

AMDG

# STONYHURST

## association news



NEWSLETTER 312

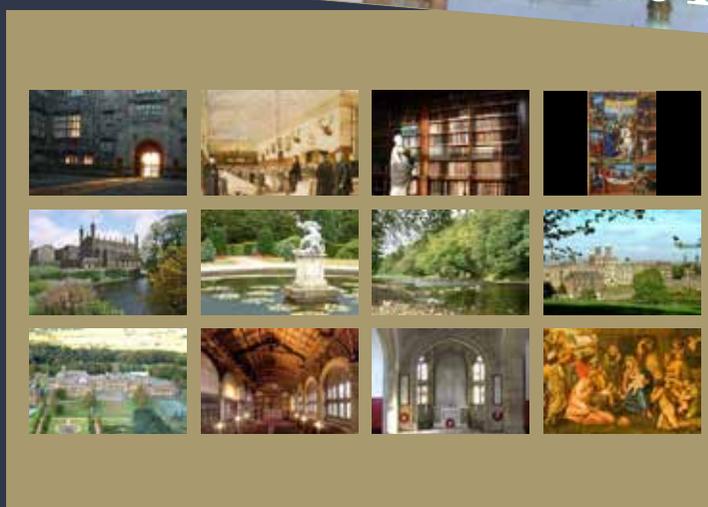
STONYHURST NOW

JULY 2016



# STONYHURST CALENDAR 2017

The calendar costs **£9.50**. Postage rates are £1.50 for the UK and £5.00 for Europe. For postage elsewhere please contact the Association Office, **01254 827043** for the rate. Payments by credit/debit card can be taken by phone, cheques should be made payable to the Stonyhurst Association.



## THE STONYHURST RECORD

A record of the recent activities and achievements of the pupils and staff at the College and St Mary's Hall, many obituaries of former pupils and featured aspects of the history of the school.

*The Stonyhurst Record* is on sale to current parents and former pupils. The support of OS subscribers is greatly appreciated and without which the publication would cease to exist.

To become a subscriber, please apply to Beverley Sillitoe in the Association Office for an application form. To purchase a single copy of the current edition, please send a cheque for £12.50 to Beverley made payable to 'Stonyhurst College'.

## the STONYHURST RECORD



2015





# STONYHURST ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER 312

AMDG

JULY 2016

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### STONYHURST ASSOCIATION IGNATIAN WEEKEND - SILENT RETREAT

AN INTRODUCTION  
TO IGNATIAN  
SPIRITUALITY  
LED BY FR SIMON  
BISHOP SJ

FRIDAY 21- SUNDAY 23  
OCTOBER 2016  
MAYFIELD SCHOOL,  
MAYFIELD, EAST SUSSEX



After being made so welcome last year, the fifth annual Introduction to Ignatian Spirituality Retreat will once again be held at Mayfield School set in the heart of the Sussex countryside 50 miles south of central London.

This year's leader will be **Fr Simon Bishop SJ OS 86** who, having lived, studied and worked in a number of Jesuit schools and in the chaplaincy at the University of Oxford, now co-ordinates the spirituality life and work of the Jesuits in Britain saying "the same fire continues to burn within me, the fire of the Lord's love, full of freedom and joy, wanting to bring His healing and His peace to all He asks me to serve."

Located in the village of Mayfield on the site of the pre-Reformation residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the buildings boast some astonishingly beautiful gothic interiors. The school was established in 1872 by Mother Cornelia Connelly, foundress of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus (SHCJ) and still helps students 'to grow strong in faith and lead fully human lives'.

[www.mayfieldgirls.org](http://www.mayfieldgirls.org)

The cost will be **£120 per person** for two nights' accommodation and meals. Please contact Beverley Sillitoe for a booking form.

Tel: **01254 827043** Email: [association@stonyhurst.ac.uk](mailto:association@stonyhurst.ac.uk) or see the website to download the booking form.

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YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER ARE WELCOMED: CONTACT  
THE EDITOR FOR INFORMATION.

# DIARY OF EVENTS

Details will be published on the web site [www.stonyhurst.ac.uk](http://www.stonyhurst.ac.uk)  
email: [association@stonyhurst.ac.uk](mailto:association@stonyhurst.ac.uk) with any queries

DATE	EVENT	NOTES
August 19th – 26th	<b>Lourdes Pilgrimage</b>	
September 2nd	<b>London OS Reunion</b>	You are warmly invited to join an informal gathering of OS on Friday 2nd September. There will be Mass at Farm Street at 6.00pm and then afterwards the plan is to meet up for drinks from 6.30pm onwards at: The Punch Bowl, 41 Farm Street, Mayfair, London, W1J 5RP. Nearest tube: Green Park (Jubilee, Piccadilly and Victoria lines) All OS welcome to come along, an informal way of catching up with friends! Please contact Hamish Reid OS 04 at <a href="mailto:reid.hamish@gmail.com">reid.hamish@gmail.com</a> or Lena Vorreiter OS 03 at <a href="mailto:magdalena.vorreiter@citi.com">magdalena.vorreiter@citi.com</a> if you are planning to attend.
September 22nd	<b>An Italian Evening - Dinner at the Italian Orchard, Broughton, Preston</b>	Following the success of the dinner held last year, we are arranging another dinner at the Italian Orchard. There will be a glass of Prosecco on arrival, followed by a three course dinner with coffee. There will be a choice of menu on the night. Tickets are £40. All profit from the evening will go to the Stonyhurst Pilgrimage Trust, to enable them to continue supporting Higher Line pupils and young OS who come as helpers to Lourdes. The Trust also provides financial assistance to sick pilgrims, who may otherwise not be able to go. All OS, parents, former parents, and friends of Stonyhurst are very welcome to join us for this lovely evening at the Italian Orchard. Contact the Association Office for tickets. If anyone is able to offer a raffle prize for the evening we would be delighted to accept your generosity!
October 8th	<b>OS Reunion 2006</b>	A reunion for OS2006 is being arranged at the College. Julian Dineen and Shanida Osakonor are co-ordinating the reunion, their email addresses are Julian: <a href="mailto:jlsdineen@hotmail.co.uk">jlsdineen@hotmail.co.uk</a> and Shanida: <a href="mailto:shanida_o@hotmail.com">shanida_o@hotmail.com</a> . We are currently gathering as many email addresses as we can and would be glad to hear from any of you.
October 21st – 23rd	<b>Ignatian Weekend Retreat</b>	This year's leader will be Fr Simon Bishop SJ who, having lived, studied and worked in a number of Jesuit schools and in the chaplaincy at the University of Oxford, now co-ordinates the spirituality life and work of the Jesuits in Britain. This year the retreat will be held again at Mayfield School. The cost will be £120 per person for two nights' accommodation and meals. A booking form is available from the Association Office.
October 29th	<b>Stonyhurst Association Annual Dinner</b>	This year the dinner will be presided over by Father Nicholas King SJ OS 66 and will be held at Stonyhurst College. The guest speaker will be Sister Jane Livesey CJ. Tickets are priced at £75, and at £50 for OS aged 25 and under. The booking form is available from the Association Office, and on the website.
November 12th	<b>OS 1991 Reunion</b>	A reunion for OS1991 is being arranged at the College. It is being co-ordinated by Richard Drinkwater who can be contacted at: <a href="mailto:richard@richarddrinkwater.co.uk">richard@richarddrinkwater.co.uk</a> . A booking form is available from the Association Office. We are currently gathering as many email addresses as we can and would be glad to hear from any of you who suspect that the email address we hold for you is out of date so that we can update our records. In the meantime do contact Richard if you plan to attend.
December 6th	<b>Association Carol Service (open to the public)</b>	Will take place in St Peter's Church at 7.00pm, and will be followed by refreshments in the Top Refectory.
January 28th 2017	<b>Preston Grasshoppers Lunch</b>	George Erdozain OS 61 and Martin Hothersall OS 72 will once again be hosting a lunch at Preston Grasshoppers RFC for OS, partners, friends and others connected with Stonyhurst. The date is Saturday 28th January 2017. This has proved to be a very convivial afternoon on the previous occasions. The cost is £20 per head for a 3 course meal, ticket to Hoppers 1st XV match v Otley and match day programme. To book please contact Martin Hothersall: <a href="mailto:martinhothersall@outlook.com">martinhothersall@outlook.com</a> or 01772 613207.

# NEWS

## CHURCHILL'S SECRET

On the 24th February, this year, ITV screened a full length feature film entitled "Churchill's Secret". Based on a true incident in the life of Winston Churchill.



It was directed by three-times Emmy nominee Charles Sturridge OS 68 (Shackleton, Brideshead Revisited).

## CRICKET BUS C 1948

The picture above shown in the previous newsletter caused some interest among older OS and some speculation as to the characters shown. We are grateful to John Drake-Lee among others for most of the names.



Left to right, back:

**David Bullen, ...Coyle, Gerry Marechal, not known, Peter Delisle, Julian Dare, David Parker, Paul Haslam-Fox,**

Bus doorway – **Michael Byrne** and in the centre of the group – **Alsop.**

Front row – **Crispian Hollis, Michael Wright** and **Anthony Moorhouse.**

## FROM EDWARD GONSALVES OS 59 IN GUYANA



I like the article (about David de Caires in the last issue). Those of us who knew David had a good chuckle when we read it. There is so much more that could have been mentioned about David. Are you aware his home which is less than 100m from where I live is now the Moray House Trust? He also spearheaded the beautification of Camp St which is the street that Moray House is located on. Check "About us Moray House Trust" on the web.



From Left to right **Paul de Freitas, David de Caires, Edward Gonsalves, David Serrao** and **John de Freitas**. It must be 1953/54 because Paul and I are in our SMH blazers.

David de Caires's leadership of the 'Camp Street 2000' millennium project was an example of such a spontaneous response to the deteriorating urban landscape. On his own initiative, he called up a coterie of like-minded friends and set out to transform the ugly avenue. By the end of the century, it had degenerated into a watery track that flooded on schedule with every shower, and had become a hazard that obliged pedestrians to walk on the motorway. He raised about \$11 million from personal friends and the corporate community and, with their help, completely changed the ambience. The project not only physically redesigned the avenue and installed electric lamps and benches but functionally made it into a pleasant venue in a refreshing, open-air, evening setting for public.

## HIS EXCELLENCY THE IRISH AMBASSADOR, MR DANIEL MULHALL



Stonyhurst was delighted to welcome His Excellency the Irish Ambassador, Mr Daniel Mulhall to College on Thursday April 28th, to speak about 'Irish Writers and the Easter Rising.' This was the latest in a series of talks at Stonyhurst to mark the centenary of the Easter Rising, in which Joseph Mary Plunkett was a key figure.

Mr Mulhall considered the poetry of three of the rebel leaders – Pádraig Pearse, Thomas MacDonagh and Joseph Plunkett OS1908 – and also the background to the Rising, acknowledging that their motivation and mind-sets belonged to a very different age: they were idealists, with an intense passion for their country's history and culture, for the soul of Ireland, and 'the power of the Gael'.

Mr Mulhall's talk was a passionate, detailed and fascinating account of the poetry of the Easter Rising's leaders and their contemporaries. He concluded by quoting William Butler Yeats' poem Easter 2016: "All changed, changed utterly: A terrible beauty is born."

John Green OS 76, Chairman of the Glasnevin Trust, presented a plaque to Stonyhurst, inscribed with the first verse of Plunkett's poem, I See His Blood upon the Rose, which will be placed in the Silence Gallery.



## MARK RYLANCE

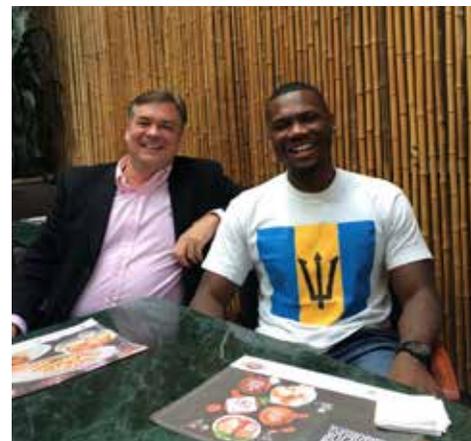
OS of a certain vintage (in the fifties) may have thought that Mark Rylance, the actor, star of *Bridge of Spies*, had a familiar look. This could be not so much that he is famous, but that they were at school with his father, David Waters OS 52.



**Miguel Muñoz-Calero OS 12**, would like to let you know that he has graduated from London School of Economics and now is working in Credit Suisse as a Prime Broker. He also says that he would be happy to help other OS especially young ones looking to apply to university or investment banking.



**Sylvester Bamkole OS 11** is working in Columbia at the moment on an internship and we put him in touch with **Alastair Seymour OS 84** who has lived and worked there for years. Alastair visited with his family in April this year, and is happy to meet with any OS visiting Bogota.



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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2015/2016

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*(From Terry Holt OS 67 – 72)*

I have been privileged to be the President of the Stonyhurst Association this year. It began with an introduction to the parents and staff in the Top Refectory in May 2015. The twelve month period hurtles by and achieving one's hopes in such a short time span is difficult. What were my hopes? There were three elements.

First to bring together the Stonyhurst Family and encourage all members to remain in touch with the College and its former pupils and associates, so that the very best elements of our Stonyhurst experience and connections can be enjoyed, and where possible, improved.

Second to review and emphasise the importance of maintaining and investing in the sporting facilities at the College, to sustain those extraordinary sports - related opportunities that so many of us have enjoyed there and encourage the pupils to take every chance to use those facilities whilst they are so readily available. Here I focused particularly on cricket, which I am afraid has gone through a period of neglect and lack of investment at Stonyhurst. The strength of sport at the College has a direct influence on the fine tradition of the Stonyhurst Wanderers, to play the important sporting and socialising role that it has previously enjoyed.

Third and most importantly for all of us at this time, to focus on the relationship between the

Society of Jesus and the College in a changing and challenging world.

In my visit to Lourdes with the Stonyhurst Pilgrimage in August, I saw at first-hand, so much of what we are trying to achieve, bound up in love for others and self-sacrifice. To witness the pupils from Higher Line, patiently giving their time and care to help the sick and the ill in that environment, is a very moving and powerful statement of all that is good about the school.

On Saturday 8 November, 2016, at the Annual Dinner, we had a wonderful evening in the Long Room at Lord's Cricket Ground in London. So many parts of the Stonyhurst Community came together with former pupils and parents, previous and existing members of staff, the Provincial, Dermot Preston SJ, the Chairman of the Governors, the Headmaster, Andrew Johnson, attending his last Dinner in office, the Heads of the Line and our Guest Speaker, Timothy Radcliffe OP, who spoke quite brilliantly about 'courage'. It also enabled me, at the Headquarters of Cricket, to detail my real concerns relating to the sporting arena at Stonyhurst and cricket in particular.

At the dinner, I was able to praise those former pupils who have had vocations to the religious life and to serve Our Lord. Indeed Nick King SJ, the next President, Matthew Power SJ, Simon Bishop SJ, Sam Burke OP and Toby Lees OP were all present. I also referred to the

remarkable charitable works of other OS such as Edmund Page, Nik Hartley and Paul Chitnis, to name but three, who are out there in the field, serving others.

We, as an Association, must be in no doubt as to the seriousness of the predicament facing the British Province of the Society of Jesus in 2016, with scarce human resources and great demands on their limited availability. Potentially, this will have a major impact on their very presence at Stonyhurst and we need to combine our efforts with the Governors, the Headmaster and staff, pupils and parents to find the best arrangements to ensure a vibrant Ignatian presence remains within the school.

I wish to pay tribute to the Stonyhurst Association committee members for the time and effort that they make on behalf of the Stonyhurst Association and, in particular, your Chairman Simon Andrews for his guidance and wisdom. In Beverley Sillitoe we are truly blessed with someone who is simply a consummate expert in her dealings with Association matters and I am most grateful for it.

# CONGRATULATIONS

Please send your contributions to the Editor: [d.mercer@stonyhurst.ac.uk](mailto:d.mercer@stonyhurst.ac.uk)

## MARRIAGES



**Luke Robin Huntington Bidwell OS 03**, married Frances Molly Marion Oke at All Saints Mountfield in East Sussex, on Saturday 18th June 2016.

Luke's father Adrian Bidwell writes, "We had a lovely and very jolly weekend and the weather held off on the Saturday - just! - and a gorgeous sunny Sunday to recover!"

Also, OS present were **Aloysius Connolly OS 03**, **Henry Russell-Blackburn OS 03**, **Stacy Weld-Blundell OS 03**, **James MacFarlane OS03**, **Emily Bidwell OS 00**, **Isobel How (nee Bidwell) OS 05** and **Adrian OS 74**.



**Carl Cimpoias OS 03** was married on 27th November 2015 to Renee Coe at the Kumeu Valley Estate, Auckland, New Zealand. The marriage was conducted by Father Alfonso Dujali MSP of St. Patricks RC Church, Huapai.

**Alan Palmer OS 03** and **Dominic Copping OS 03** were the best men and Carl's brother **Dane Cimpoias OS 07** was also a groomsman.

Also in attendance were **Cash Kern**, **Darren Okello**, **Romin Miremadi**, **Danny O'Driscoll**, **Pierre Lafayeedney** all **OS 03**, as well as **Joe Notter** and **James Clark OS 05** and **Scarlett Thompson OS 07**.



**Dr Christine Leong OS 01** and Dr Ian Lambert were married on Saturday 16th of April 2016 at the Church of St. Edmund of Canterbury, Beckenham, London.

Her niece, **Emily Leong (daughter of Dr Kevin Leong OS 99)** was her flower girl. Her cousins **Mr Julian Tjia-Leong OS 92** and **Dr Christopher Chang OS 97** travelled from Singapore and Australia to join in the celebration.

## BIRTHS



**22/02/2016**

To **Ged OS 1990-1995** and **Jenny Brumby**, a son, **Daniel Johannes Maria**.



**25/03/2016**

To **Robert OS 1988 - 1996** and **Sarah Horn**, a son, **Thomas Henry**. A brother to Catherine Louisa.



**12/04/2016**

To **Haymon Sinapius OS 2002 - 2004** and **Vivien Sinapius née Krauss**, a son, **Cilian Haymon Kurt Sinapius**.

**11/03/2016**

To **Kerry Betts OS 1998 - 2000**, a daughter, **Isabelle O'Brien**, a sister to Millie.

**11/03/2016**

To **Matthew OS 1991 - 1998** and **Theresa Betts**, a daughter, **Clara Eleanor Mary Betts**, a sister to Joseph.

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OTHER CONGRATULATIONS

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO JAN GRAFFIUS,  
Stonyhurst Curator!**

Jan ran the Wilmslow half marathon - a distance of 13.1 miles - on Sunday 3rd April 3rd. Her time was 130 minutes and 16 seconds.



As she says, "averaging ten minutes per mile, I was fairly steady at that. I was generously sponsored by many friends, and ran on behalf of the Blood Cancer research unit at The Christie Hospital in Manchester.

Obviously I ran in pearls!! However, I decided against the relics! It was a great day, with about 10,000 runners, beautiful Cheshire countryside and many people cheering us on - even some children handing out jelly babies which were very welcome at 11 miles in!"

Congratulations to **Nigel Lanceley OS 67** who has been appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of Merseyside.



The commissioning ceremony took place on 29th April 2016.

Those present at the ceremony were Dame Lorna Muirhead who is the Lord Lieutenant of Merseyside. On the right of the photo is James Davies who is High Sherriff. On the left is David McDonnell who is Vice Lord Lieutenant of Merseyside.

Congratulations must go to **Alison MacDonald OS 12** who graduated from Edinburgh University on the 30th June, with a First Class MA. Hons. in English and Scottish Literature.



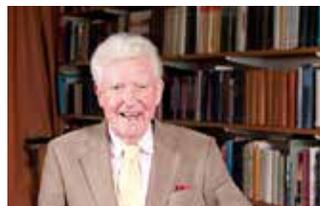
Congratulations to **EDWARD MACEY-DARE OS 84** President of the City of Westminster & Holborn Law Society this year (October 2015 – October 2016).



They held their annual dinner on Thursday 19th May at Vintners' Hall in the City, which was attended by no fewer than 5 other OS, as follows:

**Simon Bartley OS 74** and his wife, **Dr. Chris Tomkins, Dr. Rupert Macey-Dare OS 81, Julian Hartley OS 84, Colonel Alistair Rogers OS 85, Thomas Macey-Dare OS 87.**

Congratulations to **Paul Bede Johnson OS 46**, a CBE for services to literature, in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.



Bristol Old Vic's Artistic Director **Tom Morris OS 82** was today named in The Queen's Birthday Honours List. The director who is best known for co-directing War Horse - one of the most successful theatre productions of all time - is made an OBE in recognition of outstanding services to theatre.




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IN MEMORIAM

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News of the deaths of the following OS has been received since the last Newsletter:

John Thornton	OS 1943 – 1951
Michael Christopher Gorman	OS 1939 – 1949
Simon John Ward	OS 1957 – 1962
John Charles Gillott	Associate Member
Simon Peter William Awde	OS 1954 - 1961
Charles Philip Knevitt	OS 1963 – 1971
Stephen Palmer	OS 1961 – 1967
Anthony Garry Bird	OS 1939 – 1942
William Warwick-Ludlow	OS 1947 – 1956
Clive Anthony Marshall	OS 1961 – 1966
Dennis Huston	OS 1934 – 1942
Patrick Francis Valdemar Slattery	OS 1937 – 1939
Michael Alexander Bruce	OS 1966 – 1968
Dr Joan Tjia	Former parent

*We also regret to announce the death from the wider Stonyhurst Family:*

*Sheila Chitnis, wife of **Dr Jay Chitnis OS 50**, mother of **Paul OS 79, Jay OS 80, Anand OS 81, Anthony OS 83**. Grandmother of 24 children including 7 OS.*

*Wendy Sheil former parent and wife of **Tony Sheil OS 59**, mother of **Justin OS 87**.*

*Anne Eaves, wife of the late **Raymond Eaves OS 42** and mother of **Simon OS 73** and **Jonathan OS 82**.*

May they rest in peace.

Friends or relatives, who wish to write the usual obituary for the Stonyhurst Record, are invited to contact David Knight at the College (d.knight@stonyhurst.ac.uk).

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# REPORTS ON EVENTS

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## OS IN HONG KONG FROM JENSEN SO OS 08

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Throughout the years, OS in Hong Kong meet each other when there is a Stonyhurst formal reception being held. On the 17th February, for the first time, OS in Hong Kong took the opportunity to celebrate the Chinese New Year. We organised our own gathering. We enjoyed a great dinner in a restaurant serving regional Chinese cuisine.

As it was our initial meeting, it was particularly great to see many younger OS and it was wonderful to meet some OS for the first time. The age range spanned from the 80s to 2013, and some seniors were able to share their career expertise with the younger OS.

Everybody happily shared their experiences at Stonyhurst, with some rumours and mysteries revealed after more than a decade! For the younger OS generation, they were most interested in knowing about the student life in Stonyhurst in the old days, and were amazed by the stories that were told. Especially hilarious, was that we all spent half an hour discussing and trying to locate one of the monuments in the school building! It was a fantastic four hour nonstop chat and also a good laugh!

During the get together it became apparent that our contact list is quite incomplete. Therefore, if you live in Hong Kong, please update your contacts by informing the Association (e-mail: association@stonyhurst.ac.uk), and also join the Facebook group 'OS in Hong Kong'. We have decided to organise such informal gatherings every half year, and we hope to have our next one in September. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Those present at the dinner were, **Justin Law OS 97, William Cheung OS 97, Francis Lo OS 97, James Mayo OS 87, Winton de St. John Pryce OS 99, Ingram Cheung OS 09, John Mak OS 11, Tony Lee OS 10, Samuel Ma OS 10, and Jensen So OS 08.**



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## FRANCIS RAINSFORD OS 71 WRITING FROM PERU

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"The Hay Festival in Arequipa (5th to 8th December) was a great success with around 20,000 visitors attending.

Its co-founder, Peter Florence, announced that Arequipa will host it again next year - so, you've got another chance to be here !



This photograph was taken during the inaugural cocktail reception where our Ambassador in Peru, Anwar Choudhury, and myself are flanking British authors, Martin Amis and Nadifa Mohamed."

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## PRESTON GRASSHOPPERS

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**George Erdozian OS 61 and Martin Hothersall OS 72** hosted a lunch following the rugby match which took place on Saturday 23rd January between Preston Grasshoppers and Stourbridge.



Those OS present were **Jonathan Muller OS 72, Richard Maher OS 72 and Terry Holt OS 72, Martin Hothersall OS 72, Robert Milne OS 70, David Stevenson OS 72, Richard Jackson OS 70 and Richard Ingle OS 72, George Erdozain OS 61, Nick Drake Lee OS 60, Mark Belderbos OS 61, Michael Jackson OS 67 and Luke Robinson OS 09.**

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## LONDON MARATHON

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We know of three OS who ran for charity in this year's London event; **Michael McCabe OS 71, Matthew O'Connor OS 13 and Paul Chitnis OS 79.**

Michael McCabe is a lecturer at Portsmouth University and was raising money for Brain Tumour Research along with a colleague, Tim Peake but there the similarity ends. Whilst Michael kept his feet on the ground and pounded the hard London pavements, Tim was in space and using an exercise bike to which he had to be fastened due to lack of gravity but both started at the same time and covered the same measured distance.



They also had a private wager as to who would be the fastest...

Matthew O'Connor and Paul Chitnis were raising money for Jesuit Missions of which Paul is the Director.

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## NEW ZEALAND REUNION

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On Sunday 3rd April 2016 five OS, now resident in Auckland met for a lunch. Apologies were received from a further three OS who were unable to attend.

Of particular interest to the OS was meeting Mary Steel (née Holden) who originally came from Hurst Green but actually met Andrew only once they were both living in Auckland!

In the photo we have: **Richard Thorpe OS 82**, **Michael McEntegart OS 68**, **Carl Cimpoiias OS 02** and **Andrew Steel OS 53**. Missing from the photo (like last time as he had to rush for a ferry again!) is **John O'Ferrall OS 52**.

If there are any OS living in NZ who have not been contacted by Richard please feel free to email him [richma@xtra.co.nz](mailto:richma@xtra.co.nz) so you do not miss out next time.

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## BRUGES REUNION FROM MICHAEL JACKSON

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The OS leavers of 1967 (with their spouses) held a reunion in February at John Martin's hotel in Bruges, Belgium.

On Friday, we all met for drinks and a welcome in the hotel's bar, from there we went on to a typical Bruges Bar close to the hotel for an informal dinner and a wide choice of beer!! The following morning, we went on a visit by horse drawn carriage (one for all of us!) This experience was followed by a "go as you please lunch". The rest of the afternoon, we were free to do as we please, some of us checked on availability – and cost) of boats! Mark Roberts took others of the party around the Art Museum, and explained the backgrounds of and methods used by some of Europe's famous artists whose pictures were hanging there. The rest of the party discovered the Beer Wall.

We all met up again in the evening at 7.30 for the main dinner. On Sunday morning, we went to Mass and visited a Jesuit's refuge. Afterwards we returned to our 17th century hotel and having had a light lunch at Martin's Relais, it was time to say our farewells! When everyone went their separate ways, it was a bit like the end of the final term of school. Anyway, there was a call for another reunion, sooner than later. Two possible locations are Malta, or Ghent where John Martin is opening another hotel. A lot of credit and thanks must go to John Martin who took a lot of time out of his busy schedule to look after us. Also to Mark Roberts who took some of the party around the Art Museum.



## REUNIONS

We are pleased to report that apart from 'official' reunions at the College, which are necessarily limited in number by the constraints of the school curriculum, private get-togethers are not unknown and are to be encouraged.

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## REUNION '86 FROM RUPERT BELL

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On 1 May 2016, some 48 alumni, well over half our original number from the year 1986, gathered at the College to celebrate thirty years since leaving Stonyhurst. We were especially lucky to be joined by friends from as far flung places as Hong Kong, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Dubai, New York, Pennsylvania, Mauritius, Gibraltar, Tokyo, Brisbane, France, Germany and even Clitheroe. The incredible effort made by so many to travel generated its own infectious enthusiasm and from start to finish, this was a truly memorable weekend. It was great that such a broad spectrum of the year came – from those boys who were keen on sport, to those who were academic, artistic, musical and also to those who entered HM Forces. I think this says something about the collegiate and inclusive ethos of the College. It was also good to see the OS from our year who left prior to 1986, for whatever reason, some of whom who had not been in touch or back to Stonyhurst for well over thirty years.



Beverley and Layla from the Association Office surpassed themselves in organising the reunion. The Headmaster, Andrew Johnson, welcomed us warmly and was both generous and bold in allowing us to return in large numbers, especially as the event coincided with the Lower Grammar Parents weekend, so the stakes were high. We were also thrilled to be joined for dinner by many former members of staff from our days at the College, who shared stories and rightly put us in our place. These included Simon Andrews, Peter Anwyl, Brian Ashton, Larry Crouch, Pat Gavin, David Ridout, Charlie and Liz Foulds and of course Fr Nick King SJ. We apologise to those former staff whom we overlooked in our haphazard planning, but we hope to see you at our next re-union in 2026.

Rupert Bell proposed the health of the guests and of the College, noting that much had changed since 1986, but more importantly much had remained constant, and indeed in many ways had been improved and enhanced. The class of 1986 were the first senior year under a lay headmaster, and the last to leave the school as Poets, rather than Rhetoricians. We had more than our share of rogues, but a great clutch of real characters as well, and the turnout for the reunion was as much a tribute to those friendships as to the school itself.



Highlights of the weekend included tours of the school and especially the newer buildings, led impressively and independently by pupils; further tours of the libraries and collections; the requisite visits to the Bayley Arms; black tie (!) dinner in the Top Refectory; late night carousing back at the Dunkenhalth Hotel;

Mass on Sunday with a super sermon from Fr Nick King to link our days as pupils to the current school congregation, and a rousing Pater Noster. We truly were made to feel right back at the centre of College life by everyone at Stonyhurst, and are already eagerly anticipating our next reunion, perhaps in ten more years, perhaps sooner. The challenge is on to re-engage those who did not join us this time round - you missed a great event!

Special thanks are due to Russell Barton for leading the organisation of our class, managing a host of last minute changes of mind (and dress code), to Jeremy Cheam who established a great Facebook page as the main medium of communication, including photos, and galvanised the large travelling group from Asia, and to Richard Fee for liaising closely with the College on all the detailed arrangements. Man of the Match was a tie between Ralph Young (living the life we all dreamed of but never dared hope was real) and Nick Deacon (entirely unrecognisable, since when was he Australian?..... furthest travelled.....fair dinkum!).

Well done to all involved. Next up are the OS 1987...48 to beat.

**Part of The Homily at Stonyhurst given by Fr Nick King SJ, OS 60 – 66**, former Rhetoric Playroom Master 1986 on the occasion of the Sunday Mass following their thirty years' reunion at the College.

“If you look very carefully round the church, you will see, perhaps looking a little bleary-eyed, and possibly clutching their heads after a good night, your predecessors who left this school 30 years ago, in 1986. Indeed there may also be in this church some even older than them, who left the school 50 years ago, and then returned 20 years later to teach and discipline them.

They have had an excellent reunion; it is true that a first reaction on their part was (like every generation of OS) to exclaim at how much easier is the life of you, their successors three decades down the line, than was theirs; there are no longer those early morning runs that were so much a part of their life then, and no corporal punishment. (You will, I have to tell you, be making exactly the same complaints when you return for your reunion in thirty years from now).

There were two features of this reunion that stood out, and they say something about the Jesuit education that you are receiving here. The first is that, possibly after a nervous beginning, they discovered how very much they enjoyed each other's company, and there was a real pleasure in being together again and rediscovering shared memories. The second, and this took longer to emerge, but by the end it was absolutely clear, was the extent to which they manifested two other aspects of Jesuit education. The first is that they are, as you, please God, already are, and will continue to be, men and women for others. And the second is that very Jesuit gift of being able to 'find God in all things'.

And that means that you and they have a glimpse of the things that really matter in life; that glimpse is what you catch when the Stonyhurst family comes together for Sunday mass, a hint of the God whose service is at the heart of the Jesuit experience. That experience operates out of a sense of what really matters in life. And that does not mean (but please do not tell your teachers this) the achievement of the best-ever examination results. It is of course very agreeable that you should do very well in your exams; but it is not what really matters in life. Nor is it what these 48-year olds have been remembering this weekend.

And the second thing that does not really matter in life (but please do not tell your parents this) is that you should come to earn a large enough salary to be able to send your children to this school (though naturally one hopes that, one way or another, your children will one day follow you into the Stonyhurst family).

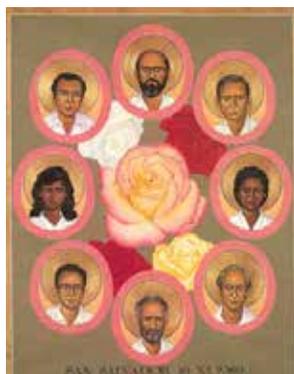
For there is a thread that connects you with your forebears who sat in this church. There were those who risked and gave their lives when they came to England in the sixteenth to the eighteenth centuries, knowing that being a Jesuit priest, or even looking after Jesuit priests, was a capital offence. There are the VCs, pictured up there in the Great Hall, who gave or risked their lives in the cause of peace and justice; and there are those more recent OS, such as Nicholas Hartley and Edmund Page and Paul Chitnis (you may not know those names, but you should find out more about them, and imitate them), who, precisely because of their Jesuit education, give themselves to the service of the deprived and disadvantaged.

That thread is the vision, the glimpse that you get, here in St Peter's church, when the Stonyhurst family gathers on a Sunday morning. That glimpse was also given to those who now come back to this place, thirty years down the line, and who, despite the trivial signs of ageing, are very much the same sort of people as you are”.

*From Paul Chitnis, OS 1974-79, Director Jesuit Missions*

I'm often asked how I ended up working in charities. It must be said it wasn't my plan when I left Stonyhurst. But as the saying goes, we make plans and God laughs.

There was no Damascene conversion but, on reflection, three experiences seem significant. First, my mother taking me as a young boy into high rise blocks of flats in Birmingham to deliver meals on wheels to frail, lonely pensioners. Second, the holidays for disabled children organised at Stonyhurst by Higher Line boys and which led to me helping to establish one of the OS charities, the Newman Holiday Trust. Third, the visit to Stonyhurst of a Jesuit missionary who had been caught up in the violence of the Pinochet regime in Chile, and who talked about the people he had known who had been arrested and tortured by the junta. I still recall the shiver of fear – or was it excitement? - as he spoke.



I felt the same frisson even more strongly when visiting the rooms in the University in El Salvador where six Jesuits, their housekeeper and her daughter, were murdered in 1989. I was accompanied by another brave missionary, Fr Michael Campbell Johnston SJ, who taught at Stonyhurst in 1960 and knew the murdered Jesuits well. Jesuit Missions has been of great importance to generations of Stonyhurst students. Stonyhurst has not only been a generous supporter

of the missions, it has also provided Jesuit missionaries with a place in which so many of them have completed part of their formation. Earlier this year (2015), one OS missionary, **Fr Peter Britt Compton SJ**, died at the age of 96, having served all of his life in Guyana.

Jesuit Missions has, of course, changed over the last 50 years as the Church and the world has changed. The number of British Jesuits working overseas has declined, mirroring the widespread fall in vocations to the priesthood.

However, there are still 17,000 Jesuits around the world and their commitment to “finding God in all things” remains as strong and necessary as ever.

The British missionaries who still work on the missions are increasingly elderly although their energy would shame many a person half their age. Despite this, there are countries where the decline in foreign missionaries has been complemented by a rise in local Jesuits.

Many mission countries have experienced massive political and social change. Much of what JM did in the past is no longer needed because economic development, even in very poor countries like Guyana, together with the revolution in communications technology, has transformed how we operate.

JM continues to accompany Jesuits in Guyana, Zimbabwe and South Africa where links with the British Province have traditionally been strong. We also work with Jesuits across the world where they are responding to the diverse needs of people, especially the poorest.

For example, when a devastating typhoon struck the Philippines in 2013, JM raised £300,000 to assist the rebuilding of communities.

We also responded last year to the earthquake in Nepal, where thousands were killed. In both countries, JM is collaborating with Jesuit mission offices in Europe to ensure our funding and impact is maximised.

Last year, we gave nearly £200,000 to Jesuit projects around the world. For example, for work with Dalits in India, literacy programmes in Zimbabwe and a tractor in South Sudan.

Our volunteer programme enabled 12 young people from the UK to live and work in developing countries. Their experience of living simply - feeling the bite of poverty in their own lives – proves to be a life-changing encounter.

We have also produced educational and prayer resources for schools such as Stonyhurst, joined the climate change coalition and lobbied UK and EU politicians on regulations about the responsible sourcing of minerals.

What of the future?

The mission of the Jesuits - expressed at its General Congregation in 1975 remains: “the service of faith of which the promotion of justice is an absolute requirement.”

In 2008, the same idea was re-interpreted:

“In a world torn by violence, strife, and division we are called with others to be instruments of God ... to build a new world of right relationships, a new Jubilee reaching across all divisions, so that God might restore his justice for all.”

A Jesuit understanding of reconciliation does not shirk from confronting the injustices which underlie the poverty and inequality which condemns millions of our sisters and brothers to lives of misery. “Building the new Jubilee”, says Pope Francis, “means working to eliminate the structural causes of poverty and to promote the integral development of the poor...”

Jesuit Missions continues to shape its role so that we:

- Promote action
- Encourage prayer and reflection
- Accompany and serve communities overseas

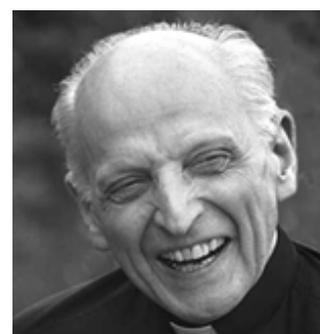
In 1975, Fr Pedro Arrupe SJ, the former Superior General of the Society, boldly asked both Jesuits and alumni:

“What kind of man or woman is needed today by the Church, by the world? One who is a ‘man-or woman-for-others’”

And he issued three challenges to his audience:

- Live more simply
- Derive no unjust profit
- Be agents of change

These find an echo in Pope Francis’s latest encyclical, *Laudato Si*, where he challenges us “to dare to turn what is happening to the world into our own personal suffering and thus to discover what we can do about it.” (LS 19) It is a challenge that I first experienced in those high rise flats, with disabled children and later with starving refugees in South Sudan and acid-scarred child labourers in India. It is surely the challenge of our time.



# LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

132 Stonyhurst pilgrims are set to go to Lourdes this year with the Catholic Association.

If you know of someone who is unwell and who would benefit from coming to Lourdes with us next year do let us know. And doctors and nurses – we need you too!

Pupils, OS and those who are sick are helped financially by the Stonyhurst Pilgrimage Trust, enabling them to take part. If you would like to support their work please contact Beverley in the Association Office.

Love consists in sharing

What one has

And what one is

With those one loves.

Love ought to show itself in deeds more than words.

*St. Ignatius Loyola, Spiritual Exercises*



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# OS V OA CROSS COUNTRY

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## RESULTS

- 1 Oliver Hucks OS - 00:28:30
- 2 Hugh-Guy Lorriman OA - 00:30:32
- 3 Brian Thursby-Pelham OS - 00:31:13
- 4 James Ashworth OS - 00:31:39
- 5 Rory Henderson OA - 00:31:56
- 6 Benjamin Guest OA - 00:32:28
- 7 Oliver Broderick-Ward OA - 00:32:39
- 8 Philip Connor OS - 00:34:26
- 9 Julian Hucks OS - 00:34:50
- 10 Sam Hooks OS - 00:35:21
- 11 Robert Cookson OS - 00:35:30
- 12 Matthew Cartwright-Terry OS - 00:35:38
- 13 Matthias Beestermoeller OS - 00:35:39
- 14 Edward Dickinson OS - 00:35:51
- 15 Hideo Takano OS - 00:36:00
- 16 Nicholas Ryan OA - 00:36:21
- 17 Arulkumaran Umapathy OS - 00:36:45
- 18 Christian Mercer OS - 00:36:50
- 19 Hugh Dickinson OS - 00:37:00
- 20 Oliver Donaghy OS - 00:38:47
- 21 Christopher Billington OS - 00:38:57
- 22 Andrew Livesey OS - 00:39:06
- 23 Frank Thompson OA - 00:39:16
- 24 Gavin Horgan OS - 00:39:30
- 25 Richard Kenyon OS - 00:40:12
- 26 Michael Rumbold Ampleforth OA - 00:40:59
- 27 Patrick Bidwell OS - 00:41:30
- 28 Daniel Beestermoeller OS - 00:43:00
- 29 Harry Dickinson OS - 00:44:01
- 30 Amanda Hucks OS - 00:50:13
- 31 Thomas Sutherland OS - 00:52:29
- 32 David Atkin OS - 00:56:29
- 33 Matthew Power OS - 00:56:32

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## CHARIOTS OF FIRE

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*'I believe God made me for a purpose, but he also made me fast. And when I run I feel His pleasure.'* Eric Liddell – Olympic Gold Medallist

### **Stonyhurst versus Ampleforth, 50th Cross-Country Race, 27th February, 2016.**

From Hugh Dickinson OS 97

The fiftieth anniversary race between the OS and OA took place on the 27th February with the runners competing for the "Christopher Newton-Carter Trophy" for the first time.

Chris Newton-Carter was an old boy of Beaumont and Stonyhurst who was tragically killed in the September 11 attacks and we were honoured to welcome his brother Mark to Stonyhurst to support the race and present the trophy. Later there was a formal dinner in the Top Refectory, greatly enjoyed by everyone.

It was **Edward Sutherland OS 67** who ran in the inaugural race against Ampleforth with Chris 50 years ago who suggested that we use the race to remember him.

The race was a great success and a fitting way to remember Chris with a total of 70 runners of all ages competing including wives, sons of OS and guest runners. Against all odds the weather was fine with no hint of the normal Lancastrian rain! Three OS who ran in the inaugural race in 1967 - **Chris Fleming-Jones, Edward Sutherland** and **Richard Barnes** attended with Edward the oldest runner competing at 67 years old. Chris's sister, Teresa, who lives in the States and her friends ran a course of the same length at exactly the same time and **Hugh Thomas** another contemporary of Chris at Stonyhurst did the same in Florida. **John O'Meara** who won the inaugural race could not attend but made a donation instead to the International Red Cross, the charity of choice of the Newton-Carter family because they did so much to help in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks. **David Atkin** had flown in from Malaysia so he could race (and attend the Wales vs France rugby match!!) and so did the **Beestermoeeller** brothers from Germany. The Queen's private secretary, Alex de Montford (Old Wimbledon College) also supported the race and attended the dinner - hopefully reporting back to her Majesty that the northern Catholics are behaving themselves!



I suspect Stonyhurst had God on their side this time with two priests running - **Father Philip Connor** being guided by his spaniel to 8th place and **Father Matthew Power SJ** generously taking last place! The victory may also have something to do with the Bayley Arms, in error, serving cider with breakfast rather than apple juice to the OS runners staying there - a fine Lancashire tradition

We were all duly impressed to find out that one of the OA runners was listening to

Radio 4 (rather than music) to spur himself around the course and to witness my brother Harry, in true gentlemanly fashion, allowing one of the Ampleforth girls to cross the finish line ahead of him!

The current Stonyhurst boys' team beat Ampleforth by the narrowest margin 41 points to 42 for their fifth win in 50 years and it was good to see **Rory Wylie-Carrick** running for the College team even though his father Michael was unable to race this time due to injury. Well done to the Ampleforth girls who came away as winners of the girl's race. The match tea took place in the extremely smart new refectory where Mark Newton-Carter gave an extremely moving speech about his brother and presented the "Christopher Newton-Carter Trophy" whilst the headmaster presented the inter-school trophy. Many of the runners then retired to the Bayley to watch the England victory before reconvening in the Top Refectory for an excellent dinner which bore no comparison to the school food when I was there!! Father Michael O'Halloran said Grace and **Simon Andrews**, Chairman of the Stonyhurst Association, presented Mark Newton-Carter with a photo of the 1967 cross-country team and a Stonyhurst shield each for him and his sister.

At the end of dinner, the College was thanked for hosting such an excellent weekend and flowers presented to Beverley Sillitoe as a thank you for all her hard work in making the weekend such a success. Stonyhurst then toasted Christopher Newton-Carter and Ampleforth. The Ampleforth captain Ollly Brodrick-Ward responded with an amusing speech about how the 1967 inaugural cross-country match may have ended a long dispute between the two schools over a contested LBW decision! He then toasted Stonyhurst in return.

The weekend ended with some rousing singing at Mass on Sunday morning in St Peter's.

Hugh Dickinson adds: One of our runners **Hideo Takano OS 84** has run well in excess of 100 marathons! See link to story here: <https://thecocochronicles.wordpress.com/2012/08/01/meet-marathon-man-hideo/> and can be emailed at [hideotakano@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:hideotakano@yahoo.co.uk). The other notable runner is **Brian Thursby-Pelham OS 90** who ran the London marathon 2 years ago in just over 2 and a half hours.



*Mark Newton-Carter presenting the trophy*

# STONYHURST WANDERERS

## Football

### Stonyhurst 3-4 Wanderers

(From Ross McLean)

A NEW dawn may now have broken but this year's tussle proved the perfect curtain call as the elder statesmen of the Wanderers' side signed off with a poignant victory.

For the past decade the Wanderers' ship has been sailed by members of Rhetoric '01 but a conscious decision was made 12 months earlier that March's clash would be their last in charge. While the founding fathers of OS football will remain available for selection, the baton of power has passed to the next generation and the newly-crowned Jonno Hallam specifically.

The early decision to abdicate provided the platform for a concerted effort to boost fitness levels as well as the time to craft a game-plan that best allowed the talents on show to blossom. But like most farewell plots the script would have a twist and Stonyhurst duly threatened to crash the party by taking an early lead following a goalmouth scramble. That setback failed to deflate the Wanderers who continued to play some enterprising and incisive attacking football, which led to an equaliser before the half hour mark.

New recruit Hizzy Arabome, a lively presence throughout, cut inside from the right flank before firing a low effort beyond the Stonyhurst goalkeeper at his near post. That strike proved merely a prelude as Wanderers flexed their goals-scoring muscle before half time to ensure they arrived at the break with a commanding lead. Next to find the net was Declan Walsh, who collected a pass from Stonyhurst's midfield anchor Jamie Heaton and dispatched a strike into the corner of the net from the edge of the penalty area. The Wanderers established a two-goal cushion before the interval when No 10 Ross McLean dispatched a penalty after being felled in the box by Stonyhurst's goalkeeper.

The half-time whistle was blown at an inopportune moment for the Wanderers as the interval disturbed their momentum and afforded Stonyhurst a route back into the clash. Within moments of the restart, Wanderers conceded a penalty which was duly converted to reduce the arrears and give the hosts leverage to launch a second-half revival. The Wanderers' play became disjointed and midway through the second period the hosts drew level with a tap in after goalkeeper Matt Porter had foiled the initial Stonyhurst attack.

Stonyhurst were now in the ascendancy but the Wanderers held firm, with their centre-half axis of Hallam and Barney Vines,



SQUAD: Matt Porter, Ben Smith, Chris Newton, Jonno Hallam, Barney Vines, Rob Eatough, Jamie Heaton, Ross McLean, Declan Walsh, Hizzy Arabome, Forsythe Olafioye, Matt Singleton, Jacob Connolly, Marc O'Neill, Dan Smalley, Gareth Evans

together with Rob Eatough's midfield protection, leading the rearguard action. Wanderers resorted to the counter-attack and with 15 minutes remaining Arabome's jinking run ended with his cross-shot rebounding into the net off an unfortunate Stonyhurst full-back. Debutant striker Forsythe Olafioye was a constant menace to the home side's defence and almost settled matters inside the final 10 minutes, only for his attempt to crash against the base of the post.

The day ultimately belonged to the Wanderers, who celebrated their first victory in this fixture for three years and put to bed their harrowing 7-1 defeat 12 months earlier.

Aside from the early editions of this fixture a decade ago, such losses were few and far between with the Wanderers winning many more matches than they have lost during the intervening years.

The victory was a fitting way for the governing party to end their reign in charge. It would be premature, however, to start drafting any epilogues quite yet – there remains time for a few more chapters to be penned from their time as rank and file players.

It is far from the last days of Rome also, with a clear succession plan which will see OS Football no doubt thrive in the coming years under a new skipper.

## Time to say thank you

Could I take this opportunity to thank Beverley Sillitoe in the Association Office for all her stellar work over the years in helping to get OS sporting weekends and standalone OS sporting fixtures off the ground. Without her, none of this would have been possible. I would also like to thank Neil Hodgson for all his help in the build up to this year's fixture and indeed for refereeing the clash. A decade ago, Rob Eatough mentioned the prospect of an OS Football team and bet would-be members of the side he could deliver an annual fixture. Few believed him, but he did it. Thanks Rob. I have taken over the organising of OS Football from Rob in recent years and would like to thank each and every player who has passed through the system in that time and indeed before. I hope you have all enjoyed it. Thank you also to all the WAGs and family members who have watched us with such dedication attempt to recapture former glories over the past decade. Finally, good luck to Jonno Hallam who is taking over the team. It's in very safe hands.

All the best, Ross

## Wanderers Representatives

Cricket	Richard Drinkwater OS 84 – 91	<a href="mailto:richard@richarddrinkwater.co.uk">richard@richarddrinkwater.co.uk</a>
Golf	James Andrews OS 95 – 00	<a href="mailto:james.andrews@insead.edu">james.andrews@insead.edu</a>
Hockey and Netball	Natalie Crouch OS 05 – 10	<a href="mailto:natalie.crouch@hotmail.co.uk">natalie.crouch@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Rugby	Tom Baker OS 09 – 14	<a href="mailto:t.baker-14@student.lboro.ac.uk">t.baker-14@student.lboro.ac.uk</a>
Rugby	Victor Keunen OS 10 – 15	<a href="mailto:victork1@hotmail.co.uk">victork1@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Soccer	Jonathan Hallam OS 09 – 12	<a href="mailto:jonoz5@hotmail.com">jonoz5@hotmail.com</a>

Do get in touch with the above Representatives if you are interested in taking part!

## Shireburn 100

We would like to thank everyone who takes part in the Shireburn 100 draw each quarter. This is a great way to support the sporting events that the Wanderers teams take part in each year. The prize winners each receive £110. If you would like take part in the Shireburn 100 please contact the Association Office and a standing order for an annual payment of £12 can be arranged. The most recent winner was drawn by the new Bursar at the College, Mr Simon Marsden, and Gerry Lagerberg OS was the lucky winner. The results have not been published for some time in the Newsletter, recent winners were: Niall Macfarlane, Robert Belderbos, Sarah Knight, Gerald Simonds and John Cotton.

# UBI SUNT – VINTAGE 1955

WE DO NOT HAVE CONTACT DETAILS FOR ALL THE LEAVERS OF 1955 AND PERHAPS OTHERS ARE NO LONGER WITH US BUT HERE IS NEWS OF SOME OF THOSE STILL IN TOUCH.

## Thomas E Wilson



I was born in 1942, the second son of an American Naval Officer stationed at the Naval Air Base at Pensacola, Florida. In the Navy, my father became a fluent Spanish speaker and after the War, he transitioned from the Navy into

the Department of State where his first post was Madrid, Spain. The year was 1948. I was six years old; my older brother, James, was eight.

In Spain, I was enrolled in Maravillas, a school for the sons of the Spanish aristocracy ruled with an iron hand by Christian Brothers. I thus began my academic life, a stranger in a strange land. I somehow quickly mastered my school work in Spanish. By the time my family departed Madrid in 1950, I was receiving school marks at the level of “sobresaliente.”

After Spain, my father was posted to London and my brother and I were enrolled in a day school which shall remain unnamed. Having up to that time been formally educated only in Spanish, my English reading and writing dexterity was essentially non-existent. In Spain, I had progressed from dunce to scholar. In London, I painfully reverted from scholar to dunce. Worse, my school's headmaster proved to be a tyrannical figure in the stripe of Dickens's Thomas Gradgrind in *Hard Times*. I learned little, suffered much, was humiliated often, and languished in misery.

My father had been an Anglican Protestant but in Spain, he converted to Catholicism and in London, we attended the Jesuit Church at Farm Street. There, my parents were befriended by two exuberant Jesuits, Frs. Christy and Mills. When my father received orders to move from London to Stockholm, he shared with his Jesuit friends his concern that, if my brother and I were required once again to learn another foreign language before learning any academics, we were both destined to become functional illiterates. My parents and the good Fathers arrived at the solution to this urgent family difficulty one evening over cigars and vintage whiskey at our Hampstead Heath home. The solution was Stonyhurst.

I arrived at SMH in 1952. There, I had the good fortune to be taken under the wing of Fr. Edmund

O'Neill, a stern but kindly former RAF Chaplain who spent individual time with me sufficient to pull my academic oxen out of the ditch in which it was languishing. By the time I left SMH in 1955, my proficiency with English had markedly improved, and my academic standing in my form was near the top.

After leaving Stonyhurst, my family returned to the States but in 1958, my father was posted to Havana, Cuba. Five months after our arrival, the regime of Fulgencio Batista struck its colors and, after looting the nation's treasury, fled the country.

The Castro brothers and Che Guevara promptly appeared in Havana festooned in combat fatigues and scruffy beards, avatars of revolutionary swagger. Batista's hated Servicio Inteligencia Militar was replaced by Castro's State Security (J-2). In short order, the show trials began followed by the unlimbering of the firing squads. Popular picture magazines of the day were filled with time-lapse photography of firing-squad executions, on occasion featuring husbands and wives blindfolded and lashed to adjacent execution posts. It was grim and yet, for me, highly educational. I was sixteen.

After Havana, I followed my brother to Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. Georgetown is the oldest Roman Catholic university in the U.S., founded in 1789 by John Carroll, an OS, the first Catholic Bishop of the U.S., and the younger brother of Charles Carroll, also an OS and the only Catholic who was a signatory of our Declaration of Independence. After college, in 1967, I received a degree in law, also from Georgetown. I then entered upon active duty in the U.S. Army, trained in the Parachute-Infantry as a Special Warfare Officer, and served a combat tour in South Vietnam. After securing an additional graduate degree from Columbia University in New York City, I embarked upon what turned out to be a very rewarding career as a lawyer.

Most prominently, in my law practice, I handled cases in the national security arena. At the end of my career, I represented an internationally recognised private security firm, work that took me to Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, and Burkina Faso, West Africa.

For the last twenty-two years I have been very happily married to my wife, Charlie, and have two grown children, but no grandchildren. For whatever success I have achieved in life a great deal of the credit must go to Fr. O'Neill and the exceptional preparation I received at Stonyhurst. I will be forever grateful.

## Rodney Bell

I had a wonderful time at Stonyhurst, but was a bit of a rebel.

In our last year, while trying to get three A levels, my friends and I managed to smoke often and visit pubs without getting caught. We also did more worthwhile activities like painting the white gates red, then locking them in place. However, all that fun came to an end with a last get together in London, after our last CCF camp. I still have the menu signed by eight of us that night.

Two weeks later I was in the army doing my national service. I joined the Royal Horse Guards, got commissioned after about two months of brutal basic training, and three months of a less arduous life at Mons. I then spent 18 months in Cyprus trying to locate EOKA terrorists. When I returned to England, I went directly to the CCF camp where Louis Robertson presided over the Stonyhurst contingent and had a most entertaining week with Crispian (Sam) Hollis, Desmond Loftus and Michael Taylor who were fellow officers supporting Colonel Louis.

After six months at a 'crammers' to get up to speed on the entrance exams for Oxford, I got notification on my 21st birthday (in January) that I was accepted to Wadham College to read Engineering Science. Since I had six months to wait before going up, I went to Spain, and became a guide for English-speaking tourists in Loyola, where St Ignatius was born.

I then spent three great years at Oxford. What a change from life in the army! Two of my summers were spent as a tourist guide in Europe which included Lourdes, Fatima, Spain and Scandinavia. It was also at Oxford I met my wife Ana, through the Sodality, run by Fr Rooney SJ, who was Prefect of Studies while I was at the College, and then at Campion Hall. It was he who got me the job at Loyola.

After university, I worked for Shell Chemicals for two years at Carrington and we got married after my first year there. We then emigrated to Canada after we decided Shell was not for me. I worked for a high tech engineering company in Toronto involved in the start of the nuclear power industry in Canada. We also designed wind tunnels, telescopes, a cyclotron and the first mechanical arm on the space station. It was also the time when computers were just starting to be used in engineering. It was exciting and challenging work.

In our first year in Toronto we lived in an apartment close to work but then moved to our first house in a small village called Eden Mills. I commuted to Toronto. At that time no one else around us did it. How things have now changed. We renovated and expanded that house so that after much work, mostly by ourselves, it was really comfortable. While this was going on, we had five more children, but unfortunately two died very young. However, the remaining four have given us twelve grandchildren. After sixteen years we decided to move out of the village to a house in the country with a tennis court and swimming pool. This was to keep our teenage children out of trouble!

About the same time, I quit the company that I worked for, and a group of us set up our own engineering consulting company that specialised in nuclear safety and environmental assessment. I started out as vice-president, and after five years I took over as CEO, and stayed in that position for twelve years until I retired. That company has now been sold to an American concern. During my time at work I visited a number of different countries, such as India, Saudi Arabia, Korea, and a lot of places in Europe and the US. I took Ana with me on one sales trip to New Zealand, Australia and Thailand. On this trip we did a circuit of the world in a month. It was great fun.

Since retirement and even before that we both have been involved with volunteer work. I ran the local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity for about six years in which time we built eight houses for the working poor with all-volunteer help. I also volunteered for ten years with Ontario Professional Engineers interviewing potential engineers qualified outside Canada.

My wife and I ran the Hamilton Diocese Marriage Encounter Movement (a Catholic marriage enrichment program) for about 20 years and took



Our children and us in Aug 2015: Thomas, Christina, Rodney, Ana Maria, Margarita, Robert.

an external master's degree in Lay Ministry from Loyola University in New Orleans. We have been very involved with our local parish, which is run by the Jesuits and I currently run an Adult Faith Development group.

Unfortunately my wife died six months ago, after 53 years of a very happy marriage, so I am now in a period of adjustment.

### Anthony Horton



There was a level of excitement and also apprehension when I joined the gathering of other boys to board the train to Stonyhurst in 1947. The likelihood of seeing my family during term time was remote as it entailed at least a

four hundred mile round trip. Tradition dictated I should be the beneficiary of a Jesuit education as my father and his three brothers were educated at Stonyhurst.

Having left Stonyhurst in 1955, it was decided by my father who owned a wine business in London to send me on an eighteen month educational wine course. I spent a year with a London City wine merchant learning all aspects of the wine trade. Then six months in Bordeaux harvesting and studying wine making. In 1957 I served two years National Service with the Royal Marines. After basic training at Lympstone and completing the commando training and gaining my green beret I was posted to 42 Commando RM and served in Malta and Libya and then transferred to 45 Commando RM based in Cyprus.

On completing National Service, I joined the family wine business in 1959. This was sold in 1963 to Stowells part of the Whitbread Group. I then spent a year working at Stellenbosch Farmers Winery in South Africa and played for Van de Stel 1st XV, the town side and arch rivals of Stellenbosch University. This local derby was one of the finest club matches I ever played in. Van De Stel came out worthy winners against a Stellenbosch 1st XV containing five Springboks.

After returning to the UK, I worked from 1965 to 1969 as an area sales manager covering the south east of England for JR Phillips of Bristol, a spirit and wine agency house. I joined Blackheath Rugby Club in 1969 and played either at fullback or centre

for the social side. Blackheath decided the front row was the best position for me so I played for their 1st XV and Surrey 1st XV from 1962 to 1968. I was awarded my first England cap in the 1964/5 season against Wales and in 1968, I toured with the 1968 Lions in South Africa and played in twelve matches including three tests. I was delighted in 1966 when Stonyhurst presented me with the College 1st XV colours in recognition of my rugby achievements but I retired from serious rugby in 1969.

In 1967, I had married Angela Fountain and we were blessed with two sons. Sadly, my wife Angela died very suddenly in 2004 which left a big void in our lives.

I joined IBM UK in 1970 and started as a salesman in the City of London, then came marketing and various management positions. A great company to work for with a strong ethos of developing their employees and getting the very best out of them, IBM gave me the confidence and business skills to take on the challenge and run my own business.

So in 1991 I started my own PR Company focusing on 'Corporate Social Responsibilities' initiatives for 'Small to Medium Enterprises' encouraging companies to take a more active role in their local communities. I facilitated and managed a number of award winning community programs sponsored by the Business in The Community, Financial Times and the DTI. In 2009 I passed on the business to my son and volunteered to become a Trustee and Fundraiser for Age Concern, Tenterden & District Day Centre which supports the elderly and disabled in the local community. My other interests include food, wine, fishing, shooting and opera.

I recently found a note from Fr Vavasour dated 22nd September 1955 to my mother saying 'As long as Anthony has taken away from Stonyhurst something of lasting value for his journey in life, the stormy passages will have been worthwhile'!! Fr Vavasour was so right. Thanks to my time at Stonyhurst, the Royal Marines, IBM, and my rugby career it has been a journey of challenges and fulfilment. I have been privileged to have worked and played with some wonderfully talented people. I still have fond memories of Fr Vavasour, Fr Brogden and Fr Clarke. Their support and kindness throughout my time at Stonyhurst was the start of my journey.

Finally, I would like to wish Stonyhurst College, the students, staff and Andrew Johnson every success for the future. Andrew, well done and thanks.

## Anthony Lydekker



I am fortunate to be still working as a freelance travel writer and professional photographer, both activities some pursue as hobbies or new interests in retirement. When I left Stonyhurst in 1955 I wanted to be a

writer and aimed to start out as a journalist. But it took until 2008 for me to submit my first invoice (of a small amount) for a couple of articles and photos about an expenses paid-for trip to Malaysia. In the meantime, legislation in 1955 launched commercial television and a great advertising boom - an economic rocket in those grey and drab times.

I completed National Service spending most of the time in Cyprus with the Royal Leicestershire Regiment and seconded for a time to the Joint Air Reconnaissance Intelligence Centre (JARIC) in Episkopi where there was a great deal going on: just post the 1956 Suez invasion and Cold War issues. I was able to get away on local leaves and, with the use of two temporary passports, visited Israel, Jordan and Lebanon - it was possible to get to Beirut for weekends.

Back in Blighty, getting started as journalist proved very difficult even getting a cub reporter's job in a local paper but there was the beginning of a great advertising boom in the late 50s and through the 60s. I was lucky to get a traineeship with the biggest and best agency in town: J. Walter Thompson.

My main commercial career continued in London in major international advertising agencies. In the world of advertising it was almost a convention to move around between large agencies, the common denominator being those client owners of multinational brands such as Mars, Unilever, Procter and Gamble, Shell, Beechams, Johnson & Johnson, and international drinks brands. I was London based and fortunate to be seconded to a New York office for a short period in the 1970s. I also did a stint at the Masius Wynne-Williams agency founded by Jack Wynne-Williams OS.

I specialised in Research, Strategic Planning and New Product Development. Another convention for some of us was to start one's own business as the Agency world was, and remains, a very precarious business with today an average age of 33 in the top 30 agencies. So I started and managed Lydekker & Partners a PR and Marketing Consultancy from 1988 to 2011.

Over all the thirty years of the varied (and occasionally madding) world of advertising, my most consistent activity was serving from 1968 as a trustee of The Seamen's Hospital Society (SHS) of which I was appointed Vice President in 2014.

One of my forbears, John Lydekker, left a substantial bequest in 1820 to the Dreadnought Seamen's Hospital a hulk moored off Greenwich, which enabled the Hospital to "come ashore" as the Dreadnought Seamen's Hospital in Greenwich. There is a substantial memorial to him at the entrance to the Museum of London Docklands.

During the 1970s the SHS achieved number of "firsts" in the world of over one hundred charities covering the Merchant Navy and Fishing Fleets. Most notably was research, which I planned and procured on behalf of the SHS, to ascertain the general welfare needs and non-physical problems that prevailed within the whole industry. This included problems relating to father separation, lack of contact (no satellite phones) and anxiety about home, family, money, matrimonial problems and so on. As a result of our own research the Society set up the first telephone helpline for seafarers to cover a wide range of problems delivered in partnership with the Citizens Advice Bureau using special telephone lines with worldwide access.

Following the closure of the Dreadnought Hospital at Greenwich, the facilities were moved in 1986 to two wards at St Thomas's Hospital. Today the Dreadnought is a priority medical service for seafarers (and, in some cases, wives, husbands and children). It is no longer a separate unit in the hospital - patients are treated in whatever ward or facility is best suited to their needs.

The Charity works closely with others including the Apostleship of the Sea known worldwide as Stella Maris. I have addressed congregations for the second collections for the AOS on Sea Sunday - including the Sacred Heart Church near us in Wimbledon. (Tessa and I were married 33 years ago at Farm Street.) In my own business I worked some years ago on the advertising for the Catholic Enquiry Centre controlled at that time by a young Fr. John Rawsthorne (later Bishop John) and I also advised on market research for Marriage Care.

When Popes come to London they stay very near us on Wimbledon Parkside and I got some good snaps of Pope Benedict before he left using four helicopters (one, of course, a decoy) for Birmingham at the end of his stay. On the subject of Popes, I have completed two articles about Krakow

(you know where you are on arrival at John Paul II airport!) Pope Francis will be there this year on 26th July for World Youth Day.

I don't see many OS contemporaries but if anyone would like to get in touch, my email is: lydekker@btconnect.com.

I did however see a lot of Julian Bidwell, until his recent death and will miss him a lot.

## John Drake-Lee



I went to Hodder in 1945 aged eight before VJ Day and was assigned to Table 7, the lowest of the low. My colleagues included John Parker, Harold Bradley, John

Roche and David Kelly. (I remember drawing lots as to who'd eat all our kipper eyes!) But ten years later in Rhetoric, I was Head of the Line. Both my parents had strong Stonyhurst connections and at one stage, there were fifty boys related to each other and known as "The City Assorted". My brothers Ted (RIP) and Nick followed me. Although homesick at first, I was helped by being quite good at games and represented the school in all the first rugby, cricket and tennis teams and I was a reserve for the English Schools rugby side. I remember with affection many of the J's and masters who helped and encouraged me along the way. I passed my O-Levels but was not allowed them as I was 14 days too young. Also I changed to Science because I wanted to become a doctor and Fr Lawrence gave me extra Physics tuition after 'lights out' in order to catch up.

For my preclinical years, I managed to secure entry to Downing College, Cambridge in 1955. Most of my intake had done National Service and it was a rude awakening from the rather protected life of Stonyhurst but I got my College Colours in rugby, tennis and squash, and was elected President of the JCR, managed a May Ball with Jo Loss and his orchestra and finally got a two/two. A particular memory was entertaining C.S. Lewis to Dinner when he came to give the Richmond Lecture. The Stonyhurst Cambridge Society was flourishing, meeting in Fisher House, the realm of the unique Monsigneur Gilbey.

On to St Thomas' Hospital in my father's footsteps in October 1958. My sister Sarah, married just five weeks, had been killed by a drunken motorist and

medical students, very confined to the hospital, soon learnt about death, suffering, tragedy and bereavement. Our escape valves were sport, friendship and social life and for the first time in our lives, we were surrounded by the fairer sex. I met and in 1964, married Nicky, a beautiful bronze medal-winning Nightingale. I played for the First XV for four years, winning the Hospitals' Cup twice and the Tennis Cup once. In 1962, fifty four of us formed the Sawyers Club and fifty years later we still meet twice a year. After qualifying, I had three house jobs at STH and got my DObstRCOG and then was HP to Lord Waverley in Reading.

The Army, after the end of National Service, was crying out for doctors. We had just got married and so I applied successfully for a three year short service commission in the RAMC in Malaya. We were sent to the Commonwealth Brigade Terendak, near Malacca in a brand new hospital. Apart from families, there were Australians, New Zealanders, British and Gurkhas. Confrontation with Sokarno was at its height and the Brigade was very active. Even I saw a bit of action but managed to play in the Army Malaya rugby and tennis teams as well as beginning an MD thesis for which the army gave me funds. We came home in 1964 with two children and I became a registrar in Reading before I was offered the chance to be the third doctor in a very go-ahead, expanding practice. We had a GP Maternity Hospital and a cottage hospital nearby together with four other practices.

All the local fundraising activities went to the hospital and my partners and I gave a 24 hour, seven days a week service. Many were the stitchings Nicky and I did on the kitchen table at weekends. There were no mobile phones then so Nicky was tied to the house and telephone if I was on call. Though it was exhausting and poorly paid, it has been the most fulfilling of careers. Under the new contract things seem to be very different.

We have four children and could not afford Stonyhurst. Our eldest son went to St John's Beaumont and all went to Catholic schools, obtained good university degrees and have happy marriages. They have given us eight lovely grandchildren.

Golf has always been a big hobby and I have been a member of North Hants and its captain. Until recently we enjoyed sailing out of Chichester in a Westerly Konsort. I am now the under gardener and just take orders since we downsized to a lovely active North Hampshire village still near our roots. We are content.

Deo Gratias.

## Anthony Suttill



solved ingeniously by my parents putting me on a course run by the British Institute of Industrial Psychology which ended with me becoming a Chartered Surveyor. National Service had to be completed first, with the East Surrey Regiment in Germany where I was gainfully employed running a battalion shop – a venture set up by the battalion commander – and handing out cigarette coupons. An unusual man, the battalion commander, he also set up a small livestock farm. The 'fry-ups' I had there were legendary.

Three years at Cambridge followed, studying Estate Management, climaxing in a three-month trip to South Africa – three days flying each way at a ceiling of 8,000 feet! A wonderful trip in a very uneasy period of the country's history. Australia and China have been my other visits to far-distant parts.

And so to work, in private practice. I began somewhat ironically with having to help count traffic for one of the Christchurch Meadow, Oxford, Enquiries. I was relieved of switchboard duties when the firm's Senior Partner was not happy at my pulling the plug on him when talking to a client – this was the age of the old dolly switchboards – I can still see the thing. My career developed as a valuer, primarily as a rating valuer and my work took me all over the UK covering several public schools including Ampleforth, the whole of Grimsby docks, brickworks, cement works, broadcasting facilities including buildings and transmitting stations and other exotica.

Extra-mural activities have been varied. I acted as an Assessor over many years, well into retirement, for my professional body, the RICS, for conservation awards, subsequently as 'value for money' awards. One hair-raising visit involved clambering round the roofs of Hampton Court Palace. Health and Safety would shudder if they saw the rather unsteady ladders we had to climb; another quite the reverse, was a visit to a dew pond high up on the Sussex Downs built by local schoolchildren. I became involved over many

years in the world of chess, not as a player – I am firmly labelled a rabbit, but as an administrator at club, county, region and national level but now, club only.

It astounds me to think that it is sixty years almost to the day that I left Stonyhurst and I am now well into retirement. Career choice was the first problem I faced,

years in the world of chess, not as a player – I am firmly labelled a rabbit, but as an administrator at club, county, region and national level but now, club only.

The last quarter century have seen two developments in my life, both very important to me.

My friendship with an Italian lady has involved many a trip around Italy, the loan over several years of an apartment in Rome and staying in Marche, a region on the Adriatic coast, with her married son and her three granddaughters. I have also been with her to Israel and to Eastern Turkey, so far east that we saw no other visitors for several days but our car was followed for two days by 'security'.

The other is my interest and later my brother, Francis John's, interest in Father's involvement with SOE (Special Operations Executive) resistance activities behind the German lines in Northern France during 1941-43. For a few months, Father ran a large circuit called 'Prosper' which was ultimately broken by the Gestapo. Father was killed in Sachsenhausen, a German concentration camp near Berlin, in March 1945.

I have built as comprehensive a library as probably exists in English, on SOE activities in occupied France and have attended most of the annual services at the memorial inaugurated in memory of the British and Commonwealth volunteers at Valancey, a town in Loire et Cher, in 1991. My brother has spent many years researching in the greatest detail, Father's day-to-day activities, resulting in his book, *Shadows in the Fog*, published by The History Press in 2014.

(See the review in the Association Newsletter, February 2016, and the obituary in the Stonyhurst Magazine, January 1947).

We have been unable to print all of the responses we received from OS 1955. We will therefore continue with this article in the next issue, and thank everyone for their response.

# HALF A CENTURY ON...

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## FROM SIMON ANDREWS OS 68 AND CHAIRMAN OF THE STONYHURST ASSOCIATION

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The main theme for this issue of Association News concerns the Development of Stonyhurst over the last 50 years or so enabling it to become the confident, vibrant, outward-looking, diverse, caring, successful Ignatian school that it is today

There is a suspicion that some of the more senior OS do not currently support Stonyhurst in the way they might for a number of reasons, such as: the school is not the same, it has gone co-ed, there are very few Jesuits left, etc. We hope that this theme addresses these issues and shows that the Stonyhurst of today is worthy of the support it needs for further growth and influence at home and overseas.

Through this theme we would like to tell the story of Stonyhurst's development into the 21st century and promote the idea that although Stonyhurst has changed, it is still at its core, the same school as it always was. It still holds the same values, providing a Jesuit education that even senior OS would instantly recognise.

The change to co-education has brought enormous benefits, not only in enabling the provision of a Stonyhurst education for girls but also in developing a more relaxed and more considered set of relationships amongst staff, pupils, parents and those in the wider world.

Although the number of Jesuit priests resident at Stonyhurst has declined over the years in step with the number of vocations to religious life in the UK, the Society of Jesus has gone

to extraordinary lengths to support Jesuit education in its schools and the Stonyhurst Jesuit ethos is as strong as it ever was. The chaplaincy team at Stonyhurst has made a huge difference to the delivery of the ethos. Indeed the Ignatian spirit in the modern Stonyhurst is mostly disseminated through the boys and girls. Every September, in almost no time at all, new Stonyhurst boys and girls are converted to the Ignatian way of thinking.

On more practical matters, Stonyhurst is no longer simply one part of the Jesuit operation in England. Following discussions that started in the 1990s, Stonyhurst became its own trust in 2008. It is now a separate trust and must stand on its own, financially and otherwise, independent of, but working closely with, the Society of Jesus.

Over the years there have been numerous improvements to the buildings and facilities at Stonyhurst. The physical spaces used by the boys and girls in 2016 are comfortable, practical and secure. However there is the ongoing need for maintenance of an extremely large Grade 1 Listed building and an extensive estate that includes farms and residential properties. Not standing still, developments for the future include a Christian Heritage Centre on the site of the Old Mill in order to extend the Stonyhurst mission to visiting groups.

During my own youth at Stonyhurst in the 1960s, keeping in touch with the family was very difficult by today's standards. In the whole

College there was a single telephone for the boys' use; there were no half terms and Sunday exeats were restricted to a few measly hours. The weekly dedicated letter-writing period was the best opportunity we had to share experiences with our parents and to keep in touch with the family. The development of modern communication systems has made a massive difference to Stonyhurst families. It is now so easy for parents, local and overseas, to keep in contact with their children at boarding school using their mobile phones, e-mail, Skype, etc.

In the sixties we understood that Stonyhurst had a history that stretched back to 1593 and that we lived in ancient buildings in a wonderful Lancashire setting but the books, manuscripts and artefacts associated with this rich history were hidden from us, mostly behind the closed door to the Arundel library. Today, the full-time curator, assistant curator and team of assistants who all manage the Stonyhurst Collections are returning the books, documents and objects to the refurbished Arundel library, Square Library, Bay Library and Museum where, later this year, they will be available to pupils, staff and visitors for education, research and interest.

If you have not visited Stonyhurst for a number of years and would like to experience the College as it is in the 21st Century, please telephone Beverley in the Association Office and come and visit! We look forward to welcoming you!

## UN CRI DU COEUR

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### PHILIP BALCOMBE OS 57 - 67

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I came to Stonyhurst, to Hodder Place, in the autumn of 1957, when I was eight years old, going on nine. Decades later, when I told my sister about certain of my experiences there, she said that if she had known about them then she would have wanted to burn the place down. She is a Catholic still. I am now a Quaker. Quakers value silence as fertile ground in the cultivation of revelation.

I was eight years old and an atypical child. I had almost no experience of my peers, of children my age. I had had polio and it showed – I wore braces and walked with a pronounced limp. I was also a very privileged creature. My father worked in India and I had grown up in colonial luxury. As I watched my mother drive away that day, accelerating her car up Hodder's driveway in a cloud of dust, I imagined she

was very glad to be leaving me behind. Later she told me she thought the other boys would envy me my mother's driving skills and that that would reflect to my credit. A few hours later I was eating supper in the refectory. The boy next to me – I have forgotten his name - put his cod liver oil capsule into my cup of milk. I did not welcome it and explained politely that I wished he had not done that. He did it again

the next night. I was polite again. When he did it yet again the third night I put my hand up to consult the master supervising the meal. My neighbour was told to get three cracks. I do not immediately recall what boys called cripples in those days, but I remember that I was called a twit for what I had just done. I was put “in Coventry”. I had no idea how to deal with that and stayed there for the next two years: no boy spoke to me or paid attention if I tried to speak to him.

Apparently, nobody responsible for the boys noticed this or, if they did, thought it worth doing anything about. I was not about to complain -- I'd learned that lesson. I was too ashamed, even, to say anything about it to my family. I found whatever human contact and solace I could in books, but I was desperately lonely. It was not until my third year at Hodder that another boy, someone almost as non grata as I because of developmental difficulties, spoke to me. I responded. I was glad to have a friend. I made a few more social connections before moving up to St. Mary's Hall, where I was miraculously transformed into somebody almost everybody wanted to be friends with. That is another story.

By the time I left Stonyhurst in 1967 I wanted absolutely nothing more to do with it, ever. I'm not sure I do now. I lost touch with the friends I had there when I left and moved abroad. I did and do regret that. I've often wondered how my friends' lives turned out. What has become of you, Unsworth? Mullen? Southward? Douglas? Creedon? Nevin? Lyle? Edgcombe? Thompson? Tait? McGovern? Thornton-Grimes? Duchesne? Lawrence? Sire? Bentinck-Hoogewerf? And a few good others...

And Andrews. When Simon Andrews – I remembered him as Andrews, and as benevolent – found and contacted me through the internet I was pleased to hear from him and I've been glad to be in occasional touch with him since. I was surprised to hear that he had returned to the school after university and made a career there for forty years. But when he told me about plans for this issue of the magazine and asked me if I might write something for it, my initial reaction was: “Of course not, and you wouldn't want to print it if I did.”

I'm at the age where lying awake in the middle of the night is a not unusual experience and a couple of nights after Simon's invitation I found myself wondering what I would write if I were to write something. A line from the Our Father came into my head. ‘Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.’ I think of myself as a fairly tolerant person. There are only a couple of people I feel I want never to have anything to do with again, and that

because I am afraid of my own incompetence in relating to them. But I realised I have not forgiven Stonyhurst for those two years of Coventry, and beyond that for the ethos there that allowed a child to be isolated for that long. I am still haunted by that experience. A sense of uncertainty underlies all my relationships. That's not entirely a bad thing, of course. I don't want to be the arrogant little snob I was when I arrived at Hodder Place, and remained until I developed the beginnings of a social conscience in my early middle teens. But my uncertainty runs deeper than is good for anybody. A friend of many decades told me once that he feels I never say anything without hesitating to think about it first, and that as a result he's never quite sure he can trust that what I say is what I feel, although he knows me well enough to know otherwise. Another dear friend told me that she had come to understand that I was always, always frightened.

Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Here in the United States there is still a great deal of discussion about the consequences of slavery. Just a couple of weeks ago I listened to a radio program about certain Jesuit universities here whose founding was financed by the proceeds of slavery, of plantations run by the order to pay for its missions to convert the Indians across the Mississippi. I am impatient with such discussions, even though I accept that black people are still affected by the legacy of slavery. Standards were different then. Slavery here took place going on for two centuries ago. What do its victims want to have done about it now anyway, so we can all get beyond the unending “poor me” refrain? What reparation might satisfy? The response was, is, that that is not the point. It is the story that matters, that must still be told, assimilated, understood. It is part of us, part of why we are who we are today. Only when you gather that will discussion of reparations mean anything.

Can I forgive Stonyhurst, the institution? Do I want to? What would that involve? Simon Andrews believes that the institution probably had only the best of intentions and in many ways the means of achieving them are archaic by today's standards. And in all institutions bad things do happen, hopefully very infrequently. He says things are very different at the institution now, that it is now “an open, friendly, caring, generous, missionary school”. That sounds pretty acceptable to me. I hope that it is so, as it certainly seems to be. I have read the latest Independent Schools Inspection Report on Stonyhurst and I am both startled at the changes in the school from the days when I was there and very favourably impressed by what has been accomplished.

I would like to forgive Stonyhurst. There is nothing to be gained by staying stuck in the past. Can I forgive? I think that will take some additional understanding on my part. I'm not attributing all of my vulnerability to those two years of Coventry. There are other factors, I know. I'm even sure that experiencing vulnerability is important in life. Yet I am suspicious with reason I think, that the ethos that allowed that inhumane experience still lingers in the institution. I remember feeling oppressed by the photographs that used to line the corridors, of old boys killed in wars. What, I wonder, was the outcome of the discussion I saw featured a few months ago, that reflection on the photograph of two old boys pictured together in their youth at Stonyhurst, one of whom went on in 1916 to slaughter others as an Irish nationalist, and the other to be awarded the Victoria Cross for his no doubt courageous engagement in a similarly horrific mission for “the other side”? Is it just my bias that causes me still to see in the magazine a predominant focus on the military and on competitive sports?

I'm not at the school now. I have not wanted to be back, even to visit. I have no experience of the evolved Stonyhurst. When I was there a half-century and more ago I did experience kindness occasionally – I can even remember two such occasions in that bleak first two years. But my general sense of my decade there, the worst ten years of my life, is one of emotional paralysis, of a kind of vacuum of the heart, of regimentation and an absence of compassion.

A basic tenet of Quakerism is that “there is that of God in each of us”. As I get older I am increasingly aware that that creative power manifests itself more in our differences than in our similarities, in our individual capacity to love this astonishingly diverse and beautiful world. I believe that we are better off nourishing than repressing the leadings of our hearts, cultivating an understanding of them to our utmost capacity for comprehension. I would like to know that the new Stonyhurst is more interested in doing that kind of teaching than it used to be in our dark ages, in encouraging a balance between what we think we know and are comfortable with and what we can imagine for the future, between our own beliefs and those of others. We have seen great change for good in our lifetimes. Evolution moves faster than it used to and we would do well to bear in mind that we are living in what might be remembered by our grandchildren as their dark ages. By that, I trust, you will understand that I am not advocating an ignorance of history.

# FR BOSSY SJ

HEADMASTER 1965- 1985

Stonyhurst has always been a place of remarkable stability – just look at the size and solidity of its buildings as well as the timelessness of its setting in the Ribble Valley. Its history, however has been a mixture of stability and change: St Omers, Bruges, Liège, Stonyhurst – a series of upheavals.

When I went to Stonyhurst in 1965, it was in a period of change after a long stable period. That year saw the first non-Jesuit appointed to a pastoral post. The following year, the administration, which had been in the hands of a Jesuit Minister and a Jesuit Procurator, was put under a lay Bursar with various lay assistants.

The College grew in numbers in a few years, from 380 to 500 – a big jump in a boarding school – largely as a consequence of the closure of Beaumont, a Jesuit school in Old Windsor. The first few girls came into the school in 1969. They lived with families of members of staff. For twenty five years, though, co-education remained a tentative venture.

The boys who had all attended Mass at 7.30 each morning for as long as anyone could remember, now went to a weekly Mass with their class and a weekly Mass with their Playroom as well as attending Mass together in the church at 10 o'clock on Sunday.

There were hints of a Governing Body – a series of remarkable laymen (women came only later, I am afraid) who began to bring their professional expertise to the direction of the school.

There was an incipient bursary fund. It seemed important to open the school to those families who would profit from an education at Stonyhurst without being completely dependent on their ability to pay the fees.

Some words began to change their meaning. 'Service' was one of these. For many years the word had referred to the noble idea of serving king and country either in war or as administrators of empire. Those OS who had won the VC were the heroes, along with the martyrs of St Omers, while the CCF had a central place in the life of the school. In the 1960s and 70s, the phrase 'Voluntary Service' began to take its own place. Boys visited children's homes in Blackburn and mental institutions in Whalley; they went in big numbers on pilgrimage to Lourdes and, in particular to the annual handicapped children's holiday at St Mary's Hall – with its attendant fund raising activities and remarkable proliferation.

Another word that changed was 'community'. It once meant the Jesuit community only but, while retaining this use, it began to be used to mean the growing and quite subtle relationship between the families, both parents and boys, and the staff. 'The Stonyhurst Family' was mentioned in documents and speeches. 'Community' seemed a solid and more genuine word.

These and other changes were presided over by two remarkable men, the Rector, Fr David Hoy and the Headmaster, Fr George Earle. Almost



*Enthusiastic pupils and OS awaiting the arrival of the children coming to the Holiday Week*

everything that happened in the school over the next ten years or so that I was Headmaster involved embedding more fully in the life of the school what had been instituted in the 1960s.

Two things stand out for me as pivotal in the life of the school in this period of the 1970s.

It was decided that each boy should have a particular member of staff as his own personal tutor. The tutor's job was to guide, encourage, challenge, and also to act as liaison with parents. Many friendships between staff, families and pupils grew out of this relationship and changed the tone of the school.

Connected, at least in my mind, with the tutors was the change in Great Academies. For all these past years, plays, music, dancing, cricket, prize-giving, conversations were the staple of Academies weekend. A catering firm provided a marquee, food, drink and service. But about 1973 it was decided that the whole operation should be in-house. The college catering staff looked after the meals, boys served the tea and coffee and shifted furniture in the middle of the night, the teaching staff ran the bar. A mother of one of the boys mentioned that if she had known she was able to do the washing-up, she would have brought her rubber gloves! A significant ingredient in building the school community.

What are my own sharpest memories of these years? They include trudging through the mud to watch the boys play rugby in Smithfield; listening to the boys sensing 'Once to Every Man and Nation' at Mass on the feast of St Edmund Campion; perhaps hearing one of the boys explain that he wasn't 'really' smoking; he was just carrying a cigarette; discussing with parents the academic progress, or lack of it, of their sons....

I do not know what OFSTED would have made of it all. Like me they would certainly have been impressed by the committed, talented, cheerful teaching staff who entered ever more fully into the whole life of the school. My warmest memory.

By 1985, it was the time for a change of head and it seemed a natural progression of the school's life to appoint a lay head teacher – a new and important development.

# DR GILES MERCER

HEADMASTER 1985 - 1996



First Lay Headmaster with Queen Elizabeth II

In 1984 the British Province of the Society of Jesus advertised the headship of Stonyhurst to lay applicants. This decision came from the view – much thought about, much prayed about, much discussed – of a lay-Jesuit partnership in education (as well as in the Society's other extensive work), an important expression of the Second Vatican Council's richer understanding of the potential of the laity and of the priorities of the Society's 1975 and 1983 General

Congregations. Declining Jesuit numbers might have forced the pace, but the strategy was already determined. Such thinking had already been at work in St Mary's Hall and St John's Beaumont and in College appointments at bursar, deputy head, and playroom-master levels, and decades earlier at head of department and classroom-teacher levels.

In advancing lay-Jesuit partnership, great credit should be given to the provincial, Fr George (Jock) Earle, to the rector and chairman of governors, Fr Michael O'Halloran, to his fellow governors (most of whom were lay men and women and one of whom, John Hartley, was to become the first lay chairman of governors), and to the headmaster of fourteen years, Fr Michael Bossy. The appointment of a lay headmaster aroused widespread interest, Stonyhurst being the oldest Jesuit college in continuous existence and rightly holding a special place in Catholic history. The priority of the early years of my headship, therefore, had to be to gain the widest possible support for the change, together with getting to know the staff and the pupils and their families.

The Jesuit community, even one or two doubters, rallied behind the change. I was fortunate in being able to turn to Fr O'Halloran and in having Fr Nicholas King as a leading influence in the College for four years. The teaching and support staff were almost invariably welcoming and gave every indication of having embraced the change. A headmaster's wife in principle (and Caroline in practice) seemed especially welcome. Parents and Stonyhurst Association members needed to be won over, which (as far as I was aware) happened. Above all, the pupils faced not only a layman, but a new headmaster (perhaps especially hard for older year-groups). The overriding aim was to lead the college, in partnership with the headmasters of St Mary's Hall (Peter Anwyl then Rory O'Brien) and St John's Beaumont (Brian Duffy then Dermot Gogarty), in ways that attempted to be true to Ignatian ideals, while adapting to necessary development. Indeed, this formed the subject-matter for staff in-service time. Peter and Brigid Hardwick contributed particularly profoundly to these discussions. The elements of the vision statement agreed then are more or less the same as in today's vision statement.

Part of the vision was to emphasise the world-wide nature of Jesuit education. Striking progress was made in linking Stonyhurst more closely not only to other Jesuit schools in the UK (aided by a central Jesuit education office) but to Jesuit schools abroad, notably through teacher exchanges (involving Graham Mitchell, Simon Andrews, and Larry Crouch) with St Ignatius College, Sydney, and Xavier College, Melbourne. The College funded visiting Jesuit priests and scholastics from Poland and India.

Another essential element was to continue and, where possible, strengthen service to others, especially those in most need, which had been such a hallmark of the Earle-Bossy years: a range of charitable activities, most notably the Higher Line Handicapped Children's Trust, Learning to Care, and the Lourdes Pilgrimages. Generosity of spirit from pupils was matched only by that of the many teachers and support staff who gave up their time in the holidays. Another vital aspect of the vision – and one in which I was enormously supported by Fr O'Halloran, Fr Bossy and three bursars (Michael Weld, Laurie Muskett, and Donald Harrison) – was the distribution of bursaries to many deserving families, a task made even more effective by astute sales and investments by the Stonyhurst Charitable Foundation.

Re-visiting all aspects of Jesuit education was a leitmotif through 1985-1996. It involved looking forward, but also back for inspiration, notably through the beatifications in 1987 of sixteen martyrs of the College and the five-hundredth anniversary in 1991 of St Ignatius's birth, marked in the College by a series of 'Ignatian Lectures' and a retreat led by Fr William

Hewett. In 1993 and 1994 came a varied and full programme of celebrations for the four-hundredth anniversary of the founding of the College and the two-hundredth anniversary of the move from the continent to Stonyhurst. Wilfrid Usher, the Deputy Headmaster, played a notable part in the centenaries planning. The celebrations included a powerful musical setting of *Ad Maiorem Dei Gloriam* by William Mathias CBE, an impressive Stonyhurst history by Tom Muir, beautiful stained glass of martyrs behind the war memorial altar, and a play *A Journey to Celebrate* written by Fr Hewett, the first performance held in the new Centenaries Theatre at St Mary's Hall. Fr Frederick Turner preached brilliantly at the quater-centenary High Mass, celebrated by Bishop Patrick Kelly of Salford. In 1990 Stonyhurst had been honoured with a visit from Her Majesty the



Queen, as recorded on the main staircase, something unthinkable for most of the College's history.

Mingled with all this were the many measures to meet the challenges facing independent education generally, especially the boarding sector, aggravated by an economic recession at the time of first Gulf War in 1991. Promoting boarding in semi-rural Lancashire had become a greater challenge than ever, especially as an increasing number of fee-paying Catholic families no longer gave automatic allegiance to Catholic schools. That the challenges were met in large measure, whatever the pressures, was a signal achievement for the whole Stonyhurst community.

Developments in teaching and learning were sensitively and energetically implemented by two directors of studies, Mark MacDermot and Simon Andrews. Methods of pupil assessment and support, along with higher education entries and careers advice, were overhauled. In 1988 a new Design and Technology centre, sponsored by industry, was opened. An IT strategy was unfolded. The Centenaries Appeal, superbly directed by Peter Anwyl, produced massive improvements in academic facilities, notably in Science, English, and (in the Fattorini Rooms) in Modern Languages and Geography. The astronomical dome observatory was restored and the telescope bought back, under the aegis of Fintan O'Reilly. Stonyhurst competed highly successfully on the sports field, especially in rugby, with the College hosting an annual national rugby

tournament, winning the Rosslyn Park Sevens in 1996, and winning the Country Life shooting trophy in 1989. A new swimming pool was built in 1987, followed by a new ambulatory floor (allowing better indoor games) and the restoration of the cricket pavilion. Music and theatre were strong. The CCF was brilliantly directed by Major John Cobb. Learned societies flourished. Pastoral care and discipline were most ably overseen by two assistant headmasters, Charles Foulds and John Hopkins.

But there was much yet to renew and improve: in regard to boarding accommodation, catering facilities, the More Library, and much-needed restoration work in St Peter's Church, the Sodality Chapel, and the St Aloysius Chapel, work which awaited my successors. Proper provision for girls had to wait too, although in hindsight the small groups of girls, looked after pastorally by Caroline, paved the way for full co-education across the College and St Mary's Hall in later years. The opening up of the marvellous Stonyhurst collection to the school at large began in these years, and this too has continued most impressively.

Building on strengths, bravely meeting demands, trying to see how best to prepare for the future: all this was as much the case in 1985-96 as in 1593, 1794, or in 2016.

Laus Deo Semper

## ADRIAN AYLWARD

HEADMASTER 1996 - 2006

It seems to me a brave thing to ask a Headmaster to reflect on how the College did or did not change in his tenure of service; it is better perhaps to ask a pupil or member of staff! But here are a few thoughts without writing a book.

The landscape to the developments might be summarised on a number of levels. Firstly, the expectations of parents, secondly the regulatory and professional demands, thirdly the increasingly urgent need to invest in the fabric and facilities of the College and Estate, fourthly, the financial and social realities for the traditional Stonyhurst market and lastly, but critically, the changing nature of the Society of Jesus' engagement with and governance and management of its schools. I have not, deliberately, dwelt on the impact of Operation Whiting on the Stonyhurst community but, suffice it to say, it shook the foundations of that community and that of the Society, helped shape some of the decisions made and profoundly affected and challenged the faith and confidence of many (including myself).

Memory plays tricks but I remember a resident Jesuit community of around eight and a Rector in my first year or so but by the time I left we had two full time resident Jesuits and the appointment of a lay Chaplain. The lay staff (and pupils) increasingly took on responsibility and we needed to make our faith more explicit by, for example, ensuring playroom morning prayers. Such developments led to the remarkable witness of our Catholic faith and Ignatian values by pupils and staff at Stonyhurst today. Many more pupils seem engaged...



*A presentation to Adrian during the Rome pilgrimage 2006*

change yes, which, whilst the pace of it was affected by those years, painful for all, of child abuse allegations and investigations, was not simply a reaction to that, but reflective of the changing nature of the Church and society. Such change has clearly borne fruit in the life and work of the pupils of today with their prayer and sacramental life, commitment, sense of service and pragmatic modesty; all clearly rooted in the Stonyhurst tradition. I hope they recognise themselves! An analogy here was the appointment of the first non-Jesuit Curator,

Jan Graffius, which has, inter alia, led to the opening up of the libraries and collections with exciting plans I read, ahead. That reminds me what happened to Father Turner's walking stick?! More generally, the move to a separate Trust gathered steam to secure within reason the future of the school and improve governance and management and the wisdom of that can be clearly seen in the reality of Stonyhurst today, actively supported by the Society but in different ways to those of the past.

When I mentioned the request for this article to an OS and lifelong Stonyhurst teacher, he said the greatest development was in the pastoral life of the school even allowing for the move to co-education. Perhaps so and, other than a large investment in dormitories, washing facilities and the like, a conscious effort was made in this area to modernise to meet expectations and regulations by, for example, involving more women and increasing the number of living-in married and single staff. The playrooms remained (and still do). The College and SMH today are a testament to co-education. At the time it was a fraught decision. It was not popular with all, and not without its ups and downs but the number of girls steadily grew and they are now great advocates of a Stonyhurst education. I remember the Inspecting Officer of the CCF being rather taken aback when asking, I think, our first female JUO what she would do after school and she replied she would be joining the Israeli Defence Force! Girls' games thrive and give the Rugby results a run for their money!

In my ten years, there were, of course, curricular developments and any number of teaching and learning initiatives as we worked to improve standards and keep pace with national developments and best practice. Information technology was behind many of these but most importantly so was the long tradition in Jesuit education of addressing the needs of the individual. I always thought from OS friends of my youth that they had, at their best, a desire and ability to think for themselves and think things through. That tradition clearly lives on today and we all tried to keep it in mind.

A final thought here is the positive impact of the renovation of the More Library and its rejuvenation (other than as a sort of detention centre!). In my last year or two we considered the International Baccalaureate (which has since been introduced so successfully alongside A Levels) as the school became more international and, in general, the community became again more confident in its outlook, but I think I ran out of steam or was it money?!

I would end by saying that an OS of the 1960/70s would be astonished by the opportunities available to pupils in the extra-curricular life of today's Stonyhurst. I played little part in this other than to nurture the tradition I inherited. Have you noticed the standard of Dance amongst today's pupils?

## THE LIFE OF A PLAYROOM MASTER

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### FROM ANASTASIS GALLINICOS

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I was Playroom Master of Poetry for seven years. I am sure the job varies from Playroom to Playroom: the kinds of problems one faces in Lower Grammar or Syntax will be different from those in Rhetoric. It also depends on when, in the history of the College, one's term of office took place: the Seventies, Eighties and Nineties would have been very different from the last decade – girls, for a start.

My experience, however, has been that there is a marked difference between the characters of each year group that enters one's Playroom. My first Playroom was rather small, but contained a number of boys who came from difficult or tragic family situations. They were often the Poets who were initially problematic, either in terms of academic effort, or sneaking out to the pub, or bringing unsavoury things in. But the surprising development was that, as the year went on, the friendship base that grew among the Poets, drawing the new boys and girls in with the old, had a calming and stabilising effect. Any OS from that year (Rhetoric '06) will read this and think: "Poor old fellow! He didn't have a clue what we got up to!" The truth is, I did (at least, some of the time), but I was able to view the Playroom from a longer, more mature perspective, and could see the magic influence of the Stonyhurst Playroom system working. By the time of the Poetry Banquet in February, they were sufficiently cohesive to work as a Team and produce something truly special. This is the great worth of the Banquet and it is the watershed of the year.

That Banquet, I am afraid, did produce one disaster. Someone had the bright idea of letting the boys run the Tombola stand without adult

supervision. Among the prizes were many bottles of spirits, which were too much of a temptation for some: five boys and a girl had to spend the night in the Health Centre!

The strangest phenomenon was, that when they moved on to Rhetoric, and then out into the world, although I had no responsibility for them, I still felt (and feel) a certain "parental" connection, which can bring with it both joy and sorrow, as I was almost immediately to discover, when one of these boys, Mani Emerhor, who possessed the sweetest and gentlest temperament of all the boys in the year, in the summer of finishing Rhetoric, was shot and killed in a political incident in Lagos.

Normally, the news is good, and I naturally experience a vicarious feeling of pride (unwarranted on my part) when I hear of First-Class Degrees, sporting glories, appointments, marriages, and so on. The many interesting pursuits which OS have taken up, the knowledge, experience and skill they are developing in all corners of the globe, and the good work that many of them are involved in, make me feel that the Stonyhurst effect, of which the Playroom plays a vital part, is still alive and kicking.

There have been a very tiny handful of boys and girls whom I have encountered in Poetry, who have been unhappy to be at Stonyhurst. One Poet, who was a rather peculiar boy, was taken out of his London school to follow his brother into Poetry, and was not happy about it. He became rather sullen after we confiscated rifle cartridges which

he had ordered in the post, decided he had had enough, and early one Sunday morning, sneaked out of College, hiked to Preston Station and caught the train to London. Luckily, I found out where he was in time to inform his parents that he was on his way! He did finally agree to stay for the rest of the year, but he never warmed to the place. He was, however, a genuine exception, and there was more going on in his head than being unhappy with the College could explain.

A far more common development is for new Poets, whatever their background before coming here, soon forge strong friendships and begin to feel a part of something bigger than themselves very quickly. One of the most extraordinary benefits is the way in which Stonyhurst can absorb all sorts of oddities, and smooth out rough edges. One Mexican boy, who had suffered a fairly serious head injury in the summer, arrived with his mother toting two large bags of medications for him. For the first few weeks, the pills had him sleeping all day and awake all night. With the help of the wonderful ladies of the Health Centre, we managed to get him off most of the pills, and bring him back to the land of the living! He ended up being a great friend of the entire Playroom, and doing well in his A-Levels, and is now a Business Analyst in Mexico City.

One of the drawbacks of the Playroom system is that it was until recent years run by Priests, who did not require family living quarters. For most of my time, I occupied a bedroom and bathroom on the First Floor of the New Wing, and all the OS who spent time there will

remember how noisy it is. Even a boy walking to the loo in the middle of the night will sound like a herd of wildebeest galloping down the corridor! Boys can be thoughtless and the sound of slamming doors or music suddenly turned on at full blast can startle one out of a deep sleep. Getting the boys to settle down for the night was often a laborious process, as they were in and out of each other's rooms as a natural habit: all rooms, and what were in them, were common property. This often led to complaints of theft and lost property, but usually "things turned up again". There were a couple of boys who were always short of Banks, and would "borrow" from their pals – in other words, all other Poets. They were always ravenous, and in the summer would fish rudd out of the Ponds, and attempt to cook this fairly inedible fish in the little Poetry Kitchen!

My final story is rather at my expense but illustrates the strange world of the Playroom. One night, as I was trying to get the boys to settle down for the night, a very lively Poet called Keith Woods (who will not mind me telling this story) was running around brandishing a perfect replica of a large automatic pistol. I had not seen this gun before, but my response to this sight was: "Woods, what are you doing? Put that gun away and go to bed!"

I hope I have not given the impression that the life of a Playroom Master is hell. The Poets were, with very few exceptions, good people to know, and were easier on me than I could have expected. I sometimes miss that intimacy and familiarity - but not often.

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## RENOVATION OF THE HISTORIC LIBRARIES AND MUSEUM

FROM JOE REED OS II (PERSONS FELLOW)

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At the time of writing, having cleaned and polished every shelf, books are now being replaced onto the shelves of the Arundell Library. The busts and the important collection of portraits of the Inca chiefs of Peru have been returned above the bookcases and the precious objects are soon to be placed back into the museum cases, a process which should be completed by Great Academies. This comes around two and a half years after the beginning of the project to fix the Historic Libraries, begun due to a particularly huge deluge on a wet Lancashire winter's day.

This recent progress is the culmination of months of rapid development in the Libraries project. With the roof fixed, and the windows rebuilt, the process of restoring the interior has begun. It has included replastering the walls, and returning the ceilings throughout to their original appearance.

The most significant change made as part of the project has been the creation of the Old Chapel

Museum, appropriately named after the room's original use, though most-recent OS will no doubt have fond memories of it as the Rhetoric Playroom. The three-storey space, originally the College's chapel, was turned into a museum at the building of the Boys' Chapel in the 1880s. Evidence of its former life can be seen in the two sections of preserved stencil designs from the chapel walls. It remained a fine Victorian museum, housing much of the Waterton collection of animals, until the 1970s.

It was at this time turned into the Rhetoric Playroom with the room divided horizontally into three parts, though most of the space above the bottom floor was left as an unused void. The arch into the Arundell Library, created with the museum in the 1880s, was also blocked up at this time. However this archway has now been reopened. A very fine staircase, recreating the 1880s original, has been produced skilfully from one piece of American oak by the college's



*Staircase to the new museum*

carpenters Dave Fitzmaurice and Tony Gill. Our thanks must go to them and the entire Maintenance Team at the College for repairing and restoring much of the woodwork throughout the Libraries, and in helping to get the Libraries ready for completion.

The Old Chapel Museum is now ready for its cases, and plans for the cases' contents are already in place. Through the use of a number of themes, chosen objects will be displayed to tell the story of the school and its pupils. It is hoped that pupils will be able to freely visit the

museum, once opened, and an innovative education programme is planned, which will draw in other schools as well.

Similarly, once the three Historic Libraries are complete, we will investigate ways in which they might be opened to pupils and staff during the day. It is hoped, that before too long, the full educational, historical and cultural resources of the Libraries and Collections will be open to pupils from Stonyhurst and St Mary's Hall in a way which has never been possible before.



*Arundell Library during renovation*



*Arundell Library post 1900*



*Arundell Library after renovation*

# COLLEGE NEWS

## THE HEADMASTER'S FAREWELL



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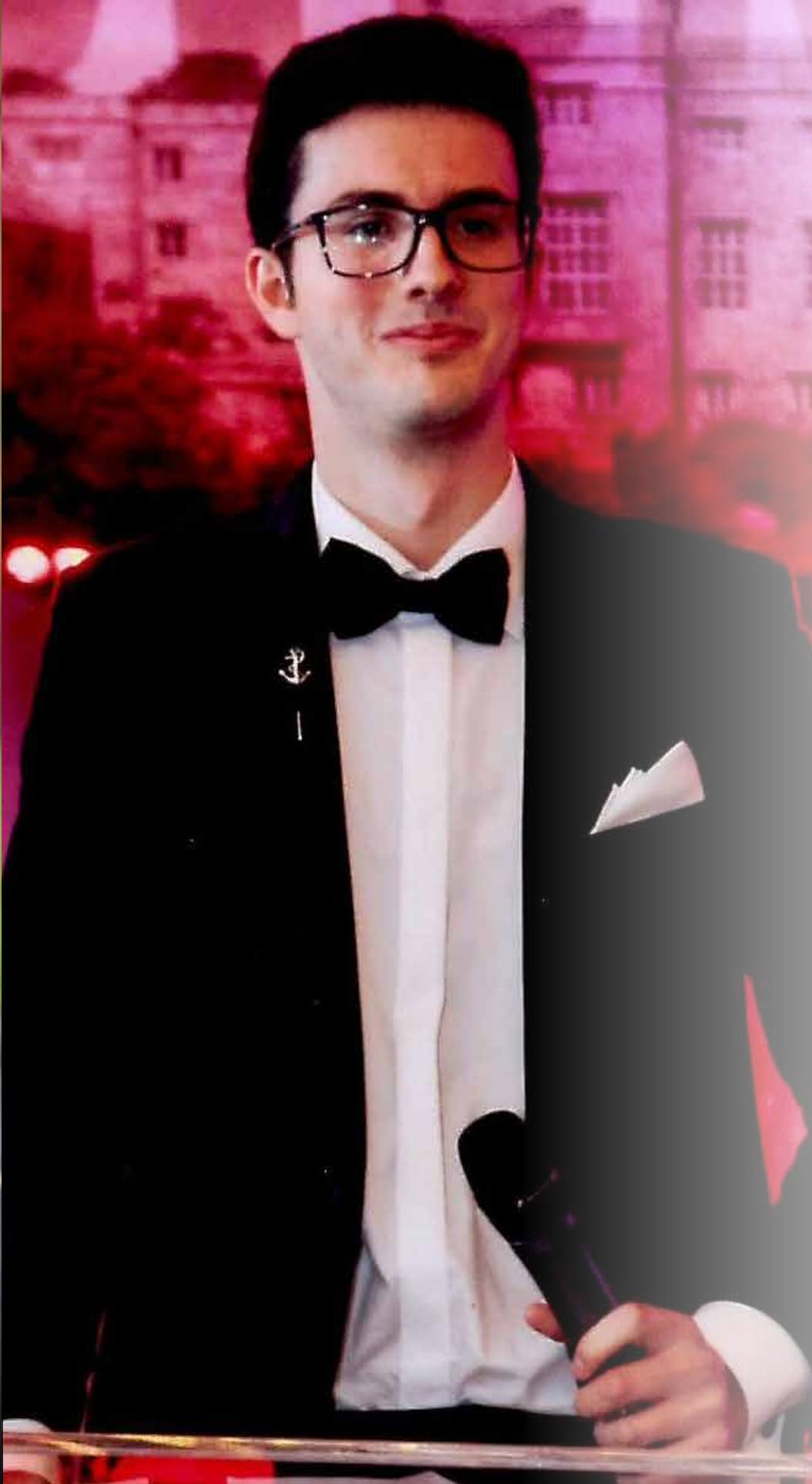


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1. The Stonyhurst CCF has gone from strength to strength.
2. WELD House, the new boarding house for Poetry boys, was opened by HRH Duke Of Gloucester in 2010.
3. Stonyhurst's first rugby squad, after winning the Stonyhurst Sevens trophy in 2015.

4. Helping out at the 'Ready, Steady, Cook' opening of the new Refectory in 2013.
5. Stonyhurst continues to strengthen its global links with Jesuit institutions in Europe, USA, Africa and the Far East.
6. Impressive performances in music, drama and dance have included Sweeney Todd.

# DEVELOPMENT OFFICE NEWS



We are accustomed to being asked to give money for a host of good causes, but it is education and that in its broadest sense that matters most. From this comes everything else. The magnificent buildings which are Stonyhurst, its facilities, playing fields, and Collections amount to nothing without the students to use them, reach their potential in life and contribute to the betterment of mankind, *Ad Majorem Dei Gloria*.

The College has succeeded in doing this for many students over the years, but the privilege can be denied to some because of the high cost. Being in a position to help financially is also a privilege and is as much an honour for the giver as it is for the recipient.

The Spring Term saw the great success of our inaugural Bursary Ball. This fundraising event, specifically for bursaries raised £52,000, and was an opportunity to show how important fundraising for this purpose is, for it allows us to offer the opportunity of a Stonyhurst Jesuit education to as many young people as possible.

Our guest speaker, Patrick Hoffmann OS 2011, gave a moving speech about the Bursary he received, which made his education at Stonyhurst possible, and just what it meant to him. Patrick spoke eloquently and movingly and received a standing ovation. We thought you might like to read what he said.

“Seven years ago, I first made my way through the village of Hurst Green. I made a turn just behind the cemetery at the statue of Our Lady and approached along the avenue, stunned by that awe-inspiring sight in front of me. The twin towers rising up in the middle – flanked by the ponds and the sun shining above. But in *my* life, as far as my parents and I had planned it, this was only meant to be a footnote. I was meant to spend four months at Stonyhurst – I am from Germany and all I had planned was to improve my English, and to have an A\* already in the bank for my German A Levels. Living the Harry Potter life for a short while was just an added bonus.

Well, as it turned out, English was the least of the things I learnt at Stonyhurst - and the school worked more magic on me than I could possibly have expected. I could talk to you about the friendships I made here, I got a chance to travel the world with these friends and I found a warm welcome in their homes in places such as China, Malaysia and the US.

I could also tell you about the fond memories of performing as a Rabbi in the musical *Fiddler on the Roof*, the thrill of standing on the Academy Room stage, becoming one with my role under the expert guidance of Miss Egar; the sense of discovery, of dipping straight into the past, in Stonyhurst's Collections with Jan Graffius. Or I could mention how Mr Ridout introduced me to what would become my all-time favourite TV series, the *West Wing*!

Two weeks after I got here, I had a quiet moment in my room in New Wing. And in best Jesuit tradition, I took time to reflect, to take stock of what I had experienced. I realised then that, in a day at Stonyhurst, I felt more inspired and stimulated than in all the years I had spent at my German school.

I told my parents and so - instead of three or four months - I ended up staying for two years.

When I left, in 2011, I got the chance to study History at Cambridge University, followed by a Master's Degree in African Studies, also in Cambridge. While I was in Cambridge, I set up my own NGO with help from one of Stonyhurst's former governors, Lord Alton, and advice from a whole number of OS including Sam Burke and Edmund Page. I have since spent time living in Tanzania and Myanmar and I am now setting up a social investment programme for one of the world's largest insurance companies.

None of this would have happened without the time I got to spend in Stonyhurst. I spent a total of four years at Cambridge, supposedly one of the best universities in the world. But I am firmly convinced that it is Stonyhurst - not Cambridge - that made me who I am.

When I was asked to talk to you this evening, I spent some time thinking about why I think that way about Stonyhurst. Why do I feel that I became who I am at this school? And I think it has a lot to do with raising expectations. Certainly, the school dramatically raised the bar of what I, personally, expect of myself. At Stonyhurst, students are urged to let their light shine and to excel in whatever area their gifts might be situated: rugby or robotics, acting or activism, whatever it might be.

But striving for excellence, doing as much as we can, is not just a matter of *fiat* from above at Stonyhurst. It is not something that is imposed by pushy teachers or those infamous tiger mums we read about. Instead, there is support everywhere around you. It comes not just from the outstanding teachers, from the loving family of pastoral staff, but it also comes from your peers. In your playroom, everyone encourages you not to blend into the crowd but to stand out - not just by downing another pint but rather by putting your energy wherever your talents might lie. That's what makes Stonyhurst unique.

However, I left out a crucial point in the story I have told you. I told you about that time when I took stock after just two weeks, the moment when I decided that I wanted to stay at Stonyhurst. When I explained this decision to my parents, they told me it wasn't possible - there was simply no way we could afford it. I was devastated.

But fortunately, that was not the end of it. Miss Parkinson, my tutor, and my History teacher, Mr Turner, got together and made the case that I qualified for a bursary. I should say that they did not make that recommendation lightly. They observed me for a whole term before making this judgement. And nor was I given a blank cheque: the Bursar studied my family's finances carefully - honestly, I am pretty sure he understood them better than we did. And he concluded that, if the school offered me a partial bursary, my family would be able to put up the rest. And that's what we did.

This was not thoughtless charity. It was a well-considered investment. An investment which enabled me to spend two fruitful, fulfilling years here. Stonyhurst puts a challenge before every student. And I think we all agree that those who rise to that challenge should be able to do so regardless of origin or circumstance.

And so my question to you is this: can you imagine anything more worthwhile than creating this opportunity for someone who is ready to grasp it, with both hands, and turn it into the experience of a lifetime? Someone who, thanks to you, can discover their gift to the world? Can you imagine any more rewarding investment? I can't and I am confident that you can't either."

Thank you to everyone who made this evening such a success, for your donations, for your sponsorship, for your support by attending. We could not have done it without you!

We want to do so much more, we want to enable as many young people as possible to have the same Stonyhurst experience that Patrick had. If you are able to help by making a donation to the Stonyhurst Bursary Fund we would be delighted to talk to you. Please contact Rachel Hindle, Development Director at [development@stonyhurst.ac.uk](mailto:development@stonyhurst.ac.uk) or telephone **01254 827147**.

#### Forthcoming events for your diary

Curator Evening	5th October
Thomas Weld Society Lunch	15th October
Parent Social Event	19th November
Christmas Ladies Lunch	2nd December

Please call James on **01254 827051** for tickets or further information.

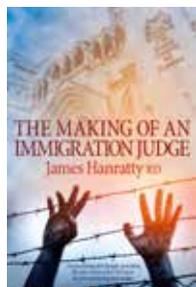
# BOOKS – OF INTEREST TO OS

## THE MAKING OF AN IMMIGRATION JUDGE

James Hanratty RD, OS 54 -64

ISBN 978-0-70437-412-6

Publisher - Quartet Books, 27 Goodge Street, London, W1T 2LD



A captivating memoir tackling the most talked about issue of 2016: the European immigration crisis. This is a fascinating and thought provoking life story of one of the UK's most experienced immigration judges, a man who knows the country's courtrooms – and the realities of the immigration crisis - inside out.

As the western world struggles to cope with the influx of immigrants fleeing tyranny and war, *The Making of an Immigration Judge* cuts

through the hysteria of the headlines to provide a definitive account of the problems facing Europe today – and how we may solve them. With more than a decade's experience as an immigration judge, James Hanratty has seen the plight of these people first hand and made decisions that changed lives forever.

Part memoir, part meditation, the book is written with humility and humour drawing on a lifetime spent in the justice department. From his early days as a clerk in Derbyshire to working at the House of Lords and the Royal Courts of Justice, Hanratty's story is at once personable and profound, funny and affecting. He vividly recalls life in the law and brings a unique and authoritative insight to the ongoing debate dividing our politicians and troubling the conscience of the country. At a time when everyone has a view on immigration, this is a welcome alternative to the fearful rhetoric of the media.

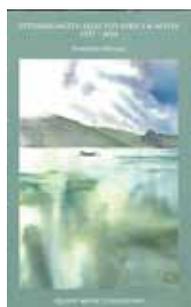
The author comments: *It is important for a judge, even in unmeritorious cases, to be kind, charitable and compassionate to those involved. As Seneca observed, invective against a man in his trial is disgraceful. One cannot blame half the world for wanting a better life but that is not sufficient reason in law for a person to be allowed to enter or stay here. Being kind and compassionate does not mean that the judge must leave common sense at the door of the court and be gullible, and frankly stupid, on the bench. There is a vast industry out there of people smugglers, agents and bent lawyers taking advantage of appellants. Some appellants play the system themselves.*

## EXTRAVAGANTES: SELECTED LYRICS & NOTES

1997 – 2014

Edmund Keenan OS 71 – 76

Quaife Music Publishing : [www.quaifemusic.co.uk](http://www.quaifemusic.co.uk)

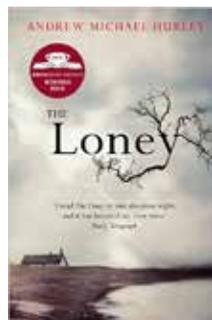


The author writes: *All the lyrics selected in Extravagantes are, in some sense, about wandering outsiders, about points of departure and going home, about folk and fame and friction. The selection of lyrics opens with a romanticised tale about a sea journey undertaken by 19th-century Irish migrants. The tale is told more than a century later by two relatives of those exiles during a nostalgic boat trip to Dublin. The selection closes with a story also narrated by a descendant of these survivors of the seas, on a*

*homeward bound flight from abroad, who recalls a moment in his life when he became 'a stranger to the air'. While looking back on his lucky escape, he comes to realise why he is returning to an island flecked with ancient peaks and brimming with bold promise.*

## THE LONEY

Andrew Michael Hurley



This book described by the *Daily Telegraph* as 'having a strong claim to being the greatest British publishing success of the past few years', won the Costa prize as the best first novel and also the overall prize, Book of the Year. It is described as a spooky tale of extreme Catholicism and pagan practices set near Morecambe Bay in the Seventies in a 'wild and useless place' which the author has known since childhood.

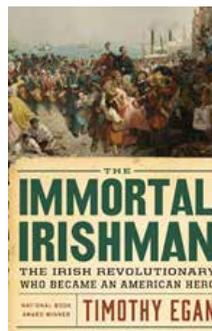
It follows the activities of a small group of hardline Catholics – the narrator, his developmentally challenged adult brother, his fervently religious parents and two elderly friends – as they go on an expedition to a holy well with their new parish priest. 'But the sinister landscape known as 'the Loney' plays host to customs older than Christianity: strange bells ring out across the mudflats, witchy totems dangle in the woods and a gang of swivel-eyed locals appear to be staging their own sinister occult version of a Nativity....'

Andrew Hurley came to the College recently and talked about his book at the Literature Festival.

## THE IMMORTAL IRISHMAN

(Now a New York Times Bestseller!)

By Timothy Egan



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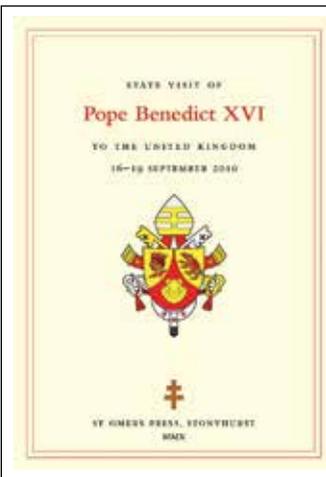


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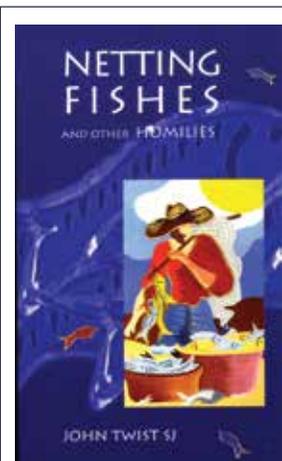
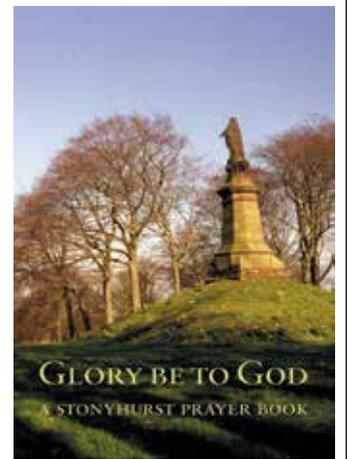
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# STONYHURST ASSOCIATION

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