

Approved by
Archbishop Cormac
Murphy O'Connor,
Archbishop of
Westminster



Affiliated to the
Ramblers Association
Registered Charity
Number 306089

Ramble List and News

Website: www.stfrancisramblers.org.uk

DECEMBER 2000-FEBRUARY 2001

Greetings Ramblers.

I wish you all a very Happy
Christmas and New Year.



As we near the end of the Millennium
year I would like on behalf of the club
to thank you all for your continued
support and for making this a special
year for the club's 70th anniversary.
We are now thinking of planning a
75th celebration in five years time. All
suggestions to committee members.

**Approval of new
Archbishop of
Westminster:** I received a
letter from Most Reverend
Cormac Murphy-O'Connor,
Archbishop of Westminster
endorsing the work of the St
Francis of Assisi Catholic
Ramblers Club as his
predecessors have done. The

letter and Papal Blessing were
on display at the A G M.

**Welcome to New
Members:** Maria
Fitzpatrick, London SE19.
Sarah Greaves, Ilford,
Essex. **Welcome back:** Pat
Jayawardena, Richmond,
Surrey. Frank and Ann
Keating, Nr Skipton, North
Yorkshire.

**New members Please read
your introductory leaflet
carefully** as it gives good
advice, especially about
wearing suitable footwear
with ankle support for your
own safety and maintaining
good relations with pub
owners by not eating our
own food on their premises.
Don't forget your torch for
the dark winter afternoons.

Club Publicity: It is very
important that the club be
publicised in as many
churches as possible in
order to ensure a constant
stream of new members.
With the election of new
membership secretaries we
want fresh notices put up in

all churches. **With this
programme you will find a
nice new notice. Please
ask your parish priest for
permission to put it up on
your local Church notice
board.** We would be
grateful for the return of any
unused posters as they are
expensive to produce and
we can use them elsewhere
if you don't need them.

**Subscriptions are now due
reminder:** Club
subscriptions were due in
October for the coming
year. Still only £4. Please
send cheque for £4 payable
to St Francis of Assisi
Catholic Ramblers Club to
Gillian. Address on
committee list. If you would
like to receive your
membership card before the
next programme enclose a
S A E.

The A G M: was held on
October the 14th in the Holy Apostles
Church Hall in Cumberland Street,
Pimlico. It was attended by over 30
members. The minutes of the meeting
are enclosed to which we are grateful
to Dorothy Hickman for. We are

Highlights of this Issue

- 1 Subscriptions due £4
- 2 Mass at St Mary Moorfields Saturday
2 December
- 3 Christmas Ramble and Social Sunday 17
December

Ramble List and News

delighted to welcome the new committee especially the Secretary Antoinette Ratnam. The full committee are listed on the next page.

Standing down, Membership Secretaries Bridie Barry and Francis O' Sullivan and Jo Lewis-Evans. We thank them for their time on the Committee.

The A G M was followed by a Mass for members in the Holy Apostles Church, Pimlico. Members enjoyed a meal in Brahm's Restaurant, Lupus Street, Pimlico to round off the day.

As this is my last programme I would like to say thank you to all the committee members over the last six years for their help and support. Thank you to all who wrote to me encouragingly as I continued over the years. Your letters and comments were very encouraging and a source of support.

I have enjoyed my role as secretary over the last six year's.

It is with great pleasure I now hand over this role to Antoinette Ratnam. I am sure you will continue to come forward and give her support.

OBITUARIES: Our sympathy to Anne Alcock on the death of her Mother. **The Club will have a Mass said for her on Saturday 2 December at 5.30 at St Mary Moorfields.** Our sympathy also to Maxine O'Reilly on the death of her Mother in Spain. Also to Philip Evans on the death of his Aunt.

Christmas Ramble and Social: This year's Christmas Ramble and Social will be on 17 December with two new leaders and a new venue. Details on the Ramble List.

The Tortoise Club: Are you a slowcoach? When the main walk is too hard for you and the weather is reasonable you could try the tortoise club. Distance average 6-8 miles. If you contact Hanna & Witold Tel. 020 8543 5494 on the Friday or Saturday before they will probably have planned a simpler walk. Sometimes joining the main Club Ramble at lunchtime.

POETRY EVENING:

Joseph O'Reilly was very pleased with the attendance at his Poetry Evening on Saturday 21st of October in his home at 4 Rona Road, Gospel Oak, London. NW3 2JA.

Mass for Deceased Member's: 5.30 Mass on Saturday November the 4th in St Mary Moorfields Church, Eldon Street. This was attended by about 30 members. 20 members enjoyed a meal in a Wetherspoon's Pub near Old Street Underground Station after the Mass. Due to work commitments I had to miss this occasion.

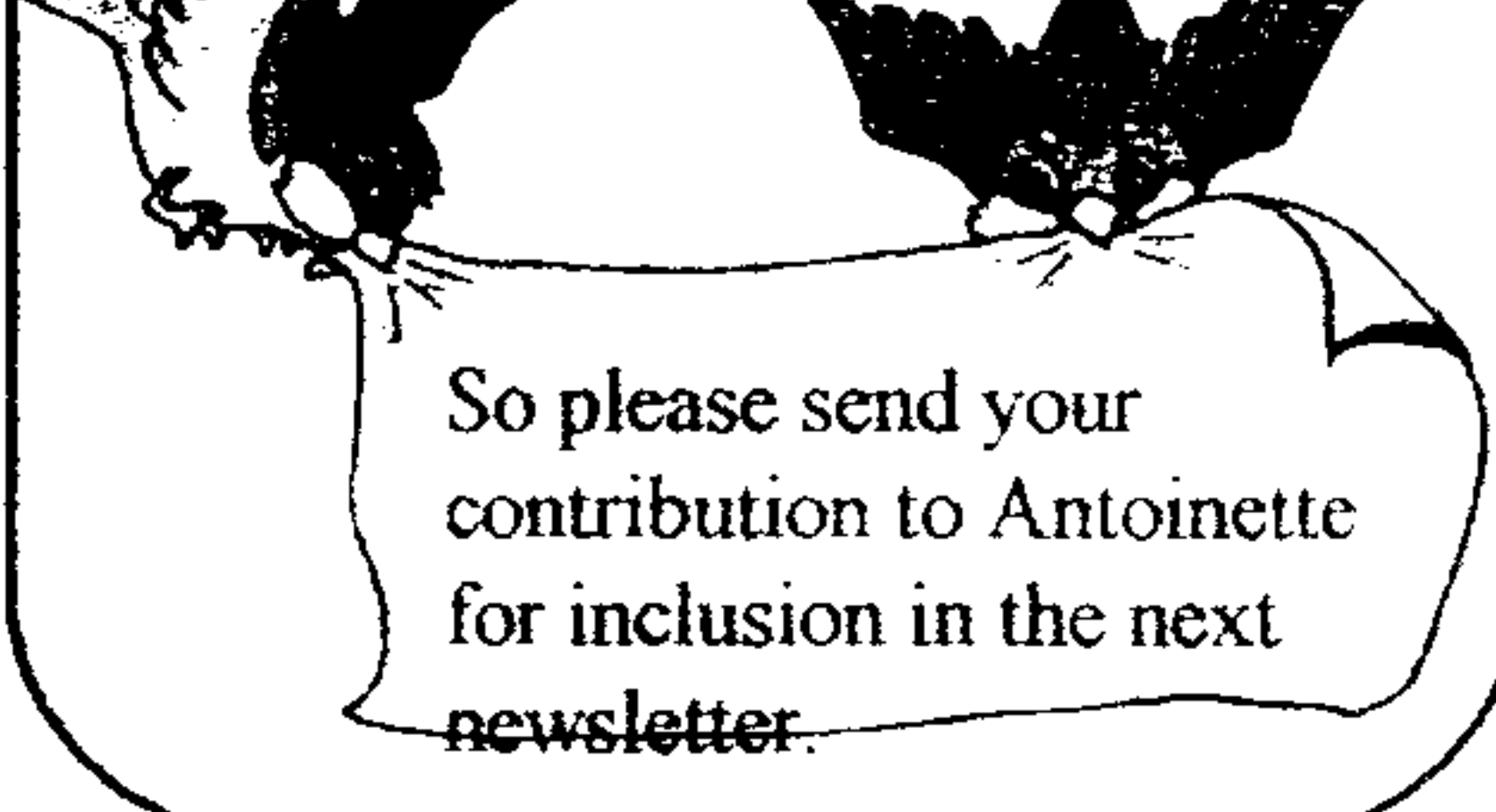
H C P T: Congratulations to Catherine Scott who raised £291.14p by being sponsored on the Brighton cycle run on the weekend of 18 June. Most of her sponsors were members of the club and I received a letter of thanks from HCPT. Nadia who is 14yrs old and suffers from a brain disorder will benefit from this money



Members' Corner

Starting in the next newsletter we would appreciate receiving items that you would like to share with the rest of the club. It could be about a walk you enjoyed in the club, a poem or even an

illustration



So please send your contribution to Antoinette for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Y.H.A. Group Membership Card

Any club members wishing to use our group membership Y.H.A. card contact me (Helen) Tel 020 8767 6956 but make sure to do so well in advance in case I am away at the time you need the card

Club Information: If any member receives calls or letters for information about

joining the Club as a member and would like information starter pack's to send out they can contact the club Secretary Antoinette Ratnam. Address on committee list.

Club Committee Members 2000/2001

President: Fr David Barnes, Parish Priest, St Mary Moorfields, London.

Vice President: Helen Hunt, 157 Coteford Street, Tooting, London SW17 8NT. Tel. 020 8767 6956. E mail HelenHunt@nationwideisp.net

Secretary: Antoinette Ratnam, 10 Grantley House, Windlesham Grove, Wimbledon SW19 6AQ Tel 0208 780 3192 E mail: antoinette.ratnam@uk.pwcglobal.com Mobile: 0794 150 3978

Treasurer: Gillian McLauchlan, 64 Emmeline Pankhurst House, Du Cane Road, London W12 OUL Tel. 020 8740 5507.

Ramble List Compiler: Paul Connolly, 23 Latimer Drive, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 6TN. Tel. 01708 478 745. E Mail Paul.connolly@7c.net

Membership Secretaries

Maria Darroch, Flat 6, 30 Mercers Road, London N19 4PJ Tel. 020 7561 115.

John Burbage, 31 Leigham Avenue, Streatham, London SW16 2PR. Tel. 0797 090 5293. E Mail: turbo@burbagej.freemove.co.uk

Committee Members

Robert Slater, 6 Shelley Close, Hitchin, Herts SG4 0PW Tel. 01462 435 229.

Nick Peterson, Flat 47, Shortlands Grove, Shortlands, Bromley, Kent BR2 0ND

Tel. 020 8464 6421

Mary Maxwell, 17 Vincents Square Mansions, Wallcott Street, London SWIP 2NT.

Tel. 0207 8340 8005.

COPY DATE FOR THE NEXT PROGRAMME : 21 JANUARY 2000



Another programme, and two new leaders. Well done to Tony Norton and Mary Maxwell for putting their best feet forward, and good luck for their walk. A couple of serious points; 1) with the recent heavy rains and no indication they are yet to abate, it would be wise to assume that unless otherwise indicated that all the walks are likely to be muddier than usual, so please prepare your kit for the walks with this in mind. Also the leaders may need to amend routes for practical and/or safety reasons so please be forebearing if this situation arises. These points are raised to ensure that your enjoyment of any of the walks is not marred through failing to address what can be reasonably foreseen. 2) There may still be disruption to trains as a result of the work Railtrack are doing in the light of the terrible events at Hatfield, so again please bear with the leaders if there are unexpected changes to services.

And finally...dust off your torches and put them in your packs in case walks have to be concluded in the dark. Lead Thou Kindly Light, but please remember your own as well!!

Paul



17th December - Christmas Social

Sunday 3rd December (os map 175) Leaders : Bridie Barry & Maureen Cahalane

MEET : Waterloo 0920 for 0947 train to Windsor (arr 1048)
 LUNCH : Royal Stag, Datchet (close to Datchet station) – **Please see note below this entry**
 TEA : Maybe
 DISTANCE : 8.5 flat miles returning from Staines
 FARE : £5.90 cdr Windsor

If you intend to join the walk at lunchtime and want to eat at the pub please phone Maureen on 020 7834 2432 as numbers have to be confirmed. Lunch will be **EARLY**.

Sunday 10th December (os map 188) Leader : Paul Brunning

MEET : Charing Cross 0945 for 1010 train to Sevenoaks (arr 1043)
 LUNCH : The White Rock Inn, Underriver – good food
 TEA : Sevenoaks
 DISTANCE : 9 miles returning from Sevenoaks
 FARE : £6.30 cdr Sevenoaks



Sunday 17th December - XMAS SOCIAL (os map 177) Leaders : Tony Norton & Mary Maxwell

- MEET : Angel underground station (Northern line) 1030 for 1045 start
 LUNCH : Bar Risa, Bow Wharf, Grove rd, E3. Don't forget to save your appetites for the social.
 TEA : **Christmas social at the Royal Oak – see flyer enclosed for details**
 DISTANCE : 8 miles. An urban walk taking in the Regents canal, some hidden gems, and more well known parts of historic London, returning from Borough (Northern line).
 All dry surfaces, no need for walking boots, but strong shoes recommended.
 FARE : One day travelcard up to £4.70

Please note only drinks purchased in the pub may be consumed. We will be having a raffle so any donation for prizes would be most welcome. Please call Antoinette about this or for any other information regarding the Social.

Saturday 23rd December (os map 187) Leader : Maurice Hickman

- MEET : Victoria 0935 for 1002 train to Redhill (arr 1030)
 LUNCH : The Sportsman, Mogador
 TEA : Fanny's Farm Shop, Upper Gatton
 DISTANCE : 11 miles returning from Redhill
 FARE : £5.90 cdr Redhill

Saturday 30th December (os map 167) Leader : Paul Connolly

- MEET : Epping station (Central line) 1030 for 1045 start
 LUNCH : The Forest Gate, Bell Common – Ploughmans and hot broth only
 TEA : Loughton – maybe the chance for a full hot meal
 DISTANCE : 9 miles returning from Loughton. Liable to be quite muddy.
 FARE : £4.70 all zones travelcard

Sunday 7th January (os map 187) Leader : Maurice Hickman

- MEET : Victoria 1005 for 1032 train to Redhill (arr 1103)
 LUNCH : Causeway, Earlswood (OS 278481)
 TEA : Gatwick Airport – South Terminal
 DISTANCE : 11 fairly level miles returning from Gatwick Airport
 FARE : £8.30 cdr (not Gatwick express) Gatwick Airport

Sunday 14th January (os map 177) Leader : Paul Brunning

- MEET : Charing Cross 0925 for 0950 train to Chelsfield (arr 1029)
 LUNCH : Kent Hounds, Well Hill – Good cheap grub
 TEA : ???
 DISTANCE : 10 miles returning from Chelsfield
 FARE : £4.70 all zones travelcard



Sunday 21st January (os map 187) Leader : Maurice Hickman

MEET : Victoria 0910 for 0934 train to Coulsdon South (arr 1002)
 LUNCH : Well House, Mugswell
 TEA : Reigate Hill or Redhill
 DISTANCE : 12 miles returning from Redhill – No uphill stretches, good views from Colley Hill
 FARE : £5.90 cdr Redhill

Sunday 28th January (os map 177) Leaders : John & Marta Haworth

MEET : Charing Cross 0850 for 0912 train to Bexley (arr 0948)
 LUNCH : Sydney Arms, Old Perry Street, Chislehurst
 TEA : No
 DISTANCE : 11 miles returning from Bickley (The trains go into Victoria)
 FARE : £4.70 all zones travelcard
 John and Marta will meet the walkers at Bexley

Sunday 4th February (os map 167) Leader : Michael Donnelly

MEET : Epping station (Central line) 1045 latest for bus 201 to Ongar (arr 1129)
 LUNCH : The Black Horse, Paslow Wood Common
 TEA : That depends
 DISTANCE : 10 fairly level miles returning from Ongar
 FARE : £4.70 all zones travelcard plus £1.95 return on the bus
 Michael will meet the ramblers at Epping. Epping is about 55 minutes from Oxford Circus.



Sunday 11th February (os map 187) Leader : Ranald Watson

MEET : 0840 for 0906 train to Box Hill & Westhumble (arr 0954)
 LUNCH : The Prince of Wales, Westcot
 TEA : Maybe
 DISTANCE : 12 hilly miles returning from Leatherhead
 FARE : £6.40 cdr Box Hill & Westhumble

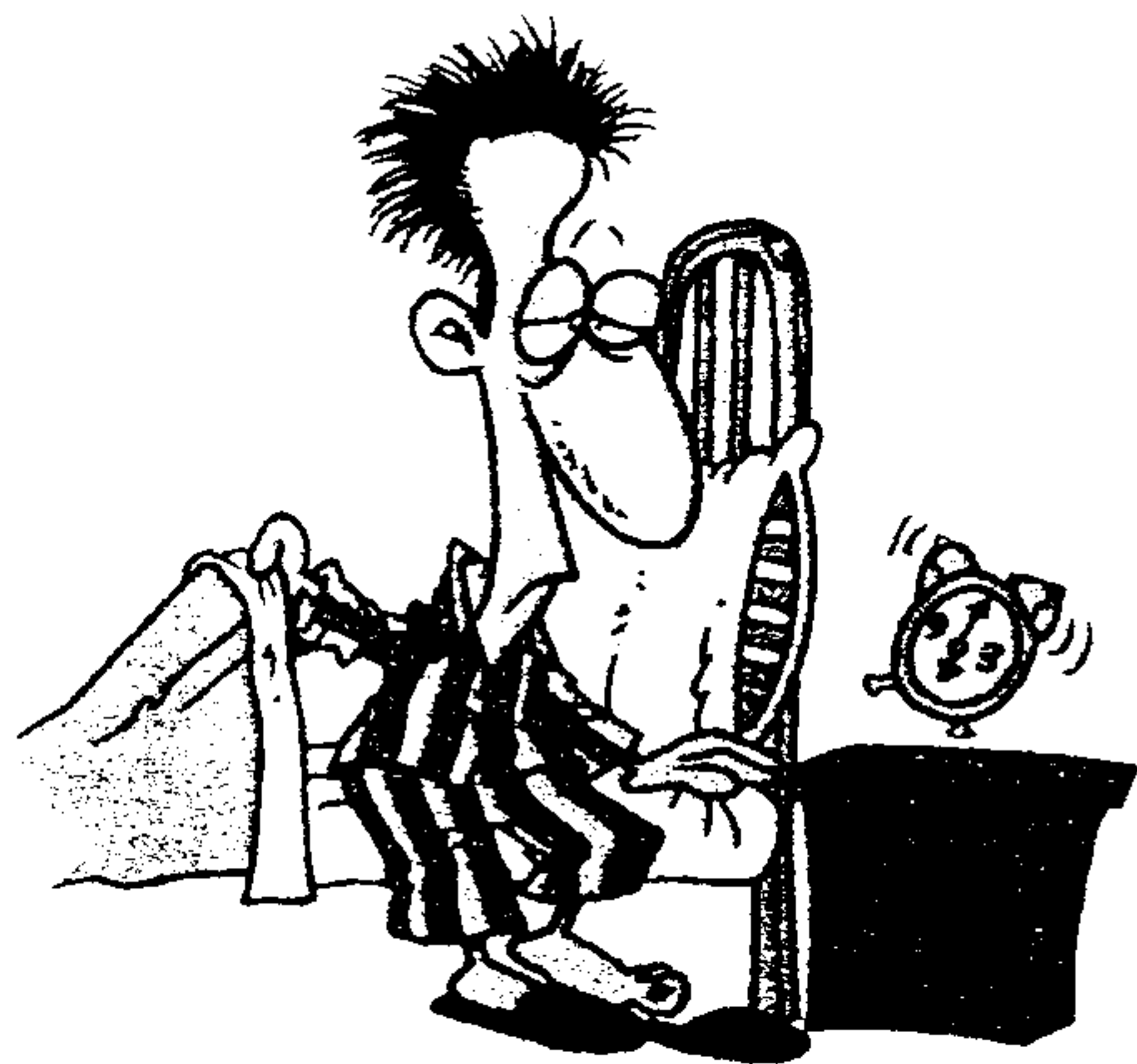
Sunday 18th February (os map 165) Leader : Maria 'climb every mountain' Darroch

MEET : Marylebone 0800 for 0824 train to Little Kimble (arr 0928)
 LUNCH : Rising Sun, Little Hampden
 TEA : No'T' today
 DISTANCE : 12 miles returning from Wendover (some steep hills)
 FARE : £6.95 cdr Aylesbury with network card discount



Sunday 25th February (os maps 187 & 176) Leader : Tony Finnegan

MEET : 0915 at Waterloo for 9 42 train to Effingham Junction (Arr. 1021)
 LUNCH : The Old Bear, Cobham Village. Serves good food.
 TEA : Joshua Tree Hampton Court
 DISTANCE : 16 EASY miles, finishing at Hampton Court
 FARE : All Zone Travel Card £4.70p plus excess to Effingham Junction £2.80p.



Don't forget Sunday train services can be affected by engineering works. Information on these can be obtained by calling 08457 484950 or see the relevant ceefax or teletext pages on tv.

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 travelling with you. You can also get 50p off all zone travel cards even if purchased at underground stations.

Unless otherwise indicated the fare shown is the full fare from the London terminus.

On the subject of fares don't forget in January there will probably be the usual round of increases, so be prepared if you are asked to pay a little more than what is shown.

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SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC RAMBLERS' CLUB

MINUTES OF THE 70th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY 14th OCTOBER 2000 at 3PM IN THE HOLY APOSTLES CHURCH HALL

The Papal Blessing received for our 70th anniversary was on display. Refreshments were provided by Helen Hunt and Peter Lobo and were served to members on arrival from 2.30pm.

Helen Hunt welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with the Prayer of St Francis.

Apologies for absence were received from: Mary Hennessey, Mike Hoffman, Bridget Brunning, Maria Darroch, Peter McDonald, Jo Lewis-Evans, Maureen Furlong, Nick Peterson, Maurice Hickman, Mary Hickman.

The minutes of the 69th AGM were agreed. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

Secretary's Report: Helen Hunt, as acting secretary, gave this report which was accepted; a copy is attached. Helen said no one was turning up to the monthly dinners. Helen showed a letter received from the new Archbishop of Westminster the Right Reverend Cormac Murphy-O'Connor. He is pleased to endorse the work of the Club as his predecessors had done and wished us every success and thanked us for the copy of the Club History.

Bridie Barry gave the Membership Secretary's Report. There were not many enquiries. Perhaps notices at the back of churches need replacing. The numbers went up in the summer but have gone down again. Gillian said many come through recommendation of members and write direct to her, it is up to us to advertise the Club.

Treasurer's Report: Copies of the accounts had been given out.

Income: Subscriptions - a drop in membership as a result of members moving abroad and others only being in this area temporarily. There were 6 new life members. Day of Recollection - a surplus is recorded because Mgr Peter Grant waived his gratuity. Investment Account - interest is higher than previously because I sent the book at the correct time to be made up.

Expenditure: Photocopying/printing figure includes some book costs on combined invoices. The committee has agreed not to replace the dead photocopier because we are very happy with the reasonably priced, flexible and creative services of Avam Printers. Grateful thanks to Tony Finnegan. Due to Mgr Grants generosity we donated £80 to St Mary Moorfields Restoration Fund. Aylesford - thanks to Barbara Bridle for organising weekend at Aylesford. Committee had agreed the use of Conference Room should be paid by Club. Other expenses included arranging Papal Blessing and Mass Stipend. The final cost to the Club was £93.50. Not bad for our 70th celebrations. I have compared basic expenses with income and feel it is not necessary to increase fees this year. Will continue to review. NSB Signatories - a change needs to be accompanied by minutes of meeting where signatories are agreed.

The meeting agreed that the Treasurer Gillian McLauchlan, the Secretary Antoinette Ratnam and the Vice President Helen Hunt be the signatories for the NSB account.

Matters arising from Treasurer's Report: The YHA Group Membership is not used much but is

available if wanted. Tony Finnigan said members paid £5 for the Club History but the unsubsidised cost was £13. He proposed that the balance left in the Club History account be returned to Club funds. He has the original copy and can produce another copy at full cost if anyone wants one. He complimented Gillian on the way the records had been kept.

Election of new Committee: Antoinette Ratnam proposed by Paul Connolly and seconded by Frank Biggs was willing to stand as Secretary. Gillian McLauchlan was willing to continue as Treasurer for another year as it would not be fair to Antoinette if there were too many changes. Paul Connolly was willing to continue as Ramble List Compiler. Maureen Cahalane proposed and Ellen O'Brien seconded Mary Maxwell as Committee member. Paul Brunning said Nick Peterson is willing to stand as a Committee member. John Burbage, Robert Slater and Maria Darroch were willing to continue as Committee Members. There being no other candidates they were all duly elected.

Any Other Business: John Burbage apologised for the cancellation of the summer party. The booking for the boat was cancelled at the last minute; the message got though to most members but one member had turned up. John is thinking of having an outdoor event next year such as a barbeque instead of a party and would like to know of suitable gardens attached to Convents or Churches. Paul Connolly apologised for there being no leader on July 9. David Clark had let him know that due to a broken foot he would not be able to lead, unfortunately Paul was ill that day and was unable to substitute for David as he had intended. He said it is good that new leaders are coming forward but we need more. He would like to be able to let the regular leaders take a break. There was a discussion on how to encourage more leaders. Paul Connolly suggested having a list of interested new leaders and putting them in touch with an experienced leader who is about to walk out a ramble. It was thought more help in actually planning a ramble was needed. Paul Connolly will produce some guidance notes on what is needed to plan and then to walk out a ramble. The Club run training sessions a few years ago. The Ramblers Association run such courses. People could get the OS map for a ramble, look at symbols and ask people about route on the day. People could get books of walks and add loops to make them longer. It may be easier for 2 or 3 members to get together and lead walks as a team. It was suggested we could occasionally go further out and perhaps stay overnight. Witold asked leaders to make sure everyone was gathered together before saying the prayer to St Francis. It was thought we could have more shorter walks of 10 - 12 miles; the current program had a good balance. Helen Hunt said Frank Biggs gives her details of his gentle walks in Suffolk. Hanna said phone her for details of slowcoach walks. Margaret Moran thanked Dorothy for the short walks in London visiting some of the 'String of Pearls' Millennium attractions. Anyone wanting to use the YHA Group card should just write to Helen Hunt and she will send it if no one else is using it. Gillian McLauchlan said we get 2 copies of the Ramblers Association's magazines which anyone can take if they would like them.

Paul Brunning proposed a vote of thanks to the Committees and in particular to Helen Hunt. Helen replied that it had been a pleasure to be Secretary, everyone helped and there was no need to struggle doing it.

The meeting finished at 4.15, followed at 6pm by a Mass in the Holy Apostles Church for members intentions.

St Francis of Assisi Catholic Ramblers Club
General Income and Expenditure Account for Year to 31 August 2000

1998-99 £	Income	1999-00 £	1998-99 £	Expenditure	1999-00 £
688.00	Subscriptions	648.00	282.00	Postage	236.55
212.00	Life Membership 58 @ £4	232.00	251.70	Photocopying/Printing	414.95
			17.20	Stationery	18.46
			20.00	Telephone	20.00
<u>908.00</u>		<u>880.00</u>	570.90		689.96
0.00	Donations	147.00	18.00	R.A. Affiliation	20.00
28.62	Bank Interest	14.67	72.80	Insurance	74.00
11.00	Club Badges Sold	4.00	10.00	YHA Group Membership	12.00
30.00	Aylesford 2000	1,126.70	0.00	Aylesford 2000	1,250.20
	Surplus on Christmas				
57.00	Party/Ramble	34.50	62.00	AGM & Committee Expens	66.00
0.00	Surplus on Day of Recollectior	80.00	59.60	Travel Expenses	73.40
			0.00	Donation to St Mary Moorfield	80.00
			75.00	Masses & Mass Cards	20.00
			38.00	Loss on Summer Party	0.00
<u>1,034.62</u>		<u>2,286.87</u>	906.30		2,285.56
0.00	Excess Expenditure/Income	-1.31	128.32	Excess Income/Expenditur	0.00
<u>1,034.62</u>		<u>2,285.56</u>	<u>1,034.62</u>		<u>2,285.56</u>

Life Membership Fund

1,436.91	Balance as at 1.9.99	1,460.21			
160.00	New Subscriptions	240.00	212.00	Transfer to Income Accour	232.00
75.30	Interest on Investment Accour	123.08	1,460.21	Balance as at 31.8.2000	1,591.29
<u>1,672.21</u>		<u>1,823.29</u>	<u>1,672.21</u>		<u>1,823.29</u>

Club History Account

618.00	Balance as at 1.9.99	176.96	421.70	Preparation and printing	84.00
177.68	Sales and dispatch	37.32	220.52	Excess Expenditure/Income	
23.50	Donations	0.00	176.96	Balance as at 31.8.2000	260.56
	Excess Income /Expenditure	130.28			
<u>819.18</u>		<u>344.56</u>	<u>819.18</u>		<u>344.56</u>

Capital Account Balances as at 31.8.2000

£		£	£	£	
1,202.56	Balance as at 1.9.99	1,330.88	176.85	Cash in hand	133.94
128.32	Excess of income/Expenditure	-1.31	737.51	Nationwide a/c	834.25
			2,220.21	NSB Investment a/c	2,343.29
<u>1,330.88</u>		<u>1,329.57</u>			
12.00	Subscriptions in advance	20.00			
1,460.21	Life Membership Fund	1,591.29			
176.96	Club History Account	260.56			
154.52	Unallocated funds in bank	110.06			
<u>3,134.57</u>		<u>3,311.48</u>	<u>3,134.57</u>		<u>3,311.48</u>

We have audited the above accounts and find them to be properly drawn up in accordance with the books and accounts of the Club and certify that they are to the best of our knowledge and belief correct.

13 Club badges are in stock.

Signed.....*John Lawrence*.....
John Lawrence

Date.....12/10/00.....

Signed.....*T. Finnegan*..... Date.....12-10-00.....
Tony Finnegan

Fr David's Silver Jubilee

As this is a very special celebration we thought it would be nice to make a collection to get Fr. David something to mark the occasion. There are various possibilities at different prices in the vestment/ sacred vessel fields, and we can decide what to buy when we know how much you the members wish to contribute. Your contribution to this collection would be most appreciated. Please send a cheque **(by the end of March please to allow time for selection of something suitable)** made payable to St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Ramblers Club to me (Antoinette), or you can contribute in cash to any committee members you meet on a walk.

