



THE DURHAM OX

— CRAYKE —

Our 13th year at The Durham Ox has provided many opportunities to catch up with old friends and make some new ones too. Our new extension The Burns Bar, a fabulous all weather garden room has provided some much needed additional space and already hosted a number of Ampleforth parties.

Our new venture Provenance Inns has seen three exciting openings of more local inns: The Oak Tree at Helperby, The Punch Bowl at Marton cum Grafton and The Carpenters Arms, Felixkirk which managed to beat off other competition to win Best Freehouse UK 2011 - not bad in a year!

So, when there's 'no room at the inn' why not try one of our other sites...and all very much share the same ethos as The Durham Ox.

Sasha and I hope to see you all very soon.

Kind regards Michael Ibbotson H89



★
SUMMER PUBS & PLACES TO STAY
THE GUARDIAN
JUNE 2009

★
YORKSHIRE PUB OF THE YEAR
YORKSHIRE TOURIST BOARD
WINNER 2008

★
PUBLICAN OF THE YEAR UK
THE PUBLICAN
APRIL 2011

★
FREEHOUSE OF THE YEAR UK
THE PUBLICAN
2008

★
YORKSHIRE DINING PUB OF THE YEAR
YORKSHIRE LIFE MAGAZINE
2006/2009

★
TOP 10 FRESIDE PUBS
THE GUARDIAN

★
TOP 50 PARTY VENUES UK
THE INDEPENDENT MAGAZINE

★
AA PUB OF THE YEAR ENGLAND
2007/2008

★
TOP 10 PRIVATE DINING VENUES
THE INDEPENDENT

The Durham Ox, Westway, Crayke, York YO61 4TE
Tel: 01347 821 506
www.thedurhamox.com

The Ampleforth Journal



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EDITORIAL

FR DOMINIC MILROY OSB
EDITOR OF THE AMPLEFORTH JOURNAL



SEPTEMBER 6th, 2011, was the 50th anniversary of the Consecration of the Abbey Church. It coincided with the first day of the new academic year and with the launching of the new translation of the Mass. Older OAs will remember the hybrid years between the completion of the Scott Choir and the demolition of Hansom's 19th century church. We pray frequently for our benefactors, living and dead, and the Abbey itself is the most powerful reminder of everything that we owe to them.

Monks and the Military: The Centenary of the CCF

One of the Valley's more familiar sounds is that of the CCF in action on Monday afternoons (the Friday parade disappeared long ago). The sounds may not have changed, but the reality behind them has changed a lot.

Exhibition 2011 was marked by a military tattoo in front of the Abbey Church. This drew attention to one of the paradoxes of Ampleforth's tradition - monks on parade in military uniform, and the College's strong link with the Armed Services.

The monks have put away their uniforms, and the Corps is now optional. However, far from playing a diminished role in the life of the school, its reputation has never stood higher. It is staffed by ten lay officers, three of whom are women. More than a quarter of the students are involved. Standards are conspicuously high, and activities far more varied than they used to be: the Shooting VIII are the current national small-bore champions, and the Pipe and Drum Band was in Princes Street to welcome the Pope. Moreover, it is clear that Ampleforth is still supplying high quality officers to the Armed Services.

So the Exhibition tattoo was a celebration. But of what, exactly? The brochure which was prepared for the event made it clear that this was a celebration, not of militarism, but of something far more important, namely the values which are held in common by the particular Benedictine tradition which is embodied at Ampleforth and by the ideals which have inspired British officer formation at its best.

The brochure's message was built around the image and the legacy of several remarkable Amplefordian soldiers, whose blend of bravery and honour had made its



mark in places as far apart as the African desert, Normandy, Burma, the Falklands, Northern Ireland, Iraq and Afghanistan. They included the founder-leaders of the Commandos and the SAS, Montgomery's Chief of Staff in North Africa, and OA holders of the Victoria and George Crosses.

In a remarkable article, entitled *The British Officer and the Benedictine Tradition*, Duncan Anderson (Head of the War Studies Department at Sandhurst) analyses the qualities that distinguished these men from mere professional soldiers, and explains why the task of re-establishing these core values at the heart of officer formation has been entrusted to another Amplefordian, Major General Sir Sebastian Roberts (J72).

A simplistic view would suggest that the soldier is a man of war and the monk a man of peace. The insight on which the article is based is that the role of the modern British soldier is not to win wars between nations, but to defend peace, order and stability in places where these are threatened by barbarism, terror and the collapse of civic values. Hence the link with St Benedict, whose 6th century mission could be described in exactly those terms. The ethic formulated in his Rule addresses, in great detail, the role of the individual within a community, and his comments are 'as relevant to a platoon holding an isolated forward base in Helmandas they were to Benedict's community at Monte Cassino.' The concepts of fidelity, leadership, duty, accountability and mutual service are the heart of both situations. 'What is important is to live well.'

Sebastian Roberts, in preparing his programme for Officer Formation at Sandhurst, "drew heavily on the Benedictine traditions of his schooldays, to spell out to an increasingly secular and self-centred society the true meaning of 'Serve to Lead.'" All this represents a powerful reminder to us of what we are about. If our core values are so relevant to the context of the Armed Services, they can surely be brought to bear in many other parallel and equally challenging career situations. An Ampleforth education is intended, above all, to offer a Compass for Life.

Faith seeking understanding; the challenge of complexity

THIS number carries the obituaries of two distinguished members of the community. Fr Ambrose and Fr David both held First Class Honours degrees from Oxford, one in the Natural Sciences and the other in Classics. Their well-remembered styles of thinking and teaching represent a powerful antidote to the shallow laziness of much of the current popular discourse about Science and Faith. It is appropriate that these obituaries (and that of Seymour Spencer, another professional whose high intelligence was enhanced by his faith) should be followed by three articles which celebrate, in different ways, the intellectual seriousness of the authentic Christian response to complexity and to mystery.

THE ABBEY

From the Abbot's Office

RT REV CUTHBERT MADDEN OSB
ABBOT OF AMPLEFORTH

In the last two issues, I commented on how the Community was working towards a consensus on the main issues that we have to face at a time of rapid change and of declining numbers in the Community. As a result of a long and careful process of review, we have now reached the point where we have been able to make a series of choices about our direction for the future. Monastic communities are slow to make choices because they want not only to be pragmatic in their response to circumstance, but also to discern the will of God in the next period of our long history.

Our first priority is to ensure that the monastery continues to flourish as a praying community. We must make sure that our campus remains a distinctly Benedictine place. This means that our schools need to imbue not only a real love of learning but also, as far as possible, a desire for God. We must care for the whole of our environment here in the valley, and we must offer a genuine welcome to the many guests who arrive here. All of them are, in different ways, pilgrims who make Christ visible for us.

We also have our commitments outside the valley. We have decided that we need to place more emphasis on the work we do at our House of Studies in Oxford. St Benet's Hall is a small permanent Private Hall in the University of Oxford. We believe that our presence in one of the world's great centres of learning is one that we should treasure, and our work there needs to be developed. We have also been involved, throughout our history, in parish work. Diminution of numbers means that we will not be able to maintain all our parishes, but we are determined to find the best way of remaining involved with the lives of ordinary Catholic men and women who have valued the distinctly Benedictine character of the parishes in which we have served. We also want to do our best to complete the work that we have begun in the Monastery of Christ the Word in Zimbabwe. We now have, in addition to the community of four Ampleforth monks, two African monks and a third in the initial stages of formation. This is a small shoot, growing in new soil from the gnarled stock of the Community of St Laurence.

These aspirations to sustain our commitment in such varied fields are challenging ones, and depend on two key resources - the presence of more younger monks in our community, and a certain amount of help with funding the projects that we are developing.

Let me focus on the second of these. We have put together an outline plan of our various needs over the next 20 years, indicating how the different projects are linked. We have established the present-day costs that they will imply, and have put forward some proposals about how we might set about funding them: prudent surpluses in our schools, careful development of some individual income streams, perhaps some careful and well-judged borrowing and, of course, some help from our friends and supporters. We are now in the initial stages of talking to some of our friends about the implementation of these plans. When these have been refined and tested, we will be ready to share them with a wider audience. We have already issued the document entitled *Ampleforth - Our Journey*, and we shall, in due course, produce another publication *Ampleforth - Joining Our Journey*.

Encouraging new vocations to the monastic life is a challenging and daunting task. The Europe of our own time seems too often to be tired of spirituality, and frequently appears (at least on the surface) to have lost interest in our Christian heritage. Here again there are encouraging signs if we have eyes to see them. In our own schools there are students who are eager not only to develop their life of faith, but to share it with the younger brethren. In the College this term, I have commissioned students as Special Ministers of the Eucharist, as Readers at Mass and as Catechists for the Confirmation programme. It has been inspiring to see these young men and women standing up in front of the congregation in the Abbey Church at Sunday Mass in order to commit themselves to these tasks. Fr Chad has, at my request, left his work as Housemaster of St Oswald's, in order to coordinate the work of the brethren engaged in the Chaplaincy, so that we can find the best ways of nurturing the thirst for faith that we see in our students, and also of sharing these initiatives with parents and with teachers. Fr Oswald has, in a similar way, moved from St Dunstan's in order to coordinate the task of promoting vocations. This means identifying ways of making us known to young men who are seeking a place in which to live the monastic life, and walking with them as their process of discernment develops. It also means fostering the relationships and attitudes within the Community which will support that search for stability, which in our modern society is so difficult to attain.

We are very fortunate to have been able to receive a monk into Solemn Vows this year. Br Cedd, after two successful years' teaching in the College, is now with the Dominicans in Oxford completing his theological studies. In February, I was in Zimbabwe receiving the Temporary Profession of Br Placid Mavura, the second of our African monks, and spending time with Staphen Jere who has just begun his candidacy for the monastic life. In September, I clothed a new novice for our Community here, who has taken the name of Br Ambrose. I would ask you to pray for the perseverance of these young monks.

We are, as usual, involved in a certain amount of building and maintenance work. Through careful management of our resources and the contributions of generous donors, we have been able to carry through three important projects in the College. Thanks to the imaginative support of Lawrence Dallaglio (T89), we have been able to restore the 1st XV rugby pitch to prime condition. We have done the same for the old match tennis courts. We have also built suitable accommodation for the new lay housemasters in Nevill House, providing not only accommodation for them but for their families and guests. We have also made significant improvements in the areas of hospitality. Visitors will have noticed that we have done our best to improve the signposting of our various facilities in the campus, and these signs now include two new developments. We have opened the Abbey Tea Room in the Main Hall, which is proving to be a very popular local attraction, and we have provided a state-of-the-art Visitors Centre in St Alban Roe House (the old Junior House), which is also turning out to be very popular. Amongst other challenges which face us in the immediate future are the very necessary refurbishment of the old monastery building (which has remained largely unchanged since the 19th century), and bringing Bolton House back into function, at least in order to assist us in the sort of 'decanting' operations that modernisation of the whole plant is bound to imply.

In all these areas, it is important for us both to think ahead and to ensure that our developments are of good quality.



THE AMPLEFORTH COMMUNITY

THE COMMUNITY AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AS FROM OCTOBER 2011

	RESPONSIBILITIES	PARISH/RESIDENCE (other than Ampleforth)		
Rt Rev Cuthbert Madden	<i>Abbot</i>		Fr Stephen Wright (T56)	<i>Parish Priest</i> <i>Knaresborough</i>
Abbot Patrick Barry (W35)			Fr Gregory Carroll	
<i>Titular Abbot of Lindisfarne</i>			Fr Gordon Beattie (D59)	<i>Parish Priest</i> <i>Parbold</i>
Abbot Timothy Wright (T60)		<i>Rome</i>	Fr Alberic Stacpoole (C49)	
<i>Titular Abbot of Westminster</i>			Fr Aelred Burrows	
VR Fr Terence Richardson (J72)	<i>Prior</i>		Fr Jonathan Cotton (H60)	<i>Parish Priest</i> <i>Leyland</i>
	<i>Dean of Hospitality</i>		Fr Felix Stephens (H61)	<i>Master</i> <i>St Benet's Hall</i>
Fr Francis Davidson	<i>Sub-Prior</i>		Fr Bonaventure Knollys (C53)	<i>Parish Priest</i> <i>Ampleforth</i>
	<i>Safeguarding Coordinator</i>		Fr Matthew Burns (W58)	<i>Priest in Charge</i> <i>Gilling East</i>
VR Fr Henry Wansbrough (W53)			Fr Edgar Miller (O61)	<i>Priest in Charge</i> <i>Oswaldkirk</i>
<i>Cathedral Prior of Durham</i>	<i>Chaplain, St Oswald's</i>		Fr Francis Dobson (D57)	<i>Chaplain, St Cuthbert's</i>
VR Fr Dominic Milroy (W50)	<i>Chaplain, St Aidan's</i>		Fr Christopher Gorst (O65)	<i>Hospitality</i>
<i>Cathedral Prior of Chester</i>	<i>Editor, Ampleforth Journal</i>		Fr Alexander McCabe	<i>Choirmaster; Teaching</i>
VR Fr Leo Chamberlain (A58)				<i>Chaplain, St Thomas's</i>
<i>Cathedral Prior of Gloucester</i>	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Easingwold</i>	Fr Peter James (H69)	<i>Hospitality</i>
VR Fr Mark Butlin (O49)			Fr Cyprian Smith	
<i>Cathedral Prior of Norwich</i>	<i>Alliance Inter-Monastère</i>		Fr Bernard Green	<i>Tutor</i> <i>St Benet's Hall</i>
Fr Edward Delepine			Fr Antony Hain	
Fr Martin Haigh (E40)			Fr Hugh Lewis-Vivas	<i>School Guestmaster</i>
Fr Theodore Young (D40)		<i>Grassendale</i>		<i>Chaplain, St Hugh's</i>
Fr Edmund Hatton (O40)			Fr Bede Leach	<i>Secretary, Ampleforth Society</i>
Fr Benedict Webb (A38)			Fr Jeremy Sierla	<i>Hospitality</i>
Fr Justin Caldwell (B47)	<i>Chaplain, St Bede's</i>		Fr Bernard McNulty	<i>Abbey Shop</i>
Fr Augustine Measures (W45)		<i>St Benedict's, Bamber Bridge</i>	Fr James Callaghan	<i>Novice Master; Teaching</i>
Fr Aidan Gilman (A45)				<i>Chaplain, St Margaret's</i>
Fr Geoffrey Lynch (D44)	<i>Chair, Staff Association</i>		Fr Paul Browne	<i>Leyland</i>
Fr Adrian Convery (O49)	<i>Monastery Guestmaster</i>		Fr Andrew McCaffrey	
<i>Vicar Episcopal for Religious</i>	<i>Chaplain, St John's</i>		Fr William Wright (A82)	<i>Parish Priest</i> <i>Warrington</i>
Fr David O'Brien		<i>St Benedict's Bamber Bridge</i>	Fr Raphael Jones	<i>Parish Priest</i> <i>Brindle</i>
Fr Rupert Everest (E50)	<i>Chaplain, St Edward's/Wilfrid's</i>		Fr Kentigern Hagan	<i>Parish Priest</i> <i>Kirkbymoorside</i>
Fr Michael Phillips (E52)	<i>Chaplain</i>	<i>St Benet's Hall</i>	Fr Gabriel Everitt	<i>Abbey Sacristan</i>
Fr Edward Corbould (E51)			Fr Cassian Dickie	<i>Headmaster</i>
Fr Dunstan Adams			Fr Xavier Ho	<i>Acting Parish Priest</i> <i>Grassendale</i>
Fr Anselm Cramer (O54)	<i>Archivist</i>		Fr Luke Beckett	<i>Parish Priest</i> <i>Lostock Hall</i>
Fr Alban Crossley	<i>Acting Assistant Priest</i>	<i>Grassendale</i>	Fr George Corrie	<i>Chaplain, St Dunstan's</i>
			Fr George Corrie	<i>Parish Priest</i> <i>St Mary's, Brownedge</i>
			Fr Oswald McBride	<i>Vocations Director</i>
			Fr Chad Boulton	<i>Head of Chaplaincy</i>
			VR Fr Damian Humphries	<i>Prior</i> <i>Osmotherley</i>
			VR Fr Colin Battell	<i>Prior</i> <i>St Benedict's, Bamber Bridge</i>

Fr Kieran Monahan

Fr John Fairhurst
Fr Wulstan Peterburs
Fr Philip Rozario

Br Columba Moujing
Br Anselm Sayer

Br Cedd Mannion

Hospitality
Master of Ceremonies
Chaplain, SMA Gilling
Procurator
SMA, Gilling
Assistant Editor Ampleforth Journal
St Benet's Hall
Assistant Chaplain to Staff
Assistant Chaplain to St John's
St Benet's Hall

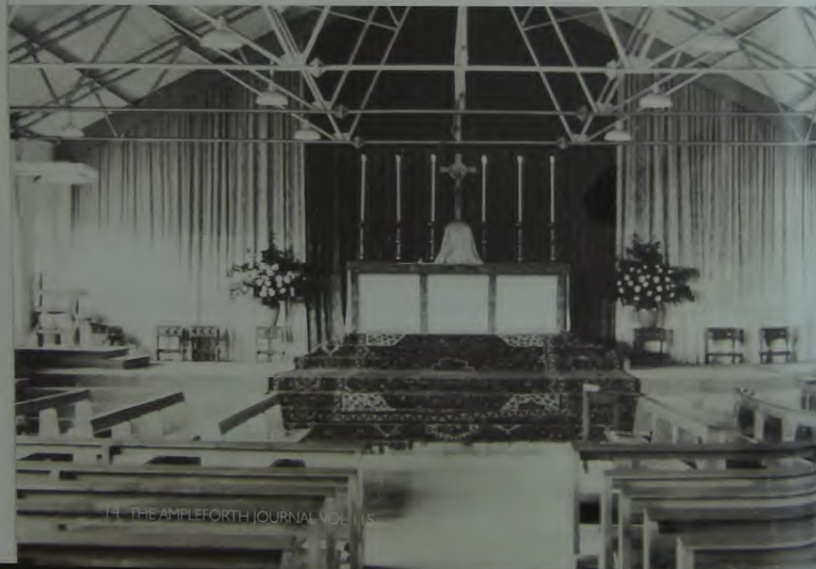
MONASTERY OF CHRIST THE WORD, ZIMBABWE

MONKS OF AMPLEFORTH

VR Fr Robert Igo
Fr Richard ffield
Fr Barnabas Pham
Br Joseph Dinala
Br Placid Mavura
Stephen Jere (*candidate*)

Prior
Sub-Prior
Novice Master and Bursar
Guestmaster

Photo below: the temporary Church in which the monks and boys worshipped during the building of the Abbey Church in the late 1950s and in which your Editor and several of his brethren were ordained to the priesthood. It was situated in a site parallel to the Big Study block, in front of the old St Oswald's House.



CATHEDRAL PRIOR OF DURHAM

VERY REV HENRY WANSBROUGH OSB

FR HENRY Wansbrough has recently been appointed Alexander Jones Professor of Biblical Studies at Liverpool Hope University. This is not a residential post, but requires him to lecture on a regular basis. He adds this to his other numerous commitments, some of which are local, whilst others imply a considerable external involvement.

At Ampleforth, in addition to teaching Christian Theology, he is Chaplain to St Oswald's House, and (in his own words) Head Gardener of the Ampleforth Memorial Garden. This is mainly the garden originally created by Fr Peter Utley below the skating rink (now a car park) at the old Junior House, which now houses many visiting school groups and the newly created Visitors' Centre. He also sings in the Schola Cantorum.

In the wider field, Fr Henry is Executive Secretary of the International Commission for Preparing an English-language Lectionary (ICPEL), and a member of the Anglican Roman Catholic International Commission (ARCIC III). He lectures widely on scripture in places as far apart as Liverpool and Budapest, and is a regular contributor to the Scripture Bulletin and similar publications. He also lectures at the Oxford University Summer School in Theology, and still leads groups on pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

COMMUNITY NEWS

DURING his annual visitation in February to the Monastery of Christ the Word in Zimbabwe, **FR ABBOT** presided at the Simple Profession of **BR PLACID MAVURA**. Br Placid now takes care of the Monastery's livestock - goats, rabbits, and poultry. He is also Master of Ceremonies and Sacristan and joins **BR JOSEPH DINALA** - now Guestmaster - who took simple vows last year, as the second African member of the community. During Easter Week, Novice-master **FR BARNABAS PHAM** organised a workshop for three young men who had expressed interest in monastic life. In the year to August 2011, Christ the Word had received 120 guests for guided retreats, and members of the community have delivered 10 retreats elsewhere. **FR RICHARD FFIELD** represented the Zimbabwe brethren at the Abbey's August Chapter.

Before returning to Ampleforth, Fr Abbot attended the BECOSA (Benedictine Communities of Southern Africa) conference in Johannesburg. **FR ROBERT IGO** (Prior of Christ the Word) and **FR MARK BUTLIN** were among contributors.

In July, **BISHOP AMBROSE GRIFFITHS** was buried at Ampleforth, after Requiem Masses at Leyland, Newcastle Cathedral and the Abbey. His elder brother, Canon Anthony Griffiths delivered the eulogy. In August, **FR EDWARD DELEPINE** marked the 75th anniversary of his monastic clothing; having recovered well after some days in hospital last December. **FR EDMUND HATTON** celebrated his 70th anniversary of clothing this year 'alongside' his contemporary **FR LUKE RIGBY** - for many years a monk (and former abbot) of St Louis Abbey. **FR PATRICK BARRY** has been visited by many old friends from St Louis - including Abbot Thomas Frereking - and others over the past year.

During the summer, **FR COLIN BATTELL** returned to Bamber Bridge as Prior of St Benedict's Monastery - a post he held before his appointment as Prior of Ampleforth in 2006. **FR TERENCE RICHARDSON** has returned to the Abbey as Prior and Dean of Hospitality after several years as Parish Priest of St Mary's Church, Brownedge. He had also combined this with the role of Prior of St Benedict's since **FR CASSIAN DICKIE** moved to reinforce the team at St Austin's, Grassendale, in Liverpool. Fr Cassian and **FR THEODORE YOUNG** have since been joined by **FR ALBAN CROSSLEY**.

FR DOMINIC MILROY, in addition to being Editor of the Journal and Chaplain to St Aidan's, is also in charge of the Abbey's Confraters, who gathered this October and were entertained by the brethren. He also retains wide pastoral commitments away from the Abbey.

FR EDWARD CORBOULD continues his wide-ranging apostolate amongst Old Boys and friends of the Abbey.

FR BEDE LEACH has continued to lead many retreats on and off-site throughout the year. These have included residential visits from a wide range of schools in northern England, and the week-long pilgrimage to Iona in September. **FR CHRISTOPHER GORST** has led many retreats and days of recollection, and supervised guest provision during the Easter Triduum when over 500 residential and day guests came to Ampleforth.

As this year marks the 50th anniversary of the Dedication of the Abbey Church, the Newsletter for Oblates - edited by **FR ANSELM CRAMER** - focussed on the completion of the Church in 1961 and the historical background to this landmark project. Br Anselm (as he then was) was one of the servers at the five-hour liturgy 50 years ago - at which Archbishop Heenan of Liverpool presided.

In further moves, **FR GEORGE CORRIE** has joined St Mary's Brownedge as Parish Priest, and now lives at St Benedict's Monastery. His successor in Knaresborough is **FR STEPHEN WRIGHT**. A group from Knaresborough attended World Youth Day in Madrid. The parish continues to support three parishes in Africa, and Mostar in Bosnia. Fr Stephen leaves St Mary's Leyland where he had worked with **FR JONATHAN COTTON** and **FR PAUL BROWNE**. At nearby St Joseph's, Brindle, **FR RAPHAEL JONES** has begun major refurbishment work on buildings linked to the church. A photographic competition featuring local images taken by his parishioners has been incorporated into a calendar. Profits from its sale will go to parish funds. At Warrington, under **FR WILLIAM WRIGHT**'s supervision, the dilapidated old sacristy has been renovated in keeping with the surrounding Pugin church architecture, and transformed into a multifunctional room for choir rehearsals, meetings and audio visual presentations. Fr William gave a series of six talks on the Theology of the Body for the Warrington Pastoral Area during Lent. He also gave a series of talks at the Third International Symposium on the Theology of the Body, at St Mary's University Twickenham. A hiking expedition to the Scottish Highlands this summer with a small group from St Mary's parish included an overnight stay at Pluscarden Abbey, followed by four nights of camping in Wester Ross.

Having completed work on his Doctorate in Canon Law, **FR LUKE BECKETT** has returned from Rome, and is now Chaplain to St Dunstan's House. **FR OSWALD MCBRIDE** has exchanged his role as Housemaster, for that of Vocations Director. **FR CHAD BOULTON** having similarly ended his service at St Oswald's, now focusses on his management of the School Chaplaincy. The new Abbey Visitors Centre is being supervised by **FR KENTIGERN HAGAN** as Warden. The joint

1,000th visitor was - appropriately - a couple from Newcastle who travelled to pay their respects at Bishop Ambrose's grave. They received the Abbey's Vision of Peace choral CD as a fitting memento.

FR WULSTAN PETERBURS, Procurator, having earlier been involved with preparing *Ampleforth - Our Journey* and related documents on the Abbey, has accompanied Director of Development, Jozef Mycielski, to meet current and potential supporters of Ampleforth on visits to the USA and Hong Kong.

FR EDGAR MILLER has overseen major renovation on windows in St Aidan's Church, Oswaldkirk. He has also helped to welcome a long-term Abbey guest from Hungary - Attila Fabian - who spent some months at the Abbey this year to improve his English before successfully taking an examination. In July, Fr Edgar led a group from Oswaldkirk to Hungary, accompanied by **FR PETER JAMES**, **FR PHILIP ROZARIO** and **BR COLUMBA MOUJING**. They spent time with the families of Attila and of Peter and Andras Smohay, both of whom had previously stayed at Ampleforth. At the Cistercian Zirc Abbey they met Fr Bernat Berezi OCSO, who had visited Ampleforth in 2009.

FR FRANCIS DOBSON travelled again to Medjugorje in October half-term with a group of students and staff from Ampleforth College. He had earlier accompanied **FRs GEOFFREY LYNCH**, **EDWARD CORBOULD**, **GABRIEL EVERITT** and **CHAD BOULTON** on the Ampleforth Lourdes Pilgrimage. Fr Francis was also present at the Simple Profession of Br Louis Henriot (J08) at Fontgombault Abbey in France.

FR DAMIAN HUMPHRIES remains Prior of Our Lady of Mount Grace in Osmotherley, and custodian of the Lady Chapel. In September, the Lady Chapel's 50th anniversary was marked by a Mass at which Archbishop Kelly of Liverpool presided, assisted by Fr Abbot, with servers from St John's and St Dunstan's Houses.

BR ANSELM SAYER has continued his work, begun last year, as Assistant Chaplain to St John's. In August, he returned for a two week visit to Inkamana Abbey, and later met Fr Max Jacobs, his confrère from Inkamana, who visited Ampleforth after attending World Youth Day in Madrid.



BISHOP AMBROSE GRIFFITHS OSB 1928-2011

FR DOMINIC MILROY OSB

Michael Ambrose Griffiths born London 4 December 1928; educated Ampleforth (St Aidan's House); Balliol College, Oxford, Chemistry 1 MA BSC; clothed 24 September 1950; 1953-56 Sant'Anselmo, Rome, Theology; ordained 21 July 1957; April 1963 Professor Dogmatic Theology; 1967 Senior Science Master; 1968 Junior Master; January 1972 Procurator; 7 April 1976 elected 5th Abbot of Ampleforth; 1984 Titular Abbot of Westminster; 1984 Parish Priest St Mary's, Leyland; 20 March 1992 ordained Bishop of Hexham & Newcastle; 25 May 2004 retired as Diocesan Bishop; 2004 Assistant Priest at St. Mary's Leyland; died at Leyland 14 June 2011. Bishop Ambrose is pictured below in an unusual episcopal pose abseiling down his Cathedral walls.



NOT many people have three crowded funeral Masses on successive days in different places. Whether as priest, abbot or bishop, he was best remembered simply as 'Father' Ambrose. Whether at Ampleforth, Leyland or in the diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, he has been a Father in God to many people - highly respected for his intelligence, his huge energy and his pastoral zeal, but above all much loved for his radiant and welcoming smile and for the unflinching and selfless generosity with which he treated everyone he met. Throughout his life, he retained an extraordinary capacity for trustful enthusiasm. As a result, he sometimes made mistakes but he never made enemies.

Michael Griffiths was born in London in 1928 and educated at Ampleforth College, where he proved to be a brilliant student, winning a scholarship to Balliol College, Oxford, where he gained a 1st Class Honours in Chemistry.

He joined the Ampleforth Community in September 1950 and took the name Ambrose. He was one of a large novitiate, consisting mainly of younger men, but his own youthful exuberance and easy sense of companionship ensured that he integrated well into community life. He embodied in a remarkable way a certain

quality of innocence and of unfeigned Christian charity, which made him incapable of anything that was mean or cynical. As a result, his influence on his brethren, especially on his own contemporaries, was always extremely positive and invigorating. He was capable of seeing the funny side of things, so much so that his hilarity sometimes caused disturbances in the choir or in the refectory, occasionally leading to quite severe official reprimands from Superiors. This *joie de vivre* never left him.

Paradoxically, there was a sense in which his spiritual life and his devotional attitudes were less influenced by his Benedictine formation than was the case for others. His contemporaries, who were 'trying out' their vocation and who needed to be 'trained' into monastic attitudes, quickly sensed in him a commitment that was already deeply formed: it was, quite simply, obvious that he loved God in a way that was not only serene but radiant. He had grown up in a devout Catholic family, and his priestly vocation had matured over many years. This was to prove in some ways a hindrance, as some of the more subtle nuances of the specifically Benedictine tradition tended to elude him, but it was to prove a positive advantage later on. He had been formed in the tradition of diocesan and parish spirituality, and it was no surprise that he found such fulfilment in the later phases of his life.

He studied Theology at Sant' Anselmo, the International Benedictine College in Rome, and subsequently, after his return to Ampleforth, became Professor of Canon Law and of Dogmatic Theology. In this latter post he succeeded Fr Basil Hume, when he was elected Abbot in 1963. As a teacher of theology, he was both rigorous and open-minded, firmly grounded in the Thomist tradition, but very alert to the new trains of thought that were being opened up at that very time by the debates in the Second Vatican Council. He was also active in the wider field of the English Benedictine Congregation as a whole, being appointed Inspector of Accounts for the Congregation in 1961, a post he took up again after the period of his abbacy. Intellectually, he was a very effective all-rounder; able to apply his gift for analysis and precision to a wide field of commitments.

Whilst living in the monastery, his very clear sense of priorities and his brilliant academic mind sometimes made it difficult for him to appreciate the intellectual and emotional difficulties experienced by less able companions as they groped their way towards a full commitment to their vocation. As a scientist, he was inclined to analyse human problems very rapidly and to move quickly towards ways of solving them. This made him, of course, a very good teacher and administrator, and he had great success first as Head of Science in the College and then as Procurator, responsible for the administration of a large and complex institution. He had an eye both for the wider vision and for the finer details, and contributed enormously to the long term development of the Ampleforth campus, which included (during his time

as Procurator) new classrooms, boarding houses and the St Alban Centre, and (during his time as Abbot) the Sunley Centre, the Central Building and the western extension of the monastery. His personal concern for individual members of staff was sustained long after they were no longer accountable to him. He was very easy to work with, his organisational ability being tempered by a great deal of patience and good humour. He was incapable of bearing a grudge.

When he was elected Abbot in April 1976, these qualities stood him in good stead, and he was always a popular and respected Superior. His greatest strengths as Abbot were his extraordinary ability to give total attention to each of a wide variety of responsibilities, his mastery of detail and his invariable kindness and courtesy to those in his care. He instinctively trusted people, was generous in his judgement of them, and took endless pains to keep in touch with members of the community working away from the Abbey. He embodied St Benedict's injunction that an Abbot 'should show equal care for all.'

It was, however, a difficult time for religious superiors. He had succeeded two distinguished Abbots in Herbert Byrne and Basil Hume, and had to cope with the often intractable problems in religious life that arose in the wake of Vatican II, and the sociological turbulence which characterised his time as Abbot. He was determined, at a time when the exercise of authority was being subjected to wide and general scrutiny, to explore new and imaginative ways of working towards consensus, and was anything but dictatorial in his style of leadership. He sometimes found it difficult to see why solutions that seemed obvious to him were less obvious to others, and in spite of his transparent selflessness and his indestructible good humour, the human complexities of a large community sometimes puzzled and frustrated him. Throughout this time, his prayerfulness and generosity ensured his place in the affections of his Community. He was also greatly inspired by his commitment to the deeper aspects of the Charismatic Renewal, which ensured that his own temperamental optimism was always underpinned by an unflagging, infectious faith in the over-arching guidance of the Holy Spirit. The fact he was not re-elected as Abbot in 1984 in no way changed his own commitment to his brethren, or theirs to him. He was happy to move, as it were sideways to Ampleforth's large and flourishing parish at Leyland where he found himself very much in his element.

His talent and enthusiasm, in both pastoral and administrative fields, were quickly in evidence. Difficult decisions were having to be made about the parish's role in the educational provision for 1,400 children of primary and secondary age, and Ambrose's combination of vision, practicality and kindness played a vital role in uniting the parish around the decisions that were made. His previous experience in education enabled him to shape a very effective system of governance in the three parish schools.

This 'hands on' approach came to characterise his whole style as Parish Priest, particularly in his sensitivity to the pastoral needs of his parishioners. In spite of his lack of familiarity with people faced with real material deprivation, he was quick to identify with their needs. The Church's preferential option for the poor came naturally to him, and his open and generous style - he instinctively said 'Yes' to any appeal for pastoral help - quickly made him a much-loved pastor. He was assiduous in visiting the sick and needy (and those in the two prisons which lay within the parish) and in ensuring that his brother-priests did the same.

His unusual ability to give total attention to the details of a wide variety of tasks, ranging from attention to Church documents and organising pastoral programmes to the management of finances and of the Parish Club, meant that no corner of a large and complex parish was neglected. He also found time to take on, once again, the job of being the Inspector of Accounts for all the monasteries of the English Benedictine Congregation.

The hallmark of his style was this combination of qualities that do not often go together - meticulous efficiency and huge personal kindness. At the heart of his influence in the parish was the rhythm of his personal and community life in the Priory. The primacy of prayer, both personal and in the shared Prayer of the Church, was absolute and unwavering. It was also the key to the balance he was able to find between the pressures of administration and those of careful and well-prepared pastoral duties.

He had inherited a parish in which the contribution of lay helpers was already well integrated. He developed this involvement with courtesy as well as with enthusiasm. Whilst being willing to do countless jobs himself, from sacristy work to shopping, he also enjoyed collaboration with others, and his own example of whole-hearted commitment meant that he inspired a similar approach in others without seeming to demand it.

It was no doubt this style of leadership, as well as his reputation for versatile and intelligent hard work and for personal holiness, that drew the attention of the Congregation of Bishops. It was typical of him that he was totally stunned when Archbishop Worlock broached the idea of his becoming a Bishop, and equally so that he accepted with unquestioning simplicity and obedience.

His contribution as Bishop is summed up in the following contribution from the Diocese:

"The transition from monastic community to diocesan bishop cannot have been easy but it never occurred to him to do anything other than take it in his stride and to

accept wholeheartedly the new direction of his vocation. However, one of his first tasks on moving to Bishop's House, Newcastle was to invite three Sisters of Mercy from Oaklea Convent in Sunderland to become housekeepers - the community life which had nurtured him for so long was to continue.

"On arrival in the diocese he set himself the task of getting to know lay people and priests. In a diocese that stretches from the Scottish border to the Tees this meant a great deal of driving (which he did for himself). He would use many journeys as opportunities to 'drop in' on some unsuspecting parish priest whose door he happened to be passing; this could cause consternation especially if the priest had gone to bed. However, the concern which he had for his priests was recognised and appreciated, particularly by those who were in difficulties. He made a special point of caring for newly ordained priests and would join the group for those ordained under five years. After a meal with them (and indeed in other situations) he would insist on helping with the washing up. His vision of ministry was that every priest must strive to conform himself to Christ who has called him and loves him; this was the way in which he himself lived out the priestly vocation.

"His vision of the Church was very much that of the Second Vatican Council; collaboration between clergy and laity was at the heart of all he did in the diocese and was manifested in the seriousness with which he regarded the Diocesan Pastoral Council and Council of the Laity. Coming from the somewhat patrician background of Ampleforth was never a barrier; he was genuinely interested in everyone he met and could engage in conversation with them. Following a Confirmation, or some other parish celebration, he was often the last person to leave.

"His time at Ampleforth meant that he understood young people and was at ease with them. He had a great passion for encouraging them to evangelise their peers and to this end enabled Fr Dermott Donnelly and others to set up what is now the Youth Ministry Team; towards the end of his episcopate in the diocese he oversaw the establishment of the Youth Village as a centre for retreats for young people. In a quite unselfconscious way he was at home with young people and they loved and accepted him. When John Paul II convened World Youth Day in Rome, Ambrose made the journey on a coach with young people from the diocese. Quite oblivious to the inevitable noise going on around him he would put his head down and sleep, waking refreshed and ready to engage with his travelling companions.

"Following the Church of England's decision to ordain women as priests, he was approached by a number of Anglicans seeking a new ecclesial home. His understanding of what had led them to this point showed itself in the kindness of his welcome.

“Bishop Seamus Cunningham was Administrator of Newcastle Cathedral during Ambrose Griffiths’s time as Bishop. He says ‘Bishop Ambrose died as he had lived, full of gratitude and hope. His gratitude was for those who were caring and praying for him; his hope was in the Lord whom he has served so faithfully. His infectious enthusiasm meant that his ministry as Bishop of our diocese was a time of great blessing for us. Always approachable to laity and clergy alike, he will miss him and pray for him with great thanksgiving.’”

When he retired as Bishop, Ambrose happily opted to return, not only to parish life, but to the status of assistant priest in the parish over which he had previously presided. He had changed. His experience was much wider, and he brought with him a wealth of understanding of the Church’s strengths and frailties. It was typical of him that he remarked that the post of assistant priest was one he had never held, and that he was longing to try it.

This last period of his life was to prove, not only deeply satisfying to himself, but also remarkably impressive to others. He was living a strange and wonderful ‘double life.’ At one level he was still a Bishop, in constant demand for the things that only a Bishop can do, and still the representative of the Bishops’ Conference for young people and an active member of the National Charismatic Renewal Committee. At another level he was a simple curate, and in this capacity he placed himself entirely at the disposal of a parish priest who had previously served under him and whose style was very different. He was as willing as ever to take on the humblest tasks, visiting and counselling and serving as chaplain to the primary school.

It was entirely characteristic of him that he happily returned to a position of ordinary ‘citizenship’ as a member of his community, and contributed unpretentiously to discussions and debates at meetings of the annual chapter. He never gave himself airs or took advantage of his status or his experience.

Whatever he did, he had always done joyfully and whole-heartedly, and he brought these qualities to the ‘management’ of his final illness. His attitude was not one of conventional resignation: ever optimistic, he had every intention of getting better and returning to work. But when it became evident to him that he was dying, he simply switched both his joyfulness and his instinct for efficiency in a different direction, planning his funeral and comforting those who had come to comfort him. Far from turning his face to the wall, he remained intensely interested in the welfare of those around him, grateful to those who loved and cared for him and, as ever, quick to praise and to pray. He ended his life as he had lived it.

FR DAVID MORLAND OSB 1943-2011

FR DOMINIC MILROY OSB

William John David Morland born 25 January 1943; educated Gilling Castle and Ampleforth College (St Hugh’s House); clothed 21 September 1961; ordained priest 4 July 1971; 1964-68 St Benet’s Hall (1st Mods, 2nd Greats); 1968-1972 studied Theology in Munich and Sant’ Anselmo, Rome, STL 1972; 1972-77 teaching at Ampleforth; 1977 and 1978 Little Crosby and Leyland; 1978 -1984 returned to teaching at Ampleforth and Gilling Castle; 1984 appointed Senior Classics Master at Ampleforth and Master of Monastic Studies the following year; 1992 Subprior; 1994-97 Chairman of Governors, St Benedict’s School, Ampleforth; 1998 Assistant Priest, St Austin, Grassendale; 2005 Parish Priest, Grassendale; died at Ampleforth 17 October 2011.



FR DAVID Morland died peacefully in the monastery infirmary on the morning of 17th October 2011. He had lingered for some months in his slow battle with cancer, but the end came quite quickly. The remarkable feature of his last days was his quiet serenity. He had put his very active mind into a sort of peaceful gear of neutral, and his temperamental impatience into one of quiet acceptance. His sharp sense of humour and his quick smile were never far from the surface. In the last active period of his life, he had been parish priest of St Austin’s, Grassendale, where he had

come to be greatly loved not only for his intelligent management of an active and lively parish and for his particular care for the sick and dying, but also for his skill in the kitchen. He prepared many delicious meals for parish clergy who might otherwise have gone hungry. He loved the company of his monastic brethren and his fellow priests, and it was somehow very fitting that this highly versatile man should end up by translating his passion for theology and for creative thinking into the gentle pastoral simplicity which so endeared him to those who only encountered him in the later stages of his life.

William Morland was the youngest of four brothers - Martin (T51), Dominic (T55), and Charlie (T57). He surely owed some of his breadth and versatility of character to his ancestry. His father, Oscar, was from a highly successful family of Quaker manufacturers (including Clarkes shoes), and was a distinguished diplomat who ended up as Ambassador to Tokyo, a post that was also held by William’s maternal

grandfather, Sir Francis Lindley. His mother was a Lovat Fraser, a staunch Scottish Catholic descended from the last man beheaded for treason in the Tower of London. Other forbears on the maternal side included a Master of the Rolls, a physician to the Shah of Persia and a famous botanist.

William went to Gilling Castle and became a founder member of St Hugh's House. He studied Classics under the stimulating guidance of men like Walter Shewring, Philip Smiley and Fr Barnabas Sandeman. He had a vividly active and enquiring mind in which academic precision was balanced by a sort of sharp common sense which kept him rooted in everyday realities and in the experience of a wide range of friendships with people of all ages and abilities. He could easily have gone on to a distinguished academic career, but he chose instead to enter the monastery and to hand over his talents to an unknown future. He took the name David, and was one of a large novitiate, where he entered into the period of monastic formation with enthusiasm and vitality. He went to St Benet's Hall and took a First in Classical Moderations. If he fell short of the same distinction in Classical Greats, this was largely due to his commitment to a wide range of other demands on his mind and heart. At the time of his finals, he was devoting much of his time and energy to caring for the Master of St Benet's Hall, Fr James Forbes, who was very unwell.

After Oxford, Abbot Basil Hume sent him to study Philosophy and Theology in Munich and Rome. This was in the aftermath of the Second Vatican Council, and he responded eagerly to the opportunity to deepen his insights in such a climate, bringing to his studies all the skills and subtleties of his previous formation. He returned to the Abbey in 1972 with a Licentiate in Theology.

He then started teaching in the school. Those who came under his influence, whether in the monastery or the school or elsewhere, had the privilege of encountering a very remarkable mind. His formation, both in the classical humanities and in the theological inventiveness of the period following Vatican II, gave him a power of insight into the realities of contemporary life which was striking both in its realism and its spiritual depth. He was not a man who found it easy to adapt himself to the conventional routines and the ascetical demands of monastic life. He was by nature not only an enquirer but an adventurer, and the demands made on him by his commitment to his Community were often costly. However, he was always determined to meet them, and his loyalty, both in general and in the particular detail of his observance, brought him quietly into a zone of personal holiness which was particularly impressive to those who knew him well. Many of his friends will remember that talking theology with David was one of the most rewarding things that any human being could be privileged to share. His theological vocabulary was earthed in countless ways by his acute sense of the way in which ordinary people thought. This gave him the capacity to be not only a wonderful conversationalist but

also a great teacher, counsellor and preacher. His sermons were frequently memorable. He was fascinated by God's way of communicating with his people, and he became for many a window into the mysteries of Divine Revelation. He was incapable of being dull. He was a close friend of Dame Maria Boulding of Stanbrook Abbey, and made deeply interesting contributions to two publications: *Consider your Call* and *Touch of God*. He also translated *Vol XVI (Experiences of the Spirit)* of Karl Rahner's *Theological Investigations*, and published a document *Eucharist & Justice* for the Peace and Justice Commission. He wrote a short and characteristically challenging book simply entitled *God* in 1982, and was for a time a delegate to the National Council of Priests.

It is in many ways an extraordinary thing that a man of such exceptional talent should have ended up, during the years that followed, by doing practically all the varied and humdrum things that Ampleforth monks are asked to do. Instead of being allowed to devote his life to the higher levels of theological study and expression, he did the rounds of nearly all the works of the Community, including short spells in 1977 and 1978 at Little Crosby and Leyland. Having taught classics in the school and theology in the monastery, he then spent four years teaching at Gilling Castle, covering a wide range of academic and other activities. He returned to Ampleforth in 1984 and was, for 13 years, Senior Classics Master, as well as being Master of Monastic Studies and, for a short period, Subprior. He was also Chairman of Governors of St Benedict's Primary School in Ampleforth village. At this time he also looked after the Gilling parish and helped out in the parish at Ampleforth where his mother, the unforgettable Lady Morland, had come to live. Not only was his presence in the parish a happy and fruitful one, but he was also able to bring colour and enjoyment into his mother's last years by introducing her to his brethren and to many of the boys who came under his care in the Classics Department. He also accompanied these boys on numerous and spectacular expeditions to the Mediterranean classical world.

His period as Senior Classics Master was an extremely distinguished one, during which many boys were inspired by the challenging and empathetic quality of his guidance.

Throughout his life he was also a source of advice and comfort to his family, including a large number of nephews and nieces and cousins, and their friends, particularly the young.

It is not surprising that a man of such exceptional intellectual versatility should also have had to face the challenge of somewhat precarious health. Both intellectually and emotionally he lived not only generously, but also rather near the edge of potential breakdown. He did suffer two crises of health, and it is an extraordinary

tribute, both to his resilience and to his deep and self-deprecating sense of humour, that he was able to recover from these crises, achieving a strong and mature awareness of his own limitations, which enabled him not only to return to the fullness of his intellectual vigour, but also to accept major responsibilities in the latter stages of his life. Even during the rather febrile period of his uncertain health, he was hugely respected by his Community and was constantly re-elected to serve on the Abbot's Council, where his wide experience, his sharp insights and his complete lack of self-interest made him an exceptionally valuable contributor. He was also a member of the Advisory Board to the College. Throughout this period he developed an unusual and fruitful relationship with the Church in Burma, which started when his brother, Martin, was Ambassador there. Through the Aris family, he came to be a warm supporter of the house-imprisoned opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi. He paid several visits to the country, and prepared a report for the Church authorities reviewing their rather old-fashioned practices in the light of Vatican II. Also the loyal parishioners of St Austin's were cajoled into giving quite large sums of money over the years to support a sizeable orphanage near Rangoon.

Having served as assistant priest in St Austin's, Grassendale, he spent the last six years of his life as parish priest. Early in this period he was diagnosed and operated on for bowel cancer, and subsequently had the shadow of secondaries hanging over him. He did not allow this to affect his whole-hearted commitment to the parish, and it was only when in 2010 the illness took full hold that he was forced to accept full-time treatment. He had always been a traveller on the high seas of an intense human and Christian engagement in life, but at the end this engagement resolved itself into a period of great and unworried stillness, as in a safe harbour. May he rest in peace.

SEYMOUR SPENCER

4 May 1920 - 27 May 2011

FR DOMINIC MILROY OSB



Seymour Spencer represented a unique combination of high seriousness and hilarious conviviality, and had the rare gift of exercising both talents simultaneously. In his commitment to his faith, his family and his profession as a psychiatrist, he cultivated, unwaveringly and joyfully (and right through to the end of his long life), standards of unmistakable excellence. This meant, of course, that he was hugely respected. But he was, above all, greatly loved. He was at his ease in all company. His professional clients became his friends; he was the beloved patriarch of a large extended family; he never tired of meeting new people and, even in the time of grief which followed the death of his adored wife, Margaret, joy kept bubbling through. He was incapable of self-pity.

Seymour chuckled and chortled his way through life, inventing wild puns and telling absurd stories which, coming from anybody else might have been irksome, but coming from him, created a permanent mood of infectious mirth. Another of his many eccentricities was his capacity to appear to be sound asleep (even snoring slightly) during professional consultations and other important discussions. This apparent somnolence was a mask for an attitude of total attention: he would suddenly 'wake up' and respond in detail to every word that had been said. His mind was not only keen and very receptive, but also subtle, without prejudice, very broadly informed, empathetic and open to a wide range of complexities. He was the embodiment of what is meant by 'holism': his was a fully rounded world, in which spirituality, theology, psychology and ordinary human relations lived easily together, penetrated always by humour and a sense of celebration. Whenever he appeared on the scene, his twinkle created at once a sense of expectancy and fun.

To say that Seymour was a friend of Ampleforth is a major understatement. He was both an oblate (sharing in the prayer of the community), and a confrater (recognised for his services to the Abbey and College), but these roles represent only the icing on the cake. He regarded Ampleforth as a sort of second family. For the last 40 years or so - ever since his four sons starting joining the school - he had known every member of the community by name. He was very soon invited to act as a consultant in cases of pastoral or psychological difficulty, and he became a very popular figure

in the congenial surroundings of Fr Denis Waddilove's school guest-room, and thereafter. His journeys back and forth from Oxford were accomplished by car with astonishing rapidity - an achievement he cheerfully (but not always convincingly) attributed to his guardian angel.

It was somehow appropriate that Seymour had first visited Ampleforth during his wartime honeymoon in 1944. He and Margaret resolved on that occasion that, if they were blessed with sons, this is where they would come to school. The original link had been made through St Benet's Hall in Oxford. Seymour had completed his medical studies at Oxford the previous year, and it was through St Benet's Hall that he had earlier met the distinguished Dominican, Fr Conrad Pepler, who instructed and received him into the Catholic Faith.

Seymour grew up in a prosperous Jewish family, which had links with Unilever and Merchant Banking in London. He always acknowledged his huge indebtedness, both spiritual and cultural, to this background (to which he also probably owed his particular brand of humour). After completing his degree, he started hospital practice in Oxford, moved to Newcastle in 1944 as House Officer in cardiology and general medicine to Sir William Hume (whose son, the then Br Basil Hume, was a monk at Ampleforth), and then joined the RAMC and served on the front in Burma. After the war, he took up post-graduate training in Psychiatry back at Oxford. After practising for a few years in Newcastle, he obtained his first consultancy in Exeter, but in 1961 returned as a consultant to Oxford, where he remained for the rest of his life.

Here he spent his years, both before and after his retirement from the NHS, doing good. Quite apart from being a highly gifted clinical psychiatrist, he had a special interest in student health and in forensic work. His attitude to patients (like his attitude to everyone else) was profoundly positive and personal: he took care to discover their best qualities, and moved forward from that. He went on making countless friends, became an active member of the Ampleforth Lourdes pilgrimage, and worked generously in the service of the Church, which duly honoured him with the Knighthood of St Gregory.

He remained active, convivial and witty right to the end. The day before he died, his vision was becoming blurred, and his son Paul asked him, 'Dad, can you see me? With the flicker of a chuckle, he replied, 'Yes, unfortunately.' His funeral, concelebrated by as many of the Ampleforth community as could be spared, was marked by an atmosphere of celebration, joy and (almost) hilarity which he would have much appreciated. An observer might have concluded that he was not much missed, but he would, of course, have been quite wrong. He leaves a huge gap in his big family and his even bigger circle of friends. The fact was that, in Seymour's case, joy always came out on top. May he rest in peace.

JOHN HENRY NEWMAN Beatified by Pope Benedict XVI during his visit to Britain in 2010

FR BERNARD GREEN OSB

Fr Bernard Green is a monk of Ampleforth and a Fellow of St Benet's Hall. He completed his doctorate on Leo the Great in 2004, published by OUP as 'The Soteriology of Leo the Great' in 2008. He has also recently published 'Christianity in Ancient Rome' with T & T Clark. Since 2004 he has been a member of the Theology Faculty at Oxford, where he teaches Patristics. Here Fr Bernard highlights Newman's impact, not only on the history of theology, but also on issues which are as relevant to our own time as they were to us.



THE year was 1816. The carriage was at the door; the luggage was packed; the fifteen-year old boy was waiting, shy and no doubt anxious. His father, however, had still not decided where the carriage was to go - would it be Oxford or would it be Cambridge? To which university should he send his son? The man could not make up his mind till the curate from the local parish arrived, an Oxford man, and, climbing into the carriage to accompany father and son on the journey, insisted that their destination should be the older university. So began a career of nearly 30 years at Oxford in

which John Henry Newman achieved an intellectual and personal ascendancy in the university scarcely paralleled before or since. Had Newman gone to Cambridge, the whole history of Christianity in Britain and the English-speaking world would have been very different; but it was Oxford that claimed him, that shaped him and which, in turn, he was to transform.

Cambridge would have reinforced the Calvinistic Protestantism to which the boy, earnest, deeply devout and clearly very clever, was profoundly attracted. Oxford challenged it. Oxford led him away from Calvinism to an appreciation of the Church, of sacraments, of history which entranced not only his mind but his heart. Having won a Fellowship at Oriel, Newman had the freedom to choose his own field of study and he threw himself into research into the early Church. Convinced that the Church of England, reformed at the Reformation, was the best living embodiment of

the pure beliefs and practices of the early Christian centuries. Newman made himself one of the greatest experts in Europe in the theology of the Fathers. Above all, he made Athanasius his own. Athanasius was the long-suffering Bishop of Alexandria in the fourth century who fought all his life to defend and explain the full divinity of Christ. Newman saw himself too as a campaigner, battling against the forces of doctrinal liberalism which would reduce belief to opinion, and doctrines to the quaint theories of the past.

By his late 30s, Newman was one of the greatest figures in the Church of England, a preacher of unmatched and seductive authority, a writer whose every publication provoked reactions that ranged from adoration to outrage. But he began to have his doubts. Was the Church of England really the purest expression of primitive Christianity? And was it enough anyway for a Church to find its identity by looking backwards? Newman began to recognise that the early Church had changed and developed and that continuing change in Christianity was inevitable and was not necessarily to be condemned as decline. That raised very difficult questions: how was change to be assessed and who had the authority to monitor it? To ponder these questions and his own position, Newman retreated to a village on the edge of Oxford, Littlemore, where he lived a life of monastic discipline and prayer with a few friends for three years. He sketched out answers to his questions in his powerfully original *Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine* in 1845 and this led him that year out of the Church of England and into the Catholic Church.

This was a dramatic step whose importance could scarcely be over-stated. He was to be followed by many others. The English Catholic Church was to owe a very great debt to these converts but the Church of England had been irreversibly transformed by Newman and his friends into a body much more open to Catholic ideas and practice. For Newman himself, it demanded huge sacrifices. From being famous and influential, he adopted a life of relative obscurity as a priest in Birmingham, working among very ordinary people. He continued to write and study; he devoted a couple of years to trying to launch a Catholic university in Dublin, which gave rise to his much-quoted lectures *The Idea of a University*; but for the most part it seemed as though his life as a great public figure was over.

It was an attack on his integrity in the press in 1864 which brought him back into the limelight. Newman's rebuttal of the accusation - that he did not regard truth as a virtue in itself - took the form of a history of his religious opinions which amounted to an explanation and a defence of his conversion in 1845 which has been recognised as perhaps the greatest autobiography in the English language: the *Apologia pro Vita Sua*. For the great majority of his readers, this was the first they had heard of Newman for nearly twenty years; it was the first time they had heard him explain himself; it was almost certainly the first time they had read any recent work written

by a member of the English Catholic community. Its impact was enormous at the time and grew as the years passed. Newman had opened his heart as well as his mind. Newman was a child of the Romantic age, a contemporary of Keats and Coleridge. He did not seek God, as his eighteenth-century forebears had done, in the regularity of the laws of nature but rather in the realm of feeling and the imagination, in the depths of the heart. But at the same time, his entire theological project had been to save Christianity from being no more than a projection of subjective need and to place it firmly in the realm of truth.

Where the *Apologia* had traced this extraordinary, and very modern, path of one thinking, sensitive and imaginative person in pursuit of objective and assured faith, his *Grammar of Assent* (1870) is an attempt to place this quest on a sound philosophical foundation. Here Newman sought to answer two questions: can one believe what one does not understand and can one believe what cannot be absolutely proved? These were burning questions for the Victorian mind. Philosophy had been changed irreversibly by the empiricism of Locke and Hume, which would answer both questions with a resounding no. The scientific revolution too, not least the discoveries which showed the unimaginable antiquity of the earth and pointed to the Darwinian theory of evolution, led many to hold that reason and faith were clear opposites and that if there was any place for faith it was to be reduced to mere subjective sentiment. Newman offered a subtle and fascinating defence of the possibility of faith in what is apprehended but not fully understood. He then went on to propose a theory of how, in the concrete world where paper logic cannot deal with life's realities, converging probabilities can lead to faith through the use of judgment which might be instinctive or might be the fruit of habit which he called the illative sense.

Newman's theological endeavour thus showed remarkable consistency over the course of 40 years. At first, he wanted to know how one could identify Christian truth. Then he sought to explain how the quest for Christian truth had led him into the Catholic Church. Finally, he addressed the fundamental question of whether faith is still possible for the modern mind. All of these were approached from the standpoint of the Oxford theologian, not someone trained in the Roman schools, and his work largely met with puzzlement from the Roman authorities. His endorsement of the declaration of papal infallibility in 1870 was tepid rather than enthusiastic, thereby putting him at loggerheads with some of his more ultramontane contemporaries and probably deepening the suspicion in which he was viewed in some circles. But vindications came in 1878 when he was elected a Fellow of his old Oxford undergraduate college, Trinity, and in 1879 when he was appointed a cardinal by the new pope, Leo XIII. He died in Birmingham, after a lengthy decline, in advanced old age in 1890.

Newman was one of the great literary figures of the Victorian age, a brilliant stylist. He had all the boldness and courage of the Victorians - abandoning the Church of England, persevering in the attempt to found the university in Dublin, confronting his critics - but also all the sensitivity and intuition of an age that produced Pugin, Ruskin and the pre-Raphaelites. To many he was a charismatic, entrancing personality, inspiring deep affection; to some he seemed touchy and too fond of bearing grudges. He was capable of astounding generosity and real humility but sometimes he dipped his pen in acid and wrote with a surprising capacity to wound. He was complex. He has been chosen as the first English person, apart from the martyrs, to be beatified since the Reformation not because he could ever be presented as a plaster-cast saint but because his writing sets him in place as a Doctor of the Church. He spoke powerfully to the issues of his own day but his full significance as a thinker was only appreciated in the century after he died, not least at Vatican II. He is Britain's only truly great theologian since the Middle Ages and it is fitting that for that he is set before us as a model.

VATICAN II - 50 YEARS ON

JOHN WILKINS

John Wilkins worked as a journalist for ten years in the World Service of the BBC and then succeeded Tom Burns as Editor of The Tablet from 1982 - 2003.

NEXT year will see the fiftieth anniversary of the start of the Second Vatican Council called by Pope John XXIII to the astonishment of the world. He wanted to open the church windows and let in fresh air. When I look at the photographs of him being carried into St Peter's on the *sedes gestatoria*, on his way to deliver his opening address, I am always struck by his serenity. He trusted the Spirit utterly in the Church and in the world.

I was an Anglican then, brought up by parents who came from the Congregationalist tradition. The Church of Rome was shunned in our house as the Scarlet Woman. But I was amazed by the Council. This Church which had seemed to outsiders like an army marching in step to a beat from Rome was clearly much more than that.

Pope John left the bishops free to get on with it. They had brought their theologians with them. One of these was German, Joseph Ratzinger, who today is Pope. He was later to come to suspect the "spirit of the Council," which could be an "anti-Spirit," he said, but no one has given a better description of it than he did at the time. The bishops, he wrote, found themselves caught up in a "struggle for truth," which led them to make bold statements which a few years before would have been "virtually unthinkable." This "spiritual awakening" was "the great and irrevocable event of the Council" - "more important in many respects than the texts it passed".

That verdict comes from the reports which Fr Ratzinger wrote up on each of the four council sessions, and which were then collected and published in a brilliant little book entitled *Theological Highlights of Vatican II*. Long out of print, it was recently republished by Paulist Press in the United States. No one reading it will be left in any doubt that in those years Joseph Ratzinger was enthused by the new openings wrought by the bishops under John XXIII and Paul VI.

Other Christians like me were no longer listed under "heretics and schismatics," but had suddenly become "separated brothers and sisters." The protest of the Protestants seemed to have been heard. Thus the very first of the council documents authorised translations of the liturgy into vernacular languages, and subsequently the Council favoured the image of the Church as "the people of God," acknowledged the priesthood of all believers, and declared that the Church was *semper purificanda*. The Catholic Church stood revealed as a body one wanted to belong to, and I took that step myself.

We oldies, as we are now, dreamed dreams at this time. Some of them have been realised.

When I was editor of *The Tablet*, I published a column by the journalist Paul Valley which eloquently testified to how much the Church had changed. He had long ago given up the practice of his Catholic faith, he wrote. Then one day his mother came to stay. Panic: he would have to go with her to Mass and he did not even know where the local church was. He found out, and they went. "It was a breathtaking experience," he recalled. The liturgy "was couched in the accents of everyday language". . . the parish priest was "determined not to rule but to enable others". . . the congregation "reached outside the church building with all manner of service and ministry". . . they "celebrated the glory of life and worked with unflagging commitment against injustice". . .

He concluded: "This was not the Church I had left." He re-joined it.

As an oldie, I have of course priest friends who are oldies too. I was reminiscing the other day with one of them who was remembering his time in Rome in the latter 1970s, when the atmosphere was, he said, "exhilarating." He recalled one experience when the International Theological Commission were meeting, hosted by his institute. They had been discussing the ordination of women that morning and had agreed that biblically the matter was open. There was a buzz of excited conversation round the room as the arguments were rehearsed over lunch. But today a bishop can be sacked for going anywhere near such speculations.

One of the dreams that have conspicuously not been realised is that the Catholic Church would implement a new style of governance. The Council's ground-breaking work on this issued in the doctrine of collegiality: that the Church leadership should follow the pattern of the apostles grouped round Peter, not function as the last absolute monarchy in Europe. "Never Peter without the Eleven, never the Eleven without Peter," as Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor likes to put it.

The importance of the collegiality doctrine was very clear to the young Joseph Ratzinger. No other initiative of the Council receives more space in his *Highlights* book than this. "The problem of papal centralism is readily understandable to everyone," he wrote, referring to "the one-sided functions of an overemphasised primacy." Now that was to be redressed, he thought, by "a new emphasis on the richness and variety in the Church as represented in the bishops."

But this was before the election of Pope John Paul II, one of the most dominant and centralising personalities ever to occupy St Peter's Chair, with that same Joseph Ratzinger, now prefect of the doctrinal congregation, at his right hand.

How far the present period of retrenchment will go, and how it will in its turn eventually be rethought, remains to be seen. John Paul II thought the Church was running away, and must be reined back. As Pope, Benedict XVI for his part has emphasised the continuity of the Church after the Council with the Church that went before. For, as he has written, the Church is always the Church and the way of the Gospel is always to be found in it.

There was of course discontinuity as well. It is evident, for example, that when Vatican II promulgated its document on religious freedom, it was sidelining and correcting the statements of nineteenth-century popes. The conservatives at the Council warned about that, which is why the declaration was at risk till the last moment, and why last-minute changes were made to the text to try to present the new position as a "development" of the old. The young Joseph Ratzinger, who welcomed the new line, was critical of the attempted palliations. "It would have been better to omit these compromising formulas," he declared, "or to reformulate them."

Yet even at this early stage, he had reservations, and in 1968, appalled by the events he witnessed at Tübingen University during the students' revolt, his reassessment of the Council's orientation came to a head. Perhaps, some have suggested, he had envisaged it as ushering in the new order, but now began to fear that it might be the agent of disorder. As prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith for 23 years from 1982, he even said, in an interview published shortly before a Synod of Bishops met to assess the Council's achievement, that "every type of heretical aberration seems to be pressing upon the doors of the authentic faith."

As an oldie, I watch from the sidelines now. The battles are on new territory, with the Catholic Church, deeply wounded by the clerical sexual abuse scandals, facing a crisis of unbelief in its European heartland. Pope Benedict, as a European, is preoccupied with the "dictatorship of relativism" which he detects at work, as he memorably expounded when he addressed representatives of both Houses of Parliament in Westminster Hall during his visit to Britain. In the face of a triumphalist secularism and aggressive and contemptuous atheism, he has encouraged the Church to draw upon its reserves of traditional faith and practice and has set it to reemphasise a separate Catholic identity.

He does not notably call the Council in aid. His reservations remain. "After Vatican II and in the changed cultural climate," he wrote in the foreword to the catechism for young people distributed at this year's World Youth Day in Madrid, "many people no longer knew correctly what Christians should really believe, what the Church taught."

Speaking for myself, I see the perspectives fading which used to attract me. The

Church appears to me less a body to rally round as a citizen than it was, regarding itself above all now as a "sign of contradiction." I had faith in the Council's method of addressing the world as a pilgrim on the way with all men and women of goodwill. And I warmed to the Council's new pastoral and ecumenical style, shifting in accordance with Pope John's prescriptions from monologue to dialogue, spelling the end of the Disapproving Church of the "long nineteenth century." But nearly 50 years later, it appears that the victory of the Council's mindset is at best only partial. If tempted to give up on our dreams, we oldies should take heart. The Catholic Church cannot and will not disavow Vatican II, for Pope and bishops together in council compose constitutions that have the highest teaching authority. The conciliar documents remain a "sure compass," as Pope John Paul II called them, for the twenty-first century. I hope we shall hear much more about that when next year's anniversary is observed - including, of course, in the halls and classrooms of Ampleforth College.

SURPRISING SCIENCE

JAMES LE FANU (B67)

The last Journal included a review of James Le Fanu's (B67) book 'Why Us? How Science rediscovered the mystery of ourselves.' James is well known for his medical contribution to The Daily Telegraph, but his interest in scientific research goes far beyond medicine. At a time when it is frequently suggested, by popular demagogues, that scientific research has 'demystified' the meaning of things and made religion unnecessary, James Le Fanu takes a different approach.

ISAAC Newton wrote "The most beautiful system of the stars and planets could only proceed from an Intelligent and Powerful Being" and most, if not quite all of the great scientists of the past concurred - interpreting the rational structure of the universe together with the wonders of the living world and the exceptionality of the human mind as evidence for a divine intelligence behind and beyond all things. This is scarcely the prevailing view. The religious sensibility of scientists has long since evaporated with, according to recent polls, most now describing themselves as atheist or agnostic and only a small minority professing a formal adherence to the tenets of traditional religion. In its place, "Modern science implies the world is organised strictly in accordance with mechanistic principles," observes the philosopher William Provine. There are no gods and no designing forces that are rationally detectable ... no inherent moral or ethical laws, no absolute guiding principles for human society ... free will, the freedom to make un-coerced choices simply does not exist ... there is no ultimate meaning, no hope of life everlasting."

So now, while most would concede that science and its methods may not actively preclude religious belief, they tend to share the view of the late Isaiah Berlin, "As for the meaning of life, I do not believe it has any - and it is a source of great comfort - we make of it what we can and that is all there is to it."

There is, of course, a bleak heroism in this view of man, who, having shed all the illusions that enriched his life in the past, now recognises he is no more than an unusual life form on an insignificant planet in a remote corner of the universe whose properties, as the evolutionary biologist Richard Dawkins puts it, "are precisely those we should expect if there is, at bottom, no design, no purpose, no evil and no good - nothing but blind pitiless indifference."

The ascendancy of this exclusively materialist view of the universe and our place within it, seemingly endorsed by the onward march of science, is perhaps the single most important factor in the progressive secularisation of the Western world. And, one might assume, it will continue to do so were it not that science, having apparently secured its boundaries against the incursion of religion, should turn round to discover

those metaphysical questions that seem so compelling to the great scientists of the past have erupted once again in its own back yard.

There is, for example, no more impressive intellectual achievement than permitting us, for the first time, to hold 'in our mind's eye' the whole history of the universe from the moment of the Big Bang onwards and to encompass within our understanding the two extremes of scale from the vastness of the cosmos to the internal structure of the atom. But this only serves to draw attention in the most forceful manner to the seemingly unanswerable question of the origin of matter *ab initio* which many might think is more than compatible with at least the possibility of there being a 'prime moving' Creator. Then again the universe gives every impression of being a fix or, as the late astronomer Fred Hoyle expressed it, "a put up job" - as we now know that the laws of gravity and quantum physics to be so fine-tuned that if they were to be fractionally different to an infinitesimal degree, then our world and ourselves would never have happened. This necessarily raises the related question of who, or what, might have done the fixing.

These metaphysical inferences that might be drawn from modern cosmology and physics are by now widely recognised. But much less well appreciated, for it has only recently become apparent, the most recent findings of genetics and neuroscience have also similarly subverted that influential materialist view of ourselves as 'nothing but' the product of our genes, our minds solely accounted for by the physical workings of the brain.

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the astonishing achievement of spelling out the full sequence of human genes, the Human Genome Project, whose completion in 2001, as one of its architects observed, marked "One of the most significant days in history. Just as Copernicus changed our understanding of the solar system so the knowledge of the human genome will change how we see ourselves."

Simultaneously, sophisticated scanning techniques have transformed our understanding of the workings of the brain with their capacity to observe it for the first time 'in action' from the inside - thinking, imagining and looking out on the world 'out there.' Writing in the journal *Scientific American* a decade ago, Professor Stephen Pinker of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology confidently anticipated "cracking the mystery of the brain."

Both endeavours have proved immensely productive generating thousands of millions of 'bytes' of basic biological data every week and generating a tidal wave of papers in scientific journals. But now, looking back over the past ten years, it is possible to see how their findings have indeed deepened our understanding of our world and ourselves - but in a way quite contrary to that anticipated.

Thus, the Human Genome Project together with that of mouse, fly, chimp and many others were all predicated on the reasonable assumption that spelling out the full sequence of genes would clarify, to a greater or lesser extent, the source of that near infinite diversity of form and attributes that so clearly distinguish the major categories of life. But that is certainly not how it has turned out - rather the reverse, with the near equivalent of a modest 20,000 genes across the vast range of organismic complexity from a millimetre long worm to ourselves. It is no less disconcerting to learn that the same regulatory genes that cause a fly to be a fly, cause humans to be humans. There is, in short, nothing in the genomes of fly or man to explain why the fly should have two wings, four legs and a dot sized brain, that we should have two arms, two legs and a mind capable of understanding the origins of the universe. The genetic instructions must be there of course for otherwise those diverse forms of life would not reproduce themselves with such fidelity from generation to generation. But we have moved in the light of these and similar extraordinary findings from supposing those instructions are at least knowable in principle to recognising we have no conception of what they might be. Or, as Philip Gell, Professor of Genetics at the University of Birmingham, anticipated 20 years ago "The gap in our knowledge is not merely unbridged, but in principle unbridgeable and our ignorance will remain ineluctable."

And so too for neuroscientists whose observations of the brain 'in action' have revealed its workings to be radically different from those supposed. The simplest of tasks, such as associating the noun 'chair' with the verb 'sit', causes vast tracts of the brain to light up, prompting a sense of bafflement at what even the most mundane conversation must entail. Again, the sights and sounds of every transient moment, it has emerged, are fragmented into a myriad of separate components, without the slightest hint of the mechanism that would reintegrate those fragments back into that personal experience of living at the centre of a coherent, unified, ever changing world

Meanwhile, the great conundrum remains how the monotonous electrical activity of the billions of neurons in the brain translate into a limitless range and quality of the subjective experience of our everyday lives - where every transient, fleeting moment has its own distinct unique, intangible 'feel,' where the cadences of a Bach Cantata are so utterly different from the taste of Bourbon or the scent of a rose. The implications are obvious enough. While it might be possible to know everything about the physical materiality of the brain down to the last atom, its 'product' the non-material mind with its subjective awareness, memories, powers of reasoning and imagination and unique sense of self would remain unaccounted for.

This distinction between the electro-chemical activity of the material brain knowable to science, and the non-material mind (our thoughts and ideas) knowable only to

ourselves as two quite different 'things' might seem self-evident. But for neuroscientists the question of how the brain relates to the mind is precisely what needs explaining - and so as the late John Maddox, editor of Nature, acknowledged: "We seem as far from understanding (the brain) as we were a century ago. Nobody understands how decisions are made or how imagination is set free."

This is not just a matter of not yet knowing 'all the facts,' rather there is a sense something of immense importance is missing that might transform the bare bones of genes into the wondrous diversity of the living world, and the monotonous electrical firing of the brain into the vast spectrum of sensations and ideas of the human mind. Biologists could, if they so wished, spell out the genomes of each of the millions of species with which we share the planet - ants, snails, bats, whales, elephants and so on - but that would only confirm they are composed of several thousand similar genes that 'code' for the nuts and bolts of the cells from which all living things are made. Meanwhile the really interesting question of how they determine the unique form and attributes of those diverse creatures would remain unresolved. And so too for observing the brain 'in action,' where a million scans of subjects watching a bouncing red ball would not progress understanding an iota further in what needs explaining - how its electrical circuits account for the experience of perceiving that ball as being round and red and bouncing.

The parallel with the metaphysical questions posed by modern physics and cosmology is obvious enough. The Big Bang theory forces us to confront the profound mystery of the origin of matter and those finely tuned physical laws on which our existence is predicated. Similarly the most recent findings of biology and neuroscience have brought to our attention in the most dramatic way possible the sheer inscrutability of the richness and wonder of the living world and the exceptionality of the human mind that for the great scientists of the past seemed so compelling an argument for that divine intelligence 'behind and beyond all things.' The supposition that 'the world is organised strictly in accordance with mechanistic principles' begins to appear much less compelling - with implications for the seemingly remorseless secularisation of the Western world that need no elaboration. Four hundred years on Newton's metaphysics trumps Dawkins's 'blind, pitiless indifference.'

James Le Fanu's *Why Us? How Science rediscovered the mystery of ourselves*, is published by Harper Collins.

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FROM THE PROCURATOR'S OFFICE

FR WULSTAN PETERBURS OSB
PROCURATOR

THE role of the procurator in monasteries today is the contemporary equivalent of that described by St Benedict in chapter 31 of his *Rule*, 'The Qualifications of the Monastery Cellarer,' who, as the Constitutions of the English Benedictine Congregation note, 'shall administer the temporal goods of the monastery.' At Ampleforth, this amounts to the procurator leading a team that has responsibility across the Community's various works for human resources, finance, general services, the estate, development, information and communications technology and various trading operations.

Whilst the content of my day-to-day work differs from what St Benedict living in the sixth century would have imagined, the notion of stewardship enshrined in the *Rule* - St Benedict says that the cellarer 'will regard all utensils and goods of the monastery as sacred vessels of the altar, aware that nothing is to be neglected' - is, indeed, a theme current in modern times, and chimes well with our concerns for the environment, as well as with the common sense approach of making sure that we look after what we have properly, whilst keeping a careful eye on expenditure. Moreover, the way in which St Benedict speaks of the 'qualifications' of the cellarer, rather than providing a job description or a list of tasks that must be completed, indicates his concern for the way in which things are to be done, and the character of the cellarer himself.

So, for example, the cellarer is to be 'God-fearing, and like a father to the whole community'. Thus, his way of conducting himself and his business is integral to his spiritual life. As St Benedict notes, 'Let him keep watch over his own soul, ever mindful of the saying of the Apostle: he who serves well secures a good standing for himself', and 'above all, let him be humble. If goods are not available to meet a request, he will offer a kind word in reply, for it is written: a kind word is better than the best gift.'

This emphasis on the way in which business should be transacted and the character of those conducting it is important to us at Ampleforth, and again is a concern which is reflected in various sectors of the business community, as well as in charities and not-for-profit organisations, in the discussion of values and the elaboration of what are often termed engagement strategies. In my discussions with staff, at all levels and in all areas, since taking up the position of procurator, a common theme to emerge has been that the experience of living and working at Ampleforth is, and should be, characterised by the presence of the monastic community, the values of which should influence all that goes on. This has led to an articulation of six Benedictine core

values and to an on-going discussion as to how they should be reflected in daily life and work.

Underlying our work on values is the fact that for more than 1,500 years the *Rule of St Benedict* has inspired both monastic and lay people to live lives of faith and virtue in pursuit of all that is good and true. Although written in the first instance for monks, the *Rule* provides a vision of life and a set of values which, in principle, are open to all people: if the values of the *Rule* are truly 'values,' truly good for people, then they do not apply simply to monks or to Christians, but express ways of behaving that enhance human life for everyone.

In particular, St Benedict stressed the importance of the person and the quality of the relationships of people living and working together. He respected the individual's freedom, but at the same time noted that there might need to be a little strictness to 'amend faults and safeguard love'. In his humane approach, he directed that the Abbot should 'arrange everything that the strong have something to yearn for and the weak nothing to run from', and that 'in all things God should be glorified.'

In the light of this, the following statement of Benedictine core values has been elaborated, these values now becoming part of the appraisal process for all staff, so that we should be accountable to each other for both the effective performance of our roles and the manner in which we perform them, with the intention that the Benedictine character of Ampleforth's various works should be more clearly realised and seen.

Attentiveness

'Listen carefully, my child, to the Master's instructions, and attend to them with the ear of your heart. This is advice from a father who loves you; welcome it, and faithfully put it into practice.' (RSB Prologue 1)

The first word of the *Rule* is 'Listen' and what St Benedict asks of his readers is a careful listening to other people and their needs: it means taking them seriously. Religious believers understand this as an expression of their faith, the counterpart to their careful listening to God in prayer.

Hospitality

'All guests who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ.' (RSB 53:1)

We should be noted for our warmth, acceptance and joy in welcoming others.

Respect

'They should each try to be the first to show respect to the other; supporting with the

greatest patience one another's weaknesses of body or behaviour.' (RSB 72:4-5)

If we really listen to other people, then we are treating them with respect. The consequence of this is that we should be patient with them and seek to understand their situation and what they are saying, regardless of background, intelligence or professional skill.

Integrity

'If he teaches his disciples that something is not to be done, then neither must he do it.' (RSB 2:13)

We should speak the truth and act accordingly.

Stewardship

'He will regard all utensils and goods as the sacred vessels of the altar; aware that nothing is to be neglected.' (RSB 31:10)

At Ampleforth, as well as valuing the beauty of our environment, we should appreciate and care properly for all the things that we need and use to do our jobs.

Equilibrium

'All things are to be done in moderation.' (RSB 48: 9)

The monastic life is meant to be a balanced one and is sometimes characterised by the expression, 'Prayer and Work'. But more than this, the Benedictine notion of balance also involves using our resources wisely and avoiding over-indulgence in all areas of life, as we seek to establish a proper work-life balance.

This concern, then, with Benedictine character has been a primary motivation of mine since beginning my term of office in the Spring of last year, and has run parallel with the various other projects with which the procurator's department has been involved. Thus, the development of five-year strategies within each of the areas the department has responsibility for is to be seen as a sign of our stewardship, as well as the sensible planning process needed to make sure that we understand the goals and targets we need to achieve if we are to support the works of the Community in their various respects as efficiently and effectively as possible.

Planning for the maintenance of the Ampleforth campus, over both five- and twenty-year timescales, with financial strategy integral to it, includes an energy audit, which will enable us to plan refurbishment projects (such as that of the monastery) and other work in such a way as to be more efficient in our use of energy and to move towards more sustainable forms of energy. The Green Team has already made

significant advances in encouraging behavioural change with regard to energy consumption and natural resources, whilst currently under consideration is a move from oil to biomass for our main boiler house, wood chips being supplied from our own woodland, though the necessary capital outlay would be very significant. This can be taken as an illustration of Benedict's teaching, albeit in a different context, that we should 'Do now what will profit us forever.'

The development of our trading company, Ampleforth Abbey Trading Ltd, which allows us to make use of our various assets to support the monastic community and our charitable works has proceeded smoothly, the primary area of growth in our trading operations being the summer lettings programme, though the opening in July of the Ampleforth Abbey Visitor Centre has given a significant boost to both the Abbey Shop and the Tea Room. The work of the Orchard and associated production of Ampleforth Abbey Cider have continued to expand, and the board of directors continue with feasibility studies of other possible areas of development. Crucial to the success of the trading company has been the strong support that it has received from other departments, notably the estate department and general services, which includes catering, housekeeping and logistics & security, whilst the importance of ICT in the support and development of all of our works is increasingly recognised. These are departments whose contribution is not always high-profile, let alone glamorous, but is essential and greatly valued.

The publication of *Ampleforth - Our Journey* from the front cover onwards - a picture taken during the Mass of the annual renewal of monastic vows during the August Chapter meeting - illustrates how the Benedictine life lies at the heart of, and informs the character of, the Community's works, whether in our schools, in Oxford, on the parishes or in Hospitality and other works on the Ampleforth campus. This, in fact, forms the basis of the private phase of an appeal that began earlier this year, which has as its theme the sustainability of the monastic life and the Benedictine character of Ampleforth's works.

During the course of the year, there has been much travel, with visits to the Monastery of Christ the Word, Ampleforth's foundation in Zimbabwe established in 1996, to the lay Benedictine Manquehue Movement in Chile to see and understand how Benedictine values are embedded in their life and work, and to Ampleforth families and friends in the United States and Hong Kong as part of our development programme. It has been a privilege to make these trips, as it has been to see and to experience the great support that so many offer us, and with whom we remain united in common ideals and prayer.

OLD AMPLEFORDIAN NEWS THE AMPLEFORTH SOCIETY

Trustees Report

MICHAEL O'KELLY (C45)

HON TREASURER OF THE AMPLEFORTH SOCIETY

THE Trustees have met twice formally during the year. Reports were received from the President and Vice-President and various issues discussed. These included how to enhance the role of the Committee, financial matters, bursaries and OA Club/Society grants and the new Ampleforth Journal, which has been widely praised together with its counterpart, the Ampleforth Diary.

Fostering good relations between Old Amplefordians is one of our constitutional objectives. The Hon Secretary, Fr Hugh, has continued to encourage and support many social activities around the world to this end. This has included the City of London Luncheon (May 2010), 1990 Leavers' Reunion (October 2010), the 57th Annual Rome Pasta Pot (November 2010) and the St Thomas's 10 Year Reunion (December 2010).

The website in particular has facilitated the greatly improved quality and frequency of contact between officials of the Society and its members as well as increasing the efficiency with which events can be organised. It is also a useful showcase for OA activity, providing opportunities for them to help each other. A very important development in this area has been the introduction of the Ampleforth Address Book online, through OAs Online, which has proved extremely popular with old boys and girls.

Our finances having weathered the recession remain in good shape. We re-entered the stock market at the beginning of 2010 and benefitted from the rise that has occurred. As can be seen in the detailed accounts that follow, this has more than compensated for our increased expenditure on bursaries, the online address book and grants.

The Ampleforth Society weekend in October, attended by over 120 old boys and girls, was once again a definite success. It is now planned to have the next full Society Weekend in 2012 and continue it on a biennial basis. In the intervening alternate years there will be a slightly lower key weekend reunion to coincide as usual with the autumn AGM.

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 2010

INCOME	£
Subscriptions	69,950
Investment income	9,502
Gift Aid tax recovered	2,852
Donations	65
Total:	82,369

EXPENDITURE

Bursaries	81,000
Investment fees	2,522
Administration costs	904
Address Book Online donation	5,000
Special grants	3,355
Total:	92,781

Net loss	(10,412)
Realised gains on investments	996
Unrealised gains on investments	40,037
Net movement in funds	30,621
Balance B/F at 31 Dec 2010	458,883
Balance of funds carried forward	489,504

BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER 2010

Investments	464,639
Cash assets in bank accounts	25,515
Less liabilities owing	(650)
Total:	489,504

M.O'Kelly, Hon Treasurer

THE IRISH BOYS IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR

Wartime travel with the late Fr Hubert Stephenson

JOHN FENNEL (D48)

One of the special features of wartime Ampleforth (1939-1945) was the conspicuous presence of a large group of boys from the Republic of Ireland. They were, on the whole, better dressed and better fed than their UK peer group, and would generously share their food parcels with their friends. Fr Hubert Stephenson accompanied them on their journeys across the Irish Sea. One of their number, John Fennell (D48), recalls his experiences of these journeys.



I STILL remember my first arrival in the wartime Ampleforth of 1944, and now after 60 years I marvel that so many Irish parents were so convinced, of the benefits of sending their sons there, in those dark days, across the sea to the epicentre of Roman Catholic scholastic teaching. I believe a tribute is long overdue to Fr Hubert Stephenson, who, with unusual charm (acting as ambassador for the Headmaster Fr Paul Nevill), successfully introduced a continuous flow of Irish boys to the Upper School. The total in my time was 40 boys, then more than ten per cent of the school,

from myriad backgrounds and from all corners of our country.

My earliest recollection of Ampleforth was Fr Hubert telling my mother we 'must be on time for roll call at the mail boat as we must remember there was a war in progress in Britain.' This was after tea in Cranford, an early Edwardian mansion, his family home in the fashionable outskirts of Dublin.

On a cold grey morning in September 1944, I (with others who were taking the wartime route to higher education) shivered on Carlisle Pier in Dun Laoghaire, formerly Kingstown. Many of us were from St Gerard's, Bray. The voyage itself was uneventful. We were given lifejackets and housed in The Gentlemen's Day Cabin. The mail boat never had an escort, a long narrow vessel which could do 30 knots and zigzagged the 50 miles to Anglesey. We arrived at Holyhead and disembarked into a concrete bunker, with cubicles more like a public lavatory, for immigration, censorship (of any papers) and a thorough customs examination.

Then we were released to the train station, my first impression of Britain at war.

Hundreds of troops on the platform were waiting to catch trains, but the Station Master, dressed in ceremonial uniform, with a bevy of porters, was ready to greet Fr Hubert; his reputation as a martinet was well known, but he rewarded performance with white fivers. So, with great panache, we bypassed all queues and were quickly settled in our reserved coach in which a private compartment was reserved solely for Fr Hubert.

Then our odyssey began; via Crewe change, Manchester change, York change, Thirsk change and onto the wonders of Appleby's 1933 vintage bus. We arrived at the school at about 1:15am to be welcomed by our Housemasters! And by the miraculous powers of St Anthony, in league with Fr Hubert, we were all present with our precious school trunks, after a journey no parent would believe.

Fr Hubert was more than an occasional brief escort. He kept a constant discreet watch on our progress, escorting a sick boy during term for an operation in Dublin. He knew that, if not watched, nothing was impossible for our contingent, including an end of term selling sweet ration coupons to the other boys, creating commotion by night in the Holyhead Railway Hotel at the school's expense, and returning at the start of term with a selection of items that were impossible to obtain in Britain and selling them at considerable profit.

Throughout the school Fr Hubert had a very special reputation and did not suffer fools gladly. He was remarkable in appearance with his blue tinted heavy glasses that enhanced the soubriquet 'Popeye.' His normal form of address ... 'Eh Boy!' and then you knew you were on the receiving end for whatever might follow. He was an inveterate smoker, a lover of the turf (his sister married a trainer), an excellent chemistry teacher, but when he prowled on top of tiers of desks, it was important to avoid his metre ruler. In his brown leather overcoat, with his Leica IIIF, he was the school paparazzi. Photography was certainly his hobby. His dark room was situated under the eaves of the old St Bede's house, and was open to the boys for a minimal subscription. I and many others learned everything we know about photo processing from him. He sold his photographs to cover expenses and I have one of his memorable pictures shot as Fr Abbot raised the union flag on top of the clock tower at 10 o'clock on VE Day.

In those days the Houses served Mass for members of the community in the crypt on a weekly rota. To be acolyte to Fr Hubert's Mass was greatly in demand because its brevity meant one could be first to serve oneself in the refectory at breakfast.

He proved, in spite of his reputation for a sometime abrasive manner, to be a person of great understanding of the quest of knowledge by young men. His reputation for giving a personal talk - a 'confidential' - was legendary.

One can well understand how well he enjoyed caring for the parishioners of Ampleforth village after so many years controlling, without casualties, his unruly Irish contingent.

Postscript: At the end of my final term, we boys who were returning to Ireland were divided into two groups because of examinations with separate departure days. I was elected to lead the first group. To do this I was given an intensive two hours' training and admitted to the 'Mystery of The White Fivers,' an experience that has stood me in good stead for the rest of my travelling life.

Photo below: Holyhead - the frontier between Britain at war and Ireland at peace.



THE AMPLEFORTH JOURNAL VOL 15

OLD AMPLEFORDIAN SCULPTORS

FR DOMINIC MILROY OSB

*I*N THE last number of *The Journal*, we focussed on recent books written by Old Amplefordians. In this number we focus on OA sculptors. It may surprise some that the school should have nurtured this particular talent, but the evidence speaks for itself. The influence of John Bunting (particularly, as Antony Gormley has remarked, in the field of drawing) is an obvious factor, but it doesn't explain everything. Another might be the pervasive influence of 'the mouseman,' Robert Thompson of Kilburn, and of the carved statuary of the High Altar in the Abbey. Another might be that life in the broad contours and the shifting light of the valley tends to cultivate a special kind of spatial awareness.

Antony Gormley is, of course, a legend in his own lifetime. It would take a whole issue to cover the range of his work. Here, we are only touching on his present phase, which relates principally to his exhibition in *The Hermitage* at St Petersburg. A solitary Gormley figure stands in Lion Wood Hill, gazing across towards the lakes (photo below). Here we only have space for very few illustrations, whether of his work or that of others. But even such limited exposure may suggest the scale and variety of what has been achieved.



OLD AMPLEFORDIANS 55

ANTONY DUFORT (B66)

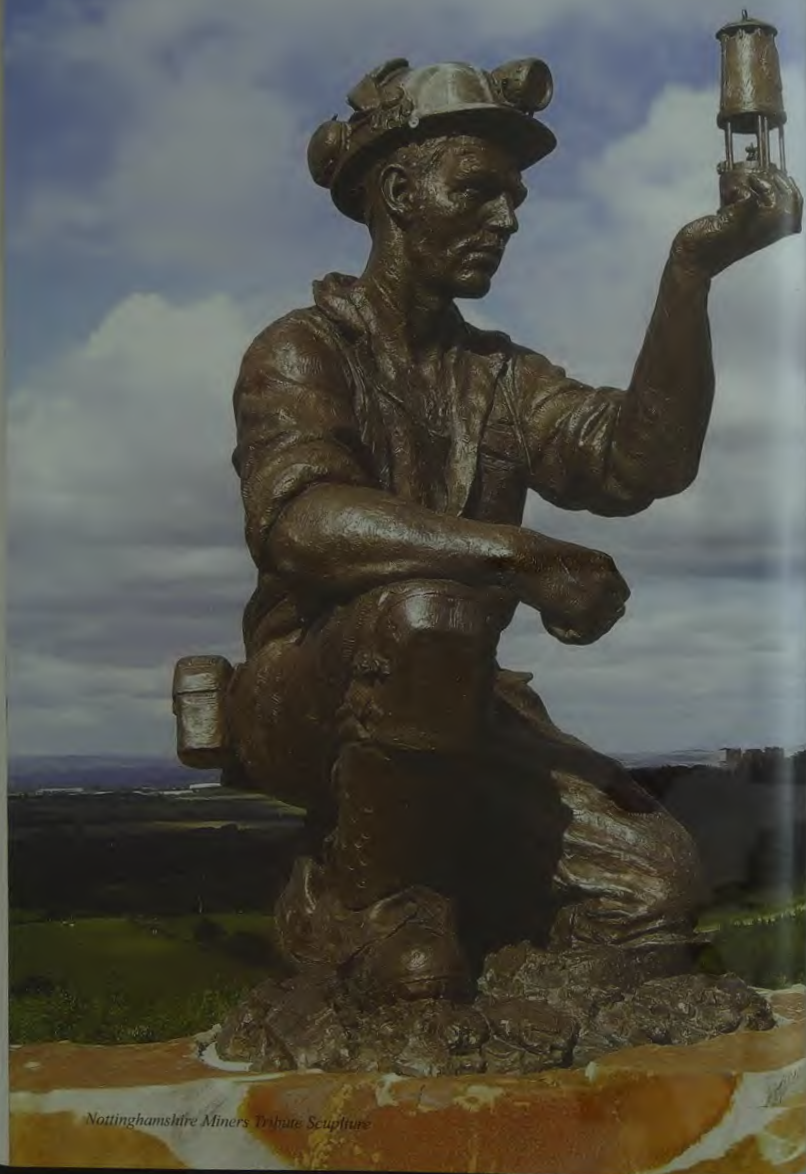
Not surprisingly, I was a painter before I became a sculptor. My Grandmother, Doris Travis, was an accomplished artist and a former student of Sickert, Tonks, Wilson-Steer and McEvoy, and a life-long friend of David Jones. She taught me how a selection from only eight oil colours including black and white could be mixed to produce any colour required by even the most daring impressionist. She told me to learn to draw if I wanted to become an artist. This advice has formed the backbone of my entire artistic practice whether in painting, sculpture or illustration. Turpentine and oil paint mingled with turf smoke are the most memorable smells of my childhood visits to her home in Connemara, County Galway.

At Ampleforth, sculptor John Bunting's still life classes, Fr. Martin Haigh's Art History lectures, and the fine selection of art books in the library, were all good early influences as well. Ironically, in view of the subject of some of my later sculptures, my most ambitious painting at school was an 8ft by 4ft oil painting of striking miners and chapel goers, dimly informed by my schoolboy reading of DH Lawrence and the then current 'Kitchen sink' school of painting.

A History Scholarship to New College Oxford was followed by disillusionment, and an early exit for Winchester and then Chelsea Schools of Art. I supported myself there and for many years afterwards as a portrait painter, travelling round England, Europe, America and Canada drawing and painting children and adults. I did film story boards and archaeological illustrations and wrote and illustrated a book on classical ballet technique called 'Ballet Steps, Practice to performance.'

My apprenticeship over, I was looking for something more challenging. In preparation, I cast and worked on my own first bronzes at the Fiorini Foundry at Parson's Green, London under the guidance of the humorous and charismatic Remo Fiorini, then in his late seventies and early eighties. Bronzes by Moore, Frink and other famous sculptors, could be seen at various stages of completion lying around on his work bench. It was an inspirational grounding in the techniques and demands of bronze sculpture. He once told me how he had re-sculpted part of Epstein's bust of Conrad (now in the NPG) having dropped the original plaster on its nose on the top deck of a bus and squashed it flat. Even the sculptor never noticed his repair. I got used to remarks like 'Which way round did Mr. Moore say these damned bits are supposed to go?' as he tried to assemble a three piece bronze maquette.

My first large sculpture commission was a bronze Mother and Child for the London Oratory School Chapel. This was done from life, a young mother and her baby having arrived to live next door at exactly the right time. They were able to come round to sit for the sculpture whenever the child was ready to feed. This was followed



Nottinghamshire Miners Tribute Sculpture

by a tribute sculpture to the coal and mineral miners of the Forest of Dean. For my research, I watched these 'Free miners' working in steeply sloping coal seams less than three feet high, deep underground, using machinery from the 1940s, their average age approaching seventy.

A large sculpture of a fast bowler for the MCC at Lord's Ground followed. My bust of Basil Hume (my House Master at St Bede's before he was elected Abbot) beside the path up to Hume House, was also done around this time.

A Public Sculpture project is usually advertised by a Local Government department. The sculptor's 'expression of interest' may then be followed by 'short-listing,' and tendering with drawings and a scale model to indicate his idea and approach. If selected, a long period of development follows with maquettes at different scales, final enlargement and then casting at the foundry, followed by installation and unveiling. It is a very laborious process taking between one and three years for a big job. One has to rely on one's own judgement and that of a couple of knowledgeable friends to decide when the job is finished.

Occasionally, years later one can look back at such a sculpture dispassionately and objectively seeing for the first time whether it is good or bad. 'Site specific' sculpture can also be judged in terms of 'fitness for purpose' by the reactions of the everyday passers-by who are after all the people for whom Public Sculpture is made. Of course a bad sculpture can be popular, and a good sculpture ignored.

I get most pleasure perhaps from seeing an old miner bring his grandchildren up to see my tribute sculpture to the 'Coal miners of the Nottinghamshire Coalfields' (2005) at the top of a reclaimed spoil tip at Silverhill near Mansfield and proudly pointing out the name of his Colliery among the 65 principal mines listed on the commemorative plaque on the base. The process of research for this project was scary but fascinating.

At Daw Mill Colliery near Coventry I went down thousands of feet in the mine lift cage, followed by a trek of several miles from the pit bottom, in part by all-terrain vehicle to the working area. Here I watched a giant 'double-ended shearer' grinding thousands of tons of coal from a fifteen foot high coal face, in semi-darkness, amid showers of sparks and great metallic roarings and grindings. It was like some huge and demented prehistoric beast. Afterwards I talked to the eight miners on the shift - dangerously humorous men, trying to evolve an idea relevant to them. In this case 'Testing for Gas,' worked best.

Methane gas is still the biggest danger to life underground and sadly a miner was killed in 2006, by methane in this same colliery. Variations in the colour and height

of the flame in a 'Davy lamp' are used to detect the minutest concentrations of this explosive gas. The miner usually kneels holding the lamp aloft while squinting at the flame.

By contrast, dealing with politicians on their home ground, as when Lady Thatcher posed for me in the Lord Chancellor's drawing room at the House of Commons for a full-length bronze sculpture, was such an unfamiliar experience that it seemed almost a form of anthropological research. Watching the sculpture being unveiled by the sitter herself and Mr Speaker, before a crowd of current and ex-cabinet ministers of all ages was one of my more surreal moments. The not-then-elected David Cameron's seizure of the photo opportunity afterwards with sitter and sculpture even made the front cover of *Private Eye*, much to my delight.

In these days of cuts, life is getting harder for the Public Sculptor. There is much less work about, and therefore more competition. My 9 foot sculptures of Henry VII, Henry VIII and Elizabeth I, originally commissioned by Greenwich Council for unveiling in time for the Olympics are on hold until better times. Perhaps I will go back to painting, if only for a while.

Below: Antony enlarges miner sculpture with 3D photograph.





Cheetah Lookout © Sladmore Gallery 2009

MARK CORETH (O77)

My love of wildlife, three dimensions, space and travel stems from an idyllic childhood on a farm in Kenya. From those early days I remember having a passion for the outside and for working with my hands.

I started my education in a prep school in Kenya but was at the age of 10 banished, as I felt it, to St Richard's Prep School in Herefordshire. This move was a blessing in retrospect. Not only did St Richard's squeeze me in through the back door to Ampleforth, it also sewed the seeds of a sculptural career even though I did not know it at the time. The Headmistress was an inspiring artist called Ursula Tremlett.

It amazes me now to think that I never studied art formally while at Ampleforth. I did however make ships in bottles and even a study of the Dam Buster Raid in a port bottle, which I seem to remember won for me an art prize.

It was only after I had left Sandhurst and joined The Blues and Royals that I really discovered my longing to sculpt professionally. I found that sculpting was a magical way to relax and recharge my batteries. I picked up a commission or two from the military and over time taught myself to look, observe and understand wildlife. I also learnt by trial and error the intricacies of armatures, modelling and casting. I served with the regiment for 15 enjoyable years. Some times were unutterable pleasure while some were harsh and frightening, as was the conflict in the Falkland Islands in 1982. All that I saw and learnt was stored as vital experience for my future career.

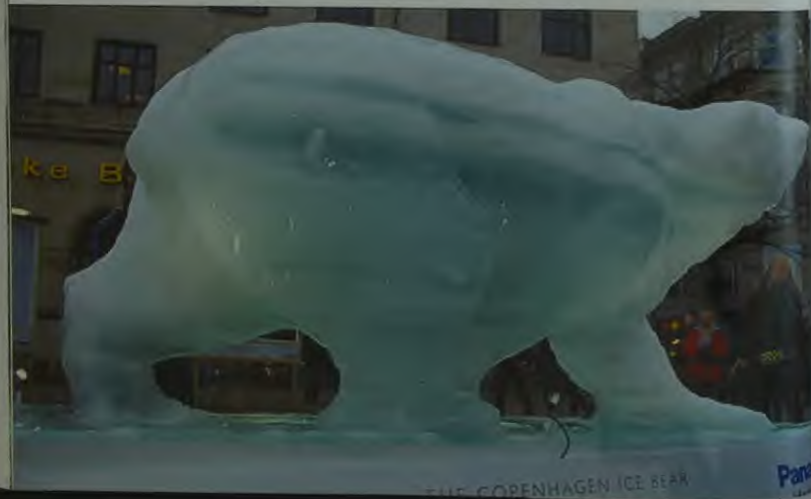
I had my first one-man show with the Sladmore Gallery in London in 1986 and had five exhibitions under my belt, a young family and a load of responsibility by the time I came to leaving the Army in 1993. At this point I could focus totally on my new and long awaited career as a sculptor.

I am an animalier sculptor and like to think that I follow in the shadow of the great men of that discipline such as Rembrandt Bugatti. I am also a sculptor of the wild environments. Bugatti was a genius, he could capture life in a static beast. Bugatti sculpted from life from the immediacy of observation in Antwerp Zoo. I like to work in the same way but I work with a backpack studio out in the wild where wildlife is king and I am only a guest. By sculpting in this way you are learning from one horizon to the other. You travel with local guides who become your teachers. If following a snow leopard in the Himalayas, you become a snow leopard, if following the migration of the wildebeest in the Serengeti, you become a part of the enormous and dynamic ecosystem. By working in this way the body of work that is produced becomes a journal of that environment as opposed to a collection of individual sculptures.

Backpack sculpting is a privilege and a responsibility. I make it a point that I always try to put back into the environment more than I gain from it by in one way or another making my work speak of the issues that I have encountered. As a case in point I want to take you to the High Arctic where I have spent a fair bit of time over the past two or three years.

Living and working on the sea ice with my Inuit guides and with cold firmly in command I was working in one of the most beautiful and fragile environments that I had ever come across. Imagine the vertical fall of cliff face into the frozen and crumpled sea...and the huge expanses of flat sea ice with the odd iceberg frozen for the duration of the Arctic winter. Imagine the occasional encounters with that iconic polar bear or carving into the icebergs and although with difficulty sculpting bears in plasticine. This was my studio.

The more I learnt while in the arctic the more I realised how changing that environment was. My guides challenged me to sculpt the warming Arctic. So was born Ice Bear. I decided to create a life-size evocation of a polar bear in bronze and sink that into a tank of water which was then frozen into a block of ice. My plan was to take the ice block to Trafalgar Square and in a theatrical manner carve it into a polar bear. This was actually a sculpture not so much of a bear, but of the Arctic as a whole. The ice melts with the heat of the day and with the touch of thousands of hands...the metaphors are numerous but ultimately it was saying that there will always be an Arctic but when the ice goes it will be a very different Arctic...with Ice Bear you are left with a pool of water, a skeleton and a powerful message. (see www.icebearproject.org and photo below). I have carved Ice Bear now in six cities across the world, most recently in Sydney.



ANTONY GORMLEY (W68)

ONE and Other, my Fourth Plinth project from 2009, was about trying to see what happens when you put real life in the frame of representation. In traditional sculptural terms the frame has been a base or a column. For the exhibition *Still Standing* at the State Hermitage, it made sense to reverse the experiment and see what happens when you allow statues to mingle with daily life. I initially thought that daily life, like *One and Other*, should be raised to the level of the existing plinths, but at one metre twenty high the Hermitage curators were concerned about the effect on the proportion of the architecture and so instead I put the statues on the ground. I am interested in how people feel getting close to these naked and semi-naked bodies from two thousand years ago.

The two rooms of the exhibition at the Hermitage are unified by a new lino floor. The room with the classical sculptures has been raised up by about ten centimetres and the room with my work in it has been raised up by about three centimetres. In the room containing my work you're dealing with clumps of rusty iron pixels: no names, history, or content. They are totally unlike the classical sculptures with their poise, internal balance, calm smooth surfaces, beautifully turned eyelids, lips, toes and fingers all of which suggest an awareness of their duty to be looked at. With my work the human body is translated into physical pixels, industrially made, evidently disintegrating before your eyes, with no name attached; crude evocations of human space in space that simply are 'material facts.'

With the change of floor level and the relative emptiness of the rooms the visitor may be re-sensitised to both object and space. Unifying the floor (formerly a highly coloured marble marquetry) into a mid-grey, the architecture is questioned, and I'm hoping people will become more self-conscious. In the classical room the spectators, somewhat raised, will perhaps become aware of their own bodies in space through the subtle changes in the scale of the works and the way they are disposed in the room. When the visitor comes down eight centimetres into the room containing my work, hopefully they will have a 'tuned' awareness.

I want to engage with time, but not the timeless. I don't want to make an ideal for a human wishing to perfect itself. I'm more interested in trying to make the most accurate evocation of what it feels like to be alive now and therefore to acknowledge time. I expose these works to the elements and allow them to rust but exhibit them indoors to celebrate the fact that time acts on objects and that they are not eternal, they don't represent the timeless values of heroism or beauty. Objects are a reality check. All my work starts with an event: a real body in real time, registered by taking a mould and is offered as evidence of time and life.

This group of objects is a forest of questions that you enter. You won't get much out of it unless you recognise that you are implicated. The most important reason for doing this exhibition is to confront the way in which statuary and sculpture have been used in the past. Up until the end of nineteenth century statuary was a place for the inscription of ideal and eternal values, offered as a point of reference. We are in a very different era. I think that my work demands participation. They are almost empty bodies. They describe a human space in space at large. But this space has a certain configuration that you might recognize: perhaps to do with anxiety, perhaps with alertness. These void spaces are waiting for your thoughts and feelings, your projection.

All of the poses are from moulds for a sequence of works made three years ago called *Ataxia*. Ataxia is the medical condition where you lose control of your body. In using the language of the architecture that surrounds us to describe this unstable inner state I hope to express its potential to fall apart. They are all slightly off their centre of gravity. All the poses are introverted in contrast to the classical pieces. I apply the language of modernity to the body. The body is what modernity rejected as too limited, too traditional. I try to make the abstract body that speaks the language of Malevich, Lipchitz, Picasso, Donald Judd and Sol Le Witt. There are readable references to the formal language to modernity and its father Mondrian, who identified the orthogonal grid as the structure for pure perception. I bring the grid to the human subject, but as a lost subject. That is why it is nameless. Mine is a willful attempt to bring the formalism of modernity into contact with the body in order to see what emotional language arises. The works demand empathy in order to recover the emotion that Mondrian removed from art.

Photos left: Antony Gormley, Still standing, a contemporary intervention in the classical collection, The State Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg, 23 September 2011 to 15 January 2012. Photographs by Yuri Molodkovets.

NICK HORNBY (J98)

"Don't spend time beating on a wall, hoping to transform it into a door"

- Coco Chanel

I STARTED by trying to make a simple pot. Lop-sided and wonky, I couldn't even out the surface, or clean off the finger marks. The pot fell over and became a tree. There, in the Sunley Centre, started a chain of events that took me via Florence, The Slade, Chicago, the V&A, clay, plaster, resin, The Tate and Southbank Centre, to New York where I am currently working, and hopefully onto Delhi in January, and Poland in September 2012. After the first pot I tried another that became a head, and a third that ended up a figure.

And so I spent my days with clay. It's a curious material, always transforming - as you handle it, it becomes drier, more rigid, harder to manipulate, but more able to support structures. The larger the structure or the more complicated the shape, the harder you needed the clay to be. I tended to build up too quickly and would have to support arms and heads with bits of metal and yoghurt pots. And they'd always crack and limbs break off. I bought a blow torch to speed up the process, fingers would crumble.

Just before my last year at Ampleforth, I spent two weeks at The Slade to do a summer course in Sculpture. It was unbelievable - at 17, I had the same studio space as the MA students and one-to-ones with iconic Slade tutors. I arrived and made a rather meagre clay abstract thing - it was rubbish. The Slade tutor then explained to me the difference between demonstration, illustration and metaphor, the legibility of process, the performative nature of sculpture - cutting, scraping, squidding. I was also introduced to plaster and in September returned to Ampleforth with several bags of it. Plaster becomes rigid in 10 minutes, and without the space restrictions of the kiln or the delay of clay drying, you could build anything, any height, slap bits on, hack bits off. So I made a huge figure, and carried it off down the valley and put it in the middle of Jungle rugby fields.

After Ampleforth I did a foundation at Wimbledon. It was terrible - entirely my fault - I made terrible videos and left after a few months. I went on to do an undergrad at The Slade. And for three years made ever more terrible videos.

After a few years out, I started to make sculpture again. I made a 1,000 foot long musical sculpture with 300 cello strings in an old toothbrush factory, I carved an oak wheel which turned a VW Polo to play the cello at the Arnoloni in Bristol, and I won the Blind Art Prize.

For my Masters show at Chelsea I built a life-size slice of a Boeing 727 airplane: huge, bright white with British Airways blue and red. For three weeks it stood proud in the main parade ground at Chelsea, as if it had just dropped out from the sky, mid-flight. Then on the day of the opening, the sculpture was removed. It was a pivotal point. That night it existed as rumour and conversation and I realised that an artwork is only as useful as it is able to communicate. In its absence it had more power than as an object. It went on to be re-shown in the basement of Selfridges, and now is installed in the HQ of Sony BMG.

Off the back of this show I won the Clifford Chance Sculpture Prize, which in turn led to various public projects including a 22-foot pink castle floating on a pond in King's Cross for six months, a huge half-tonne sculpture in Tate Britain, a 14-foot commission for the Southbank Centre, and a project for the 2012 Olympiad. Then a Solo show in central London, which went on to Athens with the British Council, New York and the Solo Projects art fair in Basel 2011.

Thinking back to surface, and cleaning off the imperfections... at Ampleforth we were taught five historic proofs for the existence of God. A monk called Anselm back in middle of the 11th century asked the question whether it was greater to exist in reality than in just the mind alone. There's a similar quandary in sculpture. When I started out, all the ideas in my mind were perfect, and every time I tried to make them, I would be horrified by the result, by how disappointing reality was (they would be wonky, lop-sided, and have a terrible surface). But there are artworks that seem to defy this - Brancusi's bird in space is an object that sits in that liminal place between reality and idea - so smooth and reflective, tall and thin, that it is an onomatopoeic object as if not touched by a human, but straight from the sky. Ironically the immateriality comes through sanding, and rubbing, and sanding and polishing... it was precisely through the touch of the human hand that he was able to make this uncanny, beautiful and poetic object. I think about this, and Anselm, all the time.

At the opposite end of the spectrum, Stephen Bird took a group of us to Florence for a week. In the many memories, the one which stood out most clearly to me was the experience of Donatello's Mary Magdalene, a sculpture of a hideous woman - an old gaunt wreck of a human with barely any flesh on her skull, like a monster from a slasher zombie horror film. But of course it is utterly utterly beautiful. It changed my life - I suddenly realised that beauty was completely subjective. Here it is the pathos of the narrative: that moment when Mary comes out of the desert after 40 days fasting. The subjectivity of beauty, the possibility that ugly can be beautiful, and the power of narrative.

My entire practice now tries to grapple with these two questions - the transition from

idea to reality, the interpretation and narrative. For the Clifford Chance Sculpture Prize, I was asked to do a talk - and feeling I needed some support - I managed to persuade Nick Hornby the writer to do an 'in conversation' with me. It turns out we had more in common than our names alone - namely that there's no point in writing a book if no one reads it. The same is true for sculpture. I make and look at art to try to 'compare notes' - to see if my take on the world is the same as anyone else's: thus, public sculpture. I am very interested in the context in which the work is received, whether institution, public domain or luxury hotel. All spheres open up very different questions - and provide different opportunities. Public Art is dangerous territory, subject to so many limitations, bad reputations and brief requirements, but it's an arena I hope to grapple with. I imagine I will fall into the same traps that other artists do, but I'd like to try to get my head around it. Bump.

Below: *Walking in Our Mind*, plaster, Southbank Centre, London, © Nick Hornby 2010



CHARLES HADCOCK (W83)

From 1979-1983 I spent many happy hours in the Art Rooms at SHAC, under the instruction of Fr Martin Haigh, John Bunting and Lawrence Toynbee. I can readily recall everything about those days - the smell, the light, all the atmosphere.

I arrived at Ampleforth knowing how to draw and paint, having been taught by my father George Hadcock (O49), a keen amateur watercolourist, who had studied under Fr Ralph Williams and Fr Martin Haigh. At this point I knew I was going to spend more time in the art room than on the sports field.

As I progressed up the school, I spent more and more time in the art room culminating in being able to join John Bunting in drawing sessions after Mass on Sunday, endlessly practising drawing the plaster head of Augustus. His skill at drawing has become more and more apparent the older I get and when I draw now I remember his words ringing in my ears.

Although in my day the Art School route wasn't generally considered a career option, my parents and Mr Brennan advised me to look at Foundation Courses. I went off to Derby College of Higher Education to have a look at the courses and immediately felt at home in the Art School environment. All of the teaching by Mr Bunting paid off, I applied and was accepted.

Not only had Mr Brennan set me on my course to art school, he also purchased one of my end of year paintings and gave me the thrill of selling my work. I had no idea about pricing then and I plucked a number from the air, which must have been quite a lot for a young teacher as it took me to Europe for the summer!

My foundation course at Derby from 1983-1984 introduced me to sculpture and I had found the perfect combination of my interests. I thought in three dimensions. I went on to Cheltenham Art School from 1984-1987 for my degree where I worked hard to get into the Royal College of Art from 1987-1989 for my MA.

I loved art school training and benefitted from the best time of art school teaching, before the cuts limited the amount of visiting tutors. Whilst at the RCA, SHAC did an exhibition of old boys work and we were invited back to exhibit or make something. I made the stone bell outside the then new Sunley Centre and I met Antony Gormley for the first time as he installed his sculpture in the big passage. In the next term at the RCA I asked if we could invite Antony in as a visiting tutor and we have continued an acquaintance ever since.

I made the bell as a present for the school but Fr Dominic then sent me a letter with



Torsion II at Canary Wharf, exhibited in 'New and Revisited Sculpture by Charles Hadcock' 2011

a cheque enclosed stating that it was 'not as payment but as a help to my daily maintenance.' Entering into my first year at the RCA this was exceptionally useful and helped me cast my first piece in iron.

That particular piece helped attract the interest of the art collector Doris Saatchi and the art critic Bill Feaver. I sold my entire degree show collection.

I left the RCA with money in my pocket and set up my first studio in Bermondsey, a cavernous warehouse, which was cheap, but had no heating!

Since then I have had over 20 solo shows and been included in at least 50 group shows. I have many works on public display and in private collections in London and around the UK.

Having work on public display is both exciting and frustrating. Exciting to have one's work scrutinised, enjoyed, photographed and commented on by members of the public, frustrating because the financial rewards are not what they are perceived to be and it can feel as if we sculptors entertain the public at our own expense.

However, it is a wonderful time for those of us who make things because the made object is being celebrated again. Sculpture is springing up all over the urban and rural landscape highlighting through the hand of the artist the beauty of creativity and inspiration that surrounds us.

Sculpture in the right setting has a powerful effect; it is a modern day equivalent of a megalith or monument. It can inspire incomprehension, delight, curiosity and awe. It takes on a life of its own. It is a talking point. Why make something whose only function is decorative? The ego of the sculptor can appear huge, but I would argue that it is the work that has an ego; the sculptor is merely the tool to produce it.

Many people would say I am lucky to have made a career as an artist, but in the words of my late grandfather 'the only luck that exists is the luck to recognise the talents given by God and then to use them.'



Caesura VIII at Canary Wharf



Photo: Troika

MARTIN JENNINGS (E75)

I SELDOM saw the inside of the artroom at Ampleforth. Instead I studied piano, without showing any discernible improvement over several years. Mr Dowling, my teacher, must have been worn out with listening to pupils crucifying Mozart. I remember him sometimes waking up during my lessons with an exasperated "Oh I'll do it!" This was discouraging and I didn't practise. I learned rather more about hard work reaping rewards when I failed to win the first prize, a cruise, in an inter-schools calligraphy competition. I'd been studying for it with Fr Simon Trafford, whose own calligraphy was masterly. Not having put much work in, I assumed that the cruise was mine by virtue of an imagined talent alone. When Fr Patrick, himself renowned for his handwriting, called me into the headmaster's office and presented me with the transistor radio I'd won (there were 50 radios to give away and only 35 entrants to the competition) I was less than pleased with things. Eventually, after much pondering on the unjustness of the world, the penny must have dropped that maybe I could have tried a bit harder.

I had always really liked John Bunting's (W44) sculpture of a family group outside Bolton House so one day in my last year in the school I went down to the workshop which was attached to his house in Oswaldkirk. I potted about among the wood shavings and stone dust and he kindly showed me books of the lettering inscriptions of David Jones and the wonderful sculptures of that creepy genius Eric Gill. I determined at that point that an artist's life would be a romantic one, though it was some years before I confronted the reality behind the dream. In the meantime I spent three years at St Benet's Hall reading for an English Literature degree. While at Oxford I met a sculptor called Michael Black who put me to work sawing blocks of stone in half. I decided that I wasn't clever enough to make a career out of writing and that I would go to art school and combine my fascination with calligraphy with a love of working with stone. Five years later I set up a workshop of my own in Oxford and have been there ever since.

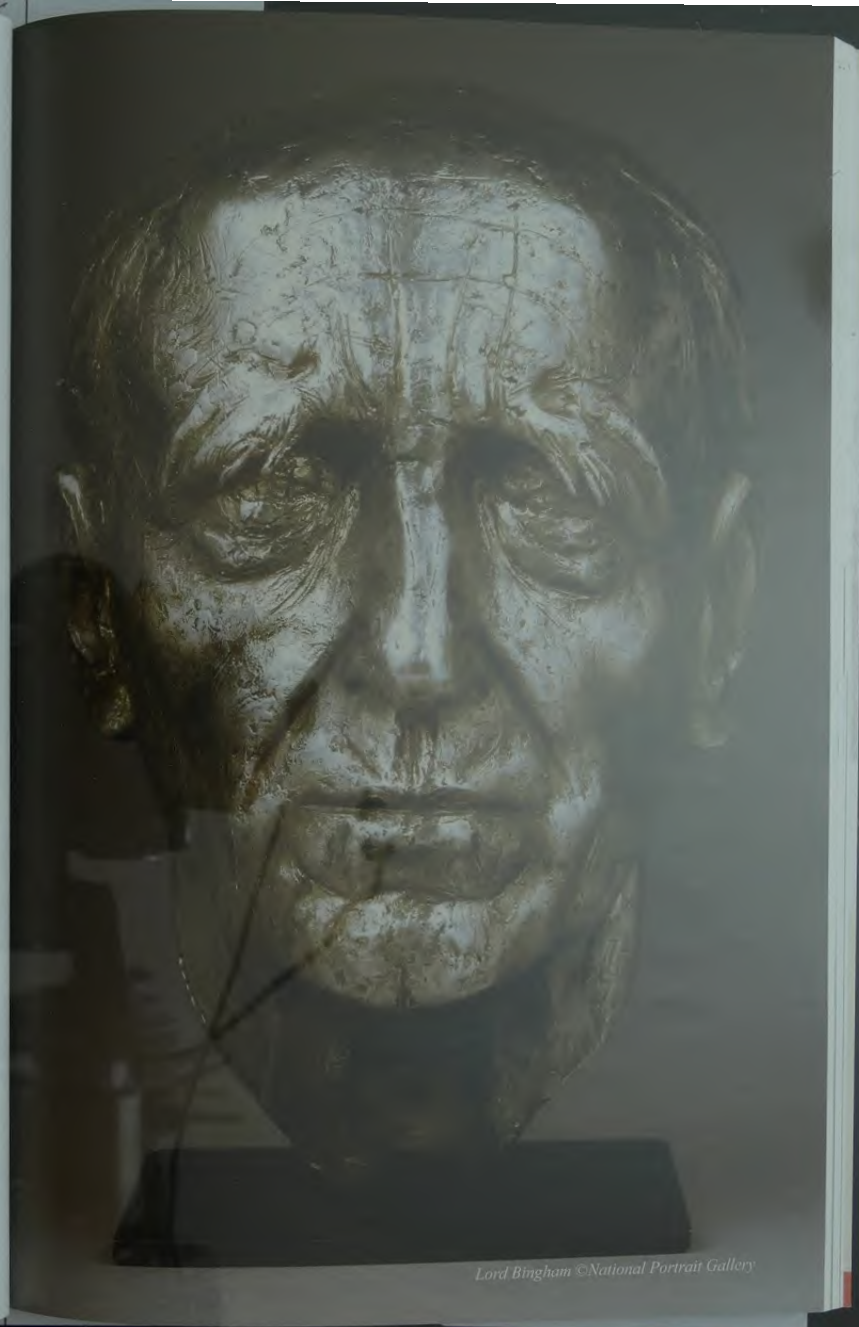
I've always had to earn my living from what I do. I've only occasionally exhibited work. Instead I've moved from commission to commission, initially as a designer and carver of inscriptions and more recently as a sculptor. I made war memorials for St Paul's Cathedral, inscriptions for Oxford colleges and Hampton Court Palace and for churches and new buildings across the country. I must also have carved around 300 gravestones over the years. Latterly though I had begun to find that spending a lot of time in cemeteries and churchyards was no longer what I wanted to do. There was just too much death around and I'd begun to find its company unpleasant.

Making portrait sculptures in bronze was altogether a more challenging and amusing business. I remember Ted Heath sitting for me in a jacket and tie and, in order to

make a point about how annoyed he was at having to dress up for the work, the filthiest pair of sailing trousers he could find. My father sat for me, heaving mournful sighs because I wouldn't let him do *The Times* crossword (his head would have dropped down too far). The Queen Mum was so tiny I could hardly get her into the modelling chair and had to kneel on the floor in order to be at eye-level. Sometimes the sitter was just too interesting and I wanted to down tools and have a good conversation instead. Tom Bingham reflected at length on Samuel Johnson and the law, Roger Bannister on the state of modern athletics, Philip Pullman on storytelling, each with me only a few inches away examining the shape of the back of an ear or a nostril.

Statues by contrast are generally informed not by living sitters but by photos or film footage. As I write I'm about to start one of Charles Dickens for Portsmouth, following on from Philip Larkin in Hull and John Betjeman at St Pancras (pictured right.) I've been lucky to have been asked to make statues of the kind of people who most interest me - heroic intellects belied by a scruffy appearance or a faintly disreputable private life. It's harder to find affection for out-and-out heroes and saints. Far better for subjects to be myopic, wheezy and unfit and preferably to do their shoes up with broken string.

I left school rather earnestly thinking that I should do something of moral value in my life. I've since realised that nothing could be more unhelpful if you want to be an artist. Sculpture has its own truth, which in the case of the kind of work I do is in being able to see and represent the forms of everyday things as well as the emotions those forms contain, whether it's a human face, the way somebody stands or sits or even something as simple as the way the folds fall in a pair of well-worn trousers. Examining and trying to express how the most ordinary things actually are, rather than how one might want them to be has turned out for me to be ample moral task and a lifetime's work.





ROBERT STRICKLAND (C72)

My career into sculpture was wonderfully circuitous! I was always interested in drawing and the arts and grew up surrounded by old buildings, furniture, paintings and sculpture. I am sure that this helped to give me an appreciation for art and architecture from an early age.

When I was only five or six years old I was drawing buildings and experimenting with perspective. At school (Gilling and then Ampleforth) I studied art and carpentry in addition to the usual studies. When I was 15, I was entered for Ampleforth's first ever Art A level class only months after passing my O level in the subject. By pure chance I obtained a C grade which was the highest grade obtained by the initial trial set of 17 pupils. This certainly boosted my confidence in the subject and resulted in many hours spent drawing and copying art illustrations in the library when I was supposed to be doing my prep on other subjects!

I was primarily taught to draw by John Bunting (W44) and recall numerous studies of furniture, flowers, still lifes and the more challenging portrait heads which I discovered I could reproduce quite well given enough time. I also recall much admiring Fr Martin's colourful paintings in the style of Cezanne although my own painting skills were very rudimentary.

My carpentry skills were used to make furniture for my friends. I remember copying a Thompson of Kilburn chair (with a scallop shell instead of the famous mouse) to complete a set of chairs at St Cuthbert's. It was still there when I last visited. I also carved a two foot high naked lady in mahogany which was undoubtedly my first ever sculpture carving and attracted lots of interest from monks and boys alike.

My career focus at this time was to study architecture but this changed shortly before I left Ampleforth even though my folder had been very well received at Cambridge. I was then considering the arts or PPE. However I suspect that I was most influenced by my father's sole advice on careers which could be summed up in two sentences - "Don't go into the Navy - there is no future in it" (he was a retired naval officer) and "Don't be an artist - they starve and live in garrets." My mother's family actually included some very distinguished miniature portrait painters and poets and as far as I knew none of them had starved. However my father's family came from a different arena and were either naval officers, politicians (including one prime minister and one home secretary) or state governors. I had no knowledge of garrets but the thought of them did not appeal and so, being a younger son of a well connected (but far from wealthy) family I skipped university and headed straight for the city to train as a chartered accountant. My intention was to seek my fame and fortune first and, once this had been achieved, to try my hand at the arts later. It is marvellous to think

how optimistic and naïve I was at the time.

Having qualified as a chartered accountant, I then established a series of companies in the UK and Europe and made and lost several small fortunes before finally deciding to follow my instinct for the arts at the ripe old age of 45 in what my wife calls a type of mid-life crisis.

Since I was still working full time, I decided to take off one day a week to join a sculpture class at the Heatherley School of Art in London which I did for three terms before moving home from London to Bath. I now live between Bath and Malta.

I started producing very rudimentary figures, modelling them in clay by reference to the live models posing for our class. I learned how to use armatures to support larger sculptures and how to cast and finish the final work. My first pieces were really basic but I always knew that I could do better. When I finally sold one of my sculptures to a member of the public I was thrilled. Over the last decade I have built up my practice and now sculpt full time. I consider myself very fortunate that I am able to work at something I thoroughly enjoy and not only gives me a constant creative challenge but also allows me to support myself and my family.

As regards style, I have always been interested in the more old fashioned and traditional skills of portrait and figurative sculpture and I work mainly in clay. This then gets cast into bronze at 1,100 degrees by the lost wax method or into bronze resin which is known as cold cast bronze. Occasionally, I cast pieces into cement fondu or carve directly into stone or wood.

During my private commission sittings, I enjoy getting to know my clients who are often eminent and fascinating people and include presidents, military leaders, aristocrats, successful businessmen and leading authors. Many of them have become personal friends. In my sculpture I am aiming to capture and portray character and emotions. I have also been asked to do major historical leaders and characters from the past (who obviously cannot sit for me in person) and necessarily involve a lot of research. One such example was Horatio Nelson and my bronze portrait bust of him now sits in Portsmouth with another copy at the Malta Maritime Museum.

I am beginning to broaden my outlook into full length figures, birds and animals but I also love simpler, more beautiful plant shapes which can be set in the garden or the wider countryside. I am also considering some figures with a religious theme.

As I perceive it, sculpture can serve many functions in contemporary society. My portraits serve as permanent memories and heirlooms for the family and friends or as a lasting heritage for the wider public.

Public perceptions of art are also changing as witnessed by the massive growth of sculpture parks around the country bringing art into the landscape and to the attentions of a wider audience.

In mediaeval times art was often spiritual in theme and adorned great cathedrals or royal collections but since then it has more often been hidden from public view in country houses or private collections. The Victorians altruistically recognised that art should be seen in public and opened museums and public monuments in great number. The sculpture parks take this concept to another level and reintegrate sculpture with the urban and rural landscape.

The connection between art and nature is important to me as it recognises the spiritual dimension which often inspired the artwork in the first place. As the natural world shrinks through the rapacious needs of mankind I believe that it serves as a timely reminder to us to have some permanent human, plant and animal inspired artworks in our parks and countryside.

You can see some of my works on my website www.robertstricklandsculpture.com or contact me for more information on robertstrickland44@yahoo.co.uk.

Photo below: Owl in the Moon.



OLD AMPLEFORDIAN OBITUARIES

The following pages contain a number of obituaries of Old Amplefordians who died between 2010 and 2011. A full list of Old Amplefordian deaths is available on the website - www.aa.ampleforth.org.uk - and in the Ampleforth Diaries.

ROBERT BOOTH (B47) 20 March 1930 - 19 March 2010 spent 12 years in the Royal Navy after leaving Ampleforth. He later worked for 27 years with the Automobile Association in Leeds. Robert died after a six week illness in St James's Hospital, Leeds and was buried at St Joseph's Church, Brindle, alongside his mother and infant brother Laurence who died aged six. He was also the brother of Dunstan (B49), Peter (B50 - in Australia since 1959) and John (B52 - also in Australia). His uncles were: Henry (B27), Robert (A29), Francis [Fr Hilary] (B32), Laurence (B38), and Oswald (B40) Barton - who survive him.

GEORGE JOHN CARLOS WOLSELEY (C40) 28 January 1925 - 25 April 2010 was one of six children of Sir Edric Charles Wolseley of Wolseley Hall, Staffordshire and Lady Clare Wolseley (née de Trafford). George was born in Hothorpe Hall, Leicestershire; his maternal grandfather's estate. His early years were spent at Wolseley Hall. At eight, he went to Gilling then to St Cuthbert's.

At the outbreak of war in 1939, his godfather George Pope in California advised George's father to send George and his brother Richard to him. After evacuation, they attended Santa Barbara School, later known as Cate's School, in Carpinteria. They enjoyed life there, having their own horses and spending holidays in San Francisco with George Pope. At 18, George left for England and the RAF, being posted to Lahore. After the war, he read Electronics in Canada, once narrowly escaping death when his car was pushed 100m by a train along a track before tumbling over the side. George graduated from Vancouver University and returned to Britain where he set up Rudolf & Carlos Ltd with his older brother Basil, recycling radios and watches, but this proved commercially unviable. After time in Rugby, he joined the de Havilland aviation company, and, briefly, a helicopter maker, before transferring to British Aerospace at Weybridge, Surrey. He later joined its headquarters near Bristol on the spare parts team servicing aircraft worldwide. On retiring in 1989, he travelled from San Francisco to Los Angeles and revisited Cate's School. In retirement George lived quietly in the countryside with his sister Agnes supporting the Red Cross and many other charities, and pursuing his interest in vintage cars and trains, aircraft, spacecraft and astronomy and nature. He was a devoted Catholic and served Mass for many years in his local parish. George also collated many family documents detailing more than 1,000 years of the Wolseley family estate and the origins of the Wolseley car. He will be remembered for a keen sense of humour and warm hospitality.

JAMIE AUCKLAND CLARK (C10) 18 January 1994 - 1 November 2010 was the son of Alice and Christopher Clark (C68), the younger brother of Tom and Scarlett. After Prep School in Norfolk, he was in St Cuthbert's House from September 2007 to the early Summer Term 2009, joining in the 4th Form and leaving towards the end of his second year. In many ways he had much success both academically and in sporting fields. He was regularly receiving a Headmaster's Commendation, indicating that his academic studies were proceeding with dedication and strong progress. He represented Ampleforth in the School Golf Team, at Under 15A Rugby, Cross Country and Tennis. He was a keen sailor. One of his teachers remembers him as academically a young man of much potential, as one always smiling with his contemporaries. Although he was doing well, he was never quite at ease that he was doing well enough. He is remembered for his wacky and subversive sense of humour and bravery, and for being very astute. From Summer 2009 to July 2010 he was at Gresham School in Norfolk, and in September 2010 he started a catering course. He died on 1 November 2010, aged 16, at home in Norfolk. Jamie's friends from St Cuthbert's House attended his funeral Requiem Mass in King's Lynn in Norfolk, lighting candles after Mass for him - Jamie was buried in Downham Market. His family have instituted The Jamie Clark Trophy in St Cuthbert's for the Best Junior Sportsman each year in the House, what was described as a 'fitting tribute.'

THOMAS PETER FATTORINI (O50) 27 January 1932 - 1 November 2010 was born in Ilkley. He was the eldest son of Wilfred Fattorini and Molly (née Spencer), both of Skipton, North Yorkshire. He first attended Moorfield School, Ilkley. In April 1942 he moved to Gilling, then to St Oswald's under Fr Bernard Boyan, where he was Head Monitor and Captain of the 1st XV. Thomas began National Service in 1951 being stationed with the Royal Corps of Signals at Catterick, where he gained the Commanding Officer's prize for best officer. Afterwards, he read engineering at Trinity College, Cambridge. On graduating in 1955, Tom worked for his father in the family mail order business in Eccles, Manchester. He set up and developed a new business in Urmston, Manchester, to manufacture traditional metal and enamelled badges. Over the next 25 years, Tom pioneered the design and manufacture of plastic name badges, patenting some of his ideas. In 1993, his lifetime's work in the industry gained him the Freedom of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths and the Freedom of the City of London. In 1956 Tom's father bought Skipton Castle and woods on the death of Lord Hothfield. In 1959, the third Baron Hothfield transferred the title and rights of Lord of the Manor of Skipton to Tom, in recognition of his restoration of the castle. Tom also became acting administrator of the castle when his brother Hugh died. He is survived by Kirsti, whom he married in 1959, and by their children Thomas, Martin, Gregory, Sebastian and Anna-Silvia. The funeral Mass was celebrated at St Stephen's Church, Skipton.

PHILIP EDMOND LECUTIER (J72) 22 February 1955 - 2 November 2010 was in St John's House from 1966 to 1972. From 1986 to 2010 he taught science at a primary school in Cookridge near Leeds. He was described as an 'inspirational teacher' and a 'respected and admired member of staff.' He enjoyed travelling and often took pictures from his trips abroad in to his school to share with everyone. Philip died on 2 November 2010, after an accident on his bicycle near Leeds Bradford Airport.

JAMES BRIAN BARRY (W42) 31 August 1924 - 5 November 2010, known as Brian, was the youngest son of Dr John Barry and brother of John (E37) and Philip (A40). He joined St Wilfrid's House in 1937. After his time at Ampleforth, he served in the war-time Navy where he was a young midshipman when his British cruiser was said to have mistakenly fired the first shot of the D-Day invasion of World War II. After the war, he fell in love with an American woman, left Britain and the Royal Navy, changed careers and continents and became a popular teacher at St Louis Priory School, where he taught for 44 years until his retirement in 2004 aged 80.

ANDREW JAMES HOPE (T72) 12 May 1955 - 25 November 2010 was born in Harrogate, the third of four children and the only son of Michael and Philomena Hope. Michael Hope worked in the family firm of George Barker Ltd, making refrigeration units for supermarkets (especially Marks & Spencer) and Philomena came from Ireland. After her death in 1966, Michael remarried. Andrew gained two more step-sisters, being the sole boy among five girls.

Andrew went to Gilling in 1964, Junior House in 1966, and St Thomas's in 1968. He had little enthusiasm for sport, although for a time at Junior House he organised one of the more junior rugby games - Simon Finlow (A73), son of Hugh Finlow (A38 died 1993) who taught Latin and Economics at Ampleforth, and Andrew's future brother-in-law, was always first pick as scrum mainstay. Many of the other friends he made at school also remained close throughout his life, among them Andrew Kerr (W72), Edmund Bennett (O72), Gervase Hood (T73), Andrew Allen (T72) and Paul Molloy (T81). He won a scholarship to St Edmund Hall, Oxford in 1972. In Oxford he had a lively social life, but was also serious about work gaining a good Second in 1976. After considering further studies, Andrew agreed to join his father becoming a Director in 1980. In 1981 he took a Masters in Business Administration at Cranfield. In the late 1970s Andrew met Susan, the sister of his friend Simon and only daughter of Hugh Finlow. They married at Our Lady and St Benedict's church, Ampleforth in 1984. Their son Christopher was born in 1990.

George Barker Ltd was sold in 1984. One condition was that Andrew would remain as Managing Director. After two years he moved to London and the RTZ mining group. In 14 years his senior posts included Assistant to the Chairman and Finance

Director of Anglesey Aluminium in Wales. In 1994 Andrew was appointed MD of the enormous Rossing Uranium Mine near Swakopmund in Namibia. This was demanding and arduous, but their time in Namibia was a wonderful experience for the family. They lived first in a house on the beach and later in Windhoek, but travelled widely, holidaying at game parks and desert camps, and sharing time with other relatives and friends.

Andrew, Susan and Christopher returned to the UK in 2000. After working as a consultant in the charity sector, Andrew joined the International Chamber of Commerce as Director of its London office. A 2006 diagnosis of bowel and then liver cancer inspired no complaint. Major surgery and other treatment ultimately failed. Andrew died at home, as he wanted, with family and friends around him. Andrew was generous, clear-minded, honest and intelligent, with a delightful if quirky sense of humour - and a word-perfect recall of most of Monty Python! His love for Susan and Christopher was without doubt the main focus of his life, but he also delighted in the company of his sisters, brothers-in-law and their ever-extending families and those of Susan's four brothers. Andrew was endlessly hospitable, supportive and loyal. His courage was extraordinary, as long as possible he made no concession to the disease, and continued to enjoy life until near the end.

GEORGE SHILLINGTON ABBOTT (E53) 14 April 1935 - 26 November 2010 was the only son of Mary Quinlan and George Abbott. His father died before he was born and his mother re-married. George was sent to prep school when he was only five. This experience imbued him with a deep-rooted independence and an ability to cope with whatever was thrown at him.

By contrast, he loved his time at Ampleforth. The values he learnt there stayed with him for life as did his fondness for the School and the Community.

At Trinity College Cambridge, academic studies took a back seat to a lively social life, much of which centred around the bar at Fisher House, the Catholic Chaplaincy overseen by Monsignor Alfred Gilbey. Cambridge had a lifelong impact. George was so happy there that he made the town his home. Whilst at Cambridge, he met Diana Royce who was to become his wife.

At University, George guided tourists around the Colleges, an activity that was to become the foundation of his career. After graduating, and a year fundraising for the new Abbey Church, he returned to arranging guided tours in earnest. He rented a room above a pub and incorporated Abbott Travel. George soon switched from organising College tours to selling package holidays and found himself in one of the post-war boom industries.

Business flourished, and so too did his family. Diana produced their first son Mark (E80) in 1962, quickly followed by Hugh (E82) and David (E84). George and Diana moved into a large house near Churchill College, which was to be their family home until his death.

Through his 30s and 40s George nurtured both his family and his business and they grew with equal vigour. The dilettante student had become a hard-working businessman and Abbott Travel grew to employ over 60 staff in seven offices from Cambridge to Hull. His boys all went to Ampleforth where they were in George's old House, and cared for by Fr Edward, a contemporary from his own time at the school. George was always active in the wider community. He co-founded the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra and was for several years Chairman of the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce.

After selling Abbott Travel to American Express in 1986, George became a born-again gardener in retirement. On holiday in Egypt, he and Diana visited the Sunshine Orphanage in Luxor and were deeply moved and impressed by the good they saw there. Raising money for, and visiting, the orphanage became a shared passion for them both. George's other retirement hobbies were going down to the pub and shouting at Arsenal on the telly. George died at the Arthur Rank hospice in Cambridge. He is survived by his wife Diana, his three sons and eight grandchildren. He was a man of great integrity and had a good life.

PATRICK LA PRIMAUDAYE POLLEN (E46) 12 January 1928 - 30 November 2010 was the son of Arthur Pollen, a sculptor of religious works, and a great-grandson of John Hungerford Pollen, an Anglican priest who converted to Catholicism and became, at Newman's request, Professor of Fine Arts at the Catholic University of Ireland.

His mother, Daphne (née Baring), was daughter of the 3rd Lord Revelstoke, who had bought Lambay Island off the coast of Co Dublin, in 1904 and employed Edwin Lutyens to restore its castle. Daphne was herself a gifted painter of religious subjects; among her works was a large mural depicting the English Catholic martyrs.

After Ampleforth and Army national service, Patrick studied painting for two years at the Slade. He then worked in Paris at the Académie Julian art school, being particularly struck by the stained glass of Chartres cathedral.

But the crucial experience came in 1952, when his father took him to see Evie Hone's nine-light Crucifixion and Last Supper window in Eton College chapel shortly after its installation. He declared: "That's what I want to do."

He immediately travelled to Dublin to learn from Evie Hone, who worked from An Túr Gloinne (The Tower of Glass), a co-operative run by Catherine O'Brien, who was to become his principal mentor. When Catherine O'Brien died in 1955, she left him her brushes.

In 1963 Patrick married the sculptor Nell Murphy, and two years later they bought a house in Dublin where he set-up his own studio. Nell Murphy worked in stone, plaster and clay, and her work often appears in churches alongside that of her husband.

Many of Patrick's early commissions in the 1950s were in Britain. They included a window in a private chapel in the London Oratory, three windows for a chapel at Whitechurch near Chester and the crypt window for Rosslyn chapel in Midlothian. In 1957 Pollen started a two-year 32-window project for the new Cathedral of Christ the King in Johannesburg. The windows were made in Dublin then assembled in South Africa.

He later designed windows and a mosaic of St Joseph the Worker in Galway Cathedral, six windows in Ballinteer Catholic Church, Dublin and, in 1964, the memorial window to Catherine O'Brien in Dublin's Christ Church Cathedral. Patrick was a firm traditionalist in his religious life, and was much distressed by liturgical change after Second Vatican Council. He liked to attend an Old Rite Mass wherever possible.

Vatican II also produced changes in church architecture, with less demand for stained glass. Patrick received fewer commissions, and in 1981 he and his wife moved to the United States. They also felt that America offered their children better opportunities. The family settled at Winston-Salem, North Carolina, but Patrick could find little work there, and in 1997 they returned to Ireland. He spent his last years in Co Wexford. Patrick is survived by his wife and by their four sons and one daughter.

CHAD MICHAEL GRATWICK SARLL (T66) 20 April 1948 - 15 December 2010 was the brother of David (T64) and father of Richard (T97). After leaving Ampleforth, he trained with CE Heath, the Lloyds brokers.

Chad's son Richard writes: "At Ampleforth, my father was a formidable sportsman. He arrived from Howsham Hall with a personal best for the 60-yard dash which was only a whisker away from the national schoolboy record for his age. He loved rugby, first as a colt coached by Fr Basil Hume and, later, on John Willcox's first squad as rugby master. Chad played flanker for the 1st XV and for Harlequins, and was said to be very quick.

"Chad managed Quintet Anonymous, and Ampleforth jazz band which played widely in 1960s London. As a cadet in the Navy Section, he took his pilot's licence at 17 (the Fleet Air Arm had a nearby airfield). He shot both indoor and outdoor for the 1st VIII. He was somewhat less good at Latin but quite liked History. After Ampleforth, Chad played OA rugby for ten years. He also helped raise funds for the school.

"My father died after a short battle with cancer against which he put up a tremendous fight. During his sickness I was, as ever, very much inspired by his cheerfulness, conviviality, and love of his family. He kept up his indomitable sense of humour and inimitable charm to the last."

Chad is survived by his son Richard and daughter Tania, his wife Inge, and a granddaughter, Ellen, whom he met only two weeks before his death. His funeral at the Little Oratory, Brompton Road, on 14 January was followed by burial at Christ Church, Coldharbour, Surrey.

DAVID JAMES GEORGE HENNESSY (E51), THE THIRD BARON WINDLESHAM 28 January 1932 - 21 December 2010, a liberal Tory specialising in Home Office issues, was briefly leader of the House of Lords during Edward Heath's administration, and also a highly successful television executive. In 1988, Thames TV's *This Week* questioned how three IRA members had been killed by the SAS in Gibraltar. In response to criticism, Thames commissioned an independent inquiry from Windlesham and Richard Rampton QC. Their report on *Death on the Rock (1989)* found several lapses in the programme, but that overall, "those who made [the programme] were acting in good faith and without ulterior motives." On publication, a rebuttal was issued jointly by Downing Street, the Foreign Office and Ministry of Defence. Windlesham stood firm, waived the usual fee and won the Independent Broadcasting Authority's support. This underlined his commitment to media freedom and ability to face down Whitehall.

The Windleshams belonged to a branch of the Hennessy cognac family. After Ampleforth, David did National Service with the Grenadier Guards in Tripoli. After a law degree from Trinity College Oxford in 1957, he entered politics via the Tory Bow Group, twice chairing it in 1959-60 and 1962-63 and was elected to Westminster City Council from 1958 to 1962.

After University, he worked for Associated-Rediffusion and was involved with the early years of *This Week*. But in 1962 his father, Second Baron Windlesham, died in a helicopter accident. David was then Tory candidate for the safe Labour seat of Tottenham, North London, but had to go to the Lords.

Windlesham's arrival coincided with Tony Benn's determination to remain in the

Commons by renouncing his peerage after the death of his father, Viscount Stansgate. In opposition from 1964-70, he was low-profile in the Lords and admired Heath. After the unexpected Tory victory in 1970, he became Minister of State at the Home Office from 1970 to 1972.

Although Minister of State at the Northern Ireland Office from 1972 to 1973, he had left before the ill-fated Sunningdale conference. From June 1973, as Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the Lords, Windlesham's term was dominated by the miners' strike and the Conservative defeat in February 1974. He remained Leader in the Lords until the October election. However, he then resigned and turned to business.

Windlesham's early TV career had led to a seat on the board of Rediffusion as Chief Programme Executive. He was Managing Director of Grampian from 1967 to 1970 and returned to TV in 1974, becoming Joint Managing Director of the ATV network, and continuing as Managing Director from 1975 to 1981. As chairman of the Parole Board from 1982 to 1988, Windlesham declined to parole Myra Hindley, despite his liberal reputation. His publications included four volumes of *Responses to Crime (1983-2001)*.

As principal of Brasenose, Oxford from 1989 to 2002, he compared his quiet but authoritative handling of college business to "herding cats." He was a Director of the *Observer* from 1981 to 1989, Chairman of the Trustees of the British Museum from 1986 to 1996 and a visiting Professor at Princeton University, New Jersey in 1997 and 2002 to 2003. He also gave much support to Victim Support, serving as its president from 1992 to 2001 and played a key role in getting police support for its work, which was extended to Crown Courts. After most hereditary peers left the Lords in 1999, he was made a life peer as Baron Hennessy. In 1965 Windlesham married Prudence Glynn. She died in 1986 and he is survived by their son and daughter.

JONATHAN PETER CONROY (C78) 27 January 1960 - 25 December 2010 was born in the Ampleforth parish of Parbold, Lancashire. He was at prep school at Alderwasley Hall School near Matlock in Derbyshire until 1974, and then in St Cuthbert's House from 1974 to 1978. Between 1978 and 1981, he read Politics and Economics at Bristol University. In the mid-1980s, he taught at a private school in Crosby near Liverpool. In the late 1980s, he went to acting school and embarked on a career in acting, having parts on a number of television programmes. In 2001 he was appointed Director of a housing company, Madeley Housing Ltd. He married but the marriage was later dissolved. He was a popular person and is remembered for getting on well with others. One friend wrote that he was 'very honest and straightforward.' He lived in Ealing in London, and died suddenly, while visiting his Mother in Parbold, on Christmas Day aged 50.

MICHAEL RHODRI STOKES-REES (W52) 20 JULY 1934 - 7 JANUARY 2011 was in St Wilfrid's House, leaving in 1952. After a career in the army, he moved to the wine and spirit business. He was married and he had two children, Katherine and Rhodri (W83). His life was always a struggle. He died of heart failure aged 76.

CHRISTOPHER ROBIN GRAVES MBE (C43) 2 January 1926 - 13 January 2011 grew up at Fallodon in Northumberland which had been left to his father, Sir Cecil Graves MC KCMG, by Viscount Grey of Fallodon. His brother was Michael (C40 died 1949). After a brilliant school career in St Cuthbert's House both as a classicist and sportsman, he left Ampleforth in 1943 on his 17th birthday to join the Navy as an Ordinary Seaman, seeing action in the Atlantic as part of the British & American convoys, then in the English Channel prior to D-Day (during which he received serious head injuries). In January 1945 he joined the Far East fleet as a Sub-lieutenant and accepted the official surrender of Japanese troops in Bali.

After demobilisation in 1946, he qualified as a land agent in South West Scotland, before becoming a farmer and Conservative politician (serving as President of the Galloway Conservative Union Association for many years as well as standing as candidate for South Ayrshire in the mid to late 1960s). In 1975 he became Secretary for the Arthritis Research Council in Scotland before becoming Secretary of the Galloway Cattle Society in 1980. On retirement in 1990, he was awarded MBE.

He married Patricia Vowles in 1948, and had seven children, including four sons who all went to St Aidan's House - Adrian (A68), Christie (A74), Edward (A73) and Patrick (A79). He lived to delight in the long and happy marriages of all seven children, together with his 18 grandchildren and six great grandchildren. After Patricia's death in 1992, he married Agatha Ann Hawthorn in 1997.

In his retirement, he published a History of the Galloway Cattle Society 1877-1990. He also used his brilliance with words to capture in his (as yet unpublished) memoirs many fascinating and highly amusing episodes during the war, family life, his political career and on the sporting field. Chris's love of country pursuits owed much to the inspiration of two of his great mentors while at Ampleforth, Fr Sebastian Lambert and Fr Anthony Ainscough.

Chris's sense of humour and mischief made him immensely popular with others. But above all he was a man of deep humility and faith, and a great source of inspiration to his loving family. He died very peacefully.

JULIAN EDWARD GEORGE ASQUITH (O34), THE EARL OF OXFORD & ASQUITH 22 April 1916 - 16 January 2011 enjoyed a successful career in the Colonial Service, ending as Governor and Commander-in-Chief in the Seychelles.

Julian Asquith was the third child and only son of Raymond Asquith, always known as "Trim." Raymond, previously a successful barrister, died on the Somme in September 1916. Raymond had married Katharine Horner, from Mells, near Frome in Somerset. Here, Trim Asquith was brought up as a Catholic, after his mother's conversion.

In 1925, his grandfather, HH Asquith, became Earl of Oxford and Asquith. Trim was only 11 when he therefore succeeded as 2nd Earl on his grandfather's death in February 1928. He was educated at Ampleforth, whence he won a scholarship to Balliol taking a double First in Mods and Greats.

When the Second World War began, the now Lord Oxford, was commissioned into the Royal Engineers, and was in the retreat from Greece, where he met his future wife Anne, daughter of Sir Michael Palairet, the Minister, and later Ambassador, in Athens. Evacuated to Egypt, Lord Oxford was temporarily on the Cairo embassy staff, and then in July 1941 went to Beirut as ADC to Major-General Sir Edward Spears, who was then head of a mission to the Levant States.

In 1942 Lord Oxford rejoined the Royal Engineers and was sent to Safad in North Palestine to build up stocks of ammunition in caves, for a struggle from behind enemy lines should the Germans overrun Palestine.

A meeting with Christopher Pirie-Gordon led to an invitation to join the Palestine Administration Service, and Lord Oxford became Assistant District Commissioner at Beersheba. Later, in Jerusalem, he was Private Secretary to Sir Alan Cunningham, the High Commissioner in Palestine.

Lord Oxford left Palestine on the last day of the British mandate, 15 May 1948. He then served with the British administration in Tripolitania as Director of the Interior. His Italian proved useful in dismantling Mussolini's rule and preparing Tripolitania, Cyrenaica and the Fessan for independence as Libya at the end of 1951. He was a confidant of King Idris and an adviser to the Prime Minister, Mahmud Bey Muntasser.

In 1953 Lord Oxford transferred to Zanzibar as Administrative Secretary. His next post, in 1958, was as Administrator of the Windward Islands. In 1961 Lord Oxford was appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief in the Seychelles. His predecessor, Sir John Thorpe, had drowned when attempting to save his sons and Lord Oxford and his family had to swim when their sailing boat capsized in heavy seas. Despite strong currents they reached an island.

As Governor, Lord Oxford was responsible for 65,000 people. From 1965 his remit

included the British Indian Ocean Territory. In 1966 2,000 Seychelles workers struck for higher pay. Lord Oxford persuaded London to dispatch two frigates. The strike ended within a week, with the employers agreeing a pay rise.

By 1967, when Lord Oxford left the Seychelles, few territories remained to administer. After helping to draft constitutions for the Cayman Islands and for the Turks and Caicos Islands, he was happy to retire to Mells.

His mother lived in Mells until her death in 1976. Mgr Ronald Knox had been her guest from 1947-57, where he finished his translation of the Bible.

Lord Oxford never lost his intellectual curiosity, or his wide-ranging interests in politics, philosophy and religion. He married Anne Palairet in 1947; they had two sons and three daughters. Lady Oxford died in 1998. Their elder son, Raymond, Viscount Asquith, born in 1952, succeeds as 3rd Earl of Oxford and Asquith.

HENRY St JOHN WESTMORE (O40) 24 June 1922 - 18 January 2011, known as John, was born in Wallasey to Harold Edward Weissenberg (OA11) and Madoline Mary. He was a younger brother of Peter (O37 died 1992). Their uncle, Henry Weissenberg also attended Ampleforth - leaving in 1906. John's parents lived abroad for much of his time at Ampleforth before his mother moved to London.

John was one of the first boys to begin his Ampleforth education at Gilling Castle before progressing through Junior House and to St Oswald's. There he met Christopher Hatton (Fr Edmund) and so began a lifelong friendship.

On leaving Ampleforth, John joined the whisky distiller John Haig in February 1941 but was absent for war service from 1 December 1941 until 31 August 1946. He spent the war years in RAF 630 Squadron as a wireless operator, mainly flying in Lancaster bombers. Despite periodic moves, his base was East Kirkby.

After the war he joined John Hopkins & Co before returning to John Haig in 1960. In 1963 he moved to the Distillers Company Head Office in St James's Square, remaining there until moving to Tanqueray Gordon in April 1984 before retiring in 1985. For many years John was a regular member of the DCL cricket team.

He also enjoyed playing tennis, being a member of the Hurlingham Club and The Cumberland. At the latter he met and later married Elizabeth Mary Bickley at St James's, Spanish Place, on 31 August 1961. For most of their married life John and Elizabeth lived in Mill Hill. John was a keen photographer and enjoyed walking. Elizabeth and he rarely missed a two-week autumn trip to the Lake District. This also allowed him to meet Fr Edmund either on a parish or at Ampleforth.

John was a quiet man who rarely voiced strong opinions, preferring to keep his own counsel. Nevertheless, he held a very firm view of right and wrong; grey areas were unfamiliar territory. In his last two years he was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease and needed more care. Perhaps his greatest frustration was his lack of mobility and so his inability to attend Mass every Sunday. Elizabeth Westmore died of leukaemia on 22 August 2011. They are survived by their children, Andrew (D81) and Caroline.

OWEN RICHARD WILLOUGHBY WYNNE (B52) 5 April 1934 - 22 January 2011 was known as Willoughby. In 1941 the family were living in Singapore, before the Japanese invasion of February 1942, and Willoughby, with his younger brother Leo (B56, died 2006) and his mother set sail from Singapore, waving to his father on the quayside. His father died soon afterwards in Singapore. The family sailed to South Africa, where Willoughby was at school during the war. He came to Ampleforth after the war, and was in St Bede's House from 1947 to 1952. At Ampleforth, he played in 43 matches for the 1st XI in four of his six seasons in the school, scoring 789 runs. He also held the Under 16 100 yards record for many years. He did National Service in the Rifle Brigade, and gained a scholarship to Cambridge to read Classics. For many years he worked with Nestle, living for a time in Geneva, and becoming Marketing Director of Nestle UK.

Willoughby was a gifted cricketer. He was one of the founders of the Grannies Cricket Club, along with some Cambridge friends. He also played regularly for the MCC, Free Foresters, I Zingari, Emeriti, and the OACC. When Ampleforth were invited to join The Cricketer Cup in 1969, Willoughby was appointed captain for that first year. In the 1969 Cricketer Cup, Ampleforth reached the Quarter Finals, beating Old Cliftonians and Harrow Wanderers and losing in the Quarter Finals to Uppingham Rovers. From the late 1970s, Willoughby lived at 29 Brunswick Gardens, which became a cricketing home for many - its walls were covered with cricketing pictures. His abiding interest was in classical music. Not only did he attend numerous concerts but he sang in a number of choirs. He had a particular gift for friendship, keeping in touch with many of his friends, especially from Cambridge, the army and cricket. This was illustrated by the large numbers in attendance at his funeral Mass at the Carmelite Church in Kensington. He had a serious cricketing accident in 2006, falling on his head going for a catch, and had three serious operations. His memory was never quite the same afterwards.

In the 1950s, Willoughby married Rosemary and they had three children, Katherine, Jeremy (T82) and Theresa. This marriage was dissolved. Later, Willoughby married Carys (died 2009) who had three children of her own. In 2002, Willoughby and Carys played a generous and major role for the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the arrival of monks at Ampleforth in 1802. They did much to organise Vespers in Westminster Abbey, sung by the Ampleforth community, and the Reception

afterwards at the Banqueting Hall in Whitehall along with John Morton (C55) and David Tate (E47). Willoughby came on the Ampleforth Lourdes Pilgrimage in 2005. He was a cousin of Judge Mark Dyer (B47) and Simon Dyer (B58, died 1996).

VINCENT ARCHIBALD PATRICK CRONIN (W40) 24 May 1924 - 25 January 2011 was well known for his biographies of Louis XIV, Napoleon and Catherine the Great and for books on the Renaissance.

By giving a human scale to great events he won a wide popular readership. Though regarded as somewhat lightweight by many academic historians, Vincent often put them to shame with the extent and depth of his research, and his biographies of great French figures such as Napoleon and Louis XIV influenced later interpretations.

Like his father, Dr AJ Cronin, author of *The Citadel* and *The Keys to the Kingdom*, Vincent was fascinated by the lives of Catholic missionaries and wrote notable biographies of early Italian Jesuits. However, he won greatest public acclaim for his 1971 biography of Napoleon.

Vincent was born in the Rhondda Valley where his father was then a doctor. The family moved to London when Vincent was two. A few years later, his father began to write full-time. After Ampleforth, Vincent moved, at just 16, to Harvard. He completed his studies at Trinity College, Oxford, before moving to London to start as an author. Later he moved to Dragey in France, the family home of his wife, Chantal. Much of his writing concentrated on France and French life.

His first book, *The Golden Honeycomb* (1954), was a romantic tour through the history, philosophy and landscape of Sicily. Vincent spent five months in Sicily in 1952 researching for the book, which is still regarded as an indispensable guide to the island.

In *The Wise Man from the West* (1955), Vincent wrote of the Jesuit, Matteo Ricci, who in 1582 went as a missionary to Imperial China. Ricci was a talented geographer, mathematician, clockmaker and Chinese scholar. From Ricci's own letters and reports from Peking, Vincent explored how he overcame Chinese suspicions by mastering the language and becoming fully-versed in the culture, laws and system of government of the country.

Vincent began his biographies of French historical figures with a sympathetic portrait of Louis XIV (1964). In *The Florentine Renaissance* (1967) and *The Flowering of the Renaissance* (1970), Vincent analysed the cultural and economic trends that made the Renaissance possible. The book, described when written as "the best book ever on the Renaissance," dissected the character of fifteenth century Florence. The

second book in the series examined the Renaissance in Venice and the Papal States.

Vincent returned to French history with *Paris on the Eve* (1989), an account of the artistic and intellectual life of Paris in the aftermath of the Franco-Prussian war and before the First World War. In *Paris: City of Light 1919-1939* (1995), he extended his study to the explosion of intellectual and artistic activity after the First World War.

Other books about French life and letters, included *Four Women in Pursuit of an Ideal* (1965), a portmanteau book on four 19th-century Parisiennes, and the original *Companion Guide to Paris* (1963). He also translated several books from French into English, including *Towards a New Democracy*, by Valéry Giscard d'Estaing. In his last years he completed two further books - a travel book on Chile and a novel about Seneca's relationship with the Emperor Nero.

Vincent Cronin married, in 1949, Chantal de Rolland, who survives him with their two sons, James (E74) and Luan (E75) and three daughters.

THE HON HUGH ALASTAIR JOSEPH FRASER (B65) 14 November 1947 - 20 February 2011 was born at Beaufort Castle, Kiltarlity. He was the fifth child of the war hero 17th Lord Lovat. His brothers, Simon (C57 died 1994), Kim (C63) and younger sibling Andrew (C69 died 1994), were also educated at Ampleforth. Hugh went on to read PPE at Christchurch, Oxford.

On graduating, he joined the Marks & Spencer management trainee scheme, working in Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Leicester. Hugh went on to work as an estate manager for the Earl of Seafield in Aberdeenshire. Having met Drusilla at a party in London in October 1975, they were engaged after a courtship of three weeks and five days and married in May 1976. They had three children, Raoul (B98), Poppy and Eloise.

Several years in Aberdeenshire were followed by a move to Inverness-shire, where Hugh managed Ord Farm at Muir of Ord. While enthusiastic about farming, his wife recalls that "trees were his great love, native woodland trees in particular...he was terribly knowledgeable on the subject."

A well-known and popular member of the local community, Hugh was Chairman of the Black Isle Group co-operative movement, a member of the Highlands and Islands Valuation Appeal Committee, and former Chairman of the Royal Scottish Forestry Society. He was also a member of the National Arts Collection Fund, Governor of Butterstone School at Dunkeld and a Director of Moray Firth Salmon Fisheries.

In the mid-1990s, tragedy struck when his brothers Simon and Andrew died within

months of each other. A year later, his father, a commando leader during World War II also died. Hugh regularly attended St Lawrence's Catholic Church in Dingwall. Archbishop Mario Conti of Glasgow presided at his funeral, at Eskdale Church, Kiltarlity, with the eulogy delivered by Francis Russell, deputy chairman of Christies Auctioneers in London.

DENZIL JAMES HUGHES-ONSLOW (E57) 24 June 1939 - 27 February 2011 was born in Edinburgh to Reginald and Daphne-Anne Hughes-Onslow (née Brudenell-Bruce). He had one sister, Sally.

In 1953, after his time at All Hallows prep school, Denzil moved to Ampleforth for four years. There he was a keen rugby player, being taught by the late Cardinal Hume. His sporting enthusiasms also included cricket, squash and golf, later playing for The Grannies cricket team. As an excellent golfer, for many years afterwards, he was an active member of Tadmorton Heath Golf club.

National Service from 1959 to 1961 as 2nd Lieutenant in The Blues & Royals was followed by a move into journalism and PR; initially as a trainee PR Executive for Wynne-Morgan Associates from 1961 to 1963. Denzil was then successively Sports Reporter for *The Mirror* in Sydney, Australia, PR Executive at *Mather & Crowther* from 1963 to 1967, and with *Time & Life International* from 1967 to 1970. While with the latter, he arranged all PR for *Time Life* magazine. A move into self-employment followed. He set up the specialist travel business, Midlands Travel, with the godfather of his daughter Sophie. Denzil ran this business successfully from 1971 to 2006. Apart from his business interests, he also worked to support Catholic charities aiding the homeless and unmarried mothers in the Banbury area. Denzil is survived by his devoted wife, Chloe (née Devic) and their daughter, Sophie, who married Edward Haig-Thomas in May 2011.

JOHN DANIEL REMERS (D46) 12 January 1928 - 13 March 2011 was in St Dunstan's House, leaving in 1946 when he was conscripted to the army. In 1948, he went up to Christ Church, Oxford to study medicine, and then went on to study law. In 1951 he became an articled clerk, and became a solicitor. In 1954 to 1955, he tried his vocation at Ampleforth, becoming a novice as Br Christopher, staying for some months. Between 1955 and 1990 he was a country family solicitor with his own firm in Lewes, Sussex. On his retirement in 1990, he worked amongst the homeless in Brighton, starting a nightly soup run under the umbrella of the St Vincent de Paul Society. From 2004 he suffered from motor neurone disease, and spent his final six months being cared for in a hospice. In 1963, he married Philippa Roberts, who was a convert to Catholicism. They have three children, Christopher (born 1965), Benedict (born 1970), and Frances (born 1966). He was the uncle of Jeremy Baer (J63) and Quentin Baer (J66).

RICHARD TREVOR TIMOTHY CORBETT (J89) 26 July 1971 - 29 March 2011 was the much loved middle son of Norman (O60) and Alison Corbett and brother of Anthony (J87) and Charles (J92). Founder of music licensing agency Ricall, Richard died peacefully at home in London surrounded by his family on the evening of 29 March 2011, aged 39 after losing a year-long battle with pancreatic cancer. He leaves a widow Alison (Ali) and two children Joshua, 8 and Jade, 5.

Richard began his professional career with Famous Music Publishing, before moving into management consultancy with the MCG Consulting Group. He founded Ricall in 1998, aiming to offer a platform that made it easier for brands, gaming, TV and film producers to research, access and license music. He continued to work as the company's CEO until his death. Neil Hadfield, successor CEO and Chairman of Ricall, said that Richard "was a pioneer in the music synchronisation licensing arena and was one of the smartest and most industrious individuals I have known. Just days before his passing, he was still intimately involved in the management of his company and was totally committed to the idea that his creation, Ricall, should continue to prosper after his departure. I shall make every effort to oversee the success of Ricall as a lasting memorial to his genius."

The funeral Mass was celebrated by his former Housemaster, Abbot Timothy Wright OSB at St Mary's, Cadogan Street, London. A friend of the family and a well known soprano, Ana-Maria Rincon sang at the Mass. It was a tribute to Richard and Ali that so many young people and friends were present.

BENJAMIN CHARLES RUCK KEENE (E67) 2 September 1949 - 30 March 2011 died unexpectedly from a cerebral haemorrhage. Both Ben's parents were quite elderly and his childhood was lonely and difficult. After being unhappy at a succession of prep schools, Ampleforth provided a welcome sense of a real family and a spiritual home. Eventually, his own family home came to be at nearby Brandsby. Had Ben's eyesight been better, he would have followed his father into the Navy. Instead, after a BA from York University, he was called to the Bar at Grays Inn, before practising on the North-eastern Circuit. He then spent some years as a City stockbroker. This dual professional experience was invaluable when he was selected, against strong competition, as Estates Bursar for Corpus Christi, Oxford. He soon came to be recognised as exceptional among College Bursars, and was asked to assume further responsibilities within the University.

At the time of his death, Ben was Chairman of the University Estates Committee and a member of the University Investment Committee, as well as of the St Benet's Hall Advisory Committee. He helped to set up the Charities Property Fund and was involved in several other forward-looking ventures. Ben served at Corpus Christi for 22 years during which time he considerably strengthened its financial position.

For many years, Ben served as a Magistrate and Chairman, gaining a reputation for efficient and brisk despatch of business. He was involved in many charitable enterprises and had been Governor of two schools and an adult education college.

Ben's great outdoor pleasure was sailing. He also enjoyed researching his family history, politics and current affairs. He is survived by Frances, his wife of 39 years, and by his children Alexander, Hermione and Dominic.

REGINALD CUTHBERT FULLER (A26) 12 September 1908 - 21 April 2011 was known as Reggie. Fr Henry Wansbrough writes: "He was a leading Biblical scholar and co-founder of the Catholic Biblical Association in 1940. As the oldest priest of Westminster Archdiocese, he would later this year have celebrated his 80th anniversary of ordination by Cardinal Bourne. Reggie was born in St John's Wood, London to Dr Arthur Fuller, a Harley Street consultant and Florence (née Montgomery). After Ealing Priory School and Cardinal Vaughan School, he arrived at Ampleforth. On leaving, he entered the seminary at St Edmund's Ware (1926-31). Old Testament studies in Rome followed ordination. He gained an LSS in 1933 and doctorate in 1935. Reggie returned to teach scripture at Ware (1936-1949) before moving to London as Rector of Warwick Street (1950-1963). At 56 he returned to study for a doctorate at Cambridge (1964-1968, a thesis on *Alexander Geddes, a pioneer of biblical criticism, 1737-1802*) then teaching for four years at St Mary's, Strawberry Hill, before three years as lecturer in Old Testament at the new University of Nairobi (1972-1975). Several pastoral appointments in Westminster archdiocese followed until final retirement to Nazareth House in his late 90s in 2003. Reggie continued as curate of St Mellitus, Tollington Park, despite being attacked and beaten over the head by intruders when in his 80s.

"I last visited Reggie in 2007, seeking information for an obituary-article on his school-friend and long-term colleague Dom Bernard Orchard. At 99 he was still bright, lively and humorous. We spent a couple of hours together while he poured out his memories of their long association. They had become colleagues as pupils at Ealing Priory School, and, though Reggie later moved to Ampleforth, continued their association for three-quarters of a century. Always self-effacing, Reggie allowed himself to remain largely in the shadow of Bernard's expansive, dominating character. Among their joint projects were two important publications, *A Catholic Commentary on Holy Scripture* (of which Bernard was editor for the first edition in 1953 and Reggie for the second in 1969) and the *Revised Standard Version of the Bible - Catholic Edition* (1966). Reggie was, however, perfectly capable of initiatives of his own, being a founder member and Secretary of the Catholic Biblical Association of Great Britain and founder of the periodical *Scripture*.

"Reggie's real contribution lay in his contribution to the emergence of English Catholic biblical studies from the 'Ice Age' following the Catholic Modernist crisis

of the early 20th Century. At a meeting of the Catholic Higher Studies Conference in 1940, three years before the cautious thaw encouraged by the encyclical *Divino Afflante Spiritu*, one of the real pioneers of Catholic biblical scholarship in Britain, Cuthbert Lattey, suggested the formation of a Catholic Biblical Association. Reggie was duly appointed Secretary, and the original trust deed shows the features of his antique typewriter. Secretary and Chairman he remained until 1982, after which he endowed the annual Lattey Lecture at Cambridge University in memory of this initiative. As Secretary he founded and edited (1946-1953) the periodical of the Association, *Scripture*, which continues on-line.

One of the important products of the Association, pioneered by Bernard Orchard with Reggie at his side, was the *Catholic Commentary*, a one-volume commentary on the whole of scripture. Though still deeply traditional, it enabled Catholic scripture scholars of the English-speaking world to hold up their heads. Its second edition was superseded only by the *Jerome Commentary* in 1969. Another, potentially more important, initiative was the Catholic edition of the RSV, a first move towards the Common Bible, projected by Bernard and Reggie in 1952, but delayed by the English hierarchy until 1966. This translation was eclipsed by the publication that year of *The Jerusalem Bible*.

In 2001 Reggie celebrated 70 years of priesthood. In 2008 his 100th birthday was marked by a Mass concelebrated with Cardinal Murphy O'Connor, with messages from the Queen and Pope. He celebrated Mass until the day of his death. It was typical of Reggie's unfailing courtesy that, being only 99, at the end of our conversation, he insisted on accompanying me to the door.

CHRISTOPHER GERALD SHILLINGTON (E97) 10 December 1978 - 12 May 2011 was known to most as Toddy. He arrived at Ampleforth, having enjoyed prep-school life at Headfort School, Co. Meath, Ireland. He held his own in the classroom at Ampleforth and excelled in sport and friendship.

A keen rugby and squash player as well as cricketer, he represented the 1st XI cricket team for three years, where he achieved a five wicket haul in two consecutive Exhibition weekend matches. Ampleforth and the good friends Toddy made there remained very much part of his life long after his school days had finished.

Toddy spent most of his gap year teaching at St Joseph's (Joey's) School in Sydney, Australia and returned to take up his university degree in Finance in Newcastle. His three years in the North East were much enjoyed and Toddy gained his degree and moved to London where he built a successful career in the sports spread-betting industry, working for Cantor Fitzgerald and IG Index. This allowed him to pursue his sporting interests where he was as happy watching darts at Lakeside, as cheering

home Bago in the Prix de L'Arc de Triomphe (a good little earner!). Toddy's greatest passion was golf, which he played to a low single-figure handicap. His golfing soul was firmly at Royal County Down although latterly he became a member of Royal Dornoch. His final round was played with his wife at Augusta, Georgia in February 2011 with huge pride and with his normal level of determination.

Toddy gave much to his many friends who gathered in great numbers for his funeral, conducted by his close friend Fr Edward Corbould. While sorely missed, Toddy will be remembered for the enthusiasm he had for all his activities.

In July 2010 he married Sophie (née Myerscough, whom he first met at Headfort). She nursed him with immense courage and love following his diagnosis with cancer in June 2010. Sophie along with Toddy's parents, David and Grania, his siblings, Katie Brooks, Clare Shillington and Tommy Shillington (E90), and the rest of his family and friends gained immeasurable strength and peace from Toddy's unwavering faith.

FR ADRIAN SMITH (W48) 4 April 1930 - 27 May 2011 was in St Wilfrid's House from 1944 to 1948. He shared a room with the present Editor of the Ampleforth Journal. After leaving Ampleforth, he joined what was then called 'The White Fathers' and was ordained priest in 1955. He worked in Zambia for 14 years, and then, after studying in Jerusalem and the Irish School of Ecumenics in Dublin, he spent eight years as National Director of the Movement for a Better World in Birmingham and Stone. He specialised in retreats for 'non-church' people, and was involved in the Justice and Peace Movement. From 1994 to 2006, he worked in London and Walsall and spent his final years at Nuneaton, continuing to give retreats and conferences all over the country.

He felt strongly, after Vatican II, that Church structures did not change enough to permit an authentic development of the new human and ecclesial vision which the Council had inaugurated, and was a strong supporter of the Movement known as Catholics for a Changing Church, for whom he published a series of booklets. His last major publication was *God, Energy and the Field*, which was published by Orbis in 2000. His funeral took place in Ealing Abbey.

HE Fra' FREDRIK CRICHTON-STUART (C57) 6 September 1940 - 14 June 2011 was Grand Prior of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta in England and President Emeritus of the International Federation *Una Voce*. He was the son of Lord Rhidian Crichton-Stuart (C34 died 1969) and grandson of John Crichton-Stuart, 4th Marquess of Bute, and the great-grandson of John Patrick Crichton-Stuart, 3rd Marquess of Bute, a Victorian convert to Catholicism. Freddy, as he was always known, was brought up in Scotland and North Africa where his father had business

interests. His long career included time in industry and farming and he ran his own chartered accountancy practice until his retirement. He was an officer in the Territorial Army, and a trustee and later Chairman of *Una Voce* Scotland, and sat on the boards of several Scottish charities.

Fra' Fredrik had been a member of the Order of Malta since 1962, Delegate of Scotland and the Northern Marches, and first Chancellor of the restored Grand Priory of England. In 2008 he was installed as the second Grand Prior of England since the Reformation, succeeding Fra' Matthew Festing (C67), who had been elected Prince and Grand Master of the Order on the death of Fra' Andrew Bertie (E47), a cousin of Fra' Fredrik's. Freddy worked tirelessly on behalf of the sick and disabled and continued to serve as a devoted Chairman of Dial-A-Journey in mid-Scotland until his death.

NICHOLAS DUDLEY BRUNO ELWES (O46) 28 March 1928 - 20 June 2011 the son of Rudolph and Hermione Elwes. After Hermione died in 1952, Rudolph became a priest. Nicholas was the grandson of Gervase Elwes (1866-1921), the tenor soloist renowned for his interpretation of Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius*. Nicholas had three sisters, and a brother, Captain Jeremy (A39, died 1999), and was the uncle of Gervase (B73), Giles (B75), Hugh (O81) and Robert (O79). Nicholas was at Avisford prep school and then from 1942 to 1946 in St Oswald's House. He and his friends John Nevill (O46) and David Maunsell (O46) were known as the Holy Three or The Indivisible Atom. He went to Moulton Agricultural College and then for five years worked with his brother Jeremy on the estate at Elsham in Lincolnshire. In 1957, he married Geraldine Cunningham (who taught once at Westminster Choir School), and they had four daughters - Helen, Teresa, Clare and Gemma - and an adopted son John, now a professional tenor singer. Nicky has been described as 'a true eccentric, in the most wonderful sense of the word,' as 'a genius' and as having 'an outrageous sense of humour.' He founded an invention/design business, and worked for the charity Scope, then called The Spastics Society. He used his ingenuity to develop mobility aids for the disabled. He was a Member of the Order of Malta, and went with the Order on pilgrimage to Lourdes for 40 years. He was extremely sensitive to people and committed to caring for the sick. After living in Victoria and then Surrey, in 1985 he moved into Weir Cottage, a house without a bathroom, heating and mains water on the banks of the Thames at Binsey, accessed only by footpath along the river. He recycled to an extreme. In later years he divided his time between Weir Cottage and an almshouse in Thorpness, Suffolk. He died on 20 June 2011; as he stopped breathing a blackbird in a tree outside led the dawn chorus. His Requiem Mass was at Blackfriars in Oxford.

BRYAN AUGUSTINE McSWINEY (O39) 6 February 1921 - 25 June 2011 was born in Altrincham, Cheshire. He was in the first intake at Gilling Castle in 1929.

From his Ampleforth years he gratefully recalled Fr Stephen Marwood's influence as an inspirational Housemaster. Bryan's Oxford studies were delayed by the war. Instead, he went to study medicine at St Thomas's Hospital in London, but just for a few months before joining the King's Royal Rifle Corps (60th Rifles) in 1940 as an infantryman. He left the army in 1947 as a Major after serving with SOE, helping to evacuate Yugoslav royalist partisans to Corfu, and in the War Office. In 1947 his father, Professor of Physiology and Dean of St Thomas's Medical School, died very suddenly. As sole breadwinner for his siblings Owen, Patrick, Norah and Mary, Bryan took a job with American Tobacco, which he endured for a year.

After winning a bursary from the King's Fund to study Hospital Administration, he later qualified as a barrister and was called to the Bar at Middle Temple and then became Deputy House Governor of Bristol Royal Infirmary before his appointment to St Thomas's in 1962 where, for 12 years, he led an enlightened approach to hospital management. Bryan had a flair for problem-solving in difficult situations. He assembled an unusually young administrative team, many reaching the top ranks of health care management. He inspired intense loyalty and gave his young team space to develop. Bryan's logic, persistence and charm led to many innovative agreements with continued relevance.

After the 1974 reorganisation, Bryan briefly became the first Administrator to the Special Charitable Trustees of St Thomas's Hospital and then forged a new career in private healthcare with a company that built and ran hospitals in the Middle East and UK. Here his negotiating skills were well-used. He continued to develop and chair St Thomas's Veterans' Association.

Retiring to Wales, he and his wife Judith bought a small hill farm west of the Brecon Beacons, running a herd of speckled-face sheep for nearly 20 years. Bryan was never a very keen shepherd but always helped when needed. The couple joined a herb-growing co-operative to boost hill-farmer incomes, and Bryan was a founder-member of Aberglasney Gardens Trust, the Welsh Historic Gardens Trust and Treasurer of the local Cheshire Home. As a committed parishioner, he often missed the end of rugby Internationals to reach Mass on time.

Bryan's Requiem Mass assembled six clerics and 300 mourners. With the consent of both Anglican and Catholic authorities, it took place in the Anglican medieval parish church. Bryan leaves his second wife Judith, his son Bryan Anthony (O69), known as 'Tin,' his daughters Venetia and Lindsey and three grandsons.

PHILIP HOLDEN BOND (B43) 30 September 1925 - 27 June 2011 was the third of four brothers in St Bede's House - his brothers were David (B40, died 1968), Justin (B40, died 2005) and Hubert (B47). Philip spent three years in Junior House

and then five years in St Bede's House from 1938 to 1943. In 1943, he won a bursary to Oxford for a two year wartime degree in civil engineering. For many years he worked as a civil engineer, with the London Metropolitan Water Board and then in various commercial firms, including Posford, Patry and Partners. He became a member of the Institute of Civil Engineers in 1976. He retired in 1990. He was remembered as a good husband, married first to Mary who died in 1972 and then to Magdalen. He had no children. He was very intelligent, with a great sense of humour.

SIR DESMOND AUGUSTINE FENNELL OBE (A52) 17 September 1933 - 28 June 2011. At the age of 16, Desmond Fennell, a relatively junior boy in St Aldan's, became assistant to Fr Benet in running the School Tuck-shop. He had such natural authority that his iron rule became famous: not even the Head Monitor would dare to queue-barge in his presence. This natural authority, which represented an extraordinary blend of high intelligence, courtesy and unmistakable integrity, was to be the hallmark of what became an outstandingly successful public career.

He took the sword of honour in his training for National Service in the Grenadier Guards. After Cambridge, he was called to the Bar in the Inner Temple and rapidly became a QC and Head of Chambers. In 1990 he was appointed to the High Court Bench.

Prior to this appointment, he had gained fame in two very different ways. Between 1969 and 1971, Desmond became the undisputed leader of the resistance of the people of Buckinghamshire to the plan to build Britain's biggest airport in what John Betjeman called 'quintessential England.' Claiming that 'politicians can see a bandwagon when it is rolling,' Desmond marshalled the support of 60,000 people and the plan was dropped. In 1987, he was appointed to head the public enquiry into the King's Cross Fire, and his widely respected report led to the London Underground becoming a much safer place.

In 1991, at the height of his powers, he was struck down by a major stroke which changed the course of his life. In the last 20 years of his life, he achieved greatness of an entirely different order. Guided by his strong faith, and with the indomitable support of his wife, Susan, and his family, he accepted, with deep and uncomplaining serenity, the Cross which had been unexpectedly laid on his shoulders and rebuilt his life of public service, chairing the appeal for the burns and wounds unit at Stoke Mandeville which is now known as Restore. His selfless generosity of spirit during these last years was a witness to everything he had always stood for, at a level he had not expected.

Desmond's influence, both in his public and in his private life, was huge. His funeral

was marked by that particular blend of grief, gratitude and celebration which befits the passing of a man whose manner of living and dying was touched by greatness.

AUGUSTIN VAN DAMME (H08) 4 March 1991 - 29 July 2011. His father François writes: "Augustin was one of six children and part of a family that more resembled a crew. His siblings are Georges (H04), Henry (H07), Louise, Delphine and Alice. Despite having only spent a year at Ampleforth, it was the best year of Augustin's life. He formed strong relationships and acquired invaluable memories and experiences which would have otherwise lasted a full life time. Augustin struggled academically but sought to excel in other areas such as sport, music and art. Well known for his love of music, he played piano and guitar and used music to cope with his emotions. Augustin was an avid sportsman and engaged in many including tennis, surfing and skiing. While at Ampleforth he developed a love for rugby and continued his passion for the sport on his return to Belgium. However, he chose to pursue hockey, and soon became an important member of his team and a valued member of his hockey club, where he was most well known as a joker.

"Augustin continued his studies in Antwerp, reading Product Development during his first year. He made friends wherever he went and University was no exception. He formed many strong relationships and continued to enjoy parties and socialising. From his early years to the end he was charitable and generous; encouraging people constructively and working hard to bring joy to those around him. He will always be remembered for his charming smile and kind personality.

"At times like these we realise the power of communication and remember the importance of family and friends. We would like to thank everyone for the kindness and support shown us throughout this time."

CLEMENS REUTTER (O06) 29 March 1988 - 9 August 2011 was the third of four children of an Austrian father, Georg, and an English mother, Joanna. Ampleforth did well by Clemi, where he followed his older brother Georg (O02) and his cousins Anton (O00) and Tassilo Seilern-Aspang (O03) into St Oswald's House. He was encouraged and motivated and his intellectual curiosity was nurtured while forging many great friendships. He overcame his dyslexia, achieved good GCSE and A-level results and went on to get a first-class degree in Economics and Accounting from Bristol University. He took two gap years, during which he did his Austrian military service, took up a Deloitte scholarship in London and travelled extensively in South America.

Clemi was an avid sportsman, playing in the first rugby team at Ampleforth and becoming an excellent tennis player at University. He also took up cycling and was always seen kicking a football around. He was passionate about skiing and being in

the mountains and in June 2011 he climbed Mont Blanc with his sisters Alison and Franziska. While holidaying in Italy at his godparents, he was involved in a car accident and died some days later from his injuries. He was much loved by his family and friends, who knew him for the special person he was; deep-thinking, fun, energetic, and above all loyal and cheerful.

Over 1,000 family and friends attended his funeral and memorial services in Austria and Kent. A charity - www.clemensreutterstiftung.at - has been set-up by his parents and siblings in his name to help disadvantaged children.

PETER STEPHEN DETRE (J62) 15 March 1945 - 29 August 2011 was born in Budapest, the elder son of Bela and Ibolya, soon after "liberation" by the Russians. Peter's oldest cousin Toni recalls: "we all shared very limited facilities without electricity, cooking gas or running water, while subject to bombing, incoming artillery, and irregular but malicious visits by armed Arrow Cross thugs."

Peter was an able pupil and good musician. After the 1956 uprising he left Hungary with his parents and younger brother John and arrived in London as refugees. Within weeks both parents had work and a viable base.

Peter's talent as a violinist led to a Buttle Trust scholarship to Ampleforth. There he quickly adapted. Music took up much time but he loved sport too and was good at it. Being keen to try anything new helped him to make friends and polish his English.

After Sheffield University Peter did a language course in Geneva. He was an accomplished linguist but would improvise in any language. He made friends easily. During his early business career he met three lifelong friends: Mike Hirst, Peter Pince and Minoo Randeria. Peter loved travelling and was an entertaining and tireless companion, soon at home in any new city. In 1970 he met Suzan, a theatre nurse. Four years later they married and raised three sons, Simon (A95), Tom (A/J98) and Mark (A/J00).

The 1980s were busy and productive. Peter's career in the hospitality and leisure industry took him all over the world. His experience grew in developing new businesses and reversing the decline of others. He was active in interim management consultancy and running his online initiative until his last days. He completed his latest business plan in July, after a serious back operation, balancing his laptop on his hospital bed.

Peter's priority was his family and he loved nothing better than a large gathering of all the generations, especially when his Hungarian cousins, who had settled in Canada, were visiting London.

At home in Harrow, Peter played in, and eventually chaired, his local orchestra and was a staunch supporter of the Harrow Hill Trust and the Tennis Club where he was a former treasurer. He was a positive and optimistic person, undaunted in any situation, however dire. One such was when he and Suzan began to live independently. Even so Peter's commitment to his family never faltered. He loved to be with them, entertaining everyone at one of his famous barbecues. Peter's young grandsons brought him joy in his last years.

Peter loved music of all styles, both as a performer and listener, always commenting knowledgably. A well informed person he loved a debate, and with his excellent memory for the obscure fact or statistic invariably proved his assertion. Keeping fit was a priority. He longed to get back to this tennis court and was planning to join Tom on next year's skiing holiday.

ACHESON JOSEPH BLAKE (D40) 22 May 1922 - 31 August 2011 joined Junior House in 1933 and went on to St Dunstan's House in its second year in September 1936 with Fr Oswald Vanheems (OA1920, died 1968) as Housemaster. He went to Trinity College, Dublin. In 1948 he married Helen Roberts and they had a son, Michael Blake (O67). Acheson was from the extended Blake-French family line, of Ballyglunin House and Monivea Castle, and a cousin of a legendary figure in Irish and Russian history, Kathleen French, who in her years living in Russia knew three giants of world literature and theatre, Chekhov, Stanislavsky and Tolstoy, and she had political connections with Lenin. Acheson was a farmer by trade at his home in County Galway before moving to Spain.

GREGORY GARABET GEORGE KASSAPIAN (T53) 7 January 1935 - 4 September 2011 was born on 7 January 1935, the elder brother of Ronald (T55) and Peter (T58). He was at Gilling Castle, Junior House and then St Thomas's House, leaving in 1953. He did National Service in the RAF, as a signals engineer in Bempton, North Yorkshire. Throughout his life Garry worked in the family wool firm in Bradford. His leadership in the wool industry and in the wider business world were notable, as was shown by his involvement in the successful closure of the family company, and as President of the Wool Association. Garry's natural charm, style, ability to put people at ease and communicate with people at all levels, made him the person much loved. He was very loyal to Ampleforth, attending Hot Pots and many St Thomas's Reunions, one just before he died. In 1968, he married Anne Lahy, and they had three children - Paul (H89), Marianne and Stephanie. Anne and Garry were loyal members of their local parish - his commitment to his faith and support of the Church remained exemplary. He enjoyed being a member of the Knights of St Columba and of the Catenians. He was an honorary member of the Bradford Jewish Society. Although he had not been well, Garry enjoyed life to the full and died suddenly, yet peacefully, on 4 September 2011.

MARTIN HALLIWELL KEVILL (O44) 14 February 1927 - 19 September 2011 was a businessman, sometime farmer, former Ampleforth novice and museum founder who devoted many years to the mentally and physically handicapped (a term he disliked). After Ampleforth, Martin joined the Welsh Guards. In Lübeck, just after the war, he helped feed children who had narrowly escaped death in Bergen-Belsen. Injuries at Gdansk threatened paralysis of the legs before a successful operation by Sir Hugh Cairns. Having pledged to test a monastic vocation if he recovered, Martin joined the Ampleforth novitiate. He stayed 14 months before taking a two-year estates management course at Cirencester. His father's Gradwell Farm became vacant, so he began work there. In his first year, Martin came to know Francis Cantwell, bailiff at the farm at Lisieux Hall - a home for those with learning difficulties. Ten years of farming convinced him that small farms had little future.

After his driving licence was withdrawn for drink-driving, he bought a horse-drawn carriage and then decided to emulate Beaulieu Motor Museum, but with carriages. This proved popular with parties of handicapped children, among other visitors. Eventually, Martin developed an 80-carriage museum with attached workshops and a Wild West-style village. Some years later, he sold the museum and for eight years worked alongside the Julius Stein Foundation, still at Gradwell, having turned a cottage into a holiday home for handicapped children. To ensure this work survived him, Martin transferred the house to the Sons of Divine Providence (priests with a corresponding apostolate) who managed it until 2005 when the property was sold to fund the Order's UK and overseas charities. Martin died at Boarbank Hall, Cumbria.

PHILIP HANBURY "MICHAEL" BARRY (A40) 11 March 1923 - 4 October 2011 was born in 1924 in a Yorkshire family, the eldest of three brothers at Ampleforth - John (E37) and James Brian (W42 died 2010). The family later moved to Weston-super-Mare, where his father was a doctor. Michael was at Gilling, Junior House and then St Aidan's House, leaving in 1940. He joined the Parachute Regiment and became a Lieutenant. He was dropped at Arnhem in Holland in September 1944, where his left arm was badly wounded and he was taken prisoner, being a Prisoner of War until the end of the war. He studied engineering and then changed to medicine at Bristol University. He worked for a time in the oil fields of the Middle East and then returned to complete his medical studies, taking over his father's practice in Somerset. After he retired in 1993, he was interested and involved in pharmacognosy, the use of plants in medicine. He had an extensive garden and orchard and gained a considerable reputation in this field. He was an excellent golfer, with a handicap of two. He married Gill, and they had five children. On a lovely morning, 4 October 2011, sitting at his desk in a cheerful mood in his Somerset home, and while Gill went for a short walk, he died, having written on his pad '*Deo Gratias.*'

AMPLEFORTH COLLEGE HEADMASTER'S INTRODUCTION

FR GABRIEL EVERITT OSB
HEADMASTER OF AMPLEFORTH COLLEGE

IN THE Christian tradition there is not much doubt about the power of words. At the most exalted level, the Word is identified with God: 'In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God' (John 1:1). At the same time, the power of our human words is clearly recognised, with a potential both for good and for ill. The letter of St James has a passage about the blessings and the harm that can come from the tongue: 'So the tongue is a little member and boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! ... no human being can tame the tongue – a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing.' (James 3:5, 8-10).

We can all make mistakes and say the wrong thing at times, but over a period of time our words tend to become a pattern and to follow a trajectory, shaped by a myriad of choices, which direct our lives as in the following saying:

Watch your thoughts, they become words
Watch your words, they become actions
Watch your actions, they become habits
Watch your habits, they become character
Watch your character, it becomes your destiny

Our words are transmitted today of course by the multitude of modern means of communication. I was on a train recently and was sitting in the vicinity of two young people, clearly friends with many shared stories and interests. Each had a mobile phone of course and during that train journey there were many texts, a few calls and other multimedia experiences. None of that comes as a surprise and I am sure we have all been known to do a bit of it ourselves. They were very obviously connected to the world, indeed one might say that the walls of the carriage had blown out and their words were taking place in a very extended and extensive real time. They paused on occasion, as the fancy took them, to share information, often with great hilarity but it was as if there were far more of them sitting at that table and here I might be being judgemental in a headmasterly sort of way (perhaps you have been waiting for it) but it did not appear that the encounters were particularly deep or profound. Maybe I was wrong. I feel it necessary to add that I was not being a voyeur or an eavesdropper. In such a public place it was impossible not to see and to hear.



I am not a luddite and I do see all the excitement and opportunity of conversing and seeking information by all the new means and even if I thought that there was nothing but disaster in all our technological conversations, the geni is out of the bottle and will not be got back in. But it is just that it is easy to miss opportunities and a longish journey with a companion can be just such for silence, thought and a conversation which goes deeper than is so often possible in all the hurly burly of our lives. This is the academic year in which we have been reminded of 'cor ad cor loquitur' by Blessed John Henry Newman and Pope Benedict: heart speaks unto heart.

Of course deep conversations are often difficult and demanding, it can be very hard to find the right words and we may not always get it right at the first go. If words are to be powerful and to have the right effect, they may not always be what the other person wants to hear at least not immediately. So at least it often seems to be for headmasters, teachers, parents, friends.

St Benedict has a very definite place for the heart to heart, the 'cor ad cor loquitur' in his monastery and it is advocated in a number of places in his Rule. In one such reference he advocates that if the abbot is encountering a problem with one of the brethren and if other more usual means fail, he should send in older and more experienced monks - 'senpectae' he calls them to try to discover a good way forward. Success is not guaranteed but at times solutions cannot be found at a current level of discourse; one has to dig deeper. 'Let him' says St Benedict, send in senpectae, that is, mature and wise brothers who, under the cloak of secrecy, may support the wavering brother, urge him to be humble as a way of making satisfaction, and console him lest he be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. Rather, as the Apostle also says: Let love for him be reaffirmed and let all pray for him.'

When I went to the international congress for Benedictine educators at Delbarton New Jersey back in 2005, I remember being struck by the emphasis in Delbarton's school on discipline by conversation. It would be a mistake to infer from this that all one need ever have is a gentle word. Would that it were so, but here as there and in the Rule, it is clear that conversations, sometimes it may be with a very hard word, are an important beginning in trying to put things right, if circumstance and opportunity allow. The Abbot in the Rule is challenged to appoint Deans and a Prior who can share with him in this, not always easy task, proposing the commandments of the Lord to receptive disciples by words and demonstrating God's instructions to the stubborn and the dull by a living example. Again another passage about the Abbot: 'With the undisciplined and restless, he will use firm argument; with the obedient and docile and patient, he will appeal for greater virtue; but as for the negligent and disdainful, we charge him to use reproof and rebuke.' It is not necessarily an easy task! I am reminded of the advice to preachers that they must comfort the disturbed and disturb the comfortable, and do both at the same time.

Words can correct, but they also encourage and indeed one hopes may even at times inspire. They can be one to one, though they can also be one sided - like this speech or a homily. The pep talk may not be directly an interaction, but it can nonetheless be an instance of heart speaking to heart. Some of the most effective things said to me have not necessarily involved me in saying anything at all. But this too is one of St Benedict's core values - listen with the ear of your heart to the words of a master who loves you. Indeed to converse well, we need to learn first to listen well. As I think you are all aware this is the centenary year of the Combined Cadet Force and there is a special focus at Exhibition this year on the Corps. Those who attend the Tattoo tonight will be able to purchase a centenary brochure. In it there is a very thoughtful article by Duncan Anderson on *The British Officer and the Benedictine Tradition* and in that article a thought provoking account of an address to troops in the Falklands suggesting how just such an address can be a very good and clear example of heart speaking to heart.

I ask a good many to act as senpectae and to have conversations on my behalf, when I think this will be helpful. John Browne, my Deputy, other members of my Senior Leadership Team, Housemasters and Housemistresses have a high number of deep conversations as a high priority in their daily routines. As Fr Oswald and Fr Chad step down as housemasters, often in Ampleforth a quite painful and emotional moment, made more so by the seeming epoch turning change to all Jay housemasters, housemistresses, I am struck by the extent to which this role, as that of officer in war, and of so many leadership roles, has to draw on St Benedict's teaching about the wise listener, the wise Abbot, who shepherds, guards and leads his flock.

I was heartened very recently by an old boy prospective parent visitor, who said he was struck by the unselfconscious way in which references to the Rule, by a wide variety of those he met, had provided a leitmotiv to his visit. We were joined by Rachel Fletcher, the Director of Admissions, who, unaware of the previous conversation, quoted St Benedict's important comment, which one does hear from time to time in the school, that 'idleness is the enemy of the soul.' It was a sudden proof of just what the Old Amplefordian had been saying. Of course the monks are still going to be here, even if the passage of the years, of which I cannot but be aware given that is my eighth Exhibition speech, is gently turning some of us from father to grandfather figures. This reflection enables me to note the importance of grandparents, perhaps a neglected aspect of the Ampleforth family firmament, who often can be among the best of Benedict's senpectae. When my mother became a grandmother she proudly put on her fridge a badge which said: 'I am really enjoying being a grandmother; in fact I rather wish I had had my grandchildren first.'

I know there is a danger of sounding smug in speeches such as this. In the case of which risk, I intend now to drink an antidote. I suspect that mention of questionnaires

and surveys can produce a bit of a groan. It certainly happens, when yet another form to be filled in arrives from a professional association or regulatory body, and plops onto the desk of Linda Featherstone and the other secretaries in the Headmaster's department; they have to work so hard and to work so fast both at Exhibition and indeed throughout the year.

Accordingly, I thank all of you, parents and students, who last term completed a rather long evaluative survey about the school and about how we are doing in meeting your proper hopes and expectations of us. You see now why I spoke about an antidote to smugness. A questionnaire, though from one perspective a wretched nuisance, and from another, a questioning or even a cynical one, simply a time consuming way of giving an institution such as a school, an opportunity it does not deserve to play with and manipulate statistics, nonetheless can also be another way of having a conversation. Of course we can find encouragement in what you have told us, and thank you for that, but so too we can find individual examples and even more particularly some patterns and trends in which we should be doing better than we are at present. A perfect school would not need a development plan, but this one is not perfect yet and so it needs a plan, as it has for the past eight years of my experience as head. We are already using what you have told us to refine, qualify and add to our plans for next year and for the years ahead. I will write before the end of term to thank you directly for taking the time to answer the questionnaire and to share findings and thoughts about developments.

How do we provide for our young people the opportunity for real and deep conversations, of the kind which will help to guide, shape, direct, inspire their lives? I think we can see some of the conditions in the need for time, space, quiet, all for the forming of the listening heart. Places can be very various: classrooms, playing fields, rehearsal rooms, common rooms, studies, dining tables, chapels, the Abbey Church, paths in the valley. Of course it does not always work and there can be boredom, confusion, frustration. But there are annual high points and privileged moments, when conversations can reach the deeper level and something new and valuable is achieved: retreats for house and year group (holy moments), EPQ presentations (hard working moments), House punches (happy moments). I have loved the monitor suppers this year and I thank the school monitors, for their advice, their questioning and challenge, the fun of their company. I loved the Rowathon, the hours of effort and endurance in SAC, where shouted words of encouragement took generous self giving across a hard finishing line.

These are special moments, but there is also the daily routine, at times it is grind and the conversation seems much more ordinary and humdrum. But then day in and day out the abbey bells ring out across the valley, a reminder of lives lived otherwise and an invitation to hear the voice of God deep within us, calling us, drawing us: the

voice of this calling and the drawing of this love.

I have mentioned in the course of this speech all those, groups and individuals, to whom I have cause to be very grateful - students, parents, staff, Linda and those who work in my own department. As St Paul says at the beginning of his short letter to Philemon: 'I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, because I hear of your love and of the faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and all the saints, and I pray that the sharing of your faith may promote the knowledge of all the good that is ours in Christ. For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.' (Philemon: 4-7).

I have two images in my mind. The image of a train hurtling forward, with us aboard caught amid a plethora of stimulus and broken words. And the image of a valley, with bells ringing out and calling us to be more still and to know and enjoy a deeper communion with one another and with God, words of encouragement and peace and then something beyond words. We must most of us travel some way on the train, but the seed planted in the valley is forever.

HOW DO PUBLIC SCHOOLS SURVIVE?

RACHEL FLETCHER
DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS

How do public schools survive? How can anyone afford the fees? Forty years ago most professional people could afford to educate their children privately. This is no longer the case. We, like many of our competitors, are busily striving to increase our bursary pot to widen access, yet the majority of our parents are still paying full fees and taking on the chin annual increases, often above inflation. How do people manage? How long will they go on managing? These are troubling thoughts for a Director of Admissions as she peers worriedly into an increasingly foggy crystal ball and worries about the security of many people's jobs.

There are several explanations for fee increases way above inflation over the last 15 years or so. Teachers' salaries and increased National Insurance contributions play a part. More significantly, perhaps, is the changing expectations of parents. The modern parent expects study bedrooms, often with an en suite shower, at least at Sixth Form. They take for granted, astroturfs, state of the art theatres, interactive white boards and many other expensive aides to learning, sport and culture. Running costs rise. For example, our oil bill has risen to half a million a year.

Ampleforth has faced particular challenges. Many Catholic parents no longer think that a Catholic education is essential. Some fine Anglican schools employ Catholic chaplains. Traditionally many of our boarders come from the South of England. Distance boarding is increasingly unfashionable and distant parents face the choice between congested motorways and expensive trains. Yet over the last two years an increasing number of parents have come to visit and a high proportion of them sign up. I am confident that parents will continue to buck the trend and send their boys and girls to Ampleforth from all over Britain and indeed, from all over the world.

Our international market is interesting. We all know that British public schools have become increasingly popular to overseas students. In part, no doubt, this is because these schools regularly top international league tables. Indeed, there are some public schools that are kept afloat by legions of Russians and Chinese students. Some schools have even adopted the IB, in part, to attract these students and who can blame them? Overseas students who come to Ampleforth, however, mostly come for a different reason. They come because we are a Catholic Benedictine school. These parents are looking for the excellent holistic approach which characterises the great public schools but they are also looking for something more. When I read our visit notes I read again and again of conversations between Fr Gabriel and visiting parents about spiritual values and I have similar conversations. There appears to be a real desire amongst these parents to give their children something more. In a target driven

world, they want their children to be reminded of a different perspective, the perspective of eternity.

The students at Ampleforth do not have their faith rammed down their throats. They are offered many opportunities to explore and develop their spiritual life but we recognise that spiritual journeys are not forced. However, as they strive to get good exam results, excel on the sports pitches, play and sing beautiful music, paint and stretch themselves both mentally and physically in so many different ways, they are reminded all the time of the perspective of eternity and the possibility of lives lived differently by the monks and by the tolling of the bells summoning them to prayer in the abbey church.

My foggy crystal ball does not tell me much but I am convinced that as long as we stay unapologetically true to our mission to be a Catholic Benedictine school for the twenty first century, we will continue to thrive and in thriving, we will give our young men and women a compass for life, a spiritual direction finder.



ACADEMIC LIFE 2010-2011

IAN LOVAT
DIRECTOR OF STUDIES

Public Examinations

ONE does not have to dig too deeply to find the stories of outstanding success in the public examination results for 2011; a complete set of four A* grades at A level, another complete set of three A* grades, a good number of complete sets of A and A* grades at A level, seven Oxford and Cambridge successes, entries to other leading and competitive courses and 71% of last year's university applicants from Ampleforth gaining places at universities on the Sutton Trust's top thirty list with a very high proportion gaining their first choice place. These university entries were despite many gloomy press predictions throughout the year. It is our wish and our prayer that all those who have gone onto this next stage of their academic career will both enjoy and succeed in their chosen courses.

At GCSE, a group with an overall ability range arguably the lowest for more than ten years, nevertheless attained GCSE results in which over half of all entries were graded A* or A grade and the proportion of A* grades was only ever exceeded by those in 2010.

The extended project qualification (EPQ) entry continues to grow. There were some quite outstanding presentations given by EPQ candidates throughout the year. Twenty three students completed EPQs this year and five of these attained A*s.

Nevertheless it would be wrong to assume that success, however it is defined or measured, is either universal or guaranteed or that the public examination results have resulted from or engendered any sense of complacency on our part. At GCSE there were more grades below C than we had hoped, although probably had expected. Particularly puzzling were the AS grades; given the record-breaking GCSE results from this particular group, fewer top grades and more low or fail grades in previous years have caused us to pause for serious thought. We do not certificate AS results, along with many other independent schools, and this allows for students to re-sit examinations before their results become a matter of public record, or the students can decide not to certificate individual results at all. However, re-sitting is not ideal and more than this is the need to examine the results of every individual and to try to pinpoint reasons for any disappointments. There are endless speculations to be had but some action is clearly necessary and our development planning is part of our response, although not driven by it.

Development Planning

SCHOOLS cannot stand still. Through development plans we need to move forward or we stagnate. Some developments are highly visible: new boarding houses, new match ground, the all-weather pitch, interactive white boards in classrooms, digital signs around the school, but others less obvious. I want to talk about three initiatives to improve learning and teaching, all of which are relevant to examination results but were in our development plan well before any results for 2011 were published.

A strong feature of Ampleforth, highlighted in recent surveys of both parents and students, is the care given to individuals. However, we have identified that, despite this care, or perhaps because of it, we have not always identified early enough or clearly enough those who are falling behind, struggling with a particular aspect of their work or who, to put it bluntly, are just not working hard enough. The desire to see good in everyone can sometimes obscure difficulties or faults but the Rule of St Benedict makes it quite clear that mistakes are to be corrected and, in chapter 48, "*Idleness is the enemy of the soul.*"

A key part of our development plan for 2011-2012 is to improve and extend our tracking and intervention. Tracking means using data and professional judgement to identify early when students are not achieving what they can and should and intervention is putting a clear plan in place to remedy the situation; sharing that plan with all concerned, teachers, tutors, parents, Housemaster or Housemistress and, of course, the student themselves. It might seem obvious and, of course, it is. It is not that we have been failing to track student progress; the reports of value added figures in previous articles in *The Journal* show very clearly that detailed tracking does take place, but we have perhaps been neither systematic nor rigorous enough. A clear benefit of a more systematic and rigorous approach is to give the message to all that we are both concerned and 'on the case.' The weak can expect further support, the very able can expect to be stretched even further and the idle can expect to be chased relentlessly. The mechanisms for doing this are simple and made more possible by the introduction this year of a new Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) which allows much easier sharing of information between staff and teaching materials between staff and students.

Another development, originally started in the year 2010-2011 and to be implemented in 2011-2012, is to design a completely new professional review process for all staff. Our previous system was somewhat cumbersome, having grown up over many years with modifications and adjustments as we found what worked well and what did not work. One challenge for us was that of line management where senior leaders could have twenty or more members of staff to line manage.

something that is generally accepted in modern business practice to be unworkable. Our new system, based on a 'framework for excellence', limits line management to a maximum of five or six to allow much better support and monitoring to take place. Each member of staff, rather than having two or more line managers now has just one who is able to take a close overview of the achievements, objectives and progress for each member of staff. Whereas in the past individual successes and failings may have fallen between the stools of dual line managers, our expectation is that this will no longer happen. For the school and its students, we are looking for a sharper and more streamlined process for dealing with difficulties.

A third and important strand of our development planning is to review the timetable for implementation in 2012. It is ten years since we moved to the current timetable pattern; change is always difficult for some and it is easy to forget the debates and challenges that accompanied the last change. We aim to move the weekday games sessions into the timetable in order to make more efficient use of both facilities and expertise. This represents a major cultural change from the traditional 'half holiday' approach when all were involved in games, matches and other activities at the same time. While at the time of the last timetable revision Ampleforth was at the forefront of moving to longer lessons and a less rushed day, there were disadvantages, not least the frequency of academic contact, a particular problem for language teaching. We are proposing to shorten lessons just a little but to have more of them, this change being based to an extent not only on an enforced trial during the period of snow in the winter of 2010 but also on wide research amongst other schools in order to determine best practice. It is hoped that, as a result of any changes, the overall pattern of the week will be more regular and the academic focus of the school will improve further.

Many departments have previously offered activities that are developments or extensions of the academic work of the department. English, Mathematics, Christian Theology and Science are examples where such activities have been both offered and greatly enjoyed by students. As part of all the developments described we intend to increase the range of such activities further and encourage a 'delight in learning' still more as highlighted in the previous ISI inspection report.

Technology

WHATEVER else might seem stable and traditional, technology, when applied to teaching and learning, certainly does not stand still. As mentioned earlier, this year sees the introduction of a new 'Virtual Learning Environment' or VLE. This is the logical extension of ISAMS, the school management system, that incorporates the parent portal and pupil portals. These portals have been hugely successful and no more so than at public examination results time when the

frustration previously experienced by students and their parents in trying to get through by phone for their results is now replaced for most by a straightforward login to the portal. It has meant that on results day we can concentrate on speaking to those who need our help and attention to resolve difficulties.

In time the VLE will enable teaching materials and resources, papers, marks schemes and other materials to be available to students both from within the school and externally. It has the potential for tests to be set on-line and for essays and other work to be submitted electronically. Already the school websites are using the same platform with better integration to the school management system and calendar.



THE COLLEGE STAFF

SEPTEMBER 2010 - JULY 2011

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	Mr AS Thorpe BSc, CChem, MRSC, <i>Head of Chemistry</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 Hugh Lewis-Vivas, MA, STB <i>School Guestmaster, Chaplain, St Hugh's</i>
Fr James Callaghan MP <i>Modern Languages, Classics, Chaplain, St Margaret's</i>
Br Cedd Mannion BSc <i>Biology/Chemistry</i>

LAY STAFF

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

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*
G Adams *Assistant Housemaster St Hugh's, PE/Games*
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*
H Webster MA, DPhil *Biology*
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 2010 - 2011

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

LEAVERS 2010

LAY STAFF

Dr L Hadfield BSc, PhD *Physics*
Miss EA Abbott BA *Christian Theology*
Miss ER Bradley BA *Chemistry*
R Day BA *History*
Miss A Kerr *Music*
S Khanna *Physics*
M Lee MA *Christian Theology*
JG Liley BSc *Director of Rugby*
Br P Rozario *Christian Theology*
Miss HKR Thomson MA *English*

SCHOOL OFFICIALS

SEPTEMBER 2010 - JULY 2011

HEAD MONITORS

LKR Simpson (B) DHH Walker (T)

MONITORS

St Aidan's	EJ Caldwell, G Cardozo
St Bede's	CBM Brenninkmiejler, JC Moore, P La Rosee
St Cuthbert's	CMC Holmes, SW Moon
St Dunstan's	JP Dwyer, VJ O'Rourke
St Edward's/Wilfrid's	ADH Crean, JHA Brazier, JL de Klec
St Hugh's	CJ Ramsay, FG Leeming
St John's	PAD Broadfoot, OM Rex
St Margaret's	EC Rudman, SH Prabhu-Naik
St Oswald's	JSP Reid, DAGG Shields
St Thomas's	AJM Duncan, PJW Hay

CAPTAINS OF GAMES

Boys' Athletics	AJM Duncan (T)
Girls' Athletics	CV Powell (M)
Beagling	JHdeR Channer (D)
Cricket	HG Barnard (C)
Cross-Country (boys)	EJ Robinson (O)
Equestrian Activities	AMR Dennis (B)
Fencing	JHA Brazier (EW)
Football	JP Dwyer (D)
Boys' Hockey	FG Leeming (H)
Girls' Hockey	CBM Brenninkmiejler (B)
Golf	L Lezama Leguizamon Aranduy (J), PM Faulkner (H)
Lacrosse	EC Wauchope (A)
Netball	EC Rudman (M)
Rounders	RF McCann (M)
Rugby	CJ Ramsay (H)
Shooting	EG Donald (J)
Squash	S-B Wylde (A)
Swimming	MBA Cockerill (T)
Boys' Tennis	OHd Coysh (H)
Girls' Tennis	AL Plummer (A)

LIBRARIANS

OPG Freeman (D)	JHA Brazier (EW)
EM Kirk (M)	DHH Walker (T)
KMC Warden (B)	P Hornsby (T)
AHJR Dormer (O)	EJ Matthews (M)
EAC Warden (B)	

The following students joined the school in April and June 2010:

C Agusti (B), CJC Fahie (C), MF Lewis (J), AE Lofie (C), A Pracharktam (C).

The following students joined the school in September 2010:

HG Adams (C), JD Allison (EW), A Amoedo Mendozo (J), AE Anderson (D), RGF Astley Birtwistle (EW), AZ Atta (EW), CMKG Attlee (M), FCER Attlee (O), M Bacelliere Blanco (C), AC Baker (C), TJP Baudouin (H), KF Beckett (M), TLA Beckwith (D), OMGC Bedier (A), CMM Bidie (A), IR Blackett (M), MDM Blyth (O), HCT Braithwaite (T), NT Brenninkmiejler (A), GW Burrell (J), ME Bustos-Schmutzer (A), WS Byrne Hill (O), AC Calvet (D), VVM Carre (A), FWP Carrington (EW), DM Carter (M), JCH Chan (C), CBdeR Channer (D), JA Cheese-Probert (H), J Chevalier (C), A-S Christmann (A), WJR Clark (C), JJ Clarke (O), HA Codrington (EW), PCG Coghlan (O), LC Collins (A), RS Corr (A), TJ Craston (A), BPR Dalglish (J), MAR Darbshire (C), EMA de Laguiche (B), HM Deacy (H), M Duncan (A), CM Dwyer (A), P Esanola (M), J Fergusson (T), JN Foody (A), NJH Foxley (H), CBA Gerken (M), SPM Giraldo (D), A Goltzari Montesinos (A), R Gonzalez Luna (C), DJ Gough (A), D Hague (J), I Hidalgo Rey (C), OHW Hill (H), G Hirschbaeck (D), JPC Hodge (C), LA Hookway (A), BM Howie (EW), HDC Huddleston (D), AE Johnson-Ferguson (B), LF Johnson-Ferguson (A), PW Jones (D), MJ Kaley (T), MAF Kinsky (H), YTA Kwok (H), MHL Laczko-Schroeder (B), HJ Lafaycedney (O), TMJ Langdale (J), JM Leding (M), JD Leyshon (H), CM Luchsinger (A), RI Lynch (A), JA MacDonald (O), MBG Mackie (C), ME Mailaender (A), OR Maxwell (M), OA McDonagh (B), CP Meacham (H), FDC Michell (J), JRF Michie (J), S Mo (EW), EM Moncrieffe (A), HK Moody (A), MG Morgan (A), NMM Munzig (J), LFO Murray (M), AC Neilson-Clark (A), MLP Noetges (EW), CM O'Brien (B), CBM Oatts (M), AS Ogden (A), LA Paris (A), FC Peckitt (B), TE Peus (A), W Pleasance (J), A Podgorski (A), WG Potocka (M), CR Prest (H), WB Ratliff (J), LEM Renard (A), MIM Riederer von Paar (A), JB Risch (H), PKG Ronan (J), LJ Rust (EW), HBJ Rylands (EW), P Salazar (H), JC Scott (EW), HJ Shipsey (H), RD Skinner (H), LK Steczek (A), C Stepski (A), KA Strickland (M), HJ Sun (C), VMT Suwanwalaikorn (D), VMT Suwanwalaikorn (T), ECG Swinburne (A), AVA Szapary (M), RS Thompson (A), EC Thorpe (A), MAB Trant (M), HG Tsehay (M), B Tutajewska (M), A Valenzia (A), J Vella (C), O Warwick (M), ADP Wiener (O), OH Williamson (T), LA Willsher (T), D

Wiwatdirekkul (C), A Woronoff (O), SB Wylde (A), E Xucia Pomes (A), LE Zychowska (A).

From St Martin's Ampleforth:

H Aldous-Ball (T), OJAE Amrein Esnaola (D), HJ Birkett (O), LR Bramhall (A), RH Brunskill (EW), J Bustillo Ergui (B), AHM Butler (M), G Carranza (C), TE Child (A), SJ Cockerill (H), E Crocetti (H), HB de Montaudouin (EW), ADJ Deedes (T), ACL Dore (M), ME Doyle (M), HL Eglinton (B), P Gibby (B), JCV Gonslaves (H), AME Goodwin (O), NC Gould (M), MGW Guerrini (D), HM Holroyd (C), AJ Holt Evans (H), JE Lush (T), AJJ MacCuish (J), IL Miles (A), HCL Pourdjis (C), RT Pratt (J), RE Quick (C), CVK Rogers (O), TH Savill (EW), STC Sweeney (C), BML Sweet (O), GJL Sweet (D), MJ Vangerven (T), J Villalonga (D), IIC Ward (B), MJC Warden (C), JB Wood (O).

The following students left the school in the June/July 2011:

St Aidan's SM Ashby, NT Brenninkmeijer, ME Brown, EJ Caldwell, ECW Cardozo, A-S Christmann, I Fay, AL Golzarri Montesinos, RCG Hayman, CL Hollins, IC Jefferson, LV Johnson-Ferguson, MJ Lasecka, EF Markendale, TE Peus, AL Plummer, V Prinz Reuss, LEM Renard, ASR Riddell, M-CCC Ridge, FA Ryan, BC Solly, LK Steczek, C Stepski, K Szczerba, RA Vassallo, EC Wauchope, EMM Wignall, YJ Yeon.

St Bede's HEB Barran, PPEGMF Basselet von La Rosee, AMI Brenninkmeijer, CBM Brenninkmeijer, AOR Brown, EDMA de Laguiche, AMR Dennis, GA Hall, AE Johnson-Ferguson, HMIF Khevenhueller, JM Knock, EA Miller, JC Moore, LKR Simpson, JW Tate, KMC Warden, MG Welford.

St Cuthbert's HG Adams, O Arnold, HG Barnard, JR Bulmer, JSD Cadigan, A Costa Anglada, RA Cronin, SAR Culligan, ARA Darbishire, JCT Darbishire, JEJHGM de Merode, C-JMFLD de Nassau, CJC Fahie, JA Fawcett, R Gonzalez Luna, CMC Holmes, HM Holroyd, JW House, I Karaoglan, AJW Lloyd, EA Lynskey, MBG Mackie, TES Martell, SW Moon, HS Noble, CCN von Wedemeyer.

St Dunstan's OJAE Amrein Esnaola, TR Beckett, MAT Beckwith, HJ Coates, FH Corrigan, FVSMMPM de Decker, JP Dwyer, OPG Freeman, WPJ Hirst, EG Hoyle, BJ Mackrill, CJ Madden, JW Marmion, VJ O'Rourke, M Puig Grifoll, PFF Sheffield, TJ Shrimpton, J Villalonga.

St Edward's/Wilfrid's MCH Archibald, LTH Bellhouse, JHA Brazier, ASW Chau, TC Cooper, ADH Crean, AIH Danvers, JL de Klee, AHC Dessain, PPMJ Dib, RA Dwyer, MGR Emmet, TMC Glaister, AC Hornung, M Mancera de Ollolqui, MLP Noetges, CA Pearce, JM Springer, TA Tate, O Violante.

St Hugh's OHD Coysh, HWJ Dalrymple, HD Dick, PMM Faulkner, GAM Francis, RM Geraghty, S Guell, FG Leeming, CLHR Lochrane, NJ Macauley, AES Maddicott, OJJ Newby, CE Oxlade, CJ Ramsay, JB Risch, HDG Rogers, P Salazar, WG Stephenson, AW Thomson, BD Willbourn.

St John's DR Barras, PAD Broadfoot, JLC Clapham, L de Caslou, CPM de Cormis, EG Donald, RO Donald, P Gonzalez Caraza Campos, BJA Irving, WH Klein, AGH Klenner, L Lezama Leguizamon Aranduy, AJJ MacCuish, NMM Munzig, TG Osborne, PM Pettet, OM Rex, HA Stanley, NMF Wittmann.

St Margaret's GAM Bellhouse, LSM Blakiston Houston, CBA Gerken, AVM Giedroye, IWP Gladwin, EM Kirk, JM Leding, IR Long, RF McCann, SJ Prabhu-Naik, EC Rudman, G Summers, SJ Thompson.

St Oswald's GR Anderson, NPR Attwooll, SG Bidgood, MLE Bonavia, J Clarke, HT Forbes, MLFC Hardy, JB Hazell, AJM Henriot, HF Mann, L Maschio, OB Oulton, JSP Reid, JP Rogers, DAGG Shields, T Smith, DT Thurman.

St Thomas's CRM Bommers, HK Chan, MBA Cockerill, A Drury, AJM Duncan, EJA Forster, PJW Hay, JF Lowsley-Williams, F Maddan, JMC O'Donovan, NJC Padfield, WRC Stubbs, DHH Walker.

HEADMASTER'S LECTURES

30TH SEASON 2010-2011

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 2010/11 academic year we were delighted to welcome the following speakers:

MR MARTIN NAREY, former Director of the Prison Service and current Chief Executive of Barnardo's, began the academic year with a thought-provoking lecture 'Child Poverty - A Challenge for the UK.'

MR TOBY FOXCROFT, a motivational expert whose clients include Andre Agassi, gave an exciting and dynamic talk entitled 'Playing to Win.'

MR FERDINAND VON HABSURG-LOTHRINGEN (E87), an old boy of the College, spoke about his work for the UN in Somalia.

MR ANTHONY GEFFEN, a noted documentary maker and founder of Atlantic Productions, visited in January and gave a wide ranging lecture. He spoke about his experiences of filming documentaries around the world and of working with people as diverse as Yasser Arafat and Sir David Attenborough. He concluded his lecture by explaining the challenges of producing his latest project *The Wildest Dream*, which attempts to answer the questions left by Mallory's fatal attempt on Everest.

COLONEL MARK COOK, founder of Hope and Homes for Children, returned to speak about his experiences helping orphans in various parts of the world and introducing the Rowathon, which would help raise money for his charity. Last year's 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 a huge amount of funds were raised. It is hoped that this year's event will be even more successful.

MR ROGER BROWN, former Olympic rower, came to speak before the Rowathon with an account of his own experiences in rowing entitled, 'Messing around in boats.'

CHAPLAINCY

FR CHAD BOULTON OSB
SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

THIS year the Chaplaincy has continued to develop. In addition to the regular highlights of Confirmation, the year group retreats, the Lourdes pilgrimage and the winter visit of the Chileans, there was also this year the student support for the Papal visit, monastic retreats for both boys and girls, the development of the Enmmaus group for Lectio leaders and the first celebration of a school Carol service.

The first year retreat formed the culmination of their induction programme in September. They walked across the valley, led by members of the Emmaus group discussing the gifts God the Father had given them, the presence of Christ in their lives and the contribution they were called to make by the Holy Spirit. 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 involving groups for Lectio, times for quiet reflection and for talking and walking on the beach. The Remove took the theme of 'I call you friends' and the upper sixth the theme of 'you are the salt of the earth and the light of the world'. Both of these were inspiring, prayerful and, *mirabile dictu*, wonderfully sunny days.

The second year retreat followed a familiar pattern in May at the Lady Chapel in Osmotherley. The students spent their time experiencing different types of prayer. By splitting into small groups each student had the opportunity to learn about and to make their own Rosary. They spent some time in Eucharistic Adoration and prayed the Stations of the Cross on the pathway up to the chapel. After a barbeque lunch organised by Mrs Tyrrell, whose daughter Cecilia (M) is in year 10, the students made their way down to the ruined Carthusian priory of Mount Grace to celebrate Mass in the remains of the Charterhouse church. Despite some afternoon rain, it was a thoroughly enjoyable, thought-provoking and prayerful day for all concerned.

The Middle Sixth Retreat in June was a day of profound learning about what lies beyond the bounds of Ampleforth, each of eight groups visiting a project where those who are less fortunate are served by those motivated by a generous heart. These included a prison chaplaincy, a shelter for the homeless, the Apostleship of the Sea, a school for the deaf, Madonna House, a community of those recovering from drug addiction, and a village where people with learning difficulties live.

Monastery retreats for sixth form boys were re-started. The boys spent 24 hours sharing the full prayer of the monastery, eating with the monks and meeting with

them for talks and Lectio and undertaking some manual labour in Monks' wood. It was both an inspiring and an enjoyable experience for them all.

Visits to the new Stanbrook community on the hills above Wass have continued, under the leadership of Maaïke Carter, for both day visits and also overnight stays. As well as prayer, the girls entered the enclosure to eat with the Sisters, join them for manual labour and for recreation. The girls were initially daunted by the silence of the monastery but found they enjoyed the quiet, calm and prayerfulness that marked the day and were touched by the warm hospitality of the Nuns.

A school carol service was celebrated for the first time at the end of the autumn term. This was an unusual mixture of traditional carols and reflective readings, culminating in Exposition and Benediction. Different images were projected onto the domes, and the church was 'up-lit' with changing colours. There was an anthem whose words and music were specially written by students. Overall it was a prayerful and moving occasion, which has established a format for possible other school liturgies in the future.

During two masses on 7th and 8th May, 80 Catholic students were confirmed by Bishop Terence Drainey. These took place after six months of preparation and discernment. The students had participated in weekly meetings to draw from them a response to the invitation of the Lord to receive the Holy Spirit. Older students themselves played a very important part in preparing the candidates and giving much of the catechesis, guided by Philip Thornley, the Chaplaincy Assistant and the House Chaplains. On 12th June Bishop Martin Warner of Whitby also confirmed seven Anglicans.

This year we were blessed with seven more Chileans for January and February. Their main work was to support the students in the Emmaus community, a group of senior students which meets weekly for formation as leaders of Lectio groups in their houses and to help with junior year group retreats.

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.

The Chaplaincy rooms continue to offer hospitality to the junior years. We have benefitted this year from the presence of Philip Thornley as Chaplaincy Assistant, who looked after the Lower Chaplaincy, led the Confirmation preparation programme, organised the Emmaus community and helped to run the different retreats and reconciliation services. There are also a number of committed teachers who have 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.

In July a group of 35 Ampleforth students, accompanied by both lay staff and monks, took part in the 2011 Lourdes Pilgrimage. The Ampleforth pilgrimage brings together Amplefordians past and present to pray and serve, following the call of Our Lady to St Bernadette. It was an incredibly moving week, in which the students cared for and supported over sixty hospital pilgrims. Some students were 'buddies' for pilgrims with very severe disabilities, whilst others worked in the baths and the hospital. Their commitment, kindness and self-sacrifice throughout the week were outstanding, and all deserve congratulations.

The theme of the pilgrimage was 'Praying the Our Father with Bernadette,' and both helpers and hospital pilgrims were encouraged to explore their faith through the words of the Our Father. Particular highlights of the trip were the Torchlight and Blessed Sacrament processions and the International Mass, at which Greg Obi (H) read the lesson in front of a congregation of 30,000.

In August a group of eight students, led by Chaplaincy and teaching staff, attended the International Benedictine Youth Congress in the Monastery of Our Lady of Montserrat where they gathered with 250 students and religious and lay staff from Benedictine schools from every continent. Lectio divina, morning and evening prayer and discussions in groups on a given topic were all daily activities. Everyone visited the shrine of the Black Madonna and participated in an evening vigil. There was a talk on the theme of pilgrimage and a seminar on the new electronic communications media. Students played ad hoc games of football and ascended the mountain to its highest point. The four day event was rounded off with an evening of songs and dances from the different cultures.

The group then made its way to Madrid to participate in the World Youth Day. This was a joyful, frenzied and awe-inspiring experience. The group talked with many people of all sorts of nationalities and understood that their faith is enjoyable to share and that the world is full of young people like them who are devoted in their faith and who celebrate it warmly. They saw the Pope, attended catecheses given by Cardinals, participated in the Stations of the Cross, and stayed out for the overnight Vigil, Adoration and Mass with over a million people, in the Cuatro Vientos airfield. They stayed with the Horcajo family and received hospitality from the Domecqs, which made a huge difference to their experience. Managing to meet up with many other current pupils and OAs who had made their way to Madrid independently completed the venture delightfully.

Face-Faw, the school charity organisation, supports projects in Tanzania, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Romania, Chile and in the UK and gave

support to Mary's Meals, Hope and Homes for Children and Help for Heroes. In the 8th Friendship Holiday, 30 Year 12 students shared a holiday at Ampleforth with students from the Oak Field School and Sports College near Nottingham. This school has pupils with severe learning difficulties and physical disabilities.

Former and current students have worked on projects in Romania, Tanzania, Ethiopia and Chile. For example, Alex Hall (J04) has been working with the extreme poor in North-East Romania. Others have worked with the poor and dying in Ethiopia and Tanzania.

In 2010-2011, Face-Faw raised more than £52,000. A very successful Rowathon supported Hope and Homes for Children. This raised in all about £30,000, of which an estimated £17,000 was raised through students at Ampleforth. There was also a Rock Concert supporting students at Francis Maria Libermann School in Zanzibar. A Year 10 Parent and Student Exhibition Croquet Competition raised about £1,200 for a Prosthetic Unit near Mostar in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Six students and five staff took part in the Parachute Regiment's 10-mile Race; James Channer (D) won the Alex Fahey Memorial Trophy, and, as a result of sponsorship, Digby Walker (T11) presented £4,257 to the Commander of 15 Brigade for Help for Heroes.

Meanwhile support for the Friendship Holiday came through busking, the creation and selling of a calendar, with photographs by William Lyon Tupman (C), the selling of pyjamas, the Snowball, which raised £2,000, and many other smaller projects raising £7,000 in all for the Friendship Holiday.

A Coast-to-Coast walk raised £1,500 for Mary's Meals, a charity that feeds over 500,000 children daily in 16 countries for about £6 a year per child. Support was also given to a Blind Centre and poor village called Buigiri in central Tanzania. As always, we are grateful for the support of generous students, staff and parents in all our endeavours.

THE ARTS AT AMPLEFORTH

ANDREW CARTER
DIRECTOR OF ARTS

Art, Music and Theatre

AN EXCITING initiative this year has been the new CD, featuring a broad range, 'catholic' in every sense, of music from Ampleforth: our choirs, soloists, instrumentalists and ensembles, as well as some monastic plainchant and the stirring sound of the school singing popular hymns in the Abbey Church! Released in time for Christmas, it is small taste of the musical activity that goes on throughout the year. There have been some wonderful concerts, well attended by parents as well as a growing number of students. The St Cecilia Concert in November included authoritative performances by the Pro Musica string group of Bach's *Third Brandenburg concerto* and *Winter* from Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*, the solo violin part played by John Clapham (J) who has now taken up his Choral Scholarship at St John's College, Cambridge. This occasion also heard the first performance by the magnificent Big Band of the *Maiden of the Sea* suite, composed by the band's conductor William Dore and which features on the CD. At the Exhibition Concert in May the orchestra rose to the considerable challenge of Shostakovich's brilliant *Festival Overture* as well having a lot of fun with an arrangement of Wagner's big-tuned *Rienzi* overture. Oliver Rex (J) was the soloist in a refined and lyrical performance of Haydn's *Oboe Concerto*, but perhaps the highlight of the evening was the first movement of Grieg's *Piano Concerto*, a passionate and accurate performance by Dillon Mappletoft (C).

The Abbey continues to be the focus for Ampleforth's most significant music making. The Fauré *Requiem* sung by the boys' Schola in November, *Messiah* in December by all three Scholae, and Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* in Lent by the girls' Schola, are regular and well-attended occasions for music making of the highest order and opportunities for prayerful reflection at key moments of the liturgical year. This year the Lenten Meditation included a performance of Tallis' first set of Lamentations sung by a small group of soloists from the Schola Cantorum. We were also privileged in October by a visit from the boys of the Westminster Cathedral Choir whose beautiful singing was a model of musical discipline and commitment. After all their hard work of the year, our two Scholae went on tour at the beginning of July to Malta. This was the first time the boys' and girls' choirs have toured together; thanks to their fine singing, exemplary behaviour and the generosity of our Maltese hosts, the week was a great success and points the way to exciting possibilities for tours in the future.

The Carol Service this year was different in a number of ways, including the lighting

of the Abbey Church so that images of Christ and of the Nativity, mostly Byzantine mosaics, were projected into the domes. The 'Sunday' Schola of senior boys and girls sang a carol that had been especially commissioned from two students: Niamh Keenan (M) wrote the words and John Clapham (J) set her poem for choir, soloists and organ, a truly unique Ampleforth occasion.

The Theatre too has had a rich year of tradition and innovation. The first production was of Robert Bolt's perennial favourite *A Man For All Seasons*, which made imaginative use of the space in the Downstairs Theatre, creating a dramatic experience in the round. David Shield's (O) Thomas More was a sensitive and moving performance. Then upstairs in December there was a large-scale production of Shakespeare's strange, hybrid play *The Winter's Tale* on a multi-layered set, sung, danced and clowned to perfection by a cast of 35 in a mixture of English and Scots!

One of the best developments of recent years in the Theatre has been the Year 9 Drama Club, providing an opportunity for the new first-years to discover and exercise their talents for the first time on the big stage, and to get a taste for what they might contribute later on in their Ampleforth career. In January they put on two performances of (a judiciously cut) *Enron*, thoroughly enjoying the experience of acting on the colourfully flashing set and dancing with light sabres! The Lent term focused on the bi-annual House Play competition, a remarkable festival of drama, bringing into the Theatre many students who wouldn't otherwise have found their way there. It is also an opportunity for students to write and direct, with the support of the Theatre's team of experienced directors and technicians. This year there was a remarkable range of material, three of the ten being original plays, as indeed was the winning play, *The Testing of Sir Thomas Forbes* by Dillon Mappletoft (C).

Exhibition is always a time for energetic, edgy, entertaining drama, not least because of the restraints under which it is prepared, with only the first and second years free of the spectre of public exams and with very little time for rehearsal. But without fail these plays are among the best of the year. This May it was Gogol's *The Government Inspector*, fast-moving and funny, set in the period of early Communist Russia and played on a set in the shape of a hammer and sickle. It was fun to see the Theatre become a little Mayakovskian enclave of satirical art, complete with red flags over Theatre Square, while the Tattoo paraded its stuff outside.

JAZZ AT AMPLEFORTH

WILLIAM DORE

'Jazz is the folk music of the machine age' - Paul Whiteman, famous 1930s band leader and the inspiration behind Gershwin's 'Rhapsody in Blue.'

AMPLEFORTH has for many years nurtured a rich tradition in plainchant and High Art ("classical") music. Jazz, like many other genres of non-classical music, has not always found it easy to take centre stage during these years when elsewhere, there have been so many developments and changes. Whilst there were episodes of fledgling interest in this rich and varied culture pioneered by individual teachers, who with like-minded souls, explored the various traditions through listening and discussion forums and short-term experiments, little came of this until about nine years ago.

When I was in the school in the late 1970s, I was first inspired to play jazz piano by a very young member of the full-time music staff, Peter White, whose skills at improvisation lit the blue touch paper for me. My experience in improvisation until then had centred around blues, or as an organist, I was already in the throes of providing 'jelly music' for services both at Ampleforth and in my home town parish. Whilst the organ and jazz conventions are poles apart, one can draw threads from both tradition in which the skills overlap as keyboardist. There is a solid foundation in the French Organ School of the late nineteenth and twentieth century of improvisation, spear-headed by composers such as Tournemire, Dupré and Duruflé, which is continued today, particularly in the French conservatories and in the Liturgy. These fine exponents were living and working alongside Darius Milhaud, Francis Poulenc, Georges Auric, Stravinsky and others, who themselves were fired within a hot-bed of musical and artistic experiment, in which jazz harmonies and rhythms had an influence. The modality of plainchant, found in so much French organ improvisation and composition is also found in jazz.

As an organist/continuo player, one had to master the reading of musical short-hand in the form of seeing numbers written under the notes, and interpreting them as chords (figured bass), found in baroque music. In jazz piano, this skill is transferred when reading advanced chord symbols in 'real score' in jazz. Whilst the language is different, the rapid 'recall' disciplines are related.

I went on to develop my interest in jazz whilst at Oxford, often to be found playing in bars or at one of the many college May Balls with various groups. In my first teaching job in Ipswich School, there was a very strong big band tradition; an area of jazz that I hadn't really discovered until then. I immediately saw the inclusivity and fun elicited from such an activity, and the strong interaction with an audience at

concerts/gigs both in the school and in the area. This also allowed smaller jazz ensembles to flourish.

In 1994, when I returned to Ampleforth, the strengths of the department were still embedded in the choral and orchestral traditions, led by some formidable musicians, almost unparalleled in any other school. But where was jazz? My first in-roads into addressing this omission were met with a little ambivalence, (where brass and wind players were required for orchestra), but what the school also lacked, was a saxophone teacher who possessed the necessary jazz skills. After a brief spell working with a 'be-bop' quartet in the mid-nineties, my first main endeavour was to reinstate the Concert Band after a four year cessation. This group acted as a training orchestra for wind and brass players, but also, to give the few saxophone students an opportunity to play light ensemble music. This enjoyed a reasonable success with the end result often being a rousing performance of a five minute rendition of tunes such as *New York, New York* in one of the main concerts, fattened by more experienced players from the orchestra. The weekly Monday rehearsals for this were often approached with derision by some of the students, who were unused to being 'dragooned' into weekly rehearsals. After a number of years and the brief union it enjoyed with a partnership school from Leeds, the Concert Band was finally disbanded in 2004.

There is no doubt that the Concert Band, for all its limitations (with many brass and wind players being around Grade II level) had an impact on what was to follow. In 2003, a young and talented jazz saxophone teacher, Neil Crossley, was employed on staff to teach a handful of students, who were very keen to participate in some ensemble playing at a high level. This was too good an opportunity to miss. I worked in collaboration with Neil's saxophone group, to put together a rhythm and brass section. The Ampleforth College Big Band had been born, with both Neil and me at the helm. Various obstacles needed to be overcome to find a rehearsal time when there was no clash with other musical and school activities. The first rehearsals took place over a lunchtime, but it soon became clear that an established activity time would need to be found. These early sessions concentrated on blues improvisation, and a small number of charts, debuting with *Take the 'A' Train*, a single performance at the Exhibition Sunday informal concert. As the repertoire began to grow, the momentum of the Big Band gathered, playing two or three pieces at each of the main orchestral concerts in 2004, even after Neil's departure from the staff. The band was given further exposure when it performed to the entire school in the 2004 House Singing Competition with *Milestones* (Miles Davis) and *Minnie the Moocher* (in which the whole school sang the responses to Cab Calloway's famous chorus). By 2005, the repertoire had grown enough for me to propose that we should hold a jazz night at 9:15pm on Exhibition Friday. This was to be an intimate 'jazz café' style event in the Old Gym with a bar, tables and a dance area for parents and students to

attend after Schola Mass and the play. We expected around 50 to turn up, but were shocked to see over five times that number. The success of this occasion meant that this jazz night became a main feature in the Exhibition calendar each year, and it has out-grown its original venue and is held in the St Alban's Centre hall for around 400 people.

The group has always maintained its traditional role as a swing band with around 20 players, but I have also been very keen to involve vocalists, both to sing songs by Sinatra, Nina Simone and others, and to perform songs from the soul genre, with the high-octane presence of a lead male and backing female vocalists, inspired by the film *The Commitments*. The other areas explored are jazz/funk, rock, be-bop and Latin styles.

The Big Band has been instrumental in the College's outreach programmes and as a valuable group to help market the school, particularly in prep schools across the country. Their successes have included an involvement with the Ryedale Folk Museum and Malton School in the making of a DVD, *Ryedale, This Countryside at War* for which we provided the musical soundtrack. Their first CD was made in 2007 entitled *Take the 'A' Ampleforth Train*, a fitting title as this was the first event piece performed in public by the group. More recently, the band has been on tour to play in the Cork International Jazz Festival, given a host of other performances in local venues such as the Helmsley Arts Centre and to record a piece based on plainsong, especially composed for the band on the latest CD, *Sounds of Ampleforth*.

Jazz has now become a mainstream part of music education at Ampleforth. The Department has no fewer than three jazz experts on the peripatetic staff and it is not unusual for students to take jazz exams, either as soloists, or as part of the ensemble. Paul Whiteman's words are as relevant today as they were in the 1930s.

THE GOOD SCHOOLS' GUIDE

An interview with Ampleforth's longest serving lay teacher

Name: Andrew Carter.

When did you start at Ampleforth?

In September 1979.

What was your position when you arrived? And now?

Assistant English teacher; now Head of English and Director of Arts.

Describe the school then:

Benedictine, Catholic boys' school 13-18; 10 boarding houses, each with a monk housemaster. There was a distinguished Common Room of mostly male teachers, many of whom had served on the staff for 20 or more years, some considerably more. A noticeable proportion of the teaching staff were monks.

How has it changed in the past 25 years?

The Headmaster is still a monk, but there are fewer monks teaching in the school. The teaching staff are much younger on the whole, and professionally trained. The 10 boarding houses are now in the main looked after by married couples and catering is centralised. The major change of course is the move to co-education.

What was the Ampleforth pupil like then? And now?

Freer to roam, more independent and less supervised than now; considerably scruffier. The contemporary pupil is tidier, more organised, kept academically much busier, with more opportunities for involvement in a wider range of activities, games, acting and music.

Is there anything about the school now that you could never have imagined 25 years ago?

It was a very male environment; the occasional girl (daughters of teachers) in the Sixth Form had nowhere even to hang a coat. I didn't imagine girls ever becoming an integral part of the school.

How has education, more generally, changed in the last 25 years?

Perhaps the biggest change has been our inexorably growing reliance on IT, and the tyranny of email. The time once available to discuss broader issues in education with colleagues has almost disappeared. The narrowing focus of learning through centralised Assessment Objectives etc has concentrated teaching in positive ways but perhaps taken away from the young something of the ability to think independently.

What impact has taking girls had on the school?

An entirely positive one: the scope and adventure of music and theatre in the cultural (and liturgical) life of the school have developed beyond measure thanks to their involvement. And certainly in the case of English, teaching and learning in mixed sets provides a richer experience and understanding of the subject.

In the first edition we described it as a school for "Eton for Roman Catholics,"

Does that ring true with you? Is it still?

It never did ring true; there have always been Roman Catholics at Eton, which is a very different sort of school. The tag is an outmoded sort of English snobbery. What makes Ampleforth unique is that it is a school alongside a community of monks, the rhythm of whose daily life provides the basis of the school's life and an influence on the students' inner and outer lives that they take with them when they leave the valley.

In the last edition it was noted that it is an 'unfailingly civilised and understanding top co-educational boarding Catholic school that has suffered from time to time as a result of its long liberal tradition.' Is that a fair comment?

It probably is fair. Our current Headmaster (and he is my fourth!) has a motto that he often reminds the students: he wants the Ampleforth student to be 'happy, holy and hard-working.' Achieving happiness is a difficult balance of freedom and discipline, and that balance has to be applied flexibly. I would say compassionately, because every human being is different. As teachers, as grown ups with the charge of children, we don't always get it right. But my strong sense, and I can look back on 30 years, is that Ampleforth is a busy, happy place and we're making progress on the holiness.

What do you imagine Ampleforth will be like in 25 years time?

Still here in the beauty of this North Yorkshire valley, still providing a strong Christian education with a specifically Benedictine character, but without old fixtures like me ...

ACTIVITIES

ALISTAIR HURST
HEAD OF ACTIVITIES

THE range of activities on offer has grown again this year and once again we are fortunate to have new and enthusiastic additions to the team of staff providing this important part of Ampleforth life. The Country Pursuits continue to thrive; the Shoot had their most successful and enjoyable season's shooting in many years, thanks to the enthusiasm of our keepers and the excellent turnout of guns and parents. The highlight of the season was an extended day, 11.00am till dusk, with a barn barbecue which exactly coincided with a ferocious blizzard. The season's totals were 306 pheasants, 20 partridge and 4 woodcock.

Archery made a popular return to Monday afternoon and a new group of students are gaining skills they had not previously considered. The Sub-Aqua club trained its largest group of divers in one season, 14, and took them to Malta, where they gained their BSAC Ocean Diver qualification. Climbing continues with a small yet talented group. Chess has enjoyed a resurgence under the guidance of a talented coach and most notably debating was a veritable phoenix rising from the cooling ashes of previous greatness. Greater depth has been added to co-curricular activities thanks to the talents of Teresa Jones. She has brought her textile talents to bear on the girls and they have been commissioned to produce exciting textiles for the College.

We are very keen to ensure that there is a wide and varied range of activities for students to participate in and encourage the students to bring forward any new ideas. The Friendship Holiday enjoyed another wonderful year in 2011 as 15 students from the Oak Field School in Nottingham were invited for a week at Ampleforth in June. Thirty Middle Sixth students had been fundraising since the previous September in order to pay for the holiday. Having raised £7,000 through such activities as selling cakes, calendars and pyjamas, sleeping out, delivering pizzas and organising balls, the group arranged visits to Flamingoland, Whitby, Diggerland and various locations in the valley. As well as raising funds, the Ampleforth students acted as carers for their guests who have a range of mental and physical disabilities. A fantastic week was had by all and the group are grateful to all who have supported them this year.

Combined Cadet Force

2011 marks the auspicious occasion of the Corps' centenary. Plans were made to celebrate accordingly and for the first time, the CCF was given centre stage at Exhibition. The Centenary Tattoo and Beating Retreat were held on Saturday 28th May 2011 amid a number of other external interactive and dynamic stands and stalls. Starting at 15.00hrs and ending at 22.40hrs, a wide spectrum of military history and

heritage was represented by the cadets of today. The parade was taken by Major General Jacko Page (B77) who had a son and a nephew involved in the festivities. There were many other official guests and external agencies involved and the 'show' was deemed a great success.

We have enjoyed success in other areas of the CCF this year too. All new members of the CCF Staff are all now qualified having attended their standard military qualifying courses. We are now intent on specialising staff in specific areas (i.e. first aid, mountain leader, fieldcraft, survival, etc). We have been successful in competitions too, with the following results:

Staniforth Competition: National Champions (new record).
Bisley Falling Plate Competition: National Champions.
Cadet Clay Pigeon 'Flush' Competition: National Champions.
NE England Cadet GP Rifle Skill at Arms Meeting: Regional Champions.
NE England Cadet Target Rifle Skill at Arms Meeting: Regional Champions.
NE England Cadet First Aid Competitions: Regional Champions.
NE England Cadet Military Skills Competition: Regional Champions.

In addition to these wonderful results, the CCF has taken possession (for the first time) of our own standard, or Contingent Colours. The official presentation of these will take place at Exhibition in 2012. We are also anticipating our first overseas CCF Summer Camp and Expedition to Borneo in 2012. Twenty three cadets and five staff will spend two and a half weeks in the jungles of Brunei and Sarawak conducting military and adventurous training in the fringe and deep jungles alongside their Gurkha hosts. Initial plans are also being made for an expedition to Nepal in 2014 too.

Duke of Edinburgh Awards

2010-2011 was another positive year for the Duke of Edinburgh Awards at Ampleforth. Three things are particularly noteworthy. Firstly, another large cohort of participants successfully completed their Gold Awards; secondly, the next Gold cohort (currently working towards completion) were exceptionally successful in their Cairngorms expedition, earning unanimously high praise from the external assessment team; thirdly, after years of absence from the programme, the Silver Award has been successfully reintroduced.

Those receiving Gold Awards in 2011 are:

AOR Brown (B), CL Brunner (A), FH Corrigan (D), P DiB (EW), A Duncan (T), M Emmet (EW), PMM Faulkner (H), E Forster (T), BJA Irving (J), EM Kirk (M), P La Rosee (B), F Leeming (H), P Lydon (J), CE Oxlade (H), S Prabhu-Naik (M), M-C

Ridge (A), E Rudman (M), L Simpson (B), WCR Stubbs (T), HJC Swinton (H), SJ Thompson (M), R Vassallo (A), DHH Walker (T).

Those working towards completion in 2012 made up five expedition teams, going to the Cairngorm Mountains National Park this year where they were met by a team of three experienced assessors. The participants impressed the assessment team with their planning, preparation and execution of the expedition and with their subsequent presentations. The lead assessor took the unusual step of writing to Fr Gabriel, expressing his appreciation of our students and their abilities.

Last year's decision to reintroduce the Silver Award has come to fruition with four teams of participants undertaking training and preparation throughout the Lent and Summer terms, returning to school to tackle their assessed expedition in the Yorkshire Dales during the second weekend in September. These students are now working towards the completion of their Skills, Volunteering and Physical Recreation programmes.

GAMES 2010-2011

GEOFF THURMAN
HEAD OF GAMES

THERE have been many achievements in many different sports this year. The school has remained very competitive against our rivals in all sports and a very high percentage of boys and girls in the school have had the opportunity to represent the school in both team and individual sports.

Ampleforth has always prided itself in their tradition of team sports and the school's success in this field has continued this year. The girls' 1st V tennis was unbeaten and there were many pieces of silver won by both the girls' and boys' teams from seven-a-side rugby to hockey. A notable victory was achieved by the girls' senior cross-country team who emulated the boys' exploits of recent years by winning the prestigious Midland and Northern Independent schools cross country championship. There is a genuine pride in performance in the school which encourages the students to strive for excellence and sees many of the less naturally gifted raise their standards in pursuit of excellence. For those who are not fortunate enough to play regular inter school team sport, there is House sport, which I am delighted to say, still thrives at Ampleforth.

Last year saw the 10 houses lock horns in no fewer than 13 sports. Each one was contested with passion and dedication. It was a real thrill to see the old rivals, St Oswald's and St Hugh's fight out the final of the senior House rugby competition in front of large crowd on the newly refurbished and excellent Dallaglio Match ground. St Oswald's on this occasion edged a hard fought victory. Such is the nature of House sport, however, that it was not long before St Hugh's gained revenge as they won the house cricket final in the summer. The girls, too, contest their sports amongst the three houses and play with equal tenacity and show every bit as much house pride and loyalty as the boys.

The House athletics competition traditionally has taken place at the end of the Lent term; students spent many hours training for their events in the valley, sometimes in terrible weather before locking horns in the standards meeting and the finals, all culminating in the 32 by 200 metre relay. The Lent term has become busier with inter school events. Consequently, we have had to move the athletics to the summer term and the event had become somewhat trimmed down. It was a real joy to see the entire school down in the valley this summer term to contest the newly organised athletic competition. The school all ate in a large marquee and then sat around the track to watch their houses contest the various track and field events and in great Ampleforth style assembled for the big relay at the end of the meeting. This new format I hope will continue as it shows the school at its best, battling all together,

girls and boys for pride of their houses. It was truly a great whole school event.

The athletics afternoon saw the first inter house tug-of-war - another huge success in which the staff joined in and challenged the houses. This is another example of how sport can reflect the great spirit of the school.

The house competitions even managed triumph over the extreme weather at the end of the autumn term. As the snow fell and blocked up the valley and made outdoor games impossible, the houses locked horns in the St Alban's Sports Centre. All the school ran, rowed and swam in a triathlon type team event and then following this they swam the channel and ran a marathon in an extravagant relay event. These events are only possible because of the tenacious house spirit and sense of adventure.

It is not only within the school that the students have experienced great success. Ampleforth has had many students go on to play in representative sides outside of the school in athletics, hockey, netball, cross-country, lacrosse, rugby, squash, and cricket - a great reward for the students' hard work in the valley on games afternoons. These students have had to be extremely conscientious as they have had to balance their work, school sport and representative sport.

The link between school sport and Old Amplefordian sporting clubs is also very healthy now. Last year the school played matches against Old Amplefordians at cricket, hockey (both boys and girls) cross country and golf. As well as this, the school was delighted to welcome the Old Amplefordian rugby club and the football club as they played fixtures during the Ampleforth Society weekend.

When you speak to any Amplefordian they all have stories of their exploits in the valley whether it was representing the House or school and there is no doubt that games remains a central part of life in the valley and one which equips them for more sporting exploits outside of school. Boys and girls at Ampleforth represent the school and their houses with distinction and still maintain their high academic endeavours. Some of the sports and events may have changed in recent years but the Ampleforth spirit is still very much alive and well. There is no doubt that Games plays a major role in helping to deliver the holistic education that Ampleforth provides for its students.

SUMMARY OF SPORTS RESULTS

AUTUMN TERM 2010

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>
RUGBY FOOTBALL				
First XV	11	7	4	0
All teams	82	37	42	3
SQUASH (BOYS)				
First V	10	4	6	0
All teams	21	9	12	0
LACROSSE				
First XII	11	7	4	0
All teams	14	8	6	0
HOCKEY (GIRLS)				
First XI	11	10	1	0
All teams	49	22	20	7

LENT TERM 2011

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>
HOCKEY (BOYS)				
First XI	10	7	2	1
All teams	40	23	7	10
SWIMMING				
Seniors	2	1	1	0
All teams	4	2	2	0
CROSS-COUNTRY (BOYS)				
First VIII	2	1	1	0
All teams	3	1	2	0
FOOTBALL				
First XI	11	4	5	2
All teams	17	7	8	2

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>
NETBALL				
First VII	7	1	6	0
All teams	48	14	33	1

SUMMER TERM 2010

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>
ATHLETICS				
Senior	2	1	1	0
All	4	2	2	0

CRICKET				
First XI	14	5	3	6
All teams	49	24	19	6

TENNIS				
First VI	5	2	3	0
All teams	25	20	5	0

GOLF				
First VIII	8	4	3	1

ROUNDERS				
First IX	4	3	1	0
All teams	18	9	8	1

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ST MARTIN'S AMPLEFORTH HEADMASTER'S INTRODUCTION

NICHOLAS HIGHAM
HEADMASTER OF ST MARTIN'S AMPLEFORTH

THERE has been much to celebrate this year, in particular an excellent report from ISI. I want chiefly to celebrate your children's achievements with a particular focus on our leavers. Before that I need briefly to acknowledge that relationships between you as devoted and passionate parents and me as a devoted and passionate headmaster have at times been a bit frayed this year. This is perhaps inevitable; your prime concern is for your child or children as individuals; my prime concern is for your children as part of the school community. We share a passion - passionate people fall out! Ultimately, however, we are able to reconcile our differences because deep down, we have a shared vision about the blessings and the inspiration behind an Ampleforth education, and what it exclusively provides for our pupils. Refreshing the parts that other schools cannot reach.

If our education becomes driven by the need to acquire position, financial success and personal gain then I can see how this leads ultimately to dissatisfaction, loneliness and anger. If, like some professional cricketers, for example, we get totally obsessed with our own particular journey with little room for sharing our journey with others, entrenched predominantly in our own status and rarely, if ever, reaching out to those in need - even if this is sometimes at the expense of professional or financial gain - then true happiness and contentment will escape us. Happiness, Thomas Aquinas reminds us, can never be a goal in itself but a product of a life well lived perfected by the habit of virtue.

I am pleased to say that the qualities of concern for others, sharing, community building, offering a helping hand, have been found in our Year 8 in abundance and whilst comparisons have their limitations they have been the most together, determined and selfless group I can remember who at every turn have been the best of company and a pleasure to be with. And they have found that none of this has prevented them from working hard, from doing their best in the classroom, on the games field, in the concert hall - or anywhere else. Indeed, they have found that their generosity of spirit has enabled them to do more in all these areas than perhaps they thought was possible.

Perhaps the best insight I can give into the affection that they are held was at the recent leavers' dinner where the kitchen staff were happy to work without being paid so as to afford them a decent send off. In the words of St Ignatius of Loyola they have: "Given without counting the cost, fought without heeding their wounds, toiled

without seeking to rest and laboured without asking for any reward.”

The Benedictine core values that give meaning and direction to all we do based on good community and family has rarely been tested, and they have provided an example to the rest of the school that has made for the happiest of atmospheres. I owe them a big debt of gratitude because through their solidarity, sense of purpose and compassion my life has been made considerably easier particularly in the post-CE period when I am frequently called upon to administer individual and collective rollockings for a variety of muscle-flexing, wing-stretching indiscretions.

The word ‘outstanding’ has been much used on many occasions to describe what happens in this school most recently by the ISI Inspection team. It must be a source of comfort if not celebration that every form of external professional scrutiny, whether it be ISI or Ofsted, are quick to recognise the excellence in learning and achievement, personal development and pastoral care afforded to all our pupils and it is therefore not surprising that our current Year 8 have been equally outstanding, which I’m tempted to recognise by putting it on the website.

The number of scholarships awarded is a record (12 in total), the majority being Basil Hume Awards, which gives an insight into their all round talents in drama, sport, art and music. An academic scholarship to the College was also won plus an Exhibition to St Edward’s Oxford. In Common Entrance 17 of the top 25 candidates entering the College were from St Martin’s Ampleforth, which means we have provided the College with 68% of their academic elite, which is no mean feat when we only provide a third of their overall intake.

None of this would be possible without the input of those staff members who are frequently prepared to go that extra mile, driven by a passion for their subject plus a sense of vocation and duty which are rarely seen in any schools these days. Any child or parent who has undergone the ‘Nicki Clive experience’ in Reception for the last 17 years does not need convincing of how crucial, uplifting and valuable their time has been in her care. The children always came first - Nicki breaks her foot, she is in the next day. The sad and tragic demise and death of Dicky, her much loved husband, did not affect the commitment and dedication to her beloved pupils. I suspect her greatest reward will be, if she finds time (probably not), to look back with a sense of joy and satisfaction at the virtues and qualities she has imparted in her former pupils as they move forward in life’s great adventure.

In her honour we introduce a new cup this year - the Nicki Clive Character cup. This cup has been presented in recognition of the outstanding contribution made by Nicki Clive to early years education for the past 17 years. This year’s recipient, selected by Nicki, has in turn brought so much to the Pre-Prep department.

Chris Perry, who has looked after our merry troupe of overseas pupils for the past 14 years teaching English as an Additional language, is also retiring. I say merry troupe because that is exactly what they are and their general happiness and successful integration has been due in no small part to her teaching and mothering skills. When absent, the merry troupe can become agitated and restless but all good things must come to an end and she is looking forward, unsurprisingly, to harvesting the olives from her trees in Provence this September.

We are also saying a fond farewell to Mrs Lorna Garety, an impressive teacher of any subject you would care to mention. Her ability to forge strong and respectful relationships with staff and pupils alike in a relatively short period of time speaks volumes for her integrity and appealing personality.

Richard and Anna Wilson are heading off in search of Dragons in Oxford! The two of them have graced the boarding house and playing fields with their enthusiastic presence for the last four years, providing us with the adorable Alfie in the process, who will be missed by our boarding community enormously and by me also.

The spirit of St Martin’s Ampleforth was best encapsulated this year by the actions of a certain Head Boy, James Ainscough, when playing cricket against Cundall Manor. James was in good nick having scored two half centuries in his previous two matches and was stroking the ball confidently to all corners of the ground for a very comfortable looking 28 runs. An uncharacteristically hurried stroke hit an edge and James thought he had sky’d it providing an easy catch in the midwicket area. This saw James walking disappointedly towards the pavilion and well out of his crease. It was only the cries from his teammates and spectators that alerted him to the fact that the ball had sped towards the long leg boundary where a St Martin’s Ampleforth player was patrolling as a stand-in fielder (Cundall had turned up with only 10 men). The moral dilemma facing the substitute fielder proved to be too great when faced with the prospect of running out his Head Boy and opening batsman. Despite several attempts to throw the ball to the Cundall wicket keeper, it became apparent that the St Martin’s Ampleforth fielder was suffering from a case of severe *rigor mortis*, rendering his throwing arm incapable! James, recognising that he would have been easily run out should the ball have gone to a Cundall fielder, gallantly, and showing great respect for the spirit of the game, put his bat under his arm and headed straight to the pavilion.

His compass for life is well and truly set and, despite the initial disappointment of losing the wicket of their star player, his fellow teammates were also moved to applaud this selfless gesture. Above everything else achieved over this past academic year, I’m proud to report that several similar displays of Benedictine behaviour could be recounted to you every year.

ACADEMIC

FOLLOWING on from the initiatives put in place last year, the Lyceum Group continued its good work, trying to provide extra enrichment opportunities for children in Year 8 with particular strengths in different areas of the curriculum. Sessions on Monday afternoon gave opportunities for extra Maths, Art and English whilst evening sessions were specifically aimed at children who are working at a level that goes beyond the requirements of the Common Entrance syllabus with Scholarship sessions in Chemistry, Physics, Maths, Art and English.

All sessions were very well-attended, and not just by scholarship candidates. Talks included subjects such as: The Life and Times of the Blessed John Henry Newman, The Periodic Table of the Elements, The Lighter Side of Plastics, A Japanese Evening, a Thai evening and Only great men make history - do you agree?

This last talk was given by Dr Ansell's son, Richard Ansell (J05) who, after studying history at Cambridge, went to Brown University in the USA and is now half-way through his doctoral research at Oxford University. His talk was a good example of the stimulation that these evenings give to the children, teaching them to question what they are taught, how to research, how to argue and to see the other point of view. The children asked very insightful questions at the end and obviously benefitted hugely from their time in his company.

Some members of Year 8 took part in the Kirklees Literary Quiz in November. Forming two teams they held their own extremely well amongst the 35 teams taking part and, with the 'A' team winning one round and the 'B' team winning another round, it was no surprise, when the results were announced, to find that St. Martin's Ampleforth had come third overall, just 5 points behind the winners.

Staying on the literary theme, St Martin's Ampleforth held its own Poetry Day with visiting poet, Mike Smith teaching the children about performance poetry, whilst poet parent Charlie Stewart shared his beautiful and poignant poems with the children. The children could be heard for days afterwards chanting to themselves or making up their own poems in the playground.

The Simon Beaufoy Writing competition, held at Malsis School, also produced some literary talent this year. Having reached the final of the competition, Alicia Slater and Sebastian Grace were delighted to be invited to meet Simon Beaufoy's father who talked about his son's work on the recent blockbuster *127 hours*, as well as scripts written for *The Full Monty* and *Slumdog Millionaire*. They were also privileged to hear bestselling author, GP Taylor, speak about his own writing career.

Pupils also took part in competitive events for the Sciences. Four young physicists went to St Peter's School, York, to take part in the 2011 Physics Olympics against 33 other schools. Six challenges faced the team with winners in each challenge as well as an overall winner. Our team were delighted to win one of the challenges, 'Good Vibrations,' in which they had to measure the mass of a duck using only a moving metal ruler and some weights and to find the dimensions of a wooden block with only a piece of plastic exactly 10cm long. They managed to do this with an error of only 0.55%.

Mathematically able pupils from Years 6, 7 and 8 were entered for the National Maths Challenge once again this year, and earned between them an impressive total of 41 awards, including 14 silver awards and six gold, one of which was earned by a boy in Year 7.

Another group of keen Year 8 scientists were delighted to be invited to a special workshop held at Ampleforth College with the aim of learning about DNA to such an extent that they would be able to collect some of their own DNA to keep in a small test tube. The pupils returned to school full of the facts and skills that they had learned.

We were delighted to hear that three former pupils had succeeded in their Oxbridge entrance exams. Eleanor Kirk (Classics at Corpus Christi, Oxford), Henry Hawkesworth (Music/choral at King's College, Cambridge) and Shobha Prabhu-Naik (English at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge) are all pupils at Ampleforth College, where they went for their senior education after Prep school. St Martin's Ampleforth are proud that, this year, it produced the greatest number of Oxbridge successes of all the prep schools that send children to Ampleforth College.

Closer to home, St Martin's Ampleforth broke their record, for the second successive year, in gaining scholarships to Ampleforth College. A record number of pupils were entered by parents for the senior school's all rounder Basil Hume scholarship. Pupils were tested in their chosen fields, combinations of Sport, Drama, Music, Art, and sundry specialities with exercises, interviews and auditions, all the while competing against pupils from schools all over the country. Of the 18 pupils entered, St. Martin's Ampleforth celebrated the fact that ten were successful. In addition, Mr Higham was delighted to announce that Patrick McGovern had been awarded an Academic Scholarship to the College and Harry Black had been successful in his scholarship attempt at St Edward's, Oxford, being awarded an Exhibition to that school.

At the start of June, Year 8 sat the Common Entrance examinations, nearly all being candidates for Ampleforth College; they impressed the invigilators with their

application and conduct over the four days. SMA candidates once again made their mark amongst those applying for entry to Ampleforth College, providing half of those taking the CE exams, but two thirds of the top 24 performers.

SCHOLARSHIPS TO AMPLEFORTH COLLEGE

ACADEMIC

Patrick McGovern

Harry Black - Exhibition to St Edward's, Oxford

BASIL HUME

Lucy Bidie - Music and Drama

Morgan Clarke - Music

Basil Fitzherbert - Sport

Michael Higham - Drama, Sport and Pipe Band Drumming

Phoebe Irven - Sport and Drama

Oscar Oulton - Sport

Daisy Pern - Sport

Alicia Slater - Art

Jake Smerdon - Sport

Patrick Walsh - Music and Art

PRIZEGIVING 2011

Reception	Attainment Effort	James McAdoo George Birkett
Year 1	Attainment Effort	Louis Pern Lydia Cooper
Year 2	Attainment Mexborough Cup (Effort) Hollinrake Swimming Trophy	Gemma Breese Graeme Cooper Jasper Grace
	Nicki Clive Character Cup	Emeline Henriot
Year 3	Attainment Effort	Ottilie Wright Sam Blackford
Year 4	Attainment Effort	Alice Hunt Theo Smerdon
Year 5	Attainment Effort Briggs Prize (Science)	Teddy Wright Sebastian Grace Hugo Merchie
Year 6.2	Effort	Elena Horeajo
Year 6.1	Attainment Year 6 EAL Prize	David Arias Iciar Gabilondo
Year 7.3	Effort	Jacob Stephenson
Year 7.2	Effort	Jacobo Angulo
Year 7.1	Attainment Effort Year 7 EAL Prize	Raphael Gould Chiara Toone Jacobo Angulo
Year 8.3	Effort	Alexia Oddo
Year 8.2	Effort	Diederik Brenninkmeijer
Year 8.1	Effort	Phoebe Irven

Ben Ramsay Cup (Reading/Library)	Morgan Clarke
Jester Acting Cup	Phoebe Irven
Andrew Lyon-Tupman Memorial Prize (Junior Reading Competition)	Sebastian Grace
Ronald Rohan Prize (Senior Reading Competition)	Elizabeth Dore (Runner-up)
EAL Reading Competition	Lucy Bidie
	Harry Black (Runner-up)
	Carlos Simon
	Pichayanin Cherngwiwatkiij (Runner-up)
Girls' Schola	Phoebe Irven
Boys' Schola	Charles Innes

Subject Prizes

Howard Shield for RE	Michael Higham
English	Lucy Bidie
Mathematics	Edward Irven
Science Cup	Patrick McGovern
Classics	Patrick McGovern
De Lisle French Cup	Patrick McGovern
Jackson History Shield	Charles Innes
Geography	Sarah van Kralingen
English as an Acquired Language	Elvira Ruiz de Alda Mignoni
Leete Art Trophy	Todd Barran
St Agnes Cup for Music	Lucy Bidie
Rees Trophy for Musical Endeavour	Henry Laird

Special Prizes

Morgan Trophy (Endeavour Prize)	Jake Smerdon
Freeland Cup (Endeavour Prize)	Daisy Pern
St Benedict Award	Oscar Oulton
Gethyn Carr Harris Cup (for Fortitude)	Luis Flores Bustamente
Headmaster's Character Cup	James Ainscough
	Phoebe Irven
Hazell House Cup	Etton

Art Prizes

Year 7	Jacobo Angulo	Year 6	Martha Rothwell
Year 5	Mary Laird	Year 4	Auguste Henriot
Year 3	Iris Foster		

Design Technology Prizes

Year 7	Carlos Simon	Year 6	Elena Horcajo
Year 5	James Laczko-Schroeder	Year 4	Maria Hague
Year 3	Hugh Child		

Music Prizes

Strings	Patrick Walsh	Piano Forte	Harry Black
Wind Instrument	Thaddeus Felle-Lutaaya		

Schola Boys

Full Colours	Toby Gay	Half Colours	Rex Lei
	Morgan Clarke		Manuel de Almansa
	Christian Laczko-Schroeder		
	James Laczko-Schroeder		
	Hugo Merchie		

Schola Girls

Full Colours	Mary Laird	Half Colours	Hattie Duree
	Amalia Cid-Blasco		Tatiana Esnaolo
	Elena Horcajo		Elvira Ruiz
	Matilda Tidmarsh		
	Chiara Wittmann		
	Guilia De Chezelles		
	Emily Blackford		
	Iciar Gabilondo		
	Pichayanin Cherngwiwatkiij		

Drama Colours

Junior Drama	Matilda Tidmarsh	Senior Drama	Phoebe Irven
	James Laczko-Schroeder		Sarah van Kralingen
	André Robson		Daisy Pern
	Leo Higham		Lucy Bidie
	Teddy Wright		Michael Higham
	Sebastian Grace		Oscar Oulton
	Tilly Pern		Humphrey Coysh
	Molly Blackford		

Sport Prizes

CRICKET COLOURS

Under 11s	Sebastian Slater Sebastian Grace	1st XI	Basil Fitzherbert James Ainscough
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HOCKEY COLOURS

1st Boys'	Jake Smerdon	1st Girls'	Daisy Pern Phoebe Irven Lucy Bidie
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ROUNDERS COLOURS

1st Team	Giulia de Chezelles Phoebe Irven Sarah van Kralingen Daisy Pern
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RUGBY COLOURS

1st XV	Jake Smerdon Michael Higham Charles Innes Diego Cardon Basil Fitzherbert Oscar Oulton James Ainscough	3rd XV	Luis Flores Bustamente
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CROSS COUNTY

1st Boys'	Oscar Oulton Basil Fitzherbert Diego Cardon Jake Smerdon Raphael Gould	1st Girls'	Daisy Pern Olivia Smerdon Isabella Armitage
		U11 Girls'	Chiara Wittmann Hattie Duree

SPIRITUAL LIFE

FR JOHN FAIRHURST OSB
SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

THE school returned last September to find the chapel newly decorated and reordered. This was due to the kind help of Mr Charlie Stewart who spent a week with Fr John transforming the rather drab and dirty walls into a nice shade of gardenia! The altar has been placed at the far end of the chapel where the beautiful wooden panelling makes a fitting reredos for the Blessed Sacrament and the new altar frontals made by Mrs Clarke, a former parent, complete the effect and enhance Our Sunday Benediction, and other chapel services, veneration of the Cross and Asperges.

As Britain welcomed Pope Benedict XVI, the school gathered round the TV and smart board to take part in the 'Big Assembly' when His Holiness addressed the children and spoke movingly about the role of Catholic education in this country. The following Sunday, as John Henry Newman was being beatified in Birmingham, St Martin's Ampleforth celebrated Mass using the same texts, and even the same hymns, and prayers were said before the new statue of Blessed John Henry. Meanwhile our life-sized cut-out of the Pope greeted all our visitors, many of them commenting on His Holiness's smart red shoes!

Then the term got under way with our pre-prep Harvest Festival in the chapel, where we welcomed many parents, to pray in thanksgiving for all the gifts that God gives us, and then to share afternoon tea in the front hall. St Martin's Day was soon upon us, many of the new children happily surprised that the entire day was given over to celebrating our patron: from Mass for the whole school, followed by lunch in the long gallery, the front hall and even the ante room. After the traditional cutting of St Martin's cloak and the splendid cake, the children were entertained with a pantomime by the staff - a real feast day!

Of course, we didn't let our other saints lose out: on St Aelred's day, the children were introduced to the monastic "ferculum" (or special treat) - in this case a white Magnum in remembrance of Aelred's white habit, whilst on St Patrick's Day, the various courses at lunch were several shades of Green and we even had some Irish prayers at Mass, courtesy of Dr Ansell, Mrs Garety and Mrs Scott. The blessing of throats on St Blaise's Day using the traditional crossed candles, and the daily reading of The Rule of Saint Benedict at morning prayer keep us in touch with our saintly brothers and sisters.

The variety of nationalities at St Martin's Ampleforth gives us the opportunity to celebrate local feasts with the children, when we can introduce some of the prayers

and reading at Mass in other languages: Our Lady of Guadalupe in Spanish (thanks to Fr Kentigern); Our Lady of Lourdes and World day of Prayer for the sick in French (with Fr Philip), with the occasional bit of Latin and German thrown in too! We are glad of the help of Fr Bonaventure and Fr Matthew for helping with confessions in French and Spanish during the course of the year.

One of the highlights of the school year is always the annual retreat. Last year we had a Lenten theme. As well as acting out scenes from the Passion and making crucifixes (thanks to the hard work of Fr Edgar), we invited our old friends, Lincoln and the jazz singers, as well as the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal from Leeds, who were full of Franciscan joy and shared their life and experiences with the children in a very moving way, even teaching the children a song about their habit and dancing up and down the front stairs. They led a beautiful meditation before the Blessed Sacrament, reminding us of how close we are to Jesus when we meet him, present in the Tabernacle.

During the year the children also worked hard at raising money for our school charity, Mary's Meals (last year our total was just over £1,300) and we had great fun with our Dressing up Day themed 'What will I be when I grow up' - Fr John came as a biker!

The library 'Wind in the Willows' tea party also provided a great deal of entertainment, thanks to our ever inventive librarian, Mrs Keogh. Homemade sweets were popular at extravaganza (thank you, Mrs Grace for all the help) as were Mrs Clive's pre-prep aprons. Our gap student Milly topped the bill, though, by sponsoring the cutting of her beautiful long hair, by new hairdresser, Mr Higham.

It is always inspiring to be present at Mass when some of the children make their first holy communion, and we were delighted to celebrate with Hugh Child and Tilly Wright as well as Katie Pickstone and Gabriel Laird in the Abbey Church. Eddie Bissett was received into full communion with the Catholic Church and Toby Gay was baptised.

As usual, it has been a very full year, punctuated by May and October processions of Our Lady and our June procession of the Blessed Sacrament, and ending with the Year 8 pilgrimage to our parish in Osmotherley, as they prepared to leave St Martin's Ampleforth. The Pope said to the young people last year that they were to be Saints of the 21st century. We hope that we have paid a part in helping our children on their way to their 'heavenly home,' as St Benedict says, so that 'under God's protection you will reach (there). Amen.'

PRE-PREP

THE year started off with great excitement, as a new climbing frame had arrived during the summer holidays. This has proved to be a much welcomed addition to our outdoor classroom, which is thriving as an exciting and stimulating area of learning.

In Key Stage 1, pupil tracking has continued to be overseen by the Heads of Department for Science and Literacy, Mrs Green and Mrs Scott, whilst Dr Ansell has had responsibility for lower school Maths, all three supporting the staff in the core subjects. In addition, to support the work being undertaken in the classroom, the Nursery and Pre-Prep pupils are exposed to a variety of stimulating experiences to enhance their learning. These can either take place in the classroom or by going on visits. Some of these experiences are related here.

Castle Howard provides a wealth of material to support the curriculum. On one occasion the children tried pond dipping, catching fly nymphs, water lice, water boatmen, mosquito larvae and bloodworms amongst other pond life. They then went on a mini-beast hunt and learned about the creatures' habitats and lifestyle. On another occasion the children concentrated on exploring Greek mythological tales by following a trail through the gardens and looking at the statues. They also took a tour of the house searching for particular portraits. Of course, both occasions were rounded off with a visit to the wonderful adventure playground.

Another venue for interactive and outdoor learning of this type is Flamingoland, where the pupils were lucky to benefit from 'insider' contacts through parents, Mr and Mrs Gibb. This allowed them unprecedented access to restricted areas of the site. On one day, the Reception class had a wonderful morning with the Humboldt penguins and were thrilled to be able to feed them and observe them at such close quarters. On another occasion the children were invited to see the rhinos up close – and even tickle their tummies! They were then taken to the zoo keeper who looks after the ring tailed lemurs and were privileged to be able to go in to their environment to feed them. Finally, the children went to the reptile house to learn about the blue and red poison dart frogs, corn snakes and African land snails. Again, each visit ended with a chance to enjoy the adventure playground before returning to school tired, happy and fulfilled.

Other visits took place to the York Handmade Brickworks to see how bricks are made, reinforcing the learning in Year 1 about materials used in homes and to Whitby, following a trail identifying geographical and historical features. Here, the children began to understand how a town develops, comparing features to those in Gillings East, as well as learning about Captain Cook. On the east pier the children

broke into French, counting the dinosaur footprints and naming the fossils. They were also keen to learn about cliff erosion and attempts to prevent it.

Music in the curriculum has been enhanced by visits to the Pre-Prep department of specialist teachers, bringing their instruments, demonstrating how they are played and answering the children's questions. In February the children 'met' the Cello and violin, with Prep school children who already play these instruments demonstrating them to the class. (In Year 3 every child has the opportunity to play one of these two instruments for free whilst they decide if they would like to learn one of them.)

Also in February the Pre-Prep children were introduced to the wonders of the flute and the piccolo. The children were fascinated as the musician played a selection of pieces that demonstrated the instrument's versatility. They heard soft, melodious pieces contrasted with energising dance and jazz music. When she asked them to listen carefully and imagine which insect was being represented they watched, almost spell-bound as her fingers fluttered up and down the keys, then they excitedly called out their suggestions, 'Ladybird,' 'Centipede' and 'Fly.' Splendid guesses, it was *The flight of the Bumble Bee*.

Finally, in April, the children were introduced to the saxophone, learning how it is a relatively easy instrument to play, having only six main keys. They enjoyed playing 'Guess that tune' as the musician came out with signature tunes to television shows.

Quite often a specialist is invited into school to talk about a particular area relating to the curriculum. Steve Plater from Dino-Star, The Dinosaur Experience in Hull, came to the Pre-Prep to lead a Dinosaur workshop in February. Steve showed the children real dinosaur claws. The biggest claw belonged to a Camasorous. Steve explained to the children that if it had been in the playground it, it would easily have been able to look into the Year 2 classroom window. The Allosaur skull was the most popular exhibit and one child put his head inside its jaw! The children finished by making their own casts and learning to make rubbings.

For History, the children were treated to a Toy Workshop and had fun exploring toys from the past. Lucy Adlington from 'The History Wardrobe' brought along her favourite toy - a banana in pyjamas! She marked 'now' on the timeline. Pupils were invited to investigate toys belonging to three time periods and then had an opportunity for free play.

They travelled back in time to 50 years ago. From the toy box came toys similar to those we play with today. Going back to 150 years ago, a wooden zoetrope was pulled out of the box with images of a girl skipping. They also enjoyed playing quoits and skittles. The final destination was to a time 500 years ago when children

played with colourful ribbon streamers, a rag doll with leather shoes, and wooden toys such as a cup and ball and a hobby horse.

Following the Toy workshop Year 1 were full of questions about History and decided to fill and bury a time capsule for the children of the future, to be dug up in 50 years time. The hardest task was choosing what to bury and they ended up with Lego; a Toy Story CD; photos of the year group; letters, poems and prayers; the day's newspapers; school uniform; a coaster of Prince William and Kate Middleton and one child's sister's toy! Mr Higham also joined in, donating a bottle of wine to the future head teacher. The gardens were the preferred site for burial but one concerned pupil was so worried about Mrs E getting down the steps when she is 90 that it was decided to dig a hole at the top of the steps to the gardens. It would be lovely to think that some of those children might return to open it in 2061 and remember all the wonderful times they had in these first years of school.



MUSIC

ON SATURDAY 6th November, the first Concert of the Academic Year was given by Year 8 on their Parents' Day. A variety of solo instrumentals included the 'christening' of our latest addition to the Music Department, in the form of a small Yamaha Grand, which looks splendid and which sounded very well in the acoustic. The Year 8 Schola Boys sang wonderfully in Lallouette's haunting *O Mysterium ineffabile*. The vocal contributions were concluded by Henry Laird who sang *Trade Winds* by Frederick Keel in a wonderfully understated way, but with delightful purity of tone, followed by an excellent rendition of Cesar Franck's *Panis Angelicus*.

The Concert's Finale included items sung by Year 8, often with audience participation! The items moved painlessly from one to another and the children seemed pleased with their efforts and the way in which they had been received. Their final Concert set a very good standard for the year.

Year 7 had their concert in the spring term. Highlights included the vocal item beginning the concert, *Give ear unto me* by Benedetto Marcello, sung by Rupert Waley and Henry Laird. Our cellists were well represented and there were items played together as well as solos. Half the year group then sang items from Gilbert & Sullivan's *Pirates of Penzance* and *Princess Ida*. This was followed by the entire year group singing a varied programme, with audience participation. The evening's entertainment closed with the famous *You'll never walk alone* from Rogers & Hammerstein's musical *Carousel*. Parents seemed delighted with the programme and the efforts of their children in performing a quite taxing repertoire for young boys and girls.

The final concert was by Year 6 pupils when they gave their first annual Concert and delighted an audience which had assembled in the Blackden Hall. Highlights included vocal items by Elizabeth Reynard and Lexie Everett, both of whom also performed well on their musical instruments. Tom Wright played *Clair de la Lune* on the guitar with great confidence and Arthur Campion, Dominic McFetrich and Sebastian Slater gave us stylish performances of some of their examination music on the piano.

Towards the end of the Concert, the whole year group processed onto the stage to sing a variety of vocal items, including *We're going to the country* from Lionel Bart's *Blitz*, a new setting of *Girls and Boys come out to play* by Peter Hunt and the show-stopping title song from *Forty Second Street* with stage movement, which received an encore!

Other events in the year included the now traditional Remembrance Day singing by

Year 6 at the Alba Rose home for the elderly in Pickering. This year the numbers in Year 6 meant that it was quite a squash into the common room of this residential home for the elderly. The residents turned out in greater numbers too, having been looking forward to our visit for quite a while.

The children sang a repertoire of songs from the war period, old music hall songs and more classical pieces. After the concert the children had the opportunity to talk to the residents and, after a little prompting to speak louder, they came away with all sorts of interesting anecdotes.

In the Spring Term, both boys' and girls' Scholas sang Evensong in York Minster. Mr William Dore had composed a set of Responses especially for the occasion and these worked very well in what is quite a peculiar acoustic. Afterwards, most of the choristers retired to Pizza Express for a well earned supper.

In the same term, both Rupert Waley and Henry Laird participated in the Skipton Music Festival. In addition to winning every class, their rendition of the duet *Give ear unto me* was rated outstanding by the adjudicator.

In the Summer Term, eight Trebles from the Schola Cantorum travelled down to Lichfield in Staffordshire for the Choir Schools Association's Annual Sports Day. Our team won all their preliminary matches, and, as a non-football playing school, we were surprised to find ourselves in the final, against St Peter's, Wolverhampton, which proved to be hard work for the players. Each match was eight minutes in length and we began to despair as time went on without any goals being scored. It was Edmund Hirst who 'saved the day' and put us one goal ahead, and therefore assured our place as winners of the entire tournament.

After lunch in the Choir School, we were given a talk in the Cathedral about the origins of the place where we would sing Evensong later in the afternoon. We were then able to explore the Cathedral, before a rehearsal. Most of the musical repertoire had been changed from the list we had been originally given and prepared for, but luckily the replacement music was well known by our choristers. We sang Evensong at 5.00 pm, a splendid occasion, although a rather dry acoustic. The members of the our winning team were Henry Laird (Captain) Edmund Hirst, Rupert Waley, all of whom scored goals, Patrick Walsh, Charlie Innes, Toby Gay, Leo Higham and Hugo Merchie.

Both the boys and the girls Scholas embark on an overseas tour each year. This year the girls went to Prague during the Easter holidays. The choir sang first at the Church of Our Lady of the Snow and afterwards gave a half hour Concert singing a varied repertoire including Delibes' *Messe Breve* and part of the Pergolesi *Stabat Mater*.

The following day the choir presided at Mass in the magnificent Church of St Thomas and also gave a short concert. This was followed by a pleasant river cruise.

The next day they had to be up at 6.30am, as they were singing the 9.30am Holy Mass in the magnificent Cathedral of St Vitus. Afterwards there was time for some sightseeing as the choir caught the tram to the bottom of Petrin Hill and took the Funicular Railway to the summit. There they climbed the replica of the Eiffel Tower, which proved quite a challenge for some, followed by a visit to the Hall of Mirrors, including a maze, which, happily, no one got lost in. All in all a splendid and successful tour.

At the end of the Summer Term 2011 our boy trebles from the Schola Cantorum travelled to Malta for a one week tour. We departed on the same day as Prizegiving for an evening flight from Manchester. The hotel was directly opposite the Gozo Ferry, so some destinations were easier to reach than others. We sang at the 7.30pm Mass in Mdina Cathedral, a beautiful setting, with Fr Oswald concelebrating, so some of the Mass parts were in English. Afterwards we enjoyed a late supper at a restaurant just outside the City walls.

The following morning was left free for swimming and relaxation around the pool. We rehearsed in a rather stuffy room in the depths of the hotel, and after lunch, travelled to Birgo Church for a 5.00pm Mass engagement, followed by a Concert. On Tuesday 5th July we travelled to Gozo on the ferry, and sang at Mass in St George's Basilica. The afternoon was spent at the McCann's House, courtesy of Rosalie and Charlie's parents, who made us all feel very welcome. The Wednesday was spent at Sieggiwi Church, rehearsing for Mass and a Concert. We were guests at Mr and Mrs Channer's house, between the rehearsal and the Mass, and then after the Concert some of the ladies of the parish made sure that we were all well fed.

On Thursday 7th July, in the searing heat, we walked along the seafront about a mile, to where the boat was collecting us for a trip around the islands. The day allowed for lunch on the boat and an opportunity for swimming in the Mediterranean. In the evening we travelled to Valetta for Supper, provided by some of the friends of Ampleforth. Before we departed, there was an opportunity for speeches of thanks.

The musical repertoire was rich and varied and Mr Little and Mr Dore provided what we have come to expect from them in terms of excellent standards.

DRAMA

THE recent introduction of drama into the curriculum throughout the school, proved to be a big success. Lessons revolved around exercises designed to improve dramatic skills, particularly concentration, listening, movement control, physical contact, co-operative working and reaction speeds. Through a combination of games and tasks they explored mime as a medium and had to learn to improvise, taking into account location, character and situation, as well as the use of space and awareness of the audience. All year groups responded well to the new skills they were learning and their progress could be seen in the plays that were produced throughout the year.

The annual play performed by Years 3, 4 and 5 was *Robin Hood and the Golden Prize* written by ex-parent, Clare Moses. The tailor-made script fitted the personalities in Year 5 perfectly and the half-hour performance flew by with great acting and much humour, with the children looking very much the part either in costumes provided by parents or in those made by another talented parent, Mrs Sarah Grace, who provided uniformity to the baddies costumes.

Year 5 are a talented bunch dramatically and they relished the roles they were given whilst Year 4 provided great supporting roles with a few playing speaking parts and the rest supplying the colour in the form of dancing ladies and marching soldiers. Year 3 provided the forest for the merry men to hide in. A thankless task along with aching arms but they were very disciplined and, as a first introduction to being on stage, they are now itching to take on the more meaty roles.

Year 8 pupils left the school on a high at the end of the year as audiences were wowed by their swansong production, *Peter Pan*. For the first time, the end of year play was performed in the beautiful grounds and gardens of Gilling Castle, with each scene taking place in a different location. The audience was ushered along by three fearsome pirates who threatened to take prisoners if the audience didn't behave themselves.

The weather was extremely kind for the two nights and the audience were bowled over not only by the stunning settings but by the sophisticated performances given by the pupils. The magic of the play was enhanced by the use of helium filled balloons to represent the flying scenes. As Peter Pan and Wendy's balloons took off from the mermaid's rock, towards the setting sun, strings entangled but pulling apart there was complete hush from the audience as they enjoyed the moment. As is usual with this play, a collection was made rather than paying a royalty to perform the play, and a grand total of £334 was raised to go to Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital.

Other 'dramatic' events during the year include one event put on by the pupils for the staff, 'Castle Factor', and the staff pantomime, performed by the staff for the pupils on St Martin's Day.

For 'Castle Factor', Milly Cooper and Joe Cleary, our Gap students, ran auditions in the week to separate the wheat from the chaff (or the just about bearable from the truly bad!). Once accepted onto 'the list' the performers spent hours honing their act, preparing their costume and practising their routines.

The venue was the Long Gallery, the time was Sunday evening and 12 very nervous acts gathered in the Matthews room (backstage). First the judges were introduced: Louis Walsh (Richard Wilson), Dannii Minogue (Lorna Garety - with an Australian accent that caused the compères much hilarity), Cheryl Cole (Anna Wilson) and the evil Simon Cowell (Nick Higham). In between each act the judges gave their verdicts, often using surprisingly familiar phrases.

For the St Martin's Day entertainment there had been a move to do something different this year but the outcry from the children was so great that the staff had to succumb to demand and take their places on stage once again.

Not so much a murder mystery this year, as a 'whodunnit,' the plot revolved around who had pushed Humpty Dumpty off the wall. Was it the dastardly Duke of York, played with relish by Mr C, the evil Queen of Hearts, portrayed so well by Mrs Scott, the deceptively young (but with a stubbly chin) Little Jack Horner, acted with aplomb by Mr Wilson, Miss Cooper's innocent (or was she?) version of Little Bo-Peep, Matron Shipley's Baker, who we already knew was keeping a secret, or Mrs Waley's Little Boy Blue, who was rhyming all the time (when she remembered!)?

It was for Old King Cole (Mrs Wood) with the help of her magic mirror (Mrs Walker) to get to the bottom of it and help poor Humpty Dumpty (Mr Slingsby) find justice. Clues came thick and fast and only one team got the answer completely right.

SCHOOL EVENTS

At St Martin's Ampleforth, the pupils and staff make a point of recognising events that are taking place nationally and, of course, this year contained two of the largest events in recent history.

The first was the Papal visit. Fr John has already described how we celebrated within school, but we were also fortunate to be involved with the Papal visit to Edinburgh through one pupil, Michael Higham, who plays with the Ampleforth Highlanders. The band had been invited to be part of the welcoming parade for the papal visit to Edinburgh on Thursday 16th September.

At 11am the parade began. Leaving Arthur's seat behind them the bands marched along Prince's Street towards the Castle. The roads were lined three or four deep and every band was cheered along the route by the crowd, waving blue Scottish flags, holding hands out to be shaken and with broad smiles everywhere. Eventually the band reached their stop point and assembled behind the barrier, right in the shadow of the Castle. After about 45 minutes the Pope's cavalcade began to process down the street and every band along the way struck up with *Highland Cathedral*. With so many pipes and drums, it was an extraordinarily uplifting and haunting sound. All too quickly the Popemobile was alongside the Ampleforth contingent and he seemed to smile sweetly at them as he passed. A proud moment for every pupil involved.

Bucking the trend in the North of England, St Martin's Ampleforth celebrated the second event, the Royal Wedding, in style. With the Castle courtyard festooned with red, white and blue bunting and Union Flags, the mood in school was festive from the start. At break time all the children settled down to watch the wedding service and there was much questioning and commentary by those assembled - especially when the dress appeared for the first time! After the service the children went outside to have their 'street party.' Long tables were laden with picnic food including delicious fairy cakes decorated in red, white or blue icing with small flags on top.

At the end of the day the pupils watched a short demonstration of skipping by the Small Earth Games Workshop, using different techniques with different ropes. Mr Higham explained that, in celebration, the Friends of St Martin's Ampleforth had very kindly raised the funds to pay not only for many new skipping ropes, but also for a wooden hut to keep them and other new playtime equipment in. The children showed their appreciation, not only by clapping but by then throwing themselves enthusiastically on the new equipment and having a go at the new skills.

At another event, St Martin's Ampleforth were delighted to be involved with the

opening of Ampleforth College Golf Club's new clubhouse. The Chairman of the club, Mr Richard York, praised the community that had built such a splendid clubhouse. He paid tribute to the generosity of the members, the skill of the building team drawn from the membership and the help given by the Trustees of Ampleforth Abbey, the Ryedale Society of Model Engineers and the Gilling Village Hall Committee. Following the ceremony, an inaugural match was played between the Club and St Martin's Ampleforth, which resulted in an honourable draw.

Two dinners took place at school in the summer term - one for our Year 8 leavers and one for the U6 leavers from the College, who were ex-SMA pupils.

The first dinner was an inaugural event and the pupils had to RSVP and dress formally for the occasion. All staff were invited and a full complement accepted, a testament to the regard for this year group. During the three course meal the staff changed seats several times in order to have a chance to talk to all the pupils. A disco followed the dinner and it was wonderful to see the maturity of the pupils as they happily danced with their teachers and each other, making sure no one was left out.

The second annual dinner for the U6 leavers was just as much a success as the first had been. Twenty-one of our past pupils (2006 leavers) returned, some of them for the first time since leaving. The first comment was how small everything looked and then there was a lot reminiscing about people, places and incidents. The eight current school prefects joined the dinner and were happy to show the guests their favourite haunts as well as changes that have been made in the last five years.

A delicious meal was interrupted so that the guests could attend prayers in the chapel with the boarders, which they were all keen to do. Once back at the tables in the Great Chamber, Mr Higham asked each guest to stand up and recount a memory from their time at St Martin's Ampleforth. These ranged from Mr Conyngham purloining all the Kit Kats at breaktime on Tuesdays; to friends falling out of bunks because they were laughing too much; from one boy being dropped from the first cricket team to the seconds, to the thirds, to the fourths and being run out without ever hitting a ball; to a story of another boy being mischievous on the last night of term, running into Tudor dorm and jumping into the Head Boys bed to hide, closely followed by Matron, to whom said Head Boy then had to lie about the whereabouts of the escapee. Jacob Hazell caused a few lumps in throats from all present as he declared simply that his memory was of the friendships formed at Gilling which have persisted through his time at the College, and how he hoped they would persist long beyond their imminent departure from the valley. Although some of the guests had been a bit nervous about coming back, they left having thoroughly enjoyed being together again, seeing their old teachers and said goodbye to a big part of their lives.

FUNDRAISING

The school's charity continues to be Mary's Meals and events are held throughout the year for this worthy cause.

One such event was 'Your future vocation' with every child (and some staff) dressing up for the day. Mad scientists, school teachers and rugby players rubbed shoulders with archaeologists, jockeys and snowboarders. With each child (and member of staff!) paying £1 for the privilege of not wearing uniform nearly £200 was raised for the charity.

However, this amount was far exceeded by gap student Milly Cooper who has been growing her hair continuously since she was about nine years old and has always planned that the final cut would be for a good cause. Arriving in England and being introduced to the school charity, Mary's Meals, determined Milly to finish her year here by donating her metre of hair to that extremely worthwhile cause.

At the beginning of Extravaganza (our end of winter term event for parents and pupils) Mr Higham announced what would be happening and that he would be doing the cutting. As he began he announced that he couldn't find the scissors he was meant to be using and could Mr Slingsby help? Mr Slingsby produced a pair of garden shears, but Mr Higham declared them to be too blunt, so Mr Slingsby left the stage and returned with a fired up chainsaw, much to Milly's consternation!

Luckily the real hairdressing scissors were found and Mr Higham began. Despite his lesson in hairdressing, he found it hard cutting through the pony tail and Milly's face told the tale as she heard the hacking sounds he was making. Parent (and award winning hairdresser!) Gillian Robson was then kind enough to whisk Milly away to 'tidy up' Mr Higham's handiwork and produce a proper style.

Milly is delighted to have raised over £1,000 and the hair itself will be going to a wig maker specialising in hair pieces for cancer patients.

Other organisations that benefitted from St Martin's Ampleforth fundraising include the Teenage Cancer Trust. In May, staff and children joined in their 'Rock your Shades' campaign by wearing shades with attitude for a day. Every single child jumped at the chance to participate and some wore them at every opportunity, even when trying to spin hula hoops!

After the great success of the 2009 Rowathon, St Martin's Ampleforth were pleased to be invited to take part again in this year's fundraiser for Hope and Homes for Children.

The event took place over the whole weekend and was open to all members of the public, students and staff. The Rowathon aimed to row the distance between Ampleforth and the Hope and Homes for Children project in Onesti, Romania. This is the last communist-era orphanage in Bacu County, Romania

The first challenge was for a team of our pupils to race against a team from Terrington Hall. In teams of four they rowed in relays to the 10km mark and St Martin's Ampleforth won by a whisker.

The second challenge, on Saturday evening, was to support Mr Higham and Mr Harrison in the 100km Endurance Challenge. Whilst both had trained, they were up against sixth formers from Ampleforth College and other (younger!) members of staff and probably wished they had trained harder. They finished in a respectable time of just over four and a half hours and were not the last of the 15 teams to finish! Olympic oarsman, Roger Brown (the 100km indoor racing British recordholder) and team mate, Julian Norton (together they hold the Guinness World Record for 24 hour indoor rowing) came first in a time of about two and a half hours.

The final challenge was for all the boarding pupils, and those day pupils who wished to join in, to compete in the team challenge, on Sunday morning. Representing their houses in relays of four per house the pupils rowed for five minutes at a time to be the first team to reach 10km. The first three teams finished within two minutes of each other so Fairfax were worthy winners of this tight race.

The final fundraising event for the year was the Ball, held on the eve of Exhibition. In the extraordinary winds on the previous Monday the first marquee had taken off like Dorothy's house in the *Wizard of Oz* to land in a crumpled wreck (thankfully with no witches buried beneath it) and we hadn't been sure if we would be allowed to erect another one but with every web forecasting station consulted we were given the go ahead.

The guests were delighted to be served their canapés by some of the pupils who then proceeded to persuade every person present to enter the 'Heads and Tails' game. Their success as future businessmen and women can be measured by the fact that every single adult ended up paying to play the game!

A delicious Thai meal was followed by the auction of a wonderful week in the Seychelles, kindly donated by Mrs Cardon de Lichtbuer. The auction was hosted by Simon Everett who raised bids relentlessly. Playing at the casino tables and dancing to Lenny's disco were then the order of the evening. Finishing promptly at 1am, because of the events to follow the next day, guests were, nevertheless, reluctant to stop dancing - always a sign of a good time had by all.

SPORT

RUGBY

Once again the school regularly managed to field seven teams, which reflects the commitment of both pupils and staff. Much was learnt in defeat and victory, and the improvement in the teams was very clear to see.

1st XV

This year's team was very experienced with many having played for the school the year before. It was also very skilful and they were very willing to learn.

The forwards worked very hard all year to provide good quick, quality ball for our backs. The back row were very effective, especially Mikey Higham, who, typically, was never 'on-side' all season! He was complemented well by the effective role played by Charlie Innes who was very consistent. The front five at times looked small but all stuck to their task admirably and finished the season having achieved a great deal.

The backs were very skilful but, with the exception of Jake Smerdon, lacked the necessary penetration. Basil Fitzherbert has a lovely pass at scrum half and he did a good job in getting the backs going forward. James Ainscough would be the first to admit that he is not a natural fly half but did an excellent job in giving Jake Smerdon the freedom to run.

RUGBY SEVENS - 1ST VII

This proved to be a very enjoyable yet, at times, frustrating season. The team were hit by injuries and illness and often did not do themselves justice on the day. They are very skilful; but lacked the ball winning capabilities to develop into a very good side. We played very good sevens with the ball but lacked the aggression in defence and often we were outmuscled. They do however have a very good understanding of the game and I am sure as they grow this side will become a forceful team and one which will be difficult to beat.

CRICKET - 1ST XI

The XI improved considerably in all areas as the term progressed. The batting was dominated by Basil Fitzherbert and James Ainscough. Oscar Oulton developed considerably as a batsman and began to realise the importance of 'staying in'. He scored some valuable runs. The bowling was led by Humphrey Coysh who has the ability to bowl very well. This team played with enthusiasm and enjoyment and did their best.

CROSS-COUNTRY

Our cross-country teams enjoyed another flourishing season, with many team and individual successes. Looking back at the highlights of the year, the first boys team and first girls team achieved the 'double' of victories at both our own meeting and at Red House, while the first boys also won at Woodleigh and Giggleswick. For the senior boys, Oscar Oulton was outstanding, coming first in all his races, including breaking the school record for our senior course with a time just under 24 minutes. When Oscar was absent at Woodleigh, Diego Cardon took his chance to come first, followed by Jake Smerdon in second and Basil Fitzherbert in third. Olivia Smerdon led the way for the senior girls, winning at both SMA and Red House. She was ably supported by Isabella Armitage and captain Daisy Pern.

Our Under 11 teams also performed well. The girls, led sturdily by Hattie Duree and Chiara Wittmann, came third at Giggleswick and a very impressive second at Worksop College. Looking to the more distant, but very promising future, our Under 9 team came a close second at Woodleigh, with Theo Smerdon finishing second and Hector Denny eighth.

ROUNDERS - U13

The U13 A's, captained by Sarah van Kralingen started the season with a cup game against a strong Queen Margaret's side and despite playing well could not match their batting. It was a great result then, to defeat them only two weeks later at a tournament at Terrington. On that day we put on excellent displays of batting and fielding and were pipped at the post to make it to the final. Against Cundall Manor, Sarah found her batting form and although we were not victorious, the second innings was a dramatic improvement. At Durham School we were victorious and the team managed to perform convincingly.

NETBALL - JUNIORS

The Juniors worked hard in Netball and team places were eagerly fought for. Matches were played with enthusiasm throughout the term and culminated in a thrilling tournament where we managed to come second in our group. This resulted in us playing against the winners of the other group. This was a thrilling semi-final where we took the lead quite early on. Terrington then managed to even the score. The match finished with a draw so extra time had to be played. Unfortunately we lost the match by one goal. The girls worked well together, but the shooting skills of Katie Williams and the determination of Mollie Stephenson were worthy of special mention.

BOYS' HOCKEY

Well led by James Ainscough, the 1st boys had a reasonable season with some impressive wins. The fitness of the boys was certainly a factor that the opposition

struggled to cope with. Jake Smerdon provided the driving force from the midfield so there were plenty of goals being scored.

In a blisteringly fast game at Malsis we came up against several class players. While the scoreline of 6-2 might suggest a drubbing, it was far from that. There was some really courageous hockey played with Smerdon, Ainscough, Coysh and Fitzherbert making Malsis work hard for their goals. Oulton and Waley were tireless in attack and despite the very slippery conditions launched several attacks on goal. Outstanding in goal was Higham who, despite the power and skill of the talented Malsis skipper, saw off shot after shot and gave a very good account of himself. This was a great display of schoolboy hockey and the boys should feel proud of the standards achieved.

GIRLS' HOCKEY

The U13 girls enjoyed a rewarding season and despite the prolonged snowy weather conditions only had two main fixtures cancelled.

A narrow victory over Durham school, a resounding victory over Queen Mary's and another close win against Red House started the season off in style at the Durham School hockey sevens. The next fixture on the grass at Terrington found our girls out of their comfort zone and despite their best efforts came away a goal down. The following week the team took part in the U13 tournament at Pocklington where they played inspirational hockey beating strong teams like Silcoates not to mention the hosts, Pocklington. With three wins under their belt they won their group only to lose in extra time to Terrington for a place in the final. The highlight of the season was an electric performance against great rivals, Sedbergh. It was a convincing 7-0 victory which saw the team produce their best hockey of the season. On the back of that, the next fixture against Cundall Manor also resulted in a victory despite our team being two goals down at half-time. From there it was away to Yarm which seemed to catch us in a lull and was one of our more lacklustre performances where we went down 2-3 in a game in which we failed to connect effectively when it mattered. After beating Pocklington in their tournament, they came to us keen for revenge and came out narrow victors in the home game. We ended an exciting season beating Barnard Castle 3-1.

ATHLETICS

Another busy and enjoyable term began with the 37th Annual Inter-schools Meeting at Red House. It was a great day for the Senior Boys Team, winning the team trophy for the first time since 2002. The Senior Girls performed well against a number of strong senior schools. The pick of the day, though, was the measured and committed run by Olivia Smerdon to win her race in the 1500 metres.

At the Woodleigh Inter-schools Meeting in York. Our Under 9 boys' team came second overall whilst the girls' team finished third, whilst at the Area Meeting in Leeds, the majority of our athletes managed personal best performances. Oscar Oulton (Boys U14 800 metres) and Basil Fitzherbert (Boys U14 Long Jump) did extremely well to achieve first places and automatic qualification. At the Nationals in Birmingham, Basil began the day with a great effort, jumping 4.47 metres, against some pretty mighty opposition. Oscar was fantastic, putting in a mighty effort to come second in his graded race. I know Oscar was very pleased with his achievements, but the thing that pleased him most was beating Charlie Ramsay's long standing 800 metres school record.

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