

The Journal



Of the Ascent Movement
(Life Ascending International)



Christian Movement for those in their middle and
later years

2014 e-newsletter 1

Aylesford Friary – A very special place

On the cover of this newsletter you will see a happy photograph of our Southern retreat at Aylesford last June.

It was, yet again, a very beautiful few days, spent together in the ancient Carmelite Friary and some precious peaceful moments were spent in the chapels and grounds. Each retreat varies slightly and Fr. Michael Manning O.C. helped us to reflect on '*You are the salt of the Earth*' last year. Salt and light are joined together; therefore it is up to us to season the world with our salt and let our light shine for all to see.

The Carmelites arrived at Aylesford in 1242 and in 1247 a General Chapter was held in Aylesford and this marks the transition of the Carmelites into an International Order of Friars. They followed a new monastic life began by Ss Francis and Dominic. They would go out among the people, to serve and care for them. A local Kentish man, Simon Stock, became Prior General. He left a great reputation of holiness and devotion to Our Lady as during his life he had had a vision of Our Lady.

She touched his scapular (the short monastic cloak, covering his shoulders) promising her protection to whoever wore a scapular. 700 years later, some of St Simon's holy remains were brought to Aylesford from Bordeaux and now rest in the St Simon's chapel.

Aylesford has had a chequered history passing through the tumult of the Reformation and for a period becoming a fine mansion until in June 1930 it was destroyed by fire.

In 1949 Fr. Malachy Lynch OC, the first Prior began the miraculous work of restoration and from then until the present day, the Friary has slowly become a place of pilgrimage, reflection and peace. We are so fortunate to be able to use Aylesford for our Southern retreat as it has much to offer the present day pilgrims.

This year's retreat is from the 9th to the 12th of June and is again led by Fr. Michael Manning. The topic is: '*Vocations – Why does God call the most unlikely people?*' there is a cost of £190 for full board and 10 or so places are still available.

To make a booking please contact:

Mr and Mrs Keith Hunter

531 Loose Road, Maidstone Kent ME15 9UQ Tel 01622 746793

or e-mail the editor at palowkar@blueyonder.co.uk

The next newsletter will contain details of the Northern retreat at:

The Briery, Ilkley, W. Yorkshire 22-25th September 2014.

All members are welcome at either or both retreats.

Letter from the Editor

At the November meeting of the National Planning Team (NPT) I was asked to take over the editorship of the Journal. I trust that by now all group members and associates have received the printed copy of the 2013 journal. My plans are that the next printed Journal will be produced in October 2014 and distributed at the NPT meeting in November. This plan is to be augmented by production of a number of e-newsletters, which will be sent to all group leaders, associates and other NPT members for whom I have e-mail addresses. It would be helpful if any group leader who does not have access to e-mail could find a member of their group who does, or some alternative method, so that good communication may be maintained.

I also am acting in the role of interim Treasurer and subscription forms, which have been sent to all Groups and Associates and are to be returned to me, will provide an opportunity for all updated information including e-mail addresses where they exist. In order to ensure that there is wide coverage of all the country it requires that news of recent events and, even more so, future events is sent to me, preferably by e-mail, so that I may be able to communicate these, and other matters, to all the members.



I include this picture so that members who do not know me may be able to recognize me if we meet at any retreats or pilgrimages later this year. Because the accounts published in the Journal were those presented by the previous treasurer and the pressure to produce the journal in time for Christmas did not allow for the later version to be added, I will publish the later version here. These accounts were presented and approved at the last NPT meeting in November 2013. I have also included a further update, which reflects the financial situation at the end of 2013.

Mike Palowkar MA Interim Treasurer and Journal Editor.

Laurence Burbridge died in November aged 90. He ran the New Malden group for some years and chaired the Southwark Group Leaders meetings as well as being a fine MC on bigger occasions. He was active in every aspect of church life and God's goodness shone through him in abundance. Rest in God's love Laurence. Obit & picture next newsletter.

We also have to announce the death of Helena Thais of Kensington.

Recent accounts 2012-8 Updated 17/10/2013

Last Published Account

Balance 32/8/2012	£8,618.12	Deposit A/C	£3,016.84		
Total	£11,634.96				
		Income	£17.50	Expenditure	£220.40
Balance 2/11.2012					£11,432.06

NPT meeting 12-13/11/2012 Expenditure £967.38 £10,464.68

Transferred by 2 Cheques £ 4000 23/10/12 & £6,464.68 10/12/12 to Barclays Enfield

New bank account – Mike Palowkar –Treasurer

Opening balance	£10,464.68
Paid in	£4,655.30 ¹
Paid out	£1812.12 ²
Bal	£13,307.86

Represented by Current A/c £ 10,307.86	Deposit A/c £3,000.
Total £13,307.86	

Net Interest	£10.08 ³
Deposit A/c as at 23/9/13	£3,010.08

M. Palowkar

Kathleen Venting

Further update to end 2013

Opening balance 1/11/13 £10,307.86	Deposit A/C	£3,010.08	Total £13,317.94
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Monies paid out at NPT 13/11/13	£2,518.41 ⁴
Journal 2013	
(28) Printing £ 716.00	
(29) Dispatch £ 328.30	
	£1,044.30
(30) VMI sub £ 170.00	£ 170.00
	<u>£ 3,732.71</u>

Balance at 1/1/2014	<u>£6,575.15</u>
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Note 1 Moneys Paid in

Associates:

12 singles @ £8 £96 2doubles @ £12 £24 donations £98	Total	£ 218.00
23 listed 14 paid 4 resigned 5 unpaid.		

Groups:

431 singles @ £8 £3448, 38 doubles @ £12 £456	Total	<u>£4,437.30</u> donations
£533.30		
42 listed 39 paid 3 resigned 1 closed 2013		£4,655.30

Note 2 Moneys Paid out

(1) Marie Ryde – Postage of subscription forms	£ 52.28
(2) Paula Conrad – Website	£ 35. 96
(3) Margaret Snowdon – NCLA	£ 90.00
(4) Margaret Snowdon - VMI Strasbourg	<u>£556.16</u>
	£734.40

NPT 16&17/4/2013 (5-10)

1 See note 1
2 See note 2
3 Interest gained on deposit @0.5%
4 See note 4

Total	<u>£889.80</u>	<u>£ 889.80</u>
		<u>£1624.20</u>
(11-15) Transport, NCLA Website (x2)	£181.92	£1,812.12
Note 4		
(16-27) Posters, Conference, Transport	£ 1,518.41	
(27) Donation (Philippines)	<u>£ 1,000.00</u>	
	<u>£ 2,518.41</u>	

We are sorry to announce the sad loss of one of our most active members Judy has been a great loss to the Wood Green Group and is deeply mourned.

*In Loving Memory of
Judy De Sa*



We will not see her like again.