

AMDG

STONYHURST association news



NEWSLETTER 317

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SUMMER 2020



EDITOR’S NOTE

We have all experienced many differences in our lives during these extraordinary and often stressful times, and many of us are still dealing with difficult circumstances. The spring and summer of 2020 has been like no other period in history and yet innovations seem to have flourished during the lockdown! From Stonyhurst Anywhere to Zoom meetings, we have all found new ways to communicate and continue. Many of our Association events have had to be postponed or cancelled and so we do not have a confirmed calendar to share with you. However, we hope to arrange online gatherings this term, which we will advertise through the website, until we can gather in person again. There is no doubt that the College motto ‘Quant Je Puis’ has been upheld by our Stonyhurst community through creativity, ingenuity, and resourcefulness.

We would be very grateful to receive your news and we are especially interested in forthcoming marriages, births, other congratulations and any announcements which celebrate the achievements of the Stonyhurst family.



The Association has a Twitter and Facebook page and our exclusive networking site Stonyhurst Link:

- @Stonyhurstassoc
- facebook.com/stonyhurstassociation
- www.stonyhurstlink.com

We are continuing to build up our email database. If you or anyone you know has not informed us of their email address but would like to receive our future Newsletters please contact me at:

m.hargreaves@stonyhurst.ac.uk

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VIRTUAL LOURDES 2020

It was with great regret that the pilgrimage to Lourdes this year had to be cancelled. However, the Stonyhurst Pilgrimage Trustees decided to embark on a Virtual Pilgrimage that would go out through the Association website from 21st August – 28th August. We began to plan a programme, and in partnership with the Catholic Association, our Virtual Lourdes started to take shape.

Each day’s programme was different and included live streaming of Mass, the Stations of the Cross, the Rosary, the Mystery Tour and, of course, the last night party! We are grateful to the many who contributed to the week for their time and enthusiasm, without which we could not have put it together. We are especially grateful to Fr Tim Curtis SJ and Fr Sam Burke OP OS 04 who celebrated Mass with us and Fr Nick King SJ OS 66 for his opening reflection from Lourdes itself.

A very special thank you must also go to Dominic Hartley OS 86 who edited all the videos, guided us through the technical process and who, with his wife, Claire, and their children, provided us with a marvellous last night party!

The events of the week are still available to view through the Association website. We are now planning a bigger and even better pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2021! Do join us!



THE PRESIDENT’S REPORT 2020

TIM LIVESEY OS 77

It has been a very unusual year. I am not sure how many past Presidents of the Association have been asked to film themselves giving an address to Rhetoricians, who would otherwise have listened in person at the Association’s Great Academies reception; but that gives you a flavour. This is the year that the College closed in March, Great Academies was held as a virtual online event, the Lourdes pilgrimage was cancelled, so too the Easter retreat for families at Stonyhurst; and a walking holiday on a section of the Camino de Santiago de Compostela was postponed, along with a number of Association events and social gatherings.

2020 will be remembered by us all and will feature in the annals of the Association, as well as the school, as a year marked by disruption but not, I hope, despair. We have simply had to adapt along with the rest of the country to entirely unforeseen events. I want to salute the way that the College and the Association went about that adaptation with a minimum of fuss and maximum of care, particularly for all those directly affected, including our Association Office staff, Beverley and Layla, who accepted the need to be furloughed with predictable grace.

The Association exists to look after its members and to build up our common life. This year has been no exception, even if many of the best-laid plans have had to be put to one side until we can regroup. In many respects it is precisely at times like these, which many of us have experienced as deeply painful (perhaps having lost loved ones), personally challenging, or just plain confusing, that we appreciate more than ever our bonds of solidarity and family. When we do meet again, virtually or in person, we will have much to share.

My year got off to a great start with a very successful Lourdes pilgrimage. Amongst the 128 pilgrims and helpers in the Stonyhurst contingent we had 26 young OS which was very encouraging. Young OS were also very much in at the Association’s Annual Dinner on November 9th 2019. Perhaps it was the location, the De Vere hotel, situated in what was once Beaumont College that attracted a large crowd of more than 200 OS, OB, friends and family. It was moving and memorable to gather in such numbers, possibly for the first time since the school was closed, and especially to be able to celebrate Mass together in Beaumont’s beautiful former chapel on Sunday morning and, later, for some of us



to join OBs in their annual Remembrance Service around the War Memorial. A special thanks to our guest of honour, Tom Shufflebotham SJ, for attending and reminding us of the gifts and graces of a Jesuit education. These were admirably and unselfconsciously displayed in their superb after-dinner speeches by the joint Heads of Line.

My thanks to Association members who organised excellent, and very well attended sporting events at St John’s Beaumont, and Preston Grasshoppers, and many more besides. We plan to re-run in the autumn the two topical issues events cancelled because of the lockdown: virtually if necessary. These are looking at what makes for public discussion and debate that contributes, rather than puts at risk, the common good.

Thanks also to the Association Committee which met as usual throughout the year and is ably, and sympathetically, chaired by Simon Andrews. Its members, like all those who work so hard to organise

events and gatherings – with the excellent and indispensable support of Beverley and her team – are all volunteers. The Association is necessarily a team effort – a pooling of our collective and voluntary social capital. Do consider whether you have ideas, energy and time to contribute to our joint effort.

We are particularly proud of the help we are able to give to a number of charitable endeavours, to which will be added next year a contribution to the Stonyhurst Foundation to provide a bursary for at least one student who would not otherwise be able to benefit from an education at the school. The Association's investment income has, along with the markets, taken a hit this year; so if you were considering making a donation to support our charitable work, now would be a very good time.

I am immensely grateful for the privilege and honour of being President over the past year and am delighted that Dominic Hartley, following in his uncle's footsteps, has agreed to take over from me. The Association

has, however, agreed to another unprecedented development in this most unprecedented of years. I will continue as President until 2021 so that Dominic can begin his term in more favourable circumstances. In the interim, he and I – ably supported by, amongst others, my predecessor, Jimmy Burns – will work closely together to plan for the next stage of the Association's life. We have been given, quite literally, pause for thought. Amongst other things we will be looking at how the Association's current structures, membership arrangements and constitution might be updated, and where possible simplified, to ensure we are as fit for purpose as possible, in a time of tremendous change and challenge. That work will commence shortly and run through the autumn; along, we hope, with a resumption of more familiar Association activities currently on hold. Of that, more anon.

In the meantime: a sincere and personal thank you to you all for your forbearance during an exceptional year. Laus Deo Semper.

NEWS



Paul Brennan and Matthew Page both OS 79 won the Cattermull Cup at the Middlesex University Real Tennis Club.

The Cattermull Cup is an annual doubles handicap tournament for alumni(ae). 20 schools took part with Charterhouse, St Edward's, Oxford, Harrow, Radley, Shrewsbury, Malvern, Wimbledon, Tonbridge, Eton, Highgate, Clifton, Uppingham, Marlborough, Worth, Haileybury, Leys School, Rugby and Winchester all entering teams.



David Gardner OS 71 wrote an article called *Pity the ruined nation Lebanon* for the Financial Times and **Patrick Page OS 07** wrote an article concerning Lebanon for the Tablet.

Jimmy Burns OBE OS 71, Past President of the Association, writes: "Can I commend coverage of the tragedy that is Beirut at its most insightful and evocative, exemplary journalism by two evidently Ignatian-inspired OS who live and breathe the city, my dear friend and former colleague the Financial Times' David Gardner OS 71 and Patrick Page OS 07 who wrote an article for The Tablet."

See www.ft.com and www.thetablet.co.uk for the articles.



Dr Giles Mercer has been appointed as Chairman of Governors at Downside School, in succession to the late Adrian Aylward. He was previously Headmaster of Prior Park College and before that Headmaster at Stonyhurst.



Did you see the actor **Patrick Baladi OS 90** on the TV quiz show 'Pointless Celebrities'?

It was a brilliant episode and without giving any spoilers, we'll say he does well.



Woldingham School has appointed **James Whitehead OS 87** as its new Head, the first male Head of this leading Catholic girls' school in Surrey, from September 2020.

James joins Woldingham from Rugby School where he was Director of University Strategy. Before this, he was Head Master at Downside School in Somerset. James was educated at Stonyhurst and Hertford College, Oxford, before completing further degrees at the University of Stirling and The University of Manchester. He started his school career teaching English at Radley College. He was Second Master at Worth School before becoming Downside's first Lay Head Master and Chair of the Head Masters' Group of the English Benedictine Schools.



On May 12th as we entered the third month of pandemic lockdown, the British Ambassador to Spain, Hugh Elliott, gave an exclusive interview to **Jimmy Burns OBE OS 71** for the British Spanish Society magazine La Revista.

Hugh Elliott started by saying, "A terrible human tragedy. More than anything else, the COVID-19 crisis has been a big human tragedy, with the death toll in the two countries exceeding sixty thousand. I have always kept in mind that behind the graphs and charts lay the terrible stories of individual loss. And although the Embassy had been working in lockdown for a long time, it was important to acknowledge the key workers caring for others in every shape or form."

Amongst the topics under discussion were: repatriating tourists, when will tourism resume, what impact will coronavirus have on bilateral relations, negotiations with the EU, the priority of securing health benefits and Gibraltar.

If you are interested you can listen to the recording of the full interview via the www.britishspanishsociety.org website or on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yDPtFyY2F2w>



Lawrence Leong OS 82 was the 1000th member of Stonyhurst Link!

Stonyhurst Link is our new social media platform for OS and the wider Stonyhurst community and was launched in November 2019. Lawrence lives in Hong Kong and is one of the many OS across the world using Stonyhurst Link to reach out and keep in touch with friends. Lawrence used Stonyhurst Link to organise a Zoom reunion – please contact us if your year group would like to do this. Why don't you sign up for Stonyhurst Link and reconnect with your former school friends and the wider Stonyhurst family? www.stonyhurstlink.com



Stears is a digital media and information startup known for providing access to high-quality information in Nigeria and has raised a seed investment of \$600,000. In 2017, Stears started out in the London School of Economics as a media publication focused on financial news in Nigeria. Led by **Preston Ideh OS II**, Abdul Abdulrahim, Foluso Ogunlana, and Michael Famoroti, the publication pivoted into the information services industry after observing the challenge of finding high-quality sources of information across Nigeria and realising the impact that an advertising-driven revenue model could have on editorial independence. The three-year-old startup currently owns Stears Business, a niche media publication focused on economics, finance, and policy making in Nigeria, as well as Stears Data, its data collection, research, and analytics division. With the investment, Stears will be acquiring talent, continuing data collecting, exploring new business models, and launching CoreData, a digital data platform that gives governments and corporations access to economic and demographic data on a sub-national level across the country.



a mile or so in diameter, so it's a small body. It's in the middle range of brightness. It's not the very faintest. It's not the very brightest."

Speaking of asteroid 119248, Christopher said: "It's like the others: a little bit eccentric. I don't know whether that applies to Jesuits on the whole..."

"It's orbiting in the space between Jupiter and Mars. It's called the Main Asteroid Belt. This collection of asteroids all have this orbit that is not as circular as the Earth's is around the sun. So they're what we call slightly eccentric."

He continued: "There's a whole hive of these asteroids out there. They are part of the leftovers from the formation of the sun and our major planets that we have — Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars — and then the giant planets, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune."

Christopher, who was born in London, became interested in astronomy when he was sent to school at Stonyhurst College. "That was out in the country," he recalled, "The dark sky was available. That was when you could actually see the sky, not the clouds. It would be clear and the stars were wonderful."

He said that his mother would send him newspaper articles about the night sky and he would stargaze using his naked eye because the school's telescope was out of commission. Christopher, who is still based in Arizona, said his asteroid was likely to exist long after everyone on Earth today had passed away.

"Unless it gets perturbed in its orbit, which can always happen — Jupiter is the great perturber around there — or, I suppose, if it crashes into another asteroid," he said. "But there's so much space out there. You get millions of asteroids happily wandering around there. We don't realize how much space there is."

80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DUNKIRK EVACUATION



It was Britain's lowest point of the Second World War. Amid scenes of chaos and desperation, and under a relentless assault from bombs, mortars and gunfire, our Armed Forces, helped by civilians with boats, were tasked with rescuing well over 300,000 servicemen from a small French harbour. They say that when the going gets tough, the tough get going and, at the height of Operation Dynamo, as the rescue mission was called, no one showed more grit, determination and courage than **Captain Marcus Ervine-Andrews VC OS 29**.

He was a crack shot who took out 17 Germans with his rifle...then more with his Bren gun. The hero of Dunkirk was one of 40 British troops to hold off 500 enemy and won the Army's first Victoria Cross in WWII.

In fact, he was the only serviceman to be awarded the Victoria Cross (VC) for the Dunkirk evacuation, and he was also the Army's very first VC to be announced during the 1939-45 war.

THE ORDINATION OF FATHER SAMUEL BURKE OP OS 04

BY STRACHAN MACKENZIE OS 04 AND LUCY WILLIAMS OS 04



It's not every day that an old friend from school is ordained a priest. So it was with some excitement and intrigue that Lucy and I attended the St Mary's Metropolitan Cathedral, Edinburgh on Saturday 25th July 2020 (the Feast of St James) to witness the ordination to the priesthood, and to the Dominican Order, of Sam Burke OS 2004.

Due to the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic, the experience of attending a cathedral seemed particularly extraordinary as most of us had not been able to attend any church ceremonies for several months (years for some). Hand sanitiser instead of holy water on arrival, a 'socially-distanced' congregation wearing face masks, no collection, singing or physical contact during the sign of peace and a live stream on Zoom were reminders (not that we really needed them) that we were still in the midst of a strange time, albeit with its own charm. Since the numbers who could attend the service were restricted to just fifty people, the atmosphere in the cathedral (at a fraction of its full capacity) was peaceful and serene.

For those not familiar with ordinations, the service resembled a normal Mass interspersed with ordination rites and rituals throughout the liturgy. Celebrated by His Grace, Archbishop Leo Cushley, the service started after a Pontifical blessing by the Archbishop followed by a blessing at the Lady Altar by Sam himself. During the Rite of Ordination, Sam was called forward and was presented to the Archbishop by the Deacon who confirmed Brother Samuel's worthiness for the responsibilities of priesthood. After the Homily and the Consent of the People, Sam took the Promise of Canonical Obedience. Under normal circumstances, it would have been custom for all ordained priests present to participate in the laying on of hands. Due to the pandemic restrictions however, this was done solely by the Archbishop. A final laying on of hands by the Archbishop and a prayer of ordination and the deed was done. After six years of intense study to get to this point and sixteen years after leaving Stonyhurst as a pupil, our dear friend, Brother Samuel Burke

OS was officially now, Father Samuel Burke OP (OP stands for *Ordo Praedicatorum* or Order of Preachers and is the postnominal abbreviation for members of the Dominican Order). This was followed by the Anointing of Hands, the Presentation of Gifts to the newly-ordained followed by the Kiss of Peace.

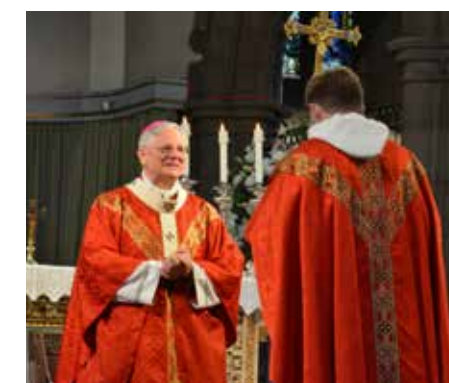
With no time to waste, Fr Samuel was put straight to work by delivering Holy Communion, delivering a blessing to the congregation and also individual blessings just after the ceremony.

After the service, a twenty-minute walk through the cobbled streets of Edinburgh on a bright day and we arrived at the drinks reception at George Square. A beautiful green space just adjacent to the St Albert's Catholic Chaplaincy where Sam is currently based. This was an ideal setting for the drinks, cake and of course, champagne.

No formal celebration is complete without a speech. Sam thanked Archbishop Leo for conferring the Sacrament of Ordination and paid tribute to some of the particular individuals present, who had taught, guided and mentored him, both in his life before deciding to join the priesthood (as a barrister) and after. He thanked all those who attended, with guests coming from such exotic locations as the Netherlands and Ramsbottom amongst others.

For all of you who may have liked to attend but were unable, a special mention went out to you. Lastly, he delivered a heartfelt message to all his family, both present and absent, and in particular to his mother, for their love and support on his journey, acknowledging there had been challenges faced along the way.

If a measure of the success of a speech is to bring a tear to the eye of the audience, the Fr Samuel Burke speech passed the test. Speeches at the celebration of life events should enlighten guests about aspects of an individual's journey and this was no different — we left with a deeper understanding of Sam, his journey to this point and his commitment



to and passion for the vocation that he has chosen. We left with a feeling of joy and optimism for him and his future, having now completed this landmark step.

A new chapter now begins for the young Father Samuel with new roles and responsibilities (including listening to confession!). We are confident that he will be able to fulfil the duties of that Dominican motto "*Laudare, benedicere, praedicare*" (to praise, to bless, to preach) with humility and grace. Finally, we echo the words of the Archbishop who summed it up in one: "Wherever you go, Sam, may God bless you."

CONGRATULATIONS

Please send your contributions to the Editor: m.hargreaves@stonyhurst.ac.uk



Congratulations to **Catriona Graffius OS 11** on her graduation as MA in English Literature from Christ Church, Oxford on 29th February 2020. Catriona is currently working at the news desk of The Sun as a journalist. Previously she was Press Officer for Holland & Holland, part of the Chanel Group.



Alice Kenyon OS 15 graduated from the University of Liverpool in July 2019 with a first-class honours degree in Accounting and Finance, after a year in industry at Rolls-Royce Motor Cars, Goodwood. In September 2019 she joined Deloitte at their Leeds office as a Financial Services Audit Associate.



From left to right are **James Podevyn OS 98** (Spiroflow Co-Managing Director), **Eleanor Spensley** (Marketing Manager) **Chris Brennan OS 02** (Technical Sales Manager)

A fast-growing powder handling and dry solids processing company have been recognised with a top regional award. Clitheroe-based Spiroflow was crowned Medium Business of the Year at the Red Rose Awards 2020.

James said: "This really is a fantastic triumph for the company and Chris and I are rightly proud to be part of the Lancashire business community. Spiroflow is a modern company, which never stands still; we are constantly innovating and exploring ways of doing better. This award is testament to the hard work and dedication of our employees, without whom our ongoing commercial success would be impossible."



After five years' reserve service as a soldier, **Luke K A Guzkowski OS 09** then spent a year at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. He received his commission into the Royal Logistic Corps, and more specifically as a troop commander in 27th Regiment. He will be leading and managing 20-30 soldiers working on Operation Rescript (the COVID-19 support effort).

The Commissioning Parade was 2nd April 2020. COVID-19 brought the 44-week course to an anti-climactic close. The parade itself was unique. It was the second parade in RMA's history where the newly commissioned officers walked up the steps of Old College in combat clothing rather than the traditional 'blues'. The last time was in 1944, not long before many of them would deploy to the Normandy beaches, on Operation Neptune, more commonly known as D-Day.

MARRIAGES



Caroline Church-Taylor OS 07 and Phillip Coxall Ward were married on 31st December 2019 in St Peter's Church, Stonyhurst.

The OS present included: **OS 07**: Sarah Moss, Annabel Gale, Hannah Keppel, Katie Goodman, Lizzie Coles, Melissa Dickinson, Isabella Gee, Aimee Spencer, Emily Hickford, Yvette Hobbs, Scarlett and Dane Cimpoiu, **OS 09**: Daniel Church-Taylor, Jayne Spencer (Matron of Honour), **OS 05**: Robert Church-Taylor.



Dr Cameron Alasdair Macfarlane OS 08 married Dr Mhairi Macfadyen in Troon, Ayrshire, on Saturday 9th November 2019.

Other OS attending the wedding included his parents; Dr Julie Macfarlane OS 78 and Niall Macfarlane OS 75, pictured above; his sisters, Ailsa Robertson OS 04 and Jessica Sketchley OS 05; and his brother-in-law, Alastair Robertson OS 04.



Richard Joseph OS 93 was married to Hannah Jefferson at Farm Street by **Fr Donal Godfrey SJ OS 77** on 29th June 2019.

OS attending the wedding included his father, Michael Joseph OS 59, the best man, his brother, Antony Joseph OS 93, and among the ushers were: Philip Joseph OS 97, Peter Joseph OS 97, Victor Fauvelle OS 85, Nick Pawson, George Tye and Jamie Berry, all OS 93.



Leo Page OS 10 and **Molly Aylward OS 06** were married on Friday 21st August 2020 at Chagford on Dartmoor, Devon, surrounded by close family. OS in attendance were Christopher Page OS 76, Edmund Page OS 04, Angie Allen OS 06, Paddy Page OS 07 and Francie Page OS 11. Father Jock Dalrymple SJ married the happy pair.



Anthea Demajo OS 09 married Jerome Mamo on Saturday 15th June 2019 at Lapsi Church, St Julian's, Malta. Zachary Demajo OS 07, the bride's brother, was witness. Other OS attending the wedding were Natasha Pace OS 09, Yasmine Grech OS 09, Matthew Xuereb OS 07, Kasha Grech OS 07 and Winston Obi OS 09.



Susie Watson OS 05 and her husband, Mark, announce the birth of their son, Freddie, born on 13th June 2020, a brother to their daughter, Daisy.



Stefano Ghirardi OS 07 and his wife, Giulia, announce the birth of their son, Oscar Hayden Ghirardi, born on 25th March 2020.



Luke Flatley OS 02 and his wife, Anqi, announce the birth of their son, Thomas, born on 8th May 2019.



Jonathan Bletcher OS01 and **Lena Bletcher OS03** announce the birth of their daughter, Antonia Elena Elisabeth Bletcher, born on 19th August 2019.



Joe Reed and his wife, **Chloe**, both **OS 11**, announce the birth of their son, Tobias Xavier Reed, born on 5th October 2019, a brother to Oscar Aloysius.



Michael Ingham OS 02 and his wife, Faye, announce the birth of their daughter, Charlotte, who was born on 21st June 2019.

IN MEMORIAM

News of the deaths of the following have been received since the Summer 2019 edition of the newsletter.

Marc Dieter Richter	OS 1977 - 1980	Anthony Lawrence Horton	OS 1947 - 1955
Arthur Maxwell Macfarlane	Former Parent	Adrian Aylward	Former Headmaster
Richard John Philip Jeremy Gwyn	OS 1945 - 1951	Susan Weston	Former Staff
Michael Lo	OS 1967 - 1972	Anthony Stanislaus Nicholas Belderbos	OS 1951 - 1956
David A Bartley	Former Parent	John Anthony Hornsby Olnier	OS 1941 - 1949
Keith Norton	OS 1983 - 1990	Mark Gerrard Hayes	OS 1966 - 1974
Fr Bede Hill	OS 1940 - 1949	George Greville Crawford Raymond-Barker	OS 1940 - 1944
John Philip Holden Rigby	OS 1945 - 1952	William Anthony Suttill	OS 1950 - 1955
Margaret Holden	Former Parent	Michael Paul Talwin Morris	OS 1944 - 1949
Ian Michael Cosgrove	OS 1952 - 1958	Nuala Patricia O'Maoileoin	Former Parent
Claudia Cutino Cortes	OS 2015 - 2017	Paul Earnshaw	Former Staff
David Francis Elfer QC	Former Parent	Kenneth George John Williams	OS 1944 - 1952
Mary Russell	Former Parent	Michael Roche	OS 1944 - 1952
Richard John Aubrey Huxford	OS 1960 - 1968	Michael Peter Emery	OS 1947 - 1951
Sally Walker-Cousins	Former Parent	Benjamin Patrick Gregor Mutch	OS 1997 - 2000
Bridget Denvir	Former Parent		

May they rest in peace.

THE FAMOUS CAMINO DE SANTIAGO USING THE NORTHERN ROUTE

BY LUKASZ K. KOLODZIEJ OS 15

In August 2019, I decided to walk the famous Camino de Santiago using the northern route. It was truly an incredible experience, especially spiritually, as I walked the way by myself, giving me a lot of time to contemplate and pray. The northern route is often referred to as the most beautiful one but also the most difficult one and it was indeed a big physical challenge too.

It was at Stonyhurst when I first heard of *El Camino de Santiago*. Equally, at Stonyhurst I became an active cross-country runner, which sparked up a lifelong desire for immersing myself with nature as well as challenges.

The following story is a short summary of an OS making his dream come true in August 2019, a story about completing arguably the most difficult pilgrimage route among those leading to the tomb of St James.

First of all, I want to state that, unlike many others, I didn't have any particular expectations from this pilgrimage. My primary reason to undertake this challenge was to express my gratitude for all the opportunities, successes, blessings and love that I have experienced and received since 2012. That year, I left home to seek better educational opportunities, one being a bursary to attend the Sixth Form at Stonyhurst College.

As a firm believer that there is always a reason behind everything that befalls us, I also wanted to give thanks for, and contemplate over, all failures which I have faced, as these have always taught me to be stronger and to maintain faith because God always wants what is best for us.

The Camino has turned out to be a substantially immersive experience. Upon my arrival in Irún, where on 7th August I departed for Santiago de Compostela, I was already pushed far beyond my comfort zone – I couldn't find any available accommodation but luckily, I managed to find a shelter inside someone's garage.



My first day of walking led me to possibly the most beautiful city in the Basque country: San Sebastian. However, the heat plus the constant ascending and descending while being weighed down with 15kg on my back resulted in an eventual injury to my knee. That day, I also learnt the biggest lesson from this Camino – expect the unexpected. Even if guidebooks promise that a pilgrim's shelter (known as albergue) would be open, do not take it for granted – a lesson that I have learned on the very first day of walking. Eventually, I had to ascend further into the woods, where I finally spent a night in a sleeping bag in open air and under a starry sky. Thank God that the night was warm and dry.

The majority of my trip followed alongside the coast of Northern Spain. Interestingly, the landscape reminded me of Britain, rather

than 'typical' Spain, and I would encounter 30-degree heat only to be soaked by a heavy storm within just one day. Funnily, this reminded me of Longridge Fell where I would experience similar weather patterns on my runs. That day, walking from Pobena to Castro Urdiales was a great example of just how temperamental the weather can be.

My initial injury developed and the pain had augmented. After a week, I reached a monastery in Laredo and upon spending a night there, I decided that I had to visit a hospital. I was prepared to walk with the accompanying pain. However, once the pain evolved into a loss of feeling in my leg, I figured that I could not continue my trip at that moment. I was taken into a hospital where I was examined and fortunately, my situation wasn't a result of a damaged nerve as I had feared but the effect of considerably overstraining my body. I remained and rested two more days in the Laredo Monastery, taking part in the daily life of nuns who lived there which gave me the opportunity to experience their reality.

In the morning of day nine of my pilgrimage, I left the monastery and the Basque Country behind, now entering the Cantabria region. I had a chance to stay in a legendary albergue run by Father Ernesto in Guemes which accommodated 84 pilgrims. This amazing, private but voluntary albergue in Santa Cruz de Bezana allowed me to reunite with some of the people I had seen previously in other albergues and enjoy a night of laughter and socialising.

My daily routine remained quite uniform: waking up to have a quick breakfast, often a very simple one, leaving straight after dawn, walking for another 6-8 hours, reaching an albergue, having a shower, cleaning my clothes and finally relaxing while talking to other pilgrims. My prayer was becoming stronger and more focused with every new day of the pilgrimage, allowing me to push my limits even further. I began to walk more, reaching an average of around 40km per day while occasionally covering over 50km in one day. I was walking and walking, talking to the locals, learning about their culture, trying their local foods, wines and ciders and constantly praying. I thanked for all the experiences throughout the pilgrimage which would later become valuable life lessons.

On day 24 of my pilgrimage, I reached Baamonde, a place that marks a 100km distance to the Santiago Compostela. This distance is a minimum required distance to walk for pilgrims to receive the Compostela document, proving their achievement. I was already ahead of my plans and expected to walk short distances to reach Santiago a few days later. However, pushed by a perspective of arriving at my final destination triggered certain heroic feelings in me. Full of happiness, faith and motivation, I walked 40km and 60km in the next two days respectfully, reaching the Cathedral of Santiago promptly at 6pm on 1st September.

From a distance I could hear the accompanying sounds of the church's bells, metaphorically announcing my arrival. The euphoria which followed is impossible to describe and I could hardly say a word to



my parents, who did not expect me to reach Santiago so early, when I called them at that particular moment.

I walked my Camino. A journey that was an extraordinary experience in manifold ways. Although the Camino totalled 26 days, it truly felt like I was away for a few months. On an expedition like this one, the effort is almost purely physical, a big contrast to my typical life during the academic year. Normally, I would spend most of my time in the library, working on economic models and political discourses, or at work where I am responsible for managing data on cultural participation in Coventry. Most importantly, however, I have learnt to honestly appreciate the gift of life while almost becoming a victim of a drunken driver in the middle of nowhere. I have also realised that despite having maps, guidebooks and a lot of preparation, the Way is not always that simple and predictable, and we simply have to accept it. And all of this, *for the greater glory of God*.



STONYHURST ANYWHERE: A TEACHER'S PERSPECTIVE

BY MRS DEBBIE ASHWORTH, ASSISTANT HEAD OF ENGLISH



As it became clear that countries all over Europe were entering lockdown, staff at Stonyhurst were keeping a close eye on the news. BBC News 24 had replaced the usual quizzes and property development programmes on the staff television in the Shireburn Room. There was anxiety about the welfare of the pupils but also the question: how would we cope?

For many years, Stonyhurst has maintained a traditional way of working alongside embracing new technology, such as Firefly, and seeking to embed this into the pupils' experience. However, prior to the lockdown, I think it is fair to say that books, files and good old-fashioned pen and ink were used in the majority of lessons. Speaking as a traditionalist (I'm an English teacher so it's to be expected!) I think there is a lot to be said for pen and ink, and, like many of my colleagues, wasn't sure that Stonyhurst would work without them. How could we maintain quality lessons without face-to-face contact with our pupils? It seemed an impossible obstacle to surmount.

The bad news was announced that Britain was entering lockdown, and on 20th March, Stonyhurst closed its doors to pupils and staff. The news that examinations were to be cancelled sent Rhetoricians into a state of shock and anti-climax. We gathered together in St Peter's for a farewell hymn practice, and to bid goodbye to our older pupils. It was an emotional moment, but also one in which I was glad to have participated.

The Rhetoric leavers of 2020 were in Lower Grammar when I started at Stonyhurst, and I got to know them well as their Deputy Playroom Mistress over two years. As the school day ended, the pupils left, and the school, which had been gradually emptying in the preceding weeks, fell quiet. I went home for the Easter break, wondering what we would face when the summer term resumed. I personally felt somewhat sceptical about online learning. I had many doubts and questions: how would we keep our pupils engaged? How would we mark work? Would the students hand in studies? Would they even log on?

About halfway through the Easter holidays, an email landed in my inbox with the schedule for a staff inset agenda like no other. I read it through with dread. "Zoom", "Microsoft Teams", "Classoos", "Webinar..." There was so much to learn and most of it was unfamiliar and strange! However, I was so impressed with the training we had from both Stonyhurst and St Mary's Hall. Detailed, clear videos on a range of software were provided to energise us and make us feel confident utilising the new technologies. In addition to this, there were live meetings, demonstrating how to use new programs, troubleshooting, inviting questions and providing support. For those with queries or problems, dedicated email addresses and one-to-one support was available. At the same time, pupils, and even parents, were going through a training programme of their own.

Within three days, we were ready to teach a full timetable of online lessons to our pupils. I cannot stress what a mammoth achievement this was, and I am very grateful to those who were at the forefront of what can only be called a technical revolution!

Friday 17th April arrived. This was it. The first day of online teaching. It felt a little like the first day of walking into a classroom with the ink on your QTS certificate still wet. I logged into my lesson with my Grammarians and loaded the resources I was going to be using. Within seconds, my pupils were appearing on the screen. Pupils from Nigeria, Hong Kong, London, and of course, the Ribble Valley! Every single pupil attended the lesson and it was so nice to see them and speak to them. I was astonished and was reminded once again of one of the things I love about this job: that the young people we work with can always surprise us.

As the weeks went by, I continued to be impressed with the engagement of the pupils, with their attendance, their ongoing commitment to their work, and the quality of their studies. Although this is not the summer term that any of us envisaged, I feel truly proud to have been a part of a small piece of Stonyhurst history. I still see the merits of pen and ink, but I'll definitely be making use of my document camera and online learning tools for a long time to come. A school as old as Stonyhurst must continue to evolve with the times, whilst also preserving the traditions that give it its character.

This is how the identity of the institution is preserved. I think Stonyhurst Anywhere has been a great example of blending tradition with modernity; our long-standing motto of 'Quant Je Puis' is nowhere more apparent than in the approach to a completely new way of teaching and learning.



BOHUNT SCHOOL WORTHING

BY ADAM WHITEHEAD OS 87, HEADTEACHER



When the news broke in March that schools were to close, it was no surprise but it was particularly disappointing for our Year 11 students for whom the summer exams they had been preparing for were now cancelled. Bohunt School Worthing, a mixed secondary comprehensive academy, was opened by myself and just 13 staff in September 2015 to meet the needs of a growing population in the town. Everybody on the team needs to be flexible when you open a new school and grow over the intervening years. That flexibility meant we were well prepared for the dual challenges of home learning and staying open for key worker and vulnerable students. This was helped in no small part by our iPad 1-2-1 scheme, which meant all staff and students are used to learning being extended beyond the classroom and we already had the infrastructure to support online lessons and resourcing.



It was a real thrill to invite the education editor, Branwyn Jeffreys, to visit us and put together a piece for the BBC national news on the first day that state schools extended their opening to Year 10 students halfway through June. She tracked the experience of a single student from getting up through her day including the class bubble she was in, the hygiene regime we had set up and the lessons taught by her teachers. I also had my fifteen minutes of fame reduced to just fifteen seconds and a sound bite requesting a clearer plan for the next steps communicated with enough time for it to be sensibly implemented.

All schools have had to find their own ways to support their students, both academically and emotionally, whilst being unable to be that consistent physical presence in their lives. It has been a huge challenge to continue to deliver our curriculum and well-being support particularly to those most vulnerable. Through regular personal contact even those who have struggled with their own motivation and self-management or who have had family issues have had staff helping and visiting, virtually or in person, to offer support.

The attempts by some from the press and politics to create a divide between the state and private sectors has been disingenuous and

unnecessary. There are many excellent examples of colleagues from different institutions working professionally together to offer the best they can for students either by sharing resources, offering training or developing interventions together. We maintained our school timetable throughout lockdown, delivering lessons online and interspersing them with themed days, physical activities and more light-hearted challenges. This included our virtual community correspondent Bob, (best of Bohunt), to whom students, staff and parents could send messages, photos and videos to as a way to keep us all involved in each other's lives.

By the end of the academic year, we were delighted to be planning for the safe return of all students in September. We will do this by building on the huge amount we have managed to achieve over the last six months in terms of training for staff, students and parents on new ways to learn and the ability of the digital world to help us find solutions and overcome the many challenges the pandemic has created. I am hugely fortunate to have had the support of brilliant staff who have worked incredibly hard throughout the past half-year to make sure no student or family gets left behind.

CHINA – WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO BE THERE AT THE BEGINNING OF COVID-19

BY ANDREW FENDT OS 86



View of Yan'an and the surrounding hills from the top of my block

At the beginning of the pandemic, my home was Yan'an, a city of a million people 900km west of Beijing. Here, at the end of the Long March, Mao's army hid from the KMT in the mazy valleys of the Ordos basin to regroup and counter-attack. Recently, under neo-Maoist President Xi, this Red city has been rewarded with an airport and a high-speed train terminal. Its communist museums, revolutionary sites and re-enactment shows educate thousands bussed-in daily.



Darning my socks, listening to Christmas carols

As the only foreigner among 600 employees, I have made my peace here, surrounded by the most alienating culture of the 54 countries I have visited. I thank my formative experience as an unaccompanied minor travelling between Borneo and St Mary's Hall. I survive thanks to my colleagues, translator, driver and VPNs.

Crackdowns on anti-social behaviour limit public entertainment, so the full set of five standard restaurants suffices: noodle, dumpling, steamed fish, BBQ and hot pot.

I had hoped for a peaceful Chinese New Year holiday operating with a skeleton crew. On 22nd January, a news article reported a virus outbreak in Wuhan. The next day Hubei province was locked down. On 24th, I received my mask and attended a nervous New Year vigil.

On New Year's Day my community guards turned jailors.

CCP leaders met unprecedentedly on 26th to extend the holiday, restrict travel and impose

quarantine. We indefinitely delayed our crew change. On 29th, I received the "we need your cooperation" text from immigration, requiring me to report my daily health status. By 30th we hit 'peak rules' and I gave up fighting the pop-up roadblocks and stayed home.

In another universe, Brexit happened. Dominic Raab advised all Brits to leave China. My family and fiancée were frantic. My return flights were cancelled. Lying about virus exposure became punishable by seven years of imprisonment. Ominous regulations were posted on my door titled "A Proposal to Foreigners". Four agencies required daily reports about me.

I felt fine. VPN blocks relaxed. I binge-watched "The Two Ronnies". I stopped skipping the Christmas carols on my shuffled playlist. I did press-ups, pull-ups, and a daily jog up the 30 floors of my block. Better without a mask. My landmarks on the dark dusty climb included the blanket on 7, the keyboard on 9, the yellow bucket on 10, bags of rice on 11, the table on 15, the toilet on 19, the sign for 18 on 20, the bath on 21, the fish tank on 22, the secret smoker on 27, the potted plant on 29, and the stroller on 30. I obsessively polished my shoes and consumed three litres of milk, two loaves of bread, half a box of eggs, a litre of orange juice, a box of cereal, five beers, and a bottle of wine per week.

Work started working again; separated by hundreds of miles, we collaborated over Skype. Webcasts were no longer the snoozefest they had been; you could feel people leaning in for the latest. Evenings I put out a glass of fridge-cold Chinese red as a treat.

Cases peaked on 4th February, ignoring the aberration on 13th. That day's massive increase was swiftly fixed and the miscreant fired. Here, all statistics are political decisions. Nonetheless, shops opened on 1st March, and on 9th, after 39 days lockdown, I was permitted back to the office, and we could finally crew-change our exhausted operators. Finally, by the equinox I savoured my first meal out. Entry to premises now required a green QR code on my contact-tracing app. When new cases effectively ceased, it was announced that schools would re-open.

The western press debated herd immunity and curve flattening, cases shot up, markets crashed, toilet rolls were hoarded, and

covidots shamed. In this mobilisation economy, there was no discussion. In China, returning foreigners became the virus transmitters. My sceptical barber was only swayed by my long hair. On 27th, China closed its borders. My company announced furloughs and massive redundancies. I was stuck here and if I left, I would lose my job.

I felt a chill; I thought I had dodged it. The mood shifted. Rumours circulated of a sneak Taiwan Anschluss while the US carriers were off sick. Colleagues argued that there was no proof the virus started in China. For the first time I noticed people avoiding me on the street.

Now, it is June, the drab winter hills are lush green. My driver curses behind wedding convoys of white SUVs bearing red suitcases. Blue-tracksuited students mill about and shrieks echo round the compound after school. I still report my daily health and I'm barred from public transport. Locals demand to see my QR code in the pub. But it's not too bad. Production is up and we are drilling full steam ahead.



One of the guards of my compound



Welcoming disembarking passengers at rail stations

LIFE IN ASIA – LIVING WITH COVID-19

BY JENSEN SO OS 08



In Hong Kong, all new department rotations for doctors in the public healthcare sector start in July every year, and what a memorable year it has been for me since July 2019!

After completing my master's degree at the University of Edinburgh last year, I moved back to Hong Kong and started working in the hospital again as a clinician. After 6 months, in January 2020, I rotated to the department of medicine in a more rural hospital. I can recall clearly on the first day my supervisor speaking about the terrifying working condition during SARS seventeen years ago and saying that we were lucky nowadays to have much better protective equipment and isolation facilities.

Who knew that just two weeks after her comments that the coronavirus outbreak in Wuhan would flood the news and put me in the same situation as SARS?

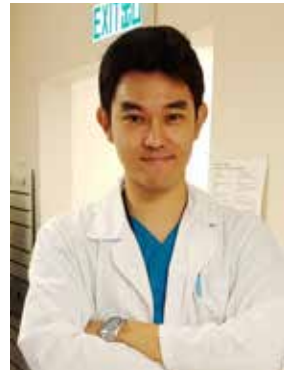
By the end of January, we started to admit patients with travel history to China presenting with fever and respiratory symptoms. A week after that, the infectious response was set to the highest level, which meant that all non-urgent, elective surgeries and procedures were cancelled, and no family visiting patients were allowed. The whole city was panicking because of a shortage of surgical masks as well as the painful memories from SARS. However, it was this traumatic experience that we have learnt from which led us to practice infectious precautions immediately and cautiously, such as appropriate hand-washing and use of surgical masks. These measures eventually helped our city to control the outbreak very successfully within a short period of time.

In February, I was allocated to work under the so-called "dirty team" in the infectious triage wards. Everybody in the department was under high pressure, particularly when the Hong Kong government refused to close the border to China and each day we were flooded with symptomatic Chinese people. The number of beds with isolation facilities were occupied by confirmed cases within two weeks and we had to transform some general wards into surveillance wards with limited facilities for suspected cases. The whole pandemic was unclear and no experts could predict the end of it. Personal protective equipment was likely to run short particularly because it was also in short supply across the globe. The Hong Kong government was acting very slowly and many of us had to try to buy different protective equipment ourselves from various sources. Yet, nobody ever thought about leaving their positions and we all gathered up after a meeting for a group photo promising each other that nobody would be missing by the end of the pandemic, particularly poignant as many healthcare workers in Hong Kong were lost during SARS. A lot of usual services were affected because staff were redeployed to the infectious team. It took unimaginable manpower, resources and facilities to admit each patient with a positive coronavirus test and put them under care until they fully recovered.

Throughout the years we have heard heroic stories about our seniors fighting hard during the SARS period, but now I realised I was facing the same situation as they were. "Oh, so this is how they felt," I said to myself after the first few days of work in the isolation wards. Not only were we there to prepare for seeing the death of some infected patients, but we were also put into a situation to face our own fate. We have been professionally trained to deal with other people's deaths but were never educated to prepare for the end of our own existence

in this way. I had some reactive thoughts about my own death and was considering whether I should draft a will of my final words to my family and friends. I was pressured, but on the other hand, motivated to speak to people about things that I had kept in my mind for a while because I did not know whether when I would have the opportunity to do it again in the future. Like many philosophers have claimed, it is death that teaches us most about life.

I will never forget that fear at the beginning of the outbreak. My legs were literally shaking when I first had to go into an isolation cubicle to perform examinations and take blood from a suspected case that came from China. It took a lot of courage to walk into the cubicle every time and I had to be 100% alert for everything that I did within to make sure that I would not bring any virus out with me. I could no longer go home after contact with a confirmed case and had to stay in a sponsored hotel for at least two weeks to avoid risking my family. It may sound terrible to be quarantined after a long day of work, however, it turned out to be the best resting period I have ever had! Have a think, before lockdown when was the last time that you could sit back quietly with no plans and just rest? It meant I was able to have peace and quiet and finished work for publication that I never had the time and motivation to finish. Thankfully, my two months of duty in the infectious disease team ended without any drama and I could go home and have dinner with my family again after I tested negative.



As the virus is still spreading rapidly in different parts of the world, we in Hong Kong are enjoying a local transmission free environment and easing our protective measures thanks to individuals' efforts. There is no doubt that this pandemic has caused numerous tragedies and resulted in many devastating effects. However, it is a valuable experience for everyone to learn that true happiness comes from health, family and friends and to realise they are the most important. It is just like air; we never truly appreciate its value until we suffocate. The tough time of work in the wards earlier this year has now become a fruitful and memorable experience, and I cannot express how rewarding it is to see the recovered patients living a normal life again and I will be proud to tell others that I fought on the frontline and contributed.

To all Stonyhurst family and friends who are reading this in different parts of the world, if you are living in countries that are still under threat of the virus, please remember that it is most important to keep social distancing with appropriate hand-washing and use face masks. It may be a tough time but remember that the darkest time always comes just before dawn. May God bless you all!



TRACKING DOWN SLAVERY IN MODERN BRITAIN

BY CHRISTOPHER RILEY OS 82



Some of my team of modern slavery investigators with me in the middle (the handsome, bald, portly one!)

During the three months of lockdown we have not been able to work. What my company does, is track down modern-day slavery in factories, farms and warehouses around the United Kingdom.

We are now back at work and this morning we appeared unannounced at the door of a garment factory in Leicester and found four underage children of South Asian origin packing boxes for one of our customers, a major fashion brand. A few days earlier we turned up at a factory at 6am and found 15 Bulgarian women lying in their sleeping bags next to their sewing machines. They had been locked in for six weeks making garments – what the industry calls CMT: Cut, Make and Trim. This is manual labour and they told us they were being paid about £4 an hour for this. They were perfectly happy with their salary and the working conditions, despite the fact that the premises had no shower. In their home country they would not have been able to earn this much.

In the UK, it is illegal for a 12-year-old to work. It is illegal for an adult to be paid under £8.72 an hour. And it is illegal to lock people up 7 days a week and make them sleep in their place of work. We discover these kinds of issues on a regular basis. Last year we visited 1,700 sites as part of our business, auditing the supply chains of our clients. Our clients are well-known brands and retailers who insist that their suppliers must meet ethical and legal standards. Unfortunately, not all of them do, all the time.

The owner of one factory told us he could not afford to run his factory in an ethical manner because his customer, a reputable high street retailer, was not paying him enough for the garments he was making. He had just stepped out of a brand-new Bentley Mulsanne, which he admitted had cost him over £300,000.

After leaving Stonyhurst and studying Politics at Bristol University, I joined the Royal Hong Kong Police. After a few years I moved into the

private sector working in China and around Asia on quality control and social compliance. I sold my company in 2012 to a German competitor and came back to the UK so my children could go to school here. My partners and I then set up a new business focusing on this country, auditing British suppliers as we had done for 25 years in Asia. This coincided with the publication of the UK Modern Slavery Act in 2015.

We estimate that there are about 100,000 men, women and children in the UK who are victims of modern-day slavery in some form. This may involve physical or emotional abuse, deduction or non-payment of wages, withholding of passports or simply forced overtime and appalling living conditions.

The government has no budget for investigating this so it is left to industry to self-police itself. Our company is run as a social enterprise which means we don't take dividends out of the business but reinvest our profits to hire more staff and improve our software systems, which we design in our office in Hong Kong).

We believe this is meaningful work and if you agree and would like to find out more, feel free to get in touch with me at chris.riley@verisio.global. Our UK team at www.verisio.com is now 15 people strong but there is work for 100 people and we expect to be growing as we try and make our little slice of the world a better place.

Stonyhurst (and the CCF) taught me to get on with problems that I find, and to fix them, not to wait for the government to tell me what to do or to provide a grant. I see God in all things but sadly we are also surrounded by much evil, and evil is not only at the other end of the world but festering down the road from you.

THE SPINAL INJURIES ASSOCIATION (SIA)

BY THE CEO: NIK HARTLEY OBE OS 89



Nik introduces SIA's patron, Princess Anne, to colleagues and users of the charity

After 25 years working in the international humanitarian world, from the Ebola crisis in West Africa to youth movements for social justice, in 2018 my wife and I decided it was time to re-focus our careers in the UK – for our two small children, but also to give back to the UK. After a campervan trip around the four corners of the UK, I concluded that if I was going to focus on the UK, it would be about my passion and interest in causes and needs for people who were homeless and/or disabled people. That is when I found the Spinal Injuries Association (SIA).

SIA is an incredible national charity with a singular vision – to serve and fight on behalf of anyone who has been paralysed through a spinal cord injury to achieve a fulfilled life. I have to admit I wondered after working around the world whether I could be quite as driven in this, the fifth biggest economy on the planet. How naïve I was.

You might imagine when you slip in the shower and break your neck, or discover you have a tumour on your spine, or are blown up in the Manchester Arena bomb that this would be the lowest point for any of us.

What I have learned in the past 18 months is, in fact, the low point is when you discover that only one in three spinal cord injured people will in fact be treated in a specialist spinal centre; it is when care is taken away through a form filled out differently, meaning a return of pressure ulcers and urinary tract infections; it is an inability to continue to work because of basic bowel management care. I have been little short of horrified to meet people around the country who suffer this time and again.

And then the coronavirus pandemic struck.

If you are paralysed by a spinal cord injury, a common cold can cause pneumonia; a hospital visit can lead to ulcerated skin, or bowel and bladder infections; a carer with a suspected infection can mean isolation and potential health risks within days. That is a normal month. The exponentially increased risks of coronavirus to the tens of thousands of spinal cord injured people across the UK had the potential to be devastating.

I have found myself back at the heart of a humanitarian cause, right here in the UK. And so SIA's staff and volunteers turned around an immense response in a matter of days, redeploying our specialist nurses, national teams of expert peers (spinal cord injured people) and volunteers, and

together developed a 111-style service for 50,000 people across the UK who are, to this day, at real risk.

Our phones are off the hook as demand soars for the advice we are sending out. The advocacy and representation we are needing to pick up for each individual is huge.

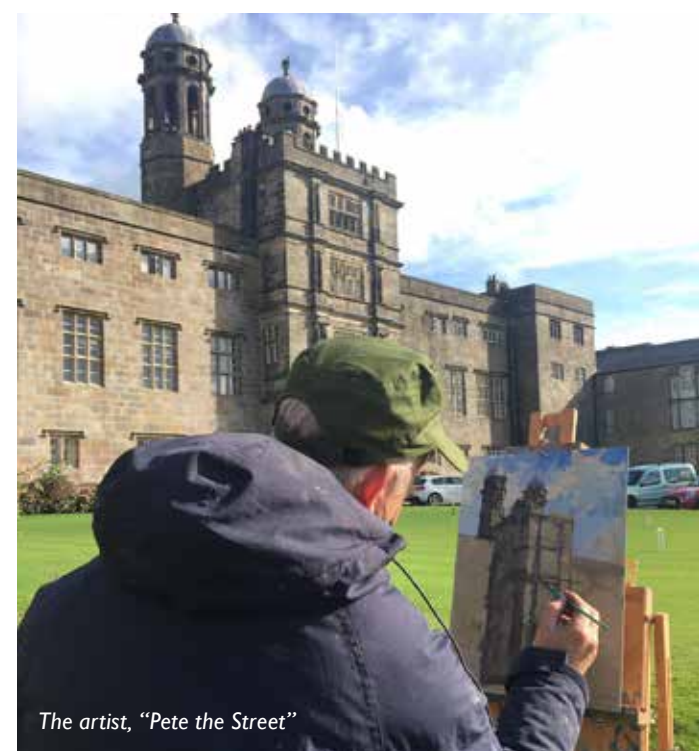
Considering the challenges of isolation, cancelled fundraising events (losing over a million pounds over the summer) and the need to protect our own staff and volunteers (most of whom are themselves spinal cord injured), I am personally blown away by the self-sacrifice, bravery and commitment everyone at SIA is showing. They are literally saving lives and buffering the NHS by being a frontline service for this massively high-risk group in our communities.

I have come to understand that my role is simply to get this out into the public consciousness; to raise more funds to grow our support network and specialist care, and to build campaigning to change this situation for good. I have loved the first year and a half. And it turns out the answer is I do feel as driven about this as anything I have done internationally in the past. If you would like any further information do drop me an email: n.hartley@spinal.co.uk.



STONYHURST'S 225 ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PETER BROWN

BY STEPHEN WITHNELL OS 95, DEPUTY HEAD (EXTERNAL)



The artist, "Pete the Street"

The 2019/20 Academic Year brought with it our 225th Anniversary year of being based in Lancashire and we wanted to make sure we marked the year in a memorable way. It soon became clear that one of the best ways to commemorate this year was to memorialise the school and its location in painted form for the Stonyhurst community to buy and hang in pride of place in their homes.

The choice of artist was not hard. Who better to truly capture the uniqueness of Stonyhurst life than Peter Brown, an impressionist painter, known popularly as "Pete the Street" who paints street scenes and city landscapes. He is president of the New English Art Club, an honorary member of the Royal Society of British Artists, a member of the Royal Society of Portrait Painters, the Royal Institute of Oil Painters, the Pastel Society and the Bath Society of Artists.

If those accolades were not enough, Peter had recently been the solo exhibitor at Messums, London, with his exhibition "East Anglia" and came highly recommended from Prior Park having completed a similar acclaimed commission as their Artist in Residence during 2018.

We were therefore delighted to announce Peter Brown as our 'Stonyhurst 225 Artist in Residence' and to welcome him to his muse for the next few months. Whilst at Stonyhurst, Peter was based across the College and St Mary's Hall accessing the buildings and grounds to draw inspiration from the estate and Stonyhurst life for his work. One would often see him painting away outside come rain, shine and even heavy fog before venturing inside to find some much-needed warmth and to capture the buzz of day-to-day life at the school.

During his residency, Pete produced brilliant painting after brilliant painting, capturing scenes well known to the whole Stonyhurst family, from the boys returning from rugby and the sheep grazing in the field

to the familiar beauty of the College (Boys') Chapel and the Square Library. With each new painting shared on social media, the Stonyhurst community became more enticed and enthusiasm for buying the finished products began to grow.

As we continued to showcase the paintings produced and their exhibition, to be held over the Great Academies weekend, the COVID-19 circumstances around the world were quickly changing.

In March, the UK went into lockdown and our exhibition was swiftly adapted from a physical exhibition to an online one, via a dedicated page on our Stonyhurst Development website which went live on 22nd April. Within twenty-four hours, two thirds of the paintings were sold as staff, parents, OS and members of the wider Stonyhurst community leapt at the chance to have a unique piece of Stonyhurst in their homes. Many parents chose and bought specific paintings for their children as a permanent memento of this special year.

As the paintings sale successfully continued, plans were underway to produce one hundred limited edition prints of the 'Sunrise, Stonyhurst' painting.

The sale for the prints saw phenomenal uptake and within hours ninety prints had been sold and by the Monday morning, all had been snapped up.

The positive comments and numerous enquiries into the sale of these prints has paved the way for more, of a different image, to be produced in the coming year. Be sure to keep an eye on our website and social media for updates on these.

There is no question, that our '225 Artist in Residence' project was a resounding success. 50% of the net proceeds have gone to the Stonyhurst Foundation, an independent charitable trust dedicated to raising bursary and fee assistance funds for Stonyhurst and St Mary's Hall.



Cold morning walk to work



Sunrise, Stonyhurst

CURATOR'S NEWS

BY JAN GRAFFIUS, COLLEGE CURATOR

GREAT ACADEMIES AND THE GIRL WHO "DARED TO DANCE"

(ACADEMIES PROGRAMME,
MAY 1807)

During May, this year Great Academies 2020 should have taken place, allowing our Rhetoricians a chance to 'graduate' and the entire Stonyhurst family to come together and exchange the warmth and joy that always marks the occasion. We had to defer that joy, as we know Great Academies did take place remotely at the end of the summer term.

But what are the Academies? And why are they Great? As so often at Stonyhurst, the answer is steeped in history. Academies have been a part of Jesuit education since the 16th century, and are described in the 1599 *Ratio Studiorum*, the pioneering document that underpins the ethos of Jesuit teaching.

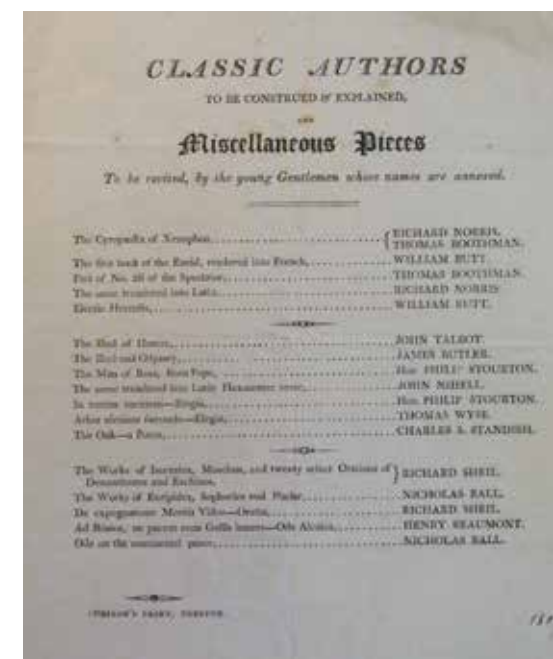
The Academies were a form of class examination which took place at set times throughout the year, according to Playroom. Rhetoric had their Academies in December, Poetry in February, Syntax in March and Grammar in May. The Academies consisted of a public viva voce grilling on aspects of the pupils' annual work, usually focusing on Latin and Greek, but also poetry, recitation and debate.

If a pupil was deemed to have failed his Academies, then he was required to revise throughout the next holiday and try again. A second failure meant that the pupil was held back a year.

Great Academies, as the name suggests, was an annual public demonstration of the excellence of a Jesuit education. At the end of the school year, a selection of the very best scholars was put forward to demonstrate their classical, theological, dramatic, musical and literary excellence to an invited audience. The displays were ambitious, and incorporated the annual Prize Giving, a celebratory dinner, dramatic performance and dance. The dancing was of a specific sort: grave, dignified, elaborate, formal dance steps were performed as part of the drama by an elite chosen few in front of an audience, accompanied by baroque music written for the occasion. And strictly men only. In fact, boys only, since the Jesuits were forbidden to dance in public.

This tradition had persisted from 1593 from St Omers to Bruges and Liège. Until, that is, the second Great Academies to be held at Stonyhurst, on August 4th 1796, when the unthinkable happened. A sombre and elegiac dramatic performance entitled 'The College of Liège Deserted' had taken its decorous three-hour course, when it reached the point where the balletic interlude was to take place.

Unimaginably, a boy was absent from his place in the dance line-up, and there was consternation all round. The consternation intensified exponentially when the younger sister of one of the boys walked out of the audience onto the stage to save the day. The collective pearl-clutching and fits of vapours can only be guessed at. The bold young lady was bundled off into the outer darkness, and all women were banned from Great Academies for the next eighty-five years. Only in 1881 did the College feel it was safe to allow women and relax the ban. In our current 2020 celebration of twenty years of full co-education, the story of the Girl Who Dared to Dance at Great Academies seems particularly appropriate.



DEVELOPMENT NEWS

STONYHURST ANYWHERE

BY LORNA GOGGIN, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ASSOCIATE

Virtual delivery of our seamless education...

...anywhere



Benjamin Franklin once said, "Change is the only constant in life. One's ability to adapt to those changes will determine your success in life". When 2020 loomed no one could predict the changes that would be thrust upon us and how we would need to adapt to deal with those changes.

Stonyhurst has long embraced the old with the new, keeping the traditional teaching methods of pen and paper as well as incorporating modern technology such as Firefly and our new 'Innovation in Teaching' classroom. This blended form of learning, used by fellow Jesuit schools, has been in place for the past two years at Stonyhurst. As the UK, and therefore Stonyhurst, entered lockdown in March, we built on this expertise to create Stonyhurst Anywhere, our dedicated virtual learning platform.

Our staff took part in in-depth training during our usual start of term inset. Clear and concise videos were provided detailing the range of software and programs available and staff virtually attended live meetings where they were shown how to use these, with one-to-one support available for anyone needing further assistance. Simultaneously, pupils, and even their parents, were going through training sessions of their own to prepare them for the virtual learning to come.

The aim of Stonyhurst Anywhere was to continue to provide a Stonyhurst education for our pupils wherever they may be in the world. Therefore, it encompassed a blend of live

academic lessons; pastoral sessions; tutorials and meetings, all of which were supported by recorded lessons and talks; resources and set tasks. This formation provided the structure of a timetable. However, with recorded sessions and online resources, flexibility was in place for those pupils who benefit from different learning styles and were living in different time zones.

The variety and vibrancy of a Stonyhurst education continued in the virtual world as pupils took part in a range of tasks, co-curricular activities and even the Interline Competition, and as parents documented their children's hard work, we were able to highlight the brilliance of our online platform in our weekly Stonyhurst Anywhere newsletter.

We saw pupils making lava lamps as part of their science experiments, brilliant art pieces, drama performances and monologues, many of which found inspiration from these unprecedented times. In addition, our co-curricular programme continued with a range of options available, allowing our pupils to take part in those that interested them.

Pupils from St Mary's Hall and the College signed up for the Running Club, which allowed pupils to partake in a socially distanced form of exercise and helped maintain their positive mental and physical health and well-being. In addition, pupils were encouraged to keep up their fitness levels in videos from Andy Murray, Will Greenwood (Old SMH) and Iain Balshaw OS 77.



“This amazing programme has given our son an opportunity to develop independent learning skills. Thank you!”

SHARE YOUR STORY
#Stonyhurst Anywhere

Whilst our pupils kept up their physical fitness, we wanted to ensure that other activities could continue, allowing them to delve into a world of museums, galleries and even to debate world issues in our Model United Nations Society, culminating in two online debates with Cheadle Hulme School's MUN Society.

“You have found the perfect balance between focused teaching and free time for students to follow their own interests and spend time with family. The support from school is wonderful. Our son is enjoying his lessons and is motivated to do all his studies with very little input from us, his parents. We are impressed, grateful and delighted! Thank you.”

Our staff, led by our Deputy Head of Co-Curricular, Dr Grigsby, highlighted the different options on offer from institutes around the world. Our pupils enjoyed virtually walking through the Vatican Museum and the National Gallery, before sitting back and relaxing whilst listening to a performance from the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra. They could

tune in to Patrick Stewart's daily reading of a Shakespeare Sonnet or put their gardening skills to the test and create a mini compost in a bottle.

The Stonyhurst Anywhere experience did not stop there, as our pupils were frequently treated to talks from guest speakers visiting their virtual classrooms, including the Private Secretary to the Lord Speaker in Parliament on the constitutional role of Parliament.

An important part of a Stonyhurst education is the religious aspect that underpins the school and its ethos. We were determined that our pupils would still receive these religious teachings through Stonyhurst Anywhere and thanks must be given to our Chaplaincy for their hard work in delivering this. Weekly Exams and Prayers by Candlelight were organised by our Lay Chaplain and shared with the Stonyhurst community. In addition, our pupils took part in the annual Laudato Si week, creating art pieces, writing poems and photographing the beauty of nature, all to encourage the message for us all to 'Care for our Common Home'. Our Chaplain provided the weekly prayers and reflections and although the Stonyhurst family could not gather in St Peter's for Mass each Sunday, the bidding prayers, readings and parish newsletter produced by our Chaplain allowed the Stonyhurst community to bring the Sunday Services to their own homes.

Stonyhurst Anywhere has been a new experience for us all. Our staff have had to

“Reaching out with so much care, compassion, the feeling that we are together as a family, and as a family, we will see things through together.”

adapt their lesson plans to work in the virtual world and our pupils have had to adjust to learning online away from the familiarity of Stonyhurst and the bustle of school life. As well as this, parents have had to take on tutoring roles and have witnessed and experienced first-hand the hard work, dedication and exciting lessons Stonyhurst and St Mary's Hall offer. We have received positive comments and feedback throughout the term and there is no doubt that Stonyhurst Anywhere has been a success and is a true testament to what the school and the Stonyhurst family can do. It has been a clear example of doing 'as much as we can' and never ceasing to be:

'Men and Women for Others'

'Quant Je Puis'

THE THOMAS WELD SOCIETY



The Thomas Weld Society, named after our original benefactor and former pupil, Thomas Weld, is a dedicated group for those donors who leave a donation in their Will to Stonyhurst. Legacy donations have played a pivotal role in our school's history and continue to play a vital role to this day. Since our foundation in 1593, gifts left to the College have created Bursaries and Scholarships, enhanced the Stonyhurst Collections and contributed to the environment in which our pupils live and study.

Annually we host 'The Thomas Weld Society Lunch' in the Top Ref at Stonyhurst. It provides members of the society with an opportunity to meet, catch-up and reminisce, whilst the staff at the College have the chance to thank our generous donors, who do so much to help our school.

We understand a decision to include a gift in your Will is a private and personal one which will be treated in the strictest of confidence and we will do all we can to ensure that any wishes expressed by you are respected.

If you would like any more information about The Thomas Weld Society or about how to leave a gift, please contact our Development Office at development@stonyhurst.ac.uk or call us on 01254 827246.

STONYHURST 20 YEARS OF CO-EDUCATION

BY LORNA GOGGIN, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ASSOCIATE

The 2019/2020 academic year saw Stonyhurst and Stonyhurst St Mary's Hall celebrate '20 Years of Full Co-Education'. Although Stonyhurst has been educating female pupils for some 50 years, it was only 20 years ago that the school opened its doors and admitted girls of all ages on the same terms as boys.

This was an important anniversary for the school and therefore to mark the occasion we sought to bring the Stonyhurst family together to join in all things '20 Years of Full Co-Education'. Perhaps our biggest project of the academic year was the 'Anniversary Ambassadors' initiative that was set up to enhance the links between our female OS and our current pupils. This new and exciting venture began in the summer of 2019, when we asked a number of female OS to take on a mentoring role, offering career or university guidance in their respective fields, providing work experience placements and visiting the College to give talks in person or via videoconferencing.

Over the year, Stonyhurst welcomed back alumnae of Stonyhurst St Mary's Hall and Stonyhurst College to tell to our current pupils about their time and experiences here and what they have achieved since leaving the College.

20 YEARS OF FULL CO-EDUCATION ANNIVERSARY AMBASSADORS

Asmita Chitnis OS 12

Asmita attended Stonyhurst from 2007-2012. Following her time at Stonyhurst, Asmita went on to the University of St Andrews to read Classics. She worked at Kensington Palace as a Programme Co-ordinator for the Royal Household. She is currently working in the Cabinet Office.



In November 2019, we had the pleasure of welcoming back two of our ambassadors, **Alison MacDonald OS 12** and **Dr Ravell Ben-Giat OS 06**. Alison, who graduated with a first from Edinburgh in English and Scottish Literature and who now works in publishing in London, spoke to Poetry and Grammar English pupils and provided workshops on the editing process in the publishing world.

Ravell, who has a doctorate in Chemistry from Jerusalem University and is a Chief Inspector of Police in the Forensic Identification Division in Israel, gave an assembly address to Higher Line pupils and Lower Line academic scholars in the Top Ref on a Saturday morning, after which she gave a lecture on her work to Higher Line scientists.

After their talks, our two ambassadors were interviewed by current pupils about their time at Stonyhurst, their views on co-education and what being a '20 Years Ambassador' means to them.

Our ambassadors' photographs now hang proudly in the Do Room at the College, representing the past 20 years of full co-education; we hope they will be an inspiration for our current and future pupils.

Teresa Lang OS 02

Teresa Lang attended Stonyhurst 2001-2002, after which she went on to study Medicine at the University of Heidelberg, Germany. During this time, many of her internships took her abroad, to Worthing and Newcastle upon Tyne in Britain as well as to Kingston, Jamaica.

It was during these internships that Teresa developed an interest in surgery and she took a position as a junior doctor in the Department of General and Abdominal Surgery in Karlsruhe, Germany, where she qualified as a surgeon.

Teresa returned to Berlin in 2018 and started working in her current position as specialist in surgery.



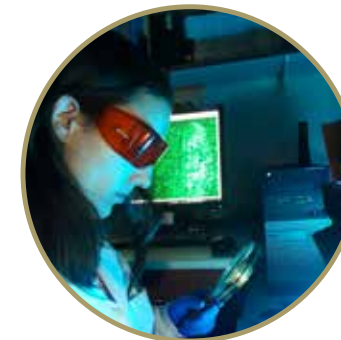
Beatty Smith OS 15

Beatty attended Stonyhurst from 2010-2015. After leaving Stonyhurst, Beatty went on to attain a Bachelor of Arts in Film and Television from the University of Notre Dame, during which time she received The Ambassador's Award for best representation of the goals and ideals of the Department of Film, Television and Theatre. Beatty has undertaken internships at FX Networks, Annapurna Pictures, Cannes Film Festival and the Television Academy Foundation Internship Program. She currently has an internship at Abrams Artists Agency and is a member of the Media and Entertainment Leadership Committee, a group of industry professionals aiming to help Notre Dame students achieve their professional ambitions in media and entertainment.



Ravell Ben-Giat OS 06

Ravell attended Stonyhurst from 2002-2006. After her time here, she began army service in Israel, went on an Officers' course and a Commanders' training course, later serving as a Training Officer in the IDF logistics school. She was honourably discharged in 2009 as a First Lieutenant. Since leaving Stonyhurst Ravell has achieved: a BSc in Chemistry and Biology; an MSc in Chemistry; a PhD in Chemistry and was awarded the Israel Analytical Chemistry Society Prize for outstanding research in Analytical Chemistry for her research. Since 2016, she has worked as a Forensic Officer in the Latent Fingerprint Laboratory and is a member of the International Fingerprint Research Group.



Rebecca Waring OS 10

Rebecca attended Stonyhurst from 2005-2010, after which she went to Durham University to read Mechanical Engineering. Graduating with a masters, she joined a government defence organisation graduate scheme in 2014, which included a secondment to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London. In 2018, she became a chartered engineer with the Institute of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE). Her current work includes the development, design, manufacture and testing of thermal, drop and ballistic systems, for which she is considered a technical authority.



Genevieve Thornton OS 16

Genevieve attended Stonyhurst from 2014-2016, after which she went on to read History at New College, University of Oxford, becoming the first female OS to gain an Oxbridge place to study History. Following her first year at university, Genevieve was awarded a prestigious Oxford Scholarship for History. Her end of year exams were deemed to be of such a high standard that Genevieve was admitted as a History Scholar at the Scholars' and Exhibitionists' Dinner at New College, Oxford in 2017.



Lara Schitto OS 12

Lara attended Stonyhurst from 2010-2012, after which she attended Stage School Hamburg, as a scholarship holder, for three years and completed her training with distinction. Lara was awarded a scholarship to expand her skills in New York through the one-year Conservative Musical Theatre Program of the New York Film Academy. Today, Lara works at various theatres in Germany.



Alison MacDonald OS 12

Alison attended Stonyhurst from 2005-2012, after which she went on to study English and Scottish Literature at the University of Edinburgh. Alison graduated with a First Class (Hons) in 2016 and now works in London as an Assistant Editor at Quercus, a small publishing house within a larger publishing group called Hachette.



Lucy McFarlane OS 09

Lucy attended Stonyhurst from 2002-2009, after which she went on to Oxford Brookes University achieving a degree as a paediatric emergency nurse. Lucy now works in the largest paediatric trauma centre in the Southern Hemisphere, The Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne; she is a mentor for student nurses and provides support and education sessions for junior nurses.



Laura Erel OS 12

Laura attended Stonyhurst from 2011-2012. After leaving the College she went on to read Music at Durham University. Following her graduation, she took up an organ scholarship at Chichester Cathedral and completed an MPhil in Musicology at Cambridge. She is currently pursuing a fully funded three-year PhD in Music Analysis at Durham.



Hannah Phoenix OS 11

Hannah attended Stonyhurst from 2004-2011, after which she went on to study Law at Durham University. Hannah was taken on at a set of Chambers in Manchester after fully qualifying as a barrister in 2016. She specialises in family law, primarily in cases involving children.



FOUNDATION

THE STONYHURST FOUNDATION LAUNCH

BY CATHIE BUTCHER, STONYHURST FOUNDATION MANAGER



The 31st July 2020, the feast day of St Ignatius, marked the official public launch of The Stonyhurst Foundation. The Stonyhurst Foundation is a revolutionary new charity, focused exclusively on widening access to Stonyhurst. The goal of the Foundation is to remove financial barriers, making a Stonyhurst education available to as many young people as possible. The Stonyhurst Foundation will be the largest ring-fenced independent bursary and fee assistance charity of its kind in Catholic independent education in the UK. It has received the Apostolic Blessing of His Holiness Pope Francis and the support of the British Jesuit Province. The launch marks the commencement of a new era for Stonyhurst. Already there has been overwhelming financial support from members of the Stonyhurst family who share the vision of providing much-needed bursary and fee support for young people. Given the extent of early successes, the Foundation is looking to the future, confident that its ambitious mission will be welcomed by the wider community, ensuring that Stonyhurst continues to be a beacon of educational excellence on both the national and international stage.

The Stonyhurst Foundation Office is managed by Cathie Butcher, who is married to **James Butcher OS 84**. Cathie joins Stonyhurst from across the border in Yorkshire – having previously worked as Director of Admissions at Ashville College in Harrogate. She is looking forward to meeting members of the Association and the wider Stonyhurst community as soon as the restrictions of COVID-19 allow. She can be contacted on manager@stonyhurstfoundation.com and she will be delighted to answer any questions you may have about the aims and ambitions of the Foundation.

Ed Macey-Dare OS 84

In mid-September, Ed is embarking on a charity bike ride from Auchterarder in Scotland to the City of London with six other riders. 50% of the money raised will go to the support the Lord Mayor of London's Onside Youth Zone appeal and the remaining 50% will be divided equally between the seven riders' individual charities. Ed has nominated the Stonyhurst Foundation as his chosen charity.

Details of Ed's JustGiving page are published on the Association website and Stonyhurst Link and we very much hope that you will support his endeavours!



deep faith and integrity who had a profound impact on the life of the school. After retiring from Leweston, Adrian continued work as an education consultant and became the first lay Chair of Governors at Downside School.

Since the news of Adrian's passing, many of his friends, colleagues, and former pupils have been in contact with us to articulate their wish that we honour his memory. Again and again, Adrian is described as a deeply kind, compassionate and caring man; a man who lived his faith, a man who put the pupils in his care above all else, a man who made people feel better about themselves and a man who believed in second chances.

Adrian was an extremely positive influence on the lives of those he came into contact with. He was a great example of how to conduct oneself with integrity, generosity, love and good humour. He had a very humane approach to life and to education and placed huge importance on engendering in pupils a sense of service and an awareness of our shared humanity.

Adrian was the epitome of the Jesuit call for us all to be Men and Women for Others and we know that he would be delighted that an award in his memory seeks to open Stonyhurst to a pupil who otherwise would not receive the benefit of a Stonyhurst education. Adrian's family and friends are grateful for your support in this endeavour.

The Stonyhurst community will be forever grateful for Adrian's dedication and service to Stonyhurst – he was Headmaster at a crucial and transformational time. In consultation with his wife, Caroline, and the Aylward family, the College, and the Stonyhurst Association, we are resolved to do something positive and enduring in thanks for his service.

The decision has been taken to set up a new bursary award, the Adrian Aylward Memorial Award, in his honour. In line with our Jesuit values and our steadfast belief in the principle of 'Men and Women for others' all donations towards this award will help to enable a boarding pupil to attend Stonyhurst on a Means-Tested Boarding Bursary. This award will be managed by the Stonyhurst Foundation, a new charity which has been established to raise funds for Stonyhurst.

The Stonyhurst Foundation will raise funds to provide much-needed bursary support for young people who would enrich our Stonyhurst family but who may not be able to attend our school without substantial financial support. We know that Adrian felt strongly that a Stonyhurst education should be available to as many pupils as possible who would benefit from it. This new award will help create a worthy legacy in his memory.

To make a donation, please follow the link to the Memorial Award page on the Stonyhurst Foundation website:

<https://www.stonyhurstfoundation.org/the-adrian-aylward-award/>



FROM THE HEADMASTER

JOHN BROWNE

ADRIAN AYLWARD MEMORIAL AWARD



Adrian was a remarkable man who gave great service to Catholic education throughout a long and distinguished career. After a successful career in the City he became a teacher, setting out on a career path dedicated to the service of others. His first post was as Head of RE and Housemaster at Downside. Adrian became the second lay Headmaster of Stonyhurst in 1996, serving Stonyhurst in that capacity for 10 years.

His achievements whilst at Stonyhurst are many. During his tenure, extensive building projects were undertaken, such that by the time of Adrian's departure as Headmaster, refurbishment had taken place in most areas of the school: the Old Infirmary, the Lower Grammar, Grammar and Higher Line Playrooms, all dormitories, the Plunge, the Sodality Chapel, the Top Ref, the Do Room, the Long Room, the Bayley Room, the More Library, the Syntax Wing and the Shooting Range. Five IT suites were created, and new landscaping and redesign of the road layout accompanied the building of the all-weather sports pitch on Harry Meadow. Classrooms were re-decorated and renamed after saints associated with the school.

Adrian was instrumental in enhancing access to, and use of, the Historic Collections, making them available for the pupils to enliven and enrich their learning. In 1997 he oversaw the introduction of girls to Stonyhurst St Mary's Hall, an important step in Stonyhurst's journey to full co-education. Under Adrian's leadership academic results improved. However, Adrian withdrew Stonyhurst from academic 'league tables', believing they were not compatible with the ethos of a Jesuit school. In 2003 he set up The Stonyhurst Access Appeal to widen access to the College to those from lower income families and to generate funds for further redevelopment. Departing in 2006, Adrian left behind a school well-prepared for the future.

In 2006 Adrian moved from Stonyhurst to become Headmaster of Leweston School in Sherborne where he is remembered as a man of



"... a Society that needs to have, so to speak, one foot in the air, ready to hasten from place to place, according to our vocation and the Institute which we follow in our Lord."

Letter from St Ignatius to Mateo Sebastián de Morrano, Rome, 22nd February 1549

I often use these words of St Ignatius with our young people at Stonyhurst. The concept that we need to be flexible, adaptable and ready for the next challenge. We see evidence of this throughout the history of the Society of Jesus. Stonyhurst itself has a remarkable history of responding to challenge and people have often joked with me about Stonyhurst moving again. However, who could have envisaged that our response to the 2020 global pandemic would be to move every aspect of the school online?!

Over Easter we set an ambitious vision for the experience we wanted for our pupils and families, to reach out and nurture the Stonyhurst family and to continue to provide a holistic education in the Jesuit tradition of 'Quant Je Puis'. Lessons went online via Microsoft Teams, live and recorded for those in different time zones. There is a charming anecdote of a pupil in Mexico being asked by his teacher why he was whispering. He responded that it was the middle of the night and his family were asleep, but he had shifted his day around so that he could join lessons with his class!

With the cancellation of public examinations the decision was made that Syntax should start their Higher Line courses. Rhetoric were given the opportunity to choose three from over 25 specially written pre-university courses. My personal contribution to this was to develop a course for prospective lawyers, drawing on my rather distant law degree and with fantastic support and guest appearances from notable contemporary lawyers among parents and OS.

Every aspect of a Stonyhurst education continued from Masses and liturgies, chaplaincy events, visiting speakers, the Headmaster's Assembly, Playroom Meetings, Pupil Council, Interline Competitions and even Thursday Morning Hymn Practice. The Stonyhurst family feedback was that they really enjoyed the more intimate connection with the life of the College and as we prepare to re-open Stonyhurst we shall endeavour to maintain some of these elements. This week St Peter's Church has had cameras installed so that we can broadcast services. As many of you will know the Lourdes Pilgrimage this year is another innovative response to the situation.

It has been a period of great creativity and the staff have responded magnificently. To quote Anthony Chitnis, our Chairman of Governors, 'it has been an extraordinary response to an extraordinary situation'.

We have navigated the fiasco concerning public examination results and are thrilled with the IB, A-Level and GCSE results. The university destinations are on the website and provide testament to the achievement of our remarkable young people.

As I write, pupils have already arrived back to the College and St Mary's Hall to fulfil their quarantine requirements and we have in place 118 risk assessments approved by the Governors to help us keep everyone safe. Re-launching the ship has been a bigger job than usual. However, I hugely look forward to seeing the galleries full of young people once more. We have achieved so much and have an opportunity for a reimagination of Stonyhurst with 'one foot in the air'.

WANDERERS' NEWS

OS VERSUS OA RACE FOR THE NEWTON-CARTER TROPHY

BY HUGH DICKINSON OS 97



Thank you very much to those who arranged, participated in or supported the annual Old Stonyhurst versus Old Ampleforth race for the Newton-Carter Trophy named after **Christopher Newton-Carter OS 68** who was educated at Beaumont and Stonyhurst and who sadly died in the September 11 attacks in New York. In particular thanks to Paul Wilmore, the Stonyhurst cross-country master and Layla Heaton and Beverley Sillitoe from the Association Office for all their hard work.

To remind you, this is the race in the memory of Chris who raced in the inaugural cross-country race between the two schools more than 50 years ago and the trophy is run in his memory at the request of his former teammates.

Although the threat of Storm Ciara hung over the race, we were greeted by particularly temperate running conditions for the Ribble Valley. The OS and the OA put out a strong team with both girls' and boys' teams from both schools competing. There was also a lone runner representing Lancaster Royal Grammar School.

To the surprise of all, the race was won by a country mile by the lone runner from Lancaster Royal Grammar School! Stonyhurst boys, William Hall and Nicolas Rumpf, came 2nd and 3rd respectively. Well done to them because in recent times the race has been dominated by the old boys.

The result in the Newton-Carter Trophy was a very close victory for the OAs – the first time since the race began that the Trophy has been won by the away team. Rory Smith (OA) won the race whilst **Greg O'Connor OS 10** was the first of the OS runners in 3rd place with **Richard Kenyon OS 98** close behind in 5th. **Katie Rowland OS 07** was the first female OS runner with **Mary-Maye Lorrimer OS 98** just behind. Mary-Maye's husband, Hugh-Guy, was running for the OA and they were supported by their son who is at St Mary's Hall so it was a truly family affair.

Many thanks to **Simon Rowland OS 05** who flew in from Stockholm for the race and to **Hideo Takano OS 84** who kept up his excellent record of attendance. **Michael Wylie-Carrick OS 79** continued his tradition of running an additional 50m in order to complete the original course which may or may not explain why he was well beaten by his son, Joseph, running for the College team! **Jonathan Muller OS 72** brought up the rear but much enjoyed running the course for the first time in over 40 years. Special mention to Tom Bedingfeld (OA) who escaped his son's parents' weekend at Ampleforth to travel across the Pennines in the school minibus to compete in the race – his dedication contributing to the OA victory. The Stonyhurst boys' team were victorious over their Ampleforth counterparts whereas the Ampleforth girls were victorious in their race respectively.

We retired to The Bayley Arms afterwards to watch England vanquish Scotland in a weather-dominated fixture. A select few then attended an excellent dinner at St Mary's Hall, also attended by Rory Henderson (OA) representing the OAs. The night was not however over for those of us staying in Theodore House (the new luxury Retreat Centre on the site of the Old Mill) where the Liverpool Catholic Chaplaincy were holding a retreat. We were greeted on our return from dinner by two nuns from Missouri leading the dancing at the after party – needless to say we participated and the sight of Michael Wylie-Carrick pulling out the dance moves in full tweed will live long in the memory!

The long drive south on Sunday morning was testing with Storm Ciara at full throttle and Lancashire underwater – at one point driving across a lake where the Ribble had flooded the road at Ribchester Bridge, I seriously doubted I would make it out of Lancashire! However, escape I did. An excellent weekend meant that it was fully worth the effort.

PRESTON GRASSHOPPERS RUGBY MATCH AND LUNCH 18TH JANUARY 2020

BY DAVID DORAN OS 87



L to R: Barry O'Driscoll OS 61, John O'Driscoll OS 71, Keith Brierley (Hoppers Sesquicentenary President), Nick Drake-Lee OS 60 (and Former Staff), Richard Greenwood (Former Staff)

Nigel Toussaint OS 87 has always been one of life's characters. He is also an "ideas man", some great and some not so great. In Syntax he had the idea to ledge walk all four storeys of the Syntax wing. This idea came to halt when he startled Mr Trappes-Lomax as he shuffled past his first-floor window. In Upper Syntax (we were the last one of those) and Rhetoric, he was the leader of many infamous "night exercises" around the Stonyhurst estate and buildings dressed in full CCF gear with face camouflaged. He would be joined by a now-barrister and a now-CFO as they terrorised various night watchman! So, when he suggested that we head up from Wimbledon on a Saturday morning in January to watch Preston Grasshoppers play Wharfedale, I thought to myself, 'another Toussy idea!' But then I thought, 'why not?' A night away with our oldest pals, and rugby too, what's not to like about that? So Nigel got to work. He eventually gathered together seven of our year, Nigel and I from south-west London, **Saul Quirke OS 87** from Manchester, **Chris Mahon OS 87** from Sedbergh, **Eugene Egan OS 87** from Cardiff, **Guy Fleming-Jones OS 85** from Durham and **Justin Sheil OS 87** from Preston itself. It was then that we realised Preston was a perfect place geographically (thank you Mr Mitchell and Mr Holdsworth) for us to meet (it was quickly becoming one of Nigel's great ideas!). We added to the table our UI6 rugby coach, David Ridout, Chris's dad and former St Mary's Hall Deputy Head, Phil Mahon and his pal, former College parent, David Bradbury. We were also joined on our table by **Eric Craven OS 83** and **Rupert Evans OS 81** who Major Cobb had regaled us

about with his French Foreign Legion stories when we were in Grammar!

The three-course lunch was a bargain at £22.50, with the lamb shank being the star. The game itself was a draw but I didn't see too much of it as the company was so good, with a chance to catch up with the likes of **Barry O'Driscoll OS 61**, **John O'Driscoll OS 71**, **Richard Fee OS 86**, **Gerald Slocock OS 73**, our maths teacher, David Rawkins and David Ridout's assistant UI6s coach, Dick Greenwood and so many more! After the match was a typical rugby club with both the Hoppers and Wharfedale supporters, committee and players welcoming us into their midst.

It started to get a bit hazy towards the end but we headed into Preston for a few more pints and in time honoured tradition, we ended the night with a fantastic curry. We also found out that Preston Central Travelodge is anything but central!

As I type this and reminisce about the weekend I'm reminded of the final words in the film of Stephen King's short story *Stand by Me*, which I paraphrase and alter slightly, "I never had any friends later on like the ones I had when I was 16. Does anyone?" Thank you to **George Erdozain OS 61** and **Martin Hothersall OS 72** who were excellent hosts. It was fabulous and easy way to meet up at a relaxed and informal event. If you are thinking of a get-together put this event in your diary for January 2021. We are coming back and I know our Preston lad in the big smoke Will Mould OS 90 is hoping to get a group together.

They say "imitation is the best form of flattery" and with Martin's blessing, I am hoping to do a similar lunch at Old Wimbledonians RFC in Raynes Park, SW20 next season. Although our facilities and the standard of rugby are nowhere near as good as Hoppers, we do have a fantastic chef, fully stocked bar and can cater for about 100 (date TBC). I hope to welcome some of you to us then. Thank you also to Nigel for galvanising us – a great idea!



L to R: Gerald Slocock OS 73, Brenda O'Hare (wife of Mike O'Hare, former PE Teacher), Bernard Moroney OS 71, James Goodier OS 69



L to R: Barry O'Driscoll OS 61, Richard Greenwood (Former Staff)

OS RUGBY AT ST JOHN'S BEAUMONT



On Saturday 8th February, two teams of OS pupils went head to head at St John's Beaumont Preparatory School to celebrate the shared tradition of Jesuit education that binds the schools together. St John's Beaumont OS took on St Mary's Hall OS in a match that surpassed all expectations in its skill, physicality and the spirit in which it was played. After 80 minutes, only a single score separated the sides, making St Mary's Hall the inaugural winners of the Dermot Gogarty Memorial Cup.

A span of two decades of OS were represented on the field and over 100 OS came along to support, making this a truly special event.



BOOKS – OF INTEREST TO OS

Surprised by the Spirit by Charles Whitehead KSG OS 61

Charles (Past President of the Association) was, for ten years, the President of the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Service council and in 2006 he was appointed the first life member of the English National Committee after serving as Chairman for 20 years. In July 2002 Pope John Paul II made him a Knight of St Gregory.

Occasionally we can look at someone's life and see the Holy Spirit working in them for a particular purpose. His new book *Surprised by the Spirit* shows that, unknown to him, this blessing was part of Charles Whitehead's life from his earliest days and, after his baptism in the Holy Spirit, his acceptance of the various ministries given to him have been a blessing, not only to himself and Sue, his wife, but also to the entire Catholic Charismatic Renewal, in the UK and worldwide.



Collected Short Stories in Verse: Out of The Blue and Towards Winter Falling by Edmund Keenan OS 76

Edmund Keenan, *Collected Short Stories in Verse: Out of The Blue and Towards Winter Falling* (Quaife Music Publishing Ltd, 2020). All enquiries to annequaife@hotmail.co.uk.

Out of The Blue is a fictional, 10-poem, 54-verse narrative, based on a real-life event, which happened more than 30 years ago. Following the onset of an alphavirus, a young teacher suffered severe brain damage and collapsed into a coma at home where she was found by her partner on his return from work. The quartet of poems prior to the event describe how love dissolved early differences between them. Two poems imagine their reactions to the event. The quartet of poems after the event relate how love prised them apart.

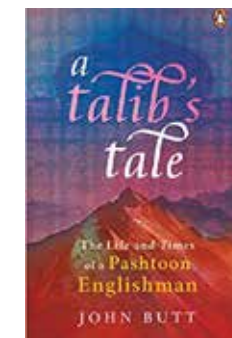
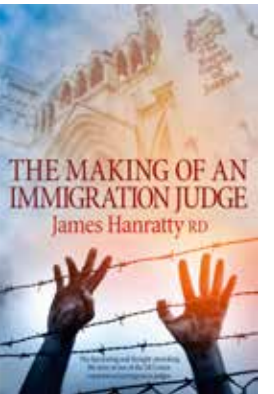
Towards Winter Falling is a collection of nine poems about real-life events which illustrate the relationship between light and darkness. The poems are presented here in their order of composition. All poems are 16 lines in length. Five poems feature stories about light emerging from darkness. Three poems describe how the stunning, bright light of summer 2017 in Derbyshire's High Peak fell away too early towards winter. The ninth poem tells a story about how a combination of both stained and clear glass can communicate a sense of idyll.

The Making of an Immigration Judge by James Hanratty RD OS 64

Revised paperback edition from James.

A captivating memoir tackling the most talked-about issue of the past decade: immigration. Newly revised in response to the momentous developments of the last four years, this is the fascinating and thought-provoking life story of one of the UK's most experienced immigration judges. In 2016, as the western world struggled to cope with the influx of immigrants fleeing tyranny and war *The Making of an Immigration Judge* cut through the hysteria of the headlines to provide a definitive account of the problems facing Europe – and how we might 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. Now, in response to the huge changes that have taken place subsequently, both in the UK and abroad, Hanratty is back to apply his razor-sharp insight to the day's most vital immigration issues: from the much debated 'points-based system' to migrant Channel crossings; from Windrush to Hong Kong, where he was legal advisor to the British government in the 1997 handover. Part memoir, part meditation, the book is written with humility and humour drawing on a lifetime spent in the justice business. 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.

James Hanratty RD has worked in many of the UK's most prestigious legal institutions including the House of Lords and the Royal Courts of Justice. Until 2014 he was an immigration judge dealing with asylum seekers from around the world. He is a member of the Royal Yacht Squadron and lives in Putney, London.

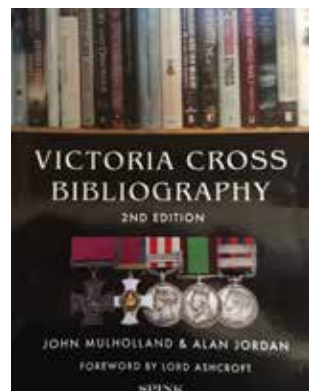


A Talib's Tale by John Butt OS 68

John came to Swat located in the Northern Khyber region in 1970 as a young man in search of an education he couldn't get from his birthplace in England. He travels around the region, first only with friends from his home country, but as he befriends the locals and starts to learn about their culture and life, he soon finds his heart turning irrevocably Pashtoon.

Containing anecdotes from his life both before and since he shifted to Afghanistan, and with a keen and optimistic attitude towards becoming the best version of himself, John Butt tells a wonderful and heartfelt tale of a man who finds a home in the most unexpected place.

Victoria Cross Bibliography by John Mulholland OS 71 & Alan Jordan



John is a Chartered Chemical Engineer and works as an international energy consultant. His interest in the VC originated from his school days at Stonyhurst College whose old boys won seven VCs. John has co-authored, with Derek Hunt, a biography of Bill Speakman VC and a book describing the 1920 VC Garden Party. He is a member of the Orders & Medals Research Society.

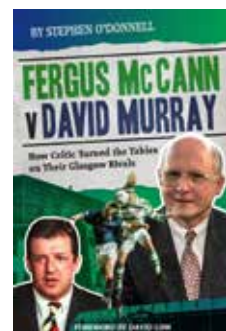
John Mulholland and Alan Jordan's first comprehensive bibliography of the Victoria Cross appeared in 1999, representing the efforts of a team of researchers in the UK, Canada and Australia. This second edition completely updates their research, increasing the number of books listed, annotated and cross-referenced from 640 to around 1,400, and including all the Journals of the Victoria Cross Society.

The bibliography is an important contribution to Victoria Cross literature and an essential, up-to-date reference guide for anyone with an interest in the decoration.

"For anyone with a deep interest in all aspects of the story of the Victoria Cross, this new edition of the Victoria Cross Bibliography by authors John Mulholland and Alan Jordan is truly a delight. Every section, from the Explanatory Notes through to the Index, is superbly portrayed with close attention paid to both layout and detail, and the book is beautifully illustrated with colour images of well over one-hundred books, including many of the very rare early publications."

Many books have been written about the Victoria Cross and its recipients.

The first published work on the subject appeared in 1857 – the same year as the first VC investiture.



Fergus McCann v David Murray by Stephen O'Donnell OS 89

Stephen is a freelance writer of football-themed fiction and non-fiction. His work includes the novels *Paradise Road* (2012) and *Scotball* (2014), as well as *Tangled Up in Blue: The Rise and Fall of Rangers FC*, which was published by Pitch in August 2019. He is also a contributor to *The Blizzard*, *Nutmeg* and *Bella Caledonia*. Follow him on Twitter: @stephenODauthor.

Celtic started the 1990s in the doldrums whereas Rangers, under David Murray, continued to dominate Scottish football. Fergus McCann's arrival at Parkhead saw a shift in the balance of power, and in the aftermath both owners witnessed a reversal in their clubs' fortunes. Stephen O'Donnell tells the enthralling story of this seismic shift.

God in the Time of COVID-19 – Edited by Matthew Betts OS 98

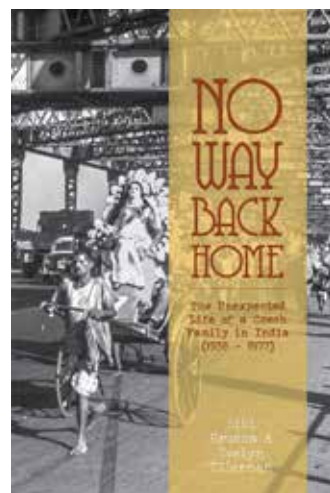
The Carmelites in Britain have published a new book called 'God in the time of COVID-19', which is now available to order. This little book of articles and reflections is offered as a way of maintaining a connection and of nurturing the interior life. The reflections were originally written online, but many of these articles are now available in this book. There is a wide range of styles, content and approaches to suit the widest range of readers and all tastes. Writers include Fr Kevin Alban, O.Carm; Fr Brendan Grady, O.Carm; Fr Nicholas King SJ OS 66; and many more.

Perhaps in future months and years it will remind us of what we were doing and reading in 2020.

You can order a copy online (<https://tinyurl.com/GodintheTime>) or, you can order by sending a cheque for £4.50 (incl a donation for P&P) to their PO Box address (Carmelite Friars, PO Box 289, FAVERSHAM, Kent, ME13 3BZ) or you can call 01795 539 214 and donate with a credit/debit card. OS and their families can use the code '1593' via our online shop to receive 10% off the book and any other items.



No Way Back Home: The Unexpected Life of a Czech Family in India (1938-1977) by Miki Hruska OS 59



In 1938, when faced with a decision to work at a shoe company in India or stay in Czechoslovakia and wait for another war, Miki's newly-married parents opted to move, thinking they would return home in a few years. But they would not be able to return "home" for another four decades; instead, home became Calcutta, where they raised their family and established a business during a parade of turbulent social and political events. The ill-planned departure of the British from India and their bungled attempts at Partition engendered riots and killings that brought bloodshed to the family's front door. And when the Communists took over the government of West Bengal, they brought labour disruptions that made it next to impossible to operate the family business. This riveting family memoir is set during the cataclysmic events of WWII and its aftermath, giving a harrowing yet heart-warming portrait of life for a migrant Czech family and showing how perseverance and love can sustain people through the darkest of times.

Miki was born and raised in Calcutta, India. Although trained as an engineer, he later took a History degree. He spent many hours researching post-war politics and living conditions of Czechoslovakia and India, which finally answered the questions he always had about why his parents chose to move in 1938. He lives in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, with his wife, Evelyn Ellerman.

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