrimage by car, so his reflections do not have the added bonus of including the experience of walking. Having said that, the questions posed are valuable: What are we saved from? What are we saved for? Who can be saved? What do we have to do to be saved? How are we saved? Each chapter opens with a theological reflection and we are invited to consider the lives of the characters in the context of the camino and to notice and name the inner transformation that the camino can bring for ourselves. Meditating on these questions can begin to help us frame our life changing experiences in more theological language.

Tim Heaton offers an accessible exploration of the way in which pilgrimage is a metaphor for life.

Do you know The Way? My pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela

by Lois Tuffield, 2013, ISBN 978492896784, available from Amazon as paperback or on Kindle

Lois Tuffield, who lives in France, walked the camino as an act of thanksgiving in May 2013 from Pamplona, with friends joining for different stages and her daughter from Sarria. Although she had done quite a lot of training in advance she had only recently recovered from a double mastectomy and wisely took the bus for some stretches (including Burgos-León and sadly, Astorga-Ponferrada). Her lively account tells the camino as she found it – and found herself spiritually fulfilled and very happy as she returned home.

However, I should point out to Lois that the statues of a pilgrim with a nasty gash on the leg and a dog are actually St Roche and not St James!

REVIEWED BY MARION MARPLES

Richard of Lincoln: a Medieval Doctor travels to Jerusalem

edited and translated by Francis Davey, 2013, Azure Publications, 72pp, illustrated, 9780956934611.

In two previous publications,* Francis Davey has examined the pilgrimages to Compostela, Rome and Jerusalem undertaken by William Wey, a priest, in the mid-fifteenth century. Davey's latest study of medieval pilgrimage focuses on Richard of Lincoln, a doctor, who journeys to Jerusalem in 1454, some four years earlier than William.

Richard's record of his travels, contained within a substantial manuscript known as *The Physician's Handbook*, occupies just nine folios but, despite its brevity, Davey finds much to explain and explore.

In an introductory chapter, the author presents a scholarly overview of Richard's experiences and complements, or contrasts, these with some of William's observations. These references to the priest's pilgrim text – significantly longer than the doctor's – not only enhance Richard's overly concise comments but also reveal intriguing differences in attitude between the two men.

The text itself comprises handsome reproductions of the original Middle English manuscript, which is now housed in the Wellcome Library, followed by Davey's translation. In many ways, the first few lines are representative of the whole. Richard, ever practical, begins by advising the would-be pilgrim to 'change his money in London with the Lombards', a process that requires 'a writ of exchange and a writ of passage'. What follows is essentially a check-list of places and shrines, the distances between them – measured in Flemish miles, Dutch miles, Lombardy miles... – and the cost of tolls, ferries, entry fees and other charges. As he records the stages in his journey from Dover to Venice to Jaffa, Richard does not indulge in description. Almost all he ever says about any settlement is whether it has a wall or bridge and his favourite adjective by far is 'fair'. Thus, Coblenz is 'a fair walled city' with 'a fair river . . . and a fair stone bridge'. Even in the Holy Land, his report remains terse in the extreme. Davey likens the intensive itinerary of sacred sites to a package-tour explaining that, under the Saracens, pilgrimages in the Holy Land were limited to 13 days and subject to strict controls. Visits to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, for example, were permitted only after nightfall. On the rare occasions when Richard does depart from his laconic style, it inevitably catches the reader's attention. Near Mount Syon he visits a church and notes that 'it is tended reverently by the Greeks'; later, he describes the Jordan as 'a fair river' but 'always muddy, as if it were troubled'.

The text is complemented by 20 pages of informative notes. Some

correct inaccuracies: there is no ‘little walled town’ called Thrusse between Basel and Sursee. Some give the background to shrines and relics such as Our Lady’s Smock in Aachen or, in Rhodes, the flowering thorn from Christ’s crown. Some notes add a historical or etymological detail: on its way to Jaffa, Richard’s galley puts in at Ragusa (Dubrovnik) and the corresponding note reveals that the word ‘argosy’, derived from Ragusa, reflects the port’s trading reputation. Some reference William’s commentary as happens in Venice where Richard records that bedding for the voyage costs one-and-a-half ducats. William elaborates: the bedding – feather-bed pillows, sheets, quilt and mattress – actually costs three ducats but, on return, can be sold back for one-and-a-half ducats. And finally, some notes introduce present-day observations.

At first sight, this Richard of Lincoln study might seem to have *Buy-one-get-one-free* status, that is, two pilgrims for the price of one. In reality, it is an even better deal as there are four pilgrims. Francis Davey and his wife have followed in the footsteps of Richard and William and, where appropriate, they add contemporary insights. Clarifying Richard’s crossing of the St Gotthard Pass, for instance, they mention their own experience of travelling between ten feet high snow banks – in June!

This personal touch is a bonus and illustrates the author’s dedication to his subject. Through his carefully-crafted translation and meticulous research, Francis Davey has illumined Richard of Lincoln’s narrative and created a fascinating study of medieval pilgrimage that will interest scholars, travellers (even the armchair variety), and of course, pilgrims.

CATHERINE DELL

(Footnote: there were moments when I would have appreciated a map, but I then recalled that Richard, William and their many contemporaries managed without...)

*William Wey, *An English Pilgrim to Compostella in 1456* (Published by CSJ, 2000)

The Itineraries of William Wey (The Bodleian Library, 2010)

Obituaries

Marion Marples

Edward Harper RIP 1920-2013

Ted Harper, and his wife Peggy (obit Bulletin 74) were stalwarts of the CSJ's Research Working Party in the 80s and 90s which met twice a year at Birmingham University by kind invitation of Prof Derek Lomax. The RWP compiled county by county lists of churches dedicated to St James and also representations of St James in other churches. It also researched the routes pilgrims may have taken from home to the English ports to embark for a pilgrimage to 'St James in Galice'. Ted and Peggy thoroughly researched their home county of Leicestershire and produced the booklet *Leicestershire and the Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela*, which is still available from the CSJ bookshop (£5) in 1995. All this information, along with photos and newspaper cuttings, which was compiled through personal visits and library research, is now gradually being transferred to an electronic format by Ruth Abrahams, who also has the benefit of Wikipedia, church websites and photo galleries among other resources. We hope to encourage members to explore their home counties and add to the database in due course. Ted and Peggy explored the pilgrimage route in Spain in 1987 with their caravan and supported many CSJ outings in the early years. Most notable was the visit to Herefordshire School churches in 1988. Dinner had been arranged at an isolated farmhouse up a long valley in the Black Mountains. We all arrived in various cars but Ted, driving Peggy, me and small son James, overshot the entrance to the lane. We reversed –into a ditch. Fortunately Ted had a rope in the boot and a tractor appeared from nowhere to pull us out. James had been left in the car while all got out and exclaimed and discussed what to do and complained long after that he had been very scared!

Barbara Cameron RIP 1929-2013

Retired lecturer Barbara Cameron spoke for many when she called her 2008 book *Once is not Enough*. She walked the *Camino Francés* in 1997 and 1998, the *Via de la Plata* in 2000 and *Camino del Norte* in 2001. She on her own initiative went for Spanish *hospitalera* training with D José Ignacio Díaz and met Mari Luz and Jan, veteran *hospitaleros*. She was *hospitalera* at Belorado and twice at Gaucelmo, in 2002 and 2003. Her book aims to 'recollect, re-examine and unpick a multi layered

experience'. She was excited by the fact that her ancestor Patrick de Graham is recorded as making a pilgrimage to Santiago in 1361.

Hilary Shaw RIP 1923 -2013

Hilary was a very early member of CSJ and was also a founding member of the Cornish *Bredereth Sen Jago*. She had huge love and interest in all things Cornish, especially the language and literature – she received a Bardship in 1984. She taught Cornish in Falmouth for some 25 years and contributed a regular column in Cornish to the *Western Daily News*. She did extensive research into the Devon and Cornish ports used by medieval pilgrims and led countless car pilgrimages around the narrow lanes to locate holy wells, sites of medieval fairs and chapels. She also organised an epic Pilgrim Sea Voyage in 1999 when pilgrims combined a walk along the Saints' Way, an eventful and delayed sea voyage from Fowey in two sailing ships the *Carrie* and the *Phoenix*, an unexpected arrival in Santander while the civic party were waiting to greet them in A Coruña, walking pilgrims on different sections of the Camino Inglés and a triumphant reunion in Santiago Cathedral as the Botafumeiro was being swung. I had the pleasure of travelling with her on a coach pilgrimage in 1992. The Tour Company had not organised any spiritual input. Hilary had her Daily Missal and a New Testament so was able to introduce St James through Bible readings. The group included several musicians and two priests 'on holiday'. By the end of 10 days we were able to experience a full Sung mass with choral pieces we had learnt. And walk into Santiago from Monte do Gozo singing our very own pilgrim round! Hilary edited the *Perghyryn* magazine, full of information on Cornish places connected with pilgrimage in general and St James in particular. Her research helped develop the Saints' Way in the 1980s and she gave an important paper at the Hengrave Hall Congress of 1991 - *Pilgrims from the British Isles to Santiago de Compostela in the Middle Ages*.

Domingo Sanchez Alvarez RIP 1957-2013

We record the death in early November, at the age of 56, of Domingo Sánchez, President of the Amigos del Camino de El Bierzo, our partner organisation in the rebuilding and running of Refugio Gaucelmo in Rabanal del Camino. A full obituary will appear in the next issue. *Que descanse Domingo en paz.*

Richard Gorman RIP 1939-2013

Richard and Betty Gorman (obit Bulletin 116) joined CSJ in 2004. Betty overcame a huge number of difficulties but was an avid pilgrim. Richard was always there to support her. He wrote: our pilgrimages were driven by Betty's great faith in St James. Their house name is Ultraia and now we say ;*Ultraia!* to both of you!

English speaking ministry

to pilgrims in Santiago de Compostela

Over the summer months people from all over the world travel along ancient routes to Santiago de Compostela in the north of Spain – the majority on foot or by bicycle. In August 2013 alone a record 46,728 pilgrims, reached Santiago. Their reasons for making the pilgrimage were varied but the experience was often transforming. They arrived in Santiago and followed the ancient custom of entering the cathedral, embracing the statue of St James (Sant Iago), visiting his tomb and collecting their certificate from the pilgrim office. Many belong to Christian churches but perhaps many more do not have any affiliation and may be seeking some deeper meaning in their lives.

For those who are familiar with Catholic practices the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation can be a great grace and a turning point in their lives. Arrival in Santiago, being the goal of the pilgrimage can be a moment of exhilaration but it can also be overwhelming, especially in the busiest times of the summer months.

In 2013 Fr Alan Neville, Vocations Director for the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, invited volunteers from Religious Orders to be present in Santiago as “chaplains” to welcome English speaking pilgrims and to provide some opportunity for spiritual reflection. Susana Campos, a La Retraite Sister, joined Alan from the beginning of August, followed by Sister Helen Bamber SHCJ, Sister Lynne Baron FCJ, Sister Mary Anne Francalanza FCJ and Fr Paul, a Redemptorist – until 20th August. For Alan and Paul offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation in English and presiding in the celebration of the Mass in English each day, was an important element of their work. Susana, Lynne, Mary Anne and Helen made contact with pilgrims within the Cathedral and outside. Coffee after the morning Mass or chatting with pilgrims as they waited in the queues for their certificates, providing a quiet space for reflection, and Taizé prayer in the evenings were some of the ways of meeting people. Wearing yellow tee shirts with *Camino Chaplaincy* and *It's an ongoing journey* printed on them made the team very visible.

Contacts were made with other volunteers from different countries. Those who helped in the pilgrim office (*Amigos*) became good friends. *Piedras Vivas* (Living Stones) were young volunteers organized by the Italian Jesuits and doing a similar welcoming ministry.

The new Dean of the Cathedral, Don Segundo López, recognized the importance of the ministry and wrote a very appreciative letter hoping that it would continue in the future. After reviewing the experience it was suggested that a similar service might be offered again next year in June, July and August.

Perhaps for those who have time and the ability it could be combined with a pilgrimage. If you know of anyone who would be interested in being involved please invite them to contact Fr Alan Neville:

alan_neville@yahoo.com

From the Secretary's Notebook

Greenbelt 2014

The Greenbelt Festival, held over the August Bank Holiday weekend, will have a new venue in 2014: Boughton Park near Kettering, Northants. The theme is "Travelling Light". CSJ is considering whether to take a stall this year. It needs a team of volunteers with a variety of roles and skills: it is possible to camp over the weekend, or attend for a day. We would need help with getting materials to site, setting up, being at the stall during 3 days to talk to participants about pilgrimage, why travelling light is important and perhaps showing some kit and giving practical advice. And then of course dismantling. The Greenbelt experience is very like being on the camino, with new friendships and experiences, within a Christian arts and music festival. Please email office@csj.org.uk if you are interested in helping, especially if you live in the area. We would hope that taking part would be sowing seeds of interest in pilgrimage and long term in CSJ.

Film Dreaming the Camino

Several people have enquired about the film *Dreaming of the Camino*, reviewed in Bulletin 123. The film is in five parts and only the first is available so far on DVD. The price is €26. We have a Library copy which may be borrowed for the cost of the return postage.

Pilgrim Register

If you have been on pilgrimage this year and received your *Compostela*, please remember to return your form to Paul Turnbull, for inclusion in our Pilgrim register. If you have mislaid your form we now have an electronic version. Please email office@csj.org.uk for a copy.

Pilgrim Left Luggage

The reorganisation of the Pilgrim Office has brought about a new *Pilgrim Left Luggage* facility, particularly important as pilgrims are no longer allowed to take rucksacks into the cathedral. There are also facilities for printing train, plane and bus tickets, shipping of bicycles and luggage home.

Monique Chassain

We are sorry to learn that Monique Chassain who, with her husband Jean-Charles, was the driving force behind the development of the Vézelay route has had a stroke and is unable to continue with the production of the Vézelay Guides.

Winter albergue in Fromista

Albergue de Peregrinos "Betania," Avenida Ejército Español 26, is open in December, January and February each year when the three other albergues in Fromista are closed. 5 places, donativo, phone ahead: 638.846.043 (English spoken).

Guides for 2014

The 2014 Editions of *Miam miam dodo* - GR65, *Voie d'Arles* and *Camino Francés* will be available during December from the CSJ Bookshop. The Cicerone Guide *The Northern Caminos: Norte, Primivo, and Inglés* routes, by Laura Perazzoli and Dave Whitson, £15.95 is now back in print.

Non CSJ Events

COURSES AT SANTIAGO UNIVERSITY

26 May - 6 June & 29 September – 10 October, 2014

Road to Santiago: This pioneering programme is a multidisciplinary approach in the study of the Camino de Santiago and the improvement of your Spanish. It offers the opportunity to experience the magic of the camino and walk the final stretch of this ancient route. A university professor accompanies the group and gives walking seminars about art and history of the Camino. The two-week course includes:

- 40 lecture hours at USC (1 week)
- 6 days walking along the Galician section of the French Way.
- Seminars on the Camino de Santiago
- Spanish language course and introduction to Galician culture
- Professors from USC Faculty of Language, History, Arts, Culture & Geography
- Intensive cultural programme: mobile classroom, guided tours, workshops, gourmet trail, official receptions
- Accommodation, meals and health insurance in Santiago de Compostela and during the walk

Cost: €1600

Special Note: An English version of this course program will be organized by request, with a discount available if six or more CSJ members participate..

Mon 2 June – Fri 6 June

Spanish for Hospitaleros: This course is focused on the basic cultural and linguistic knowledge that non Spanish speakers need to perform the *hospitalero* service. It is a one week course and includes:

- 20 lecture hours
- Cultural activities
- Accommodation and half board in a pilgrim hostel.

Cost: €405.

Details and more information can be found in the link: <http://isuu.com/cursosinternacionales/docs/ingles> Registrations can be done at <https://cursosinternacionales.usc.es/>

Sat 5 July - Thurs 17 July 2014

Coach Pilgrimage

Via Podiensis: Le Puy-en-Velay to Saint Jean-Pied-de-Port

This pilgrimage is being organised alongside the Ely Cathedral Choir Tour of south-west France, by Canon Peter Sills, formerly of Ely Cathedral. The Guide will be Dr Lynne Broughton, an authority on medieval church architecture and symbolism. After three nights in le Puy with a visit to La Chaise-Dieu, the pilgrimage goes via Aubrac, Espalion to Conques for one night. Then on to Cahors for two nights, followed by Moissac and on to Auch for three nights. Visits include Nogaro and Navarrenx then three nights in Saint Jean Pied-de-Port. Return is from Biarritz airport. As this is alongside a Choir tour there are concerts nearly every evening and the opportunity to go to Sunday mass in Le Puy and Auch Cathedrals, as well as Conques, (where they join the monks for vespers) and Lauzerte. There is a trip up to Roncesvalles. You are asked to arrange your own outward and return travel. Cost pp is £935 in twin rooms, single room supplement is £237. Price includes accommodation, transport within France, some entrance fees, donation to Ely Cathedral Choir Tour Fund and concerts where no charge is made. Book with £200 deposit asap, balance payable 1 May 2014. If interested please contact Canon Peter Sills, 01273 842760, sills824@btinternet.com

Mon 14 - Fri 18 July The Road to Compostela

A Summer School at the Courtauld Institute, London. The lecturer is Dr Rose Walker. The course looks at the buildings and churches along the routes described in the *Codex Calixtinus*, and the development of the idea of 'pilgrimage churches'. Visits include the V&A to see the cast of the *Portico de la Gloria*, the British Library and a visit to Ely cathedral with Prof Paul Crossley will focus on England's fascination with Santiago. £455, plus travel to Ely. To book see <http://www.courtauld.ac.uk/publicprogrammes/>

See enclosed papers for CSJ Events

Centre pages:

The Shrine of St James at St James Church, Reading

kindly supplied by the Church of St James, Reading

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Chairman Dick Crean, Balcony Flat, 38 Cornwallis Crescent, BRISTOL BS8 4PH
thcreans@btinternet.com

Wardens' Coordinator, Refugio Gaucelmo Julie Davies, West Wing, Down Hall, Bedford Place, BRIDPORT, Dorset DT6 3ND (01308) 427295 julie@rogerdavies.go-plus.net

Other Members David Arthur, Liz Crean, Laurie Dennett, Maggie Gardner, David Garcia, Peter Garlick, Michael Krier, Marion Marples, Paul Murray

Miraz Committee

Coordinator Richard Jefferies, Magnolia Cottage, Westwood Lane, Normandy, GUILDFORD, GU3 2LG rjefferies@hotmail.co.uk

Other Members Alan Cutbush (*hospitaleros*), Averil Jones, Colin Jones, Ted Jones, Ken Spittal, Tony Ward, Priscilla White

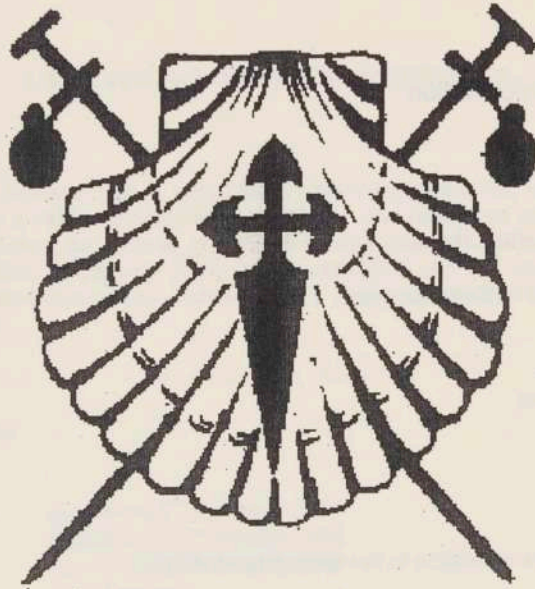
Other Officers

Finance Manager Vacant
Treasurer Tony Ward, Syracuse, ST NEOT, Cornwall PL14 6NJ
and Company Secretary Work (01579) 343215 mail@tonyward.biz
Librarian Margaret Simonot simonot.m@gmail.com
Website Manager Colin Goodier web@csj.org.uk

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.

Digital Library Manager Michael Krier, Hyde, Temple Guiting, CHELTENHAM, Glos GL54 5RT
krier@btinternet.com



The Confraternity of Saint James

(A company limited by guarantee)

Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements

Year ended 30th September 2013

Company no. 4096721
Charity no.1091140

www.csj.org.uk

Contents	Page
Legal & Administration Information	3
Report of the Trustees	
- Structure and Objects of the charity	4
- Financial Review & Future Developments	4
- Risk Management	5
- Public Benefit Statement	5
- Reserves Policy	6
- Investment Powers	6
- Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements	6
Independent Examiner's Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9
Audit Exemption	9
Notes forming part of the financial statements	10
Supplementary Report for Members & Supporters	15
- Refugio Gaucelmo	15
- Miraz Review	16
- Secretary's Review	17
- Membership Statistics	17
- Analysis Other Charitable & Support Costs	18
- Analysis of Membership	19

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, 29 January 2005 and 30th January 2010. The company grew out of an unincorporated association founded on 13 January 1983 and registered as a charity (No. 294461) on 19 August 1986.

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Honorary President

HE The Spanish Ambassador

Directors and Trustees

Mrs R Abrahams	Appointed 2 nd February 2013
Mr T Barton	Appointed 2 nd February 2013
Mr A Bibby	Appointed 2 nd February 2013
Dr G M Brykczynska	Vice-Chairman
Mrs E Crean	
Mr R Crean	
Mr P Graham	
Mr R J S Jefferies	
Revd C Jones	Chairman
Mrs M C T Moseley	
Ms A Schneider	Resigned 2 nd February 2013
Mr K Spittal	Appointed 2 nd February 2013
Mrs C Taylor	
Mr A Ward	
Mrs P White	Appointed 2 nd February 2013

Secretary

Ms M Marples

Company Secretary & Treasurer

Mr A Ward

Registered Office

27 Blackfriars Road, LONDON SE1 8NY	
Telephone	020 7928 9988
Fax	020 7928 2844
Website	http://www.csj.org.uk
E-mail	office@csj.org.uk

Bankers

CAF Bank 25, Kings Hill Avenue, WEST MALLING. Kent ME19 4JQ

Reporting Accountant

Mr I S McLaughlin FCA 23, West Farm Avenue, ASHTEAD Surrey KT21 2LD

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 30 September 2013

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2012. The Board of Trustees confirms that the annual report and financial statements comply with current statutory requirements including the revised SORP2005 Accounting & Reporting by Charities and the Charities (Accounts and reports) Regulations 2008.

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 northwestern 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 in the comments book at each refuge and from returning pilgrims and from those 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. At the last annual general meeting, five new trustees were appointed and one resigned. As part of their induction process, new trustees are provided with copies of minutes for the previous 12 months and an introduction to the finances of the organisation is given. They also spend time in the office to familiarise themselves with current procedures. In the coming year, the Corporate Governance Sub-Committee (now renamed the Finance and Compliance Committee) will finalise its work on a procedures manual which when completed will provide new trustees with detailed information as to the duties and responsibilities of the constituent parts of the company and its committees.

Financial Review & Future Developments

The CSJ celebrates its 30th anniversary this year. It continues to prosper in the delivery of its aims and objectives. In view of the financial situation in autumn 2010 a decision was made to increase membership subscriptions. However, the general global recession and the ongoing electronic technology revolution continue to impact on the finances of the organisation. A plethora of information is now available on the internet and the need by impending pilgrims to become members before setting out on their Caminos is much reduced. However, surprisingly, our membership has stood firm and the amounts claimed under gift aid increased slightly. Overall, there was a moderate surplus on our general account and a very pleasing surplus on our Miraz account, the latter much due to a more proactive approach being taken by hospitaleros when greeting pilgrims.

Books and publications continue to sell via our on-line web shop with the annual publication of the Guide to the Camino Frances remaining the best selling item. However, sales of 3rd party books in the year declined a little and the expected challenge from on-line retailers such as Amazon offering keener prices and reduced postage costs appears not to have made a major dent. Although of course it is entirely possible that we are missing out on an increasing market.

Both the Refugio Gaucelmo in Rabanal and the Refugio at Miraz, refuges run by CSJ for pilgrims in Northern Spain, continue to be supported. The Miraz project is no longer our major concern as far as finance goes. However, the situation with more pilgrims arriving on a daily basis in the busy summer period than the number of beds available is a big problem, which is being addressed by the Trustees. The CSJ continues to provide a personal information service to, and answer queries from, the public, whether in person, by telephone or email, through the website or by arranging speakers and visits. Interest in our website has continued.

During the financial period, the Trustees continued 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. At present, our risk tables are being updated. A review of the administrative and internal control systems is ongoing; the Trustees have considered the contents of the 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. This change is now available. However, there appears little benefit to be gained from such a change. A further review will be undertaken after the annual general meeting.

The considerable amount of time being spent on Miraz and Rabanal business by the Secretary and Finance Manager continues to be recognised by an allocation of part of their salaries to these specific funds.

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 3-year discount scheme continues to be popular as can be seen by the volume of membership moneys held against future subscription years. Our membership has stood still in the accounting year. The Trustees are conscious that there are a number of English pilgrims on the Camino who are unaware of the existence of the CSJ. The new website should go some way to remedy this situation.

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

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.

Risk Management

In the year, the Corporate Governance sub-committee met on a regular to assist the Trustees with ensuring that the CSJ organisation acts responsibly and in accordance with Company and Charity law.

The Trustees now consider the most significant risks to this charity are the financial risks related to, or arising, from a reduction in membership and demand for our publications being replaced by web-based information and on-line booksellers. A significant but less important risk continues to be the loss of key personnel and the unavailability of un-paid volunteers to undertake some of the essential day to day tasks. Lesser risks are the loss of or damage to property and/or hospitaleros and financial irregularity and incompetence of Trustees. The hospitaleros training days include detailed health and safety briefings.

An update of our risk tables is underway at present.

In general terms, the Trustees also continue to monitor all risks and take appropriate steps. These have included cover/deputies for key personnel and increased insurance cover. The whole of this activity continues to be treated as part of an overall Financial Policy which is conceived as the core element in the development of a business continuity plan.

Public Benefit Statement

The organisation, in summary, provides a "one stop shop" for English speaking pilgrims and as such, provides the public with information and support and so complies with its duty as set out in section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act

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 intends to maintain a level of unrestricted funds which consists of a) a period of 3 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.

General – Unrestricted funds

The free unrestricted reserves at the year-end were £25,845. At present part is needed to cover the deficit on the Miraz Fund. The support is shown on the balance sheet. However, the Trustees have decided to keep the Miraz Fund separate. The Trustees consider the most appropriate level of free reserves at 30th September 2013 would be about £16,000 to pay 3 months of operating costs plus £1,000 for known contingencies. The Trustees are again budgeting for a small surplus in the year to 30th September 2014 to increase the general fund reserve, and the deficit on the Miraz Fund should be repaid within approximately 2 years from operational surpluses.

Rabanal – Restricted Income Fund

The level of reserves required to cover 12 months UK operating costs is £2,000 which is almost covered. This is retained for costs incurred via Blackfriars Road.

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 2006. 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 13th December 2013 and signed on their behalf by

C. Jones
Chairman

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Confraternity of Saint James Charitable Company

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 30th September 2013 as set out on pages 8 to 14.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparation of the accounts. The charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

1. examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
2. to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act) and.
3. to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements

- (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (revised 2005) have not been met;
- or

to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I S McLaughlin FCA
Reporting Accountant

23 West Farm Avenue
Ashted, Surrey, KT21 2LD

Statement of Financial Activities for Year to 30 September 2013

	Unrestricted		Designated and Restricted Funds				Total	2012
	General	Fund	Miraz	Rabanal	Bursary	Other		
INCOMING RESOURCES	Notes	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
from generated funds								
Voluntary Income								
Donations	3	5,290	36,945	2,129	-	3,620	47,984	26,201
Subscriptions	4	55,296	-	-	-	-	55,296	55,705
Books and Publications – Sales	5	36,957	-	-	-	-	36,957	42,451
Other Items – Sales	6	2,296	-	-	-	-	2,296	2,455
Visit Income	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,883
		99,839	36,945	2,129	-	3,620	142,533	128,695
Investment Income	8	22	-	19	61	38	140	163
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		99,861	36,945	2,148	61	3,658	142,673	128,858
RESOURCES EXPENDED								
Bursary Grants	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Refugio Gaucelmo	10	-	-	1,087	-	-	1,087	8,527
Miraz	11	-	23,465	-	-	-	23,465	23,254
Bulletin	12	11,442	-	-	-	-	11,442	11,598
Library	13	2,694	-	-	-	-	2,694	2,686
Speaker Meetings	14	(15)	-	-	-	-	(15)	(111)
Books and Publications – Costs	5	24,030	-	-	-	-	24,030	26,441
Other Items – Costs	6	2,033	-	-	-	-	2,033	2,083
Website Development		1,200	-	-	-	-	1,200	-
Visit Expenditure	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,849
Donations – Amigos Service	23	1,047	-	-	-	3,605	4,652	850
Direct Charitable Activities		42,431	23,465	1,087	-	3,605	70,588	77,177
Other Charitable Costs	15	25,708	2,873	2,873	-	-	31,454	36,880
Administration Costs	16	25,594	-	-	-	-	25,594	28,118
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		93,733	26,338	3,960	-	3,605	127,636	142,175
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	24	6,128	10,607	(1,812)	61	53	15,037	(13,317)
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		19,717	(21,241)	3,745	10,212	6,230	18,663	31,980
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		25,845	(10,634)	1,933	10,273	6,283	33,700	18,663

Balance Sheet as at 30th September 2013

	Notes	Designated & Restricted Funds					Total	2012
		Unrestricted General Fund	Miraz	Rabanal	Bursary	Other		
		£	£	£	£	£	£	
FIXED ASSETS	17							
Computers etc		609	-	-	-	-	609	
Works of Art		3,900	-	890	-	-	4,790	
		4,509	-	890	-	-	5,399	
CURRENT ASSETS								
Stocks and Work-in-progress								
Books and Publications for Sale	22	4,682	-	-	-	-	4,682	
Other Items for Sale	22	641	-	-	-	-	641	
Postage Paid Envelopes		285	-	-	-	-	285	
		5,608	-	-	-	-	7,496	
Debtors	18	12,538	-	-	-	-	6,986	
Cash at Bank and In Hand		22,711	-	1,043	10,273	6,283	36,015	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		40,857	-	1,043	10,273	6,283	58,456	
CURRENT LIABILITIES								
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	19/20	(30,155)	-	-	-	-	(30,155)	
NET ASSETS		10,702	-	1,933	10,273	6,283	28,301	
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		15,211		1,933	10,273	6,283	33,700	
ADJUSTMENT – MIRAZ ACCOUNT			10,634	(10,634)				
TOTAL FUNDS		25,845	(10,634)	1,933	10,273	6,283	33,700	

Audit Exemption

(a) For the year ended 30th September 2013 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act")

(b) Members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

(c) The directors acknowledge their responsibility for:

- i) ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with sections 386 and 387 of the Act; and
- ii) 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 sections 394 and 395 of the Act, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company;

(c) The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Act relating to small companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008)

Approved by the trustees on 13th December 2013 and signed on their behalf by

Rev. C. Jones Chairman

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 30th September 2013

1. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The Trustees have again assessed going concern although there was a modest surplus in the year. There is now a reasonable level of reserves. The charity also enjoys the continued support of the Trustees and members and as a result, the financial statements have been prepared under the going concern basis of accounting.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) the Companies Act 2006 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities. 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 4 and 20, 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 within the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the funds are received and a claim can be made. 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 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 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, related software and other office equipment is charged over four 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. The exchange rate used at the accounting date was 1.195 Euros to the £. Net exchange gains in the year were £353.

2. Restricted Funds

	At 1 Oct 2012	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	At 30 Sep 2013
	£	£	£	£
Rabanal	3,745	2,148	3,960	1,933
Miraz	(21,241)	36,945	26,338	(10,634)
Bursary	10,212	61	-	10,273
Ted Dickinson Fund	3,314	19	-	3,333
St Christopher Fund	2,916	34	-	2,950
Amigos Fund		3,605	3,605	
	(1,054)	42,812	33,903	7,855

The Miraz Fund is a designated fund, the Rabanal Fund is a restricted income fund; the remaining funds are expendable endowments. All funds have accumulated through donations (both in the UK and the refuge in Miraz) and allocations by the trustees, and have therefore already been recognised as income rather than capital receipts.

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

Miraz – Funds are held on behalf of the Refuge at Miraz. A bank account is held at Banco Pastor in Friol but operated from Blackfriars Road to pay expenses such as electricity, telephone and insurance. This account also receives cash locally via donativos from pilgrims. This account is in deficit and is supported by the general funds of the organisation. It is expected that this deficit will be recovered over the next 2 years.

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 now stands around the just over the £10,000 mark and awards may be paid out each year dependent upon applications being received.

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.

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

The Amigos' Fund – In order to assist the new Welcome Organisation (see note 23) designated donations have been paid into this account and subsequently forwarded on to Santiago.

3. Donations

General donations have increased during the year. These are funded occasionally from legacies but mostly from the many generous voluntary contributions made by members in addition to their subscriptions.

4. Subscriptions & Gift Aid

Subscription income had increased in the year, due to earlier lower rate subscriptions completing their 3 year fixed term. However, tax reclaimed on subscriptions increased slightly to £8,960. (2012 £8,486) Gift Aid tax claims are recognised when a claim can be made, hence when members are paying 3 years subscription, a claim is only made in the first year.

Current subscription rates are: -

1 year

Individual Members	UK and Europe	£25.00	Overseas	£30.00
Joint or Institutional Members	UK and Europe	£30.00	Overseas	£35.00

3 years

Individual Members	UK and Europe	£67.50	Overseas	£81.00
Joint or Institutional Members	UK and Europe	£81.00	Overseas	£94.50

5. Books and Publications

Turnover reduced due to the late publication of the Guide to the Camino Francés and the diminution in business through our secure on-line bookshop due to competition from other on-line book shops. This gave rise to a trading surplus of £12,927. This compares with an overall trading surplus of £16,010 in 2012.

6. Other Items

Sales of other items (principally badges, sweatshirts, caps and DVDs) produced a surplus of £263 compared to £372 in the previous year.

7. Visits

There were no organised visits during the year.

8. Investment Income

Investments which generate income consist of interest-bearing deposits with the Charities Official Investment Fund and one interest-bearing account with CAF bank. As can be seen, income continues at a minimal amount in the year.

9. Grants

In the past, bursary application forms were issued to universities and colleges of further education at the start of the academic year. Students between 18 and 25 were asked to submit proposals for their research and to indicate how it would be facilitated by financial assistance from the Confraternity. Short-listed applicants were invited to interview before a panel consisting of Mark Hassall, former 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 were 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 were published in the Bulletin. No bursaries have been awarded in the six years to 30th September 2013. An on-going review of the purpose and possible recipients of this award is continuing.

10. Refugio Gaucelmo, Rabanal del Camino

Expenditure of £1,087 this year includes: -	£
- Travel & subsistence	152
- Hospitalera Language Course	167
- Meeting room rents	261
- Sundry	507

Pilgrim donations and related expenditure on food, hospitality, cleaning etc in Spain are for the benefit of the refugio at Rabanal and do not form part of the Confraternity funds or its accounts. Any surplus is put towards overheads such as electricity, bank charges, repairs etc.

11. Refugio Miraz de Peregrinos de Miraz

Income of £36,945 relating to the refuge was as follows:-	£
- Donativos and goods sold – Spain	23,938
- Donations (UK)	4,921
- Donation – Garden and Patio (including gift aid)	7,750
- Exchange Gains	336

All income received from pilgrims is treated as CSJ income due to our sole tenancy of the building.

Expenditure of £23,465 relating to the refuge was as follows:-	£
- Cost – Garden and Patio	6,911
- Household, repairs, food, heat and light etc	14,191
- Working Party costs	1,071
- Goods for resale	331
- Hospitaleros Language Courses	335
- Sundries	626

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	29,817
Other Direct Costs	1,637
Total	<u>£31,454</u>
Allocated:-	
General	26,708
Rabanal	2,873
Miraz	2,873

16. Administration Costs

	£
Personnel	9,210
Accommodation	7,256
Office Running Costs	6,023
Finance charges	804
Member Meetings & Sundry	2,301
Total	<u>£ 25,594</u>

Personnel costs include a total of £1,674 paid to 7 Trustees for reimbursed personal travel expenses.

The only governance costs are £35 Data Protection licence and £13 Companies House filing fee. Due to their minimal amount, they have not been shown under a separate heading on the Statement of Financial Activities on page 8.

17. Fixed Assets

	Works of Art	Office Equipment	Total
Costs	£	£	£
At 1 Oct 2012	4,790	10,616	15,406
Additions	-	-	-
At 30 Sep 2013	<u>4,790</u>	<u>10,616</u>	<u>15,406</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 Oct 2012	-	9,398	8,789
Charge for year	-	609	609
At 30 Sep 2013	-	<u>10,007</u>	<u>9,398</u>
Net Book Value			
At 1 Oct 2012	<u>4,790</u>	<u>1,218</u>	<u>6,008</u>
At 30 Sep 2013	<u>4,790</u>	<u>609</u>	<u>5,399</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.

18. Debtors

	2013	2012
	£	£
Prepayments	759	1,771
Accrued Income and Other Debtors	<u>11,779</u>	<u>5,215</u>
	<u>12,538</u>	<u>6,986</u>

19. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2013	2012
	£	£
Trade Creditors	7,685	12,188
Deferred Income - Subscriptions in advance	<u>22,470</u>	<u>25,654</u>
	<u>30,155</u>	<u>37,842</u>

20. Deferred Income

Subscriptions paid in advance total £22,470; £15,446 relates to the year 2014, £6,651 to the year 2015 and £373 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 previous year, Mona Lowen Consultants Limited, a company in which the treasurer and company secretary Tony Ward has a material interest has carried out the bookkeeping function of the CSJ. He was not appointed a Trustee of the organisation and a director of the company until 4th February 2012. The amount provided for this service within the previous year's accounts prior to his appointment is £375. This arrangement ceased on 31st December 2011.

22. Stocks

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

23. Donations

The major donation in the year was a grant of £1,047 towards the cost of the Amigos Service providing the Pilgrim Welcome in Santiago. Further donations were made with funds specially given for the purpose.

24. Net Movement in Funds

The levels of primary purpose trading income, subscriptions and donations mean that there are reasonable funds carried forward

25. Capital Commitments

The work undertaken at the Miraz refuge has now been completed and all invoices received in connection with the extension and related expenditure have been paid, these included the chlorofication plant. No further capital costs are expected in the near future, other than the completion of the donor funded garden and related expenditure.

Supplementary Report for Members & Supporters

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

Refugio Gaucelmo

The 2013 season at Rabanal saw a grand total of 5,499 pilgrims staying in the refuge and, judging from their comments, the vast majority regarded their stay with us as one of the highlights of their camino, something that everyone involved in Gaucelmo should be proud of. Incidentally this is the highest number of pilgrims since 2009, despite the increase in accommodation available in both Rabanal and neighbouring Foncebadon. Since 2009 there has been a huge increase in the proportion of pilgrims who utilise mobile phone technology to check and compare accommodation options so it seems reasonable to conclude that our reputation for providing a warm welcome and a clean well run refuge is intact.

Everyone on the committee has worked hard to ensure the smooth running of the refuge and particular thanks are due to Julie Davies (hospitalero co-ordinator), Dave Arthur (premises manager), Paul Murray (sponsorship, secretary of CSJ de Ponferrada) and, as always, Marion who keeps tabs on everything!

Donativos totalled €27,158, an average of about €5 per pilgrim which is a very slight increase on 2012. With recorded expenses of €15,919, and anticipated expenses in the region of €10,000 and with assets (cash plus bank balance) of around €31,000, we hope to start the new season with a healthy contingency fund of around €10,000. These funds are held in a bank account in Spain and are separate from those shown on pages 8 and 9 of these accounts.

The site is in good shape with various 'between seasons' maintenance and improvement tasks planned including shower upgrading, replacement lighting, washing machine and kitchen water heater as well as new dining tables. We are now in a position to go ahead with enlarging the salon, a project first brought to the committee's attention five years ago and the committee have decided to go ahead with a scheme which involves creating an L shaped salon while retaining a small 'quiet' room. The huerta continues to mature as testified by the abundance of apples this year, and is a source of delight to many pilgrims and hospitaleros as well as being a very convenient drying area for laundry!

Our relationships with our local partners the Amigos de El Bierzo are in very good shape and we are slowly forging good personal friendships with them. The annual AGM of the CSJ de Ponferrada provides a good opportunity to share issues with them at the start of the season. Similarly, our relationships with the community of Rabanal, and our neighbours in the monastery continue to be very friendly and were enhanced by our gesture of staying open in November during which we welcomed a further 315 pilgrims. We were sorry to learn of the recent death of D Domingo Sanchez Alvarez, former President of the Asociación de Amigos del Camino de El Bierzo.

We are looking forward to the new season with great enthusiasm and we are confident that we can continue to provide a warm welcome for pilgrims.

Refugio Gaucelmo is situated in the village of Rabanal del Camino, 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.

Dick Crean

Miraz -9th Annual Report

The achievement of establishing a refugio on the Camino del Norte that is so welcoming to pilgrims remains a credit to our Confraternity. A challenge however lies ahead in sustaining and developing our service and hospitality. We have invested heavily in facilities to maintain our modern premises. A chlorification unit, and upgraded garage and wood store have completed our commissioning of the revised refugio.

Ken Spittal has graciously provided a splendid patio for rest and recreation for pilgrims as well as an iconic *pedra*, an emblem of the Camino to prompt inspiration for the way to Santiago. He has been supported by Ken and Joan Davies in the development of the *huerta* which has suffered from the extraordinary Galician drought this summer.

In 2013 over 4,000 pilgrims have stayed with us in Miraz. This number is up by 15%. Our costs of running day to day operations are met from pilgrim donations which are up by a staggering 57%. This has meant that we have reduced our deficit as shown on page 8 and we look forward to clearing this in 2014.

40 hospitaleros served pilgrims at Miraz this year. On behalf of the CSJ and the grateful pilgrims, we thank them all for that they have given in 2013. Alan Cutbush deserves a special mention for his co-ordination in a difficult year.

Change is all about us on the Camino del Norte with extra beds being planned on our *Etapas* 32. The refugio community from Baamonde to Sobrado has come together under the leadership of Helena who runs the local *punto de apoyo*. Interested parties have met on occasions to find a way forward for meeting increased pilgrim traffic.

A challenge however lies ahead in sustaining and developing our services to provide enhanced hospitality for pilgrims. We have a larger facility to maintain with modern systems and requirements. So we need to review regularly the state of the building. A five year plan with a rolling maintenance cycle should support our services to pilgrims.

Richard Jefferies

Secretary's Review of 2012 -2013

The 30th Anniversary year has brought further establishment of local groups to involve more members in our activities. Wessex and East Anglia have been added to the North East and Bristol groups. Scottish Practical Pilgrim returned to one of its spiritual homes at St James Coatbridge and 2 new trustees living in Scotland hope to network with the Scottish Pilgrimage Forum and other such local work.

Internationally, CSJ has been represented at conferences in Santiago (Christian Hospitality along the camino) and Krakow (meeting of Associations and an academic conference), the University of Santiago course on the Camino de Santiago and the 25th Anniversary of the Würzburg Association in Germany. The new Dean of Santiago, Don Segundo Pérez López, presided at a celebration service in London and had the opportunity to visit the office while in London. He is overseeing major changes at the Cathedral which mean that a welcome is given in several languages before the Pilgrim Mass and that all pilgrims are made to feel welcomed whatever denomination. His visit also gave us the opportunity to refresh our connections with St James Garlickhythe and consolidate friendship with Southwark Cathedral.

St James's Day celebrations were overshadowed by the train crash close to Santiago the previous day, but c 50 members met for a tapas lunch and visit to St James's Spanish Place and remembered the victims at the Patronal Mass. CSJ members acting as Amigos and Hospitaleros assisted many thousands of pilgrims in Spain in their various ways from May to October, and particularly at this sad time. The CSJ continued to support the Amigos Welcome service with donations and volunteers.

In the summer there were 2 day walks along the St James's Way. At Reading we were able to see the newly made shrine to St James at St James's church-another spiritual home. At the end of October there was an opportunity to walk the Saints' Way between Padstow and Fowey and hear a fine performance of the Pilgrimage Cantata by John Read at St Neot church.

Changes to personnel include Margaret Simonot as Librarian, Stanley Haworth as Pilgrim Record Secretary and Ruth Abrahams reviewing and typing up the St James Research Working Party material. Trustees continue to review current practices and are involved with developing the 2014 programme. Tom Barton is taking on responsibility for Saturday Open Days as well as monitoring the Camino de Santiago forum. The new Bulletin production team is well established and we now use a mailing house to print and despatch each issue

Marion Marples

Membership Statistics

Membership at 30 September 2013 stood at 1,660 paying members (1,644 at 30 September 2012) plus 281 (287) honorary and honoured (aged over 70 with 10 years' paid-up membership) and 39 exchange subscriptions with kindred organisations. The paying members were split as follows (2012 numbers are shown in brackets): -

	Individual	Joint	Institutional
UK	903 (872)	446 (466)	21 (20)
Europe	51 (63)	19 (25)	4 (4)
Rest of World	<u>139</u> (139)	<u>76</u> (74)	<u>1</u> (1)
Total	<u>1,093</u> (1,074)	<u>541</u> (565)	<u>26</u> (25)

See page 19 for details.

Analysis of Other Charitable & Support costs

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

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 and refugees, lobbying for protection of the routes, selling relevant books and publications and fostering European networking

Salaries & NI – The company employs a secretary, a finance manager and an office administrator, all on a part-time basis. The decrease in salaries from £43,856 to £37,195 is due to a reduction in hours worked.

Travel & Subsistence – trustees are generally required to attend 6 meetings per annum. The majority of trustees now live out of London resulting in travel and subsistence expenses. The cost for all committee members was £1,674.

Member Meetings – This represents the net cost of various members' meetings including the AGM. Income this year was £2,402 and expenditure £4,500 compared to £2,069 & £3,658 respectively for 2012.

Other Charitable and Governance Costs

		Other Charitable Costs	Administration Costs	2013 Total	2012 Total
		£	£	£	£
Personnel Costs					
	Salaries & NI	29,756	7,439	37,195	43,856
	Travel & Subsistence	61	1,771	1,832	1,769
		<u>29,817</u>	<u>9,210</u>	<u>39,027</u>	<u>45,625</u>
Accommodation					
	Rent	-	7,943	7,943	7,764
	Insurance	-	1,007	1,007	974
	Depreciation	-	609	609	609
	Office Maintenance	-	327	327	391
	Office Equipment < £500	-	-	-	-
	Less Library Recharge	-	-2,630	-2,630	-2,552
		<u>-</u>	<u>7,256</u>	<u>7,256</u>	<u>7,186</u>
Office					
	Telephone	-	635	635	1,005
	Post	-	32	32	18
	Printing & Stationery	105	1,337	1,442	2,761
	Computer Support & Consumables	-	1,519	1,519	3,347
	Book-keeping	-	2,500	2,500	875
		<u>105</u>	<u>6,023</u>	<u>6,128</u>	<u>8,006</u>
Other					
	Legal & Professional	-	48	48	49
	Bank Charges	-	245	245	76
	Credit Card Charges	1,532	511	2,043	2,277
	Member Meetings	-	2,098	2,098	1,589
	Sundry	-	203	203	190
		<u>1,532</u>	<u>3,105</u>	<u>4,637</u>	<u>4,181</u>
	TOTALS	<u>31,454</u>	<u>25,594</u>	<u>57,048</u>	<u>64,998</u>

Membership Statistics

	Honorary	Honoured	Individual	Joint	Group	Exchange	Total
UK							
E Anglia	1	16	51	30	2	1	101
Home Counties - N	1	31	87	37	1	1	158
Home Counties - S	1	26	124	67	4	1	223
London	3	17	128	62	5	3	218
Midlands E	-	13	29	23	-	-	65
Midlands W	1	22	73	39	2	-	137
N Ireland	-	3	11	5	-	-	19
NE	-	17	73	39	2	1	132
NW	-	11	69	23	1	-	104
Scotland	-	6	86	35	1	-	128
Southern	-	28	67	36	-	-	131
SW	2	24	79	38	1	1	145
Wales	-	2	23	9	2	-	36
Channel Islands	-	-	3	3	-	-	6
	9	216	903	446	21	8	1,603
EUROPE							
Belgium	-	6	1	-	-	1	8
Czech Republic	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Denmark	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Finland	-	-	3	1	-	-	4
France	1	4	5	3	-	4	17
Germany	-	5	4	1	1	1	12
Italy	-	-	1	-	-	2	3
Luxembourg	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Malta	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Netherlands	-	-	2	-	-	1	3
Norway	-	-	2	1	-	1	4
Poland	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Portugal	-	1	1	-	1	-	3
Rep. of Ireland	1	4	11	3	1	1	21
Russia	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Spain	5	3	12	3	-	17	40
Sweden	-	2	3	2	-	-	7
Switzerland	-	-	2	2	-	1	5
	7	25	51	19	4	29	135
REST OF THE WORLD							
Africa	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Asia	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Australia	-	9	76	42	-	-	127
Canada	-	3	15	7	-	1	26
N America	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
New Zealand	-	1	10	11	-	-	22
S America	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
U S A	-	10	36	15	1	-	62
	0	24	139	76	1	2	242
Total	16	265	1,093	541	26	39	1,980

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Confraternity of Saint James



Annual General Meeting

Please bring this booklet and the Accounts with you

Notice of the 14th Annual General Meeting of the
Confraternity of Saint James (the Company) to be held on

Saturday 25 January 2014

St Alban's Centre, Baldwin's Gardens, London EC1 7AB at **11.30am**

Agenda

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Apologies for Absence**
3. **Minutes of the 13th Annual General Meeting (2/2/13)**
4. **Chairman's Report for 2013**
5. **Annual Report & Accounts 2012-2013**
6. **Report on Refugio Gaucelmo, Rabanal del Camino**
7. **Report on Refugio de Peregrinos de Miraz**
8. **Report on Amigos Welcome Project**
9. **Programme for 2014**
10. **Election of Trustees:** Half the directors stand down and are standing for re-election: Dick Crean, Richard Jefferies, Tony Ward; continuing- Colin Jones, Gosia Brykczynska, Paul Graham, Mary Moseley, Liz Crean, Clare Taylor, Ruth Abrahams, Alan Bibby, Tom Barton, Ken Spittal, Priscilla White. **New nominations:** tba
11. **Any Other Business**

*If you would like an A4 copy (larger print!) of the Accounts
please contact the Office*

!!!! PROGRAMME for the Day	PLEASE NOTE TIMINGS !!!!!
11.00 Doors open	Coffee available
11.30 Annual General Meeting	Main Hall
1.00pm Bring Picnic Lunch (drinks available) or pubs nearby	
2.30-3.30pm Lecture Dr Agnieszka Jaworska, University of Cardinal Stefan Wyszynski, Warsaw Title tbc	

- 3.30 Tea Main Hall
- 4.00 **Twenty Things to do in Santiago:**
Gosia Brykczynska and Marion Marples
- 4.30 Time to learn about Hospitalero opportunities and the
Abraham Path Project
- 5.00 **Annual New Year Party** Main Hall

The **Annual General Meeting** is the main event for members in 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.

A list of nominations and existing Trustees will be available on the day.

Trustees: Existing and those Standing for Re-election

Colin Jones: I have been a member of the CSJ since 1992. During recent years I have been involved with the development of the refuge at Miraz. Being a trustee and Chairman of the CSJ are ways in which I can help our Confraternity in its role of promoting the various Caminos to Santiago and supporting those who wish to discover what it means to be a pilgrim. Most recently, I attended the University of Santiago course entitled, "Camino de Santiago".

Gosia Brykczynska: I have been an active member since 1983. For the past 12 years I have been editor of the Bulletin and since 2010 I have been Vice-Chair. I have been walking the various pilgrim routes through France, having completed the Camino Inglés and Portugués and more recently the *Arles route*. I have also started volunteering as a *hospitalera* in Miraz and have served as an *Amiga* in Santiago.

Priscilla White: I first walked the Camino Frances from Le Puy to Santiago in the mid-1990s, followed by part of the Via de La Plata from Seville to Merida a couple of years later. I then walked Camino del Norte from Llanes to Santiago a couple of times in 2011 and 2012. I have acted as *hospitalera* at the Refugio de Miraz on several occasions, the last one being in 2012. I have a great affection for the north west coast of Spain and hope to continue helping out in Miraz for many years to come. The continuum between pilgrimage of the middle ages and today is a source of huge interest to me.

Ruth Abrahams I joined CSJ in 2008, walked Camino Francés in 2009, joined office volunteer staff in 2011 and became a trustee in 2013. I am particularly interested in organising and developing information held by the CSJ about churches and depictions of St James in the UK.

Richard Jefferies completed his pilgrimage to Santiago in 2006. With his wife Sheila, he has acted as warden for five years on the Voie de Vézelay and at Miraz. He became a trustee and involved in fundraising for the Confraternity in 2009. He is Chair of the Miraz Committee and hopes to maintain its good reputation in the years ahead.

Liz Crean: I have been a Spanish teacher for many years and have always promoted walking to Santiago as a multifaceted and fun experience. I've been committed to the Pilgrimage myself since 1998 when I started in Le Puy. I completed that, walked part of the del Norte and the Mozárabe and have been a hospitalera in both Miraz and Gaucelmo. As a trustee, I am coordinating a regional group for the Southwest and working on the Bulletin.

Clare Taylor: I joined CSJ with my husband when we were planning our first Camino and we have been enthusiastic members for many years. We love being hospitaleros at Rabanal. I joined the trustees in 2010 and am currently very committed to spreading the news about the Camino and CSJ - most particularly in my own region, the North East of England.

Tony Ward: I became a member in 1997 whilst on a long term pilgrimage from St Neot (Cornwall) to Santiago which took 8 years in fortnightly slots. I was appointed Treasurer in 2004 and have been responsible for the preparation of the formal financial accounts of the CSJ for 10 years. I have actively supported the activities of the CSJ over the years including three spells as hospitalero at Miraz.

Paul Graham: I joined the CSJ in 1988 - penny farthing ride from Bordeaux to Santiago in 1989 - joined Laurie and Walter on first visit to Rabanal and Ponferrada - chairman of Gaucelmo from 2000 to 2006 - re-joined Gaucelmo committee in 2008.

Dick Crean: a pilgrim and a hospitalero with my wife Liz (see above). I am chair of the Gaucelmo Committee.

Alan Bibby has been a member of the Gaucelmo working party for several years and is working on building a Scottish group.

Tom Barton: has walked and cycled several routes. He keeps an eye on the caminodesantiago pilgrim forum.

Ken Spittal: has been hospitalero at Miraz several times; last summer he oversaw the redevelopment of the Huerta.

Helping and participating on the AGM day

Book Sale & CSJ Publications

Second hand Camino books for sale and selection of free Bulletins to catch up on will be available. Also the full range of CSJ Publications including, I hope, the 2014 edition of The Pilgrims' Guide to the Camino Francés.

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 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. Hotels near the office are listed on www.london-se1.co.uk/hotels

Badges and Friendship

Everyone attending the AGM is asked to wear their name badge given on arrival. Those attending for the first time will have a distinctive badge.

New Year Party As usual we ask people to contribute homemade food rather than pay if possible. If you would like to help with the food shopping, preparation or serving please contact Ruth Johnston on 01903 885068. If you bring food to the value of £5 you do **not** have to pay to come to the party. If you contribute food to a lesser value we ask you to pay the balance for the Party. Otherwise the charge for the day, talk and party is £5. Please complete and return the enclosed form.

Hospitaleros/hospitaliers

Find out about hospitality on the Camino and becoming a hospitalero in Spain or hospitalier in France, or working with the Amigos Project in Santiago: please speak with Julie or Alan at the AGM. It is hard but rewarding work. We want to encourage more UK members to volunteer at Rabanal and Miraz and to point people with good Spanish to volunteer in Santiago, or good French to volunteer on the Vézelay route.

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 2014 Camino Francés Guide.
- Raffle prizes with a pilgrim theme

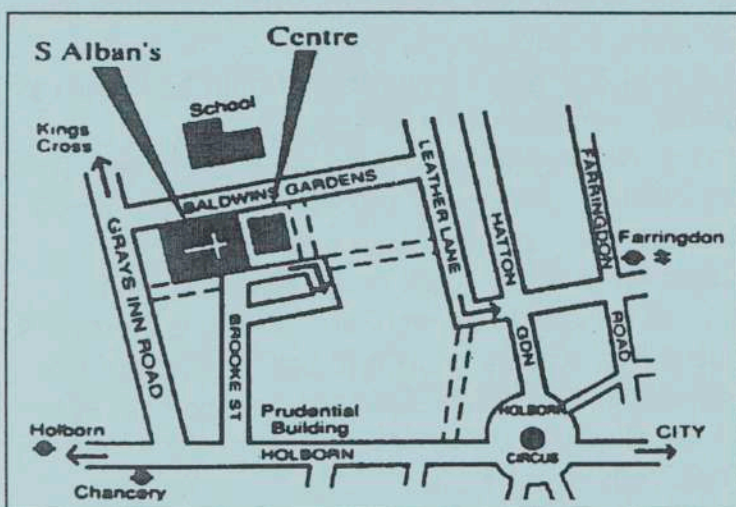
Things to do

Sponsor-a Week at Gaucelmo or Miraz.

This scheme allows pilgrims to continue supporting and keeping 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 helping the pilgrims. See Paul Murray at the AGM for details of weeks available.

Exhibitions: East & West Seminar Rooms *upstairs*

This area is available for any displays or maps for lesser known routes which you could talk about to any enquirers.



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 Grays Inn Road.

Minutes of the 13th Annual General Meeting of the Confraternity of Saint James (the Company)

Held on Saturday 2 February 2013

Welcome and Introductions: The Chairman, Colin Jones, welcomed members, particularly those who had travelled long distances, including the speaker Helena Bernado from Lisbon and Pdraig McSweeney of the Irish Society of Friends of St James.

Apologies: 26 apologies received.

3. Minutes of 12th AGM of the CSJ (Company)

There being no corrections to the Minutes, Heather Coleman proposed acceptance, seconded by William Griffiths: agreed *nem con*

4. Chairman's Report for 2012: for full text please see Bulletin 121, March 2013. Colin Jones spoke of the changes in the 30 year life of the CSJ, but noting that the basic experience of the camino remains to enrich body, mind and soul. He thanked David Garcia and Angelika Schneider for their thoughtful contributions as trustees.

5. Finance: Annual Report & Accounts: for full text please see Bulletin 121, March 2013. Tony Ward presented the Annual Report & Accounts for the year to 30 Sept 2012. After a busy year there was a deficit of £13k, due to further expenditure needed at Miraz on a chlorification unit. At Gaucelmo 4000 euros had been paid towards solar panels. Membership income and the bookshop had held up in spite of competition.

Proposed: to accept the Accounts & Report for 2011-12: Mary Moseley, seconded Simon Wethered, carried unanimously.

Proposed: to amend MAA 5.4: Sub committees should be known as Committees, Tony Ward, seconded Colin Jones; agreed.

Proposed: to retain Ian McLoughlin as Independent Examiner: Tony Ward proposed, Mary Moseley seconded, agreed. Tony Ward was thanked for the presentation of complex accounts.

6. Report on Refugio Gaucelmo: Dick Crean reported on the changes in Rabanal since Gaucelmo opened, so that there are now 9 places to stay. He noted a significant growth in the numbers of US pilgrims. The Rabanal village committee had made a new sign at the entrance showing all the albergues. The development of the Huerta was maturing and new fruit trees doing well.

7. Report on Miraz: Richard Jefferies noted that pilgrim numbers are catching up Gaucelmo. Pilgrims have had to be turned away and this has led to difficulties for hospitaleros. Some have been using the church but this is unsatisfactory as there are no facilities.

8. Report on Amigos Welcome Project: John Rafferty spoke about the project and the work of the 29 Amigos volunteers who each worked 2 weeks in Santiago from May-October. As the proportion of Spanish/other pilgrims changed the work was growing in importance.

9. Programme for 2013: outlined by Marion Marples

10. Election of Trustees

Reelected: Dick Crean, Richard Jefferies, Tony Ward. **Standing for reelection:** Colin Jones, Gosia Brykczynska, Mary Moseley, Paul Graham, Liz Crean, Clare Taylor. **Standing for election:** Ruth Abrahams, Tom Barton, Alan Bibby, Ken Spittal, Priscilla White. All duly elected.

11. Any Other Business

a. Amanda Harrold spoke of the proposal to have a stall at the Greenbelt Festival over August Bank Holiday and asked for volunteers.

- b. John Read spoke about the Pilgrimage Cantata and that he was composing a St James Mass at present.
- c. Tony Ward spoke about the planned weekend on the Saints Way
- d. there was a request for contact information for local groups to go in the Bulletin

NEWS IN BRIEF

Office Closure

The Office will be open on Thursday 18 December 2013, close for the holiday and reopen for visitors on Thursday 2 January 2014.

Practical Pilgrim Days

For details of Scottish Practical Pilgrim please see the website or email office@csj.org.uk

Office Open Days 2014

The Office, bookshop and Library will be open 10.30-3.30 pm on the following Saturdays for pilgrim advice and information, encouragement and support:

Saturday 29 March
Saturday 26 April

*Happy Christmas to all our members and
best wishes for 2014!!*

Ultreia and Suseia!!!

Practical Pilgrim Days 2014

London- Saturday 22 February 10-30-3pm
John Marshall Hall, 27 Blackfriars Road, SE1 8NY

Glasgow -Saturday 8 March 10.30-4pm
Venue tbc

An opportunity to hear what others say about the pilgrimage experience, to build up your knowledge of the route and to ask all those niggling questions about gear, maps, washing, socks.....Opportunities to learn from others and browse the guides to see which suits you best. Bring your questions. Set off better prepared! Please try to attend all day.

Approximate timetable : London

10.30 Introduction/ Spirituality and the Pilgrimage
followed by general Question & Answer

12noon separate groups for walkers and cyclists

1pm bring a picnic lunch, drinks available

1.30-2.30 Presentation

Followed by Sending Out of Pilgrims

Scottish Programme tbc

Tickets £5

Please indicate whether walker or cyclist and which routes are of particular interest

	Returned -which route?	New -which route?
Walker		
Cyclist		

Name (s):

Address/email:

Which Meeting? London Scotland (please circle)

Return details for both meetings to office@csj.org.uk

Please send cheque or cc details in advance to

CSJ London PP, 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NY

Or CSJ Scotland PP, 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NY

Confraternity of Saint James

Christmas Cards/General Purpose Cards



From The Shepherds Kalender, 1611

Reproduced with kind permission of the Library of Innerpefferay, Crieff PH7 3RF

Inside: a short description of
'Divers impressions that Shepherds see in the night in the ayre'

Including

'a white impression, the which appeareth always by night and at all houres, which they call the hie-way to St James in Galice.'

Pack of 10 cards with envelopes

21cm x 10 cm

£10 inc postage

Name	
Address	
No of packs	
Payment	<p>I enclose a cheque payable to Confraternity of Saint James for £ ____.</p> <p>Credit/Debit Card : Visa/Mastercard</p> <p>____ / ____ / ____ / ____ exp date ____ / ____</p> <p>Sec code _____</p>

PTO for AGM Form

Confraternity of Saint James

The AGM Form * Saturday 25 January 2014

Please return the whole form

Name(s) _____ Please write clearly, incl name known as

I/we shall attend the AGM (please tick)

Party

This will be the first AGM I/we have attended YES NO

You do not have to pay to attend the AGM

Party Home-made food is especially delicious and welcome!

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

Please indicate what you will bring: Quiche Dips Salad Tortilla

Other _____ (please describe)

(please tick and indicate detail where appropriate)

I/we would like to help with the preparation and serving of the food YES NO

(if yes, please phone Ruth Johnston, 01903 885068 for details)

Accommodation

Please indicate if you can offer need accommodation for the night of Saturday 25 January

Type Double Single Twin

Payment

Party if not bringing food @ £5 per head _____

I/we enclose a cheque payable to the *Confraternity of Saint James* :

Or card details: _____ exp date -- / -- sec code _____

Total enclosed: £ _____

Nomination of Trustees

NEW Trustees are invited to nominate themselves; please speak to Colin Jones or Marion Marples for more information. There are 6 regular Trustees meetings a year plus one Summer Saturday and maybe a Trustees Training session; travel expenses are available for those outside London. Nominations, plus brief biography, must be received by **Friday 17 January 2014**. OR please think carefully about nominating those who can make an energetic contribution to the CSJ.

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

Signed _____

Return whole form with payment (cheques payable to *Confraternity of Saint James*) to:

AGM, CSJ, 27 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NY

By Friday 17 January (late bookings cause a lot of extra work!)

PTO for Order Form