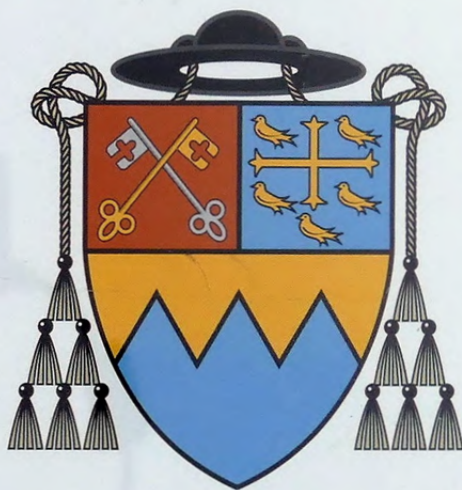


The Ampleforth Journal



September 2009 - July 2010
Volume 114



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THE POLICY OF THE AMPLEFORTH JOURNAL

FR DOMINIC MILROY OSB
EDITOR OF THE AMPLEFORTH JOURNAL



THE last number of *The Journal* represented a break with the past. It left out many of the features of the traditional School Magazine. The information and the images which it used to contain are now all available, with much more detail and immediacy, in other publications. Its new role is to complement these, by reflecting on the deeper issues affecting the Abbey and the Schools and by giving a shape to our interpretation of them.

The Journal is now less concerned with what we do than with what we are. It offers a forum in which we

can not only reaffirm our identity, as a Benedictine Abbey committed to several challenging works, but also comment on the areas where this identity needs constantly to be re-assessed. The last number addressed this tension between continuity and change in a general way; this new number gives us a chance to focus on some particular aspects of it.

Co-Education

THERE is little doubt that the most significant recent development at Ampleforth (along with the challenge represented by the reduced number of monks) has been that of co-education. This number reflects on this in several indirect ways and under several headings and includes a comment by a girl who has experienced at first hand this hazardous process of symbiosis. It concentrates in some detail on the striking impact that co-education has had on the Creative Arts on both sides of the valley. In the same context, tribute is paid to two teachers – David Bowman and Lucy Warrack – who have made very significant contributions to Ampleforth's educational tradition during the last half-century.

The Journal and Old Amplefordians

THE *Journal* owes its existence to the generosity of Old Amplefordians and in this number we aim to celebrate this in an original way. The *Ampleforth Diary*, whose termly publication (to a much wider readership) now complements the annual appearance of *The Journal*, will include significant OA news of a general kind, whilst

The Journal will concentrate on OA obituaries and, in this number, on one particular area of OA achievement, namely in that of scholarship, authorship and journalism.

Whilst *The Journal* has usually noted books written by OAs, it has done so in a largely haphazard way. In this number we celebrate, somewhat more systematically, the wide-ranging contribution made by OA writers to modern learning in several significant areas, whether of general or of more specialised interest. Neither space nor *The Journal's* overall policy allow for extensive reviews (although there are a few); the aim is rather to draw attention, in a readily accessible (and rather selective) way, to the wide range of what has been achieved. After all, it is surely one of Ampleforth's aims to assist in forming people who think creatively about the world they live in.

Community: The Chilean Miners

WHILST *The Journal* has been moving towards publication, we have witnessed the extraordinary saga of the rescue of the Chilean miners. This has had special resonance at Ampleforth, not only because of our much-cherished links with Chile, but also because we share with the Chilean miners the patronage of St Laurence. We have sent them messages of solidarity during their long ordeal.

In an age dominated by a philosophy of Individualism, the miners were sustained, especially during the first 17 days of total isolation, by their commitment to an ordered sense of community. They had to choose between, on the one hand, an attitude of individualism and despair, and, on the other, one of community and hope.

Their shift-leader, José Uruza, was the eldest son of a widowed mother and a large Catholic family. Under the pressure of circumstance, he became, in effect the 'superior' of a community, ordering the daily rhythm and timetable, assigning tasks and writing job descriptions, dividing the famous 33 into something resembling St Benedict's deaneries, and in general creating an ethos in which it was clear that survival depended on mutual service and love.

It was surely this, that not only made the rescue possible, but also caught the imagination of a watching world, already challenged, disconcerted and captivated by the similarly extensive coverage of the visit of Pope Benedict XVI to the United Kingdom. The miners became a symbol of the faith, hope and love without which communities disintegrate. St Laurence, a Roman martyr who gave his life because of his solidarity with the poor, seems to be a good patron to share.



THE ABBEY

From the Abbot's Office

RT REV CUTHBERT MADDEN OSB
ABBOT OF AMPLEFORTH

THE challenge facing the Abbot and Community today is both difficult and invigorating. It is invigorating because we are committed to several lively, complex and successful operations. It is difficult because we are constrained by the limitations of our resources, especially our human resources.

It has become very clear in the last five years that the Community is united and enthusiastic about its principal commitments. I drew attention to these last year and they can be listed again quite simply.

- Our life as a praying Community in the Abbey, and the hospitality associated with it. Many guests visit us in the course of the year, and it is evident that they value greatly our liturgy and the impact of our Community life.
- Our role in creating a strongly Benedictine and Catholic ethos in our schools. Although this role is changing, we are determined that it should remain central.
- St Benet's Hall in Oxford. Here again its role is changing in the context of the developing perception by the University of the contribution of the Private Halls. We feel that a Benedictine presence in a great centre of learning like Oxford could have very significant long-term consequences for the Church as a whole, and that our contact with University students is important from the point of view of future vocations.
- Monastery of Christ the Word in Zimbabwe. Our presence in an African country, which has been faced with so many problems, gives a dimension to our whole Community life which we value greatly. It brings little in the way of visible profit, but we would be greatly impoverished spiritually without it.
- Ampleforth Parishes. Work on the parishes has been an essential element in the life of the Ampleforth Community since its very beginning. The shortage of vocations means that we must constantly reassess the extent of our involvement, but the experience of parochial work has greatly enriched our tradition.

The recent visit of Pope Benedict XVI to our country has emphasised the timeliness of these commitments. Both he and the Archbishop of Canterbury gave extraordinary prominence to the value they attach to the influence of the Benedictine tradition in our country. The Community was represented in all the main moments of the Pope's visit.

Fr Prior and the Ampleforth Highlanders Pipe Band welcomed the Pope in Edinburgh. I and others were present for the Pope's addresses at Twickenham on education. Abbot Timothy was in Westminster Abbey and Fr Edward at Westminster Cathedral. A party of monks and students was present for the Beatification of Cardinal Newman. On this occasion, the Head Monitor was interviewed by the BBC and said how much he valued the opportunity to deepen his faith. All of the Pope's addresses gave us great encouragement in our work. Both he and those who welcomed him so warmly reminded us that our principal work, whatever the difficulties, consists in the joyful spreading of the Gospel.

I have already mentioned the difficulty of doing so much with such limited resources. It goes without saying that we need more monks and we hope that you will all join us in praying the Lord of the Harvest to send labourers into his vineyard. It is extremely important that the available monks should be deployed wisely and effectively in areas where a monastic input is most essential. Whilst we regret that the last two monk-housemasters, Fr Chad and Fr Oswald, will be moving to other work at the end of the current academic year, it should be evident that their new assignments are very important ones, both for the Community and for the College.

Fr Chad has been doubling up as a Housemaster and as Head of Chaplaincy, and it has become clear that the direction of the Chaplaincy cannot be considered a part-time job. It has developed greatly in recent years, but this process needs to be taken further in a way that ensures the best possible deployment of all the monks who are available for this task.

Fr Oswald will be coordinating work designed to help promote vocations to the monastic way of life. The fact is that, for whatever reason, the number of men joining male religious communities in the country is now roughly a dozen per year. At the same time, there are many young men and women engaged in the search for a meaningful way of spending their lives at a time of great spiritual confusion. It is essential that they find the help they need. This demands a very professional approach, involving both personal contact and the wise and skilful use of all the means available, including the cyber world of the internet and the website. This cannot be done as a spare time activity, nor should it be the work of one man. We all (both the Ampleforth Community and the community of the wider Ampleforth family) have a role in fostering vocations by our prayer and by our attitudes. We

cannot afford simply to complain about the lack of vocations and leave it at that.

In this context we are working on what might be called an 'engagement' document, suitable both for mailing in paper form, and for our website, which aims at being an accurate and eloquent statement of who we are and what we do. In the past we have perhaps been too detached from the impact that can be achieved through modern technology. We are now aware that this kind of communication is a normal part of life, and that we would be ill-advised to undervalue it.

We have had a great deal to thank God for in recent years, and we continue to value the support and friendship of our wider community. One of the most heartening features of the last two years has been the great increase in the numbers attending the annual meeting of the Ampleforth Society and the other activities associated with it.

THE POPE IN WESTMINSTER HALL

FR COLIN BATTELL OSB
PRIOR AND DEAN OF HOSPITALITY

The State visit of Pope Benedict was significant in many ways. The Journal singles out the Westminster Hall speech because of its unique character as a study of the interface between Catholic attitudes and British social and political tradition. It was addressed to a well-educated and thoughtful audience representing a wide variety of attitudes and backgrounds. The Pope offered a measured and eirenic interpretation of the age-old tensions between faith, reason and public life. Here, Fr Prior examines the content and comments on the response to it.

THE visit of Pope Benedict XVI to the United Kingdom was an outstanding success by any standards. Despite the hostility to the visit from parts of the media and others, the presence of the Holy Father contradicted the image that had been projected upon him and showed him in a very different light. A shy, warm and gentle intellectual was how he came across. The crowds that turned out to see him in such large numbers gainsaid all those who had predicted a lack of interest on the part of the British people.

His visit gave an enormous boost to the confidence of the Catholic Church here and what he had to say was acknowledged by all within the Church to have been a uniting force as he fulfilled his mission of 'strengthening' the faithful.

The visit was not simply a pastoral one to Catholics. It was primarily a State visit, as was shown by his welcome by the Queen at the Palace of Holyrood House and his farewell meeting with the Prime Minister. His speech in Westminster Hall to Parliament and other leading figures in national life has been hailed as one of the great moments of the Pontificate so far.

Westminster Hall has historic associations. It was there that St Thomas More was tried and ordered to be executed. The Pope began by praising the achievements of the British people in encouraging participative government and establishing the common law tradition which has influenced the development of governance in so many other countries. The vision of the rights and duties of the State and of the individual has been an inspiration to many.

St Thomas More, the Pope recalled, is admired by all people of integrity, as a man who followed his conscience, who put God first while remaining 'the king's good servant.'

This led the Holy Father to the main theme of his speech – a careful reflection on the

State's role and the proper place of religion within the political system.

He noted the British reputation for tolerance and moderation in a pluralist society where freedom of speech and respect for the rule of law are acknowledged.

Catholic Social Teaching has much in common with these values, though it may express them differently - for example, the unique significance of each individual created in the likeness of God and the emphasis on the duty of the civil authority to foster the common good. These are core values which enable the Church to participate in a dialogue with a secular State. It leads to questions about the extent of State interference in the life of the individual citizen, and also about the moral principles underpinning the democratic process. If moral principles are reduced to social consensus, serious problems may ensue, as the recent financial crisis has shown. The Pope quoted his latest encyclical *Caritas in Veritate* 'every economic decision has a moral consequence.' This is also true in the political field. Where is the ethical foundation for political choices to be found? Catholics believe that objective moral norms are accessible to reason and that therefore there can be a meaningful conversation between Church and State. Reason can however be distorted when manipulated by ideology or applied without taking into account the dignity of the human person, as was amply demonstrated in the 20th Century.

It is not the role of religion to propose concrete solutions to political and economic problems. Nor is it even its role to supply the norms which can be known to reason. Its task is to help purify and shed light on the 'application of reason to the discovery of objective moral principles.'

Religion ought not be ignored or reduced to the private sphere. It has a role in the public square. It is wrong to marginalise religion, especially (in the case of our own society) Christianity, not least in nations which place great emphasis on tolerance. The Pope sees an example of this in the desire to discourage any public celebration of Christmas. Rather than being offended by them, other religions expect Christianity to celebrate their festivals just as they do their own.

The proper dialogue between Church and State is reflected by the fact that the Pope was invited to address both Houses of Parliament. It is also seen in the work of the Holy See in cooperating with the British government in such areas as the promotion of peace, the quest for an international arms treaty and in concerns for human rights. In the field of development there has been collaboration over debt relief, fair trade and financing for development.

It is also reflected in increasing concern for the poor and the need to address the problem of the disparity between rich and poor nations. He noted that the British

Government is committed to devoting 0.7% of national income to development aid by 2013.

Just as governments have worked unstintingly to prop up failing financial institutions so states also need to give similar attention to integral development of the world's peoples.

For such cooperation between Church and State to be possible, the Church needs to be free to act in accordance with its own principles and beliefs.

The Pope concluded by drawing attention to the angels carved in the magnificent hammer-beam roof of Westminster Hall. They are a reminder of the long tradition from which British Parliamentary democracy has evolved. 'They remind us that God is constantly watching over us to guide and protect us. And they summon us to acknowledge the vital contribution that religious belief has made and can continue to make to the life of the nation.'

The standing ovation received by the Pope at the end of his speech was evidence that he had engaged with his audience in a way that they greatly appreciated and indeed the speech is one that deserves to be studied. It is carefully nuanced and its substantial content will repay careful attention as a weighty contribution to the debate about the role of religion in the public forum.



BLESSED JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

DESPITE the undoubted significance of his Westminster Hall speech to political and cultural leaders, Pope Benedict's visit to Britain offered above all an opportunity to re-state his personal devotion to Blessed John Henry Newman and admiration for his lifelong commitment to seek and follow the truth. The Papal visit, of course, culminated in a highly memorable Beatification Mass. Newman sought – in the Pope's words 'to achieve an educational environment in which intellectual training, moral discipline and religious commitment would come together.' Such a vision has also inspired the Ampleforth community's educational apostolate. In this context during his term as Abbot, Fr Patrick commissioned the fine bust of Newman to be seen from the Bell Passage, which in a relatively short time has managed to convey the reassuring impression of always having been there. May the same also be true of the vision of a Christian education Newman worked so hard to secure. *The Journal* will cover the Beatification of John Henry Cardinal Newman in its next issue.

THE AMPLEFORTH COMMUNITY

THE COMMUNITY AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AS FROM SEPTEMBER 2009

	RESPONSIBILITIES	PARISH/RESIDENCE (other than Ampleforth)
Rt Rev Cuthbert Madden	<i>Abbot</i>	
VR Fr Colin Battell	<i>Prior</i> <i>Dean of Hospitality</i>	
Bishop Ambrose Griffiths (A46)		
<i>Emeritus Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle</i>		<i>Leyland</i>
Abbot Patrick Barry (W35)		
<i>Titular Abbot of Lindisfarne</i>		
Abbot Timothy Wright (T60)		<i>Rome</i>
<i>Titular Abbot of Westminster</i>		
Fr Francis Davidson	<i>Sub-Prior</i> <i>Safeguarding Co-ordinator</i>	
VR Fr Henry Wansbrough (W53)		
<i>Cathedral Prior of Durham</i>		
VR Fr Dominic Milroy (W50)	<i>Editor, Ampleforth Journal</i>	
<i>Cathedral Prior of Chester</i>	<i>Chaplain, St Aidan's</i>	
VR Fr Leo Chamberlain (A58)	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Easingwold</i>
<i>Cathedral Prior of Gloucester</i>		
Fr Edward Delepine		
Fr Martin Haigh (E40)		
Fr Theodore Young (D40)		<i>Grassendale</i>
Fr Edmund Hatton (O40)		
Fr Benedict Webb (A38)		
Fr Justin Caldwell (B47)	<i>Chaplain, St Bede's</i>	
Fr Augustine Measures (W45)		<i>St Benedict's</i> <i>Bamber Bridge</i> <i>Plantation House</i>
Fr Aidan Gilman (A45)		
Fr Geoffrey Lynch (D44)	<i>Chair, Staff Association</i>	
VR Fr Adrian Convery (O49)	<i>Monastery Guestmaster</i>	
<i>Vicar Episcopal for Religious</i>	<i>Chaplain, St John's</i>	
Fr David O'Brien		<i>St Benedict's</i> <i>Bamber Bridge</i>
Fr Rupert Everest (E50)	<i>Chaplain,</i> <i>St Edward's/Wilfrid's</i>	
Fr Mark Butlin (O49)	<i>Alliance Inter-Monastère</i>	
Fr Michael Phillips (E52)	<i>Chaplain</i>	<i>St Benet's Hall</i>
Fr Edward Corbould (E51)		
Fr Dunstan Adams		

Fr Anselm Cramer (O54)	<i>Archivist</i>	
Fr Stephen Wright (T56)		<i>Leyland</i>
Fr Gregory Carroll		
Fr Gordon Beattie (D59)	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Parbold</i>
Fr Alberic Stacpoole (C49)		
Fr Aelred Burrows		
Fr David Morland (H61)	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Grassendale</i>
Fr Jonathan Cotton (H60)	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Leyland</i>
Fr Felix Stephens (H61)	<i>Master</i>	<i>St Benet's Hall</i>
Fr Bonaventure Knollys (C53)	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Ampleforth</i>
Fr Matthew Burns (W58)	<i>Priest in Charge</i>	<i>Gilling East</i>
Fr Edgar Miller (O61)	<i>Priest in Charge</i>	<i>Oswaldkirk</i>
Fr Francis Dobson (D57)	<i>Chaplain, St Cuthbert's</i>	
Fr Christopher Gorst (O65)	<i>Hospitality</i>	
Fr Justin Arbery-Price		
Fr Alexander McCabe	<i>Choirmaster</i> <i>Chaplain, St Thomas's</i> <i>Hospitality</i> <i>Chaplain, St Margaret's</i>	
Fr Peter James (H69)		
Fr Cyprian Smith		
Fr Bernard Green	<i>Tutor</i>	<i>St Benet's Hall</i>
VR Fr Terence Richardson (J72)	<i>Prior & Parish Priest</i>	<i>St Benedict's</i> <i>Bamber Bridge</i>
Fr Antony Hain		
Fr Bede Leach	<i>Hospitality</i>	
Fr Hugh Lewis-Vivas	<i>School Guestmaster</i> <i>Chaplain, St Hugh's</i> <i>Secretary, Ampleforth Society</i> <i>Abbey Shop</i>	
Fr Jeremy Sierla		
Fr Bernard McNulty		
Fr James Callaghan	<i>Novice Master</i>	<i>Leyland</i>
Fr Paul Browne		
Fr Andrew McCaffrey		
Fr William Wright (A82)	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Warrington</i>
Fr Raphael Jones	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Brindle</i>
Fr Kentigern Hagan	<i>Abbey Sacristan</i> <i>Parish Priest</i> <i>Headmaster</i>	<i>Kirkbymoorside</i>
Fr Gabriel Everitt		
Fr Cassian Dickie		<i>Grassendale</i>
Fr Xavier Ho	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Lostock Hall</i>
Fr Luke Beckett		<i>S Anselmo, Rome</i>
Fr George Corrie	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Knaresborough</i>

Fr Oswald McBride
Fr Chad Boulton

VR Fr Damian Humphries
Fr Kieran Monahan

Fr John Fairhurst
Fr Rainer Verborg
Fr Wulstan Peterburs
Fr Philip Rozario
Br Columba Moujing
Br Anselm Sayer
Br Cedd Mannion

Housemaster, St Dunstan's
Housemaster, St Oswald's
Head of Chaplaincy

Prior *Osmotherley*

Hospitality
Master of Ceremonies
Chaplain, SMA Gilling
Infirmarian, Orchard
Procurator

Dep Editor, Ampleforth Journal

St Benet's Hall

Teaching

MONASTERY OF CHRIST THE WORD, ZIMBABWE

MONKS OF AMPLEFORTH

Fr Robert Igo
Fr Richard Ffield (A59)
Fr Alban Crossley
Fr Barnabas Pham
Br Joseph Dinala
1 Novice

Prior
Sub-Prior
Bursar
Novice Master

COMMUNITY NEWS

IN February, **FR ABBOT** made his annual visit to our brethren at Christ the Word in Zimbabwe accompanied by the Abbey Master of Ceremonies **FR KIERAN MONAHAN**. The highlight of this year's visit was the first ever Simple Profession at Christ the Word, that of **BR JOSEPH DINALA**. Br Joseph has spent four years with the Community, including a two-year novitiate. **FR ROBERT IGO**, **FR RICHARD FFIELD** AND **FR BARNABAS PHAM** remain busy offering retreats and days of recollection locally and elsewhere and growing food to support themselves and the needy who rely on their help. Despite greater availability of imported goods since the effective replacement of local currency by the US\$, Zimbabweans without foreign currency face severe problems. **FR ALBAN CROSSLEY** returned to Ampleforth this summer after 14 years in Zimbabwe, and spent some time visiting relatives in North America and in Britain.

In August, **FR PATRICK BARRY** marked the 75th anniversary of his monastic clothing. He is the last remaining monk to have been clothed by Abbot Edmund Matthews. Other monastic jubilees this year included: **FR MARTIN HAIGH** and **FR THEODORE YOUNG** (70th of clothing as novices); **FR EDMUND HATTON** (60th of ordination) **BISHOP AMBROSE GRIFFITHS**, **FR DOMINIC MILROY**, **FR DAVID O'BRIEN** and **FR RUPERT EVEREST** (60th of clothing) **FR ADRIAN CONVERY** (50th of ordination) and **FR ALBERIC STACPOOLE** (50th of clothing).

FR PRIOR represented the Community at the Papal Mass for the Beatification of Cardinal Newman. **FR FRANCIS DOBSON**, **FR BERNARD MCINULTY**, **FR RAINER VERBORG** and **FR WULSTAN PETERBURS** also attended. In his new role as Procurator, Fr Wulstan has, among other tasks, been working with lay staff on ways to communicate the principles of the Rule across the Abbey and College campus. Visitors to the southern entrance of the Procurator's Building will also see a near life-size wooden statue of St Laurence (carved in Zimbabwe by a local craftsman).

ABBOT TIMOTHY WRIGHT remains a spiritual director to the Beda College in Rome, and a chaplain to the Manquehue Movement in Chile. He is also working for the Abbot Primate, Abbot Notker Wolf, on researching inter-religious dialogue particularly between Catholics and Muslims.

FR ANSELM CRAMER, the Abbey's Archivist and Oblate Master, represented Ampleforth in August at the annual Mass and procession in honour of St Oliver Plunkett at Lamspringe, Lower Saxony. The school run by Lamspringe Abbey and closed by the Prussian Government in 1803, supplied the first 12 students of Ampleforth College. Fr Anselm also helped arrange this year's EBC History Symposium hosted by Ampleforth.

FR JUSTIN CALDWELL attended a recent London-based 50th anniversary gathering of a group of pupils who started at Gilling Castle in 1960. Also on School Chaplaincy matters, **FR DOMINIC MILROY** has seen a more than doubling of his House 'flock' since the summer term. This is due to the addition of three new year groups to St Aidan's House - formerly Sixth Form only.

FR MATTHEW BURNS continues to advise on tree-planting and other landscaping matters on the Abbey's lands and serves as Priest in Charge of Gilling East parish. Vines, rather than trees, have been the focus for *In Vino Veritas*, **FR JEREMY SIERLA**'s consistently popular series of reflections on imagery of the vine in Scripture. The Abbey Shop, managed by Fr Jeremy, has gained from strong demand for the nearby Tea Room, which is now an established halt for visitors to the Abbey and College. Pastries and cakes served include varieties produced by **FR HUGH LEWIS-VIVAS** and **FR RAINER VERBORG**. Fr Rainer also led a highly-appreciated guided tour of the Abbey orchard and tasting session at The Windmill for participants in the Ampleforth Society Weekend in October.

FR BEDE LEACH and **FR CHRISTOPHER GORST** continue to offer many retreats for visiting schools and other groups on and off-site. Also, on the subject of student groups, in December 2009, **FR FRANCIS DOBSON** accompanied students from the College to Medjugorje in Bosnia, the 16th such visit he has made over the years. Fr Francis was also this year named an Honorary Chaplain of the Lourdes Basilica, and continues to devote time to Face-Faw, the College's charity which supports projects in Central and Eastern Europe and worldwide.

FR TERENCE RICHARDSON and staff from the Bamber Bridge Charity Shop marked its first decade of successful trading. The shop, run by a committed group of volunteers of St Mary's, Bamber Bridge is a major contributor to parish finances. The church's bell-ringers also rang a peal lasting four hours to mark the Papal visit.

FR KENTIGERN HAGAN, having ended 15 years' service at St Martin's Ampleforth, has added the role of Abbey Sacristan to that of Parish Priest of Kirkbymoorside, alongside **FR ALEXANDER MCCABE**. Fr Alexander's service as monastic Choirmaster has occasionally meant preparing the Community for unfamiliar acoustics, as in September, when we sang Vespers for the Feast of St Cuthbert in Durham Cathedral.

FR OSWALD MCBRIDE and **FR CHAD BOULTON** have started their last year as Housemaster of St Dunstan's and St Oswald's respectively. From next June, Fr Oswald will serve as Vocations Director to the Abbey and Fr Chad will work full-time as Chaplain in the College. They and **FR PHILIP ROZARIO** (ordained in June) travelled to Chile in July with three other monks from Downside and Worth Abbeys on a chaplaincy training workshop organised by the Manquehue Apostolic

Movement. Fr Philip has joined **FR JOHN FAIRHURST** as Assistant Chaplain to St Martin's Ampleforth.

BR COLUMBA MOUJING continues his theological studies at Blackfriars, Oxford. He is based at St Benet's Hall alongside the Master, **FR FELIX STEPHENS**, and Hall Chaplain, **FR MICHAEL PHILLIPS** and **FR BERNARD GREEN**.

A former monk of Inkamana Abbey in Natal, South Africa, **BR ANSELM SAYER**, has renewed his temporary vows to Ampleforth and will help with extra-curricular activities at St Martin's Ampleforth.

BR CEDD MANNION teaches Chemistry at the College and has also been busy producing new temporary monastic Office books and as a regular organist for the Office.

ST BENET'S HALL, OXFORD

FR FELIX STEPHENS OSB
MASTER OF ST BENET'S HALL

READERS of last year's report may recall that we were in the throes of big issues surrounding a new licence as a Permanent Private Hall being imposed on us and all PPHs by the University. What was envisaged as a three month exercise in Michaelmas 2007 has now taken three years and is unlikely to be completed and signed off until the end of this academic year. Differences of Christian denomination, of style and of purpose have all had to be taken into account. When all is complete, the Council of the University can move on, leaving the appointed Supervisory Committee to oversee the PPHs. Word has it that SBH is being regarded, as with some others, as a Hall which has made substantial progress. In particular, SBH is fully compliant with all University processes.

Last November, 94 dined at the Travellers Club in celebration of SBH. This was the third such event in ten years and clearly a success in attracting almost one third of all lay alumni of the Hall. Apart from the obvious *joie de vivre* it was an opportunity to brief those present on the current SBH and its ambitions and needs for the world of tomorrow.

Apart from the Master, the Abbey community consists of Fr Michael Phillips who relishes his routine community meetings with the smokers in the outside cloister; Br Columba Moujing, who is studying theology at Blackfriars, and Fr Bernard Green who, sadly, has suffered two serious illnesses this year; a heart attack followed five months later by a brain haemorrhage - but who is back in harness for the current year. Br Paul Lyons, who joined us from Belmont last year, is also studying Theology at Blackfriars and is joined by Br Cuthbert Elliott from St Louis who is studying Theology in the University.

The word seems to be getting around as there is a build-up of monastic requests for entry in subsequent years and not all those can be accepted. As competition grows more fiercely for undergraduate places, so it is becoming also for monks and priests.

A highlight of the year was the Newman lecture, hosted this year by SBH and delivered by Sir Peter Sutherland KCMG, entitled *Europe: Values and Identity*. The lecture was held in the Garden Lecture Theatre at St John's College. After a reception at Blackfriars, dinner was held in SBH and among those present were the Chancellor Lord Patten; the Irish Ambassador and fellow citizen of Peter Sutherland and brother of an SBH alumnus who is himself Irish Ambassador in Moscow; Sir Anthony Kenny, an alumnus of the Hall and former Master of Balliol and Warden of Rhodes House; Sir Jeremy Greenstock GCMG, a friend of the Master and the Hall; various

diplomats and civil servants from the European Community in Brussels; Professor Diarmaid MacCulloch, whose massive *History of Christianity* was published during the year, accompanied by a six part television series and the Vice Chancellor represented by the Registrar (CEO) of the University.

In addition to this occasion there were the usual five Guest Nights in the year and we were able to welcome seven Heads of House, seven professors and various Estate Bursars, Domestic Bursars, Abbots and University teaching staff to our single High Table.

Dinners took place for all our staff at Christmas; for the Fellows; for Half-Way Hall (students halfway through their careers); for Finalists and for our Salesian brethren who join us for Mass every day. There were also parties: the JCR party every term, a drinks party at the beginning of the year, a Hall Garden party for over 100 guests and a variety of smaller occasions.

Within the Hall itself our recent Honorary Fellow, Peter Hennessy, has accepted a 'cross-bench peerage' in the House of Lords, and we have a new Director of Studies for History, Yvonne Cornish.

Two recent students are now married: Gerard Miles (2009) and Anton Rose (2010), both within weeks of Finals in 2010.

16 took finals: 15 at 2.1 and one (a two year course) 2.2. This Master has not cracked the First Class degree barrier yet. Sometimes he thinks the Hall is too happy and fulfilled a place for that extra bit of academic rigour. He is working on it!

Martin Parlett, who hails from close by our former parish in Warrington, was awarded an Oxford Leadership Prize and won a \$35,000 Rhodes scholarship to Canada. Four students combined during the election to broadcast 'Oxford Decides' and their efforts and skill (interviews, question time, etc) won them the Oxide Radio Platinum Award. One student now finds himself on the Secretary's Committee of the Oxford Union, a stepping stone, he hopes, to great success in the Union next year. Four students, I think, have taken an active part in politics; two Tories, two Labour. I am not sure what support comes the way of the Lib Dems.

Drama has played its part with several students in various plays, usually watched by the ever enthusiastic Fr Michael; one student, Dominic Bowe, sang the leading title role in the demanding *Eugene Onegin*; and a student from Cheltenham - not the independent sector - was Producer of the annually famous and theatre-filling *Out of the Blue*, a University *a capella* singing group. They travelled to the USA and also had their month's slot at the Edinburgh Festival.

Finally, to sport: Oliver Stephen captained the University Golf team to a narrow defeat at Cambridge which he sealed in his own right by winning both his matches by the narrowest of margins, a 70 foot putt at a critical moment being the decisive blow. The Master was at Porthcawl for this as the representative of Oxford University for the occasion. A Soccer Blue, a Rugby League Blue and a Karate Half-Blue completed the honours. Many more amused themselves and benefitted from sport clubs and activities. The Hall was always abuzz with activity.

The Master has taken no more assignments but has got more involved with those in which he is involved: Trustee of Vincent's, about to celebrate its 150th anniversary; the Project Board for DARS – the new alumni database for the University – about whose technical aspects he knows little and from which he had hoped to be freed, but has been asked to stay on to greet a new Pro Vice Chancellor for Development and External Affairs; and it looks as though he will stay as Chairman of Winchester-Pavry Visiting Lectureship Committee. This is solely due to his summoning a meeting of the Committee after an apparent gap of five years and having succeeded in persuading six professors to take their turns in reinvigorating the visiting lectureship – and spending the money available.



LIVING STONES A Winter's Tale from Chile

FR PHILIP ROZARIO OSB

In July 2010, six monks, including three from Ampleforth, attended a course in Chile for school chaplains devised by the Manquehue Apostolic Movement. Fr Philip Rozario outlines the course's central focus – tutoria – and highlights one example of practical service inspired by attentiveness to the Word of God and a commitment to Christian friendship.

"All ecclesial communities and groups will yield fruit insofar as the Eucharist is the centre of their life and the Word of God is a beacon of their journey and activity in the one Church of Christ" (The Fifth General Conference of Bishops of Latin America and the Caribbean – Aparecida, Brazil, May 2007).

“I NEED to support the others - and make the timetable work.” The Abbess surveyed the muddy building-site on a chilly mid-winter morning. At just 17, she seemed to have a firm grasp of the spirit of the Rule. Her similarly youthful Cellarer was also calmly supplying the Abbey's work teams; appointing a suitable cook and trying to ensure she herself was “mother of the group - and humble.” Other members of the community were dispatched on *missiones* - visiting local households in a spirit of prayer and friendship. In fact the ‘Abbess’ and ‘Cellarer’ were ‘temps’ - students of a Chilean day school appointed as ‘monastic officials’ on a two-day house-building operation during their winter holiday. The ‘Abbey’ comprised the entire group of volunteer students.

In July 2010, six English Benedictine monks, three from Ampleforth, attended a two-week training workshop in Santiago, Chile, for school chaplains. The course, produced by the Manquehue Apostolic Movement, explored the theory and practice of *tutoria* - a form of spiritual guidance, companionship and friendship, described as the 'heartbeat' of Manquehue's Santiago-based schools. Fr Chad, Fr Oswald and Fr Philip were joined by Abbot President Richard Yeo and Fr James Hood of Downside, and Fr Martin McGee from Worth Abbey. The workshop opened with two days alongside students working to construct emergency housing in villages affected by last February's earthquake.

Tutoria is not synonymous with the academic tutor-tutee link familiar to Ampleforth and other schools, although this does have a pastoral dimension. A fuller understanding of *tutoria* requires seeing it in the context of the origins of the Manquehue Movement and the almost 30-year connection with Ampleforth.

In 1982, José Manuel Eguiguren, of the then-recently founded Manquehue Apostolic Movement, first visited Ampleforth. Several years earlier, he had emerged from a long period of spiritual confusion. Renewed hope eventually came from an experience of the healing and illuminating power of the Word of God - *personally* addressed to him in the Scriptures.¹ He did not, however, discover this unaided. For three years, José Manuel met almost daily with Fr Gabriel Guarda, a monk of Las Condes Abbey, Santiago. Instead of offering advice, Fr Gabriel introduced his visitor to the age-old monastic practice of *lectio divina* - the prayerful, meditative, reading of Scripture. In so doing, he undertook a heavy - and at times almost impossible - burden in being endlessly present and attentive. However, for José Manuel, this patient, commitment left a deep impression. 'Fr Gabriel's persistence in faithful availability had led the way, and his Benedictine example lived on in the Movement.'¹

Such friendship, centred on seeking to discern God's will through his Word, inspired what would later be called *tutoria*. José Manuel discerned a vocation to work with the young. In preparing students of his former school for Confirmation, he introduced them to *lectio*. He and they felt called to communicate their experience of Christ to younger students. This spontaneously spread to all areas of school life: help with sports training, assisting with prep or spending free time with students.

José Manuel's discernment of a call to found a school based on Benedictine principles faced the challenge of doing so without monks. Fr Gabriel Guarda therefore suggested he write for advice to a personal friend of his, Fr Dominic Milroy, then Headmaster at Ampleforth, who invited José Manuel to see him. On arrival in the Valley, he spent a day observing the unselfconsciously 'familial' way in which the then large number of monks working in the College and students related to each

other in the classroom and in extra-curricular activities. By the end of that day he expressed the conviction that the Holy Spirit had guided him there for that very reason - and to seek to apply what he had seen.

A *catena* of friendship - linking Fr Gabriel Guarda, José Manuel and Fr Dominic - and an unwritten yet palpable experience of inter-generational friendship and support centred on Christ and the tradition bequeathed by St Benedict, thereby underlay the subsequent successive founding of the three Manquehue schools. Being lay-run day schools, an explicit structure was needed to transmit that which had occurred by 'osmosis' in a full-boarding school involving many monks.

Thus, San Benito, San Lorenzo and San Anselmo (founded in 1982, 1986 and 1995 respectively) daily celebrate the Divine Office and *lectio* as the hub around which revolve the daily round of studies, sport and extra-curricular activities. Each school seeks to be a community imbued with love of the Scriptures and a deep attachment to living the Rule. Care for the individual must therefore be evident, helping each student to grow in knowledge and love of Christ and the Church. This is the context of *tutoria* - possibly best translated as spiritual friendship or accompaniment, and considered the non-negotiable core of Manquehue's educational apostolate. José Manuel has stressed that - regardless of the schools' academic and other merits - without *tutoria* they would lose their *raison d'être*.

Tutoria is not a 'technique' or programme devised by a spiritual 'master' - but centres on an exploration by tutor and tutee of God's Word. Offering such support - and challenge where necessary - is a task potentially open to all: students, teachers, support staff - rather than 'someone else's' job. Here, both are fellow-disciples, albeit from different starting-points. Through a conscious effort to understand a tutee - with his or her unique strengths, weaknesses, goals and concerns - a tutor seeks to help them develop a lively Christian faith which is integrated into the different aspects of their life. So, anybody who discerns a call to such a task, who wants to proclaim Christ and to transmit his Word and to 'give his life for his friends' (Jn. 15:13) can be a tutor.

Thus, in the Manquehue schools, tutors include senior school students, Old Boys or Girls, university students or members of the Movement. Because *tutoria* emerges and develops from within a community nourished by God's Word and the Rule, tutor and tutee are not on their own. The tutor's own commitment to personal prayer, *lectio* and the sacraments is matched where needed by the support and advice of others. This conscious link to the wider community avoids the danger - however well-intentioned - of a tutor's misguided belief they alone 'have the answer' for a tutee. Instead, the tutor must accept that his or her role is one of service; not an ego-boost or means of personal domination. So, self-detachment is necessary - and an

acceptance that a tutee may 'outgrow' one's usefulness to them.

Likewise, St Aelred's teaching that spiritual friendship always includes at least three persons - with Christ at the centre² - discourages seeing *tutoria* as simply counselling or problem-solving. It aspires to lead tutees to a steadily more mature ownership of their faith, through their own encounter with Christ. Thus, weekly *tutoria* sessions end at age 15, when students can opt to join a Shared Lectio Group run by the Manquehue Movement. These groups of six to 12 meet weekly and slightly over half of 15-18 year olds in the three Manquehue schools belong to a Lectio group.

Ampleforth students who have worked in Manquehue schools after A levels have experienced *tutoria* in action in its Chilean context; praying the Office and practising lectio alongside members of the Movement. More recently, young Manquehue members - often recent school-leavers or university students - have worked with students of Ampleforth College and the children at St Martin's Ampleforth; guiding them in listening to the Word of God in *lectio* and being available to spend time with them.

The wheel may have turned full circle. Manquehue originally found inspiration from a living Benedictine tradition which fostered Christ-centred bonds of friendship which developed almost unconsciously by 'osmosis.' It seems providential that - with a dramatic fall in numbers of monks in both its schools - Ampleforth has been blessed by the vibrant and joyful contribution of 'the Chileans,' and by Manquehue's highly-developed reflection on the roots of spiritual friendship and accompaniment. Most importantly, it offers a renewed and imaginative way to transmit that very tradition from which it first flowered.

So, returning to the chill of the early morning building-site - what has *tutoria* to do with this? In speaking to students involved, it was clear that a living faith and an existing experience of community centred on the Word of God - in which their experience of *tutoria* was crucial - were powerful sources of energy and enthusiasm. Powerful enough to overcome the lure of a more comfortable, better-heated and less exhausting winter break. To underline the point, the day's work began with a plenary *lectio* session, and the project ended with the celebration of Mass alongside the family due to occupy the newly-built house. The two days effectively saw the building of a house and a community, with all the challenges and rewards involved. As one of the group expressed it: 'Here you feel God's presence - no one is just telling you about it.'

¹ Abbot Patrick Barry OSB *A Cloister in the World* p. 40

² St Aelred of Rievaulx *Spiritual Friendship* 1:8

AMPLEFORTH MEETS THE OPPOSITE SEX

A Culture Shift Observed

The move to co-education represents far more than the admission of girls into what was previously a boys' school. Rachel Fletcher, in her article in the last number, commented on the shift in staff attitudes as well as in classroom-style. The steady increase in the proportion of women staff, and their role in positions of responsibility, creates a new educational climate. The question here is not whether it is a better climate than that of single-sex schools, but how to identify the differences and make the best use of them for everyone's benefit.

This shift is particularly complex in the case of a monastic school like Ampleforth. The reduction of the monastic presence in our schools means that we are experiencing a double shift — from monastic to lay, and from a predominantly male staff to one in which gender-difference is simply no longer an issue.

This is a big change. It is obviously related to the challenge of maintaining the Benedictine ethos of our schools. This is a major and very explicit part of the Abbey's agenda, and it is considered elsewhere in this number. It is worth observing, however, that the monastic tradition, with its roots in the Gospel and in the Rule of St Benedict, is deeply gender-free in its approach to community-building and that it is already proving to be an ideal anchor for the development of what is, for us, a richer and more complex kind of school community.

We should also remember that Ampleforth did not move suddenly from being an all-male community to the admission of girls in 2001. There had been, for a number of years, informal arrangements for a few girls to complete their A Level studies here and the proportion of women teachers has been steadily increasing since the early 1980s.

When the time came to make the decisive move, it was quickly obvious that there was no innate monastic prejudice against the idea. Rather the reverse. The following article is intended to illustrate this theme: it celebrates the contribution made (before the introduction of co-education) to Ampleforth's educational tradition by a very unusual teacher.

LUCY WARRACK

Lucy Warrack is the author of several significant books. She writes under her maiden name, Lucy Beckett, and some of her books are reviewed elsewhere in this issue. She grew up at Rievaulx and became a teacher at Ampleforth largely because she was a neighbour. Like many of her monastic colleagues, she had no formal teaching qualification, and (also like some of them) found herself teaching in areas unconnected with her University studies. Basil Hume read Modern History at Oxford, but became Head of Languages. Lucy studied Mediaeval History at

Cambridge, and History was about the only subject she never taught. No other teacher in Ampleforth's history has taught such a wide range of subjects at so many different levels. At different moments in her teaching career in the valley, she prepared Gilling boys for their entry to Ampleforth and gave a course on the history of European thought to the entire Ampleforth monastic community.

Lucy Warrack was appointed by Fr Dominic to a part-time English post in September 1980. Somewhat prophetically, she was accompanied by her daughter, Teresa, who spent what used to be called her Oxbridge term in the Sixth Form preparing for her entry to Cambridge. A year later, Lucy accepted a full-time post in the English Department, teaching at every level in the School.

Her gifts as a teacher were so unusual that it is rather hard to describe them. There are some teachers who specialise in stimulating the very able; there are others who bring the best out of the least able. Lucy remained, in a curious way, almost indifferent to the level at which she was teaching. She took it for granted that the themes of King Lear were accessible and potentially fascinating for every student of whatever ability and her classes responded accordingly. It was impossible to discern whether she preferred the high fliers to the lame ducks. This made her an outstanding tutor at the individual level, intolerant of the mediocrity with which able students tended to satisfy themselves, and infinitely patient with the less confident strugglers. Generations of Amplefordians remain conscious of their debt to her.

It was inevitable that her passion for teaching should engage her in wider fields. She was drawn into teaching Classics, PPE and PPP at Oxbridge level, and gave General Studies Courses on Russian and European Literature. She taught Sixth Form RS courses on Christian Marriage, and O Level courses on Theatre Studies. She was aware that her own academic formation was unusually broad, and delighted in sharing all this with anyone who would listen. There were many such.

It was scarcely surprising that she should be appointed Head of English in 1987 and Head of Sixth Form in 1991. She had the task of orchestrating the transition from O Level to GCSE and of working with the Headmaster on the evolving strategy of preparing UCCA and UCAS applications.

The pressures of administration never distracted her from the primacy of her work as tutor and teacher. Nor did they dilute her commitment to the other side of her work at Ampleforth. Together with Fr Justin Arbery-Price, she presided over what was certainly one of the golden ages of the Ampleforth Theatre.

Between 1984 and 1990, ACT put on 28 plays, ranging from King Lear and most of the major Shakespearian repertoires to Louis Malle's *Au revoir les enfants* (which Lucy translated) and from Antigone and Waiting for Godot to the three-part cycle of the York Mystery Plays. In the Downstairs Theatre (which had been converted from an indoor swimming-pool), there were plays by Sheridan, Chekhov, Ionesco, Arthur Miller, Pinter and Alan Bennett. This surge of creative activity was far more than an interesting extra-curricular hobby: it was as dynamic a part of Ampleforth's life as the simultaneous achievements of a series of

outstanding rugby teams, many of whose members would hasten back from matches in order to fulfil their roles in the productions.

In 1994, Lucy moved across the valley to become Director of Studies (and, of course, drama) at Gilling Castle, preparing the top years in English, History and Latin, for the Scholarship Entry to Ampleforth. From 1993 to 2004, she taught Church History and Latin to junior monks in the monastery, and during this period she gave a course of 15 literary/theological lectures to the community, which became the basis of her book *In the Light of Christ: Writings in the Western Tradition*.

Lucy Warrack's contribution to the educational and cultural climate was both extensive and subtle. Although her approach was entirely untouched by any trace of conventional feminism, the fact that her presence and influence came to be taken for granted by generations of Amplefordians was a significant factor in the process which eventually made the transition to co-education seem relatively natural. Ampleforth's debt to her is considerable. We are also proud to be associated with her distinguished literary career, which is addressed in another section of this issue.

DLM

WEAKNESS AND HOLINESS

The Catholic Paradox

FR CHAD BOULTON OSB

The theme of abuse in the Catholic Church has sometimes been exaggerated by a largely hostile press. However, it ought not to be swept under the carpet. This is how Fr Chad chose to address it in a Sunday homily to the students in the Abbey.

YOU should be ashamed of being Catholics, of being linked to an institution that is so corrupt, so hypocritical. The church is dying, like an old man, once magnificent, now unable to control even his bodily functions. Why join a monastery where the average age is 61? Why support a church where its supreme leader is 83? Go and search for what is new.

Those are the judgements echoing around you and the voices are getting stronger. Leave the old, embrace the new. New is a wonderful word. New York, New Age - remember New Labour in 1997? But what does it mean? Does it mean 'young' - vote Cameron not Browne? Or does it mean 'different' - vote Clegg not Cameron?

It is easy to deride what is old, not so easy to define what is new. We think of new as separate from old. Make a fresh start. But what if the best sort of new actually grows from the old. I once came across a weather-beaten tree, on a walk near Hawnby, where all that seemed to be left was the battered trunk. Emerging from the trunk, however, was a new sapling, full of life and promise.

'A new commandment I give you,' proclaims today's gospel, 'love one another as I have loved you.' You are the new sapling, the new love that can emerge from a battered church - because that battered church has its roots in the indestructible love of Christ: love one another 'as I have loved you.' These old roots keep producing new shoots - the martyrs, the monks, the saints of all ages, in all centuries. A young man only slightly older than you sought this new commandment 1400 years ago, gathered followers around him, and urged them to prefer nothing to the love of Christ. You will find his statue kneeling outside this church, his hand pointing towards the school, towards you.

You are the new Jerusalem, glimpsed in today's reading, coming down out of heaven, like a bride prepared for her husband. Take yourselves seriously. Don't sell yourself short. Don't think you have to sleep in every bed before you commit to one. You are a precious bride, don't run away out of fear that it's not possible, that there's too much to lose. Think for yourselves - but be bold. If you are going to rebel, don't just make it a lifestyle choice. Choose life, not just clothes. Go for what is really new -

rebel against all that is cynical and mocking and fearful. You are a bride prepared for a husband who waits for you, believes in you, died for you.

You are the new Jerusalem, the holy city, the holy school, the holy family, that is always possible, that is always coming down from heaven. Jesus says 'I am making all things new.' The new shoot comes up from the roots, the new Jerusalem comes down from heaven, but it is the same Jesus who makes both possible, whose Spirit confirmed 70 of you in your faith last weekend, whose Body strengthens all of us in our faith every Mass.

So don't be ashamed of being Catholics. Weep for the Church's many, many weaknesses, its sins and its crimes, pray for those it has abused and damaged, but remember that every generation in turn is given the new commandment of love, every generation prepared as the new Bride. The tree is battered, many branches will fall, but the roots will always offer new life – to those who are brave enough, and humble enough.

LOST AND GAINED IN TRANSLATION: The Third Edition of the Roman Missal

CAROLINE DOLLARD

There has been a certain amount of confusion and controversy concerning the process of introducing the new translations. Changes in the liturgy are always controversial; the history of liturgy however, is a history characterised by frequent changes. Caroline Dollard has been helping to introduce these changes to the faithful in the diocese of Middlesbrough and here offers some comments on them. The changes were due to be introduced in Advent 2010, but this has been delayed.

YES, the *Missale Romanum*, the ritual text containing the prescribed prayers, chants and instructions for the celebration of the Mass, is about to change. First promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1970, as the definitive text of the reformed liturgy of the Second Vatican Council, the Latin text (the *editio typica*) was translated into various languages for use all over the world. The English edition, which is the one we currently use, received approval by the Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments (CDW) and was published for use in England and Wales in 1973. Two years later in 1975 the Holy See issued a revised text (*editio typica altera*), and in 2000 Pope John Paul II promulgated the 3rd edition (*editio typica tertia*). To monitor the process of translation, the CDW issued a document in 2001, *Liturgiam Authenticam*, an Instruction on the vernacular translation of the Roman Liturgy, which outlines the principles and rules for translation, followed in 2007, by *Ratio Translationis*, outlining specific rules for translation of the *Missale Romanum* into English. This Third Edition of the Missal will be in full use in England and Wales from the first Sunday of Advent 2011.

Translation from one language, in this case Latin, into English, carries many perils and promises. Over the years it has taken to reach the point of official approval and actual reception of the final text, there have been, and remain, apprehensions to face, as well as the more positive hopes for what the new translation might offer those who will be entering into the Liturgy through these new texts. Into the 'magimix' we must add the pastoral, theological and historical ingredients that have added colour and flavour to the process. For example, some in the field of liturgy have puzzled over the new directives concerning the movements and actions of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion - adjustments have been made, but did they really merit global attention? Have they improved or enhanced the liturgy? Others have questioned why we need a new translation, when the one we have been using for the last 40 years has served us well, helping us to pray the liturgy in our own language for the first time. Rare would be the occasion when a parishioner comments to the priest after Mass 'We really do need a better translation of Eucharistic Prayer

III'. And it is worth mentioning in passing, that in 1998, after many years of work, a new translation was completed and passed by the English-speaking Bishops Conferences around the world, only to be rejected by Rome - who then put a completely new team of people onto the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL), the body responsible for the translation. Fears have proliferated that the latest philosophy of translation could put faithfulness to the Latin above enabling the people to pray, and many bloggers and websites have pleaded 'why can't we just wait and see,' asking for a pilot of the new translation, followed by revisions based on experience. This is not to be. As the Roman Catholic community in these islands, we face many issues - and the Mass, how we pray it, recognising the diversity of the Spirit's gifts, and how we are a present generation among many, past and future, who have and will receive and pass on our Catholic Christian faith, surely lie at the heart of these issues.

It is only natural to have concerns over the Liturgy and the way we celebrate. As the source and summit of our lives as Catholic Christians, it is the most important thing we do, for ourselves and for the world. The new translation of the Missal will not usher in the *parousia*, neither will it undermine the credibility of the Church. At best, it aims to keep us connected with the timeless, authentic liturgical tradition over centuries of the universal Catholic Church.

Each of us holds some responsibility for aiding reception and implementation of the new translation in our parishes. Laying aside the practical issues of timelines and catechetical programmes, what would be the overarching vision and hope? What do people want and need? I would say, above all, that we want to be able to continue to pray, and to be led into an encounter with the mystery at the heart of our faith, expressing our worship, praise and petition in what we say and do. This is a sacred action to which we bring our lives, our hunger and our hope. We need to be reassured that although the words are changing, in parts, the Mass remains the Mass. The principles of Vatican II are still binding:

'It is very much the wish of the church that all the faithful should be led to take that full, conscious and active part in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy, and to which the Christian people have a right and to which they are bound by reason of their Baptism. In the restoration and development of the Sacred Liturgy, the full and active participation by all the people is the paramount concern, for it is the primary, indeed the indispensable source from which the faithful are to derive the true Christian spirit. (SC 14).'

Several of the prayers we have in the Missal are over 1000 years old, and some of our responses date to biblical and early Christian practice. We stand on the shoulders of hundreds of generations. Latin is the language in which our liturgy was nurtured,

and it is hoped that we may discover more of the nuances of the originals through the revised translation. Yes, there will be problems and difficulties - with rival ideologies, with syntax, and perhaps one or two missed opportunities for charitably inclusive language. We can expect to struggle! The new texts will require prayerful preparation - they will not trip easily from our lips, nor should they. Practically speaking, the Bishops propose that the text of the Order of Mass will be used from the beginning of September 2011, accompanied by a three-month period of catechesis on the Eucharist, highlighting the specific textual changes. The entire Missal will be used from the 1st Sunday of Advent 2011. Catechetical resources (liturgy notes, homily notes, bulletin inserts, ministry group, family and school packs and DVD material) are being produced by the Bishops Conference Department for Christian Life and Worship. The new translation offers a real opportunity for a deepening appreciation of the purpose and nature of celebrating the Eucharist. ICEL have been preoccupied with the doctrinal accuracy of the prayers. As people in the pew, let us hope that we can accept what is offered in good faith, and with the help of the Spirit, learn to pray the new texts, allowing the words and actions of the Mass to continue to express and celebrate our relationship with God, and with one another, and to heal and enrich our lives, for the good of all.

DOES SCIENCE HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS?

Why Us? How Science Rediscovered the Mystery of Ourselves by James Le Fanu

FR BERNARD GREEN OSB

At a time when strident 'God-bashing' by popular fundamentalist Scientists is rather fashionable, James Le Fanu (B67) prefers to see the Natural Sciences as a source of an ever deeper sense of wonder about the meaning of things. James is well known for his medical contributions to The Daily Telegraph. He is preparing an article for the next number of The Journal. In the meanwhile, Fr Bernard Green reviews his latest book.



READING this book has done me the world of good, in two main ways. I loathed Science as a boy. I found the Chemistry and Physics I studied for O Level about as interesting as learning how to repair bicycles, something else I was always pretty useless at. I found simply nothing in them to challenge the imagination or raise the spirits. Literature, Music, Art and History, by contrast, probed the mystery of what it was to be human and, for a boy of 14 or 15 that was the mystery at the centre of my every preoccupation. The upshot is that I scarcely ever read Science books and find the

smugness of most Science programmes on television intolerable. Reading this book, however, has opened my eyes.

I felt an immediate sympathy with James Le Fanu when he admitted quite readily that 'Science no longer 'does' wonder.' All those hours in dismal, foul-smelling Chemistry labs writing up falsified accounts of unsuccessful experiments came rushing back in my memory. But as I turned the pages of Le Fanu's exciting and compelling book, I discovered a world of wonder.

He takes the reader on a tour that includes the Human Genome Project, recent work in neuroscience, the scientific approaches and achievements of Newton and Darwin, brain activity and the development of language, the emergence of the distinctively human qualities of primitive man, the complexity of DNA and the double helix, the problem of the relationship between the brain and the mind, the mystery of altruism and the misuse of evolutionary theory by racists and nationalists. I think the word for this book is breathtaking.

In other words, the first great benefit I drew from this book was simply to discover so much. I suppose that it is because he is a doctor that Le Fanu's description of the complex anatomical and neurological changes required to allow human beings to stand and walk upright was so clear and to me it was a revelation. His chapters on the double helix or the recent discoveries in neuroscience are not only brilliantly lucid expositions of highly complicated material but also succeed in being highly provocative. This is a book of surprises and for the person like me whose natural tendency is to assume that Science is boring it is an exciting, and humbling, experience to read it.

The other great benefit I drew from this book was to realise that, for all the remarkable discoveries scientists have made, there is so much that eludes them still and perhaps always will. One of its most controversial features is its sustained scepticism about the simplicities of a theory of evolution which appeals to random variations suiting the environment in the battle for survival - the natural selection of the fittest. Le Fanu underlines and gives ample examples to support objections that might occur to anyone. How can so many complex variations occur simultaneously as to allow major evolutionary transformations? Can something as subtle as the eye emerge as the result of random chance? Given that the fossil record suggests that change happens in sudden leaps rather than slow and gradual adaptation, is there enough time in these periods of dramatic mutation for natural selection to be at work? What was most striking about all this to me was not so much the attack on the theory as the assault on the theory's adherents whose unwillingness to acknowledge that there are things they cannot explain seems profoundly unscientific.

What can seem in many places as a polemic against the achievements and outlook of evolutionary scientists is therefore not a broadside on Science but one of the most elegant and enticing essays in favour of the humility and sense of wonder which should animate all scientific endeavour. The boy who thought O Level Science was a branch of the bike repair business grew into the man who shivers at the arrogant assurance of purveyors of scientific truth: this book reassured me that scientists might yet have as much humility as anyone else standing in awe before the splendour of reality.

James Le Fanu points out how much escapes scientific explanation but he does not step forward with a worked-out set of alternative theories of his own. He makes it plain that he regards any attempt to reduce reality to the material and try and explain reality purely in material terms is folly. He says this most clearly when he is talking about the mind, which defies explanation or analysis simply in terms of the activity of the brain, but he suggests too that the processes of evolution and perhaps ultimately the whole coherence and intelligibility of the universe depend on something immaterial beyond the reach of Science. Here we enter the realms of

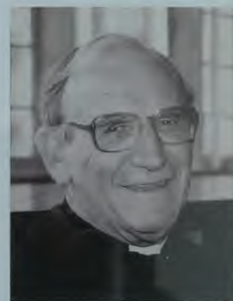
Philosophy or Theology and, as I understood him, Le Fanu was effectively saying that they too play a vital role along with Science in understanding reality.

This is a brilliant, perhaps too wide-ranging, at times infuriating book and it is not for a non-scientist to judge it. It is more than likely that scientists would reply to many of its central contentions with the observation that the failure of Science to explain so much, such as the mental processes of the brain, does not mean that no material explanation can ever be found. But reading it was for me not only intellectually stimulating; it raised my spirits as the subtitle laid claim that Science could rediscover the mystery of ourselves.

FR GERALD HUGHES OSB 1929-2009

FR DAVID MORLAND OSB

David Gerald Hughes born 1 March 1929; Gilling Castle and Junior House; St Cuthbert's House 1942-47; Sandhurst; commissioned in the Royal Artillery; British Army of the Rhine 1948-52; clothed 20 September 1953, Ordained priest 17 July 1960. Ampleforth Preparatory School (1960-87), including a brief period as Acting Headmaster. Worked on Abbey parishes - including St Mary's, Cardiff; St Benedict's, Ampleforth; and from 1997, St Austin's in the Grassendale district of Liverpool. Died 31 August 2009.



MY FIRST conscious memory of Fr Gerald is when I was a boy at the College and took part as we all did in the Army Cadet Corps or CCF. Fr Gerald was an Officer in the Corps and I remember being impressed by his obviously professional manner and bearing. Later when I got to know him better I realised that his time as a professional soldier in the Royal Artillery (1947-52) had been a very significant part of his life. He often used to speak of his time at Sandhurst and later as acting Captain serving in Germany. Those years gave him a greater understanding of the lives of ordinary

soldiers and increased his sense of self-confidence in dealing with others. He spoke warmly too of the German civilians with whom he had contact and evidently took great care of the men under his command. It showed his natural generosity and sense of fair play which remained with him all his life.

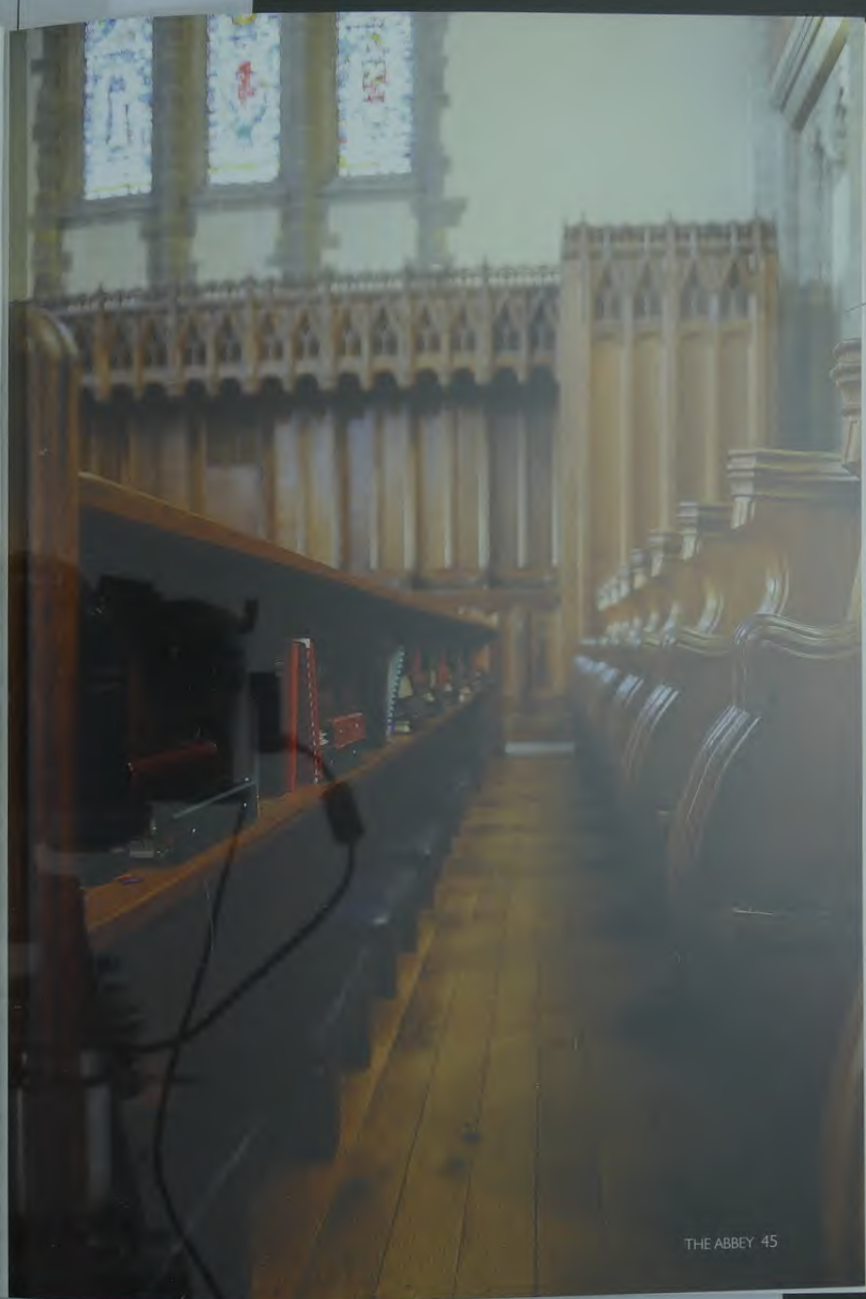
For many years I only knew Fr Gerald at a distance because shortly after being ordained in 1960 he went to work and live at Gilling Castle, the Ampleforth Preparatory School. He remained there until 1987 and this obviously formed a vital part of his life and work. He took care of the younger boys at the school and remained friends with many of them much later in life. Quite recently there was a gathering in London of those in his form in the 1960s and he was warmly invited to attend. Fr Gerald was a practical person, teaching science to the boys and took a great delight in all their interests, hobbies and activities. Briefly in 1974 he was acting Headmaster at Gilling due to the then Headmaster's illness. From all accounts he showed considerable energy and imagination in this role. In dealing with the boys he showed a natural authority and discipline but also a genuine interest in the personal needs of each of those in his care.

It was really by chance that I came to know Fr Gerald much better, when in 1980 at Easter time I was asked to help out at Gilling because of the sudden death of Fr Bede Emerson, a great friend as well as colleague of Fr Gerald. I think at first Fr Gerald was rather doubtful of my ability to care for the practical needs of young boys, regarding me as something of an intellectual as well as a Classics teacher. However he was endlessly helpful and supportive and I could see very clearly the extent to which he played a vital role in the school. He was always a source of practical advice and judgement and enabled me gradually over the four years I was there to be reasonably capable of looking after 30 or so 12-year olds.

When I returned to the Abbey and to teaching in the College, it was some years before I made contact again with Fr Gerald. He had been appointed Parish Priest of the village church of St Benedict's at Ampleforth and I used to help with Masses and other services in the church. The added link was that my mother was then living in Ampleforth village and Fr Gerald showed great care and affection for her. I think Fr Gerald enjoyed his time at St Benedict's: he certainly made friends who remained close to him after he left. In 1997 he moved to St Austin's in Grassendale, as Assistant Priest and remained working there until his sudden death in August 2009. For ten years I lived with him at St Austin's and gained great respect and affection for him. I remember when I arrived on 5 November 1998, he had a delicious meal prepared and some fireworks to set off in the garden. This was typical of his quiet and practical kindness.

During his time at St Austin's Fr Gerald was very active as Chaplain to the large St Austin's primary school and got to know both staff and pupils well. In the parish itself he felt, I think, at home and was much appreciated by many of the parishioners. In his last period at St Austin's his health began to decline and he began at times to feel quite depressed. But he always rallied for the sake of his brethren and the parishioners and never ceased to act as a conscientious priest and monk.

When he died suddenly on 31 August 2009 he was staying with his niece Prue in York. She was devoted to him; her father having died many years before and he too felt a deep bond with her. He had spent his last Sunday at the Abbey and in Ampleforth village so that in a way, without knowing, he said farewell to what was dearest to him.





FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

JOZEF MYCIELSKI (O90)
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

The last year has seen positive strides in terms of development and in the important work of forging closer links with our Old Amplefordians, former parents and friends.

Fundraising

AT ST Martin's Ampleforth, Gilling Castle, the final building works have been completed as a result of the funds raised through the Appeal between the summers of 2007 and 2009 which enabled over £2,000,000 of investment in the school. It is fitting that the final project to be completed was the Savill Centre which is a striking building with four new classrooms offering state of the art language labs for the students. It was officially opened by Peter Savill (J65) and his children at Exhibition 2010 and many thanks go to Peter for making this centre possible.

The Bursary Committee, under the Chairmanship of Philip Marsden (J74), has continued to meet regularly in order to develop the best ways to increase the funds available for bursaries and therefore to reach as many young people as possible who would not normally be in a position to be educated at Ampleforth. The last year has seen the fund increase by £690,000 to £2,000,000 which is a positive step. It is however only a step, and significantly more money is required to make a real impact in this area. Plans are in place for more intensive fundraising in the years ahead.

We were delighted to welcome back Lawrence Dallaglio (T89) in July 2010 to co-host a sporting dinner with Fr Abbot in order to raise funds for the refurbishment of

the 1st XV Match Ground. Over 300 guests enjoyed a relaxed evening and the highlight was an entertaining and insightful Q & A with Lawrence. Over £58,000 was raised and redevelopment work started immediately after the event, with the Match Ground now ready to play and boasting top class drainage, fencing, posts, remote control scoreboard as well as a plaque showing that the ground has been renamed 'The Dallaglio Match Ground.'

The Ampleforth Society

IN the last edition of *The Journal* we outlined changes to the Ampleforth Society and a key focus was reinvigorating the Ampleforth Society Weekend. Between 16th and 18th October 2009 over 160 Old Amplefordians between the ages of 19 and 93 attended the weekend.

The weekend began with a buffet supper on the Friday evening in The Windmill, the Sixth Form social centre, and on Saturday morning the 127th AGM of the Ampleforth Society was chaired, in the library, by Fr Abbot. Over 50 attended and Fr Francis Dobson (D57) officially stepped down as Hon Gen Secretary. Sir David Goodall (W50) paid tribute to him for his hard work over the past 15 years. Fr Hugh Lewis-Vivas was appointed as the new Hon Gen Secretary of the Society. After Mass, which was offered for Old Amplefordians who had died in the previous year, there was a very pleasant informal buffet lunch in the main hall. The afternoon saw a number of OA boys' rugby and football and girls' hockey matches which gave the younger members of the Society a chance to showcase talents honed on Ampleforth's playing fields. Fr Rainer also kindly hosted a cider, cider brandy, sloe and damson gin tasting. This, unsurprisingly, was very popular!

Saturday evening featured the highlight of the weekend with the Ampleforth Society Dinner hosted by Fr Abbot. Special guests included Sir George (C54) and Lady Bull, Vic McLean, retiring after 21 years as CCF Commander and Chris Belsom who retired after 34 years at the school. The monastic community was also very well represented. Fr Abbot spoke, emphasising the importance of Benedictine Stability which was the spiritual foundation for the enduring friendships between monks and students and also the friendships between the students themselves. Sir George spoke eloquently of Ampleforth's shared heritage with the monastery at its heart, acting like a 'monastic magnet.'

'Looking back one sees besides the memories of particular people and events one universal feature, the general solidity, the spontaneous mixing and almost instinctive understanding of Old Amplefordians of all ages. Their union in a single living tradition seems no empty phrase but a reality.' From the feedback received from the weekend these words from 1952 seem as relevant now as they were then.

Publications & Website

THE Ampleforth Diary and Old Amplefordian website have received very positive feedback and the latter has now seen the addition of OAs online – the online version and replacement of the paper based Ampleforth Address Book (last and final paper based edition published in 2007).

The Old Amplefordian section of this publication primarily focuses on celebrating the lives of deceased Old Amplefordians through the obituaries and also on OA book reviews. The new Ampleforth Diary will continue to be a termly publication and will carry more current news in its magazine format. The Journal and Ampleforth Diary are designed to have distinct editorial characters and styles yet to complement each other.

The Development Team can be contacted by calling 01439 766777 or email development@ampleforth.org.uk.



THE AMPLEFORTH SOCIETY

Trustees Report

MICHAEL O'KELLY (C45)

HON TREASURER OF THE AMPLEFORTH SOCIETY

THE Trustees would first of all like to thank Fr Francis Dobson (D57) for his dedicated work as Hon Secretary for the last fifteen years. Fr Francis has now handed over to Fr Hugh Lewis-Vivas, whom we welcome to the team running the Society's affairs. This team also now includes Ampleforth's Development Director, Jozef Mycielski, Michael O'Kelly, the Hon Treasurer and Aukje Noorman, The Ampleforth Society and Old Amplefordian Assistant. This team works through Ampleforth's Development Office. One of their major tasks was to reinvigorate (with special emphasis on encouraging attendance of younger members) and run the Ampleforth Society weekend in October 2009. Over 160 Old Amplefordians attended and it was rated a great success. It is planned to repeat the weekend in 2010 and consider whether it should then become a two yearly event.

Our activities have also been supported by the new Ampleforth Diary and the website which have had a positive influence on the general profile of the Society, engagement with OA clubs and attendance at various events.

The Society's investments in recent years have been largely confined to two or three large investment funds much of which were sold in time to escape the worst effects of the recession. During 2009 a new investment policy was approved and a small investment sub-committee formed to assist the Treasurer and report twice a year to the Trustees. This sub-committee selected Smith and Williamson Investment Management to manage our affairs. Although we re-entered the rising stock market rather late it is pleasing to note that the Society's assets have returned to a small but significant growth during the year.

In addition to the usual funding of bursaries at Ampleforth the Society has started a new policy of making small grants to Old Amplefordian clubs, events and organisations and £728 was disbursed among three of these during the year. We aim to increase this further in 2010.

In conclusion it is recorded that no Trustees received any remuneration or expenses in respect of their services.

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2009

INCOME	£
Subscriptions	74,295
Investment income	5,381
Donations	1,061
Total:	80,737

EXPENDITURE

Bursaries	75,000
Administration costs	828
Address Book Online donation	5,000
Special grants	728
Total:	81,556
Net loss	(819)
Realised gains on investments	8,526
Unrealised gains on investments	17,240
Net movement in funds	24,947
Balance B/F at 31 Dec 2009	433,936
Balance of funds carried forward	458,883

BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER 2009

Investments	341,767
Cash assets in bank accounts	117,716
Less liabilities owing	(600)
Total:	458,883

Note: Since 31st December 2009 considerable further investment of cash balances has taken place.

FIFTY YEARS ON Some Memories of Ampleforth

DAVID SKIDMORE OBE (O61)

THE account in the last issue of *The Journal* of the changes seen in recent decades provoked many memories of the nine years I spent in the Ampleforth valley. Looking at the superb photo of Gilling Castle I could almost see the television which was set up near the grand fireplace so that those of us who did not go home for the Coronation could watch the great event. Every so often Fr Bede Burge would have to intervene when the loss of Vertical Hold threatened to send Queen Salote spinning out of control. The next year Fr Maurus Powell was trying to teach me Latin. He seemed incredibly old and I now realise that he must have been about 82 at the time; there were only five of us in the set and although I came third I was definitely in the 'could do better' category. The Chapel, too, is quite vivid - as are the smell and heat of the candles around the temporary altar of repose set up on Maundy Thursday in the years when we spent Easter at school. Further down the same corridor was Matron's lair where she dispensed Radio Malt and other nutritional supplements - the ingredients today would raise eyebrows but at the time I imagine rickets rather than obesity preoccupied school and government.

Term really started in those pre-Beeching days at King's Cross where Fr Christopher Topping would welcome us aboard the special Ampleforth train (steam, of course, and taking us beyond York all the way to Gilling East). It was at Gilling, too, that I became accustomed to the treat of a weekly film. My wife is still amazed at how many films of the 1950s I claim to have seen at school. The films were shown in the large room where morning assembly was held after we had lined up as Trojans, Athenians, Romans or Spartans. The chairs from the Refectory (the Great Chamber) had to be carried through before the film and as they were being returned afterwards the crueller boys would point at any evidence of 'blubbing'. I think I survived as I have a clear memory of someone saying to me during my first term: 'You're allowed to be home-sick, you know.' I have no idea why he said it, but I think it was intended kindly.

In 1955 I moved to Junior House. Whatever the arguments for abolishing those 'intermediate' two years I think the arrangement worked well for many boys. We were clearly differentiated from the small boys at Gilling yet were sheltered from the harsher realities of the Upper School. Being allowed to keep pets - some rather exotic - was rather enlightening, even if it did lead to trouble when a young jackdaw sat on the window sill and disturbed Mr Brosche's French class. That was less disruptive than the cartridge which exploded when a bored boy poked it with a pair of compasses or even the drawing pin placed for poor Mr Brosche to sit on. He was very

bald and was known, of course, as Herr Brush. Other memories include Fr Walter taking a wheelbarrow of smoking straw into the hall to add authenticity to that night's Fire Drill. We were terrified. Nevertheless my memories of the Junior House are happy ones. When I see a beautiful beech hedge in winter I find myself thinking of the one we planted with Fr Peter - (as Lt. Col. RPH Utley, the Officer Commanding the CCF, he later signed off my Certificate A Parts I and II which, given my lack of military prowess, represents some sort of achievement). Fr Peter's report for the Autumn Term 1956 reminds me that I helped produce the Junior House Gazette - with typed waxed-paper stencils and hand rollers for inking them. Is this how Soviet-era dissidents produced their *samizdat* copies? If so, it seems appropriate that the same report says that I 'played a commendable part in raising funds for Hungarian Refugees,' the details escape me but I remember that I helped to produce some sort of revue.

In his obituary of Fr Charles Macauley in the last *Journal* Fr Dominic noted the inadequacy of the conventional notion of 'extracurricular' activities. Certainly if my experience was at all typical some of the best things about the Ampleforth of my day would tick no boxes in contemporary assessments of a successful school. Looking back on that enclosed, low-tech world it is hard to exaggerate the importance of such simple things as adult conversations and the willingness of the monks to spend what today's parents call 'quality time' with us - time in which we could explore our interests, ideas and enthusiasms. Those of us who were School Librarians, for example, often gathered with Fr Dominic (in a broom cupboard at the end of the Big Passage) to discuss the affairs of the world. I remember our excitement at the election of the young Senator John F Kennedy in November 1960 as the first Catholic President of the United States. The details are long-forgotten but what was of lasting importance was the fact that we were taken seriously.

Another 'extracurricular' activity was the debating society. I graduated from the Junior Debating Society - where upwards of 100 boys met in No. 1 classroom on Sunday evenings under the chairmanship of the then Br Dominic - to the Senior, and ended up as Leader of the Government. The report in *The Ampleforth Journal* of June 1961 refers to 'D.P. Skidmore (our *bel esprit*!)' but I am at a loss to know how I earned the sobriquet. What I am sure of is that, along with the theatre, the debating society gave me some of the things for which I have been most grateful to Ampleforth. I had been painfully shy - my Kindergarten report for summer 1948 reads: 'Satisfactory - but too shy to read by himself.' I very slowly learned, sometimes by humour and later by acting, to cope with life so people did not know. Many years later in my professional life I realised that, faced with some terrifying challenge, the best thing was to act as though I knew what I was doing. The tricks of the trade Fr Francis Stevenson taught me have been invaluable and I sometimes think of them when I consult the *Oxford Dictionary of Quotations* which I was

awarded as the Quirke Debating Prize in May 1961. *The Journal* report also noted that after we had won the North Regional Round of the Public Schools' Debating Association, 'congratulations are due to Messers Skidmore and Pakenham, who will represent the North at the finals in the Guildhall, London, on 8th May.' Alas, the hopes that we would bring back the *Observer* silver mace were to be dashed. Looking at the programme all these years later I see that among the other finalists were Jonathan Aitken and Christopher Meyer.

Mention of the theatre reminds me that at Junior House I had been the Voice of God in *Noah's Flood*; in the Upper School I played Catherine in *Arms and the Man* and, later, starred in *Love's Labour's Lost*. The smell of the face paint, the attempt to forget the terror of forgetting my lines by reading the old copies of the *Giles Annual* in the Green Room, the sense of exhilaration as the cast took its final bow all contribute to memories of the wonderful atmosphere created by Fr Kevin Mason and Fr Leonard Jackson.

One of my most treasured reports is one for Carpentry from Fr John Macauley in April 1956: 'Good - a great talker.' Despite this I have retained a love for woodworking - although a more general enthusiasm for DIY might describe it more accurately. Among the oldest and most treasured tools in my collection are those given to me by a carpenter I met through the visits I made to the Cheshire Home at Alne Hall. Although a comparatively young man he was by then confined to a wheelchair and would obviously never use them again. It was through these visits that I got to know Fr Kieran Corcoran; like other young monks of the time (Fr Fabian and Fr Adrian would be among those to be added to the names already mentioned) he helped many of us, even though he never taught me, not least because we felt he understood why we found some aspects of the *ancien regime* so frustrating.

Although the monastic staff played a much greater part in the school than I understand is the case today, I think it is significant that some of my strongest memories are of lay masters. From Junior House days I have already mentioned Mr Brosche, but there was also Mr Smiley (it would never have occurred to us that we might know Masters' Christian names) whose Saturday evening classes were devoted to producing Latin comics, and Mr Danks who could carry 30 textbooks wedged between hand and chin, or Count de Serionne in Geography who could so easily be distracted by an innocent request to tell us whether it was necessary to change trains when journeying from Chippenham to Cheltenham. The level of pupil attention can be gauged by the fact that the answer 'Green Line, Sir' was given by one boy to the Count's question 'What breed of sheep is found on the South Downs?'

Fr Bruno Donovan's Bookshop inside the wall of the Big Passage sold me three 'Penguin Specials' around the time of the 1959 General Election - *The Conservative*

Case, by Viscount Hailsham, *The Labour Case*, by Roy Jenkins and *The Liberal Case* by Roger Fulford. Each cost 2/6. Harold Macmillan's Conservatives increased their overall majority to over 100 seats. Ampleforth seemed to mirror the mood of the country and there were few Socialists to be seen. There was of course the man who collected the rubbish in a little motorised three-wheel pick-up; he rashly attached a 'Vote Labour' poster to the back of his vehicle and I remember feeling rather embarrassed when some of the boys jeered him for his temerity. More significant, for me, was a discussion in Mr Davidson's A-level History class. He was being pressed to say how he had voted. He seemed initially to think this was a distraction from the syllabus but eventually agreed to explain how he had voted and why. To cries of 'Oh, Sir!' the dreadful truth emerged - he had voted Labour. His reasons seemed to me then rather impressive and over the years I've often thought of what he said. In essence, he thought that politicians should not lie and that, if they did, they should not be rewarded. Although the full extent of Eden's duplicity did not become very publicly known for some years, Mr Davidson clearly believed that voters in 1955 could hardly have believed that the Government they elected would, just over a year later, embark on the invasion of Egypt. The first General Election in which I was old enough to vote was the next one - 1964. I voted then and in each of the dozen General Elections since, Mr Davidson and his commitment to truth taught me one of the most valuable lessons of my life. His view was not popular then - certainly not with his History Boys and it probably doesn't have many supporters now. Outside the classroom I recall his running of the Historical Bench and long conversations on Gormire Day. He never said 'Pass it on, boys, pass it on' and he could not rival the eccentricity of Alan Bennett's Hector in the way that some of his colleagues could, but he was a good man and a great teacher.

I have many other memories - Algy Haughton (whose first name we did know) bringing Shakespeare alive; a moment of distraction in Mr Griffiths' A-level English class as he exclaimed: 'Ah! Oscar, with his lily' as we looked up from our set texts to see Fr Julian walking by with a flower which was doubtless destined for dissection in the Biology lab; the shed which served as the Abbey Church for boys of my generation and where I heard the news of the death of Pius XII in October 1958 and the election (the first in my lifetime) of a new Pope - little knowing how profoundly my life and understanding of the Christian vocation would be transformed by the changes which followed the election of John XXIII. 50 years after leaving school and eight years after the Queen awarded me an OBE 'for services to the Church of England' I am grateful for what Ampleforth gave me and conscious that I did not quite turn out as intended. Perhaps Mr Shewring should have the final word: 'Knows little French but has some good ideas in English.'

BOOKS BY OLD AMPLEFORDIANS

Recent years have again seen a very diverse range of books by Ampleforth-related authors, reflecting a buoyantly eclectic spread of interests and specialisms among former students. Below, we briefly note such titles, and some older works, which may have escaped your attention - under appropriate headings. Several major recent publications are reviewed more fully at the end of this section.

HISTORY & POLITICS



Royal Bastards: Illegitimate Children of the British Royal Family
PETER BEAUCLERK-DEWAR (E60), The History Press, 2008

"An absorbing story, entertaining and instructive, enlivened by well-sourced fruity anecdotes" The Literary Review

This book, split into four sections: Tudor, Stuart, Hanoverian and, perhaps most fascinating, Royal Loose Ends, is a fresh approach to British kings and queens, examining their lives and times through the unfamiliar perspective of their illegitimate children.



The Osama Bin Laden I know: An Oral History of Al-Qaeda's Leader

PETER BERGEN (W80), Simon & Schuster Ltd, 2006

"Peter Bergen, an experienced reporter as well as an academic, stands out among terrorism 'experts' for his breadth of experience and clear-headedness" New York Review of Books

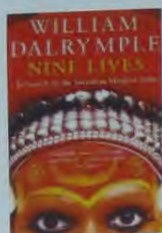
With numerous never-before-published interviews, *The Osama Bin Laden I Know* provides an unprecedented insight into Bin Laden's life and character drawing on the experiences of his most intimate acquaintances. This timely and important work, the only book of its kind, gives readers their first true, enduring look at the man who has declared the West his greatest enemy.



Civil War Is Not A Stupid Thing
CHRISTOPHER CRAMER (E81), C Hurst & Co Publishers Ltd, 2006

"Forges an alternative way of understanding the role of violence in the transition to capitalism and a global economy" Amazon.co.uk

Why is there so much violence in the developing countries? What does it have to do with globalisation? In addressing these and other questions, Christopher takes a broad comparative approach, from recent wars, showing how wars have been paid for throughout history.



Nine Lives

WILLIAM DALRYMPLE (E83), Bloomsbury Publishing, 2010

"Beautifully written, ridiculously erudite and, more than any of his previous work, reveals Dalrymple to be remarkably warm - and open-hearted...a towering talent" The Times

A Buddhist monk takes up arms to resist the Chinese invasion of Tibet - then spends the rest of his life trying to atone for the violence by hand printing the best prayer flags in India. A Jain nun tests her powers of detachment as she watches her best friend ritually starve herself to death. Nine people, nine lives; each one taking a different religious path, each one an unforgettable story. William Dalrymple delves deep into the heart of a nation torn between the relentless onslaught of modernity and the ancient traditions that endure to this day. This title is longlisted for the Samuel Johnson Prize.



The Indian Mutiny: 1857

SAUL DAVID (A84), Penguin; New Ed edition, 2003

"A fine achievement by a huge new talent" William Dalrymple, The Sunday Times



In 1857 the native troops of the Bengal army rose against their colonial masters. The ensuing insurrection was to become the bloodiest in the history of the British Empire. Combining formidable storytelling with ground-breaking research, Saul David narrates a tale at once heart-rendingly tragic and extraordinarily compelling. David provides new and convincing evidence that the true causes of the mutiny were much more complex, and disturbing, than previously assumed.

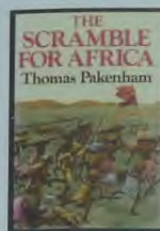


Honor and Foreign Policy: A History and Discussion

MICHAEL DONELAN (W50), Palgrave Macmillan, 2007

"Michael Donelan applies virtue ethics to foreign policy and discerns a motive for honor lurking in even modern and utilitarian liberal society" Cornelia Navari, University of Buckingham

From the Peace of Westphalia through the 20th Century, this book offers a history of honour in foreign policy, working from both a theoretical and historical perspective. Topics covered include the ideologies of Darwinists, nationalists, and fascists, as well as an even-handed account of the greed and violence that goes hand-in-hand with advances in better government, offering lessons for the implementation of foreign policy today.



The Scramble for Africa

THOMAS PAKENHAM (E51), Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1991

"Magnificent, vigorous, comprehensive, compulsive reading" The Daily Telegraph

In 1880 the continent of Africa was largely unexplored by Europeans. Less than thirty years later, only Liberia and Ethiopia remained unconquered by them. The rest - 10 million square miles with 110 million bewildered new subjects - had been carved up by five European powers and one extraordinary individual. *The Scramble for Africa* is the first full-scale study of that episode in history.

The Last White Rose



The Last White Rose - Dynasty, Rebellion and Treason

DESMOND SEWARD (E54), Constable, 2010

"A brilliant study of the period. Rich in historical detail, yet passionately written, the smell of battle seems to linger on the page" Yorkshire Post

This is a brilliant new interpretation of one of the most dramatic periods of British history. Well known historian Desmond Seward reviews the story of the Tudors' seizure of the throne and shows that for many years they were far from secure. The book examines the little-known series of anti-Tudor intrigues continued by the losers of the Wars of the Roses. The book also offers a new perspective on why Henry VIII, constantly threatened by treachery - real or imagined - and desperate to secure his power with a male heir, became a tyrant.



Supping with the Devils

HUGO YOUNG (B57) died 2003, Atlantic Books, 2003

"This beautifully produced book shows that Young's claim to posterity is well-founded. Indeed, it bears witness to the power of his journalism of explanation, integrity and detachment" The Observer

A selection of columns by the late veteran political columnist; reflecting, among other issues, his attachment to full British political integration into the European Union. *Supping with the Devils* ranges over the nature and future of the British state; immigration and the murder of Stephen Lawrence; freedom of information and the crisis of religious belief; the future of fox-hunting and the power of art. Urgent, penetrating and always original, these articles, taken together, confirm Young's reputation as our most morally engaged commentator.

ART & ARCHITECTURE



Elizabethan Architecture: Its rise and fall 1540-1640
MARK GIROUARD (C49), Yale University Press, 2009

"For me, this is the book of the year... A magnificent climax to a life's work" Nicholas Cooper, *Country Life*

In this beautiful and fascinating book, Girouard discusses social structure and the way of life behind it, the evolution of the house plan, the ferment of excitement aroused in English patrons and craftsmen as they learnt about the classic Five Orders and the buildings of Ancient Rome from publications and engravings, the surprising wealth of architectural drawings which survive from the period, the inroads of foreign craftsmen who brought new fashions in ornament with them, but also the strength of the native tradition which was creatively integrated with the 'antique' style.



God's House at Ewelme
JOHN GOODALL (E88), Ashgate Publishing Limited, 2001

"An outstandingly worthy and innovative contribution to our understanding of late medieval religion" John Steane, *Oxoniensis*

God's House at Ewelme is an extraordinary survival from England's late-medieval past: a well-documented and preserved chantry foundation established in 1437 by William and Alice de la Pole, then Earl and Countess of Suffolk. John Goodall's text uses the wealth of architectural, artistic and documentary evidence at Ewelme to create a portrait of God's House in the 15th century.



Siena: Constructing the Renaissance City
FABRIZIO NEVOLA (J89), Yale University Press, 2007

"The book offers a fresh and engaging account of Siena's unique architectural achievements" Amazon.co.uk

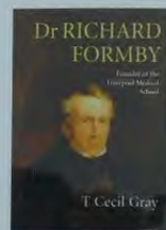
Siena, one of the major artistic centres of medieval and Renaissance Italy, is renowned for its striking architecture and its beauty. This book is the first to focus on Siennese architectural and urban history during the 15th and early 16th Centuries. Fabrizio Nevola offers a comprehensive picture of the city, describing in detail how the layout and appearance of Siena changed between 1400 and 1520, as political and social events triggered a variety of initiatives that transformed the city's urban core.



Giovanni Battista Piranesi: the Grotteschi
FRANCESCO NEVOLA (J91), Ugo Bozzi Editore Rome, 2009

The suite of etchings called by Piranesi, the Grotteschi, published in 1750 in the compilation volume *Opere Varie*, have for more than 250 years eluded interpretation. This book explores Piranesi's four key etchings; seeing them as his bid to equal Dürer and other masters. The magnificent prints are viewed as pivotal works in Piranesi's early output and a comprehensive narrative interpretation of their meaning is proposed in the text.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY & BIOGRAPHY



Dr Richard Formby: Founder of the Liverpool Medical School
T CECIL GRAY (A31) died 2008. Royal College of Physicians of London, 2003

"Dr Formby will commence a course of lectures in anatomy and physiology on Tuesday 17th instant at eight in the morning...and thus was sown the seed of the Liverpool Medical School"

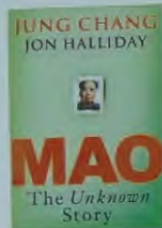
Dr Formby's major role in the founding of the Medical School, his innovations and life as a physician are charted in this sparkling biography set against a background of turbulent social change. Formby was, specifically, a pioneer of chloroform use; being the first to use it for medical purposes. The author, T Cecil Gray, was himself a distinguished physician who was a major player in the Liverpool medical scene.



The World Is What It Is: The Authorized Biography of V.S. Naipaul
PATRICK FRENCH (J84), Picador, April 2009

"Few biographies in recent years have been so universally acclaimed as Patrick French's... Brilliant" Books of the Year 2008, The New Statesman

This is the first major biography of V.S. Naipaul, Nobel Prize winner and one of the most compelling literary figures of the last fifty years. With great feeling for his formidable body of work, and exclusive access to his private papers and personal recollections, Patrick French has produced a lucid and astonishing account of this enigmatic genius; one which looks sensitively and unflinchingly at his relationships, his development as a writer and as a man, his outspokenness, his peerless creativity, and, his extraordinary and enduring position both outside and at the very centre of literary culture.



Mao: The Unknown Story
JON HALLIDAY (T58), Jonathan Cape London, 2005

"A magisterial work... this magnificent biography methodically demolishes every pillar of Mao's claim to sympathy or legitimacy... a triumph" New York Times Book Review

Bestselling author of *Wild Swans*, Jung Chang, and her husband, Jon Halliday, have written a groundbreaking biography of Mao Tse-tung. Based on a decade of research, and on interviews with many of Mao's close circle in China who have never talked before - and with virtually everyone outside China who had significant dealings with him - this is the most authoritative life of Mao ever written. It is full of startling revelations, exploding the myth of the Long March, and showing a completely unknown Mao: he was not driven by idealism or ideology; his intimate and intricate relationship with Stalin went back to the 1920s, ultimately bringing him to power; he welcomed Japanese occupation of much of China; and he schemed, poisoned and blackmailed to get his way.



Mizoguchi and Japan (2005)
MARK LE FANU (B67), University of California Press, 2007

For a majority of film-goers, the names most usually associated with classic Japanese cinema are those of Kurosawa and Ozu. Yet during the early 1950s, another Japanese director, Kenji Mizoguchi, quietly came out with a trilogy of films - *The Life of Oharu*, *Ugetsu Monogatari* and *Sansho the Bailiff* - which by any account rank among the greatest and most enduring masterpieces of world cinema. This is the first full-length study in English of

the Japanese film director, Kenji Mizoguchi, who was hailed by the French film review *Cahiers du Cinema* as 'the greatest of all cineastes.'



Hugh's Who: The Name-Dropper's Cookbook
HUGH MILLAIS (E47) died 2009, Park Press, 2007

"The most idiosyncratic cookbook I have come across for many a long year" Matthew Fort, *The Guardian*

In the process of building Salvador Dali's house, living with Orson Welles for a year, sleeping between Ava Gardner and Marlene Dietrich and seeing his great friend Hemingway cry giving away his last bottle of vodka, Hugh picked up his friends' favourite recipes along the way. Spanning countless countries and with an outrageous anecdote for every dish, *The Name Dropper's Cookbook* is an ingenious look at the life and times of Hugh Millais and his notorious friends.

SCIENCE & MEDICINE



The Turnstone: A Doctor's Story
GEOFFREY DEAN (E36) died 2009, Liverpool University Press, 2002

Geoffrey Dean served as a medical officer in Bomber Command before moving to South Africa after the war, where he lived for 20 years studying the epidemiology of porphyria, a disease that can cause paralysis. The book covers an array of anecdotes, from the threat of imprisonment to a period spent as personal physician to multi-millionaire Governor of the Fiji Islands.

MISCELLANEOUS



Hindu Scriptures
DOMINIC GOODALL (E85), University of California Press

"Goodall's work provides an excellent place to begin becoming familiar with the most significant Hindu scriptures" David Bourquin, *California State University*

The scriptures revered by Hindus are enormously varied, and R. C. Zaehner's anthology has long been considered invaluable for its breadth and diversity. Now Dominic Goodall expands Zaehner's work with three fresh translations, including one work that appears for the first time in English. Spanning more than two thousand years, the range of selections in this book include arcane hymns of the ancient Aryans, prescriptions governing every aspect of the daily life of the orthodox, and sensual poetry.



Captain Pugwash and the Sea Monster
JOHN RYAN (O40) died 2009, Frances Lincoln Children's Books, 2008

"5 stars. Captain Pugwash is a favourite with many children and this book will delight pirate fans everywhere"
www.bettybookmark.co.uk

The last of 24 Pugwash story books written and illustrated by the veteran cartoonist whose work featured notably in the *Catholic Herald*. Cut-throat Jake and his ugly crew are busy celebrating on Cactus Island, surrounded by their stolen treasure. So they are caught off guard when Captain Pugwash and his men arrive disguised as a sea monster. But more surprises are to follow for all the pirates - when the real sea monster turns up to investigate!



Fine French Wines

JAMES TURNBULL (D71), Flammarion, English language edition, 2003

"Combining France's rich wine-making traditions with the newest insights into the craft, Fine French Wines is the authority for wine amateurs and connoisseurs alike"

One of seven wine books by the author which have been translated into six languages. In this book, James Turnbull has selected 220 of the finest wines in France on the basis of each wine's regularity, character, local identity and unique 'personality' imbued by the vintner. Combining France's rich wine-making traditions with the newest insights into the craft, *Fine French Wines* is the authority for wine amateurs and connoisseurs alike.



Rudolf Steiner in Britain

CRISPAN VILLENEUVE (J67), Temple Lodge Publishing, 2004

"Villeneuve's two-volume opus, the fruit of a decade of research, is finally available in a paperback edition"

Rudolf Steiner, the founder of Anthroposophy, spent some five months of his life in Britain, visiting it ten times between the years 1902 and 1924. With the exception of German-speaking countries, the longest time Steiner spent abroad was in Britain, a place he clearly considered as central to his work. In this extraordinarily thorough study of over 1,200 pages and dozens of illustrations, Crispian Villeneuve documents these important visits, reproducing letters, articles, records and other archival material - much of it published for the first time. He also studies the interconnected theme of the life and work of D.N. Dunlop, Rudolf Steiner's closest British colleague.



Dragon Horse

PETER WARD (W75), Doubleday Children's Books, 2008

"An epic fantasy tale of Chinese dragons and myths, set along the Great Silk Road more than a thousand years ago"

Set in ancient China, two brothers fight the classic battle between good and evil as the Shadow-without-name attempts to break free from an eternal imprisonment by utilising the strength and power of the famed dragon horses. Rokshan and An-Lushan are drawn into this centuries-old struggle, along with a young girl destined to become the Spellweaver of her nomadic tribe. And as An-Lushan is pulled towards the dark, Rokshan must embark upon a dangerous journey!

NAVAL HISTORY OF BRITAIN

Dr Nicholas Rodger FBA (W67)



The Command of the Ocean:

A Naval History of Britain 1649-1815

NICHOLAS RODGER (W67), Penguin Books Ltd, September 2006

"Stunning. One of the most erudite, well-written and intellectually impressive works on British History of the past decade" The Observer

"Breathtaking ... a masterpiece ... sets an entirely new standard" New York Review of Books

EVEN whilst in St Wilfrid's House, Nick Rodger was a voracious reader and a formidable expert on a number of topics including the Scottish Clan System and the History of the British Navy. He studied History at University College, Oxford.

Dr John Martin Robinson, FSA (Maltravers Herald of Arms Extraordinary and Librarian to the Earl Marshal) writes:

Nick Rodger has become one of the leading contemporary English historians. Though often described as a maritime historian, writing about the British Navy, his sweep is wider than this suggests. He sets his net wide and catches big fish. He sees himself as a general historian who writes about wide issues from a naval perspective, and set in a European context.

His breakthrough came with *The Wooden World* - a radical re-appraisal of the Navy in the mid-eighteenth century as the machine which won the extraordinary victories of the Seven Years War. It was followed by other books - a history of The Admiralty and a biography of The Earl of Sandwich (the First Sea Lord), but above all by the commission of a great three volume *Naval History of Britain*. This, the first of its kind for a century, has now produced two fat volumes: *The Safeguard of the Sea* (640-1649) and *The Command of the Ocean* (1649-1815). The third and final volume from 1815 to the 20th Century is currently under way and impatiently anticipated.

The first two volumes have been widely acclaimed as masterpieces. They represent not just a naval history, but an original treatment of the history of Britain as a whole,

from a naval perspective. Nick Rodger describes with unprecedented authority and scholarship the rise of Britain to naval greatness and the central place of the Navy in the life of the nation and its government in the 17th, 18th and 19th Centuries.

Using his own research in a dozen languages, he has synthesized a huge quantity of original material to describe, not only battles and voyages, but also how the Navy was manned, supplied, fed, financed and directed, and the role played by the Navy at the heart of the British State. There are also judicious biographies and reassessments of many figures from Pepys to Nelson. He writes in the great academic tradition of narrative history.

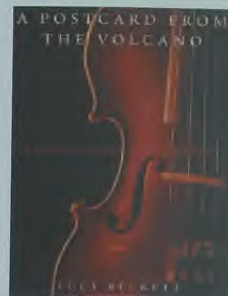
As in *The Wooden World*, his *Naval History of Britain* (the wording is significant) has overturned many received conceptions. His coverage of the defeat of the Armada gives the Spanish point of view based on new research in the Spanish archives. Charles II, far from neglecting the Navy, devoted himself to its welfare, and attended more meetings of the Admiralty Board than any other of its members during his reign. The success of Nelson's Navy is attributed to the Earl of Sandwich, and the Admiralty Board a generation earlier, in revolutionizing the provision, financing and management of the fleets. The American War of Independence is seen as a European war, which could have been won in the Channel if fought strategically.

Nick has been successively Senior Research Fellow at the National Maritime Museum, Professor of Naval History at Exeter University, and is now a Fellow of All Souls, Oxford.

A POSTCARD FROM THE VOLCANO

Lucy Beckett

ANDREW CARTER



A Postcard from the Volcano:

A Novel of Pre-War Germany

LUCY BECKETT, Ignatius Press, May 2009

"Beckett is superb in her handling of the bigger picture...this is a deeply interesting book by a highly intelligent writer"

Charlotte Moore, The Spectator

THERE is an appreciation by Fr Dominic of Lucy Warrack's contribution to Ampleforth, school and monastery, elsewhere in this edition. Lucy's vocation is teaching, and not what passes for education in the world of narrow syllabuses, assessment objectives and national curricula. She is an historian, poet and thinker deeply rooted in the western Christian tradition (see the vast scope of her compelling study of Augustine's influence on European writing, *In the Light of Christ*) and as such out of key with her time, but her Christian faith and learning informs everything she writes.

Her second novel, *A Postcard from the Volcano*, is in many ways an extension of her pedagogical mission: it is both a story about education and is an education in itself. The title is from a poem by the American poet Wallace Stevens (difficult but important, and about whom Lucy has written an elucidating book) which imagines children picking up the bones of ancestors (destroyed, one imagines, by the volcano - of history, or simply of mortality), ignorant of the life that the ancestors once had, and who 'least will guess that with our bones/we left much more, left what we felt/at what we saw.' In the poem, the dead speakers regret the innocence of the living children who 'speak our speech and never know.' It is a beautifully apt description of the tragic narrative but hopeful agenda of the novel.

The story begins in London in the 1960s, as Max Hoffman, German exile, is dying. He is a violin teacher; he leaves to his favourite student his violin (which she doesn't inherit) and a postcard on which is written seven names, six of friends ('they are dead') and his own, though in the aristocratic form in which it appears neither the girl nor the reader yet recognise it. Max sets her the task (which he calls 'a game and not a game,' a description perhaps of the imagination at work) of discovering the story of the names on the postcard. The author is also setting the reader that same

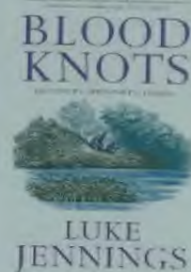
task (and like the girl and the children in the poem, we are ignorant) of learning about what happened to the rich, complex culture of pre-war central Europe and how in its apparently civilised context the barbarity of the Nazis could be released. It is also for us to learn the story, to re-imagine it, through the lives of those names on the postcard. When the postcard itself appears at the end of the story, by which time we know all about the characters listed there, the emotional impact is tremendous.

The story takes us through the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the rise of German nationalism, of anti-Semitism and the Nazis. These provide an authoritatively-drawn background to the intense relationships and education of the young Max and his friends, especially Adam, brilliant, rebellious Polish aristocrat in thrall to the ideas of Nietzsche. Adam eventually rediscovers his Catholicism but Germany, as Max realises after Hitler comes to power, is enslaved to 'brutal...thoroughly Nietzschean fact. The will to power as power achieved.' At the heart of the story is a teacher, Dr Fischer, whose wise lessons on history and truth counter the political nightmare that eventually forces Max into exile. He is to a large extent the author's mouthpiece and through him she educates us in the wisdom of Christian truth; it is Fischer who at the end tells Max that 'the will to power ...drives mankind as it drove Satan to rebel unless it is countered by fear of God, love of God, obedience to the truth.' He delivers a powerful critique of Kant and the Enlightenment and gives the Jewish Max, who is beginning to enquire about Christianity, a copy of Augustine's *Confessions* to read.

I sat reflecting for a long time when I finished reading this engrossing novel, and was reminded of the both unsettling and cathartic experience of reading WG Sebald, whose novels seem to begin in documentary history but take us, almost without our being aware, deep into experiences of exile, loss and destruction around the vividly imagined lives of fictional characters. Like Sebald's great work, *A Postcard from the Volcano* is concerned with a lost culture and with liberal ideas, specifically Christian, that are in danger of being lost by a generation (ours) ignorant of history. It is as if the postcard is a tenuous, fragile link, like that single tile in the Abbey Church, linking Ampleforth to the pre-Reformation Benedictines of Westminster and a thousand and a half years of Christianity. Much of the power of the narrative is generated by our knowledge of the full horror to come, which seems beyond the imagination of the passionate, sensitive, intellectually restless characters whose lives we follow. The destruction of that generation is understated, though it is clearly evidenced by the list of names on the postcard, as movingly as names carved on a war memorial.

BLOOD KNOTS

Luke Jennings (E71)
DENISE RAINE



Blood Knots

LUKE JENNINGS (E71), Atlantic Books, 2010

"Startlingly original...above all it is beautifully written, its prose as luminous and sparkling as the chalk streams the author describes so lovingly. Easy to read, hard to forget."

Simon Redfern, The Guardian

'With library books as his guide, he applied himself to the task of learning to fish.'

WHY did I choose to read a book about fishing, something that has never remotely interested me? I'll tell you why. The dust jacket of *Blood Knots* said that the author, Luke Jennings, taught himself to fish using library books and I heard that he was an Old Amplefordian (E71). As Librarian at Ampleforth College, my curiosity was piqued.

Was I disappointed by my selection of reading material? On the contrary, I was delighted with it. Jennings makes a deep connection with the natural world through traditional country pursuits. He conveys a strong sense of place and a sense of the past that is sometimes quasi-religious in its expression. However, the writing does not suffer from sentimentality or nostalgia. Although reflective, and often depicting a bygone era, it is firmly rooted in memoir.

The story that unwinds is a fine example of one person's life-long commitment to the process of learning one particular skill – in this case, fly fishing. What interested me was not so much the detailed descriptions of the flies and fish and water courses – beautifully written as they are – but rather the author's utmost dedication to learning, not only bookish learning but also learning by application to the task, by gaining hard experience, and by reflection.

The key to the progress of Jennings's learning was good teachers and this book pays tribute to them, most particularly another OA, Robert Nairac (E66), who was his senior by just six years. While at Avisford Prep School in Sussex he became Nairac's field apprentice in the arts of fishing and falconry, and was told what to expect at Ampleforth by the older boy, who was teaching at Avisford in his gap year before

going to Oxford. Jennings's account of Nairac's death at the hands of the Provisional IRA in 1977 makes disturbing reading and hangs like a dark cloud over the book. There is a memorial to Nairac in a tiny chapel on a hillside only a few miles from Ampleforth, described in *The Plot* by Madeleine Bunting (Granta Books, 2009).

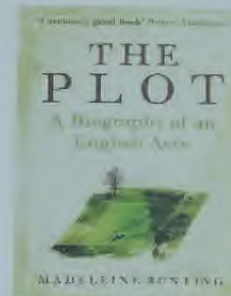
The storyline takes many unexpected twists and turns: 'We're drifting here, as you often do when fishing.' It lurches from the lakes and streams of rural North Yorkshire to canals in urban North London, takes us from the quiet rivers of England to the bloody battlefields of the Second World War where his father, Michael (O39), was badly wounded. It cleverly provides a critique of fishing literature. It dwells on idyllic moments in Sussex and Shropshire, and after stunning descriptions of the creatures lurking in freshwaters, unexpectedly throws in a bloody murder in Northern Ireland and the unsung death of a pike-fishing rock musician. Jennings's account of Ampleforth comes late in the book and, as well as fishing in the lakes, covers the SHAC spirit, the pervasive culture of tobacco smoking, heated discussions in the pub with his favourite teacher, Algy Houghton, and the lure of the Green Room.

I found in this book inspiration for my own work: 'I owe so much to that unnamed but enlightened book-buyer at Arundel library - surely an angler himself.'

THE PLOT

Madeleine Bunting

FR DOMINIC MILROY OSB



The Plot: A biography of an English Acre
MADELEINE BUNTING, Granta Books, 2010

"This is a seriously good book: a borehole history of both an acre of England and Bunting's complicated father...full of engaging stories, imaginatively researched and written with great tenderness... I gobbled it up in a weekend"
Edward Stourton (H75)

THIS is not, in the strict sense, an 'Amplefordian' book. Madeleine Bunting did not go to school here. But she spent her childhood in the valley. Her father, John Bunting (W44), was an OA who later spent many years teaching in the College. John was a distinguished sculptor and teacher, whose influence on pupils like Antony Gormley (W68) was profound. He was also a man whose personal and family life was characterised by deep paradoxes and contradictions.

This is a book which is very difficult to classify, but hauntingly easy to read, especially for those for whom Sutton Bank, Byland, Gormire and Kilburn are household names. Biography, autobiography, local and social history, lyrical reflection – all these themes overlap. The central thread is that of an interior journey, in which the author is trying to come to terms with her complex memories of a very difficult father.

'The Plot' itself is the moorland site, on the old Drovers Road between Oldstead and Sutton Bank, where her father built a chapel. The study of his reasons for building it gradually flowers into a celebration, not only of the rich historical associations of this very particular part of North Yorkshire (including William the Conqueror's devastation of the North and Robert the Bruce's largely forgotten victory over Edward II at Byland), but also of the area's shifting ecological story (moorland, sheep, forestry, the drovers etc).

The research is meticulous, the interweaving of the different levels is wonderfully crafted and the lyrical observation of detail is compellingly convincing. In a strange way, the book grows in stature as it develops. One feels that the author found herself being unwittingly drawn into something much bigger than she originally intended

and that she was changed by the experience of writing it. This is why it has the power to change the reader too.

This is also why it is so difficult to classify. The linking of the different themes is driven by a moral and personal commitment rather than simply by aesthetic or narrative considerations. The story of a place is penetrated by strong, personal and complex human emotions. It conveys a sense of healing as well as of celebration, and it is so beautifully written that it succeeds in evoking what Gerard Manley Hopkins would call the 'inscape' of a very special corner of a dramatically interesting county, perceived in a very particular way. In its own way, *The Plot* represents an original genre of literature and has the enduring qualities of a classic.

JEREMY O'GRADY (W70)

Editor-in-chief of *The Week*



The Week has become one of the most respected periodicals in the UK. Its sales compete with those of The Economist, also edited by an Old Amplefordian, John Micklethwait (O80). It is based on a journalistic formula which combines economy, academic rigour, objectivity and readability. One of its creators is Jeremy O'Grady. He writes here on how it came to be.

THEY say you make your own luck, but I'm not at all sure that's true of *The Week*, or at least my involvement in it. It was no part of my making that a lanky figure should have knocked on my door unheralded one day back in 1994 and asked me if I wanted to go and make a magazine with him. His name was Jon Connell, he had long been incubating the idea of a news digest incorporating the views and opinions of rival newspapers, and he'd just chucked in his job as Deputy Editor of *The Sunday Telegraph* to see if could turn it into reality. My name he had got from a mutual friend, and since I'd just stepped down from (alright, been more or less sacked from) my job as a film censor at the British Board of Film Classification, I thought, 'why not give it go.' We set up camp in a tiny office in a garage mews in Paddington, so cramped that board meetings had to be held in the street, and from there we began to devise the style and tone of the magazine - that blend of the serious, the frivolous and the humorous ('It must be true... I read it in the tabloids') - with which many of you are now familiar.

And how did we set about bringing this unknown magazine to the public's attention? All sorts of ways. We started off by asking every one of our friends and relatives to come with their address books to a working man's club in West London, where in exchange for a free glass of champagne and a six month's subscription to *The Week*, they were to send a free copy to all their friends and relatives, accompanied by a letter persuading them to subscribe. We also familiarised ourselves with the mysteries of 'list' purchase: selecting and buying lists of subscribers to and customers of other magazines and stores (eg *The Spectator*, Waitrose) who looked as if they might be our target market. *The Week* soon became something of a *succès d'estime*. But we were losing money, we still didn't know all that much about business, and it took the arrival of a totally unexpected figure, a man who'd been a defendant in the second most famous obscenity trial of the 20th Century, the *Oz* trial, and who'd been jailed for a week in consequence, to make it a commercial success.

Felix Dennis is an enigma (not many tycoons write poetry) and an entrepreneur of genius. On being released from jail so legend has it, he saw a queue of people snaking round a block, waiting in line to buy tickets for a kung fu movie. So he thereupon launched a kung fu filmzine. He was also one of the first people to appreciate the significance of the computer revolution and made a fortune by launching a variety of computer mags. Lads mags, car mags, men's fitness mags followed. Ever on the alert for a breakthrough idea, he had got hold of a copy of *The Week* and liked it so much he resolved to buy the company. So he got in touch. His financial advisers were very much against him getting distracted by this funny little offering and were set on talking him out of it. As usual, however, he followed his own counsel, and now *The Week* is far and away the most profitable of his titles, outstripping the sales of every other British news magazine bar *The Economist*.

The lessons behind *The Week's* success are, in the end, quite complex. The blend of an inspired idea, creative flair and writing talent do matter, but other things matter more, especially the engine room of marketing power that came with his organisation. The unsung heroes of *The Week* are the subscription managers, the mail shot experts, the advertising and PR crew, who all labour with ingenuity and graft to devise ways of bringing the magazine to the attention of those likely to read it. What credit Jon and I can take for that side of things, lies largely in the decision to grow the magazine via subscriptions (now about 152,000) rather than on the newsstand (where we don't sell more than about 11,000). This was a gamble, since historically, unlike the Americans, the British haven't tended to be great subscribers to magazines. But it had two great advantages. First, it meant we didn't have to hand over half our profit to distributors and news agents; but even more importantly, subscriptions have low visibility, which means we could grow the magazine quietly without alerting potential rivals who might have found it easy to knock *The Week* off its perch while still a fledgling. Now that it's fully grown, a would-be competitor would struggle hard to enter the market space. For despite what free market theorists say, there is no great, or even small, fortune that is not founded on some sort of monopoly.

A final point. If we were launching *The Week* today, we'd almost certainly do it all differently, mainly because the internet has transformed the way of doing business. Today, for example, we recruit the large bulk of new subscribers off the Web. Indeed, the web is the key to another business I'm now involved in launching: the debating forum Intelligence Squared. The core business of Intelligence Squared is staging debates on controversial subjects in London, New York, Hong Kong and elsewhere: but on-line is crucial, because we can use the web to live-stream the debates into schools and universities and as an accessible archive not just for the debates but for a wide range of written controversies (historical, scientific, political). If this interests any of you, do have a look at intelligencesquared.com. And meanwhile, keep on reading *The Week*.

JULIAN FELLOWES (B66)

How an Oscar led to *Downton Abbey*



Julian Fellowes (B66) was actively involved in the Ampleforth Theatre throughout his school career, and remains grateful to your Editor, who was then Director of the Theatre, for encouraging him to head for the stage rather than for the City. He had a successful stage and television career, but his Oscar was awarded in 2002 for his film script for Gosford Park. He was subsequently invited by ITV to create a television series in the same style. Here he writes for The Journal about Downton Abbey.

IN a way, the Oscar is like a relic. It blesses those who touch it. At least in career terms, opening a myriad of doors. I won it for writing a film script, and if it had resulted in more film scripts, there would have been nothing so remarkable in that. But to win an Oscar is to be perceived as lucky and since 'showbiz' is nothing if not superstitious, the winner is given a chance to try their hand at almost anything. I was offered the chance to direct a movie, write a novel, host a game show, front a documentary series, write a stage musical. I tried my hand at them all. Now, as part of this natural progression, I have been allowed to create a television series from scratch.

I was working with Gareth Neame, of Carnival Films in January 2009, on a totally different idea, when he came up with the notion of my revisiting the territory of *Gosford Park*, this time for television. I hummed and hah'ed, nervous at the prospect of inviting lightning to strike in the same place twice, but I happened to be reading a book at the time about the Buccaneers, those American heiresses who came over in legions during the 1880s and 1890s, to marry an English title or, at the very least, an English gentleman. There were in fact masses of them, well over three hundred, but I felt that while many of us knew about the girls ensnaring the dukes and earls and carrying them off in triumph, we never gave a thought to what their lives had been thereafter, growing old in an alien country, staring out of the windows of a freezing pile in Staffordshire and dreaming about winter in Palm Beach. And I began to wonder if it might be fun, in this new series that I had not yet agreed to write, to give the head of the household just such a wife, who'd had to make her compromises in order to survive. And of course, as any writer reading this will know, once you've started to imagine the characters, then you have decided to do it, whether you know it or not.

Gareth and I, together, chose the date. We wanted it to be set, at least at the start, in a time when that whole way of life, the fully staffed house and the world of the hereditary position in fact, was still widely accepted but when the challenges to it, workers' rights, women's rights, falling rents, above all the war, would soon fire shots across its bows. And while we intended to show a particular period in history, it should be recent enough for the life to be recognisable to a modern audience. We wanted butlers and footmen, but we wanted cars and telephones and electricity, too. All of which brought us to 1912, and, as an opener, the tragedy that would come for many to represent the beginning of the end of the old world: the loss of the *Titanic*. And so *Downton Abbey* had begun. The name, Downton, incidentally, came from a house in Wiltshire owned by one of my great grandfathers. But the reason for the choice was not entirely sentimental. I didn't want a name that was self-consciously romantic, like Bellamont, nor one that was vain and grandiloquent, like Powerscourt, nor one that was sinister and forbidding, like Cragside. Downton is none of these things. It is just a name.

And 1912 is not so long ago. Indeed, in April of that year, when the first episode opens, my grandmother was pregnant with my father who would be born on 8th July. Not my grandfather, nor my great-grandfather, but my father, the man I knew well and loved and who only died in 1999. The prejudices of the generation that brought him up would be shared by the characters in Downton. Heaven knows I had listened to them enough throughout my own childhood. I heard stories of the aunt who complained that the 'vapours' of electricity were poisoning the air (and would insist that every plug was stopped each night by a maid deputed to the job), I remembered the grandmother who refused to accept the term 'weekend' instead of 'Saturday to Monday,' most of all the aunt who told me once about a girl acquaintance of her youth who'd been no better than she ought to be and who'd ended by marrying abroad. 'In these circumstances,' said my great aunt, 'one could usually find an Italian who wasn't too picky.' All these childhood memories, and most of these phrases, would find their way into Downton and usually into the mouth of Maggie Smith.

For a writer, the challenge of a show like *Downton Abbey* is to keep all the plates spinning at once. We had deliberately taken on the running of a large country house, which would necessarily involve far more than the five or six servants of the 1970s series, *Upstairs Downstairs*, even if we slimmed things down a little from the reality. For example, we opted for two footmen when there would more probably have been four or six, simply because we didn't feel we could service more than two in the narrative. We felt we could swell the ranks of the housemaids and kitchenmaids a little with some regular extras but other, non-speaking footmen would stand out uncomfortably. With all these measures, we still had 18 principal characters to develop and to keep in play. So the pattern of the episodes began to evolve, of two

or three main stories per week, plus three or four minor sub-plots, all plaited together and performed by our superb cast. And that was it, really. Sometimes we dealt with issues of the day, jobs for women, Irish Troubles, healthcare, sometimes we simply used the rivalries of the different members of the family or the staff, sometimes we developed our various love stories of which we had at least half a dozen at any one time. The great imperative being always to plait the plot strands thoroughly, so they were unknotted and explained together. That was the style of the show and I am happy to say that it worked. ITV had been hoping for four and a half to five million and they got 11. The result is that we have received a re-commission for next year. So now it's back to the drawing board.



OLD AMPLEFORDIAN OBITUARIES

The following pages contain a number of obituaries of Old Amplefordians who died between 2009 and 2010. A full list of Old Amplefordian deaths is available on the website - www.aa.ampleforth.org.uk - and in the Ampleforth Diaries.

FEDERICO CARVALLO (E94) 9 January 1976 - 27 September 2009 was a student of San Benito College in Santiago, Chile, leaving in 1995. For several months in 1994 he stayed in St Edward's House at Ampleforth College. After school he was initially an army reservist (1995-96). He then studied law at the University of Chile (1996-2002), practised law in Chile (2002-08) and studied at Duke University, North Carolina (2008-09). He married Bulnes in 2005 and they had a daughter Bulnes, born in 2008 and a son Federico, born in 2009. Federico was an active member of the Manquehue Movement and was in charge of *tutoria* in San Lorenzo School, a position he held until his marriage. Federico is remembered for his generosity and concern for others. He died in an equestrian accident while playing polo.

WILLIAM ANTHONY DOMINIC PHIPPS (JH49) 21 April 1936 - 1 October 2009 was an outstanding silversmith with an eccentric and comic personality at odds with his family history. William was born in Berlin; he was the sixth and youngest child of Sir Eric Phipps, the British Ambassador in Germany, who had early discerned the Nazi threat. However, William liked to recall that Hitler had presented a rose tree to mark his birth. When in especially good spirits, he would mention that he had been dandled on the Führer's knee. His German nanny expressed disappointment that he had not been christened Adolf.

William's maternal grandfather was the African explorer and artist Herbert Ward, author of *Five Years with the Congo Cannibals* and *My Life with Stanley's Rear Guard*. More cannily, Ward married into an Argentine railway fortune.

His mother Frances, being a Catholic convert, sent William to Gilling and then on to Ampleforth. At age 14, however, he released the brakes of a steamroller which plunged into a pub and William had to leave Junior House. He did so in an aeroplane sent by his mother. After attending the Nautical College, Pangbourne, William served with the Royal Marines from 1954-56. After a drunken spree in Victoria, British Columbia, he discovered that he had joined the Royal Canadian Navy.

He became a deep-sea diver, creeping about the dark floors of filthy harbours, seeking mines. He came to love the work and comradeship. Eventually, eager to return home and marry, he sought ways to break his contract. Charged with inebriating his fellow ratings with champagne at Christmas, he threw a cork at an officer and jumped overboard into freezing water off Newfoundland.

William was rescued, court-martialled, and placed in solitary confinement. Nevertheless, in 1960 he was honourably discharged. That year William married Henrietta, daughter of the artist Henry Lamb. The marriage was extremely happy.

At Pangbourne, he played the fife in a marching band. Now he concentrated on the flute and piccolo and arranged to work at Rudall Carie, an Islington firm which hand-made such instruments. The business, however, collapsed before he joined. So, he became apprentice to the ecclesiastical silversmith, Michael Murray, in Clerkenwell. At first he worked in his garage, before acquiring a Clerkenwell Road workshop.

William specialised in hand-forged silver, now a rare technique, beating hot material into shape with a heavy hammer. Soon he added cutlery and then diversified into tea and coffee pots, chalices and goblets, tumblers and boxes shaped as apples and pears. Many institutions, including the Victoria & Albert Museum, Goldsmiths' Hall and the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge, displayed William's work. He was friendly with his parish priest, Michael Hollings, and helped feed the homeless in his area. At Christmas 2008, he found himself short of breath. When mesothelioma, a form of lung cancer, was diagnosed, he underwent treatment with more amusement than hope. William and Henrietta had three sons and a daughter.

TERENCE ALAN EVAN WYNNE WARDALE (O58) 25 September 1939 - 6 December 2009 was invariably known as George. Being born in Guildford just 22 days into World War II influenced his life. His father Alan, an ENT surgeon, immediately joined the RAF and his mother Elizabeth returned to her work as a physiotherapist. Alan Wardale originated from County Durham and George's maternal grandfather, Reginald Wynne Roberts, was a Coldstream Guards officer who later became a tea planter in Ceylon.

After the war George attended prep school in Edinburgh. His Catholic father registered him for Ampleforth where he spent 1953-58 in St Oswald's House. George believed that Ampleforth had a profound influence on his life. He was particularly keen at rugby, playing on the wing, and was also very good at athletics.

In 1958 George was articled to the City accountants Chalmers Impey, first qualifying as a Cost and Management Accountant. Some years later, George completed an MBA at Cranfield and was invited to apply to Harvard for their MBA in 1970. He graduated with distinction and after work experience in the US, he joined the World Bank as a Financial Adviser to the Governments of Bangladesh, Zambia, Sri Lanka and Sudan, among others.

Such overseas experience led him back to the City to work for Slater Walker Securities and then Lonrho, where he was right hand man to Tiny Rowland, trouble-

shooting where necessary within group companies, often overseas. In one of these, Tradewinds Airways, George met Caroline, his long time companion and future wife.

George became a 'company doctor' for firms in deep financial difficulty. Often bank guarantees were running out and George's concern was always for all stakeholders involved: employees, customers and backers. Such thinking also encouraged his support for specific, often low-profile, charities which nonetheless made a real contribution to lives.

In 2002 cancer was diagnosed and by 2004 he faced the challenge of regular treatment in London, to be fitted in with Board meetings and other activities, including his role as a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Chartered Accountants in the City.

Finally, following last resort radiotherapy, George died peacefully after a courageous fight against the cancer's rapid spread. His death is a huge loss to family and friends. George was an assiduous Catholic. Although a private person, he had a great presence, fine sense of humour, a tremendous ability to listen and advise with wisdom and a great sense of enjoyment. This was so whether fishing, playing golf, attending the opera, or enjoying the roses, butterflies and bumblebees in his Wiltshire garden. His best friend, Leo Cavendish (B58), whom he met on a school outing to Stratford-upon-Avon, delivered the eulogy at George's funeral.

JOSEPH MICHAEL GILLOW (C38) 24 June 1921- 8 December 2009, known as Michael, worked in brewing, fought with the Chindits in Burma and was briefly an amateur jockey, before returning to brewing. He was born in Bowdon, Cheshire, the fifth of six children. Michael followed his brothers Harry (C33) and Bill (C34) to St Cuthbert's House under Fr Sebastian Lambert. His surviving brother Brian (C45) followed. After Ampleforth, Michael joined his older brothers and their father at Walker & Homfray Brewery, Salford.

In May 1940 he joined the Local Defence Volunteers and in early 1941 entered the East Lancashire Fusiliers. That autumn he was posted to India as 2nd Lieutenant Madras Regiment; then to Poona, guarding the coast. After Japan invaded Burma in 1942 he volunteered to join Wingate's First Chindit Expedition.

The Chindits operated in columns, each large enough to inflict serious damage but small enough to withdraw if outnumbered. In January 1943 Michael joined No 8 Column under Major Walter Scott at Jhansi. The Chindits advanced into Burma, crossing the Chindwin River on 13 February 1943.

On 24 March Wingate was ordered to withdraw. By then the Chindits were at the

limit for supply by air, lacked water and were near exhaustion. Only 2,182 of 3,000 officers and men returned from Burma four months later, having covered up to 1,500 miles deep in enemy territory. Michael returned in June 1943 weighing only six stone. However, in 1944 he was promoted to Captain in the Madras Regiment. On leaving the Army in 1945, he joined the Red Tower Lager Brewery in Moss Side, Manchester, where Michael showed a flair for production and distribution.

A spell as an amateur jockey saw him fall, watched by Maivis Aynsley. They married in 1949. In the mid 1950s, Michael moved to John Aynsley and Sons, becoming MD from 1959 when the firm grew consistently. He introduced modern tunnel ovens to replace bottle ovens in the early 1960s, also replacing barrels with lockable containers to cut transport losses and established distribution facilities in the USA to safeguard delivery dates. He also patented a 'combined pouring and shaking utensil.'

He never complained about injury or illness. Once, while cutting wood, a chainsaw struck a nail, bounced back and hit his face and neck. Though needing 25 stitches, Michael was at his desk next morning.

In 1968, John Aynsley and Sons acquired Denton China. In 1970, the firm was acquired by Waterford heralding further expansion. Michael had no time for accountants, regarding them as drones, and was always careful with the firm's money. He retired in 1986 as Chairman and a director of Waterford Glass. Michael loved horses and racing, riding to hounds for many seasons with the Cheshire Forest. An active retirement involved tennis, gardening and horses.

In 2009, Michael and Maivis celebrated their Diamond Wedding with daughter Annabel and son-in-law, John. His grandchildren, Georgia and Harry, brought Michael much happiness. His family and friends remember a man of courage and principle, achievement and humility, faith and fortitude.

IAN RICHARD WIGHTWICK MC (C51) 16 October 1933 - 12 December 2009 attended Avisford Prep School before joining St Cuthbert's House in September 1947. After National Service in the British Cameroons, he saw active service in Malaya during the pre-Independence Communist insurgency, winning the Military Cross. On demobilisation, Ian first worked for Lex, the garage company.

He and his wife Jane lived in Suffolk and had one daughter, Lucy who has two sons, Oscar and William. After retirement at age 57 he started his own company, Harrowby Associates Ltd, which specialised in the independent trusteeship of occupational pension schemes. He died peacefully at home. He is survived by Jane, his daughter Lucy and grandsons William and Oscar. His first cousin, Sir Swinton Thomas (C50), read the citation at his funeral.

GAWEN PATRICK HUGH RYAN (B66) 16 March 1948 - 15 December 2009 expanded his father's Chorley-based law firm, recruiting new partners and achieving mergers to establish a worldwide, as well as national, client base. Gawen attended Alderwasley Prep School in Derbyshire. He went on to Junior House, before continuing to St Bede's House, following his brother Martin (B60). He enjoyed school, particularly his rugby and sprint cycling. Gawen and his wife Jill spent many memorable weekends at Ampleforth, latterly visiting their son Philip (B95) when he attended the school. Gawen was a loyal supporter of the Manchester Hot Pot where he kept in touch with Old Boys and College news.

After a law degree from Manchester University, he took over his father's law practice in Chorley, Lancashire in his early 20s. Gawen ran this for many years before recruiting more partners and merging with other firms to create Marsden Rawsthorn, where he worked until his death. He was well-respected locally and in the legal profession in which he worked for almost 40 years.

Gawen was very fond of France - the country, its food and wine - visiting with the family regularly. He and Jill spent many happy holidays in France, Spain and Italy (helped by his excellent linguistic skills). His other great passion concerned all things related to motoring. Gawen was the proud owner of two 'Big' Healeys and a member of the Austin Healey Owner's Club. In his spare time he enjoyed watching rugby, riding his bike and listening to classical music.

He was a great family man and thoroughly enjoyed good food and wine with friends and family at Jumps Barn, the family home, and abroad. Gawen had an excellent sense of humour and a sharp wit. He was described at his funeral as 'one of the world's good guys' and 'a true gentleman.' Gawen is survived by Jill, his son Philip (B95) and daughter Lisa. Over 300 mourners braved severe weather to attend his funeral Mass, celebrated by Fr Hugh Lewis-Vivas OSB, a family friend.

MICHAEL DOUGLAS AHERN (A59) 4 September 1941 - 10 January 2010 was born in India, the eldest child of Donal (A28) and Joyce Ahern. After Gilling Castle and Junior House, he joined St Aidan's House. Like his father and uncle Timothy (OA26), he read medicine at Trinity College, Dublin. Afterwards, he followed them into the Royal Army Medical Corps. His various postings included Germany, Northern Ireland and Cyprus, but his happiest undoubtedly was in Malawi in the 1970s. Here, with wife Carmel, whom he had met in Dublin shortly before qualifying, and with his three young boys, he enjoyed an idyllic family life. Here, too, he honed his medical skills, often in very difficult circumstances.

His final posting was to Chatham in 1988, where he was attached to the Royal Engineers and specialised in industrial medicine. When the post was civilianised in

1999 he continued as GP to the Engineers until his early retirement in 2002. With more time available, he enthusiastically and successfully took up cooking. He also took up photography and, in a digital age, became skilled in using Photoshop.

Michael always loved travel, an enthusiasm shared by his eldest son. He travelled in early retirement but sadly, declining health curtailed his journeys in recent years.

Michael was a man of quiet strength. He was shrewd and had a wry humour, giving the sense of someone who had figured out the world, who knew what was of value and what was meretricious. He also had great reserves of patience. Above all, he was a gentle man. If ever a criticism was needed, he always sought to soften it. If people got things wrong, he would look first at their point of view before reaching a conclusion and condemning them. If a confrontation loomed, he would always look for honourable ways to sidestep it. These qualities made him a fine husband and father and a deeply respected doctor. Michael faced deteriorating health in his final years with great fortitude. He leaves a widow, Carmel, and three boys - Donal, Peter and Bruce.

CHARLES LOUGHRAN (A83) 8 December 1966 - 14 January 2010 attended Ampleforth with his elder brother Angus after prep school at Moor Park in Shropshire, where he was Head Boy. He was a keen sportsman and had many friends at the College. Charles shared his brother's passion for Manchester United and played rugby and cricket to a decent standard. However, fast cars were his passion.

He tried out many ventures after Ampleforth culminating in his own highly successful Hong Kong-based export business. Charles dealt with many world-leading brands, worked hard and invested wisely. This allowed him to pursue his motoring passion. Unsurprisingly, Charles ended up as a hugely talented motor-racing driver, racing Radical cars around Britain. In his two years on the circuit he won many races. Charles owned two Aston Martins and was very proud to show these to friends.

In January 1998 he married Liza and they spent their early married life in Hong Kong, later having a family base in Cheshire. Last December, Charles was diagnosed in Manchester with secondary liver cancer after complaining of backache on his return from Hong Kong. Strikingly, for those who knew his hot temper, he found remarkable peace in his last days, accepting that his time had come. He died at the Christie Hospital, Manchester, after receiving the last rites from Fr Edward Corbould OSB. Charles is survived by Liza and their son Frazer.

NICHOLAS FREDERICK EMMANUEL EASTWOOD (T68) 13 May 1951 - 24 January 2010 had a passion for the Middle East and a detailed knowledge of its textile markets. This flowed from a lifetime in the textile industry after leaving St

Thomas's House. A colleague and friend, Peter Ackroyd, Head of British Textiles, described him as "an unusual Yorkshire mix of patrician and Phoenician, as much at home in the bar of Beirut's St George's Hotel as in the pub at Farnley Tyas."

Nick's mother Maria was Maltese. His father, Michael, had worked for the family's firm, WH Eastwood Spinners, then in the Fleet Air Arm, Malta. Nick started in 1970 at B. Ashworth, first at its mill in Huddersfield, then at London Head Office before moving to Ashworth's Cyprus office, the base for sales to the Middle East. Here, with his colleague Bruce Avis, he started his export sales career, travelling in the Middle East and later to the Far East. In 1979 he moved to Hirst & Mallinson, then to S. Jerome & Sons (both Huddersfield-based).

He stayed with Jerome until the mill closed in 1998. When he moved to Parkland a year later, the sun had all but set on the bulk worsted trade in Yorkshire and he realised the world of textiles was yet again undergoing some fundamental changes. For the last five years, until ill health began to take its toll, Nick found a niche with John Foster Textiles Ltd in Bradford, running something akin to his own business in Cyprus 30 years before. Illness for Nick was a very private matter and for many months he suffered with great fortitude and minimum fuss.

Matthew Simpson, friend and colleague at John Foster, said: 'I am extremely fortunate that Nick generously introduced me to the Middle East markets and his lasting legacy to me, which I value highly, is the wealth of experience I gained in the short time we worked together. It was obvious as I travelled around the Middle East in January 2010 that Nick is still held in high regard. The first question from agents and customers alike was, "how is Mr Nick?"' Nick Eastwood died peacefully in Yorkshire. He is survived by his wife Carol, daughter Olivia and his mother Maria.

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GERALD PATRICK GALLWEY (O39) 30 July 1920 - 24 January 2010 was born in Waterford to Henry and Eily Marie. After Junior House and St Oswald's House, where he was a keen athlete and javelin thrower, he studied at Trinity College, Dublin and Worcester College, Oxford before service as a Lieutenant in the Irish Guards. Gerald was captured at Anzio and spent the rest of the war in Germany as a POW. His main interests were fishing, shooting, golf, farming and wildlife. Gerald had a detailed knowledge and appreciation of the flora and fauna of Ireland, especially the species of birds in coastal, estuary and marsh habitats. To the end of his life, he retained a keen interest in sports, farming and country life and was a generous supporter of local parishes, schools and other causes. He also enjoyed writing verse as well as essays and historical material. Travel was another enthusiasm, especially to historical and archaeological sites, including Egypt and Peru. His nephews Shane (C91) and Michael (T71) are among his surviving relatives.

LAURENCE ROBERT HENDERSON (W45) 8 September 1927 - 27 January 2010 was born in New Jersey and attended St Augustine Prep School, Ramsgate, before joining St Wilfrid's House. Laurence returned to the USA in 1946 where he served in the United States Army as a paratrooper in the 11th Airborne Division during the Korean War. After demobilisation he was for 40 years an executive with the international division of General Electric in Holmdel, New Jersey. He married Marguerite Hawke in 1955 who survives him. They had five children and eleven grandchildren.

CHRISTOPHER GERARD CURZON PETIT (W47) 22 January 1930 - 3 February 2010 was born in Surrey to Dr Christopher and Georgina Petit. He attended Avisford from age eight but was evacuated to Ampleforth shortly afterwards with the outbreak of World War II, following his late brother Russell - Fr Ian Petit (W41).

Although not excelling academically, Christopher showed early signs of sporting prowess, particularly in boxing where his compact build and speed earned him a reputation as a fearsome pugilist. He also demonstrated his mischievous sense of humour by keeping a ferret in his desk, providing entertainment for classmates and supplementing their meat ration. Although the abiding memories of his contemporaries revolve around his talent as a raconteur, he was also completely inclusive in unifying the disparate groups of boys into a single family.

He left Ampleforth in 1947 to read medicine at Trinity College, Dublin having been informed by his father that the family fortune did not extend to his ambitions of game-keeping or market gardening! Although he probably applied himself more playing for the 1st XV than in the classroom, he was nonetheless inordinately proud to telegraph his father, 'to Dr Christopher Petit from Dr Christopher Petit.'

His sporting prowess peaked during National Service in Cyprus as Medical Officer to the Suffolk Regiment (1957-59) as part of the 4 x 100 yard relay team, which broke the Army record. He also recorded ten seconds dead for the 100 yards, although he self-deprecatingly blamed it on an inattentive time-keeper.

Christopher was a GP in Uckfield, Sussex, for 37 years until his retirement in 1994. He could instantly establish a rapport with patients of all ages, which even extended to unconsciously mimicking their voices. Although he enjoyed recounting the comic moments of his career as a GP, he also possessed an uncanny knack of spotting when a patient was really ill and knowing what to do about it.

As Senior Partner he spearheaded a campaign which fought off cuts to the local health service and secured the funding and necessary donations to build a new and much improved hospital in his local town of Uckfield.

Despite his suburban upbringing he was happiest outdoors pursuing his love of golf, fishing, shooting and ornithology, which dominated his retirement. He also took up new interests like antique restoration.

He was an undemonstrative but committed Christian and poetry-lover, but it is as a raconteur that he will probably be best remembered. If his life teaches us anything at all it is that 'if music is the food of love, then laughter must surely be the stuff of life.'

Christopher died in Uckfield and is survived by his wife June, sons Sebastian (W81), Russell (E83) and Tom (W85) and two much-loved grandsons, Sasha and Theo.

SIMON EGERTON SCROPE (C53) 23 December 1934 - 7 March 2010 of Danby on Yore, North Yorkshire, headed one of the oldest Catholic families in the country, a force in England before the Norman Conquest. Simon loved racing and had key roles at York and Pontefract. He was a formidable shot with rifle and shot-gun, an astute fisherman and respected huntsman. He was also a renowned expert on trees, shrubs, birds and other wildlife.

Simon's father, Richard (OA19), moved between Yorkshire and the City, where he had an insurance brokerage business. During the war Simon, with his younger sister Elizabeth, were raised by their mother, Lady Jane Egerton, daughter of the Earl of Ellesmere. At Gilling and Ampleforth, Simon loved history and won the College General Knowledge Prize. He was Master of the Ampleforth Beagles for two seasons. National Service with the Coldstream Guards led to a lifelong appreciation of the Armed Forces. After the Army, he read Land Management at Trinity College, Cambridge becoming Joint Master of the Trinity Foot Beagles. He then followed his father into insurance, becoming Chairman of the brokers Richards Longstaff for over 30 years. He personally oversaw the insurance needs of many landed estates across Britain.

He was Chairman of various charitable trusts and for many years was a Director of the London-based St John & St Elizabeth Hospital. His love of horse racing involved 23 years as a member of the York Racecourse Committee, when he encouraged the development of the Melrose, Knavesmire and Ebor stands. For 11 very happy years he was also Chairman of Pontefract Racecourse. His wife Jane, daughter of former Yorkshire County Cricket Club chairman Sir Kenneth Parkinson, shared his enjoyment of racing, stalking and gardening. He shared her love of music which was a great comfort to him in his final years. He also had a lifelong appreciation of fine art. The couple knew each other from childhood and married in 1970 at The Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks. When not in a grouse butt, Simon greatly enhanced the 1,500-acre Danby estate by extensive tree-planting. He was a member of the

Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust and a Trustee of the Marrick Priory Outdoor Education Centre in Swaledale. When Parkinson's Disease was diagnosed over ten years ago, only his closest family were told; to avoid unnecessary fuss. He was determined to remain active for as long as possible. He showed resolute dignity in adversity. Simon combined deep religious faith, fortitude and humour. He had an inquiring mind and a meticulous attention to detail. A firm mediator, he inspired great loyalty with his courteous and balanced approach. Simon is survived by his wife Jane, their son Harry (E92), daughter Emily and granddaughters Alice and Tessa. A Thanksgiving Mass for his life at Ampleforth Abbey on 23 April included a retiring collection for Combat Stress and the Coldstream Afghan Fund.

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JEROME FRANCIS MALCOLM O'BRIEN (B60) 13 October 1942 - 10 March 2010 spent his life in public service. Much of his working life was devoted to the needy of Lincoln. He was born in Hammersmith, London. After Gilling Castle he moved to St Bede's House under Fr Basil Hume. An uncle, Fr Luke Rigby, was then a monk of Ampleforth, soon to become one of the founding monks of St Louis Priory, Missouri and later Abbot of St Louis. After Ampleforth, Jerome briefly attended Sandhurst. A leg injury while parachuting led, however, to his being invalided out. He took a Joint Honours degree in English and History at Bangor University, where his daughter Myfanwy would later graduate in English. On leaving Bangor, he worked in the Archives Department of Lincolnshire County Council. Then, from 1983-2006, Jerome represented the deprived Minster and Glebe Ward of Lincoln on the City Council as a voice for those on the margins of society. His other great concern on the Council was to defend Lincoln's architectural heritage against short-sighted and misplaced development. He is survived by his wife Brenda, whom he married in 1965, and his daughter Myfanwy, who is an English teacher at Leeds High School.

FRANCIS MICHAEL BERTRAM FISHER (O51) 31 July 1932 - 19 March 2010 was for 38 years head of the French Language Department at Bishops Diocesan College, Rondebosch, South Africa until his retirement in 1997. He died in Cape Town.

The following article has been kindly provided by the Hon Tim Hamilton-Smith, a long-standing colleague of Michael Fisher. It was written for Michael's retirement in 1997.

'Michael Fisher retires from the staff at the end of the year after 38 years of total dedication to almost every aspect of Bishops' life. He has been Head of the French Department since his arrival in January 1958, but this has been only part of Michael's immense contribution.

For most of his years here he has been an Assistant Housemaster in Founders House. From 1981-90 he was the inaugural housemaster of Kidd House. He was a highly successful 1st XI cricket coach in 1969-76, a period whose excellent results speak for themselves. As a coach of wicket-keepers he has had no peer, as the many provincial representatives among his former pupils show, and he has managed the Western Province Nuffield team and is an Honorary Vice President of the WP Schools Cricket Union. In rugby he coached the Under 15a, the Under 16a and finally, for many years, the 2nd XV, going on many 1st XV tours as Assistant Coach. He introduced Judo to the school and has run it since 1969. For the past 14 years the school has won the Inter-school Open Shield; he is himself a Black Belt 3rd Dan, a National Referee, an International Table Official and a Life Member of the WP Judo Association, having been on the Executive Committee for over 20 years.

Michael has taken a very full part in the Chapel Choir ever since his arrival at Bishops, often conducting it in services. He has accompanied six Choir tours all over southern Africa. He was for six years a member of the Orchestra. He inaugurated five school societies: the Lingua Franca; the Forum; the Bridge Club; the Magic Circle and the Cinematographic Society. He has also run the Film Society and the Chess Club.

His role in the Cadet Corps dates also from his arrival in 1958. He commanded, at various times, the Junior Platoon, A Company, and, most notably, the Band, all with great success in Inter-Detachment competitions. He was O/C Cadets for three years. He was also director of the first two staff plays in 1964 and 1965 and took part in three subsequent ones.

Outside the school, Michael has been a member of the Cape Magic Circle for almost 25 years, a founder member and Chairman of the Philharmonia Choir and the Choirmaster of the St Michael's Choir, Rondebosch, for 12 years. Generations of Bishops boys have learnt far more than the richness of the French language or the niceties of its grammar. From him they have learnt the Christian values of integrity, compassion and honesty and to strive for excellence of every sort.

MICHAEL ROBIN PALMER (B47) 11 September 1929 - 1 April 2010 was educated at Gilling Castle and Ampleforth from the age of eight where the foundations of his faith were laid, giving him so much strength in his final months.

Michael was a good sportsman playing rugby and cricket and was an excellent shot. He also learnt to debate and would argue passionately for his subject. Unsurprisingly, Michael adopted the law as his profession becoming a solicitor in Brighton.

At Gates & Co he met Anne, a glamorous secretary, who agreed to become his wife

after a whirlwind courtship. Together they brought up four children - one son and three daughters.

Michael spent much of his career at Lombard North Central where, as Head of Legal Services, he was Chairman of the Finance Industries Parliamentary Committee for ten years. This brought him into contact with many MPs and Peers. He advised on and wrote some of the EU directives on Banking. Having become Commercial Director responsible for administration at Lombard, he latterly headed the Banking Division. In 1986, at 57, he decided that time with his family was more important than long hours at work and he retired from full time employment.

Michael's retirement was very full and became a second, largely voluntary, career. He became an arbitration advisor, a member of the Board of Visitors of Downview Prison, business advisor to the Prince's Trust, member of the South Eastern Electricity Consultative Council, Borough Councillor, Committee member of the Surrey Law Society, Chairman of South East Surrey Cruise Bereavement, a Governor of Woldingham School and of St Bede's School, Redhill, Board member of the Catholic Children's Society and of Reigate & Redhill YMCA. He still had time to be an enthusiastic member of both Reigate Rotary, of which he was President in 1998, and the Catenians. He became President of the Reigate Circle in 1969 and again in 1988.

Michael will be sorely missed by all who knew him. He was a 'real gentleman who gave generously of his time.' Unsurprisingly, considering the list of his activities in retirement, it has been said he brought his many gifts and qualities to everyone he met. He was a great champion of the disadvantaged and those wrongly accused. He had a formidable intellect but his ready wit and sense of humour made him most engaging. He died peacefully on Maundy Thursday surrounded by his family after a year fighting an inoperable cancer.

SIMON FREDERICK PETER HALLIDAY (T63) 22 February 1946 - 6 April 2010 was known as Fred. Fr Dominic writes: 'When I started teaching in 1957, I was fresh from Oxford and tended to assume that I was wiser and better-informed than the boys whom I was teaching. I then met Fred in the Junior Debating Society and for several years he and his friend Edmund Fawcett (W63) patiently educated me into an awareness of the real issues of the day - Nuclear Disarmament, Mao's China, the Irish Question, the philosophy of Sartre and the Middle East (to name but a few). Fred was a towering and passionate thinker from an early age, impatient of complacency and shallowness, and a rivetingly good speaker. In a very wide-ranging and compelling way, he anticipated the 'Student Revolution' of 1968 by an entire decade. I remember being present when he and Edmund buttonholed Vanessa Redgrave, for half an hour, at Stratford after a performance of *Cymbeline*.

Afterwards, she told me that 'Your Ampleforth boys are simply wonderful!' Fred was one of the least boring people I have ever met.'

Fred Halliday was a highly influential Middle East specialist, author of over 20 books and Professor of International Relations at the London School of Economics for over 20 years. His first major book, *Arabia Without Sultans* (1974), drew on adventurous field research to examine Arabian regimes, their support from the west and Iran, and revolutionary opponents. Fred made an enormous impact in both academia and the media. He always spoke with authority, backed by extensive knowledge and was justly proud of his linguistic skills including Arabic, Persian, Spanish, Catalan, Portuguese, Italian, French, German and Russian.

Fred was born in Dublin to Arthur, a businessman, and Rita (née Finigan). Before Ampleforth he attended the Marist school in Dundalk. In 1967, after PPE at Queen's College, Oxford, he entered the School of Oriental and African Studies (Soas) in London.

From 1969-83, he was on the editorial board of *New Left Review*. Contacts with Arab and Iranian intellectuals led to *Iran: Dictatorship and Development* (1978) which anticipated Iran's revolution. Further travel and research took Fred to Ethiopia and Yemen in 1977-78, resulting in a jointly authored book with Maxine Molyneux, *The Ethiopian Revolution* (1981), tracing the conditions and causes of the 1974 revolution. They married in 1979. Fred's interest in Soviet policy and the Cold War and his critical stance on US intervention in Afghanistan, recurred in *Cold War, Third World: Essays On Soviet-American Relations in the 1980s* (1989).

In 1983 Fred took an LSE lectureship. His PhD (1985) focused on South Yemen. At LSE, Fred wrote prolifically, concentrating on international relations, with fresh and critical treatment of theories. His Middle East interest acquired more topicality with the rise of Islamic politics, Afghanistan and 9/11, about which he wrote *Two Hours That Shook the World* (2001).

Fred was forthright for justice and against cultural relativism and apologetics for tyrannies in developing nations in the name of anti-imperialism. This was part of his more general belief that imperialism and capitalism were often progressive forces in many parts of the world, notwithstanding their oppressive and exploitative elements. In this vein, Fred - on balance - favoured the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, and indeed saw the period of communist control as a progressive episode compared to the violence and oppression before and afterwards.

Fred was elected to the British Academy in 2002. In 2008 he left LSE to be Research Professor at the Barcelona Institute of International Studies. He was a great teacher

and mentor and numerous students and colleagues acknowledge their debt to his supervision, mentoring and inspiration. His last book *Caamano in London: The Exile of a Latin American Revolutionary*, about the former Dominican president's spell in London in the 1960s, was published shortly after his death this year. Fred is survived by his brothers Jon (T58) and David (T56) and by Maxine and their son, Alex.

Reproduced with kind permission from his obituary in The Guardian.

MARK ADAYRE BENCE-JONES (D48) 29 May 1930 - 12 April 2010 was the only son of an Anglo-Irish Royal Engineer who won an MC in the First World War and worked on the Nile dam before moving to India. After St Dunstan's House at Ampleforth, where he edited the school magazine, he went to Pembroke College, Cambridge. After attending the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, Mark returned to Ireland to help his father farm and to hunt. But, realising that he could not afford a groom led him to focus on gardening.

Mark wrote elegantly on architecture, Catholicism, Ireland and the Raj. His admiration for the upper classes and grand houses sometimes made him seem born in the wrong century. His first book, *Palaces of the Raj* (1973), resulted from a respectful tour of the great imperial residences of India 25 years after Independence. He described how each came to be built, protests about the costs, and the discomforts borne by the occupants, along with the grandeur.

His biography, *Clive of India* (1987), stripped away much of the myth of the soldier-genius woven by Macaulay. His *The Viceroy of India* (1982) was a best-seller. This was a shrewd, lightly-drawn survey of the different characters who were the Crown's most senior representatives in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Mark indulged his love of the upper classes in *The British Aristocracy* (1979), an informed work of jingling fun written with Hugh Massingberd, then the former editor of *Burke's Landed Gentry* and future obituaries editor of *The Daily Telegraph*.

Mark was responsible for a valuable work, *Twilight of the Ascendancy* (1987), on the gaiety and eccentricity with which the Anglo-Irish landowning class faced decline after 1870. His most valuable work, however, was his *Guide to Irish Country Houses* (1978), which Massingberd encouraged him to write. Demonstrating a mastery of technical terms, he produced five more editions, the latest with 2,000 entries. He divided his time between a 400-acre estate his father had bought in County Cork and the larger Suffolk property of his wife Gillian Pretyma, a poet, with whom he had a son and two daughters.

After trying novel-writing, with three light comedies of upper-class life in Rome, London and Ireland, Mark switched to history, reading widely and picking up much

information during long stays with friends. A devout Catholic, he became Chancellor and later Regent, of the Irish association of the Knights of Malta.

A hard-working *brancardier* on the annual Lourdes pilgrimage, he would contradict assumptions about his snobbery by singing comic songs. Companions, however, could be exasperated by his loud discussions of genealogy late into the night.

Mark was a trenchant critic of the Thatcher government's assumption that great houses could be safely left in the hands of rich tycoons and he warned the National Trust of lost credibility if it did not restore Uppark, the William and Mary house burned down in Sussex in 1989. He is survived by his wife, a son and two daughters.

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KENNETH HENRY RICHMOND LEESE (W34) 15 August 1915 - 25 April 2010 was the youngest of four brothers, the two eldest preceded him to Ampleforth. Of these, Cecil left to join the army in India where he was killed on the Afghan frontier in 1919. The second brother, Jack, left in 1921 to join the Sappers, retiring as Brigadier in the 1950s.

Kenneth was brought up in Ealing, soon after the foundation of the Benedictine Priory there. He was one of the first generation of boys in the new St Wilfrid's House. He left Ampleforth in 1934 and went to Sandhurst where he received his Commission from King Edward VIII and then joined the Suffolk Regiment based in India. At the beginning of the 1939 War in Europe, Kenneth returned to England and transferred to the Royal Army Service Corps where he served throughout the war. He retired in the 1950s as Major.

He had married at the beginning of the War and had four daughters. Kenneth had various peace-time jobs, but it would be fair to say that his main occupation was to preside over a wonderful family. Kenneth always had devoted memories of Ampleforth and last visited for the first Communion of his great-grandson, Edward Farley (J10), who was then at St Martin's Ampleforth. Kenneth was a loyal Catholic, with a keen interest in various religious theories. He survived his only sister Margaret (mother of Fr Bonaventure Knollys) and his wife, Muriel, to be looked after by devoted daughters and latterly by the Dominican Sisters in Hook. He lived here for the last years of his life in serene contentment.

ANTHONY WILLIAM BENTLEY-BUCKLE (B38) 13 August 1921 - 25 May 2010, known as Tony, was the first man ashore at Pachino, during the Allied landings on Sicily, being mentioned in despatches for his skill and enterprise in rescuing prisoners from the Italian coast. Tony was a prisoner-of-war in Germany in the last 18 months of the war. He helped others to escape using a dummy that he named

'Albert' to mislead the Germans taking the daily roll-call. As the camp's watch repairer he made the dummy blink and move its eyes convincingly.

Tony was a child of Empire spending his early years in Belgium, England and Ceylon, where his father was a tea planter. He was raised largely by maiden aunts. On leaving St Bede's House, he was cautioned about 'the dangers of women.'

He joined the Navy in January 1939, first on the light cruiser *Dunedin*, on the Scotland to Iceland patrol. While still a cadet, Tony had to board a Swedish cargo vessel which he decided to take into Kirkwall. The Captain refused to co-operate, so Tony took her through minefields into harbour, earning rapid promotion. Later, while recovering in Durban from a broken arm, he drafted himself home for active service.

After volunteering for the Special Boats Service, Tony was trained as a Beachmaster, calling in landing craft and ordering troops and supplies to advance inland. This once saw him verbally override Montgomery - to general amazement.

He headed north, where partisans helped him to reach Trieste. However, betrayal to the SS led to a brutal interrogation, including a beating by five German SS women, after which he could barely crawl. When Tony finally disclosed his identity, he received hospitality in a German officers' mess, before rejoining his comrades the next day. They arrived in Berlin from Ljubljana during an air raid. While being bundled into a shelter Tony threw a stray incendiary back onto the street.

After the war he rebuilt and sailed the ketch *Orestes* to East Africa, where he founded the Southern Line. This eventually owned ten ships trading worldwide. Tony also established East African National Shipping, which linked Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia. In 1974 he sold out to East African Conference Lines and settled in the Seychelles, hoping to retire. Pressure from former clients, however, led him to set up another shipping line to trade across the Indian Ocean and to the Middle East and to start the forerunner of Air Seychelles. He also established and managed the port of Victoria for the British government before the Seychelles' independence in 1977. Tony represented Kenya at sailing in the 1960 Olympics. He belonged to the Royal Lymington Yacht Club and the Beaulieu River Sailing Club and regularly raced his Daring-class yacht at Cowes. He married Margaret in 1961, former wife of Sir Anthony Stamer 5th Bt and in 1981 retired to Beaulieu in Hampshire. His wife survives him with his son Nicholas (B80) and daughter Deborah.

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ANTHONY HOWARD JAMES FRCP (A39) 12 January 1921 - 5 August 2010 was a founder member of Gilling Castle, after the 'old prep' moved there from the present Alban Roe House in 1929, before entering St Aidan's House. He went on to

study Medicine at Trinity College, Oxford before moving to Toronto as a Rockefeller Scholar, qualifying in 1945. He returned to the UK to work in St Mary's Hospital, Paddington. In 1952 he was sent to Cardiff Royal Infirmary as Senior Lecturer and Assistant Director of the Medical Institute. In 1964 he moved to Hillingdon Hospital, Middlesex as a Consultant in general medicine. He specialised in gastroenterology and did much research into the causes of Crohn's Disease. Anthony retired in 1986. In 1950 he married Margaret MacKenzie with whom he has twin sons, Michael (H69) and Fr Peter (H69). Margaret died in 2001 and in 2002 he married Tamara Taylor who died in 2007. His brother is Philip (B51) and his nephews are Mark (T84) and William (T88).

JOHN FRANCIS WARREN HASTINGS (B38) 13 December 1920 - 8 September 2010 left an eventful naval career to become founder of the School Fees Insurance Agency and SFIA Educational Trust. He was on HMS *Belfast* at Scapa Flow when the *Royal Oak* was torpedoed and sunk nearby and when *Belfast* later narrowly survived severe mine damage. He also witnessed the French Fleet's destruction at Mers El Kebir and accompanied several Iceland convoys from Nova Scotia in HMS *Revenge*.

John was born in Serembam, Malaya, where his father William had a law practice. At four, John was sent home with a Chinese *amah* to attend Prep School at Ladycross. After Ampleforth, John trained on HMS *Vindictive*. Poor eyesight prevented his becoming an Engineer Officer so, once commissioned he became a Paymaster Sub Lieutenant.

After the war, the Royal Australian Navy needed officers for a peacetime Navy. The Admiralty requested volunteers. John had, through 'carelessness,' become engaged to three young ladies simultaneously. He decided to volunteer. On returning to the UK, intelligence reports on Korea persuaded him he could not accept the morality of a possible nuclear attack and he resigned his commission. Soon afterwards, John was asked by a friend to run a scheme to fund school fees via life assurance policies. School Fees Insurance Agency Ltd was formed, soon followed by Stevens, Warren Hastings & Co Ltd for general insurance. At John's retirement, SFIA had a £30m annual turnover and 150 staff. Several schools owed their survival to getting help from the SFIA Educational Trust at John's insistence.

Soon after taking over SFIA John married Anne Venner, a war widow with an eight-year old son. John and Anne moved to Tetbury, Gloucestershire in 1974 and John continued to commute to Maidenhead, until retirement in 1986. In the 1990s Anne contracted Alzheimer's. She was cared for by John until she entered a Care Home. John was a stalwart of the Catholic Church in Tetbury and an Oblate of Ampleforth.

When his health failed towards 2005, he agreed to move to a Home near Ealing Abbey and drew strength from attending mass in the Home, said twice-weekly by an Ealing monk. He had a very deep religious faith and when he fell short he always felt great remorse. John leaves a stepson, a son, two daughters, eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

BERNARD JOSEPH KNOWLES (O47) 13 November 1928 - 16 May 2010 was the son of a film director and as such he grew up in the glamorous heyday of the British film industry. At home in Windsor and Maidenhead he met Hitchcock, Menuhin, Stewart Grainger and other celebrities. Three years after leaving St Oswald's House, Bernard entered the Ampleforth novitiate with seven others on 24 September 1950. They included Bishop Ambrose Griffiths (A46), Fr Dominic Milroy (W50), Fr Rupert Everest (E50), Fr David O'Brien, the late Fr Ian Petit (W41) and Fr Charles Macauley (D50). By November, he realised his call lay elsewhere.

Joining a London-based travel agency seemed to offer a way to fulfil his ambition to see India. However, soon before departure, TB was diagnosed and Bernard instead headed for a Swiss alpine clinic. More treatment was needed on his return. This proved highly fortuitous, leading to his meeting Lilian, a young Norwegian trainee nurse. Bernard recovered, and they eventually married in 1956.

Before starting a family, the couple travelled to Germany, relishing the challenge of selling encyclopaedias to American GIs. By the mid-1960s, the couple were based in Blewbury, Oxfordshire, with their children Antony, Michael and Elizabeth. By the 1970s, they had moved to Maidenhead to be closer to their parents. Bernard's career was flourishing. He was MD of a travel business near Heathrow and realising his ambition of global travel.

Despite their contented family life, Bernard and Lilian felt something was missing. A life-changing opportunity arrived in 1976 when they were invited by the Children's Family Trust to set up one of their distinctive foster families in the village of Swinstead, Lincolnshire. The Trust supports parents in establishing life-long foster families where children in care can experience the secure and loving environment of a traditional family.

In total, Bernard and Lilian raised 21 permanent foster children who became true members of their extended family. At times there were up to 17 mouths to feed, a further sign of their love of a challenge. Bernard spent much time using his management skills to raise funds for the Trust. During this time, the couple opened their home to a total of 50 foster children needing a comforting family environment for a week, month or maybe more.

On retirement, they moved to a smaller house with a smaller foster family in Grantham. Eventually, full retirement permitted an active parish life at St Mary's Church. Bernard produced many articles for a Catholic organisation called *True Life in God*. He maintained close links with his lifelong friends and brethren at Ampleforth, which he visited regularly. He combined his love of travel with pilgrimages to some of Europe's leading religious centres.

Bernard lived a selfless life, devoted to his family. He was a loving husband to Lilian and father, grandfather and great-grandfather to Antony, Michael, Elizabeth, Samantha, James, Sophie, Benedict, Nicole, Stephen, Kate, Joseph, Ethan, Mia, Alexandra and Evie. Some 40 of Bernard and Lilian's extended family attended his funeral, some travelling from as far as Canada.

CHARLES GERARD JAMES LEEMING (A53) 4 May 1936 - 22 June 2010 built a career in banking law, specialising in corporate restructuring and insolvency. He was named by *The Lawyer* as the dominant restructuring lawyer in the recession of the early 1990s. He later devoted much time to combating homelessness with the De Paul Trust charity.

Charles was born in London to Gerard (A30) and Joan Leeming. After Avisford, he followed his father to St Aidan's House under Fr Anthony Ainscough. Charles enjoyed fishing as well as music and reading. Although not a natural sportsman, he tried his best. In 1961, after National Service where he gained a commission, Charles joined the City of London law firm, Wilde Sapte, becoming a partner two years later. By 1987 he was the senior partner expanding Wilde Sapte to over 100 partners.

In 1996 Charles joined De Paul Trust when considering life beyond Wilde Sapte. A concern for the homeless led him to spend much time visiting De Paul projects and carefully researching the problem of homelessness and possible answers. As Treasurer and Legal Trustee, Charles steered De Paul through many difficulties. In 2004, he devised the legal mechanism for the charity's move to a group structure and became the first Chair of the parent company De Paul International. On stepping down in 2009, he remained legal trustee for the De Paul Group.

Charles was a keen sailor and he died on board his boat at Vibo Valentia in southern Italy. His work has been honoured by the Charles Leeming Award, an annual training grant for staff, volunteers and beneficiaries of the De Paul Group.

JULES de MAES JANSSEN (C09) 3 August 1992 - 19 August 2010 lived in the Netherlands. He was at Stonyhurst from September 2007 to July 2009 and again from November 2009 onwards. After his mother Jacqueline died suddenly on 4 August 2009, Jules moved to Ampleforth, where he was in St Cuthbert's House for

September and October. In November he decided to return to Stonyhurst. He sat his AS exams in 2010 and was due to spend one more year at Stonyhurst, but died at home in the Netherlands on 19 August 2010.

At his funeral Mass, it was said that Jules, who was interested in philosophy and ethics, was highly intelligent. However, in class discussions on philosophy he took his own line, trying to win others over. Ampleforth contemporaries remember Jules' generosity and his efforts to make others happy. One said Jules was 'one of the nicest individuals he ever met.'

THOMAS JEREMY FISHER (JH40) 19 November 1925 - 31 August 2010, known as Jeremy, was born in Tientsin, China to Thomas and Marjorie Fisher. Jeremy's father was MD of Butterfield and Swire, a China-based shipping firm. Jeremy captained his year's rugby team while at Gilling Castle. After Junior House he completed his schooling at the Jesuit St George's College in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia (later Zimbabwe) where he excelled in boxing, rugby and cricket.

Jeremy joined the Navy from school and at the end of the war went tobacco farming in Rhodesia. He became a proficient horseman taking the Rhodesian Polocrosse team to South Africa for its first ever Test match. When farming in Zimbabwe became impossible, he moved to South Africa and three years ago moved to England and settled in Giggleswick, North Yorkshire. Jeremy leaves his wife, Sonia, and two of his four children - Teresa in Cape Town and Barry in Kenya. Jeremy's other sons, Timothy and John, predeceased him in Africa. He also has an elder sister, Margaret Garnett in Lancashire and a younger sister Jane Light who lives in Australia.

SIMON MICHAEL CLUCAS (H81) 18 November 1962 - 13 September 2010 had a busy and enjoyable time at Ampleforth. After leaving St Hugh's House he read Politics, History and Economics at Canterbury University achieving a good degree. He lived and worked in London for some five years before returning to his beloved North-East. Latterly, he ran his own business running courses on drug and alcohol abuse. Simon died after a short illness of only two months, fortified by the rites of the Church. Simon will be remembered for his fun-loving approach to life, his warmth and kindness to all. He will be greatly missed by his wife Jacqueline, his two step-children Sally and Callum, sisters Sarah and Charlotte, his nephew Ben and nieces Rebecca, Lucy and Niamh, his parents, and his many friends.

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AMPLEFORTH COLLEGE HEADMASTER'S INTRODUCTION

FR GABRIEL EVERITT OSB
HEADMASTER OF AMPLEFORTH COLLEGE

Ampleforth College is flourishing. But in this day and age we are not complacent and accordingly I ask for your prayers that this state of affairs continues and increases. We are flourishing, but we are not perfect - I recognise that. Some of my time as Headmaster is inevitably taken up with trying to rectify some of our imperfections.

Numbers in the school are a crucial indicator. There were 620 in the upper school in 1988; 470 in 1998 and 620 again in 2008. So the last twenty years in terms of numbers has been a story of decline followed by recovery. Four factors have been crucial in the recovery:

- Improving facilities, particularly the boarding houses
- Paying close attention to examination results and the maintenance of good behaviour
- Taking girls
- Becoming a bit more local and ecumenical

Our vital statistics to be more precise are that we are 78% Catholic, 85% boarding and the boy:girl ratio is 70:30.

There are of course threats and worries:

- Economic recession - I appreciate the huge expense of an Ampleforth education with boarding fees of approximately £28,000 and day fees of £18,000 and the real difficulties of parents in the current economic climate
- Parental demand - understandably given the cost parents expect nothing but the best and occasionally this can veer into an expectation of the impossible.
- League tables of schools put pressure for exam results and possibly misleading indicators of perceived success
- The long term political and social future for expensive private education. Is this really a proper occupation for a monastic community? The Pope seems to think so (see overleaf).

So far we do not seem to be hit as severely as we were at the comparable moment in the early 1990s by the effect of recession. We see on average about 15 prospective families per week. Most often they come to us through personal recommendation in

which the role of OAs and former parents comes up again and again. We have sent information out recently under the banner 'A Compass for Life' and the intention is to equip those who wish to speak well of us to do so with some up-to-date information. We have also set up an Old Ampleforth Parents' Association (OAPs!) which had a very successful and enjoyable inaugural weekend in December 2009.

Bursaries

WE give about 6% of our income in bursaries. The War Memorial Fund has been amalgamated with the main bursary fund, but its name is retained and WMF bursaries are given annually and reported in outline to the Ampleforth Abbey Trustees. Two were awarded to OA families with military connections for students beginning this September.

Fundraising

NOT exactly a hot prospect in the current climate. We are aware that having had such a wonderful Appeal fairly recently, as many as possible of our building works now must be done out of surplus generated by the school. The main fundraising initiative is currently to build up a bursary fund to enable good students to come to Ampleforth. This is of course an issue for the English Charity Commission but in truth it is something we have always wanted to do and have done, albeit I think more modestly in the past.

Exam Results

BROADLY (and of course not without exception) our students perform in line with expectations based on their ability; quite often they exceed these expectations. At A level, we come in the top 10% of schools nationally for improving students' results from GCSE to A level, with 80% of A levels being graded A or B. At the same time our students at GCSE get grades one above expectation based on their tested ability at entry. I should add that I do share some of the concerns often voiced in England about grade inflation.

Other current strengths of the school at present:

- o CCF and Shooting: we do very well here in national competitions and tend (rather frustratingly to our competitors) to sweep the board in regional competitions such as Colts' Canter and First Aid
- o Music and Theatre continue to be very strong and have been strengthened further indeed by the arrival of girls
- o Sport: we win more than half our matches in most sports (and there are now a great many of them). Girls are very strong in hockey and lacrosse and

boys' hockey has just had an unbeaten season in a competitive circuit. We have struggled as is well known of late in Rugby, though we did win half our matches in the Autumn at 1st XV. Not however against Sedbergh and frankly I do not see this situation changing any time soon. They are a very professional machine.

Benedictine Character of the School

THE monastic community remains fully committed to the school as its main work at Ampleforth itself. This is just as well of course as the monastery owns all the school buildings and lets us use them rent free. It is not at all (as you will be well aware) an easy time for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. The monastic community numbers 80 but is heavily weighted to the over 60s. We have had to rethink our involvement in the school. As numbers dramatically drop of those available and able for housemastering and teaching, we will inevitably concentrate on chaplaincy work. The last two monk housemasters will move to other work from next academic year. Under Fr Chad's direction as School Chaplain we are building the Chaplaincy considerably in the belief that thereby we can ensure that the Benedictine character of the school really does mean something. The website goes into this in more detail. We are helped by some excellent young highly committed Catholic staff. One joined the monastery at Ampleforth some years ago and is now the Procurator; others more recently have joined the Irish Dominicans and the diocesan priesthood. OAs have also been ordained, albeit not in this community - many are attracted to new religious movements in the Church.

The visit of Pope Benedict XVI to the United Kingdom was particularly encouraging to us. As he had done earlier in his Address to the academic world during his journey in France, so he again spoke very strongly about the Benedictine contribution to education and to the world. At St Mary's, Twickenham the Pope said:

'Since the search for God, which lies at the heart of the monastic vocation, requires active engagement with the means by which he makes himself known - his creation and his revealed word - it was only natural that the monastery should have a library and a school. It was the monks' dedication to learning as the path on which to encounter the Incarnate Word of God that was to lay the foundations of our Western culture and civilisation.'

It is extremely interesting that the Pope should stress the deep connection between monastic life, learning and education. The modern world tends to separate these things and to assume that education is, quite simply, one of the functions of the State, and that learning consists of separate individual specialisations. Our own tradition sees them as related parts of humane civilisation and the search for God. This

approach is wonderfully spelt out by Archbishop Rowan Williams in the passage of his own address to the Pope, which is given below.

St Gregory The Great

ST Gregory was the first to spell out for the faithful something of the magnitude of the gift given to Christ's Church through the life of St Benedict - to whom you, Your Holiness, have signalled your devotion in the choice of your name as Pope. In St Gregory's Dialogues, we can trace the impact of St Benedict - an extraordinary man who, through a relatively brief Rule of life, opened up for the whole civilisation of Europe since the sixth century the possibility of living in joy and mutual service, in simplicity and self-denial, in a balanced pattern of labour and prayer in which every moment spoke of human dignity fully realised in surrender to a loving God. The Benedictine life proved a sure foundation not only for generations of monks and nuns, but for an entire culture in which productive work and contemplative silence and receptivity - human dignity and human freedom - were both honoured. Our own culture, a culture in which so often it seems that 'love has grown cold,' is one in which we can see the dehumanising effects of losing sight of Benedict's vision. Work is so often an anxious and obsessive matter, as if our whole value as human beings depended upon it; and so, consequently, unemployment, still a scourge and a threat in these uncertain financial times, comes to seem like a loss of dignity and meaning in life. We live in an age where there is a desperate need to recover the sense of the dignity of both labour and leisure and the necessity of a silent openness to God that allows our true character to grow and flourish by participating in an eternal love.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

RACHEL FLETCHER

DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS

SITTING in the Admissions office, meeting hundreds (this is not an exaggeration; we had over 450 visits last year) of new families I find myself wondering why it is that people continue to make the long journey North and undertake the, frankly terrifying, financial commitment to send their children to Ampleforth. Of course for many, perhaps most, it is because they are looking for the distinctively Benedictine Catholic education we offer. Certainly as our *Seven Stories* booklet illustrates, our old boys and girls have a strong sense of having been given, by an Ampleforth education, a spiritual direction finder, a compass for life. This indubitably comes from interaction between the school and the monastery. However, it is not something that particularly strikes the boys and girls while they are in the school as they pursue their busy lives. It is only on mature reflection in later life, that they identify this special and particular gift.

One of my jobs is to collate and edit the school section of our termly *Diary*. An innovation last term was a couple of valedictions from Upper Sixth students: Henry Hawkesworth, who had spent five years in St Hugh's and Cecilia Horsburgh, a Sixth Form entry into St Aidan's. Their lively and entertaining pieces set me thinking about the importance of learning outside the classroom through what is often referred to as co-curricular - that is the sporting, music, theatrical, artistic and charitable activities in the school. These activities loom large: they absorb enormous energy and require significant investment of time. When I first came to teach English here in 1991 I was appalled to discover that my Upper Sixth class, in the summer term, on the eve of their A levels, was decimated every Wednesday and Saturday. About half of the class were cricketers and, therefore, away playing cricket. These boys only ever attended 50% of their English classes in the run up to their exams. In fear bordering on panic I turned to Fr Edward, who was the Housemaster of many of these absentees. "Forget the cricket!" I said "What about their results?" He was characteristically soothing and assured me that they would get their A grades on the cricket pitch. I was sceptical; he was proved right. Indeed over the years I do not think that I have taught a single student who failed to get the expected grades because of their involvement with sport, or music, theatre, art or any of the other myriad of activities available to students at Ampleforth. Some of my students, of course, did disappoint both their teacher and their parents by failing to do themselves justice but again and again they were boys or girls who did very little outside the classroom.

The reasons for this, on reflection, are obvious. To shine at any of these co-curricular activities you need to be hard working, self disciplined, determined and enthusiastic. You also need to be very well organised, self motivated and energetic. If you are all

or most of these you will succeed. It is also true that qualities and disciplines learnt in choirs, sports teams, dramatic productions and other enterprises ranging from the high cultural to the charitable stand you in good stead not only in the examination hall but also in life. These activities develop your abilities to work in a team in conjunction with developing your individual talents; this can be a nice balance.

In last term's *Diary*, Henry Hawkesworth, a polymathic performer *par excellence*, wrote of mastering a difficult piece on the piano, "practice is an intensely disciplined and personal process, which demands the learning of patience and a calm demeanour. But what pleasure comes from simply playing a piece you have slaved over." Of acting he wrote that actors must "abandon their social lives for a term to be part of a team which will go through highs and lows together right up to the final night." While Cecilia Horsburgh on playing hockey remarked, "whilst playing in torrential rain, losing and ripping my knee open, I had this great sense of team spirit and determination to win for the school." These students will go far and it is significant that they were both awarded Elwes prizes for, as Cecilia put it, "being able to take part in everything I love."

We hear much from educational theorists about different learning styles; although it would appear that neuroscientists are a little sceptical. What we certainly know about education here is that it happens not just in our classrooms and labs but in the Abbey Church, the valley, the boarding houses, the theatre and the Sunley Centre. Indeed, wherever our young people come together to face a challenge, be it running a holiday for special needs children, coming to grips with an oratorio or beating Sedbergh on the one hand or pushing themselves in solitary effort to develop a God-given talent on the other, they are learning.

I have to say that these ways of learning are entertaining and enriching for those of us privileged to watch. In the past year my often humdrum existence has been lightened by two operas, four plays and nail biting sessions watching hockey, tennis, lacrosse, netball and rounders. I have particularly enjoyed the informal concerts; here the performers range from terrified first years, unable to breathe through nerves, thumping out easy piano pieces through to extraordinarily assured and gifted performances from Upper Sixth students some of whom are heading to universities to read music. We had in contrast wonderful choral set pieces in the Abbey Church and two excellent concerts in the St Alban's Centre. The art at Exhibition was a highlight as was the Pipe Band on the bounds. I think I have, perhaps, answered in part my opening question.

Benedictine life is all about balance. Balance between the community and the individual, balance between love and discipline. It is often I think, through co-curricular work in the school that we see Benedictine values most clearly in action.

ACADEMIC LIFE 2009-2010

IAN LOVAT
DIRECTOR OF STUDIES

Public Examinations

THE last two weeks of August is a nervous time for both public examination candidates and schools alike, most especially those A level candidates whose results may well determine which, if any, university will confirm an offer of a place and therefore where the next three or four years will be spent. This year the stakes were even higher since this was the first year of the new A* grade at A level, as reported in the last edition of the Journal. To attain an A* a candidate has to gain sufficient marks for an A grade overall and also gain 90% in the units taken in the second year of the course, the so-called and harder A2 units. Naturally we looked at the results for the last couple of years and worked out how many A* grades would have been attained if they had been available and our researches showed that in both 2008 and 2009 about 20% of those students attaining an A grade would have qualified for an A* grade.

We were expecting much the same in 2010 and so it was very pleasing to discover that just over 30% of those attaining an A grade also qualified for an A* with 16% of all entries being awarded an A* grade. In addition, just over half of all A level entries gained either an A or A* grade this year, by some way the best ever achieved and an increase of nearly 5% on the equivalent figures for 2009. Nationally around 8% of entries gained an A* grade and although the number of A grades attained increased slightly by 0.3%, an increase of nearly 5% by Ampleforth students is significant. This increase is particularly significant because the overall ability of the year group taking A level was almost the same as the previous year with a small decrease in the number of students in the top 25% of those taking A level as measured by a baseline test taking at the start of Year 12. This would have suggested a lower percentage of A* and A grades than in 2009. It says a lot for the hard work of the students and their teachers that the results exceeded expectations by such a margin.

Each A or AS level grade is worth a certain number of UCAS points with an A* grade at A level worth 140 points, an A grade worth 120 points and so on. The average UCAS points attained by Ampleforth candidates, including AS points, was about 380 points which is the points equivalent of A*AA grades. By any measure, given the wide range of abilities of Ampleforth students, this is an achievement to be celebrated.

So far few universities have required candidates to gain A* grades for entry although Cambridge required at least one A* grade from applicants this year and University

College London and Imperial College are requiring an A* grade for entry to some courses. It is pleasing to report, therefore, that those who needed A* grades for university entry all attained them. However, it is also likely that other universities will start to require A* grades for some competitive courses and so attaining A* grades at A level will become an aim for a number of Ampleforth students. Students hoping for A* grades will need to get used to answering more open-ended questions, some would say as A level questions used to be, that test thinking skills and analytical ability rather than just recall of facts. In addition, more detail, often obtained by reading around the subject, will be needed.

Overall, most students that wanted to go to university gained a place and, despite press reports in August, some who had just missed the required grades were still offered places.

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) has increased in popularity and with some notable successes. Ten students completed EPQs and four of these attained A*s, the first Ampleforth students to do so. It appears that some universities are starting to make lower offers based on successful completion of an EPQ, with a higher offer based only on A level grades. The EPQ, an exciting curriculum innovation, not only encourages many of the aspects of learning that we seek to encourage – independence, research and a delight in learning, but is also being seen as an advantage by university admissions tutors.

The importance of A* grades at GCSE remains; the number of A*s at GCSE has become an important way in which selection is made for competitive universities and courses. While the data from baseline tests carried out in Year 9 showed that the overall ability of last year's GCSE group was marginally higher than in 2009, the percentage of students in the top 50% by ability compared to the national population was unchanged although with a small increase in the number in the top quarter by ability. Thus our expectation might have been a few more A* grades but about the same number of A* to B grades. However, although the percentage of entries gaining A* to B grades was similar to 2009, 62% of all entries gained a grade A* or A, an increase of 12% from 2009 and the best set of results ever by some way. Overall one third of the students gained five or more A* grades with three students gaining a clean sweep of all ten.

Value Added

VALUE added is the amount by which a student performs better than expected at A level or at GCSE. The Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring (CEM) at Durham University carry out the baseline testing and value added calculations for us and their data is based on a large and representative sample from all schools

nationally. The 'expected' grade is determined by taking the average GCSE or A level grade attained in the year of the examination by all students across the country with the same baseline score. A student who has done better than expected scores a positive value added while a student who has done worse than expected scores a negative value added. We can and do use this data extensively in analysing the performance of individual subjects but the overall school value added is also of interest. At A level for the past three years Ampleforth has remained in the top 10% of all schools nationally for value added for Sixth Form qualifications and in 2010 is in the top 14% of independent schools.

At GCSE the value added increased again in 2010, putting Ampleforth close to the top 20% of all schools and, once again, showed that our students perform significantly better at GCSE than might be expected.

Progress and Reporting

WHILE all these statistics are encouraging we must avoid the temptation to become over-confident or, worse still, complacent. Work scrutinies carried out over the course of last year suggest that a focus on organisation and presentation of work is having some effect. There is more evidence of care and attention to detail and of students taking more pride in their work but there is still progress to be made in this area. There is a programme of work scrutinies already planned for this year. Work scrutinies seek to discover evidence of students' learning and progress or achievement and this is something that even experienced school inspectors can find difficult to gauge and so this year, as well as the scrutiny itself, there will be more interviews with students to help us to know where further improvements can be made.

It is also the case that the dynamics of particular year groups can have a substantial effect on overall performance. We are hoping that our half-term grades, action plans, commendations and a new style of reporting will all help to encourage us to be a community where everyone is learning. The new style of reports will be shorter but more focussed with a particular emphasis on what needs to be done for improvement in each subject.

Technology

THE introduction of a new management information system, iSAMS, has been a major development in the past year. Unlike the previous system, not only can parents access the system but so too can students. Reports, grades, timetable, examination timetables and results can all be viewed on-line. The system was particularly popular on results' days. By lunchtime of the day of publication of A and AS level results there had been about 450 successful logons to the parent portal and

about 350 logins to the pupil portal, more logins than there were students; many appear to have returned several times, perhaps to check that what they read first time was really correct. The availability of reports, grades, commendations and detentions to students at the same time as parents has also been well received. The intranet is also starting to grow. Such projects can be time consuming but the benefits are already being felt and we are looking to further develop the intranet as a learning resource over the next year or two.

THE COLLEGE STAFF

SEPTEMBER 2009 - JULY 2010

Headmaster	Fr Gabriel Everitt MA, DPhil <i>Christian Theology</i>
Deputy Head	Mr JR Browne BA
Director of Studies	Mr IF Lovat BSc, MInstP, CPhys <i>Physics</i>
Director of Admissions	Mrs RMA Fletcher MA
Director of Professional Development	Mrs RMA Fletcher MA <i>English</i>
Head of Sixth Form	Mr WF Lofthouse MA <i>Classics</i>

HOUSEMASTERS/HOUSEMISTRESSES

St Aidan's	Dr EV Fogg MA PhD <i>English</i>
St Bede's	Mr B and Mrs V Anglim BEng <i>Design & Technology</i>
St Cuthbert's	Mr D Willis MEd <i>Mathematics</i>
St Dunstan's	Fr Oswald McBride BSc MB ChB BA <i>Christian Theology</i>
St Edward's/Wilfrid's	Mr AP Smerdon BSc <i>Geography</i>
St Hugh's	Mr HC Codrington BED <i>History</i>
St John's	Dr D Moses MA, DPhil <i>English</i>
St Margaret's	Mrs GMO McGovern MA, BA <i>Christian Theology</i>
St Oswald's	Fr Chad Boulton BA <i>History</i>
St Thomas's	Mr PMJ Brennan BSc <i>Geography</i>

MONASTIC COMMUNITY

Fr Henry Wansbrough MA, STL, LSS <i>Christian Theology</i>
Fr Dominic Milroy MA <i>Chaplain, St Aidan's</i>
Fr Justin Caldwell MA <i>Chaplain, St Bede's</i>
Fr Adrian Convery MA <i>Chaplain, St John's</i>
Fr Rupert Everest MA <i>Chaplain, St Edward's/Wilfrid's</i>
Fr Francis Dobson FCA FACE-FAW, <i>Chaplain, St Cuthbert's</i>
Fr Alexander McCabe MA <i>Modern Languages, Christian Theology, Chaplain, St Thomas's</i>
Fr Peter James BED <i>Chaplain, St Margaret's</i>
Fr Hugh Lewis-Vivas, MA, STB <i>School Guestmaster, Chaplain, St Hugh's</i>
Fr James Callaghan MA <i>Modern Languages, Classics</i>
Br Cedd Mannion BSc <i>Chemistry</i>



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D E Ford Insurance Brokers Limited are Insurance Brokers and Risk Management Advisors to Catholic Independent Schools, Religious Organisations and many other Charities. For further information on our services and schemes please feel free to contact any of the following members of our team using the numbers above:

Vincent Ford BA (Hons) ACII
Martyn Beesley FCILA ACII
Craig Walton ACII

Members of the British Insurance Brokers Association. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority.

LAY STAFF

A Carter MA *Head of English, Director of Arts*
 *MJ McPartlan BA *Modern Languages*
 SG Bird BA, ATC, DipAD *Head of Art*
 GD Thurman BEd *Games Master, Physical Education, History*
 KJ Dunne BA *Modern Languages*
 Mrs PJ Melling BSc, BA *Mathematics*
 MA Barras BSc *Head of ICT*
 ID Little MA, MusB, FRCO, ARCM, LRAM *Director of Music*
 DR Lloyd MA, BSc, DipSPLD *Head of Special Needs, English*
 R Warren BSc, PhD *Mathematics, Head of Middle School*
 DL Allen MA, DPhil, CChem, MRSC *Chemistry, Physics*
 JGJ Allisstone BA Film/TV, *English, EAL, School Counsellor*
 IF Lovat BSc, MInstP, CPhys *Physics, Director of Studies*
 AS Thorpe BSc, CChem, MRSC *Director of Science & Technology, Head of Chemistry*
 WJ Dore MA, FRCO *Assistant Director of Music, Organist*
 PT Connor MA *Head of History*
 BW Gillespie BEd *Head of Design and Technology*
 SJ Howard BSc *Chemistry*
 M Torrens-Burton MA *EAL, Classics*
 WF Lofthouse MA *Classics*
 JP Ridge MA *Modern Languages, Health and Safety*
 AJ Hurst BSc *Biology*
 J Layden BA *Classics*
 Miss J Sutcliffe BA *Classics, Director of the Theatre*
 Mrs L Canning MSc *ICT*
 MB Fogg BA *Head of Christian Theology*
 MA Dent BSc *Modern Studies*
 Mrs JEC Hurst BSc *Biology*
 TJW Walsh MA *Art*
 D de Cogan ARCM, DipRCM *Music*
 *Mrs BE Abbott BA *Modern Languages*
 CG O'Donovan BSc, MA *Mathematics*
 Miss HKR Thomson MA *English*
 Dr JM Weston DPhil *Mathematics*
 *Mrs MA Young BA *Art*
 *Mrs K Codrington BA *Special Needs*
 Mrs AM McNeill BA *Christian Theology*
 Mrs F Garcia-Ortega BA *Modern Languages*
 Miss JN Horn BA *Head of Girls' Games, Physical Education*
 PJ McBeth BMus *Music*

Mrs CMT Olley BA *Modern Languages*
 Miss C Willey MSc *Geography*
 Miss LE Bolton BA *Art*
 Dr EJ Fern BA PhD *History*
 Miss B Fuller BA *History*
 JW Large BSc, PhD *Mathematics*
 JM Mishra BA *Christian Theology*
 Mrs J Stannard BSc *Modern Studies*
 Miss JMC Simmonds BSc *Modern Studies*
 Miss HR Brown BA *English*
 JR Browne BA LLB, FRCO *Music*
 Miss ER Ellis MA *Classics*
 Ms A Le Gall MA *Modern Languages*
 JJ Owen BEd *Physical Education*
 TA Barfield BA *English*
 *Mrs MB Carter BA, BSc *Christian Living*
 Mrs CRM Dent BSc *Head of Geography*
 JO Devitt MPhys *Head of Physics*
 GJ Muckalt BA *Physical Education, Director of Rugby*
 SR Owen MA *Head of Modern Languages*
 Mrs PW Anderson BSc, MSc *Biology*
 Maj MS Blackford MA Psc, CELTA, MCGI CCF
 *Mrs H Burrows BA *English*
 DJ Davison MA *English*
 A Hardie MA *Music*
 A Powney MA, T.Th, PGCE *Christian Theology*
 JE McCullough MSc *Modern Studies*
 Dr HR Pomroy BSc, PhD *Mathematics*
 Miss R Beber BSc, MSc *Biology*
 Mrs J Campbell BA *Careers*
 Miss VC Coyle BA *Classics*
 Miss A Fielding BA *History*
 T Foster BMus *Music*
 Miss HC Jones BA *Christian Theology*
 *Miss TM Jones BSc, MSc OU *Mathematics*
 Dr LM Kessell BSc, PhD *Physics*
 Dr MJ Parker BSc, PhD *Chemistry*
 Miss MF Peterson-Johansson BA *History*
 Mr JD Rainer BA *Christian Theology*
 Miss KE Selby BSc *Physics*

*Part Time

LANGUAGE ASSISTANTS 2008 - 2009

Mrs S Baseley *French*
Miss R García Fernández *Spanish*
Miss N Raffler *German*
Ms H Chen *Mandarin*

LEAVERS 2009

LAY STAFF

CGH Belsom BA, MPhil Head of Mathematics
Mrs S Fletcher BSc Biology
AB Garnish BSc Physics
MF Harris BSc Head of Modern Studies
AD Kendry MA Christian Theology
NJ Leiper MSc Director of Admissions
CE McDonough BA Christian Theology
Mrs KE Morgan MusM Music
Miss SM Mulligan BA Head of EAL
Mrs EA Pywell BA English
O Peck, BSc Biology

SCHOOL OFFICIALS

SEPTEMBER 2009 - JULY 2010

HEAD MONITORS

ER Harmer (O) CM Fallon (M)

MONITORS

St Aidan's	EM Kramers, MD Thomas
St Bede's	BM Brenninkmeijer, HEG Dunne
St Cuthbert's	FM Jansen, RJP Fenech
St Dunstan's	MB Brenninkmeijer, TRM Riederer von Paar
St Edward's/Wilfrid's	AJD Archibald, P Harris
St Hugh's	AGSM Hilleary, CR Hawkesworth, AM Ramsay
St John's	AJ McFetrich, LE Tipp
St Margaret's	LA Brennan, GE Allcott, KA O'Kelly
St Oswald's	RJ Wallace, SJ Forbes
St Thomas's	SR Sequeira, WJ Dunn

CAPTAINS OF GAMES

Beagling	JHdeR Channer (D)
Cricket	WD Prest (H)
Cross-Country (boys)	RFH Smith (H)
Equestrian Activities	TM Vaughan (M)
Fencing	JGEP Wells (O)
Football	JWE Armour (O)
Girls' Hockey	KA O'Kelly (M)
Golf	SR Sequeira (T)
Lacrosse	M von Hurter (M)
Netball	GE Allcott (M)
Rounders	EML Irven (M)
Rugby	AM Ramsay (H)
Shooting	KFWP Killander (D), JP Clarke (EW)
Squash	WK Bryan (T)

LIBRARIANS

KF Cheng (D)	JHA Brazier (EW)
Il Cattaneo della Volta (O)	TR Dales (D)
RT Fenn Torrente (D)	OPG Freeman (D)
HD Hawkesworth (H)	EM Kirk (M)
KMC Warden (B)	DHH Walker (T)

The following students joined the school in April and June 2009:

A Hall (D), HJ Coates (D)

The following students joined the school in September 2009:

A Alemany (C), MAT Beckwith (D), HMMC Bedier (J), CE Bell (B), GC Berti (D), SG Bidgood (O), HC Blakiston-Houston (EW), ME Brown (A), NS Bugg (T), RH Bush (EW), G Byrne Hill (O), EJ Caldwell (A), A Carcoba de Alba (B), ECW Cardozo (A), JM Chambers (C), A Chan (C), CWE Clough (H), FH Corrigan (D), CAO Cranfield (M), JAA Craston (H), ME Cuddigan (A), CDDM Cunningham (EW), EVG Dawson (M), RJME de Castellane (M), M de Chaudenay (C), LJD Dalrymple (M), L de Caslou (J), CASPM de Decker de Brandeken (B), FVSMMPM de Decker de Brandeken (D), CFJ-M de Haes (T), J RDMR de Liedekerke (D), de Maes Janssens (C), JEJHGM de Merode (C), P Dib (EW), A Dib (EW), HA Dingwall (O), M D'Ornano (B), CLA Douglas (T), LMK Douglas (M), PJE Dunn (T), HPW Dutton (D), L Elwes (J), CP Ergoecmen (EW), ECE Evans (B), N Fattorini (O), I Fay (A), ABP Fisher (EW), CA Fox (B), JI Gargan, (M), ECS Gay (D), RM Geraghty (H), GAA Gibbs (C), MEGM Giedroyc (EW), GJW Gladwin (H), P Gonzalez Caraza Campos (J), DJL Graham (D), LAD Hall (EW), LJD Hamilton-Dalrymple (M), RM Harper Gow (J), JTK Hatschek (D), AMJ Hay (T), RCG Hayman (A), JJ Herranz (D), AP Higgins (H), CL Hollins (A), GJM Hornung (EW), CMW Isola (EW), AW Jalland (EW), PA James Duff (D), IC Jefferson (A), I Karaoglan (C), CT Keane (M), JPR Kevill (H), HMLF Khevenhueller (B), CC Lai (M), M Lasecka (A), T Laski (C), EJ Lavarini (D), BK Leatham (H), P Lebois Oejo (J), AM Leeming (H), O Leharova (A), AJW Lloyd (C), AJD Lukas (H), A Macauley (H), M Mancera de Olloqui (EW), E Markendale (A), HCR Maxwell (O), SD May (B), TN Meacham (H), CN Micklam (O), SW Moon (C), PWJP Nicol (O), MPF Page (B), CFF Page (O), C Paul-Petit (C), BT Pignatelli (C), FAC Pitcher (H), AES Plowden (H), AL Plummer (A), V Prinz Reuss (A), M Puig Grifoll (D), FC Rex (J), ASR Riddell (A), M-CCC Ridge (A), ICO Robin de la Cotardiere (B), FA Ryan (A), IJPM Sarrado (J), GF Shrimpton (D), BC Solly (A), JM Springer (EW), AEN Strouts (B), K Szczerba (A), PEdeB Tate (M), ATL Terry (EW), JL Thiele (J), RG Thomas (D), KR Thomson (B), AW Thomson (H), B Trant (EW), FWAC Trew (D), S Vaca Orvananos (D), SV Varela (B), RA Vassallo (A), FP Vaux (H), MJC Vinant (B), O Violante (EW), CC von Wedemeyer (C), MBB Walker (T), EC Wauchope (A), EMM Wignall (A), MW Worsley (EW), MJ Wright (C), YJ Yeon (A).

From St Martin's Ampleforth:

ACHM Bidie (EW), HEM Bilton (EW), ECR Blenkin (M), TCM Chang (T), A Costa (C), TI Donoghue (M), EOS Dore (M), LR Drury (B), EJF Dunne (T), B Garcia-Nieto Nigorra (B), A Hazell (M), CE Heminsley (B), M-MF Henriot (M), MO Higham (M), MD Hulskamp (J), GA Innes (EW), BE Knock (C), M Legorreta (B), WJAH Lyon Tupman (D), MA Macfarlane (O), JC McFetrich (O), MK Miller (B),

C'R Mingay (EW), SMEA Nikitits (J), PM Oulton (M), MCB Pickstone (O), FJ Pratt (B), CHY Spence (O), ECO Stewart (T), A Sunderland (B), CME Tyrrell (M), TJ van Kralingen (O), AF Waley (EW), KE Welford (B), JH Wilkinson (J), MFM Wittmann (J), RJI Wood (T).

The following students left the school in the June/July 2010:

St Aidan's CM Berti, LB Buckley, JJ Butryn, MC Chambers, ME Cuddigan, LB Harper Gow, CEJ Horsburgh, EM Kramers, O Leharova, RK Lowe, SIM Marmion, IM Moncreiffe, E Rapacz, JSJ Snowball, MC Thomas.

St Bede's C Agusti, LMFGAL Berlin, LAR Birch, BM Brenninkmeijer, A Carcoba de Alba, CASPM de Decker, ICO de la Cotardiere, M D'Ornano, HEG Dunne, B Garcia Nieto, JC Gray, AA Jansen, L Jansen, AMCV Kallen, CT Keane, ECL Kendall, M Legorreta, NE Lytton-Cobbold, HS Mak, CY Ng, EL Quick, AEN Strouts, MAS Strouts, C Toms-Williamson, SV Varela, MJC Vinant, A Ward.

St Cuthbert's A Alemany, EM Copsey, C Costa Anglada, M de Chaudenay, J de Maes Janssens, TR Francis, G Gutierrez, FM Jansen, KJ Kim, T Laski, BJ Leyland, FJ Marsden, MC Miller, JJ Moody, GM Owen, C Paul-Petit, SD Price, AW Rich, P Testaferatta, KM van Vliet.

St Dunstan's MB Brenninkmeijer, J-SM Calvet, KF Cheng, NJ Costelloe, WF Costelloe, TR Dales, J de Caslou, CFJ-M de Haes, P Fahey, RT Fenn Torrente, KFWP Killander, M Lamarche, FA Lytton-Cobbold, OM McKeever, DDG Owens, TRM Riederer von Paar, JHJ Sutherland, RP Thomas, JPR Tinkler, S Vaca Orvananos.

St Edward's/Wilfrid's AJD Archibald, TAJ Asquith, E Butt, CM Clarke, JP Clarke, TJ Collins, HDJ Crosse, CP Ergoecmen, DNE Fiamma, ABP Fisher, P Harris, TWC Holcroft, GMC Li, CSG Naylor, JFX Parr, LPJ Quinn, TDE Skinner, FWP Syms, SEB Tate, DA Vaughan.

St Hugh's ERM Battle, JWG Douglas, WAE Forster, EJ Hampshire, CER Hawkesworth, HD Hawkesworth, AGSM Hilleary, PM Kallen, HTH Kevill, AS Lech, RM Lech, RF Leeming, N Legorreta, ATJ Mizzi, WD Prest, AM Ramsay, MC Rusby, ACF Smith, EMR Straker, ES Vella.

St John's WF Arbuthnott, MA Borg-Cardona, MMP de Bouillane, BPM Droege, LFMG Elwes, EA Farley, GML Finaz, ADC Gillespie, JAR Glowacki, KFA Greenwood, TTEM Henriot, TF Lam, OCEJO Lebois, HJ Mason, AJ McFetrich, DT Moore, SI Prabhu-Naik, TF Senior, JL Thiele, LE Tipp, NFG Wallis.

St Margaret's GE Allcott, LA Brennan, HJ Carter, TM Chick, C Dobson, TI Donoghue, CM Fallon, AK Gargan, F Garland, DP Goff, OD Hill, EML Irven, S Keane, KA O'Kelly, CG Lieser, CE Mapletoft, AL McFetrich, HJ Moore, GS Nattrass, MT Pinkney, B Sendtner, TM Vaughan, M von Hurter, CMJ von Wedemeyer, GSV Wood.

St Oswald's JWE Armour, OF Cardozo, HJ Carr-Ellison, I Cattaneo Della Volta, RJP Fenech, ASD Fitzalan Howard, SJ Forbes, ER Harmer, SCF Heward, PJ MacDonald, WA Ogilvie-Graham, KM Schneider, JCP Stourton, TMD Topham, RJ Wallace, JGEP Wells.

St Thomas's WK Bryan, WJ Dunn, EJF Dunne, AW Green, MJF McNamara, G Royo Villanova, SR Sequeira, JR Shaw, HS Wardroper, GR Windsor, TG Woodbridge, EM Wright.

HEADMASTER'S LECTURES

29TH SEASON 2009-2010

THE Headmaster's Lectures are an annual series of talks given to students in the Upper Sixth by prominent invited speakers. Whilst each lecture is separate, together they are intended to fulfil the following aims:

- To broaden the cultural and academic horizons of our students
- To expose our students to some of the challenges of the world beyond Ampleforth

During the 2009/10 academic year we were delighted to welcome the following speakers:

MR PATRICK FRENCH (J84), old boy and author, spoke about the rising influence of China and India and the impact that they might have upon the 21st century.

COLONEL MARK COOK, founder of Hope and Homes for Children, spoke about his experiences helping orphans in various parts of the world and introduced the Rowathon, which would help raise money for his charity. Hope and Homes for Children works with families and communities across Central and Eastern Europe and Africa to ensure children grow up in an environment where they have the opportunity to fulfil their potential. This lecture had an electrifying impact upon the students, with many of them returning to their Houses to pass on the key points to the junior students. The resulting inter-House Rowathon was a real highlight of the year and £23,000 was raised.

MR JOHN MICKLETHWAIT (O80), old boy and Editor of *The Economist*, gave a highly informative lecture on his experiences of the relationship between faith and politics.

PROFESSOR KEVIN WARWICK, a world expert in robotics, was invited with the help of the Physics department and gave a fascinating, if sometimes troubling, summary of his research into the interface between humans and robots.

AREK HERSH provided the highlight of the year with his moving and thought-provoking account of his experiences as a victim of the Holocaust. The documentary film of his life, which formed the predominant part of his lecture, was made all the more poignant by the fact that the man himself was in Big Study with us. Particular thanks go to Philip Marsden (J74) for helping to organise this opportunity. This lecture had a profound effect on the students.

SISTER ANN TERESA gave the final lecture of the season in which she detailed the work of the charity, The Medaille Trust, which works with rescued sex workers in the UK. This lecture provided a chilling insight into the dark underbelly of the affluent society.

If anybody has any suggestions for possible speakers then please do contact Matthew Fogg at mbf@ampleforth.org.uk.

CHAPLAINCY

FR CHAD BOULTON OSB
SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

THIS year the Chaplaincy has continued to develop. The highlights have been the Confirmation, the year group retreats, the Lourdes pilgrimage, the Friendship Holiday, the work of Face-Faw and the increasing contribution of the Chileans, whilst the Friday Reconciliation services have now become part of the weekly rhythm. Students went to York Minster to venerate St Thérèse's relics and visited the new Stanbrook Convent above Wass.

Over 70 boys and girls were confirmed by the Bishop of Middlesbrough, Terence Draine, on 24th and 25th April. The *Confirmandi* had been instructed since November by their house catechists, Sixth Form students, who in turn were trained by the Chaplaincy Assistant, Helen Maduka. There was an evening vigil on Friday 23rd for final preparation, including the opportunity for confession. The two Confirmation services were joyful occasions: the Abbey Church was full, with many parents, godparents, grandparents and wider family and friends in support, and Bishop Terence took great care to talk with each of the *Confirmandi*.

The first year retreat was brought forward to the beginning of the year, forming the culmination of their induction programme in September. They walked across the valley, led by their House catechists in discussing the gifts God the Father had given them, the presence of Christ in their lives and the contribution they were called by the Holy Spirit to make to their new school. It finished with a Mass in the village church, where Fr Patrick Barry spoke to them very movingly and presented them each with a Benedictine medal.

The third year and top year retreats were in Whitby in February, organised by the Chileans and involved groups for *lectio*, times for quiet reflection and for talking and walking either on the beach or around Whitby Abbey. The Remove took the theme of 'witness' and the Upper Sixth the theme of 'mission.' These were both inspiring and prayerful days.

The second year retreat once again went to the Lady Chapel in Osmotherley in May to experience different types of prayer, such as Stations of the Cross, Adoration, the Rosary and *lectio*, finishing off with Mass in the ruins of the Carthusian priory at Mount Grace. The Middle Sixth retreat in June took students out of the 'Ampleforth bubble' by organising small groups to visit different examples of Christian service, such as Prison chaplaincies, Hospices, the Apostleship of the Sea, Cheshire Homes, Botton village, Boston Spa school for the Deaf and Madonna House.

This year, for the first time, we have been blessed with Chileans for the entire year and that has given real momentum to their work. In particular they have begun the Emmaus community, based on the Gospel passage of the risen Christ explaining the Scriptures to two disciples. This has been a weekly time for forming students as leaders of *lectio* groups in their Houses, and it has been genuinely exciting to see the last few years' *lectio* bearing the fruit of such voluntary service from the boys and girls here.

The Reconciliation Services each Friday in the Lower Chaplaincy and Big Study have provided a regular opportunity for students to make their confession or see a priest for guidance and a blessing. We also took a group of 40 Sixth Form and Remove students to York Minster to venerate the relics of St Thérèse of Lisieux in October. We have also begun this year to take groups of girls to visit the new Stanbrook community on the hills above Wass. There have been both day visits and also overnight stays, to meet the Sisters and join in their prayer and work.

Face-Faw continued to support projects in many countries both through aid and through gap years. Fundraising by students included busking, fasting lunches, food and clothes sales, a 24 hour run and a Coast to Coast walk. Students and staff combined for the Parachute Regiment's 10-mile Race in support of Help for Heroes. In October, the Houses competed in a Rowathon to support the charity Hope and Homes for Children, and in March they all took part in 'Keriba Cock and Bull,' a 10-hour reading and acting of Laurence Sterne's *Tristram Shandy*, each House reading for sponsorship for one hour. In 2009-10, fundraising for Face-Faw raised nearly £40,000, which went to support projects in places such as Haiti, Natal, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Romania, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Zanzibar and Chile. Face-Faw also arranges gap years for Ampleforth students in several countries.

The seventh Friendship Holiday took place at the end of the summer term, when 30 Middle Sixth students shared a week's holiday at Ampleforth with students from the Oak Field School and Sports College near Nottingham, a school for those with severe learning difficulties and physical disabilities.

Nearly 25 Sixth Formers joined the Ampleforth Lourdes pilgrimage in July, for a week's hard but rewarding work looking after the hospital pilgrims and sharing in their prayer and activities.

The Chaplaincy rooms continue to offer hospitality to the junior years. We benefited last year from the presence of Helen Maduka as Chaplaincy Assistant and there were a number of committed teachers who helped out in particular with the year group retreats. There is still much more that could be done and we look forward to future developments.

THE ARTS AT AMPLEFORTH

ANDREW CARTER
DIRECTOR OF ARTS

Art, Music and Theatre

THE last two years have been an extraordinarily rich time for cultural activity at Ampleforth. The talents of boys and girls, several imaginative initiatives and a growing student participation in music, theatre and art have produced a rolling programme of remarkable quality: plays ranging from Shakespeare to contemporary drama, joint exhibitions of art work by staff and students, great choral masterpieces, chamber music, jazz and opera. The cultural life of any society is a significant gauge of its community spirit, its spiritual health and by that measure Ampleforth is truly alive!

There has been a run of productions in the Theatre of the highest standard, challenging, inventive and attracting big school audiences. In the studio space downstairs there have been a number of varied smaller-scale productions: the tender chamber piece *Shadowlands*, about CS Lewis discovering love and loss, the anarchy of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* as lunatics take over the asylum, Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice* transferred to 1930s Germany, and Shaeffer's *Amadeus* set on a brilliant white stage to the sound of Mozart's divine music and manic laughter. On the big stage upstairs, Shakespeare has been represented by a beautifully colourful and choreographed *Love's Labour's Lost* and this summer's Exhibition Play, performed with wit and maturity by the first and second years, *Much Ado About Nothing*. The Exhibition play for 2009 was Sheridan's *The Rivals* set in a fashionable hotel in the 1920s, complete with working lift (and lift boy), while one of the most inventive pieces of theatre of recent times was the epic production of *Red Noses*, a serio-comic Brechtian allegory with a large and dynamic cast.

An innovation that has been ensuring a rich supply of experienced actors for the school plays is the Year 9 Drama Club. This is a popular activity for new students and meets weekly during the Autumn and Lent terms; through work-shops and rehearsal, the boys and girls prepare for a performance in the second term. In 2009 they put on a lively production of Willy Russell's *Our Day Out* that seemed to burst out all over the theatre; this year it was an adaptation of that seminal 60s workshop piece *O What a Lovely War*, complete with music hall band and songs.

At the other end of the student spectrum are the Middle Sixth plays, put on in the summer term in the fallow period between the end of the AS exams and the close of term. The theme for 2009 was Shakespeare, and each group selected a scene from one of the plays which they produced and directed themselves. This summer it was

The Happiest Days of Your Life, scenes from plays about school-days. The selections provided a varied festival of theatre for a couple of evenings, much appreciated by the audience.

This year Ampleforth also saw its first home-grown opera in a long time, a production of Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* that brought together the talents of student actors, musicians and artists. Three striking flats for the set were painted by a student as part of her A level Art project; the opera was preceded by a (none too serious) acted prologue and the opera itself involved soloists and chorus from the boys' and girls' Scholas, as well as classical dance. The popularity of the Children's Choir resulted in the production of another children's opera this year. Continuing the success of *Noye's Fludde* two years ago, this time a group of student soloists from the College joined a chorus of over 200 local primary school children over three evenings, in a production of *Brundibar*, the opera first performed in the concentration camp at Terezin.

Our choirs have been creatively busy over the last two years; as well as the annual performances of *Messiah* towards the end of the Advent, which judging from the ticket sell-out on each occasion many consider to be the highlight of the musical year, the Scholas have joined with professional players and singers for performances in the Abbey of Monteverdi's glorious *Vespers of 1610* and Haydn's joyous oratorio *The Creation*. In November of 2009, the Ampleforth Schola Cantorum and Schola Puellarum, along with the Ampleforth Pipe Band, travelled down to London to join other Benedictine schools for a unique concert in Westminster Hall. The massed choirs sang Mozart's *Requiem* while our pipers and drummers delighted the large audience with their display of flashing drum sticks and thrilling music. The Scholas sang the Mozart *Requiem* again in May of this year, this time on home-ground, for the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Schola Cantorum; it was good to see former members of both choirs back to join in the performance. The girls' Schola continued its tradition of singing, as an Advent meditation, Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*, with the harp accompaniment played by a former member of the choir, interspersed with acted scenes from the York Cycle of medieval mystery plays performed by student actors. In Lent they gave a beautiful performance, accompanied by a small string ensemble, of Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*, which like the boys' Schola's performances of Fauré's *Requiem* around the time of Remembrance Sunday, has established itself as a popular and prayerful occasion in the Abbey's liturgical year.

Exhibition is of course a time when the cultural life of the College is especially vibrant and highlights always include the display of student art work, the Big Band evening and the orchestral concert. This latter is actually much more than a concert of orchestral music and includes chamber music groups, original compositions by

students, the Brass Band, the Pro Musica and concertos and arias by student soloists. This year the orchestra was conducted by students too in one of Malcolm Arnold's orchestral suites. Startling examples of student art appears at all times of the year around the school and the annual exhibition of student and staff work in the well of the Bamford Centre, accompanied by music (classical and folk), readings of poetry and a glass or two of wine, has become a much-anticipated annual 'happening.'

It is remarkable how creative our students are, how many of them make so much of the opportunities in theatre, in music and in art, in the midst of very busy lives, academically, in games and with all their other activities. There has been a real artistic buzz about the place in the last year and my sense is that, culturally speaking, Ampleforth is living through some of the best of times.

OPERA AT AMPLEFORTH

The Realisation of a Dream

FR DOMINIC MILROY OSB

DIDO AND AENEAS MARCH 2010

THIS is not a review. In particular, it is not the sort of conventional School Magazine review, which mentions as many names as possible and excludes negative comment. It is, rather, a celebration. The production of *Dido and Aeneas* in the Ampleforth Theatre was a significant event in itself. The fact that it was carried off with such style and exuberance was, of course, a splendid bonus. There was so much talent on show that even Charity Mapletoft's extraordinary performance as Dido was part of the pattern rather than a virtuoso *tour de force* with support from others.

However, the factors which above all deserve celebration are the process which made this production possible and the particular decisions which led to its realisation.

In the first place, it was a triumph over the examination pressures which have, over the years, made it so difficult for the Theatre to exploit (particularly in the summer) the talent available in the senior part of the school. The decision to stage major productions in February and March (the production of *Amadeus* in February was also of high quality) has been hugely successful. The Exhibition play in the summer, which now brings on the younger talent, has become complementary to a new 'high season' in mid-winter. The Theatre has thus converted a problem into an opportunity and is now more active throughout the year than it has ever been.

The decision to use scenes from Dryden's *Aeneid* as a Prologue was in keeping with this approach, since it not only gave the Opera itself the richness of a witty and entertaining theatrical context, but also brought the singers into a happy partnership with experienced actors like Henry Hawkesworth and Ryan Lech.

It was this sense of integration which was the most convincing and significant aspect of the whole production. It was not simply a collaboration between the Theatre and the Music Department. It went much further than that. It represents a seismic shift in the way that the Arts function at Ampleforth.

The Music Department, building on the firm foundations laid by David Bowman (who was, appropriately, present to enjoy *Dido and Aeneas*), has in recent years extended and diversified its range of activities (Recitals, Master Classes, Big Band Jazz, Ceilidh, Pipe and Drum etc, not to mention the various Choirs), and its move into Opera now seems perfectly natural.

The move was facilitated and enriched by an enthusiastic cross-fertilisation with both the English Department and the Sunley Centre. The Sunley Centre was deliberately built (in the 1980s) near the Theatre and the Gymnasium/Music School in the hope that this might happen. The literary/musical marriage which marked this production, together with Blaze Harper Gow's huge and brilliant set, were enhanced by the sensitive costumes and by the very imaginative lighting technology. The whole thing was a model of inter-disciplinary creativity.

Within this context, there was another vital ingredient - the vivid and mature contribution of the girls, both in singing and in dance. There was, in the whole event, a disciplined and exhilarating boldness of style which suggested that co-education had come of age at Ampleforth. Purcell's magical score (both for soloists and for chorus), ranging from high joy to the famously plangent final lament, was the ideal medium in which this could be celebrated.

MUSIC AT AMPLEFORTH 1970-1990

Music at Ampleforth before the appointment of David Bowman had been, from a curricular point of view, a poor relation to Classics, History, Mathematics and Rugby. Although it had its high moments under the direction of Fr Austin Rennick and Philip Dore, father of our current Assistant Director of Music and Abbey Organist, William Dore (D82), and was not simply despised as an Extra, it lacked status. David Bowman's brief from Abbot Basil Hume and Headmaster Fr Patrick Barry was to change this. With their support he brought Music into the mainstream and laid the foundations of what is now a very successful and distinguished Department. The following compilation gives an account of how this was achieved.

WHEN David Bowman became Director of Music in September 1970 he immediately began to implement a plan for class and extra-curricular music that had been agreed with Abbot Patrick (then Headmaster) and Cardinal Hume (then Abbot). The over-arching aims were to achieve breadth and depth in every aspect of music, practical as well as academic. The plan reflected the fact that the spiritual and musical life of the whole Ampleforth community ultimately derived its vitality from the daily monastic liturgy, most of it sung to the superb plainsong melodies that influenced the whole course of Western music for a millennium.

The first fruits included the establishment of the Schola Cantorum, a choir of 16 trebles from Junior House and 20 altos, tenors and basses from the Upper School and Community. The Schola was meant to lead the congregation at High Mass on Sundays in term time and sing for Benediction (soon to be superseded by choral Mass) on Friday evenings. Settings of the Ordinary of the Mass for choir, organ and congregation were commissioned from Professor Kenneth Leighton, and others were written by David Bowman, William Dore and Fr Cyprian. But, perhaps more importantly, everyone - monks' choir, Schola and congregation - was involved in the reestablishment of plainsong ordinaries such as the *Missa de angelis* (still sung enthusiastically by returning Old Boys). By Exhibition 1971 the Schola had become proficient enough to begin to explore five centuries of church music in considerable depth. In the 1970s and 1980s the choir presented complete concerts of major choral works at York Minster, Westminster Abbey, Westminster Cathedral, St John's, Smith Square, the three cathedrals in Edinburgh and numerous other famous churches in Britain, continental Europe and America. Much of the *éclat* was dependent on the appointment in September 1971 of Simon Wright as Assistant Director of Music and Abbey Organist. His brilliance as an accompanist permitted the performance of some of the most difficult contemporary church music, his enthusiasm for cricket endeared him to a wider school audience, and his rapport with his keyboard pupils led to many triumphs in Oxbridge organ awards.



The Schola also contributed to the breadth of choral singing at Ampleforth by becoming the core of a Choral Society of around 130 boys - plus a few teachers and monks - that sang major works in public concerts in the Abbey Church or Theatre two or three times a year. In the academic year 1970-71 alone, they sang works by Britten, Buxtehude, Haydn, Pergolesi and Scheiber. It would have been difficult to have taught the whole of the Upper School to sing plainsong and contemporary mass settings had there not been a core of Choral Society members acting as 'detonators' (Fr Adrian's *bon mot*) at the weekly singing practice.

The Schola further justified their existence by spawning the Ampleforth Singers, a group of about a dozen boys directed by a Sixth Former. They chose their own repertoire, were highly successful and were able to mount their own concert tours. Among those who directed the ensemble was William Dore, son of a former Director of Music at Ampleforth and now himself Assistant Director to Ian Little.

It took much longer to achieve similar breadth and depth in instrumental music, despite the fact that a small orchestra already existed. First a new generation of instrumentalists had to be brainwashed into believing that they were potential Menuhins rather than potential Ashkenazys. This was accomplished in class music lessons in the Junior House with many a bribe and sweetener, initially administered to those who signed on to learn string instruments (the bedrock of a standard symphony orchestra). Enthusiasm was maintained in the Upper School by giving them a place in an orchestra that depended on teachers and visiting professionals who appeared for the final rehearsals and performances. The latter made it possible to stage huge romantic works with talented boys playing brilliant solo roles (Simon Finlow in Poulenc's *Organ Concerto*, Andrew Wright in Rachmaninov's *Second Piano Concerto*, Charles Hattrell in Brahms's *First Piano Concerto*, Nick Dunster in Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* and so on). Although it was recognised that a Fourth Former sitting on the back desk of the second violins could probably only play half the notes in his part, it was also recognised that the excitement of such performances could spur him on to emulate the stars and, in time, make a real contribution to the orchestra.

Under Simon Wright's direction the scheme was tremendously successful. So much so that when Fr Dominic appointed Bill Leary as Head of Strings it was possible to dispense with most of the professional 'stiffening' and hive off the best boy string players to form the Pro Musica. This was a boy-only group that could play concertos by Vivaldi, serenades by Mozart and more taxing string works such as Grieg's *Holberg Suite* and Elgar's *Serenade for Strings*. Just as soloists had added excitement to the Symphony Orchestra so the visit of the brilliant young Parnassus Ensemble added sparkle to the Pro Musica's diet when they joined our ensemble in a performance of Elgar's *Introduction and Allegro*.

In the 1980s the arrival of David Hansell (the new Assistant Director of Music) and his wife Jenny (flute and recorder) permitted a more scholarly approach to baroque music. Most memorably, David arranged for three piano teachers to work with the best of their pupils in performances of Bach's concertos for two, three and four harpsichords. The Pro Musica (which had already played Vivaldi's *Concerto in B minor* for four violins and orchestra - the original version of Bach's *Concerto for Four Harpsichords*) accompanied all three works. In a further 'deepening' of the musical scene the Hansells founded and directed the Camerata, a smaller ensemble that explored the repertoire of baroque chamber music, many of the works having been specially edited by David from holographs and prepared with the resources of the group in mind.

Perhaps the ultimate expression of the twin-track policy of breadth and depth was David Bowman's swan song - a performance in 1989 of Elgar's massive *Dream of Gerontius* given by a choir of 240 and an orchestra of 100. The choir included the Schola Cantorum (chorus master Jonathan Leonard), the chapel choir of Queen Mary's School, Baldersby Park (chorus master Nicholas Carter), senior boys of Ampleforth and staff of both schools.

Space does not permit an account of the concert series that began with a visit from the famous King's Singers in Autumn 1970. Nor is it possible to describe the doings of the pop group called the Black Habit in the 'Coal Hole' of the Old Music School, nor describe the facilities of the New Music School in which chamber music was and is presented at regular informal concerts. Nor yet can the many boys who were awarded academic, choral and organ scholarships at Oxbridge in the 1970s and 1980s be mentioned by name. But it should be noticed that Ian Little has continued the policy of 'breadth and depth.' He has done this by forming several highly successful liturgical choirs that include boys and girls from St Martin's Ampleforth and the College. They come together to sing in the traditional performance of Handel's *Messiah* that had become such a strong feature of the musical calendar in the 1970s and 1980s. A further broadening is noticed in the music department's outreach policy to local state schools. It was something that Abbot Patrick advocated in the 1970s and it must give him great pleasure that this ultimate broadening of Ampleforth music has at last come about.

Nor is there space to name all of the other members of staff who made great contributions to music at Ampleforth in the 1970s and 1980s. An exception must be made in the case of Jonathan Leonard who became a very successful choirmaster of the Schola Cantorum in 1985. As this article was being written news came of his death while examining for the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music in South Africa. He was a brilliant organist and a dedicated teacher who will be remembered by his many pupils, colleagues and friends with respect and affection.

ACTIVITIES

ALISTAIR HURST
HEAD OF ACTIVITIES

THE Activities programme continues to develop and evolve at Ampleforth. While we miss the staff that departed during the course of the year, their replacements bring new skills and interests to whet the appetite of the students. Dance has proven a very popular addition with over 30 girls enjoying the weekly ballet and street sessions. A large proportion of the students take the opportunity to follow the many athletic pursuits that are expertly and enthusiastically run by the academic staff and peripatetic instructors. The Karate Club is one such group that benefits from superb outside help. Three girls and four boys graded during the course of the year gaining their next 'belt' in the process. The Sub-Aqua Club trained another cohort of divers and a very large interest has been shown for the coming year, with 14 new trainees. The club hopes to travel to Malta for their bi-annual open water expedition in 2011. Mountain biking has joined the list of new pursuits and the Land Rover Restoration has returned by popular demand following the inclusion of the last project in *Land Rover Owner International*. The Mountaineering Group is doing great things also. They have had numerous trips to Peak Scar and the Lake District and the skills of the students concerned are progressing well. Some very talented climbers have come to the fore and they are developing a skill set and passion that will stay with them for life.

The Friendship Holiday was a huge success once more in 2010. Seventeen students from the Oak Field School in Nottingham enjoyed a week at Ampleforth in June. Thirty Year 12 students cared for our visitors, who have a range of mental and physical disabilities. The Ampleforth students raised £6,000 during the course of the year, so that the holiday might go ahead. The funds allowed the students to enjoy visits to Flamingoland, the Sea Life Centre and the experience of sharing a memorable week together.

Combined Cadet Force

AUTUMN 2009 saw the start of Major Miles Blackford's term as the Contingent Commander of the Ampleforth College CCF. Major Blackford joined the 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles in 1989 after completing a year at Sandhurst. This regiment latterly became The Royal Gurkha Rifles. Other placements also saw Major Blackford serve with 2nd Battalion The Parachute Regiment in Northern Ireland as a Company 2i/c and with the Highlanders where he commanded a Gurkha Company attached to that battalion. He has served in Hong Kong, Korea, Nepal, Belize, the Falklands, Kenya, USA, Australia, Germany, Cyprus, Italy, Afghanistan, Northern Ireland and Brunei where he was Battalion 2i/c

and Chief of Staff of Brunei Garrison. Major Blackford has also served as a staff instructor at RMA Sandhurst and completed two tours in Warminster at the Infantry Training Centre and Land Warfare Centre.

Within the school timetable, the CCF competes for the interest of students against 22 other activities. As a proportion of the school, it is by far the largest activity. The Army Section is at full strength and there is a burgeoning interest in the RAF Section now their programme has incorporated more in the way of outdoor activities and new challenges.

The school has been extremely supportive of the new Contingent Commander's plan to extend the field exercises for the Army Section and allow cadets to follow a natural progression in training. The fieldcraft exercise has been extended by 24 hours permitting staff to teach the cadets an introduction to night operations and complete patrolling package within a tactical scenario, whilst utilising Battle Lessons and Battle Exercises.

The annual inspection was carried out on 20th May. The Guard of Honour was commanded by Senior Under-Officer Piers Harris (EW) under the watchful eye of Reviewing Officer Wing Commander Martin Jeffries RAF. An afternoon of exercises and demonstrations followed, culminating in the usual prizegiving in the main hall.

Participation in external competitions (ie shooting, first aid and military skills) has, once again, been extremely successful with the following results achieved in the last academic year:

15 (NE) Bde Military Skills Competition 'Colts Canter':

- 2009: 1st Place – improving on 2nd place the previous year

15 (NE) Bde Regional First Aid Competition:

- 2009: 1st Place – equalling the previous years' performance

National First Aid Finals:

- 2009: 2nd Place

National Grand Prior First Aid Competition 2009: Completed

Bisley 2009:

- The Cadet Champion at Arms: 15th, 23rd, 26th, 29th, 30th, 36th, 44th, 50th, 51st, 54th, 55th (out of 100)
- The School Snap Shooting Trophy: 5th (out of 12)

- The Marling Cup: 4th (out of 13)
- The Marlborough Cup: 22nd, 24th (joint), 35th, 49th, 51st, 52nd, 56th, 60th, 66th (out of 158)
- Wellington: 3rd, 75th (out of 100)
- Schools 100: 1 cadet
- Ashburton: 17th (out of 42)
- Cadet Rifle Aggregate: 81st (out of 100)
- Financial Times: 4th, 11th, 13th, 19th, 21st, 22nd, 29th, 48th, 56th, 66th (out of 68)
- The North of England Trophy: 2nd (out of 4)
- Iveagh: 31st (out of 100)
- Falling Plates: 1st (out of 22)

15 (NE) Bde CCF Target Rifle Meeting 2009:

- Match 2: 1st and 2nd (Class A & B)
- Match 3: 1st and 2nd (Class A & B)
- Match 4: 1st and 2nd (Class A & B)
- Match 6: 1st and 2nd (Class A & B)
- Champion Contingent: 1st, 2nd & 3rd

Country Life .22 Shooting Competition:

- 2010: 4th and 16th (A and B Teams respectively) out of 19

Staniforth .22 Shooting Competition:

- 2009: 2nd (out of 19)

All in all, the CCF is in excellent condition, with high morale, good support and a bright future. Summer Camp this year was hosted by the KRH in Tidworth followed by representation at Bisley. In 2012 the CCF Summer Camp will take place in Brunei hosted by the 2nd Battalion The Royal Gurkha Rifles. Twenty-three cadets have already volunteered to attend this camp.

Duke of Edinburgh Awards

2009-10 was a markedly successful year for the Duke of Edinburgh Awards at Ampleforth with an extraordinarily large number of students taking part in the Bronze Award and 26 participants submitting completed records for all elements of their Gold Award.

Those receiving Gold Awards in 2010 are M-P Brenninkmeijer (EW), MB Brenninkmeijer (D), JJ Butryn (A), HJ Carr-Ellison (O), KF Cheng (D), C Dobson (M), WAE Forster (H), AK Gargan (M), JC Gray (B), P Harris (EW), HD

Hawkesworth (H), SCF Heward (O), CEJ Horsburgh (A), EML Irven (M), EM Kramers (A), GMC Li (EW), RK Lowe (A), JJ Moody (C), WA Ogilvie-Graham (O), MC Rusby (H), KM Schneider (O), JCP Stourton (O), ME Topham (O), TMD Topham (O), RJ Wallace (O) and HS Wardroper (T).

Work undertaken by participants in the volunteering section of their Awards is increasingly diverse and includes various kinds of Church service, community projects close to participants' homes, a range of work for charity shops and organisations, the British Trust for Conservation Volunteering, environmental stewardship, sports coaching, life guarding and many fundraising projects for charitable causes.

Expeditions have taken participants to various parts of the Moors and Pennines and the year concluded with five strong expedition teams completing arduous four-day journeys through the Cairngorm mountain range, coping with unseasonably difficult weather and earning the respect of their external assessors.

The number of participants who have successfully completed their Awards during the last year is over three times that of recent years and is testament to the hard work put in by all the staff who commit to leading students through the many and varied aspects of this very rewarding challenge. The programme continues to be in rude health for the year ahead, with 36 of the new Middle Sixth registered to pursue a Gold Award and 28 students projected to undertake the Silver Award.

GAMES 2009-2010

GEOFF THURMAN
HEAD OF GAMES

LAST year I wrote of the changes in games at Ampleforth over the last 25 years. This year I am going to focus on the progress our sport has made over the last 12 months. This year the College restored and upgraded the match ground, now known as the Dallaglio Match Ground. This was achieved through the generosity of the Old Boys and friends of the school. The students have taken advantage of the wonderful facilities at their disposal.

As a full boarding co-educational school it is our aim that both the boys and girls flourish in their sport and that they share the same high standards and aspirations. This they do as you will see from the results that are listed in *The Journal*. Boys and girls alike have shown an understanding of the value of games at the school.

The girls have set high standards on the hockey pitch, as they have quickly become highly respected on their playing circuit. Yet again last year they achieved great success at both junior and senior levels. Inspired by this, the 1st XI boys team produced a wonderful, unbeaten season as they have raised the standard of their play. The XI played a very exciting brand of hockey that was both effective and very enjoyable for those who were lucky enough to watch. The 1st XI set the standard for the school including winning the Durham VII a side competition; the 2nd XI and junior sides worked hard to try to match their excellence. This great achievement from the boys has spurred the girls on again this term as they have made a very successful start to their hockey season. Although both teams play their matches as single sex teams they also have mixed hockey sessions where both benefit from each others' talents. With the luxury of playing on the excellent Savill Field pitch, hockey is going from strength to strength and we expect there to be a lot more to celebrate in the years to come.

Tennis has had another good year as once again the school has shown its all round strength with both boys and girls having an excellent year. Not only have they practised together on occasions, they have also played in mixed matches showing our strength as a co-educational school. It has been a delight to see students of all ages filling the courts to play both in games times and in their own free time.

Summer terms at Ampleforth remain very familiar as the tennis players are joined by the hordes of boys making their way down to the cricket grounds. Enthusiasm for the sport remains high. Last year the school could comfortably have put out four or five senior sides as well as the usual junior XI's. The 1st XI was a very young side this year but played some high class cricket and promises much for the future season.

Continuing the theme of mixed sport the girls and boys have trained hard for their athletics season and have produced some very good performances. Once again they have spurred each other on and built on each others' successes. Plans to revamp the athletics tournament should help to further develop the sport and I look forward to reporting back to you next year on the athletes' progress.

Team sport has always been a great strength of the school and they continue to flourish but the students are also striving for success in the more individual sports. The golfers had a wonderful year battling for a half against the OAGS and only missing the finals of the National ISGA by one putt on the last green. Cross country too, have fought hard. The girls, in particular, achieved high standards finishing second in the prestigious MANISCC race. The squash players are making good progress as they too, are raising their standards. The swimmers have made good progress and our footballers have become a force to be reckoned with on their circuit. Although Ampleforth has a reputation as a strong rugby school it is worth remembering that it was football that the school originally played. It is good to see its resurgence.

The girls' netball had a much better year last year. They reaped the benefit of their hard work and gained much confidence from their improved performances. It was clear that their enjoyment of the sport has helped drive up their standards. Once again we look forward to seeing this improvement continuing.

House matches have been fiercely contested. From rugby through to netball, lacrosse and even the snow-bound option of the triathlon that the school organised in the Lent term saw the school at its best, competing for their House with pride and passion. To my mind this has always shown the school at its best as boys and girls alike commit fully to their Houses and each other. The year has seen some wonderful matches and also seen extremely high standards of play in many of the sports.

As I mentioned the newly restored Dallaglio Match Ground at the start of this piece, I feel it is appropriate that I finish the article with talk of the progress in rugby. The 1st XV are thrilled to be back on the match ground and, in the same way that the Savill Field heralded huge progress in hockey for both girls and boys, we are hopeful, indeed confident, that rugby will go from strength to strength. Last year the rugby teams had a good year. Although the 1st XV were frustrated by injuries to key players, they still managed to perform to a very high standard, and the 2nd XV, 3rd XV, U16 Colts and U14 Colts all had a strong winning season; the sport is looking healthy in the school. The school also had an impressive season on the 7's circuit. Although the 1st VII did not have things their own way at Rosslyn Park, the school won no fewer than five tournaments with all sides winning at least one competition.

Games remains at the heart of Ampleforth life and afternoons still see the valley heaving with enthusiastic sportsmen and women enjoying the splendour of the valley. Come rain or shine the valley is still ablaze with house shirts, cricket whites and tennis skirts.

As we begin a new season, I feel now is a good time to pay testimony to the extraordinary skill, hard work and pride that John Wilkie and his small team of groundsmen give to the school. Our pitches are the envy of all our competitors and this is in no small part down to their tireless effort and passion for the students' games. John has worked for 30 years in the valley and remains as committed to the school as he has ever been. I know I speak for all the school, and I am sure I can speak for countless Old Amplefordians, when I publicly thank John for all the work he has done and will continue to do for Ampleforth sport.

SUMMARY OF SPORTS RESULTS

AUTUMN TERM 2009

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>
RUGBY FOOTBALL				
First XV	13	7	5	1
All teams	105	55	46	4
SQUASH (BOYS)				
First V	13	6	7	0
All teams	28	10	18	0
LACROSSE				
First XII	11	7	4	0
All teams	14	8	6	0
HOCKEY (GIRLS)				
First XI	14	8	4	2
All teams	71	35	23	13

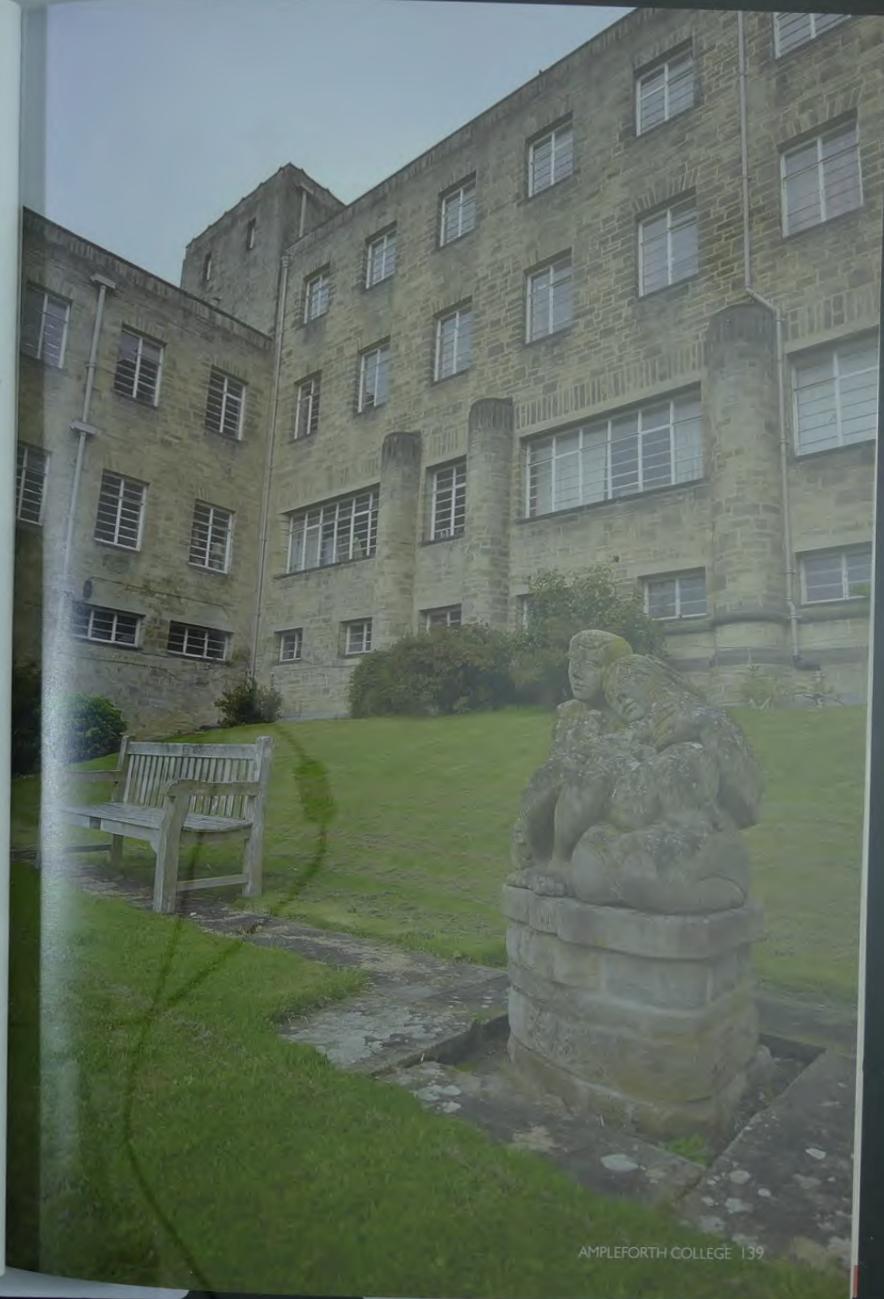
LENT TERM 2010

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>
HOCKEY (BOYS)				
First XI	9	8	0	1
All teams	29	21	7	1
SWIMMING (BOYS)				
Seniors	2	0	2	0
All teams	4	2	2	0
SWIMMING (GIRLS)				
All teams	1	1	0	0
CROSS-COUNTRY (BOYS)				
First VIII	4	1	2	1
All teams	10	2	7	1

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>
FOOTBALL				
First XI	10	6	2	2
All teams	15	8	4	3
FENCING				
All teams	2	0	2	0
NETBALL				
First VII	9	3	6	0
All teams	56	33	23	0

SUMMER TERM 2010

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>
ATHLETICS				
Senior	3	2	1	0
Intermediate	2	1	1	0
All	5	3	2	0
CRICKET				
First XI	17	5	6	6
All teams	65	26	31	8
TENNIS (BOYS)				
First VI	12	9	3	0
All teams	49	32	16	1
TENNIS (GIRLS)				
First VI	10	5	5	0
All teams	38	23	15	0
ROUNDERS				
First XI	6	3	3	0
All teams	30	9	20	1
GOLF				
First VIII	7	3	3	1





ST MARTIN'S AMPLEFORTH HEADMASTER'S INTRODUCTION

NICHOLAS HIGHAM
HEADMASTER OF ST MARTIN'S AMPLEFORTH

FIVE pupils currently in Year 8 and three in Year 7 represent the last living reminder of the merger of ACJS and St Martin's Nawton in September 2001.

Much has since happened, and the school our parents and pupils currently know has grown impressively since those early days with a clear sense of identity and purpose, appreciating fully its place in the Ampleforth family.

Not only do Fr Gabriel and I work well together, but closer cooperation between respective Heads of Department has contributed to our best-ever Scholarship and Common Entrance results. These results show commitment by staff to 'up' the academic agenda and end any assumption of an automatic right of passage to the College. There is also a desire to challenge and inspire, beyond exams alone. This is best seen in the Gifted and Talented programme, overseen by Dr Ansell, whose management of the Lyceum and of the scholars has spearheaded this transition.

Few Prep Schools have three specialist science teachers in Biology, Physics and Chemistry respectively, with purpose-built labs. Science results have improved dramatically in recent years. Mrs Scott's passion and determination has turned the English Department around. Similarly, the French Department under Mrs Newlands has annually achieved significant improvements in Common Entrance and Scholarship results. Mr Hollins has created an effective team, generating outstanding results in National Maths Challenges, Common Entrance and Scholarship results.

In our core subjects, pupils are impressively served - confirmed by all possible internal and external indicators. Our pupils, across the academic spectrum, achieve on average, above their and our expectations. These results are all the more impressive given our non-selective entry, which is not under review.

The introduction of the Savill Centre (pictured overleaf) with five brand new state of the art classrooms for English, French, and Latin teaching, is another gain. From September 2010 all departments in the Prep School have their own classroom base where resources can be stored and displays erected, enhancing the individual nature and purpose of every classroom in the school. The Savill Centre will also add to the campus-type feel of the Gilling site where Years 6, 7 and 8 pupils will move between departments. This will prepare them for the College campus and beyond.



Standards achieved by the Scholas on their Venice and Barcelona tours may be the pinnacle but their contribution to the prayer and life of the school is uplifting and profound. In a school where all sing and 80% of pupils play an instrument, 'having a go' matters.

In Sports we have been at National, Regional and County levels in squash, cricket, rugby, judo, athletics and golf. Five centuries scored this season at 1st XI level is a first, and all children have represented the school in a major sport throughout the year.

An Ofsted Care Standards report identified us as an 'outstanding' provider of boarding. Areas praised included matronal care, quality of catering, cleaning and maintenance, safeguarding and how the children make progress and enjoy what they do.

These achievements represent an insight into the heart of a school that values success at every level. But, as ever, I seek more evidence that we do what an Ampleforth education should always strive to do and have found it in the following stories which have unfolded during the year. The College 'Compass for Life' initiative seeks to identify the special character of an Ampleforth Education.

While everything above-mentioned highlights the value of St Martin's Ampleforth, those who leave Ampleforth College are said to carry a 'compass for life,' allowing them to keep their moral bearings, even in difficulties. Where Ampleforth truly differs is in the Benedictine ethos underlying all that happens here and at the College. Many schools would advertise their merits through rich and famous alumni. Ampleforth highlights, in the *Seven Stories* brochure, how compassion, inclusion and generosity have influenced seven ordinary, yet extraordinary, people in fascinating and moving ways, whose generosity has led them towards humanitarian projects at home and overseas.

I have also seen these same qualities in many others associated with Ampleforth. I think of a former pupil and a current grandparent of one of our nine sets of twins who this year, at 75, cycled from Lands End to John O'Groats and back for Help for Heroes. He said this at his journey's end:

"From hundreds of people I met, I remember only two who were not, deep down, just plain good. Every single one was in some way worth dying for."

Such generosity is also seen in former pupils prepared to give hard-earned money so generously to our Appeal so that future generations can enjoy, in impressive facilities, the same benefits they experienced at Ampleforth; helping to foster future

generations of pupils who will be guided by compassion, inclusion and generosity. It is also recognised in those parents who chose St Martin's Ampleforth because they believed it to be a good school, but become so affected by the general atmosphere and ethos that several each year, under Fr John's guidance, pursue their spiritual yearning by becoming part of the Catholic Church.

I see it in our retreat where we find the time, despite exam pressures, preparing for Schola concerts and sporting competition, to dedicate two full days for the whole school community to come together to help understand what our purpose, our compass, really is.

I see it in how our pupils interact with each other displaying compassion, inclusion and generosity, which is frequently noted by visitors. So, as a community we are most hurt - even more than by disappointing exam results, by flat notes in Schola and by losing to Aysgarth at cricket - when harsh words, meanness and intolerance surface among pupils, staff or parents.

Whither St Martin's Ampleforth in the next 10 years? Our reliance on a strong local day market - built up in recent years - remains crucial. The national trend away from boarding, unless parents live no more than 40 minutes away, is our biggest challenge. However, I remain confident that enough people will want a school giving the strong something to strive for and the weak nothing to hide from. Surely, a place is needed where its young can go forth determined to create a country which, in the words of the afore-mentioned grandfather, is worth dying for.

ACADEMIC

St Martin's Ampleforth pupils won almost 50% of this year's 25 scholarships to Ampleforth College. The Gifted and Talented programme, introduced in September, provides activities to stretch more academic pupils. "With three Academic, three Music, and six Basil Hume scholarships to their credit, pupils realise the value of all the extra effort," observes Dr Dolores Ansell, Gifted and Talented Coordinator.

For the second consecutive year our Common Entrance results have exceeded expectations. Under-50% scores have almost disappeared. Given that many CE candidates are either from overseas and studying in a foreign language or have joined us in Year 8 (in some subjects CE is a two year syllabus), an average percentage of 66% across the subjects reads well. Yet again, our pupils dominated the top Common Entrance results to the College, taking seven of the top ten places and 21 of the top 30 places.

The Gifted and Talented Programme spawned the Lyceum, a forum offering extension work for pupils aiming for scholarship. They are encouraged to discuss, debate and assimilate new information, generating informed opinions to be defended logically and reasonably. Above all they are encouraged to think.

Titles of Lyceum sessions include:

- The Politics of the Global Energy Crisis
- A Japanese Evening
- SMA Mock General Election
- Religion and Science
- Pythagoras and Algebra
- Linear Programming
- Should Practical Science be banned in Schools?
- Challenges of Life: Survival of the Fittest
- Adult Authority: Jane Eyre and Contemporary Fiction
- Revolutionary Women
- What is the Use of History?

The year's final event was a mock General Election for all of Year 8. The five candidates had a week to plan and advertise their campaign before the debate, each speaker having three minutes, followed by questions from the floor.

The Lyceum offers enrichment for Year 8 pupils with particular strengths in different subject areas. It therefore specifically targets children working at above Common

Entrance requirements. However, sessions are open to all in Year 8. Last year over 50% of the year group attended one or more Lyceum session, one of the most pleasing outcomes.

Other departments have been proactive this year. The Science Department took Year 7 to York University for National Science and Engineering Week, joining a series of Discover and Explore the Brain workshops and enrolled several Year 8 pupils for the Physics Olympics at St Peter's School.

The French Department organised its annual 'French Day' in school for Year 6. Given the success of previous years, it held a second event for Years 3, 4 and 5. Games, songs and drama - all in French - provided language immersion for at least half a day.

The English Department invited two poets to work with all senior and middle school pupils for 'Poetry Day.' Philip Wells and Charlie Stewart were delighted by the enthusiastic response as they sought to inspire children to create new words and poetry. The department also entered two literary quizzes this year. One event saw a Year 8 team and a Year 7 team compete with 34 other teams for the national Kids' Literary Quiz. In the other event, three finalists were selected for the Simon Beaufoy Creative Writing Competition. Lydia Bramhall won first prize in the senior section for her short story, *The Ghost Ship*.

The Maths Department again entered pupils in Years 6, 7 and 8 for the UK Junior Maths Challenge, a national competition organised by the University of Leeds, aimed at the top 20% of children in Year 8. This year saw over 240,000 entries nationwide. Five of our Year 8 and two of our Year 7 children achieved the Gold standard and even two pupils in Year 6 won a Silver and a Bronze.

SCHOLARSHIPS TO AMPLEFORTH COLLEGE

ACADEMIC

Oscar Amrein
Natasha Gould
Thomas Savill

BASIL HUME

Phoebe Gibby (Drama and Art)
Isobel Miles (Drama and Art)
Alex MacCuish (IT)
Lydia Bramhall (Sport and Art)
Toby Pratt (Sport)
Alexander Butler (Sport)

MUSIC

Abigail Dore
Isobel Miles
Harry Pourdis

HEAD BOY AND HEAD GIRL

Thomas Savill
Phoebe Gibby

PREFECTS

Alexandra Butler
Julia Bustillo Ergui
May Doyle
Harriet Eglinton
Phoebe Gibby
Justin Gonsalves
Robert Quick
Toby Pratt
Thomas Savill

SCHOOL EVENTS

TRIPS out, school visitors and charity fundraising events are all squeezed in between lessons and sport. Year 8 pursued their Shakespeare studies with two theatre outings to *Hamlet* at York Theatre Royal and to *As you like it*, performed 'en promenade' at Ripley Castle. *Hamlet* was the most interactive production they had ever seen. The audience decided which actor would play which part and audience members provided props - or themselves.

Year 8 ended the year with their trip abroad to Seville to celebrate the end of Common Entrance, also visiting the Alhambra in Granada and Cordoba. Year 3 visited Pickering Castle to reinforce their work on the Normans and Castles and The Dig and Yorvik Viking Centre later in the year, to conclude their Viking topic.

Raising funds for other people and charities is a major part of school life. Toby Pratt organised a sponsored bike ride from the west to the east coast of England to support the school charity, Mary's Meals. Boarders wanted to help Sport Relief so organised their own mile run one Sunday afternoon raising £48 from pocket money donations.

Mary's Meals had a huge influence on the children as they assembled backpacks for schools overseas or arranged fun events to raise more money for the charity. £2,800 was raised during the year, through various activities including a Mad Hatter's Tea Party, a 'Hero' dressing up day where the children pay for the privilege of not wearing uniform or a concert by tenor Nicholas Scott, which alone raised over £560.

Hope and Homes for Children also gained as St Martin's Ampleforth took part in the Rowathon at the St Alban's Sports Centre. Over 500 students, monks, teachers, parents, children from local primary schools and the public took part on 32 rowing machines. The idea was to contribute to cover a combined distance of over 2,500km, the equivalent of rowing from Hull to the Black Sea where some of the homes are located. Mr Higham and Mr Harrison were among 11 rowers in an endurance challenge to row 50km each in four to five hours. St Martin's Ampleforth pupils together rowed nearly 45km in 90 minutes, contributing to the overall distance and total funds raised of over £23,000.

The blessing of the new Savill Centre building at Exhibition by Abbot Cuthbert marked the opening of this fantastic addition to classroom facilities. Peter Savill (J65), the project's major donor, spoke about what Ampleforth meant to him and why he had been so determined to back this development. The five new classrooms have interactive whiteboards and form a Language Centre for teaching English, French and Latin.

Finally, the inaugural Leavers' Dinner welcomed past pupils from St Martin's Ampleforth, who were about to leave the College, to a farewell dinner. Some of them had not been back in five years so had many questions about changes since their time here.



SPIRITUAL LIFE

Priests, Processions and Prizegiving

FR JOHN FAIRHURST OSB
SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

PRIESTS, Processions and Prizegiving sums up a few highlights of the year at St Martin's Ampleforth.

At Pope Benedict's request, with the rest of the Church, we commemorated the Year of the Priest with various celebrations. These culminated in our annual retreat, when the children recalled the work of priests, especially the lives of two famous martyrs, Fr Maximilian Kolbe who was put to death in Auschwitz and Archbishop Oscar Romero who was killed as he celebrated Mass for speaking out against an unjust regime. We also made bread as a symbol of the Eucharist and assembled a stained glass window to help us reflect on the gift of the Priesthood.

Processions are very much part of our spiritual life here. In May we honoured Our Lady and crowned her with flowers to acknowledge her role in the Mystery of Salvation. June saw the Blessed Sacrament procession when we adored Jesus in the Holy Eucharist and received His Benediction, as we do each Sunday after Night Prayers. In October we had our torch-lit procession to honour Our Lady of the Rosary and ask her prayers for our school and all the children here. The sight of flickering lanterns crossing the school grounds as the evening light faded will remain always with me as a memory of my time at St Martin's Ampleforth and the devotion of the children.

This year, of course, the relics of St Thérèse of Lisieux came to England and a few of us went to venerate them at Leeds Cathedral. Fr Martin, who came with us, was very impressed by the children's piety and their mature behaviour.

We had our usual St Martin's Day celebrations on 11th November. Fr Oswald celebrated the senior Mass and told us that St Martin was his home town's patron. The children enjoyed an out-of-season-pantomime by the staff and tucked into the traditional St Martin's Day cake. Fr Abbot celebrated Pontifical Mass in our chapel and commissioned Mr Higham, Dr Ansell and Mr Wilson as Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist.

We were pleased to celebrate the reception of Mrs Louise Slater into full communion with the Catholic Church with her children Alicia and Sebastian. Earlier in the year Tatiana Hewitt also made her First Holy Communion.

The end of the year saw Prizegiving in the Sports Hall preceded by Mass celebrated by our Bishop, Terence Draney, who reminded us all of the place and importance of Catholic Education. During Mass, Teddy and Tom Wright and Morgan Clarke made their First Holy Communion. It was a fitting way to thank God for all that we have shared and worked for during the academic year.

We try to celebrate the whole liturgical cycle, from Autumn Harvest Festival in the Pre-Prep to our annual Carol Service in the Abbey - there can't be many Prep Schools where Handel's *Hallelujah Chorus* features in a service - to Easter services of light. Throughout the year we try to link our prayer with ways of putting our faith into practice, mainly by fundraising for Mary's Meals.

As usual, it has been a busy year. As this new term continues we look forward to celebrating our faith and trying to live as true disciples of St Benedict in our school of the Lord's service.

PRE-PREP

THE Pre-Prep Department has been as busy as ever, with outings to stimulate the children's understanding of different areas of the curriculum, as well as activities in school.

Reception and Year 1 visited Castle Museum in York to take part in a toy workshop, supporting their work on Victorian history. Year 1 also visited Beningbrough Hall and became immersed in the life of the house during Victorian times.

Year 1 went to York Art Museum, looking at self-portraits and exploring different media, as well as to York Handmade, a local brickworks. Reception visited Monk Park Farm in May to support their learning of new life and growth and at Newby Hall followed the sculpture trail. Fr John took Nursery to the Abbey and outlined the life of a monk and showed them the Abbey Church and Crypt.

Our new Green Club, led by the Head of Science, where the Pre-Prep have taken over a vegetable plot, produced its first harvest this year as well as providing a place to study creepy crawlies and a venue for the annual butterfly release.

Foundation pupils have enjoyed the benefits of our outdoor play being developed and improved. It is now very much an extra classroom and much used by Pre-Prep younger members. Pre-Prep held a tea party for all children and parents. The Friends of St Martin's Ampleforth made cakes and entertained the children for several hours. We have been fortunate to gain Mrs McFetrich's help in taking over the running of Pre-Prep music. The children's efforts culminated in a show at Exhibition on the theme of the ocean.

Mrs McFetrich worked with Mrs Higham to produce one of the highlights of the year - the Pre-Prep Nativity play. This year *Born in a Barn* featured the traditional Nativity story from the point of view of the animals around the crib.

The Pre-Prep Department has continued to strengthen ties with the Prep School. The new work schemes in our core subjects have been supported by the Heads of Departments and have been very successful.

MUSIC

Autumn Term

THE year began with good numbers in every group, including a good-sized orchestra. We sang Evensong in York Minster, John Ireland's *Ex Orem Innocentium* was a highlight. Year 8 provided an excellent concert in November and the Outreach Concert was also well received.

The combined boys' and girls' choirs reached the semi-final of the BBC *Songs of Praise* Schools Choir of the Year competition. The children had competed with over 40 schools to reach this level. A BBC crew came to film the choir - one of only seven schools in the senior category, to help the judges choose the three finalists. Fauré's *Requiem*, Handel's *Messiah* and the end-of-term Carol Service were to the usual high standards.

Lent Term

YEARS 6 and 7 gave excellent concerts in the usual format of individual/group items, followed by song performances by the whole year group. The combined choirs performed together again for 150 Headteachers at the annual Catholic Independent Schools Conference hosted by Ampleforth and St Martin's Ampleforth. The CISC General Secretary wrote, "the beauty of the singing of the combined choir helped people to pray and was a real joy."

On 18th March the Schola Sancti Martini gave a Concert in the Abbey Church, which included items for their Venice tour later that month. The tour itself was a huge success including performances in San Marco and the Basilica of St Anthony in Padua. There were further performances in two other Venetian churches.

Summer Term

THIS term included the recording of a CD planned for release during 2010-11. As recording was late in the term, the Scholae had to work very hard to overcome tiredness. They could not join the annual CSA Day in Peterborough, due to rehearsals for the musical *Oliver* right at the end of the term. This involved Year 8 children in the cast and Year 7 children providing vocal support from behind the orchestra. The show was slick and accomplished and gave Year 8 children a fine end to their careers here.

The Ampleforth Highlanders Pipe Band, for which St Martin's Ampleforth is proud to contribute present and future members, celebrated its success this term as it

became the RSPBA North East England Mini Band and Drum Corps Champion for 2010. With several young pupils enjoying learning pipes or drums we hope to continue our association with the band for years to come.

Earlier in the term all the combined choirs had celebrated 40 years of the Schola Cantorum, joined by former members of the choirs and some splendid soloists - including two Old Amplefordians, James Arthur (D98) and Nick Scott (D05) - for a moving performance of Mozart's *Requiem* in the Abbey Church on Sunday 2nd May. Music performed by the Schola Cantorum, Schola Puellarum and Schola Sancti Martini also included works by Haydn, Mendelssohn and Parry.

The Schola Novices gave their first concert this term, to demonstrate how their training has progressed through the year. The history of Schola Novices at Ampleforth goes back more than 16 years, when the old Junior House and Gilling Castle Prep Schools merged in 1993. The age range of the Junior House, from which the Schola Cantorum drew its trebles (10-13) precluded running a novices group (8-9 years) which is common practice in most cathedrals in the UK. Such 'probationers' spend a year learning music theory, reading skills, vocal production and posture (including correct breathing) and repertoire to move almost seamlessly into the main choir by Year 5.

In the past, the Ampleforth Schola Novices were comprised by a small group of hand-picked children, taught off-timetable. However, three years ago, a decision was made to include all Year 3 and 4 children in this process with three classes a week given to this invaluable training. Also, an extra 'Early Birds' session, is held at 8:00am once-weekly for a few such children in Year 4 towards the end of the year. Here, some more individual work could take place.

Public performance has always been considered an important facet of the Novices' work over the years to increase confidence, and to give practice singing to a congregation with all the skills required in presentation. Some of our Years 3 to 6 performed in the children's Opera *Brundibar* by the Czech composer Hans Kráser towards the end of term. These performances also involved local schools. A few weeks earlier the Exhibition Concert, held for the first time on the morning of Exhibition Saturday, saw Year 8 soloists, the school orchestra and songs sung by all the children in the Prep School concluding the concert.

Term ended with splendid singing at Prizegiving Mass, after which the SMA Schola Boys joined the rest of the Schola Cantorum from Ampleforth Abbey in a tour to Barcelona. A day out to the Benedictine Abbey at Montserrat was also highly successful, with a packed and attentive audience.

DRAMA

DRAMA at St Martin's Ampleforth has become more mainstream this year, rather than just being offered as an activity. From September 2009 all Year 7 and 8 had timetabled drama lessons once every three weeks in rotation with other subjects. Even such a short course enables teaching of method and assists improvisation before the children's annual performance. Year 6 will, hopefully, also soon benefit from this class with more frequent drama lessons.

THE YEAR 8 PLAY - OLIVER

Oliver was performed with aplomb by Year 8 as part of their post-Common Entrance programme. Using back-projection to set each scene and a minimalist set, the atmosphere of Dickensian England was well-captured using period costumes and some fine accents.

For the first time a professional choreographer was called in for the more demanding numbers. Mrs Jane Waring worked with the children superbly, recognising their capabilities and producing outstanding dance numbers. There were many moments of joy during the final performances; the maturity with which Monte Guerrini and Ettore Crocetti took on the jobs of scene changers voluntarily and with great responsibility and the blossoming of the main characters. In particular, Phoebe Gibby's mature rendition of *As long as he needs me* was astonishing.

THE YEAR 3, 4 AND 5 PLAY - PINOCCHIO

Year 3, 4 and 5 have one hour of drama a week and have been rehearsing this production since November, a total of about 20 hours of rehearsal. Some have never been on stage before, but when it came to their performance on a Saturday morning they tried their best to make the story come to life.

The play flowed well. Any small glitches were helped along by the clear prompting by Sebastian Grace. Year 4 took the roles of puppets and puppeteers to act as narrators, as well as leading the formation of certain scenes such as the whale, whilst Year 3 supported the play well with their audience intervention.

THE PRE-PREP NATIVITY

All Pre-Prep took part in this year's Nativity performance. *Born in a Barn* featured the traditional Nativity story from the viewpoint of the animals around the crib. Year 2 took the main speaking parts and astonished parents (and staff!) with some of their accomplished performances, making the characters their own and showing real promise for the future as actors.

SPORT

ATHLETICS

Another busy and enjoyable season began with the 36th Annual Inter-schools Meeting at Red House. Although Year 8 children were in Seville, Lydia Bramhall led a Year 7 team. Lydia won the 1500m, Basil Fitzherbert was equal first in Long Jump (4.23m) and Sarah Van Kralingen was second in the Shot (6.10m).

Next day was the Woodleigh Inter-schools Meeting in York. Our U9 Boys' Team was second overall with great performances from Leo Higham (1st in 50m (B), Ball Throw and 200m (A) - a new meeting record by over two seconds) and Andre Robson (1st in 50m (A), 200m (B) and Foam Javelin Throw).

CRICKET - 1st XI

This was an extraordinary season for many reasons. Five centuries were scored: Toby Pratt (2), Joe Lush (2) and Basil Fitzherbert. St Martin's Ampleforth beat Terrington and Durham. Also, our second-string bowlers took wickets when needed. In the first week of the holiday the team toured in Ireland, courtesy of Mr Peter Savill, where they played many matches.

CRICKET - U11

The season's highlight was our Southern Tour to Summerfield, Ludgrove and Sunningdale. A Junior Cricket Club on Tuesday nights was also well-attended.

The U11B season this year has seen much progress. A group with many beginners took some time to settle, but gradually played effectively. A loss to Cundall Manor preceded fine individual and team performances winning against Belmont Grosvenor, St Olaves and Aysgarth. Every squad member represented the school in at least one fixture.

CROSS COUNTRY

Although poor weather forced cancellations here and at Terrington Hall, our Cross Country teams still had a successful season with fixtures at Giggleswick, Red House and Woodleigh. The Boys' First team remains unbeaten and the Girls' First team made much progress.

At Giggleswick, the U13 girls team was placed second, just one point from first place. U13 boys won the Catterall Shield for the second consecutive year, scoring just 17 points, ahead of the second placed team with 42.

At Red House both the Boys' First and Girls' First teams won their team competitions, the first time St Martin's Ampleforth had achieved the double in any

competition. At Woodleigh, Lydia Bramhall came first, with a new course record. U13 boys won again with 18 against the second placed team's 74.

HOCKEY - GIRLS

The season began for the Senior Girls with a tough fixture against Red House. However, fortunes quickly changed. Next we enjoyed convincing victories over Leeds Grammar. At Sedbergh we narrowly lost 1-2 in the dying seconds, having dominated throughout.

The House Hockey competition saw every girl play for her house, then, after half-term, we lost to a strong Cundall Manor side. We then played host to Yarm and won all games. We achieved the same results against a strong Barnard Castle team but against Durham, away, we enjoyed a victory each. The season ended with a splendid victory over seaside visitors, Bramecote.

The Junior Girls played hockey this year with spirit and determination, from the youngest Year 3 to the oldest Year 5.

NETBALL

The Netball season is always quite short. However, by the end of the season, the girls were throwing quickly and accurately and using court space well. The captain, Imogen Ward, and Julia Bustillo received colours. The U9's have concentrated on basic footwork, passing, throwing and shooting. Their season ended in an U9 tournament, with High 5's where players have to swap positions.

ROUNDERS

The First Rounders Team improved markedly. The team began with shaky fielding and difficulty connecting bat to ball. The girls worked hard and became a very effective fielding team. Daisy Pern, Julia Bustillo and Imogen Ward were a fierce trio of bowler, backstop and first post managing to get most players out who failed to hit the ball far. The team finished on a high against Bramecote who had earlier badly beaten us. We narrowly lost in our highest scoring match by 24 to 22.5.

RUGBY - 1st XV

This must have been the physically smallest group of boys ever to represent the school but they made up for it in determination and their desire to improve. From the embryonic beginnings in September to the last match in December (Easter Term decimated because of the weather) this team was unrecognisable. The improvement in their basic skills and indeed in their ability to play as a team was fascinating to watch, as was their increased desire to win.

RUGBY - SEVENS

This year's Seven were very skilful, very small and mostly Year 7. All tried hard to improve basic running, catching, passing and tackling and we played some very good Sevens but opportunities to score did not often arise. We tended not to be aggressive enough in defence and we found it very hard to regain possession. However, much was learnt over seven tournaments.

RUGBY - U11

This was a very good season. The pack was strong and mobile, supported by a talented back division. Rupert Waley and Alex Liley caused the opposition many problems at the set piece. Edmund Hirst is a strong runner and will be a force next year as he progresses towards the top end of the school. Highlights included wins against Aysgarth, Bramcote, Mowden Hall and Woodleigh.

RUGBY - U9

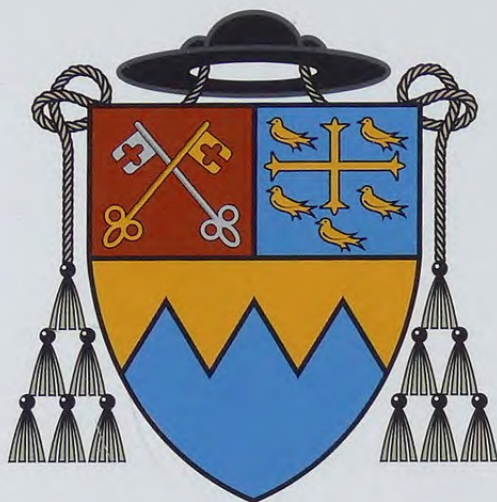
The year began with some trepidation, having lost a talented bunch of players to Year 5 plus the two key members of the team moving to new schools. However, despite an opening loss against Cundall, we remained unbeaten thereafter. Year 4 pupils provided most of the bulk, penetration and skill but were ably supported by the new recruits who developed considerably and will thus provide the core team for 2010-11.

TENNIS - BOYS

A good start saw a very narrow victory over St Olave's, York. However we later lost to Terrington, Bootham and Pocklington. Toby Pratt won all of his single matches and three of the team return this year.



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