

St Francis of Assisi Catholic Ramblers

Visit our website at www.stfrancisramblers.org.uk

The Club is Approved by the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster and Affiliated to the Ramblers Association

Programme of Events June - August 2007

Dear Fellow Ramblers,

Welcome to this programme of walks and other events to take us through the sunny summer months. Note in particular details of the change of club Treasurer on this page and in the committee details on the back page. NB The ramble will not always finish at the same station it starts at so please read down to the fare line before buying your ticket to be sure of getting the correct one.

Please let Maurice have your ramble details for the next programme by July 29th and let Tony have other items by the same date.

Change of club Treasurer: Unfortunately Zahira Uddin found it necessary to vacate the position of club Treasurer shortly after being elected, in order to devote time to academic studies. We are very grateful to Carol Anley for stepping in to fill the gap until the AGM. Carol's address and details are in the committee box on page 6.

Sunday 3rd June (Land ranger Maps 176,177)

Leader: Martin Harrison

MEET : Liverpool Street at 1030 for 1043 train to Enfield Lock (arr. 1105)
LUNCH : Fallow Buck
TEA : Trent Country Park
DISTANCE : 9.5 miles, returning from Cockfosters (Piccadilly Line)
FARE : All Zone Travel Card. £4.80 with Network Southeast Card discount.
The No 121 bus also goes from Oakwood (Piccadilly Line) to Enfield Lock - approx 30 mins

Sunday 10th June (Landranger Map 174)

Leader: Paul Connolly

MEET : Paddington 0915 for 0944 train to Goring & Streatley (arr. 1057)
LUNCH : The Bell, Aldworth - simple food in an old-fangled pub.
TEA : Maybe at Goring
DISTANCE : Twelve mostly undulating miles returning from Goring and Streatley.
FARE : £9.35 COR Goring and Streatley with Network Card.

Sunday 17th June (Landranger Maps 165 & 166)

Leader: Tony Finnegan

MEET : Euston 0920 for 0939 train to Berkhamstead (arr. 1010)
LUNCH : Martin's Pond, Potten End (GR018089). Pub does food and overlooks the Village green with pond and seats where those with their own food can sit.
TEA : The Harvester by Hemel Hempstead station
DISTANCE : 12 miles, returning from Hemel Hempstead. Some hills but the entire walk is in Hertfordshire so no very severe hills.
FARE : £5.95 COR Berkhamstead with Network Card

Sunday 24th June (Explorer Map 147)

Leader: Paul Brunning

MEET : Victoria 10.00 for 1018 train to Otford (arr. 1055)
LUNCH : The Two Brewers, Shoreham
TEA : Eynsford
DISTANCE : 11 miles, returning from Eynsford
FARE : £6.50 CDR Otford with Network Card

Sunday 1st July (Land ranger Map 165)

Leader: Robert Slater

MEET : Euston 0845 for 0909 train to Tring (arr. 0951)
LUNCH : The Traveller's Rest, Edlesborough (outside village)
TEA : The Monument (not a pub!), Ashridge Estate and/or Aldbury
DISTANCE : 11 miles, returning from Tring
FARE : £7.35 CDR Tring with Network Card
Hilly, especially in morning. Woody in afternoon

Short break in West Dorset, Monday July 2nd - Friday July 6th]

The English Catholic History Association are visiting the shrine of the Dorset Martyrs in Chideock and the Shrine of St Candida at Whitchurch Canonicorum on Thursday July 5th. In penal times Chideock Castle was a refuge for priests, three of whom were arrested here and executed at Dorchester.

If you would like to explore this beautiful area and join the English Catholic History Association's Day ring Dorothy Hickman on 01737 765231 for details.

Guesthouses in the area are about £30 per night for bed & breakfast. Saver return from Waterloo to Dorchester is about £30 with Senior Citizen's card. An hourly bus goes from Dorchester, through Bridport, to Chideock.

Sunday 8th July (Land ranger Map 153)

Leader: Tony Finnegan

MEET : King's Cross 0915 for 0933 train to Flitwick (arr. 1033)
LUNCH : Rose & Crown, Ridgmont (GR976361). Pub serves food, Eat yours elsewhere.
TEA : Possibly at Flitwick.
DISTANCE : 11 miles, returning from Flitwick
FARE : £9.55 CDR with Network Card

Sunday 15th July (Landranger Map 176) Summer Picnic Ramble Leader: Helen Hunt

MEET: Victoria at 0945 for 1006 train to Epsom (arr. 1045)
LUNCH: Picnic near Mansion House in Nonsuch Park. Tea and coffee can be purchased from the coffee shop nearby.
TEA: The Old Red Lion, St Dunstan Hill
DISTANCE: 10 miles, returning from West Sutton
FARE: All Zone Travel Card £4.80 plus £1.60 single to Epsom from boundary Zone 6 (both prices include NSE discount).

If you just want to come for the picnic you can take the 293 bus from opposite Morden Northern Line Underground station, get off at the Sparrow Farm Road stop (opposite the Nonsuch Hotel) and walk down the avenue to the Mansion House.

SATURDAY 21ST JULY (Explorer Map 150)

Leader: Maureen Cahalane

MEET : Victoria at 0910 for 0933 train to Whitstable (arr. 1052)
LUNCH : The Marine pub or nearby cafe, Tankerton
TEA : Reculver or Herne Bay
DISTANCE : 10 miles, returning from Herne Bay
FARE : £9.50 CDR Herne Bay with Network Card

Sunday 22nd July (Land ranger Map 188)

Leader: Helen Hunt

MEET : Victoria at 0900 for 0918 train to Maidstone East (arr. 1018)
LUNCH : The Fleur de Lys, Burham (GR73 2619)
TEA : The Malta Inn by bank of River Medway
DISTANCE : 13 miles, returning from Maidstone East
FARE : £9.25 CDR with Network Card

Sunday 29th July (Explorer Map 123)

Leader: Maurice Hickman

MEET : Victoria at 0920 for 0947 train to Eastbourne (arr. 1119)
LUNCH : Tiger Inn, East Dean
TEA : Birling Gap and then cliff-top walk back to Eastbourne
DISTANCE : 12 miles, returning from Eastbourne
FARE : £13.40 CDR with Network Card

There will be a possibility of a dip/swim at Birling Gap, weather permitting. Regular buses run between Eastbourne, East Dean, Birling Gap and Beachy Head.

Sunday 5th August (Landranger Map 153) Leader: Paul Connolly
MEET : Kings Cross 0855 for 0922 train to Biggleswade (arr 1001)
LUNCH : The Cock, Gamlingay
TEA : Sandy
DISTANCE : 12 mostly level miles returning from Sandy
FARE : £9.70 cdr Sandy with NSE discount

Sunday 12th August (Explorer Map 120) Leader: Angela Shardlow
MEET : Victoria at 0845 for 0917 train to Chichester (arr. 1103)
LUNCH : The Spotted Cow, Hunston (early lunch)
TEA : Dolphin & Anchor (Wetherspoon), Chichester
DISTANCE: 8 flat miles via Canal or Harbour, returning from Chichester
FARE: £12.35 CDR with Network Card

Sunday 19th August (Explorer Map 147) Leader: Paul Brunning

MEET: Charing Cross at 0935 for 0952 train to Hayes, Kent (arr. 1032)
LUNCH: The Queen's Head, Downe (good reasonably priced food)
TEA: Possibly
DISTANCE: 12 miles, returning from Hayes
FARE: £5.50 CDR with Network Card

MONDAY 27th AUGUST (Landranger Map 165) Leader: Paul Connolly
MEET: Marylebone at 0900 for 0927 train to Wendover (arr. 1015)
LUNCH: King's Arms, Tring
TEA: Wendover
DISTANCE: 14 miles, returning from Wendover
FARE: £8.90 COR with Network Card

Lourdes trip in 2008: This item has been under "Future Dates for your Diary" in previous programmes but the time has come to firm up bookings now and Gillian McLauchlan has kindly agreed to act as the bookings contact within the club. Please let her know as soon as possible if you intend to travel (some have already notified Anne Dunne and their interest is already noted). Gillian's address is 64 Pankhurst House, Du Cane Road, London W12 OUL and her telephone number is 020 8740 5507. We will need deposits of £75 but do not send this until we ask you to. A date by which deposits must be paid will be in the next programme.

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The plan is to fly from Stansted on Monday 17th March 2008 and return on the following Monday 24th March (Easter Monday). We will be making use of the services of Tangney tours who are very experienced in this sort of event. They will arrange a full spiritual programme with English speaking support staff and Priest, shared with other Tangney groups. Needless to say there will be Mass at the Grotto and it will be possible to use wheelchair in Lourdes for those who can't manage hills. There will be walking tours of appropriate sights.

Unfortunately we cannot get a definite price until September but it is likely to be between £450- £600 inc. plus £15 single supplement (slightly less if more than 20 book up as they give one place in 20 free and we will share that saving among all who are going).

Don't forget Sunday train services can be affected by engineering works. Information on these can be obtained by calling 08457 484950 or see National Rail Website at www.nationalrail.com. Please Note (this especially applies to trains

which usually start at Charing Cross) engineering works sometimes mean that trains are diverted to start from a different main line station, e.g. Charing Cross trains are diverted to start from Victoria or Cannon Street. It's wise to ring national rail during the week to ask if there are any special arrangements the following Sunday

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. Unless otherwise indicated the fare shown is the fare from the London terminus to our destination. Most people can get a reduction by using a travel card for part of the journey.

Several Rail Companies now offer three or four tickets for the price of two so if a few members are at the ticket office at the same time it is worth asking if there are any deals going. The ticket clerks will not necessarily volunteer the cheapest way to travel.

And remember you can still get an all zone travel card for £4.80 even at an Underground station using your Network Southeast Card discount. That's a saving of £1.90 on a Zone 1-6 card and £3 on a Zone 1-6 + D card.

News, Views and items of interest

Welcome to New members: Alas we have had no new members joining since the last programme but were glad to see some new walkers out from the 20 or so who got details from the membership secretaries. They are also receiving this programme and we hope to see them on more walks and on the new members list in the next quarter. NB New members joining after 31st July this year will not need to pay again until October 2008.

Happy Birthday: We wish Anne Walsh a happy 60th birthday early in June. Those who are travelling to Livingston to celebrate with her will already have made their arrangements when you get this programme.

1st - 4th June and 12th - 15th July: Art and Design Exhibitions: Club member, Trisha Enes finishes her Applied Art degree soon and will be showing her work (lighting) at 2 shows. You are very welcome to come along if you are interested. Look for Middlesex University, Applied Art, Trisha Enes:

1) Middlesex University Show, 1st - 4th June at The Old Truman Brewery, Brick Lane, London

El. Admission is free and the show includes all types of art from the art school including fine

art, graphics, fashion etc.

2) New Designers Exhibition, 12th - 15th July, at the Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street,

London, N1. Admission £12 and the show includes mainly design, from art schools around the

country. For more info contact: se280@mdx.ac.uk.

Obituaries: We were very sorry to hear of the death on 14th April of Claire Philips. Claire was already suffering from a serious illness when she joined the club in 2002. She fought valiantly against the odds and enjoyed her time walking with us. Several members of the club attended her funeral Mass on 23rd April. Catherine Scott

said a few well received words on behalf of the club. Three of us missed the graveside service due to bus delays but we had our own mini service reciting a prayer that we found in the newsletter at Claire's parish church.

We were also very sorry to learn of the death of Bishop James O'Brien on 12 April. Bishop James enriched our 75th anniversary celebration in 2005 and led us in the day of recollection in 2006. Shortly before he died he sent his best wishes to the club and expressed appreciation for a card which some members of the club had delivered to his home at the London Colney Pastoral Centre. May they rest in peace.

Get well wishes to club members who are unable to walk due to illness. We pray for all of them.

Thanks for publicising the Club in your Parish Church: Many thanks to all who put up our poster in their Church. From the number of enquiries addressed to Angela Shardlow it is clear that the new poster is being displayed but we still find churches where the notice has not changed for some years. If you have not already done so please check whether there is one up already in your Church. If there is, then replace it with the one that was enclosed with the Winter programme so that this year's membership secretary details are publicised. If there is not an announcement there already please ask your Parish Priest for permission to put one up.

Future Dates for Your Diary

Saturday 6th October 2007 Annual General Meeting: This year the AGM will be on Saturday 6th October at St Mary Moorfields and will be followed by Mass in the Church by kind agreement of our president Fr Peter. Full details in next programme but you don't have to wait till then to start getting nominations organised for membership of the committee. Most existing members of the committee have done at least two consecutive years and should be replaced this year. So please talk among yourselves and come forward with nominations for the posts of Secretary, Treasurer and Ramble List Compiler and five other committee posts (we must have four men and four women).

Saturday 10th November: Fund Raising Demonstration of Medieval Instruments Followed by Mass for Deceased Members: St Mary Moorfields Church Hall, Eldon Street, London, EC1. 2.30 p.m. Slide show presentation on St Francis' era and the world of Mediaeval Music. Accompanied by the Choir of the Confraternity of St James Or Mary Remnant, a Musician, Researcher and author, expert on Mediaeval Music will share her insights into the music of St Francis' period, play a range of instruments of the period and also lead a small Choir to enhance the occasion.

Dr Remnant is keen to raise money for children in Eastern Europe; a suitable charity will be identified nearer the time.

Light refreshments will be included and a donation of £10 is suggested - the Committee are very grateful to Dr Remnant for her generosity in offering this event, in spite of her busy schedule.

Expressions of interest to gauge numbers to the Social Secretary, please.

The annual Mass for deceased members will be at 6 pm in St Mary Moorfields Church.

Holiday in St Ives, Cornwall 24th - 31st May 2008: This has all been arranged now and those who are going will be aware that Marie Tisi needs deposits by 31st July.

Lourdes trip 17th to 24th March 2008: Please announcement above