

FIVE ALIVE

The Magazine of the Redruth Team Ministry
St Euny Redruth, Christchurch Lanner, St Andrew Pencoys
St Andrew Redruth and St Stephen Treleigh



May 2023
Price £1.00

*Living God's abundant life;
sharing the good news of Jesus*



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by FRIDAY 19 MAY

Rector's Notes—May 2023

May has always been my favourite month. In my farming days, it was the month our cows would always finally be grazing outside both day and night, and so long as the rain came it would be the month when grass and crops grew the most.

Now I still love May because the days are getting longer, and because though it's never Easter, it's always Eastertide! In the central tradition of our churches, Easter Day of course is the exhilarating moment to celebrate the joy of resurrection and Jesus' victory over death. But then we settle into this wonderful extended celebration of Eastertide. We have seven Sundays remembering all those appearances of the resurrected Jesus, including the Feast of Jesus' Ascension to heaven, and culminating in what effectively is the birthday of the church on Pentecost Sunday – this year on 28th May.

This year as usual we'll be joining in the global prayer movement *Thy Kingdom Come* which invites Christians around the world to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for the church to be renewed, and for more people to come to know the saving love and grace of God through Jesus. Special prayer stations to help us pray will be set up between 9am and 5pm on these days:

Mon 22nd May — Lanner
Tues 23rd May — Pencoyls
Wed 24th May — St Andrew's
Thurs 25th May — Treleigh
Sat 27th May — St Euny

And right in the middle of that week, on Tuesday 23rd May at 7pm (venue tbc) you are invited to a special evening with Revd Graham Adamson, our deanery missionary, to begin the conversation across all our churches about what the new deanery vision might look like for us: *'Living God's abundant life; sharing the good news of Jesus'*. Please join us if you can.

Also this month, as a nation we have the very special event of our King's Coronation. Whatever your view of the monarchy, it's hard not to be inspired by the willingness of someone aged 74 to reinvent himself in a completely new role at a time of life when the norm is to be taking life easy.

To all of our ultra-dedicated church members of a similar age who work away tirelessly for the good of the church – thank you for giving us the same example before the King did!

***With my prayers and best wishes
Caspar Bush (team rector)***



Curate's Notes

From ordinary to extraordinary

It's been one week since Easter, one week since the chaos and excitement, one week since the empty tomb, one week since our first *"Alleluia. Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia."* Lots of surprises and new things. Lots to consider and to absorb.

In my personal time, I have been listening to Lectio 365 where this week we have been learning about the encounters with resurrected Christ and scripture stories like Mary Magdalene and the gardener, the two disciples on the Emmaus Road, doubting Thomas, Jesus on the beach with Peter, along with contemporary disciples like William J Seymour and Corrie Ten Boom. We see Jesus joins in the ordinary of our lives. I love the story of the breakfast on the beach with Jesus. He prepares a simple breakfast for his disciples. A little like the warm space - an ordinary kindness in the most ordinary of ways.

If you have not heard of William J Seymour and Corrie Ten Boom it is well worth researching them, they are amazing examples of ordinary people being disciples of Jesus. Nobodies that became somebodies because they met Jesus Christ, just like our week's scripture stories. William J Seymour was an African American preacher, who in 1906 on Azusa Street launched the worldwide Pentecostal and charismatic movements. And, Corrie Ten Boom, a hero of prayer. A Dutch Holocaust survivor, who was personally responsible for saving some 800 resistance fighters and Jews. She survived Ravensbruck concentration camp and spent her life proclaiming her hard-won message about forgiveness.

In all these stories we see Jesus reaching out to different people on different journeys to discover Jesus who is now Christ. The extraordinary meeting with the ordinary. Taking the ordinary and making them extraordinary. Jesus chooses to make himself real to people despite doubts, unbelief, and sinners. He does this with grace and through peace. He is gentle and unassuming, ever-present yet sometimes hidden. It is a joy to encounter the resurrected Jesus, even when it comes as a gentle Sunday has become our Sabbath, different from the Jewish Sabbath which is on a Saturday. We learn that Sunday is our Sabbath as this is the day on which Jesus rose from the grave. Everything begins again as we enter a new world that magical Sunday. A new world, a new kingdom, a new way to live and to meet Christ. This is why it is a day of rest and reflection.

This Easter, have you met with Christ? He has made himself known to us in a real way, so in what ways do you think you have been changed? How might life be if I hadn't met Jesus?

May you encounter the risen Christ this week in the ordinary things. And may you know that once you have encountered Jesus, you too are made extraordinary out of ordinary.

Revd Chris Harrigan

STATIONS OF THE RESURRECTION

Perhaps you walked the 14 Stations of the Cross during Holy Week. This journey will have enabled you to share in Jesus' journey to the cross and his death. What you may not have walked, or even heard of are the 14 STATIONS OF THE RESURRECTION. These stations are also known as the *Via Lucis* / the way of light. The stations focus on the appearances of Jesus after the cross and on the birth of the early church at Pentecost. The *Via Lucis* is listed below, and there is an opportunity to walk them on SUNDAY MAY 21, 6.00pm in Christchurch.



Station	Description	Biblical References
First	Jesus Is Raised from the Dead	1 Cor 15:3-4; John 20:1-10
Second	Women Find the Tomb of Jesus Empty	Mark 16:1-8; Matthew 28:1-8; Luke 24:1-12
Third	The Risen Lord Appears to Mary Magdalene	John 20:1, 11-18; cf. Matt 28:9-10; Mark 16:9-11
Fourth	Jesus Appears on the Road to Emmaus	Luke 24:13-27; cf. Mark 16:12-13
Fifth	Jesus Is Known in the Breaking of Bread	Luke 24:28-35
Sixth	Jesus Appears to His Disciples in Jerusalem	Luke 24:36-43
Seventh	Jesus Gives the Disciples Authority to Forgive Sins	John 20:19-23
Eighth	Jesus Strengthens the Faith of Thomas	John 20:24-29
Ninth	Jesus Appears by the Sea of Tiberias	John 21:1-14
Tenth	Jesus Tells Peter to Feed His Sheep	John 21:15-19
Eleventh	Jesus Commissions His Disciples on a Mountain	Matthew 28:16-20; cf. Mark 16:15-16
Twelfth	Jesus Ascends into Heaven	Luke 24:44-53; Acts 1:6-11
Thirteenth	Mary and the Disciples Wait in Prayer	Acts 1:3-5, 12-14
Fourteenth	The Holy Spirit Descends at Pentecost	Acts 2:1-13

FP

ST STEPHEN'S TRELEIGH



Mothering Sunday saw St Stephens filled with daffodils celebrating all those who are not only birth mothers, but anyone who 'mothers' others. Bunches of daffodils were presented to all who attended the service curtesy of Carol assisted by Helen and Teddy. Refreshments were available after the service and included Simnel Cake made by Anne. Our thanks go to Anne and Carol also for spending the time on Saturday arranging the flowers in the Church.

Holy week began with the blessing of the Palms by the Rev. Margaret in the hall after which we proceeded down the path to church singing All Glory Laud and Honour. A day of celebration before the events which unfold later in the week.

A more sober Maundy Thursday remembered the ceremony where Jesus washed the feet of the disciples by Caspar washing the feet of the congregation. The service ended with the stripping of the Altar followed by a 'watch' before we vacated the church in silence.

Good Friday we congregated in the Hawthorn Gardens for our Stations of the Cross service. Again led by Caspar the stations were positioned around the garden as Caspar moved around to each one. A verse of a hymn starting with 'There is a green hill far away', was sung after the readings and prayers at each station. From the 6th station we sing 'When I survey the wondrous cross' and from station 10 'Were you there when they crucified my Lord'. Again after the service we again leave in silence. This is a wonderfully moving service especially as we were accompanied by bird song. Our thanks go to Trish and Robin for erecting the stations and those who helped at the end.

Easter Sunday and again the church was filled with flowers arranged by Anne and Carol. The pastoral candle was blessed and the pins put in to represent the nails which had held Jesus on the cross. The candle was then processed down the aisle and put in its holder by the Altar. A service of Holy Communion followed led by Caspar with the joyful hymns of Easter-tide.

Mary Harris

ST EUNY

Watching the dawn break on Easter day was all that it promised to be. Twenty seven people were up before the lark and celebrated at the open air service and bonfire. We were fortunate to have such lovely weather with a clear sky and light wind (before the storms of Easter Tuesday and Wednesday). Thankfully Lucie provided us with an ample supply of hot-cross buns to keep us going afterward.

The Maundy Thursday service was particularly moving, with an altar of repose for reflection after the mass. On Good Friday Jason led a service which introduced an artistic reflection which was well supported.

Easter Saturday at St Euny was spent with an enthusiastic group of wreath-makers and Easter-Garden creators. Swamped in foliage and flowers some very impressive arrangements were formed and a happy buzz filled the church. Having the church open for soup lunches and refreshments encouraged several passers-by and local residents to come in to see the church and find out more about what goes on, so it is good to be open and active. We are looking forward to our new notice-board, which we hope will help encourage more people to 'notice' St Euny. Lisa and Dave have given our current display an eye-catching new look with flowers, bunnies, basket and bright advertisements which have definitely attracted more attention.

Our Open Café has had enough helpers and support for us to continue through the holidays and we hope to continue with that. Each week we have had many regulars and casual visitors who have decided to stay and be a part of this relaxed social meeting. Several people who have been recently bereaved have been introduced to the group and have returned to meet and chat on a regular basis. If you know anyone who is in this situation and would like to come into a warm and welcoming space for as long or short a time as they feel comfortable, please do recommend it to them. If they would like someone to accompany them or introduce them, if you let Caspar, FP or one of the St Euny congregation know we can be there to welcome them. There is a regular Wednesday service at 1.30pm and the Open Café runs from 2.00pm to 4.00pm after that.

We are looking forward to welcoming the Methodist Pilgrimage at 9.00am on the morning of Saturday 13th May and also the Kerrier North U3A History group for walk around Churchtown and St Euny on Tuesday 16th May.

St Euny is still working on setting up a 'social events' team, anyone who has anything to offer is most welcome to join us. Please contact Lucie, our churchwarden, if you are interested. Advance notices for July: on Friday 7th July, 6-9pm we will be holding a summer BBQ and music evening; on 19th July the Bishop will be officiating at a Communion Service at St Euny, with cakey-tea refreshments afterward. All are very welcome to both events.

Linda Beskeen

St. Andrew's Pencoys with Four Lanes Methodist Church
'FLAPJACK'

Worshipping, praying and working together as 'One in Christ' St. Andrew's Church remains open daily from about 10am-4pm with optional Covid-safe precautions in place (covid is still with us)

What an incredible evening it was! The church was packed for the First Sunday Evening Event on Palm Sunday 2nd April when our Deputy Churchwarden Sheila Gannaway, very bravely and "unaccustomed as she was to public speaking" shared with us her arduous journey through depression and her diagnosis of Parkinsons, following operations for detached retinas. Before a very supportive crowd of family and friends, many of whom sported bright blue Parkinsons UK tee-shirts, her courageous realism evoked both cheers and tears, when she described the effect that this had all had on her mental health and the emotions of her friends and family, explaining the work and support of Parkinsons UK. Echoing the words of "Footprints", read by Brian, she assured us that Jesus had definitely carried her through it all. She continues to smile. Her amazing bravery resulted in a stunning collection of £801 for the Cornwall & Isles of Scilly branch, added to a fundraiser at the Wednesday Club of £53 during the Parkinson's Awareness Week (Holy Week). Well done, Sheila; we'll continue to support you all the way! The next First Sunday Evening Event will be held on **Sunday 7th May** at 6pm Christchurch Lanner when the theme will be the **Coronation** of King Charles III.

Another very special event during Holy Week resulted in 29 of us enjoying a wonderful Seder supper and Holy Communion with footwashing on Maundy Thursday at the Methodist Church, and our very grateful thanks go to Fr Peter, and to Jenny Opie for the delicious lamb stew – a very memorable event, which also attracted members of other Methodist Churches. Other Easter services and events were equally well attended by members of both traditions.

Flapjack services and events during **May** will be:

Saturday 6th May : Open Afternoon in the Victoria Inn car park, with fundraising stalls from 12 noon to 4pm then **CORONATION DAY Quiz**, Pencoys Hall 7pm with crowns!

Sunday 7th May : Flapjack Holy Communion 11.15am Methodist Church then Lighthouse Big Party from 2 – 5pm making crowns (Methodist Church) and the **First Sunday** Evening Event at 6pm Christchurch Lanner, to celebrate the Coronation of our new King.

Sunday 14th May : Flapjack Family Event, St. Andrew's 11.15am said H.C 12.30pm

Thursday 18th May : **ASCENSION DAY** Sung Holy Communion 6pm St. Andrew's.

Saturday 20th May : Games (Bingo) Evening 6 – 8pm Pencoys Hall.

Sunday 21st May : Methodist Morning Service 11.15am H.C. at St. Andrew's 6pm

Saturday 27nd May : Bangers & Mash Methodist Church, from 11am

Sunday 28th May : **PENTECOST** Flapjack Holy Communion, St. Andrew's 11.15am
Teatime Celebration, Pencoys Hall, 4 – 5pm

The "Warm Wednesdays", run weekly between January and March at the Methodist Church, have now stopped and are replaced by a monthly "Wacky Wednesday" social afternoon, starting on 26th April, then on 24th May, etc. from 2–5 p.m.

Jill Tolputt

CHRISTCHURCH LANNER



With love and best wishes to all 'Five Alivers'!!

Christchurch remains open 10.00am – 4.00pm and Holy Communion is celebrated each Sunday at 9.30am, except on the second Sunday when an informal all age event (CHAMP) is held and Holy Communion 11.00am and follows the Prayer Book rite. The third Sunday is a Communion with new music.

CORONATION CELEBRATIONS AT BOTH CHRISTCHURCH AND FLAPJACK

With MANY THANKS to Carn Brea Council, Sheila's Tombola and generous donors, every child in both LANNER SCHOOL & PENCOYS SCHOOL will receive a Coronation Medal. The medal carries the official coronation logo and has a Union Flag ribbon.

Continuing the Queen's Jubilee tradition, Christchurch and FLAPJACK have ordered CORONATION MUGS. They will sell at £6.00 each and will carry the coronation inscription in both Cornish and English. If you would like to order one, please contact FP.

CORONATION EVENTS

Friday May 5 / Victoria Inn, Pencoys / 9pm-11pm / Band '3 Minute Warning'

**Saturday May 6 / Christchurch / 10am / Coronation Events on a Big Screen
Victoria Inn, Pencoys / look for a poster / Afternoon Tea
Christchurch / 3.00pm – 5.00pm / Coronation Tea Party
Pencoys Hall / 7.00pm / Coronation Quiz**

**Sunday May 7 / Four Lanes Chapel / 2pm – 5pm / 'Street' picnic
Christchurch / 6.00pm / 1st Sunday Coronation Event**

**Monday May 8 / Lanner Green / to be confirmed / Lanner Band Event
Victoria Inn, Pencoys / 12noon – 4pm / Community BBQ
Victoria Inn, Pencoys / 7.30pm / Monthly Quiz**

TUESDAY GAMES

'Toasty Tuesdays' have ended, BUT they are replaced by **TG** (Tuesday Games). This will take place every other Tuesday beginning on **TUESDAY MAY 9, 2pm – 4.30pm**. The first meeting, at which you will be VERY welcome will have **BINGO**, as well as tea, coffee, juice and even **CAKE!!**

FP

ST ANDREW REDRUTH

Holy week at St Andrew's was celebrated and observed with a range of events to suit the season.

Messy Church on Palm Sunday was a hub of activity with some truly messy activities. There was plenty of muddy compost and plants to go into the individual Easter Gardens, A beautiful decorated cross with spring flowers and foliage, home-made procession palms, a 'recycled' angel sculpture, decorated cards and story-crosses were all approached with gusto, if not always with focused concentration. You might like to try the recipe for 'resurrection buns' which Fran contributed - croissant pastry wrapped round a marshmallow which, when cooked, found the marshmallow had miraculously disappeared. This representation of the tomb was most tasty, but if you do decide to try it I recommend that a sheet of grease-proof paper be placed on the baking tray, as the marshmallow sugar which escaped managed to stick quite determinedly to the metal tray. A final chocolate Easter cake with mini-eggs added to the enjoyment, providing many interesting creations to take home as reminders of Holy Week and Easter. It was both truly 'Messy' and well attended with several families who are not regular attendees at Sunday Services, reassuring us of the value of this type of event and style of worship. Thanks to Anya who undertook the lion's share of the catering.

The Maundy Thursday supper and vigil was a mixture of sociable and solemn which also encouraged a good number of attendees.

Not wishing to twiddle her thumbs for too long, Lez managed to fit in organising a needlecraft exhibition on Friday and Saturday 14/15th April. A beautiful and impressive range of skills from members of Crafty Club and others was open for viewing and display of the range of interests which church members and friends can participate in.

Unfortunately the Coronation Supper has been cancelled due to lack of support. Plans are now underway for the St Andrew's Art Festival which takes place in the week beginning on Murdoch Day (Saturday 17th June). The theme this summer will be "Over Sea, Under Stone". Regular events are planned, including the 'Poems, Pasties and Pints' night and a guided local walk around the manor of Trewirgie. A jewellery workshop will be offered and a play on Saturday afternoon and evening. Offers of help will be gratefully received by Lez and any suggestions for potential visiting artists should also be given to Lez. Please do spread the word so that we can welcome as many visitors as possible.

In anticipation of the wish for further relaxation, a cheese & wine soir e is being planned for July, details to follow.

Linda Beskeen



SOME FACTS ABOUT CORONATIONS

WHAT IS A CORONATION?

The coronation is the ancient ceremony of crowning a new monarch. Crowns are ancient symbols of majesty and dignity. The ceremony takes part on, or soon after, the king or queen's accession and is steeped in tradition. The main parts of English coronations have remained unchanged for a thousand years. These same traditions were used for the coronation of the last monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, in 1953, and are likely to be used for the coronation of her son, King Charles III in 2023.

ST EDWARD'S CROWN RE-MADE

The current St Edward's Crown was made to replace an ancient crown used at medieval coronations. It was destroyed during the English Civil War. In 1649, parliament ordered the medieval coronation regalia brought to the Tower of London from Westminster Abbey and destroyed.

HANDEL'S CORONATION ANTHEM

Zadok The Priest has been sung at coronations in England for more than a thousand years. George Frideric Handel composed the current musical setting for the coronation of King George II in 1727.

THE LAST WESTMINSTER CORONATION BANQUET

Traditionally the coronation was followed by a grand banquet in Westminster Great Hall. This tradition ceased after the coronation of King George IV in 1821, one of the most extravagant coronations in history.

THE INVESTITURE

The monarch is presented with items from the Coronation Regalia, which are special clothes and objects symbolising their powers and responsibilities.

The final object is St Edward's Crown, placed on the monarch's head at the moment of crowning as a sign of royal majesty and dignity. Later in the ceremony the monarch wears the Imperial State Crown to process from the Abbey.

King Charles will likely sit on the Coronation Chair during the ceremony, as his predecessors have done since 1300. The chair houses the Stone of Scone, sometimes called "the Stone of Destiny", which is an ancient symbol of Scottish monarchy. The Stone was taken from Scotland by Edward I in 1296 and sent to Westminster Abbey.



STOP PRESS!!

Friday May 5

Christchurch Lanner 7pm

MAKE A CROWN WORKSHOP AND WEAR IT

AT A SHORT CORONATION QUIZ

BRING SOME FOOD, DRINKS PROVIDED



FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

09 April 2023	Ruby Richards	St Andrew Redruth
09 April 2023	Daisy Rose Richards	St Andrew Redruth
16 April 2023	Lennox Robert Gordon	St Andrew Redruth
16 April 2023	Hunter Robert Gordon	St Andrew Redruth

WEDDING

10 April 2023	Peter Watts and Sarah Louise Halliday	St Euny
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MARRIAGE BLESSING

10 April 2023	Phuil and Sharon Mildren	St Andrew Redruth
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FUNERAL

12 April 2023	Wilfred Bawden (Bill)	St Stephen Treleigh
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*ADVANCE NOTICE
'OVER SEA—UNDER STONE'
ST ANDREW REDRUTH
ARTS FESTIVAL*

SATURDAY 17 JUNE—THURSDAY 22 JUNE

SAVE THE DATE!!

LIGHTHOUSE

'LIGHTHOUSE' is just one of the groups offered in the Benefice for children and young people. The group, based in Four Lanes and run by Caroline and Grandma Carol meets on the FIRST Sunday of each month, 3.00pm – 5.00pm in the Four Lanes Chapel. The group also hopes to offer some activities each school holiday.

The February half-term focused on the winter Olympics with various sports on offer, although the line was drawn at curling down the aisle of the Pencoys Church with wet soap!! However, there was ski-ing, skittles and flap the fish!! Nations were chosen, flags made and medals designed. The work will be on display in the church.

The monthly meetings of LIGHTHOUSE always focuses on a theme which is part of the life of the wider church. Prayers are offered, candles are lit and the work achieved is shared on the SECOND Sunday of the month at the church family service, with the young people taking part as much as possible.

YOU will always be welcome at LIGHTHOUSE, and the young people will be very happy to share their tea with you, which is an important part of the meeting.

FP



QR CODES

The three Redruth PCC churches have needed to change their QR codes to the 'Give a Little' website. The new codes are:-



ST EUNY



ST ANDREW PENCOYS



ST ANDREW REDRUTH

A Choir Excursion, St Andrew's Church Redruth, 1910 *Michael Tangye*

August 1910. There was probably great excitement at St Andrew's Church where about 24 members of the church choir and numerous choir boys, gathered awaiting transport to taken them on an excursion to West Penwith. Mr Joseph Mills, the owner of the horse-drawn vehicle a Jersey Car with bases at Redruth and St Day, soon arrived to cheers from the waiting crowd—but little did they know what lay before them!

It would have been a slow process to get all the passengers on board, as it was quite common for such vehicles to be grossly overfull, with not only the interior full but also many people perched high above the driver and four horses; it was also customary for males to vacate their seats and would walk when steep hills were encountered. All would have gone well enroute with the traditional singing of hymns and popular songs—until they arrived at Gunard's Head. Suddenly, for some reason the horses' harness broke, leaving them to gallop away, whilst the Jersey car carried on, with its alarmed passengers clinging on to each other and to anything within reach, before it eventually overturned at a sharp corner to fall against a hedge—scattering its passengers in all directions! Some 'at the front of the impact suffered fractures' and were given First Aid by Mr Tom Berryman (choir-member?) a member of the Redruth Division, St John Ambulance Brigade 'who received much praise' for his action. Fortunately a doctor from London stopped in his motor-vehicle, treated casualties and conveyed some to St Ives.
(Text taken from brief report in the West Briton 25/8/1910, and enlarged by this writer)

Mr Joseph Mills is also mentioned elsewhere in the West Briton in an advertisement (1908):- 'Horses, Ponies, Cobbs and vehicles of every description. The 'Four'-Horse Jersey Cars and Covered Brakes 'are noted for ease and comfort in riding and are splendidly made to suit evening parties. Rubber tyres supplied with Jingles and Rallys.

Covered conveyances for the removal of furniture. Weddings and funerals. Joseph Mills, Claremont Rd, Redruth. Sells harnesses, cast lamps at Fair Meadow (Redruth) every Friday' Many of us will recall Joseph Mills' garage at Penders Lane to the south of Claremont Rd.

My way to Compostella, Day 3

Len Cunningham

Apologies for the unedited draft of last month!!

After a relatively good night and a reasonable breakfast we were raring to go, except of course we had to wait to have our passports back and pay the bill, so our intended start time was delayed by an hour. The weather was dry and cool as we stopped for the obligatory photo by the signpost that read Santiago de Compostela 790 kilometres, so a little way to go yet. We left Roncesvalles heading to our next intended stop at Larrasoña 27.4Km or 17miles in old money and mostly down hill. The day's walk started off on a woodland path running parallel to the road leading into the village of Burguete, Ernest Hemingway is supposed to have stayed in The Hotel Burguete, goodness knows why as the village had no redeeming features, except for the guidebook's recommended small bar and café. So like the dozens of Peregrinos already there we stopped for a coffee. It was pleasant to sit in the pale sunlight chatting to some of those whose paths we had crossed over the last day or two. Leaving the village we crossed the road to join a wide farm track which crossed the Rio Urrobi following the track downhill on a quiet woodland path for 3.5 km to the village of Espinal. Continuing through the village we took a track which led us through a young plantation which merged with a mature beech wood ascending to a height of 955 metres (1250ft) then down through open fields for 1.9Km to Alto de Mezquiriz at 930 metres (1050ft). From here the path continued steeply down for 3.4 km through the obligatory beech woods to cross the Rio Erro on stepping stones into the village of Gerendiain. This is an ancient hamlet and was the start of stage 2 of the Codex Calixtinus, the medieval pilgrims guide book. Our route took us via the Hamlet of Linzoain with the path descending steeply into woodland once again, this time a dense mixed one. This part of the path turned out to be delightfully shaded and formed the ridge of the Pacos de Roland (path of Roland) to the Alto de Erro 860 metres where we crossed a road and descended on very steep and stoney ground for 3.4Km to Puente de la Rabia a medieval bridge over the Rio Arga and the road that brought us into the town of Zubiri where we found a small café for lunch, before walking on to Larrasoña. Zubiri is an industrial town manufacturing Magnesium. Leaving Zubiri after enjoying a lunch in the company of two Australian men, we made our way back to the bridge picking up the path which took us around the top of the magnesium plant and along the river valley for 5.3Km before crossing over a bridge to take us into our stop for the night at Larrasoña. We booked into the town's municipal albergue (hostel) for 5 euros each, this gave us the privilege of sharing a 4 bedded room and shower and washing facilities. As the albergue was full with 78 pilgrims and we arrived around 4.30 pm, we had a little wait for our turn with the showers, after which we had a quiet ramble around the town, washed our socks and smalls, leaving them to dry in the evening sun.

Larrasoña has a long history with the Camino and was an important pilgrim halt in medieval times, with two pilgrim hospitals and a monastery. Across the town square was a bar where we had to pre- book our evening meal. So we joined the host of fellow pilgrims at 7pm to eat. It is at times like these that you begin to get the sense of communion with fellow pilgrims. Sitting together talking and sharing a meal with those we had met before and a very mixed bag we were. Irish, Australian, Canadian, American, Korean and not forgetting the Spanish and French. After eating we headed to our shared room and a restful night! before tomorrow's onslaught.

ThurstanHoskin

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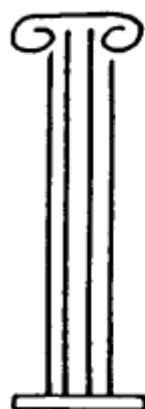


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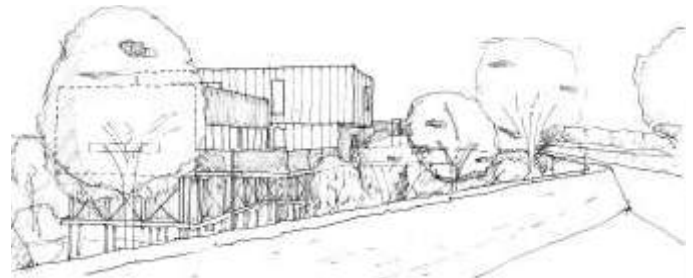
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