800 - not out!

Not a remarkable turn-around in the fortune of the English national cricket team but the number of years since Francis and his small group of brothers in 1209 received approval for their 'Form of Life'. To Francis’ surprise, following his conversion, other men recognised what he was doing as a fresh expression of living the gospel of Jesus. "The Lord gave me some brothers … the Most High himself revealed to me that I should live according to the pattern of the holy gospel." In this franciscan our contributions from different churches and places help us to put this event in context and to see some of the results of that original commitment down the centuries and in our own time.