



St Francis of Assisi Catholic Ramblers Club
Associated With HF Holidays



Visit our website at www.stfrancisramblers.org.uk

The club is Approved by the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster; Affiliated to the Ramblers Association

Programme of Events March - May 2009

Greetings Ramblers,

NB Items for the next programme must reach the Secretary or Ramble List Compiler by 30th April.

NNB New train timetables come into force in May so train times shown towards the end of this programme are approximate. Advisable to check precise times by ringing 08457 48 49 50 or see national rail times online at <http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/>

Sunday 1st March (Landranger Map 187) Leader: Helen Hunt

MEET: Waterloo 0940 for 1002 train to Epsom (arr 1036)

LUNCH: The Queen Adelaide, Ewell. Pub does a wide range of good value food, including a carvery at £9.95 for two

TEA: Nonsuch Park

DISTANCE: 10 miles, returning from West Sutton. Possible drop out points at pub (4 miles) and tea stop (7 miles).

FARE: £4.50 cdr Epsom from Waterloo with Network card. If you already have travel in Zones 1 – 6, you only need a single from Zone 6 boundary to Epsom (£1.80, or £1.20 with Network Card).

Sunday 8th March (Landranger Maps 198, 199) Leader: Philip Groves

MEET: Victoria 0830 for 0847 train to Lewes (arr 0958)

LUNCH: Rose Cottage Inn, Alciston (good food and real ales)

TEA: Alfriston or Eastbourne

DISTANCE: 18 miles, returning from Eastbourne – some good hills!

FARE: £15.80 cdr Eastbourne from Victoria, £12.60 from Zone 6 boundary, both with Network card

Sunday 15th March (Explorer Map 133) Leaders: Marta and John Haworth

MEET: Waterloo 0840 for 0900 train to Liss (arr 1023)

LUNCH: The Queen's, Selborne

TEA: Maybe at Liss

DISTANCE: 15 miles, returning from Liss

FARE: £13.65 cdr Liss from Waterloo, £10.65 from Zone 6 boundary, both with Network Card.

Tuesday 17 March 2009 7.00 pm St Mary Moorfields Church, 4-5 Eldon Street

St Patrick's Day Mass 7.00pm Mass for St Patrick followed by reception in the Hall

NB This is not specifically a club event but we are invited to take part in it as a happy parish event.

Sunday 22nd March (Landranger Map 165) Leader: Robert Slater

MEET: Euston 0900 for 0923 train to Bletchley (arr 1017)

LUNCH: The Old Red Lion, Great Brickhill

TEA: The Globe Inn (by canal), Linslade

DISTANCE: 14 miles, returning from Leighton Buzzard

FARE: £12.40 cdr Bletchley from Euston, £9.40 from Zone 6 boundary, both with Network Card.

Walk includes Grand Union Canal and Stockgrove Country Park



Saturday 28th March NB Clocks go forward at 1 am tonight. Put them forward before you go to bed or you might miss the start of tomorrow's ramble

Sunday 29th March (Explorer Map 146) Leader: Maurice Hickman

MEET: Victoria 0910 for 0938 train to Dorking (arr 1036)

LUNCH: The Plough, Coldharbour

TEA: Prince of Wales, Westcott

DISTANCE: 12 miles, returning from Dorking

FARE: £6.10 cdr Dorking from Victoria, £2.50 from Zone 6 boundary, both with Network Card.

NOTE: Maurice will meet the ramblers at Dorking shortly after their arrival.

Sunday 5th April (Landranger Map 166) Leader: Carol Anley

MEET: Kings Cross 0930 for 0952 train to Hitchin (arr 1021)

LUNCH: The Red Lion, Preston

TEA: Three Moorhens, Hitchin

DISTANCE: 10 miles, returning from Hitchin

FARE: £10.25 cdr Hitchin from Kings Cross, £5.95 from Zone 6 boundary, both with Network Card

Carol will meet the ramblers at Hitchin

Sunday 5th April to Monday 13th April 2009 - Scottish Cross pilgrimage walk This annual event will this year consist of two legs, one from the bottom end of the West Highland way and one from Fort William at the top. Before they meet in the middle they both travel due west and onto the Island of Mull eventually reaching Iona on Easter Saturday. The Pilgrimage finishes on Easter Monday morning to travel home from Iona. The dates are Holy week 2009, starting on Saturday 4th April 2009 from Balmaha (at the bottom end of the WHW) or Sunday 5th April 2009 from Fort William, concluding on Monday 13th April. There will be a catholic priest travelling with the pilgrims.

This is not a club event but we are happy to support it as a Christian act of worship and if you want any more details you can check out the website www.scottishcross.org.uk or ring Monica Turner on 020 8870 4210.

Tuesday 7 April 2009 6.30pm St Mary Moorfields Church, 4-5 Eldon Street

Lenten Meditation with soloist. Tea/Coffee Light Refreshments at the nearby Costa Coffee/Tea Bar with modern large lounge area.

NB Like the Advent event on the last programme and the St Patrick's Day event above this is not specifically a club event but we are invited to take part in it as a parish lenten event.

Good Friday 10th April (Landranger Map 177) Leader: Robert Slater

MEET: Newbury Park (Central Line) 0840 for 0854 bus replacement service to Ilford (arr 0910) then 0912 train to Shenfield (arr 0930). Liverpool Street mainline station is closed for engineering work.

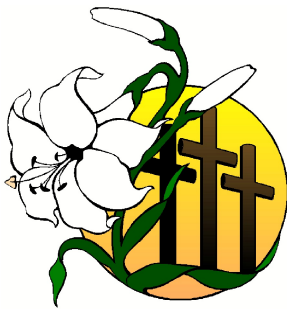
LUNCH: The Greyhound, Childerditch Common.

TEA: Brentwood

DISTANCE: 12 miles, returning from Brentwood. Frequent train service to Ilford then replacement bus service to Newbury Park then Underground to Central London

FARE: £6.20 cdr Shenfield from Liverpool Street, £2.85 from Zone 6 boundary, both with Network Card (Since we will be meeting at an underground station it is advisable to purchase the train ticket from Boundary Zone 6 or from Ilford in advance).

NOTE: We aim to be at Brentwood Cathedral in good time for the Good Friday service at 1500.

Saturday 11th April (Landranger Map 187) Leader: Helen Hunt

MEET: Victoria 0940 for 1002 train to Three Bridges (arr 1044)

LUNCH: The Cowdray Arms, Worth. Pub does good food. We will be attending the open air Passion Play at Worth Abbey, beginning at 1500.

TEA: The Snooty Fox, Three Bridges.

DISTANCE: 8 miles, returning from Three Bridges.

FARE: £8.85 cdr Three Bridges from Victoria, £4.95 from Zone 6 boundary, both with Network Card.

If you would like to attend the Passion Play but don't feel like the walk meet Colette Whitehead at Wetherspoons, Victoria Station Floor 1 (balcony overlooking platforms 1 to 7) at 10.30 AM for breakfast or in carriage no. 6 of the 12 50 Portsmouth Harbour train from Victoria calling at Clapham Junction & East Croydon. Get off at Three Bridges where taxis will be available. Advisable to book in advance: Checker Cars 01293 522222 Crawley Cars 01293 534555 United cars 01293 429429.

11th to 19th April 2009: Continuation of Compostella Pilgrimage: Maurice Hickman will be walking a different Camino route over the Easter Week from Holy Saturday (11th April) to Sunday 19th April. He will travel out and back by train. The walk will start at Vezelay and end in Nevers with a visit to the convent where the body of St Bernadette of Lourdes is kept. Accommodation will be at gites where possible to minimise the cost. If you feel like joining this exciting journey ring Maurice on 01737 765 231.

Easter Monday 13th April (Explorer Map 147) Leader: Paul Brunning

MEET: Charing Cross 0935 for 1000 train to Sevenoaks (arr 1036)

LUNCH: The Bricklayers Arms, Chipstead

TEA: ?

DISTANCE: 10 miles, returning from Sevenoaks

FARE: £5.80 cdr Sevenoaks from Charing Cross, £2.20 from Zone 6 boundary, both with Network Card

Tuesday 14th April 2009 (1 pm): Easter lunch for St Francis Ramblers at St Paul's, St Paul's Road, Brentford, Middlesex (few minutes walk from Brentford Station; 10 minutes by E2 bus (direction: Brentford) from Northfields Piccadilly Line station): The Easter Lunch at St Paul's, which a number of members enjoyed last year, will take place again this year. At the time of writing details are not yet available so, as last year, they will have to circulate by "word of mouth".

Let Maureen Furlong know if interested and she will contact you when menu, cost and time are available.

Mobile 0795 766 346. E mail marysia1883@yahoo.co.uk.

Sunday 19th April (Landranger Map 176) Leader: Tony Finnegan

MEET: Oxford Circus Underground Station ticket hall at 0925 for 0943 Bakerloo Line train to South Kenton (arr 1018) Earlier and later Bakerloo Line trains terminate at Queens Park, from where you can cross the platform to get a London Overground train to South Kenton.

LUNCH: The Black Horse, Greenford (good food)

TEA: The Harvester by Boston Manor underground station

DISTANCE: 13 generally easy miles, returning from Boston Manor. A surprisingly rural walk entirely within 10 miles of Central London.

FARE: Travelcard to include Zone 4, as walk begins and ends in this Zone.

Sunday 26th April (Landranger Map 198) Leader: John Burbage

MEET: London Bridge 0850 for 0911 train to Haywards Heath then rail replacement bus to Hassocks (arr 1043). Alternatively, you can travel on the 0900 Gatwick Express train from Victoria and change at Gatwick Airport to the service from London Bridge.

LUNCH: Half Moon, Plumpton – very good local fayre, prices towards upper end

TEA: Optional at Brighton

DISTANCE: 14 miles, returning from Brighton – hilly in the afternoon

FARE: £13.80 cdr Brighton from London Bridge, £9.90 from Zone 6 boundary, both with Network Card.

Monday 4th May (Explorer Map 148) Leader: Stephen Roberts

MEET: Victoria 0920 for 0942 train to Bearsted (arr 1048)

LUNCH: The Swan, Sutton Valence

TEA: Wait and see

DISTANCE: 13 miles, returning from Bearsted

FARE: £10.55 cdr Bearsted from Victoria, £5.30 from Zone 6 boundary, both with Network Card

Sunday 10th May (Landranger Map 176) Leader: Witold Sokolowski

MEET: Wimbledon Station 0915 for 0945 Mass at Sacred Heart Church, Edge Hill

LUNCH: Wimbledon Windmill

TEA: Pembroke Lodge

DISTANCE: 9 miles

FARE: Any Travelcard including Zone 3

Sunday 17th May (Landranger Map 166) Leader: Henrietta van Zaelen

MEET: Liverpool Street 0930 for 0953 train to Broxbourne (arr 1025)

LUNCH (early): The Coach and Horses, Nazeing

TEA: ?

DISTANCE: 10 miles, returning from Cheshunt

FARE: £5.50 cdr Broxbourne from Liverpool Street, £2.65 from Zone 6 boundary, both with Network Card.

Saturday 23rd May 2009: Day of Recollection: Sorry this is neither of the two days mentioned in the last programme but it was the only one on which it proved possible to book a venue and a speaker.

The Venue is the Franciscan Capuchin Centre at Our Lady of the Angels Church, Bexley Road, Erith and a Capuchin Father will lead the day's reflections.

Getting there: there is a train from London Bridge at 9 14 which gets to Erith (Zone 6) at 9 46. (Four trains an hour and also some slower trains from Victoria). On arriving at Erith exit the station without crossing the railway and take the 229 bus from Bus Stop B on the opposite side of the road. Get off at Our Lady of the Angels Church, Bexley Road.

Cost: £8 towards the cost of booking the Centre for the day. Tea and coffee will be provided but please bring your own food to eat at lunchtime. Please make cheques payable to St Francis of Assisi Catholic Ramblers Club and send them to Gillian McLauchlan (address in the committee list on the last page of this newsletter) but since there is no food order you can pay on the day if preferred.

Monday 25th May (Landranger Map 153) Leader: Tony Finnegan

MEET: in the National Train Ticket Hall at St Pancras International 0900 for 0934 train to Flitwick (arr 1026). NB the National Train Ticket Hall is a long walk from Kings Cross Underground – allow at least 10 minutes.

LUNCH: The Rose and Crown, Ridgmont (GR 976 361). Pub serves reasonably priced food but as this is a Bank Holiday choice may be restricted to barbecue type food. Eat your own somewhere else.

TEA: Possibly Flitwick.

DISTANCE: 11 level miles, returning from Flitwick.

FARE: £10.25 cdr Flitwick from St Pancras, £6.25 from Zone 6 boundary, both with Network Card

Sunday 31st May (Explorer Map 147) Leader: Paul Brunning

MEET: Victoria 0920 for 0938 train to Shoreham (arr 1028)

LUNCH: The Lion, Farningham. Good food, but a bit pricey.

TEA: ?

DISTANCE: 10 miles, returning from Shoreham

FARE: £5.70 cdr Shoreham from Victoria, £2.40 from Zone 6 boundary, £1.90 from Swanley (all you need if you have a Freedom Pass), all with Network Card

When joining us on a walk please ensure you bring your Network cards or Gold cards so that you can get the 1/3rd off full fares for yourself and up to three guests traveling with you. You can also get £1.20 off all zone travel cards even if purchased at underground stations. Senior Railcard holders can also get the reduction on train fares but only for themselves.

Don't forget Sunday train services can be affected by engineering works eg trains from Charing Cross are sometimes diverted to begin from Cannon Street or Victoria. Information on these can be obtained by calling 08457 484950 or see National Rail Website at www.nationalrail.com

Children and vulnerable adults must be accompanied by a responsible adult. It is the policy of St Francis of Assisi Catholic Ramblers Club to endeavour to ensure that no child or vulnerable adult is left in the company of a lone adult on a ramble or at a club event.

News, Views and items of interest

Membership contributions: Membership contributions for 2008-09 became due in October and this programme has not been sent to those who have not renewed their membership. Thank you to those who have renewed. You should have received your membership card with this programme (or earlier if you provided a SAE when you sent your subscription). Don't forget that when it comes to paying next year's subscription the price will be £7 for UK based members, £9 for overseas members, £140 for life membership for UK based members and £180 for life membership for overseas residents.

Welcome to New members: A hearty welcome to the following who have become fully paid up members since the last programme: Mary Fuller of Bognor Regis, Clare McKenna of London WC1, Helen Parsons of Heathfield, East Sussex, Ceri Potts of Farnham, Surrey, Walter Stockinger of London WC1, and Virginia Yelland of London E3.

Welcome to Life Membership to Mary Carroll and John Wheeler.

Publicising the Club: Our new membership secretaries have received some requests for information about the club so obviously some of our new notices are on display in churches (Large laminated versions in Westminster Cathedral at the request of the administrator). However we are still getting requests addressed to Angela Shardlow and Robert Slater so PLEASE help to get enquiries directed to the correct recipients by putting up a notice in any church you are visiting.

Obituaries: We were sorry to hear of the death of the following: Ossie Barrett who died on 18 November 2008 in his 50th year of membership. Patrick Keegan who was a very regular walker in the 1980s and remained a member after he moved to Norfolk some years ago. Patrick died suddenly in November 2008. Sincere condolences to Mary Dunne on the tragic death of her daughter shortly before Christmas.

Joining the Holiday Fellowship: As agreed at the 2008 AGM we have now applied for our club to be associated with HF Holidays and our application has been accepted. This will bring many benefits to the club and its members and future newsletters will have information about HF Holidays activities. HF Holidays will also publicise our club in their literature and in the 17 holiday premises which they run in the UK.

Future Dates for Your Diary

Sunday 5th July to Saturday 11th July 2009.

Following the event which was much enjoyed by all who went on it in 2008 Ushaw College's Holiday/Pilgrimage "Journeying with the Northern Saints" is planned again for 2009: The pilgrimage will take place from Sunday 5th to Saturday 11th July this year. Visiting Lindisfame, Farne Islands, the ruins of Rievaulx and Mount Grace Priory, Durham Cathedral, Jarrow and Monkwearmouth. Cost is £460 which includes meals, coach transport and entrance fees (but not the boat trip to the Farne Islands). It is possible to stay at the College before and after the pilgrimage.

Details and application form from Course Administrator, Ushaw College, Durham, DH7 9RH. 0191 373 8517. EMail: courses@ushaw.ac.uk; website www.ushaw.ac.uk

Wednesday 29th July to Friday 7th August 2009

Pilgrims of St Francis International Pilgrimage will this year be in England from Stratford Upon Avon to Coventry Cathedral. A large number of pilgrims will walk in groups of 20 to 25 covering eight to 12 miles a day (or five to nine miles on some of their publicity). Living in community with accommodation on floors of Church or Village halls but mostly carrying belongings in backpacks. Cost: adults £125 ; young/unemployed £90; Children 4 to 12 £55; children under 4 free. Advance booking and deposits essential. For full details contact Gill Myall, 25 Drayton Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham B14 7LP. Tel. 0121 443 5198. E mail sfpilgrims@talktalk.net. Website www.cdsf.org.

Saturday 15th to Sunday 30th August 2009: Diocese of Arundel & Brighton Ecumenical Walking Pilgrimage. This is an annual pilgrimage which several club members have enjoyed in the past. This year the pilgrims will be going from York to Lindisfarne, although the actual walking will commence at Lastingham on Sunday 16th August. Each day's walk is similar to our Sunday rambles but interspersed with spiritual exercises led either by the pilgrim chaplain or by pilgrims themselves, with lunch at delightful country pubs. Cost this year is £140 which includes floor space to sleep on and all necessary food, although time is allowed to buy food at the pub stops if preferred. Cost of travel to York and home from Berwick on Tweed extra. Further details from Monica McLauchlan, 20 South Avenue, Brighton BN2 0BP. Tel 01273 680 025 or visit website www.thepilgrims.org.uk

Tuesday 1st to Friday 11th September 2009: Holiday in West Wales

Staying four nights at Aberystwyth University (to visit the Shrine of Our Lady of the Tapers) and six nights at Bangor University (mainly visiting Anglesey). If you are interested in the holiday ring Dorothy Hickman for details as soon as possible on 01737 765 231.

October 2009 - veneration of the relic of St Therese of Lisieux. The relic of St Therese of Lisieux The Little Flower will be taken around England and Wales this year and it would be nice if the club could play some part in the celebration. The relic will be in the South East from Wednesday October 7th to Thursday October 15th and we hope to organise visits to one or more of the following:

Wednesday 7th October - Oxford Oratory;

Thursday 8th October - St Joseph's Carmelite Priory, Gerrards Cross

Friday 9th October - Aylesford Priory

Sunday 11th October - Carmelite Church in Church Street, Kensington and

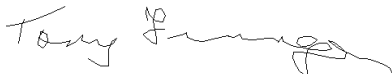
Monday 12th October to Thursday 15th October - Westminster Cathedral.

The website mentioned in the last newsletter no longer exists but details of the relic's itinerary can be seen at http://www.catholic-ew.org.uk/ccb/catholic_church/relics_of_st_therese_of_lisieux/locations_and_dates.

The secretary and/or ramble list compiler will welcome any ideas or volunteers to lead any of those events.

8th to 15th May 2010: Yes we are looking ahead to 2010 now and Marie Tisi will be organising a break in beautiful Derwentwater in the Lake District. Already over 30 of those who have enjoyed Marie's breaks in the past and a few who haven't have signed up for this one. That splendid initial response has qualified us for a 7½ per cent discount and the cost will be £572.58. If you'd like to join the holiday contact Marie by e mail only at marietisi@yahoo.co.uk as soon as possible. If you do not have e mail you can ring me (Tony Finnegan) on 020 8767 5293 and I will be pleased to pass your details to Marie.

God bless and happy rambling.



Secretary

And



Ramble List Compiler

Club Committee 2008-09

NB: Committee members' contact details are given in confidence on the understanding that they will be used for the sole purpose of members being able to make contact with them on legitimate club business. The strongest possible action will be taken against anyone using them for any other purpose.

President: Fr Peter Newby, Parish Priest, St Mary Moorfields, 4-5 Eldon Street, London EC2M 7LS.
E mail moorfieldsrc@btinternet.com.

Vice President: Helen Hunt, 157 Coteford Street, London SW17 8NT. Tel 020 8767 6956.
E mail helen.hunt7@talktalk.net.

Secretary: Tony Finnegan, 30 Avarn Road, London SW17 9HA. Tel. 020 8767 5293 .
Email secretary@stfrancisramblers.org.uk

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Tel 020 8740 5507.
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E mail john_haworth2003@yahoo.co.uk

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E Mail: elizabeth@stfrancisramblers.org.uk and Francis O'Sullivan, 101 Bravington Road, London W9 3AA.
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