



THE DURHAM OX

CRAYKE

This year the Ibbotson family is celebrating 15 years at The Durham Ox. As well as the main pub and dining areas The Durham Ox also boasts The Tasting Room and Private Dining Room for private lunches and dinners (up to 30). In addition, The Ox Barn provides an ideal space for larger parties with the added advantage of its own bar and facilities (up to 100). For those wishing to stay-over there are six newly refurbished en-suite bedrooms.



Finally, as part of Provenance Inns, it was a fabulous accolade to be named Pub Group of the Year 2014-2015, by the Good Pub Guide. Thank you for your continued support. As always, Sasha and I are delighted to catch up with Amplefordians past and present.


With our best wishes,

Michael Ibbotson (H89)

The Ampleforth Journal



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EDITORIAL

FR DOMINIC MILROY OSB
EDITOR OF THE AMPLEFORTH JOURNAL

A new Headmaster



BY A HAPPY act of Providence, David Lambon takes over as Headmaster of the College (and Mark O'Donnell as the new Headmaster of St Martin's Ampleforth) at a moment when we have objective evidence to suggest that the College is in very good shape. The two recent Inspections, one focussed on general educational standards and the other on religious formation, came at a delicate time of transition, and they were both rigorous.

It is sufficient to say that the two reports represent both a reassurance to the Trustees that their policies are well directed and, in particular, a tribute to Fr Gabriel's sustained mastery of a wide range of complex issues.

Several of these issues deserve special emphasis, and will be of particular interest to readers of *The Journal*, since they are aspects of the complex shifts to which Ampleforth has had to respond in recent decades.

Catchment and Admissions

THROUGHOUT THE middle of the twentieth century (roughly, 1925 to 1975), Catholic Independent Schools (both primary and secondary) held a sort of monopoly for the growing number of fee-paying Catholic parents. They were, in effect, a sector within a sector. This monopoly then gradually disintegrated, under the pressure of deep shifts in parental attitudes to religious differences, to 'distance-boarding,' to co-education and (significantly) to the role of children in choosing their schools.

This change has been a huge one. Fifty years ago, Ampleforth's intake depended largely on a stable annual flow from thriving Catholic prep schools spread across the country. This intake is now much more complex, and is strongly conditioned by factors which are at once local, national, international and ecumenical. One of the main challenges is that entry is far more volatile than it used to be (students often change schools in mid-course). One new strength is that students (especially girls) are here largely as a result of their own choice. Another is the significant and

growing demand from Catholic families in France and other European countries.

Economic Aspects: Competition, Facilities, Fees

THE 'PUBLIC SCHOOLS' were once famous for their austerity, both of life-style and of physical plant. This is no longer the case. The remorseless race to modernise and to meet the demands of new technologies and new parental expectations has had two principal effects. It has greatly enhanced the quality of provision, but it has done so at the cost of a considerable rise, in real terms, in school fees. This unavoidable spiral of expenditure is a matter of great concern, and it explains the urgency with which we have set out to build up a bursary fund substantial enough to off-set it.

Professionalisation and Accountability

THE SAME period has seen the transformation of the organisational structure of schools and of their links with outside bodies, including Central Government, the European Parliament, Local Authorities, Inspectorates, the Charity Commission, Fire Authorities, Safeguarding and Health and Safety Commissions, not to mention the constraints of Trusteeships and the pressures of Parental Associations. Leadership of schools, which used to be loosely-defined, informal, personalised and often idiosyncratic; is now constrained by massive bureaucratic structures, by tightly-defined systems of line-management, appraisal, assessment and quantifiable forward-planning, as well as by complex levels of accountability. All this has led to a huge proliferation of e-mail communication, meetings and support-staff, and calls for a high degree of management expertise. Education has been radically professionalised.

The 'Soul' of Education: Values that cannot be quantified

WISE OBSERVERS still know perfectly well that schools cannot be judged solely in terms of League Tables or of other outcomes than can be readily quantified. Ampleforth, like all good schools, still places its main emphasis on what cannot be quantified or even 'well-managed.'

The empty and uncommercially useless space of the Abbey Church continues to define what we are, and this priority is echoed in the importance we attach to the creative arts, celebrated elsewhere in this issue of *The Journal*. JS Bach used to sign off all his compositions with the letters AMDG – 'for the greater glory of God.' The celebration of his St Matthew Passion in the Abbey Church during Lent this year did not come across simply as a proof that we have an outstanding Music Department. It was a deep and joyous affirmation of everything we stand for.

THE ABBEY From the Abbot's Office

RT REV CUTHBERT MADDEN OSB
ABBOT OF AMPLEFORTH

AS I WRITE these lines, I have just arrived back at my desk in the Abbey following a visit to the Manquehue Apostolic Movement in Chile. Since March 2000 a group of friends, educators in the Benedictine tradition from Chile, the United States and England, have met thirteen times focusing in particular on the challenge of bringing the Gospel message to young people in an effective way. In the course of these meetings, we have shared our experience and learnt from each other about the different ways of bringing our educational tradition to bear upon our students and their parents, our teaching and support staff, and the Benedictine men and women who lie at the heart of our schools.

Many of the parents of children currently in our schools will be aware that since 2005 the school houses at Ampleforth have been receiving groups of Chilean students who share their experience of *lectio divina* with our young people. As the Abbot, I have watched with interest and awe as each year the Chileans arrive in January, giving up their summer holiday to come here in the depths of winter, to help our students to hear Christ addressing them in the words of the Sacred Scriptures.

It is encouraging to know that simultaneously groups of Old Amplefordians are spending much of their own GAP year doing something similar in MAM's schools in Santiago. Both here and in Chile what stands out is the impact that young people can have upon each other. St John Paul II, Benedict XVI and now Pope Francis all knew that the young can evangelise other young people: one has only to listen to those who have been to World Youth Day to discover that this is true. But World Youth Day cannot happen every year – and not everyone in our school can undertake the journey to some of the more distant locations where it has been held. Here, in our school, the vibrant Church of Santiago in Chile can interact, not only with young English Catholics, but with the other local churches in Europe and elsewhere which are represented in the school.

You will not be too surprised, then, when I say that I have found my journeys to the Cunaco group meetings immensely rewarding. This year was no exception. The Gospel presents us with a continuing challenge, for the work of evangelisation of ourselves and of the young is never complete. Pope Benedict suggested that Benedictine monasteries can provide three gifts for our world: firstly, we can offer a living example of communion between the members of the monastic community; secondly, it can offer a living culture formed by the practice of listening to the Word

of God; and thirdly, it can be a model of Hospitality in which others can find a space in which to encounter that living Word. These are the priorities which make Ampleforth what it is, and our lively and joyous interchange with young Catholics from Chile is a significant symptom of this.

THE AMPLEFORTH COMMUNITY

THE COMMUNITY AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AS FROM OCTOBER 2013

	RESPONSIBILITIES	PARISH/RESIDENCE (other than Ampleforth)
Rt Rev Cuthbert Madden	<i>Abbot</i>	
Abbot Patrick Barry (W35)		
<i>Titular Abbot of Lindisfarne</i>		
Abbot Timothy Wright (T60)		<i>Illinois, USA</i>
<i>Titular Abbot of Westminster</i>		
VR Fr Terence Richardson (J72)	<i>Prior</i>	
	<i>Dean of Hospitality</i>	
Fr Christopher Gorst (O65)	<i>Sub-Prior, Novice Master</i>	
	<i>Hospitality</i>	
VR Fr Henry Wansbrough (W53)	<i>Teaching, Chaplain, St Oswald's</i>	
<i>Cathedral Prior of Durham</i>		
VR Fr Dominic Milroy (W50)	<i>Editor, Ampleforth Journal</i>	
<i>Cathedral Prior of Chester</i>	<i>Secretary to the Confraters</i>	
VR Fr Leo Chamberlain (A58)		
<i>Cathedral Prior of Gloucester</i>	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Easingwold</i>
VR Fr Mark Butlin (O49)		
<i>Cathedral Prior of Norwich</i>	<i>Alliance Inter-Monastères</i>	
Fr Martin Haigh (E40)		
Fr Theodore Young (D40)		<i>Leyland</i>
Fr Augustine Measures (W45)		
Fr Aidan Gilman (A45)		
Fr Adrian Convery (O49)		
<i>Vicar Episcopal for Religious</i>		
Fr David O'Brien		
Fr Michael Phillips (E52)	<i>Chaplain and Librarian</i>	<i>St Benet's Hall</i>
Fr Edward Corbould (E51)		
Fr Anselm Cramer (O54)	<i>Archivist</i>	
Fr Alban Crossley	<i>Monastery Guestmaster</i>	
Fr Francis Davidson		
Fr Stephen Wright (T56)		<i>Leyland</i>
Fr Gordon Beattie (D59)	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Parbold</i>
Fr Aelred Burrows		
Fr Jonathan Cotton (H60)	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Leyland</i>
Fr Felix Stephens (H61)		
Fr Bonaventure Knollys (C53)		



Fr Matthew Burns (W58)	<i>Priest in Charge</i>	<i>Gilling East</i>
	<i>Monastery Infirmarian</i>	
	<i>Hospitality</i>	
	<i>Chaplain, St Dunstan's</i>	
Fr Edgar Miller (O61)	<i>Priest in Charge</i>	<i>Oswaldkirk</i>
Fr Francis Dobson (D57)	<i>Chaplain, St Cuthbert's</i>	
Fr Alexander McCabe	<i>Choirmaster, Teaching</i>	
	<i>Chaplain, St Thomas's</i>	
Fr Peter James (H69)		
Fr Cyprian Smith	<i>Chaplain, St John's</i>	
Fr Antony Hain		
Fr Hugh Lewis-Vivas	<i>School Guestmaster</i>	
	<i>Chaplain, St Hugh's</i>	
	<i>Secretary, Ampleforth Society</i>	
Fr Bede Leach	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Ampleforth</i>
	<i>Hospitality</i>	
Fr Jeremy Sierla	<i>Abbey Publications Project</i>	
Fr Bernard McInulty		
Fr James Callaghan	<i>Teaching</i>	
	<i>Chaplain, St Margaret's</i>	
Fr Paul Browne		<i>Leyland</i>
Fr Andrew McCaffrey		
Fr William Wright (A82)	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Knaresborough</i>
Fr Raphael Jones	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Brindle</i>
Fr Kentigern Hagan	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Kirkbymoorside</i>
	<i>Abbey Sacristan</i>	
	<i>Visitor Centre Warden</i>	
Fr Gabriel Everitt		<i>St Benet's Hall</i>
Fr Cassian Dickie	<i>Assistant Priest</i>	<i>St Mary's, Brownedge</i>
Fr Xavier Ho	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Lostock Hall</i>
Fr Luke Beckett	<i>Assistant Procurator</i>	
Fr George Corrie	<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>St Mary's, Brownedge</i>
Fr Oswald McBride	<i>Vocations Director</i>	
	<i>Acting Superior</i>	<i>St Benet's Hall</i>
Fr Chad Boulton	<i>Head of Chaplaincy</i>	
	<i>Chaplain, St Aidan's</i>	
VR Fr Colin Battell	<i>Prior</i>	<i>St Benedict's,</i>
		<i>Bamber Bridge</i>
Fr Kieran Monahan	<i>Hospitality</i>	
	<i>Master of Ceremonies</i>	
Fr John Fairhurst	<i>Chaplain, SMA Gilling</i>	
	<i>Head of Religious Studies, SMA Gilling</i>	

Fr Wulstan Peterburs	<i>Procurator</i>
Fr Philip Rozario	<i>Chaplain, St Edward's/Wilfrid's</i>
	<i>Assistant Novice Master</i>
	<i>Master of Oblates</i>
Fr Columba Moujing	<i>Monastery Infirmary</i>
	<i>Hospitality</i>
Fr Cedd Mannion	<i>Teaching</i>
Br Ambrose Henley	<i>Teaching</i>
	<i>Assistant Chaplain, St John's</i>
Fr Kevin Hayden	<i>Hospitality</i>
	<i>Chaplain, St Bede's</i>
Br Alberic Jones	<i>Novice</i>
Br Benedict Donleavy	<i>Novice</i>

MONASTERY OF CHRIST THE WORD, ZIMBABWE

MONKS OF AMPLEFORTH

VR Fr Robert Igo	<i>Prior</i>
Fr Richard ffield (A59)	<i>Sub-Prior</i>
Fr Barnabas Pham	<i>Novice Master and Bursar</i>
Br Placid Mavura	<i>Guestmaster</i>

COMMUNITY NEWS

OUR COMMUNITY has been blessed in the past year with the Clothing of two novices, the Solemn Profession of another, and the priestly ordinations of two members of the monastic community.

Br Alberic was clothed in December 2013 and **Br Benedict** in May 2014 and they continue to be guided at Ampleforth by the Novice Master, **Fr Christopher Gorst**.

Fr Abbot made his annual visit to Zimbabwe in January 2014 and his visit included the Solemn Profession of **Br Placid Mavura**, the second African monk to join the community in Zimbabwe and the first to make his solemn commitment for life. **Fr Robert Igo**, **Fr Richard ffield** and **Fr Barnabas Pham** continue to preach retreats in the monastery and further afield in Zimbabwe and the rest of Africa.

The feast of Saints Peter and Paul, 29 June 2014, was celebrated at Ampleforth Abbey with the ordination of two monks as priests by the Bishop of Middlesbrough, the Rt Rev Terence Patrick Draine.

Br Columba Moujing, a native of Malaysia, joined the Benedictine community at Ampleforth in 2003, and **Br Cedd Mannion**, joined in 2007. A large number of family and friends attended the Mass, including a goodly number of Fr Columba's family and relations who had flown from Malaysia. It was also the last school Sunday Mass of the academic year, so students from Ampleforth College and St Martin's Ampleforth were also present.

We pray that, through the prayers of the community and so many friends of Ampleforth, vocations will continue to bless this community.

Fifty members of the monastic community gathered for the Annual Conventual Chapter at Ampleforth in December 2013. Both in groups and in plenary session the brethren focussed in particular on formation in the community through deaneries; and, in a discussion led by **Fr Gabriel Everitt**, on the possibilities for developing a distinctively Catholic Curriculum in the school. This discussion encompassed a careful examination of the Benedictine Charism as it is expressed in the College and St Martin's, Ampleforth.

January 2014 saw the start of a new venture 'Thursday Evenings at Ampleforth Abbey – Come and See.' On the second Thursday of each month people are invited to a time of reflection beginning with tea at 4.00pm, and ending after Compline at 8.30pm. Speakers have included **Fr Kevin Hayden** ("Tidings of Great Joy"), **Fr Dominic Milroy** ("Evangelisation: what is it, how do we do it?"), **Fr Chad Boulton**

("Old Tricks of New Dogs: The Rule of St Benedict for Today"), **Fr Henry Wansbrough** ("The Gospel of Matthew"), and **Fr Terence Richardson** ("Food for Thought").

These Thursday Evening encounters are, of course, supplementary to the extensive programme of retreats given to groups ranging from university students to parish groups coming from as far afield as Lancashire and Norfolk. This pastoral programme is under the general direction of the Prior, and the main burden is carried by **Fr Christopher Gorst**, **Fr Kieran Monahan** and **Fr Matthew Burns**. Other contributors include **Fr Henry Wansbrough** and **Fr Edward Corbould**, both of whom also sustain an extensive pastoral engagement away from the Abbey.

The Easter Triduum retreat was attended by more than 500 people. The main retreat talks were given by **Fr Alexander McCabe** on the theme 'New Beginnings, New Hope,' while some of the supplementary talks included 'Can non-Christians be saved?' from **Fr Henry Wansbrough** and **Fr Chad Boulton** speaking about 'The Easter Elements – The Triduum as fire, air, earth and water.'

A film crew from BBC 'Songs of Praise' spent a day at Ampleforth in early April filming for a programme broadcast on 17 August and watched by upwards of 1 million viewers. Filming focussed on work in the orchards and cider mill and Fr Alexander McCabe teaching one of the presenters Gregorian Chant.

In June, **Fr Kevin Hayden**, chaplain to St Bede's House, successfully defended his Doctorate in Sacred Theology at Rome's Pontifical Institute of Sant'Anselmo. For his dissertation 'Re-embodying Theology: the space between Lex Orandi and Lex Credendi' he gained a summa cum laude.

In the early summer **Fr Augustine Measures** returned to the monastery after nearly fifteen years at St Benedict's Monastery, Bamber Bridge. Fr Augustine is resident in the Monastery Infirmary, along with **Abbot Patrick Barry**, **Fr Aelred Burrows**, **Fr Aidan Gilman**, **Fr Martin Haigh** and **Fr David O'Brien**.

The current prior of St Benedict's Monastery, established in 1999 for the priests on the Lancashire Mission, is **Fr Colin Battell**. The other residents are **Fr George Corrie**, parish priest of St Mary's Bamber Bridge; **Fr Cassian Dickie**, assistant to Fr George; and **Fr Xavier Ho**, parish priest of Our Lady of Lourdes and St Gerard Majella, Lostock Hall. **Fr Gordon Beattie**, continues in his role as parish priest at Our Lady and All Saints, Parbold, whilst **Fr Raphael Jones** is parish priest at St Joseph's, Brindle. **Fr Jonathan Cotton**, **Fr Stephen Wright** and **Fr Paul Browne** care for the large parish of St Mary's, Leyland where **Fr Theodore Young** is also in residence.

The 2014 Ampleforth Lourdes Pilgrimage this year took place between Friday 11 July and Friday 18 July, with ten members of the monastic community on the Pilgrimage. They were **Fr Abbot**, **Fr Francis Dobson**, **Fr Hugh Lewis-Vivas**, **Fr Bernard McNulty**, **Fr Gabriel Everitt**, **Fr Luke Beckett**, **Fr Chad Boulton**, **Fr Oswald McBride**, **Fr John Fairhurst** and **Fr Philip Rozario**. The presence of so many was much appreciated by many pilgrims, as was the hard work done by them all.

The community retreat in August 2014 was led by Abbot Thomas Davis OCSO from New Clairvaux Abbey in California. He had been Abbot of the Cistercian community of New Clairvaux from 1970-2008.

At the end of August, **Fr Gabriel Everitt** stepped down from his post as Headmaster of Ampleforth College. The first lay Headmaster, Mr David Lambon, officially took up the reins on 1st September. At the start of the Michaelmas Term at the University of Oxford, Fr Gabriel will move to St Benet's Hall to first assist and then replace **Fr Michael Phillips** as Librarian in the Hall. The small monastic community resident at St Benet's Hall also includes **Fr Oswald McBride**, with responsibility for vocations promotion.

The start of the school year in September coincided with Ampleforth hosting the meeting of the English Benedictine Congregation of Abbots and Abbesses under the guidance of the Abbot President, the Right Reverend Richard Yeo OSB so the opening Mass of the school year, celebrated on the Feast of St Cuthbert 4 September 2014 by Fr Abbot, was attended by the whole school (some 614 students); the new Headmaster, Mr David Lambon; and the Superiors of Douai, St Louis, Stanbrook, Belmont, Colwich, Ealing, Buckfast, Worth, Portsmouth (USA), St Anselm's (USA), and Downside.

FR EDWARD DELEPINE OSB 1918-2014

FR FRANCIS DAVIDSON OSB

Theodore Edward Delepine born 1 June 1918; educated Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School, London, and Benedictine Priory, Lazcano, Spain. Clothed at Fort Augustus 1936; ordained 1943 then teaching at Carlekemp Prep School, North Berwick until 1955; then Assistant Bursar at Fort Augustus, and Bursar/Headmaster until 1994. Chaplain at Colwich 1994 – 2009; 2000 transferred Stability to Ampleforth Abbey.



FR EDWARD was born on 1st June 1918 and baptised Theodore Edward. He was the sixth child of eight. His father was a Channel Islander; his mother came from St Gall in Switzerland. His father was a music teacher who, as Edward said, moved quite rapidly from post to post. Consequently, Edward's schooling was frequently interrupted by a change of school. When as a young teenager, he told his father he would like to become a Benedictine monk, his father sent him to a school in Lazcano, Spain, attached to a monastery, which was a dependent Priory of Belloc in South West France. Edward quickly came to the conclusion that he did not want to be a monk in either France or Spain, and as the Spanish Civil War grew more threatening he was hurriedly brought back to London. For a year he worked as an office-boy in the City. He still wished to be a monk, so he got in touch with Abbot Vonier of Buckfast who directed him to Fr Clement Tigar SJ at Osterley, because his education had been so interrupted. Fr Tigar sent him to Osterley's house in Fort Augustus. Shortly after, he applied to join the monastic community at Fort Augustus and was accepted.

After such a disrupted youth it is not unlikely that he was appreciative of the quiet stability of life at Fort Augustus. However, disruption was not over. Edward was sent to study at Sant' Anselmo in 1938, and completed one year there. When war broke out in September 1939, he could not return to Sant' Anselmo and had to complete his studies at Fort Augustus. He was ordained in 1943.

When the war ended, the Prep school, which had been evacuated from Canaan Lane in Edinburgh to Fort Augustus, was moved back south to the new site of Carlekemp at North Berwick. Edward went there as a young, newly ordained priest, starting his working life as a teacher of French. He also took responsibility for various activities

such as choosing and showing the weekly film, stage managing and building sets for school plays, managing the boys' pocket-money. After twelve years at Carlekemp, he returned to Fort Augustus to be assistant to the Bursar, and to continue his teaching of French, and his 'activities.' In 1968 he became the Bursar himself, and his teaching commitment was reduced. It was also a time when the economy of the country was shortly to go into hyper-inflation, and oil prices were to rise alarmingly.

A monk takes three vows, which define the monastic life: they are obedience to the Abbot, stability in commitment to the community he joins, and *conversatio morum* which could be translated as a deliberate and conscientious commitment to follow the monastic way of life. It will be a surprise to no-one that these vows will usually tend to foster a regular and methodical way of life. No-one who knew Edward would deny that his way of life was regular, he was rarely absent from community acts – office, meals, recreation. A young monk of Pluscarden Abbey, Br Hugh Gilbert, who came with some of his brethren to Fort Augustus for his studies, and is now Bishop Hugh of Aberdeen, says that his abiding memory of Edward was his daily practice of walking up and down the terrace above Loch Ness saying his rosary. That is a typical example of the regular pattern which was his way of life. His approach also to its tasks and challenges was methodical, if sometimes idiosyncratic.

He was the bursar at Fort Augustus in two periods, totalling 23 years; a daunting task in a community which struggled continually to make ends meet – the burden of this struggle lying to a large extent on the shoulders of the bursar. When the school finally closed in 1993 and a new enterprise was started, Abbot Mark Dilworth engaged a layman with experience of that new kind of work, and Fr Edward retired at the age of 75 to be chaplain to the monastery of nuns at Colwich, where he served for a further 15 years, and then came, aged 90, to his final retirement at Ampleforth.

The monastery at Fort Augustus finally closed in 1999, and Fr Edward, who was chaplain to the nuns at Colwich at that time, transferred his stability to Ampleforth. He spent 77 years as a monk, the first 64 of them as a monk of St Benedict's Abbey at Fort Augustus, the last 13 as a monk of St Laurence's Abbey at Ampleforth. In his long life it was perhaps also a part of his regularity that he did not have any serious illnesses which disrupted the routine of his days and required some time in hospital. It was only when he had gone to be chaplain at Colwich and was already an elderly man that he had a serious illness and had to spend time in hospital. The hospital was Stafford hospital and he survived. Then when he returned to Ampleforth in his 90s, he had an operation for cancer. Finally, three months before he died he developed Parkinson's disease.

In his later years, Fr Edward may have appeared rather reticent and other-worldly,

but it was not difficult to uncover his quirky sense of humour and his gift as a raconteur when he was recalling the unusual circumstances of his pre-war monastic formation. He would, for instance, suddenly and quietly refer to his memories of being in the Piazza Venezia in Rome when Hitler and Mussolini were on the balcony, or to the complex and interesting circumstances surrounding his return to Scotland in the early months of the war. Later on, when he was holding simultaneously the posts of Headmaster and Bursar, he had a wry way of describing his reactions when the two posts came into conflict. He described this in terms of an imaginary conversation with himself in which he would put forward the Headmaster's request wearing one hat, and then respond to the request wearing another. He had interesting views on many topics and kept in touch with outside events until the end of his life.

The persevering normality of his monastic life and of his principal work as bursar through so many demanding years in a cash-strapped community reminds me of the sentence from the gospel: 'your endurance will win you your lives;' and also of the words with which St Benedict concludes the Prologue to his Rule: 'never swerving from the Lord's instructions, but faithfully observing his teaching in the monastery until death, we shall through patience share in the sufferings of Christ that we may deserve also to share in his kingdom.' We pray that Fr Edward's regular and persevering commitment to his monastic vocation will be his entry to the Kingdom of Christ.

REMEMBERING FR PAUL NEVILL OSB

FR PATRICK BARRY OSB

2014 was the 60th anniversary of the death of Fr Paul Nevill, whose influence on the development of the School was immense, and who is rightly remembered as the 'Founder' of modern Ampleforth. Fr Patrick Barry, who recently referred to himself as the only surviving 'pre-Hitler' monk, worked extremely closely with him, and in this memoir recalls some of the lesser known facets of Fr Paul's life and work.

IT SEEMS A long time now since the day when I was in the monastic refectory eating my lunch. It was a very special day because it was the funeral of Abbot Edmund Matthews and all the Mission Fathers had come in, so there was an overflow refectory in what used to be the calefactory of the old monastery. It was a special meal because we had just buried the Abbot and we were allowed to talk, so I happened to be holding forth about a new abbot, when quite suddenly I received a sharp hack on my shin. It came from my neighbour who was a fellow novice named Br Michael Sandeman. He was in the same novitiate as me, but he was much older. He had spent ten years in the Air Force before becoming a monk, and I had come straight into the monastery from the school. Because he was much older, he had adopted a sort of avuncular attitude to me and pulled me up whenever he thought I was being particularly foolish. The hack on the shin was part of that service, and the reason why he pulled me up was that in discussing Fr Herbert Byrne as a possible Abbot, I had rather dismissed him because I was so convinced that it should be Fr Paul. Both Br Michael and I were in our fourth year in the monastery, and so due to be solemnly professed later on in that year – although, just on the verge, we would not have a vote in the election of this Abbot. (Br Michael used to refer to his lay clothes as his 'escaping kit,' which annoyed our Novice Master).

Early encounters with Fr Paul

REFLECTED, as I ate my lunch, on some of my memories of Fr Paul. When I had just got into the 6th form, I was in a class taken by him on Current Affairs, and he was talking about the dictators who were in full flight at that time. When the class was over, some of us used to stay behind for a more informal conversation. One day, to my surprise, I was the only one who hung on at the end, and it was then that he said that I would hear a lot of people talking about why the school had done so well. But he said the real reason was that there were some very old monks who could not do anything very much except pray, and it was their prayers that kept us going – and we must never forget that. Later on when I had taken the Higher Certificate examination (which was usually the leaving certificate), I got a letter out of the blue from my father, in which he said that he had been in touch with the Dean

of the local medical university at Liverpool, and I had been given a place for the coming September in the pre-medical school.

This was a real shock, because I had expected to come back for another year at school (I was only seventeen). Moreover, I had joined the Catholic Book Club, run by Sheed & Ward, and had obtained various classics very cheaply, including books by the Curé of Ars, St Thérèse and various others. I wrote at once to my father – what I thought was a very diplomatic letter. He did not reply, but came up straight away and went to see Fr Paul. After a long conversation, they summoned me and offered me various options of becoming a doctor, and then a priest, but I said I had to become a priest as soon as possible. In the end it was agreed that I could join the monastery in the coming September, and I accepted at once. In all the discussions, Fr Paul was adamant that I should return to the school for another year, and then decide what I wanted to do, but my father was against that. He had five children to educate and could not spend so much on one of them. So, it was all referred to Abbot Matthews and one day Fr Paul saw me and said: 'Ah, Barry, I have to tell you that we had a Council Meeting last night and your name came up as a possible novice. I am happy to tell you that I voted against you in a minority of one' – and with that he gave a great guffaw. He then gave me endless tips about what sort of things to do and what things to get before going into the monastery. That was how he dealt with my vocation, and although my father assaulted me by letter during my novitiate, I knew I always had Fr Paul's support.

It turned out that Br Michael was right, and Fr Herbert was indeed elected and ruled the monastery until 1963. Nobody could say he was a failure, but he was different from Fr Paul, and my heart went out more than ever to Fr Paul because I felt he had been overlooked. The truth was that the Mission Fathers were still the largest constituency in the monastery, and they were alarmed at the increased size of the school, and as I heard one of the Mission Fathers expressing it once – they did not want any more Headmasters as Abbot, and thought the Missions ought to have a bit of a look in. Abbot Herbert had a high standard of spirituality and was a good superior from many points of view, but he did not find it easy to take major decisions, although it was during his abbacy that the decision was taken to found the monastery at St Louis.

I had always felt very close to Fr Paul since he had received me into the school at the front doorway of the prep school as a small boy of ten in 1928. He had then become immensely important to me. I had been at a Jesuit day school in Liverpool, which was over the river from where we lived. There were no Catholic schools on our side of the river, and I had to make a journey by tram and ferry-boat and then another tram every morning to get to school, and even I thought it was rather much. My parents then decided that a boarding school was necessary and my father, who

was a doctor, consulted one of his patients, who was a Jesuit. The Jesuit said that he thought it would be better to send me to the Benedictines rather than the Jesuits, as they were the 'up and coming ones.' My parents had never heard of Ampleforth, so they entered me for Downside, and I was headed for Somerset. However, when the clothes list for Downside arrived, it required that a child of ten should have three tailor-made suits made by the school tailor – and that was in the middle of the Great Depression. My mother seldom interfered with matters like this, but on this occasion she said that no son of hers was going to a school like that. So my father had to appeal to Fr Paul, who regretted that he had not got a place that year but would keep one for me in the following year. I can still remember going to sleep in tears at the prospect of another year making that journey to Liverpool. Quite suddenly, however, the blessed day came when a letter arrived from Fr Paul to say that although the term had started he found he could fit me into the prep school. To make things easier for me, as term had begun, my father, mother and younger sister all accompanied me by car to deliver me to Ampleforth. Fr Paul was full of welcome as he met us on the steps of the prep school (ie the old Junior House) and distinguished himself with the family by getting a little confused and trying to accept my sister as well. However, that was quickly sorted out and my career began.

After that I saw only a little of him, but he always greeted me when we met. As I looked out from the Junior House I saw an absolutely brand new St Cuthbert's, and the new extension to the monastery with its roof just going on, and I was there and witnessed all the other building for which Fr Paul was responsible. There was the Lower and the Upper Building, and the Range and the Infirmary and Bolton House, and then came the enormous revolution of the purchase of Gilling. This took place in the middle of the Depression when house property was worth nothing, and we bought Gilling from a house-breaker who had bought it at auction. The house-breaker sold most of the glass and panelling to an American, but later on we had an appeal and bought it back. Included in the purchase of Gilling was Park House Farm and all the woodlands back to the York road. Abbot Matthews and Fr Paul had been very keen on buying Gilling at the auction, but they were defeated by the Mission Fathers. Both Abbot Matthews and Fr Paul were men of determination, and after they had been defeated they called a Second Chapter to consider buying the house and grounds. This time they succeeded at a cost of £15,000. That was what Fr Paul did for the school, and of course there was much more besides. He had already started the House system when I arrived, but that had been bitterly opposed when it was first mooted, though in the end he got it through. But all that success alarmed the Mission Fathers who thought there would be no end to his ambition. Fr Paul was not only a man of huge stature, but of huge intellect and huge personality and ideas, and it was all this that frightened some of his brethren who thought things were moving too fast.

Fr Paul's background: The Benedictine Mission in England

FR PAUL had been accepted as a novice at Ampleforth, when he left the school, but was then sent to Belmont for his novitiate and his studies. After the restoration of the hierarchy in 1850, it was decided by the President and the Provincials of the North and South Provinces, that the recent foundation at Belmont should become the Novitiate for the whole country and various monks were moved there from their own monasteries in order to run this novitiate. This meant that Fr. Paul spent his novitiate and early years in the monastery at Belmont, from where he went to St. Benet's Hall to read History. He completed his degree in 1905 and after further studies at Belmont he returned to Ampleforth, having been ordained there in 1907. In 1912 he was made Sub-Prior and in 1914, he was sent as parish priest in Ampleforth village. For a short time, he was also Editor of the Ampleforth Journal.

When Abbot Smith was elected Abbot in 1900, he set out to unify the Community by making the preservation of peace and unity his principal aim. When the English Benedictine Congregation returned to England, as a result of the French Revolution, their main purpose was to continue to fulfil the mission that they had undertaken during the times of persecution. At that time, their purpose was to provide missionaries to go into England and work in secret under the constant threat of persecution, and they took a vow of readiness to undertake the danger of preaching the gospel in England which might lead to their execution as martyrs for the faith. (In the case of Ampleforth, St Alban Roe suffered this fate). This vow was abolished in 1900 when the Holy See, in recognition of the re-established presence of the Benedictines in England, restructured the shape of that presence. Hitherto, the mission had been based (in a manner similar to other Orders) on two Provinces – Northern and Southern – with the monasteries themselves playing a secondary role as centres of formation. In 1900, the monasteries were established as Abbeys, and became the centres from which the mission flowed. This represented a radical change of emphasis and was to lead to a redefinition of the relationship between the Abbeys and the diversified mission with which they were now entrusted. Increasingly, the Benedictine presence came to consist of Abbeys and dependent parishes, and Ampleforth, with its links with the strong Catholic presence in Lancashire, had many of these. This factor goes a long way to explain the powerful influence of the 'Mission Fathers' in the developing history of Ampleforth.

Abbot Smith in his quiet work to maintain unity in this new situation, was aware that he had two outstanding monks under him who were deeply committed to the development of the school – Fr Edmund Matthews and Fr Paul Nevill. Fr Edmund was made Headmaster, and Fr Paul was obviously an immensely able man and had done well at Oxford. Fr Paul did not agree with the tradition which had grown up in the school whereby the boys were constantly supervised and not trusted on their

own. An example of this had been the building of the Ball Place. In the very early days of Ampleforth, this was situated at the end of the Old House (St Oswald's) (as it were at the top of the Big Passage). When the building of the Library and the Big Study took place, the Ball Place was moved in front of the Old House. Prior Cooper had positioned it so that the wall was on the north side, and the boys could play out of sight on the south side. This was later disapproved of, and the wall was turned round (as it is now) so that the Prefect (the Headmaster) could look out of his room in the Old House and see what the boys were doing. This was the complete opposite of all the ideas that Fr Paul believed in.

At Oxford, he had seen how the public schools were developing, with the house system and other modern ideas, and he wanted the same to happen at Ampleforth. In 1914, as Editor of *The Journal*, Fr Paul wrote a powerful article on this subject, which was anathema to many of his brethren, who did not see the need for radical change. So Abbot Smith decided that the best thing would be to send him to the village as parish priest, where he would be near at hand if he was needed, and he continued there throughout the war. In fact, his experience in the village was invaluable, but it was the reason why he was not teaching regularly in the school. He could only operate on the basis of complete trust in the boys, which was his great principle, but the monastery was not yet ready for his new ideas. During his time in the village, he discovered Robert Thompson, the 'Mouse Man,' who through him was to have such a profound and lasting effect in the College and in the Monastery.

Fr Paul as Headmaster

FR PAUL wanted to turn the school round and introduce the House system, and Abbot Matthews was in agreement with him. There would be several occasions in which that proposal came up in Chapter, but it was always turned down until Abbot Matthews gave up the headmastership in 1924 when he was elected Abbot. He then appointed Fr Paul as Headmaster and said: 'Now, Paul, you must succeed where I have failed,' and they worked together from then on. With them was Abbot Bede Turner, who was the Procurator, and the decision-making of the Abbey has been described to me thus: first of all Fr Paul would make a proposal for a new House or for some other development, Abbot Matthews, who had a strong Lancastrian cautious side in spite of his great determination would say: 'Oh Paul you are getting too big ideas' and he would turn to Abbot Turner and say: 'Can we do it?' and Abbot Turner, who was a man of few words, would say 'Yes,' and then they did it. That seemed to be a very effective way of doing business.

Soon after Fr Paul became Headmaster there was the occasion when Lord Oxford and Asquith (who had been the Prime Minister, Herbert Asquith, until 1916) was staying with the Worsley family at Hovingham, and came over to visit Ampleforth.



Fr Paul gave him the 'grand tour' and then Asquith said to him: 'You have a very fine school, I would like my grandson, Julian, to come here, but he is entered for Balliol at Oxford. If he came to Ampleforth, could you guarantee that he would gain a scholarship at Balliol?' Without hesitation Fr Paul said 'yes' and the necessary arrangements were set up. Fr Paul then went immediately and telephoned to the Oxford Appointments Board and said that he wanted the best classical scholar in Oxford. He was told that such a person did exist, but he had just accepted a teaching post at Winchester. However, as he had suddenly become a Roman Catholic, he now wished to teach in a Catholic School. Fr Paul immediately headed for Oxford and engaged Walter Shewring, who spent the rest of his active life living in the Abbey and teaching in the school. Julian Asquith (who succeeded his grandfather in 1928, was the son of Raymond Asquith who was killed in 1916). He and Michael Fogarty, who were both extremely clever classical scholars, were a year ahead of me, but I knew them quite well.

Fr Paul's dreams went on and on and the school grew and got better and better until Abbot Matthews died in 1939. The school not only got bigger and better, but it had as its Headmaster a most remarkable man. He knew the name of all the boys, and was on friendly terms with each of them. For instance, at the end of Fr Dominic's time in the school, Fr Paul picked him out to lead a delegation to America organised by the English-Speaking Union, because he knew that he would be the right person for that opportunity. Fr Paul created throughout the school an atmosphere of warm benevolence and never gave the impression that he needed to be in control of what the boys were doing. There was one memorable occasion on a Sunday evening when Fr Paul was in his room and he suddenly realised that the boys were all very quiet. This was extremely unusual and he went down the passage - silence everywhere. He went into the Library - there was no-one there. He went on to the Square and he heard the roar of laughter from the theatre. On investigation he found that the whole school was in the theatre listening to the final performance given by Hubert Galloway, a great mimic, before he left the school. As Fr Paul went in he was just giving a lively rendering of Fr Paul addressing the parents at Exhibition. Fr Paul, smiling broadly, disappeared and left them to it.

The Second World War

BUT IN 1939, there were many wild speculations about what would happen after the death of Abbot Matthews, but the thing that did happen was beyond our control - Hitler invaded Poland and the World War began, and it looked as though we were among the losers. Fr Paul, by the grace of God, was still in charge of the school, although he told me later what he went through at that time. Archbishop MacDonald of Edinburgh (who had been a monk at Fort Augustus) had visited Ampleforth before the election and had produced the specious argument that the



community must not elect Fr Paul because he was needed in the country at large in leading Catholic education. The truth was that the majority of the Parish Fathers did not want the sort of school that Fr Paul stood for. All this upheaval led to Fr Paul continuing as Headmaster with Abbot Herbert in charge.

It was then, as the numbers fell, that Fr Paul invited Bootham (the Quaker school that had to be evacuated from York) to the Junior House where they stayed for a year, and then departed with the eloquent farewell speech, which the Headmaster began with this quote from Shakespeare: 'Friends, Romans and Countrymen.' They left the Junior House empty and an empty house in the country in those times was immediately taken up by the Army, but Fr Paul was aware of this and so he invited Avisford, the prep school from near the Sussex coast, to live with us for the war, which they did (very gratefully) and so we were saved from occupation. No-one will ever know whether Abbot Byrne had ambitions in other directions, but he kept Fr Paul on – he had no-one else to take his place – and the school came right through the war growing better and better.

At the time of the election of Fr Herbert Byrne as Abbot, I was actually at Oxford and so I was out of it all. I was absorbed in my studies and did not really have much interest in what was happening at Ampleforth, except on one or two critical occasions, like the terrible train accident in which six boys were killed. I read about the accident in *The Times* the next day and it seemed like the end of the world. Fr Paul had to bear all that, which he did magnificently, but there were other lesser crises and I remember one Exhibition, when he had to announce more casualties in the war, saying to me 'it always seems to be the best that are taken.' He was immensely proud and justly so of all our boys, not only the decorated ones. I finished my Oxford career in 1942, and was rather overwhelmed at the prospect of what lay before me. I was anxious to study theology in greater depth, but I knew it was not possible for me to go abroad at that time. There was a Jesuit College, called Heythrop, in North Oxford which had a large country house with two wings – one was for philosophers and the other for the theologians. I loved the prospect of teaching at Ampleforth eventually, but I wanted to study theology and so I enlisted the help of Abbot Justin McCann, the Master of St Benet's, and he wrote to the Abbot to put forward my request. The Abbot's reply was brief and clear – he said 'No' – I was to come back to Ampleforth. I was just reconciling myself to that when a most extraordinary thing happened. I was sitting in my room at Oxford when suddenly the door opened and in walked Fr Paul. It was entirely unexpected and unexplained, but he began talking to me as though we were old friends and in no time he came to the point. He said that in September he wanted me to take over the School Library, and transform it. Apparently the School Library was rather neglected because my predecessor as librarian had had a long illness and had let the library go to seed. Its particular way of going to seed was that the boys kept all the books in their rooms

and did not bother to return them. There was one boy who was found to have 92 library books in his room. He later showed his quality as a soldier by winning a posthumous VC. That was how Fr Paul brought it about that I would be fully occupied, and I had to put theology aside for the moment. I did what Fr Paul asked of me by making the Library what it is now.

At the same time, I began my teaching career in Classics. In wartime everyone was overstretched and from then on I had to work very hard to keep afloat. I had my share of teaching to do, and before the war was over Fr Barnabas Sandeman became ill and I had to take over as Head of Classics. In the Library I was working close to Fr Paul and was constantly more and more drawn into the administration of the school at a time when there were no secretaries and very little else to provide the necessary secretarial back-up. However, the first answer to every problem was: 'Don't you know there is a war on?' But I survived, although I was very drained by 1945. Then we were faced with the Labour Government and the atom bomb. Although some wild and wonderful theories fluttered through the Community in the intervening years, like the plan of one of the Mission Fathers to transfer the whole place to Canada, they came to nothing. During that period, after the war in the era of controls and prohibitions, Fr Paul's great achievement was the foundation of St Thomas's House, through which he proved to everyone that there was still demand for what we offered.

There was at that time a wonderful monk, Fr Stephen Marwood, who had an enormous influence on many generations of boys. He was Housemaster of St Oswald's and he was also the first assistant to Fr Paul, though he had no such title. He worked constantly with Fr Paul in the school administration and was a great mainstay of all that mattered most in the school. He was equally valued in the monastery for his holiness and constant presence in choir. In 1949 he died suddenly, and I have never forgotten how utterly shattered Fr Paul was by the news of his death. It was also a major shock for me and it changed my life. Fr Stephen had been the Junior Master when I was at that stage, and I had relied on him ever since. He was a monk whose influence spread throughout the school and the monastery, and the loss for everyone at his death was terrible, but most of all for Fr Paul. When Fr Paul came back to his room after the funeral, he said to me: 'Now you have to take Fr Stephen's place. You know everything there is to know and you can do it.' Then he added: 'I want you to use this room as if it was yours. You must not knock on the door when you want to come in. You just come in.' What he was saying, in other words, was that I was to act as his Second Master. From then on I had charge of all the administration and this could not be concealed. But Fr Paul never announced publicly what he had said to me. From then on I spent many hours working in his room, while he did what above else he loved doing – talking about his ideas and what he wanted to do for the school. As no announcement had been made, I did not

feel I could say anything to anyone else, and there is no doubt that from that time forward, which was a period of five or six years, I was considered by the rest of the Community as taking advantage of Fr Paul in his misery – but I never bothered about that. Once when Fr Paul was about to appoint a new Housemaster and he discussed with me all the possible candidates, he suddenly stopped and said: ‘What about you? If you want me to make you a Housemaster I will make you one now.’ I said: ‘No – I am not ready’ and he said: ‘You are right. You can do ten more years in this position.’ When we came to discussing the War Memorial for the Old Boys who were killed in the war – our main memorial was in prayer and in the large Crypt chapel which commemorates them, but a visible memorial was required – it was Fr Paul who commissioned me to do the inscription which stands in the Memorial Library. While I was at Oxford, I had studied carefully the universal gift of handwriting, and learned how to guide others. When I joined the staff, Fr Paul asked me to take voluntary classes in handwriting, which had a very large influence in the school.

Then one day in 1954 (on the Feast of the Conversion of St Paul), I thought that Fr Paul was looking pretty worn. I went down to take a class in the morning and looked in on him on the way – he was sitting at his desk and was not looking at all well. I was late for my class, but I went to take it – he died while I was out of the room.

Most of what followed was in a horrible haze, and I ended up as Housemaster of St Wilfrid’s. They also made me Second Master, so my work did not change much, but the new challenges and contact with the boys brought me gradually to life. It was some time afterwards that an eminent psychiatrist, who had been a friend of Fr Paul, came to stay and saw me in St Wilfrid’s. We talked about Fr Paul and I said that I had come near to breaking point after Fr Paul’s death. He replied that that was obvious. I was surprised that he was aware of the state I was in, but he said he had been very anxious, but was glad that I was now all right. That was kind of him, but things were not all right. I never quite recovered from Fr Paul’s death, and in many ways the writing of this remembrance of him has been a sort of completion of our relationship – a recognition, however inadequate, of the many intellectual and spiritual gifts I owe to Fr Paul, and I offer this short piece as a tribute to his memory.

CENTENARY OF THE FIRST WAR THE BATTLE OF THE MARNE EXPERIENCE OF A FRENCH CIVILIAN

Editor's note: It is appropriate that the 2014 issue of The Journal should recall the events of 1914, the first months of what was to become the 'Great War'.

What follows is a unique and hitherto unpublished piece of research into material that appeared in The Journal 100 years ago. At that time war censorship required that no reference should be made to names and places, so the material remained anonymous. However our archivist, Fr Anselm Cramer, has had remarkable success in bringing the material to life by identifying all the relevant persons and places. His commentary, in the second part of this article, throws a fascinating light on unexpected links between Ampleforth and the war zone of 1914.

HOW VERY welcome the sight of your writing. We have been utterly cut off from outer life for a month, being here in the very midst of the battles! Even now we only get the letters addressed to Monsieur Chaussée, régisseur du [illeg] de St Martin de Boschet par Monteau-les-Prévins, Seine-et-Marne pour le Château de Réveillon. As for Courgivaux, our former Post, it is as most towns and villages near about burnt to ashes. My dear, Réveillon and we have been in the greatest peril, and it is only by God’s help that we can have been preserved!

I can’t write all to-day but here is summary of plain facts. Left Paris grown unbearable with Germans already at Chantilly (15 kilos), Taubes throwing bombs every afternoon near us (the last was Place St Augustin’s) – a general panic when Government ran away, and much fear of being shut up for a long siege, no eatables, and no money – so we left by the last train bringing troops, no luggage allowed, but all the menagerie in baskets, old Marie and the cook Maria and her ten year old child, on the 2nd Sept.

On all our way we saw the hay carts carrying away the frightened peasants, their family belongings; it was a most melancholy sight. The 3rd September, all who rushed through here brought distressing news, the French troops were coming back in disorder followed near by German Armies! And we began to hear cannon at distance (we have now heard it near or far, for more than a month, save three days’ rest!). The 4th, we had the lamentable passing through from left to right of the French XVIII Corps, even tarrying here a few hours, they understood then nothing of the manoeuvre intended by Joffre, and thought they were ordered to run away before the enemy, and were most discouraged. The 5th, the cannon noise seemed very near, and at 10 at 11 I see a single French soldier running behind the big gate wounded by

cannon but in his throat, the blood flowing by buckets. He was screaming, 'They follow me, they will kill me.'

I had barely time to see him escaped in our farmer's wife's cart, who was, like three fourths of the villagers, running away, when ten minutes later, the first German cyclists appeared on the little road at end of circle of old trees, and since that moment, without stopping a minute, went on for three days and two nights the defile of that awful war-machine, the German Army. For two nights and three days I did not sleep a wink, nor wash, nor undress for fear of 'surprise' every second. Soon new ones came in from all the small doors, and we had all, officers, Uhlans, Death Hussars, big chiefs, artillery, aeroplanes. The officers were generally correct, and some with even very affected 'courtesy' they asked politely for what they wanted, and took it! Most of officers asked for soap and butts. They took, with forms, all our wine and eatables, jam, Vichy water, and tea. For the two first days it was all right – then they stole everything in the village, but killed nobody owing to our parlementing (Fraulein [illeg]'s lessons saved me, and all here, and the house) and they burned no houses here: but all around, alas! all farms and villages are destroyed by Germans and cannon, and in many places they have done unspeakable things.

On the Sunday they became very rough, the battle was raging all around, bullets falling already on the *grande route*, we had what remained of villagers, infirms, babies, in our cellars, and a few militarizable young men hiding they would have shot. At nightfall the battle was all round, cerné by troops and kept to [illeg] all night; and five very nasty officers came in an auto, and forced me to search all our cellars and all, me marching in front with 3 revolvers they held up to my head, while Mama, who was very brave indeed, turned the other staircase and pushed the militarizable men from room to room as we came by. It was a near shave I can tell you!

A comic story – we have been laughed at by the Kronprinz himself, but only knew afterwards it was he. Fancy, he jumped the 6 yard moat, full of water, with his horse, instead of entering the gates, and came cantering up to the bridge where Mama and I received him by our first usual words, 'What do you ask for, we have nothing left?' and tapping his beautiful horse with a jewelled whip and most elegant gloves and boots begrimed and said, 'I ask for nothing, I only came here to have a look at you'. He went on, 'Do you know the news? We are 11 kil. off Paris.' I answered pertly to him, 'Others may be, but you are here, you are at a hundred.' So he grinned again, and said, 'Then it means two days' time because your armies fly before me.' I quietly said, 'Perhaps; nobody can tell fate beforehand.'

My dear, if I had only known then who he was, and that he was going to be beaten next day, and to give the run-away signal! but I only thought he was some lieutenant,

and was afraid making my people to be shot if I answered more, but the idea of Fate, I suppose, gave him to think, for he bolted away again. The rumour here is that he has been stealing like a vulgar thief in the neighbouring chateau where he slept.

Now I come to the worst moment and the miraculous escape by God's will. The battle was coming nearer and nearer, and on Monday morning the whole village here was occupied by the German forces stopping in battle array instead of pressing through as the others did: their cannons were put up near the woods, on the top, right, left, and behind us (always from left to right), while all the noise of nearing battle was coming from our right, just behind the fields opposite your window. The bullets were already falling near the first houses of the village, and all around we could see the little villages burning. We had quite given up our lives, when at twelve precise a 'Taube' brought a sort of 'fusil signal' overhead, and they suddenly packed up all cannons and troops and began going back from right to left. At 2 the last Uhlans left from the castle without killing or burning, I suppose in too much haste, and at twenty to three the first French hussars came trotting quietly in two by two – and then we learnt all of the 'plan' of Joffre, the sudden turning round, and the victory at last!

On the card, my dear, Réveillon appears in the middle as a small ten sous piece and all the rest around is completely *saccagé*. Most of the fine castles are either burnt up by the Germans or broken by bullets, or dirtied and spoilt forever. In Esternay's *fosses*, there have been soldiers digging, and in M. de Boislandry's there is a German ambulance. The number of killed and wounded is awful! The English armies have been all around, but we have not seen them, they are said to do wonders, and be so brave – even the German officers said the English stood fire splendidly and fought very well, only were so few. Who knows how it will all end?

The battle has been raging on our front near Rheims for the last 18 days; but we are not told much about it yet. We are in dreadful fright always of those demons breaking through lines, and tumbling here upon us again. This time it would be without hope for us! Pray my dear friend, that God gives our 'brothers in arms', our armies, strength enough to push them back. They use such dirty ways, I always hope it may cause their end! Give my love to Jack, and I hope he won't be called, but if he is, and comes near Marne with his regiment, to try and come here; he will get a greeting, I can tell you! I always hope some miracle will come to bring back peace again! Mama has her knees very stiff and gouty, but she has been wonderfully courageous, walking about on the terrace and bringing in the old people when the bullets were coming near. I spare to you descriptions of horrors seen, but it is Hell this war. When will we ever meet again, and in peace! Write to us at the address I give you, it may come here in a fortnight's time.

Explanations

THIS IS AN unusual view of the early part of the War. Fr Paul Nevill's papers enable us to light up the social background. The style of the text is that of a lady, French, but attractively, if idiomatically, fluent in English. She is writing to a familiar friend who has visited her in France several times (and stayed there, 'Near your window'), but has had to wait till early October ('for a month') before she could write or send the letter.

She leaves Paris to avoid the expected siege (people remembered 1870) and to escape primitive bombing: the German Taube was a primitive aeroplane, and its bombs (it carried some of 3 kg, which the pilot heaved over the side). The Government has gone to Bordeaux, and she, her servants (with dogs or cats in baskets), manage to get on the last troop train: the Military Governor Gallieni sent some of the Paris garrison to reinforce Joffre's armies which he was already preparing for his counter-stroke. This means they travelled east, on the line Meaux – Chateau Thierry – Chalons.

It is recorded that the French XVIII Corps cavalry passed though Chateau-Thierry, going south in retreat and north in counter-attack and the German Prince – there were several to choose from in the German Armies – jumps the moat and approaches the terrace near the big gate; and lives in 'a neighbouring chateau'. So, it appears, does our author.

The German III Army advanced to a salient about 45 km south of Chateau Thierry, but was held by resistance organised by the French commander Joffre, about Sunday 5 September. They were also exhausted. Most of them had walked all the way from Aachen, as armies on campaign normally did: it was only inside Germany that they could use railways. So our author was in that area.

However, if we turn to the papers left when Fr Paul Nevill died, we can become quite precise. He was at this time the Editor of the Ampleforth Journal, and kept a lot of letters. A postcard dated 16 October 1914, postmarked 'Ferte Gaucher, Seine & Marne' is closely written:

My dearest Anne,

I have written to you some time ago at [illeg.] the whole of our story. If you never got it, let me know: I will write it all over again. Our worst danger was being in the way of the big battle between the fire lines. God saved us here. This is the 40th day we live amidst cannon noise as the battle line is only about 6 miles from here. We are most anxious, however, it may end: it is France's sake and ours [?] that led it there.

Mama has been wonderful. The story of the Times is not the real one, it is made up. Much love and hugs.

Also Jack. Beg Valentine to pray for us - we need it.

There is also a postscript just fitted in, 'Does this not remind you of old Dieppe times?' The writing is difficult, and the signature squeezed in, but it could be read as 'Yrs, Susa'. It is addressed to 'Mrs Henry Nevill, 59 Egerton Gardens, London, that is, to Fr Paul's mother. Another letter among Fr Paul's papers is addressed to 'Ma chère Anne' and headed 'Réveillon 11 Mai':

Dearest Anne,

How very kind and supportive you are as always in your support for my raffle. That is the reason I have failed to write more often, for I cannot tell you how busy I have been. I have written perhaps 1200 letters about it in the last four months, and I've also had numerous frustrations and difficulties, because every time you want to do something useful, everyone tries to put a spoke in the works. At last I have succeeded in what needs to be done, and I have raised Fr. 200,000 for the people who depend on their own labour, which brings in enough only part of the time.

Then what happens? This war will never end. It's all going wrong. Everyone is amazed that the British Navy does so little. People begin to ask if it is real – it lets all its shipping be torpedoed, and does nothing against Germany. It is the poor French armies which carry the main load of the war. The English die bravely enough, but they have no proper idea how to make war, and the Russians accept defeat as soon as they meet the German army. Only the Austrians are beaten by everyone. It begins to be very demoralising: how and when will it end?

I think of you all the time, dear, you have paid your contribution among the . I cannot take any comfort from what is happening all around me – when I go to Paris, I hear only of people being killed. All the mothers I know are in despair. Horrible! The war makes me feel ill, I can tell you.

With deep affection,

Madeleine Lemaire

Réveillon is a tiny village with a big chateau, and the writer sounds like the chatelaine. Madeleine Lemaire was indeed the owner of Chateau Réveillon, and she

had a daughter called Suzanne. Further, it appears that Madeleine was a famous painter and society hostess of the years 1880-1900, both in Paris, and at Réveillon (pictured below), famous in particular for her paintings of flowers: it was said of her that no one, except God, had created more roses. In her circle were to be found Camille Saint-Saëns, Marcel Proust, Reynaldo Hahn, and numerous titled persons of the better sort: in her salons all but the very highest *gratin* of the French nobility congregated on Tuesdays to meet her following of painters. When the Princess of Wales, the Empress of Germany, the King of Sweden, the Queen of the Belgians came to Paris, they requested permission to visit the studio and Mme Lemaire could not dare to refuse them entry: among those present, says *Le Figaro* of 11 May 1903, were the President of the Chamber of Deputies, the Italian, German and Russian ambassadors, the grand-duchess Vladimir, countess Adhéaume de Chevigné, the Duke and Duchess de Brissac, M. Anatole France, M. Jules Lemaître, Countess Jean de Castellane, the Duchess Grazioli, Count and Countess Boni de Castellane. George Painter, in *Marcel Proust: a biography* says that Mme Lemaire is one of the models of Proust's Madame Verdurin in *La Recherche du Temps Perdu*.

This sounds rather a long way from Fr Paul and the Nevills, but the letters show that there was a close connection, mainly between Anne Nevill, Fr Paul's mother, and Lemaire's daughter, Suzanne. We are not told how this arose, but the solution lies in Dieppe.



This sea-side resort on the Channel coast was popular with both French and English: the Newhaven-Dieppe ferry still runs. The town was well filled with the right sort; indeed, Lord Salisbury, later Prime Minister, had built himself a large and rather curious villa there. Since Anne Nevill was a Hampshire Fenwick (not Catholics - she was received only after the War), and her aunt married a Prussian officer whom she met when he was stationed in Dieppe during the post-1870 Occupation, it looks as though the Fenwicks of an earlier generation were there also. Madeleine Lemaire had a house there for summer use: it was at 32 rue Aguado, right on the sea-front. Here she entertained people from her circle, and certainly had Proust to stay for some weeks in 1895. But we also know that Fr Paul and his brothers were born in Dieppe: the Nevills, like other English people, chose it because then, as now, it was cheaper. In 1895 'Val' would have been 13; one wonders if he met Proust at the tea table - he was 13 and Proust 24. At that time, Mme Lemaire was 50, her daughter 29, and Anne Nevill 43. It is perhaps a perception of this which gave the boys who knew her (and her strawberry teas) in her later years, when she was living in 'Romanes' cottage, a hint for their nickname, 'the Duchess.'

In a book on the English in Dieppe, *Sixty Miles from England* (London, 1967), Simona Pakenham, says that in the twenty years on either side of 1900 Dieppe, which contributed to the seaside resort 'Balbec', was lived in or visited by more than half the people who went to the making of *A la Recherche du Temps Perdu*. Madeleine Lemaire was one of the originals for the hostess 'Madame Verdurin,' and Jacques Blanche contributed to the personality of the painter 'Elstir.' The English were there too: Pakenham adds 'The hotels on the Plage were full of fodder for Madame Lemaire's salon. Maurice Maeterlinck was in Dieppe; Gerald du Maurier, who had inherited his father's passion for the place and his fidelity to the Hotel de Paris; Herbert Beerbohm Tree and his young brother Max; Marie Tempest and her husband Cosmo Gordon Lennox; the young American actor John Barrymore; Gladys Cooper; a striking actress called Constance Collier.'

The account of the Marne battle written by Madeleine's daughter Suzanne Lemaire is unique, and interesting even from a military angle. It was printed in the *Ampleforth Journal* in May 1915, Fr Paul cut out most of the names and places, as censorship required, so it is only in our time that the network of contacts, and the historical events, can be followed in some detail.

On the English side it was the Nevills' friends and relatives who volunteered to organise the various Catholic Huts established to support the Tommies, which were sited at Le Havre, Rouen, Etaples and (after the Armistice) Cologne.

And the Crown Prince? Kaiser Wilhelm II (1859-1941) had six sons and a daughter. The Crown Prince Wilhelm was in command of the German V Army, which was

operating in Lorraine, well to the south-west: it cannot be he. But popular report – ‘We only knew afterwards it was he’ – may not have been far wrong, for the second son, Prince Eitel Friedrich, was in command of the 1st Guards Brigade in II Army, whose front drove south through Chateau Thierry: their HQ and Staff were only 15 miles to the east at Chateau Mondement. The incident is recounted in Painter’s *Marcel Proust* (v.2, p.221), in a slightly dilute form: we have not yet found his source. It is more significant than it looks: it seems likely that Prince Eitel, if it were he, knew of the fame of Mme Lemaire and her salon. II Army HQ was at nearby Chateau de Mondement (in another postcard Suzanne says that the officers in their sudden retreat left over a thousand champagne bottles empty), and as C.O. of the II Army’s premier unit, the First Guards Brigade, he took the chance of presenting himself. In that case it may not be an accident that her house and its village remained a small circle on the map (‘card’) of undamaged ground amid all the other burning and destruction.

Military Background

DURING AUGUST the German right wing, their I and II Armies, swung through neutral Belgium (which brought Britain into the war) and turned south towards Paris. This was intended to outflank the main French armies along the French-German border (between Verdun and the Swiss border), and lead (they hoped) to a

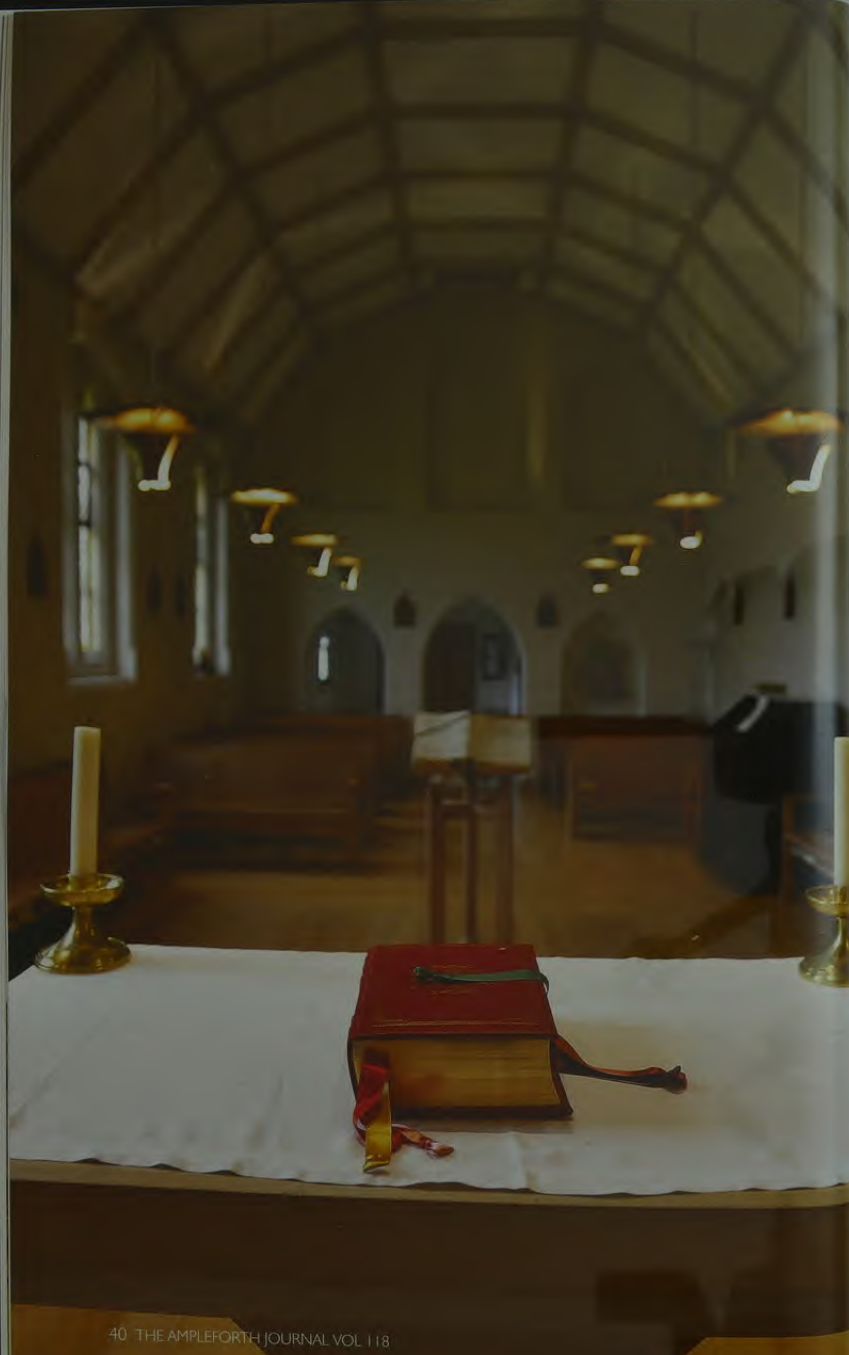
massive version of Sedan or Cannae, the surrounding and defeat of the whole French position.

In early September Joffre, the French commander, moved troops from Lorraine, on his right, by trains sent from Paris: it was this which gave the Lemaïres the chance to travel east from Paris as far as Chateau Thierry. The French then attacked the German I Army due east from Paris. This drew that Army apart from the German II Army which was pushing south across the river Marne – it flows towards Paris from the east – and into the resulting gap Joffre pushed the British. On their right the energetic French General Franchet d’Esperey drove the French V Army due north, back towards Chateau Thierry on the river Marne. This was the advance, first German – ‘from left to right’ – then French – ‘from right to left’ – which rolled over the Lemaïres at Réveillon (whose front faces east).

The hardest fighting was further west than Réveillon, around the river Ourcq, a tributary of the Marne, but the sound of the guns was within earshot there for at least six weeks. The resource and firmness of Mme Lemaire – it would seem, a Grand Dame – and her daughter (and perhaps also the fame of her ‘salon’ among the better sort of German officer) was so remarkable that the house and village, though briefly requisitioned for billeting, was not damaged or burnt, as almost all round it was.



FOURTEEN ARMIES AT THE BATTLE OF THE MARNE 5-9 SEPTEMBER 1914



ST BENET'S HALL

PROFESSOR WERNER G JEANROND

MASTER OF ST BENET'S HALL

FOR ST BENET'S Hall the academic year 2013-14 ended on a high note: Of our sixteen finalists five earned a first class and eleven a solid upper second class (2:1) degree. This result does not only put us on top of all so-called Permanent Private Halls, but also in the top quarter of all colleges in the University of Oxford. This impressive result is, of course, in the first instance the fruit of the hard work of our dedicated students and we are very proud indeed of their achievement. However, the commitment of our monastic community, our senior tutor, our directors of studies, our tutors and lecturers, and our administrative and kitchen staff to our undergraduate students has facilitated their personal and intellectual development in a significant way. Our unique community of formation aims to support every person in St Benet's to flourish. In a sense, we are all midwives to each other's development. Our educational journey in the Benedictine tradition has borne rich fruit. For this we are very grateful.

Also on the graduate level St Benet's Hall has been able to grow: During the last academic year two members of the Hall have completed their doctoral work in the theology of Cardinal Newman, and two new graduate scholars have joined our growing research community at the beginning of the new academic year 2014-15: A male scholar in theology and a female scholar in Jewish studies. The arrival of this first ever female student in St Benet's was made possible by the unanimous decision of the St Benet's Trust in June 2014 to open the Hall for female graduate students.

In close co-operation with the Procurator at Ampleforth Abbey, we have made progress also in our development work. The William E Simon Foundation in the USA has granted St Benet's Hall financial support for three major lectures in 2015-17 to discuss important aspects of the Catholic contribution to contemporary life and thought. We are grateful that this grant will enable St Benet's to function as a platform within the University of Oxford where the future of Christian faith can be publicly discussed with intellectual rigour and personal commitment.

St Benet's Hall aims to serve the church, the academy, and society at large. Our daily reading of the Rule of St Benedict at our common table reminds all of us who study and work at the Hall of our personal and communal call to serve in these different but intimately related spheres of life.

NO PEACE WITHOUT PRAYER ENCOURAGING MUSLIMS AND CHRISTIANS TO PRAY TOGETHER A Benedictine Approach

ABBOT TIMOTHY WRIGHT OSB

Abbot Timothy is currently giving courses in the Benedictine University of St Procopius Abbey, Lisle, near Chicago. The courses represent a comparative study covering themes and authors from Jewish, Christian and Muslim traditions, and include such titles as 'Reading and Praying the Inspired Texts' and on the respective liturgical tradition and calendars. There is a particular focus on the link between the Benedictine mystical tradition and that of Islam. The students include representatives of all three traditions. The following review is by Celia Blackden.



MY FIRST IMPACT with the book was a twinge of concern at the sub-title, 'encouraging Muslims and Christians to pray together,' knowing how strongly some Christians feel about *not praying* with other believers and the uniqueness of Christian prayer, through Christ to the Father in the power of

the Holy Spirit. Although not the case for all of us, we feel our differences are better contained and respected by "being together to pray" on the Assisi model championed by Pope John Paul II in 1986, rather than "praying together." So I was all the more curious to understand his thinking, which I found to be respectful of the above distinction but which looks at prayer in a much broader realm.

In fact there is some fuzziness in the definitions. Prayer itself means different things to different people. Given that the author is a monk it is evident that the word 'prayer' contains within it silence, faith, rules of life, study, scripture, contemplation, action, love, as well as mental and vocal prayers, whether spontaneous or formal. Spirituality is defined as "the content and style of prayer practised and lived by believers, Christian or Muslim," but that would not satisfy all readers. The focus is to observe Islamic-Christian dialogue through the lens of prayer and identify a dialogue of spirituality leading to shared memory as a foundation for peace. It is a very high ideal that might be considered distant when we hear so much tragic news arising out of religious fanaticism and extremism. But in ways perhaps not fully known to us, it is being practised already in different parts of the world.

In Part I, *The Path to Dialogue*, the chapter giving *A Brief Outline of Muslim and Benedictine Spiritualities* contains features which recur later. Abbot Timothy writes "Enveloping the Benedictine is the silence of recollection, whose 'ultimate aim is interior silence, when we find a deep centre within ourselves which is always open to God'." And "An essential feature of Benedictine life is daily *lectio divina*, 'When we work with God's word so that it may work inside us, transforming our behavior, our ideas, our life'." These concepts resonate with the central Muslim obligation "'to remember God,' openly every day... It is not without significance that one commentator has called Islam a monastic spirituality lived in the ordinary community of daily life." ... "As one Muslim writer has put it 'to remember God is to have God in one's heart in such a way that one never forgets Him'." The Abbot asserts that this deep awareness of God, the importance of scripture and also of hospitality expressed in both Muslim and Benedictine (Christian) spirituality lays a good foundation for what he then calls the "dialogue of spirituality" which could better convey the content of the book. The intention is that people recognise "that God is truly 'alive' in the hearts and minds of the participants."

The Healing of Negative Memories fully acknowledges suffering and enmity, together with healing processes, including professional help and perhaps gradually, forgiveness. An apt quote is Miroslav Volf's three steps "toward redeeming memories of wrongs suffered – 'remember truthfully!', 'remember therapeutically!' and 'learn from the past!'"

The three chapters in Part 2 *Finding a Way through Disputed Issues* are disparate but informative. Christians and Muslims in a Dialogue of Spirituality recognise that there are different responses to hearing the Word of the other. It helpfully identifies some as "echoes", the affirmative recognition of something understood or shared, and others as "counter-echoes," differences which mark clearly defined boundaries in belief but which can also be sources of enrichment in understanding. *Issues of Yesterday and Today*, start from an 8th century discussion about the prophet Muhammad through to the influence of John Paul II and Benedict XVI. It also includes a question posed by Mustansir Mir on whether dialogue with the self-assuredness of the Qu'ran is in fact possible.

Part Three *Defining the Dialogue of Spirituality* announces the core purpose of a dialogue of spirituality as the formation of "a new shared memory, a tapestry of spiritual insights." This is to be done through personal and later agreed records of oral communication in small groups. It is a 'memory' designed to overcome negative 'memory' or misinformation about Islam, (although the same could be said of perceptions of Christianity and the 'West' among Muslims). Although agreed texts might be a challenge, the concept of an evolving shared memory and "tapestry of spiritual insights" is attractive and presented as a valid pathway to shared life and

peace.

These chapters are well complemented in Part Four *The Higher Forms of Spiritual Experience*. These are very deep chapters, showing how Islam and Christianity have produced women and men especially gifted with mystical experience of God. The dialogue of spirituality allows each to benefit the other. The comparison of the two mystics Rabi'a al-'Adawiya Al-Qaysiyya and Paul Giustiniani OSB shows that "Their writings reveal parallel pathways to Union with God." The section on Thomas Merton and Sufism explains how Merton "urged novices to appreciate the important insights from the Muslim contemplative tradition." He believed that formation in Sufism would help novices mature in monastic life.

Across 12 chapters Part Five considers *God's Revelation and the Human Response: Examples from Inspired Scriptures*. God is understood as Creator, God in whom we trust, merciful. These are illustrated through the stories of Adam, Noah, Joseph, Abraham, Moses and Jesus, featuring in both the Qu'ran and in the Bible. About Adam and the first sin, Abbot Timothy writes: "The respective descriptions of the original paradise, their rules of the garden, the first sin, and subsequent expulsion, form a strong echo. On the other hand the different interpretations of the first sin... provide a strong counter-echo. Taken together this is a firm base for dialogue". 18 pages are dedicated to Abraham: *An Example of One Obedient to the Guidance of God, Even When It Does Not Seem to Make Sense*. The Abbot quotes Sayyed Nasr on Jesus: "Every practising Muslim ... could not but agree that his or her highest wish is none other than the prayer uttered by Christ, 'thy Will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.'" Here the author's conviction regarding the formation of a shared memory resonates with Christians who daily seek to know and do God's will and who see that their Muslim friends and neighbours are doing the same. This method is intended for people living and working alongside each other, but for whom God and God's love for humanity is the motive for engagement within and beyond their communities.

Themes relevant to those engaged in dialogue, including Scriptural Reasoning and the convergence of Muslim and Benedictine understandings of prayer during the day form Part 6, ending with remarkable extracts from the writings of Christian de Chergé, Abbot of the Trappist Community at Tibhirine, Algeria, who along with six of his confrères was murdered by Muslim rebels in March 1996. Their story is brilliantly told in the film *Of Gods and Men*.

This book is profoundly enriching and can but contribute to a deepening of our inter-faith life.

BOOK FLYERS



The Leaves are Falling
Lucy Beckett

What happened to the soul of Europe as a result of the huge twentieth-century conflicts and ideological clashes? Following the example of Tolstoy and Dostoyevsky, this powerful novel (by Lucy Warrack) interprets history rather than narrates it, throwing an intense and disturbing light into some of the darkest (and frequently forgotten) corners of the story of Europe's cultural disintegration.



Endgame for Eta - Elusive Peace in the Basque Country
Teresa Whitfield (OA 1980)

This definitive and lucid analysis of one of the world's most complex and prolonged conflicts concludes with a magisterial section which Jonathan Powell says should be 'compulsory reading' for all leaders who have to deal with the phenomenon of terrorism. A hugely significant contribution to modern political discourse.



Old Age
My Three Best Friends: Alcohol, Television and God
Kit Fraser (W71)

'Spiritual Reading' with a difference. A racy, ribald and highly readable affirmation of what it is like to be a convinced and happy (and somewhat old-fashioned) Catholic in the context of the messy world of broken marriages and moral relativism. A cheerful reminder that God is as relevant as He ever was.



The Demon's Brood
The Plantagenet Dynasty that Forged the English Nation
Desmond Seward (E54)

Desmond has been for many years a prolific and popular historian of English history. At a time when interest has been created by the discovery of the bones of Richard III, his account of the Plantagenet Dynasty is of particular interest.

THE ABBEY 45



The Academic Apple Tree
David Farrell (T51)

David Farrell was one of a cluster of lively and inquiring Irishmen who spent some of their formative years at Ampleforth in the mid-twentieth century, and who went on to live colourful and challenging lives in many parts of the globe.



Music and Identity
From before the Stone Age to the Present Day
Simon Gillon (W84)

A highly original study of the ways in which music expresses or illuminates identity – whether personal, national or more generally cultural. All music, from folk music and hymns to brass bands and football chants, reveals and expresses the values and even the political attitudes of distinct cultures. It both predates and accompanies language.



The Sacred, The Profane, The Hodiament
Fr Gerard Garrigan OSB

Fr Gerard Garrigan is a monk of Saint Louis Abbey. Gerard Manley Hopkins said that 'the world is charged with the grandeur of God', and St Benedict insists that the humblest tools of the monastery should be treated as if they were 'sacred vessels of the altar.' These poems explore the implication of these two fundamental insights.



Wales and The Britons 350 - 1064
T.M. Charles-Edwards (B62)

'A major study based on a lifetime's work by one of the leading historians of Britain in the period which it concerns.'



The Gospel According to...Dog
Peter Ward (W75)

'An original, imaginative and beautifully illustrated novella, fully of quirky humour, which retells the familiar Gospel story through the eyes – and especially the nose – of St Peter's fisher-dog' Kal.'



THE ABBEY 47



OLD AMPLEFORDIANS

JOZEF MYCIELSKI (O90)

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

The last year has seen positive strides in terms of fundraising, the start of work on Bolton House and important work of strengthening further links with our Old Amplefordians, parents and friends

IT HAS BEEN a very busy year for the Development Team. As we pass the third year of private phase fundraising we have also started looking forward in terms of going more public with Ampleforth's need. This is planned for early Summer 2015 and is set to be an exciting and busy time, which I look forward to reporting on in a year's time. *The Journal* however reflects on the year just passed and I will therefore focus on the two key areas of our activity, namely Relationship Management and fundraising.

Relationship Management

THE DEVELOPMENT Office has continued its efforts in improving links with OAs, parents, friends, and supporters. We have been working hard with the Ampleforth Society Trustees and Committee on a system of events that are sustainable, well attended and fun. We continue to work towards having a clear framework and timeline for events that are of high quality and deliverable and also offer a balanced programme for Old Amplefordians from all Houses and of all ages. It also ensures that Old Amplefordian families can be involved in some of the events too. 28 events will have taken place by the end of 2014 (involving over 1,100 OAs) compared to 15 in 2013. There is a direct correlation between the addition of Rory Smith (H09) to the Development Team in June 2013 and the great boost in terms of driving activity to the next level.

The second Summer Drinks Party at the Royal Hospital in London in June was again a great success and a highlight of the events programme. One guest said, "Seeing so many OAs of all ages and noticeably many old girls was great to see. Everyone mixed in a relaxed and happy way and it reminded us of some of the many reasons why Ampleforth's family is so special."

The website, OAS Online and publications

THE OA WEBSITE has on average 3,500 hits a month compared to 1,500 four years ago. We will be working on a full upgrade of all our websites, which will be in place by the end of next year and this should help us be able to engage with OAs

further. OAs Online has had a very successful systems upgrade and enables us to work far more efficiently as it is linked to our database. We have used this frequently for online payment and registration for OA events. This is a significant move for us and has made our work far more efficient.

The positive feedback for the Ampleforth Diary continues and it remains our primary tool for keeping in touch with our various constituent support groups including OAs. An interesting shift in communication methods over the past years can be seen through the use of social media, which shows the importance of embracing such new media especially when communicating with younger alumni. Our OA Facebook group has grown from 600 in 2010 to over 2,100 in 2014, whilst our Twitter followers have gone from virtually none to over 600 in the last year. We use Twitter to market our various events and also have features such as "Throwback Thursday" when we tweet historical photos inviting followers to guess the date or who is in the photos.

Fundraising

THE LAST TWELVE months have continued to be challenging in financial terms but the production of Ampleforth: Our Journey, followed by Ampleforth: Joining Our Journey has enabled the Development team to continue with the private phase of fundraising. We are now three years into this phase and will continue for the next six months before going more public. Our priority will be to raise funds for the Monastery, Abbey and Bursary Fund. The total funds required to complete these projects is in the region of £12 million.

Fr Wulstan Peterburs, our Procurator, and I have travelled to the USA and Hong Kong and have continued with meetings across the UK and Europe including Paris, Madrid, Geneva and Monaco. Feedback has been very positive and by the end of the year in excess of 320 potential donors will have been met, face to face.

Private phase fundraising activities have prompted other areas of donor-led development beyond our pillar projects. The highlight of the coming year will be the refurbishment of Monk's bridge across the road (currently covered in a green hoarding), which is soon to be subject of a £100,000 face lift as a result of an OA donation.

Matthew Craston (O76) also has continued to help us with our legacy drive through direct mail and also through articles and updates in various issues of The Ampleforth Diary. In the last year we have increased the number of legacies by over 30 and a recent highlight has been a legacy confirmation from an OA of between £3 and £4m for the bursary fund. This will continue to be a very important area of development

activity and if successful should "smooth" the flow of income which is required to maintain Ampleforth and the Monastery and Bursary Fund in particular. Legacies are fundamental to Ampleforth's long-term sustainability.

Looking at the big picture, how have we done in fundraising terms?

Since we have started the private phase of fundraising three years ago we have raised over £5.2 million. Of these funds £1.8m has been raised for the Monastery refurbishment and £2.5 million for the Bursary Fund. We have also raised £320,000 for the Bolton House refurbishment project but the lion's share of funds for this has been raised by the sale of non-essential assets and by allocation of school surplus. We are ready to move ahead with this project, which will begin in earnest in the Spring of 2015.

We are very grateful to all our donors for their generosity and support.

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





Anne de Croy-Solre (A14)

THE PRIMACY OF DRAWING

The Philosophy behind the teaching of Art at Ampleforth

STEPHEN BIRD, HEAD OF ART

Educational discourse in a competitive secular world is dominated largely by the measureable achievement in mainline academic subjects, and by the equally measureable criteria which govern the entrance to universities and to profitable careers. Ampleforth's educational philosophy, with its Christian and monastic roots, has always strived to go well beyond the boundaries dictated by such criteria, ie to be 'holistic.' 'Holism' was defined in the 1911 Oxford English Dictionary as a 'Tendency to form wholes that are more than the sum of the parts...' The Music and Art Departments at Ampleforth make a contribution which is intrinsically non-quantifiable, but which play a huge part in the lives of an increasingly large number of students. In this important article the Head of Art explores the vision which underlies this dimension of our education. There was a time when the Arts were treated as an 'optional extra.' It will be clear from this article that this is no longer the case.

IN THIS ESSAY I wish to consider the importance of drawing and set out why drawing forms the core of how we teach in the art department and what our students learn and gain from the discipline.

It also provides an invitation or an argument for those who have given up drawing to start again.

Teachers like to believe that education does not end when the students pick up their examination certificates and I would measure our success in terms of whether we had imparted a lifelong love of drawing in our students, as well as in the quality of the work they have made.

Of course, as an art teacher, I accept those other measure of success – our examination results; the number of students who progress on to study art at college and how many become successful artists. But examination success does not necessarily mean there has been real achievement in art. Of course there is overlap and we must secure the best results we can, but achievement is derived from understanding and the practice of art, which is meaningful and valuable and which people can continue to develop throughout their lives. We believe we can achieve this through teaching drawing.

This divergence between attainment in A level grade and achievement in art learning

is recognised by our art colleges. Entrance to Art College is not based on Art A level grades but on the applicant's school art portfolio. The Foundation Course which straddles the A level and the degree is preserved because art schools recognise the limitations of the A level curriculum. Famously Damien Hirst attained an E at A level in art. Two others artists, the Chapman Brothers, sat their GCSE art and gained a B grade, after they were nominated for the Turner prize.

Of course many readers of the *Ampleforth Journal* might be tempted to think that the lack of success at school examination by these YBAs is the best validation of the A level and GCSE criteria. But we have to accept that they are taken seriously by the art establishment and that their art is highly valued in the market place and has become the new orthodoxy in contemporary art.

The point is that A level art is very limited in its preparation for the study of Art at degree level. I can remember when, at the beginning of my own Foundation course at Chelsea College of Art many years ago, we were told we now had to unlearn everything we had learnt at A level, which was not a problem for me as I had abandoned formal education several years before. I remember the alarm of students fresh from school who had excelled at A level, realising that they were completely out their depth. And this is still an experience for many students who struggle to adapt to the difference between A level and art college, certainly at the beginning of their Foundation year. Parents are bewildered when their children who produced 'recognisable' forms of art at A level, such as paintings which look like things, return from art school proclaiming that painting is dead and that they are more interested in materials and video installation, and finding the means to express themselves unburdened by traditional modes of representation...or something like that. Certainly they will have acquired an aloof disdain for skills and are likely to be rather embarrassed by the conservative art form they made at school.

So should we make the A level course more like the art foundation course? Should we run our students through a crash course in contemporary art? I know some schools try to do this. Their art has a contemporary look to it. And I do keep this idea alive as a possibility. It is important that students secure some knowledge of contemporary art and understand that this will be the flavour of post sixth form art college education.

For those not progressing to art school, which is the majority of our students, the art GCSE and A level grades are very important – paradoxically the school art examination certificates have greater value or currency for the future non-art student. But my real preoccupation is with neither one nor the other; I am not really concerned with the virtue of art school education over the school art examination syllabus. My real preoccupation is to teach something that has enduring value both to those who

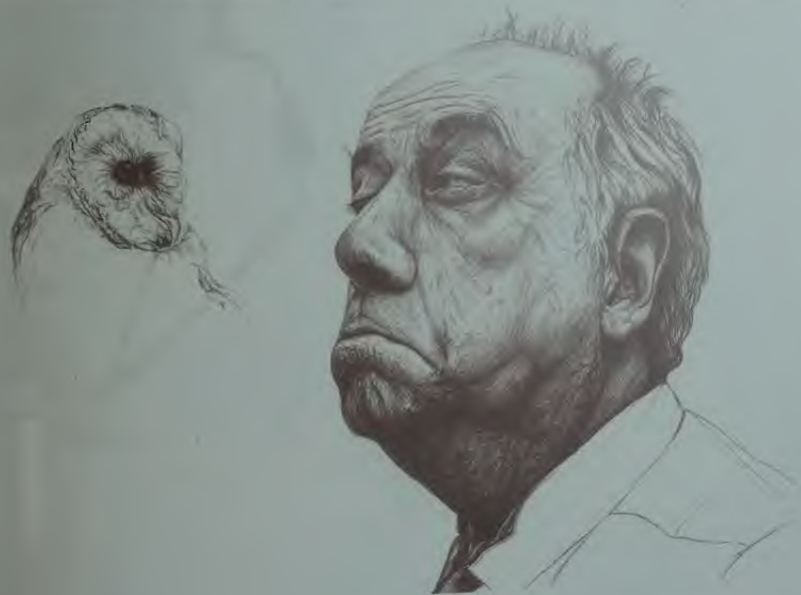
go on to art school and to those who go on to other walks of life.

And that something is the skill, knowledge and understanding of drawing.

So why do we consider drawing to be so important at Ampleforth?

Some would say drawing underpins all great art: you cannot paint or make sculpture without being able to draw. Former Ampleforth art master and artist John Bunting (W44) certainly thought so. Drawing was at the centre of his teaching: his curriculum was based around the drawing room with pupils astride 'donkeys,' drawing still lives and making plaster castes; a discipline of line and measurement. It is a discipline which I was taught and which I value. John, who I greatly admired, would hold forth on the meaningless of many forms of Modernism. Duchamp was anathema, but also too was the drawing of Bomberg, Auerbach and Kossoff because it did not involve line and measurement. But these were mental strategies which enabled John to focus on a form of art at which he excelled, and from which his students gained a great deal. His witness as a dedicated maker was important and I was saddened when he left.

But for me, drawing is valuable for drawing's sake, not as a discipline which excludes other forms of art. For me drawing can be the most meaningful and



Rachael Thompson (A)

valuable foundation for art, but I acknowledge that it is not the only one. We have an array of highly successful artists for whom drawing is largely irrelevant or at best inconsequential as part of their formation and practice; unless of course we fetishize every scribble of our celebrity artists - oops I'm turning into a Bunting! Drawing as a discipline is, with some exceptions, not taught in our art schools - it is not a core foundation. We will be told that students are encouraged to draw, but as a means of expression rather than taught as a skill, and by skill I mean as a visual language of form and structure, and of looking, interpreting and recording.

Largely gone are the life studios and the long hours and days dedicated to looking, scrutinising, responding to form, structure and space through mark-making on a sheet of paper. Some would argue that this is no bad thing; that life drawing is irrelevant to image-making in the 21st century in the post photographic digital age. And the argument is to some extent justified by the array of kitsch and clichéd paintings and drawings we see in commercial seaside galleries, art club shows and knick-knack shops. There is a lot of mundane drawing and painting about.

But my argument is that drawing remains of inestimable value. Drawing teaches us how to look; it gives us an intense experience of the world around us through 'eyeballing' as David Hockney puts it; to look and look and look again and recreate something from our memory of looking. This is a spiritual exercise; a search for

understanding the world of our experience; thinking through making; an act of creation using the simplest of tools - which may just be pencil and paper.

Whether we teach it well; whether we can teach drawing meaningfully within the restrictions of the school curriculum and examination syllabus is another matter.

As art teachers at Ampleforth we think about drawing a lot, and we do it a lot as I firmly believe that we can only teach from the position of practitioners. And to be meaningful the practice has to be maintained. It cannot be the case that because a teacher has spent a number of years at art college that they have a body of knowledge and understanding that they can dribble out to their pupils for the rest of their teaching career.

Continuing practice is crucial for teachers of art. There have been many truly formidable and inspirational art teachers who have taught through a sense of vocation intimately bound with their practice. I had the privilege at Chelsea and Goldsmiths to be taught by some of them. Teaching today is more demanding of time and attention. This is not a moan - across many professions we all seem to be working harder with more paperwork and bureaucracy. The accountability culture has brought many improvements - incompetence and underperformance in the past seemed to go completely unchecked in many fields of work and life. Changes and reviews of curriculum and teaching strategies do bring improvements. The world of technologies brings fast changes we need to adapt our teaching to. But amidst all this we must try to find time to draw, to paint, to sculpt, to make.

Attentive drawing is deeply rewarding but hardly restful. But we are astonishingly fortunate at Ampleforth to have time through the year for study and development of skill, knowledge and understanding - even if it does mean that the windows remain unpainted, the bikes unfixed, the garden weeds rampant. One of the things that makes me feel at home at Ampleforth is the rhythm of life established in a monastic school. A rather feeble attempt to emulate that rhythm does create time for drawing during and out of term time. Get up early - dedicate a good hour to drawing before work. I know Paul Klee did not mean it this way when he said drawing was taking a line for a walk but the simplicity of drawing does mean you can take your pencil for a healthy stroll every morning, without even having to leave your study and you can squeeze a short sketching amble into your lunch time. At the close of the day there is time to sift through the folders of your work- set something up for reworking in the morning. Leonard McComb, the artist and my former Goldsmiths tutor, advised us to set the open page of a favourite art book next to our beds - drift off thinking of the image- wake up and see it afresh- be inspired to get up and draw.. The pile of unmarked History of Art essays is glaring at me. Get them marked, and I'll reward myself with some drawing time.



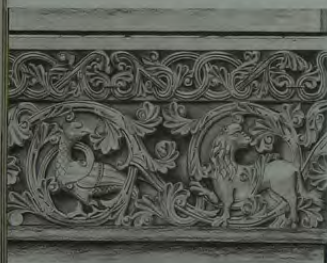
Inna von Feury (A14)

I know that if I go into school having dedicated some time to drawing early in the morning I will have something better to give to my pupils.

A most brilliant drawing I remember a fellow student making was of a Victorian south London railway station. Every morning as he waited for his train to college he would draw a section of the station architecture on a page of his sketch book. The pages were then pulled out and pinned to the studio wall. Marks were made on each drawing so each would connect with the next. Over two years of study and late trains the sketches were transformed into a monumental joiner of connected sketches; this was long before David Hockney created his joiners, and far more powerful. I loved the way time was recorded; the way space and scale were warped, curved and bent as the viewer's position changed; how the drawings recorded his own development as a draughtsman as he progressed through his studies; how the individual drawings inevitably reflected his different moods throughout the year; how the frustration of waiting was sublimated into a wondrous work of art.

The point is there is always time to draw and there is always a subject to draw and this is a habit we can give to our students.

It's a simple thing. You don't need much to do it; you can easily get on with it. It doesn't make grand claims for tackling societal ills – as so many art school courses



declare these days – but to draw for drawing's own sake is as good as anything. It can have application, but it doesn't have to. For drawing to be really worthwhile the language of drawing needs to be explored in depth. One of the great myths of education debunked by Daisy Christodoulou in her *Seven Myths about Education* is Myth number five: that We should teach transferable skills. I firmly believe that we belittle and degrade drawing if we only value drawing as a transferable skill.

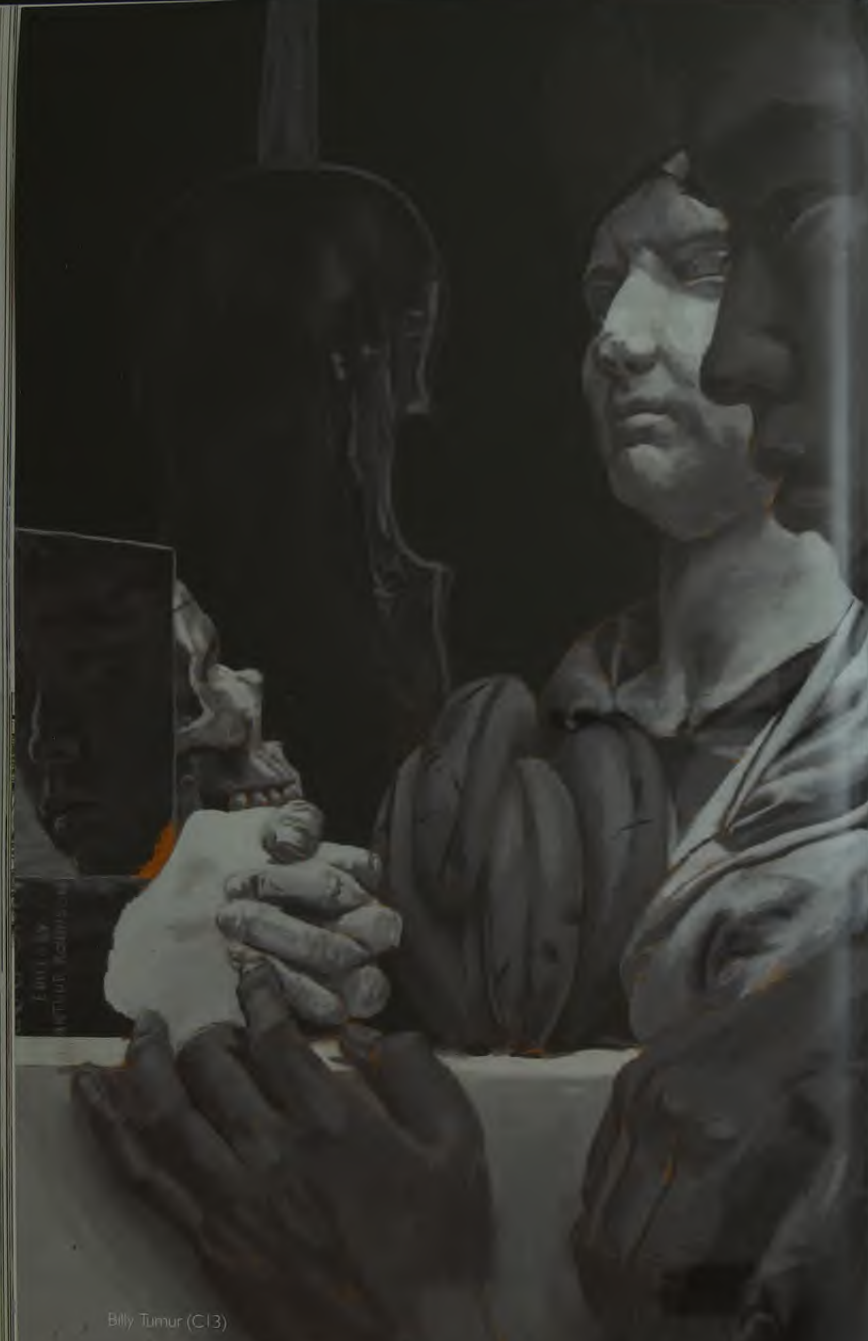
We do not encourage our pupils to pray because it's a useful transferable skill. But prayer has a purpose and reason. So with drawing there is purpose and reason and the two are not dissimilar – holding a thought and following that thought lovingly, thinking through making, to the end of the line.

Drawing is of value because it brings us close to the essentials of who and what we are; each act of focused drawing is like an epiphany; which sounds mightily pretentious so I will swiftly move on to quoting from others:

Peter Fuller: *The good draughtsman creates upon the flat surface support an illusion of a third area of experiencing - unattainable through say dreaming or photography- to which the word revelation can legitimately be applied.*

Philip Rawson: *To read and to draw drawings can make an important contribution*





Billy Tumor (C13)

to each individual's spiritual life as it develops - activities that externalise the internal processes of the psyche (Seeing through Drawing).

John Berger: *We who draw do so not only to make something observed visible to others, but also to accompany something invisible to its incalculable destination (Bento's Sketchbook).*

Mervyn Peake, the writer, artist, and teacher of drawing: *the advance from virtual blindness to the state of perception- half rumination, half scrutiny - is all that matters.*

Drawing is like making a map, to guide us through the dark wood – for ourselves and those who come after us – the patterning of the interior world following the light to the exterior world. And so we teach students to use these maps until eventually they learn to make their own: hold your pencil like this; measure like this; conceptualise the light; establish the direction of light; don't just copy but reconstruct; draw outside the form; draw inside the form; understand the difference between a line and edge; do not smooth; differentiate your tones and planes. There is no one way of making art, no one way of drawing but we teach drawing here at Ampleforth as it was taught to us and through our study of the great art of the past masters

It is said that drawing is obsolete, that artists should focus exclusively on digitalised images and modern technologies. Why draw when you can take a photograph? It's an important question to ponder but I don't feel that the only way to make art relevant is to refer exclusively to 21st century modes of representation and recording. It is possible to show students how Dürer's drawings can be relevant to the way we see, imagine, and interpret the world; more significant and vital in many ways than the work of Mr Banksy. We can show our pupils how energy, frustration, even apocalyptic rage, can be expressed in a Grunewald drawing, or in the graphic line and image of Urs Graf, or the white line drawing of Albrecht Altdorfer. We can then show them a Morandi etching to demonstrate the astonishing range of thoughts and emotions the drawn line in a still life can express.

The best words of advice I received when I was younger was to consider Rembrandt as a contemporary artist. And as a young student I looked carefully at the Rembrandt drawings and etchings in the British Museum prints and drawing room and in the Rembrandt house museum in Amsterdam. I saw how Rembrandt expressed something that was relevant to my life, how he explored the 'non-places' and 'non-people.' The Pop Art images of the early Sixties lacked vitality by comparison. Rembrandt was Punk! The trouble is I could not convince my mates when I dragged them off to the museums and galleries. Great art in the field of drawing crosses centuries and cultures and is not confined to the culture in which it was created. And the most meaningful way to gain insight into Rembrandt's graphic world is to try to



Kitty Goff (M13)

employ his drawing strategies and gambits in one's own drawing.

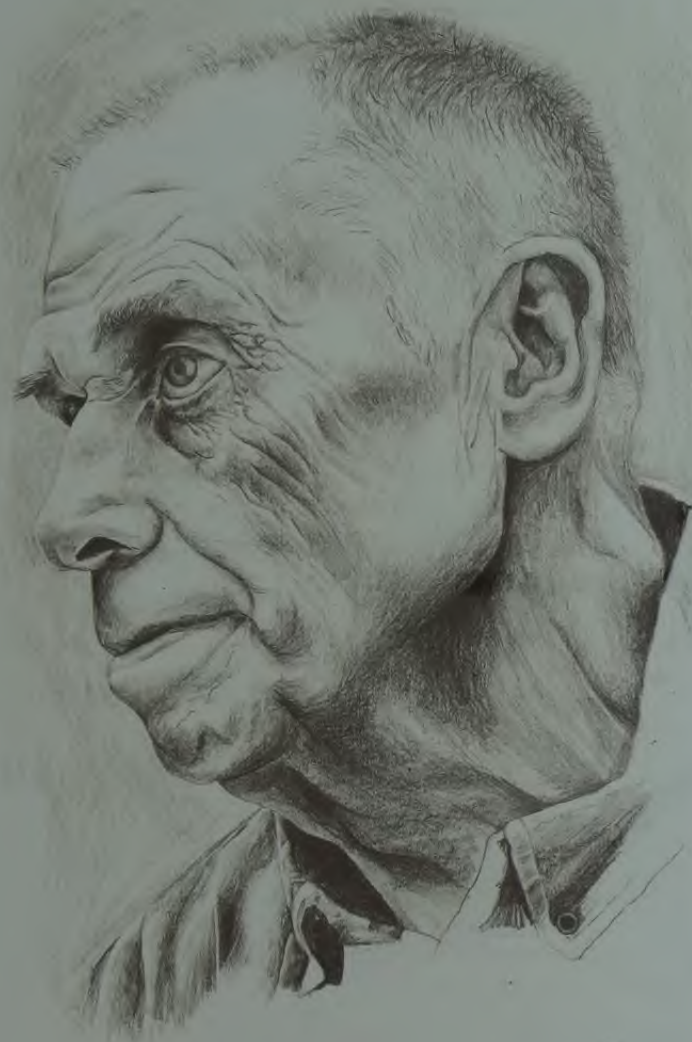
Learning about drawing by looking and copying the drawings by the great masters goes far deeper than an exploration of technique. It is about understanding the universality of the nature of their drawing; engaging closely with their analysis of the structures of form, space and rhythm which is embodied in their nexus of marks and lines and areas of tone. Then we can apply this to our own drawing, our own ways of perceiving, interpreting, recording thinking making. And it is so much more than all of this. Something so simple is paradoxically so rich, so layered.

This concept of the universality and power of drawing has been explored and discussed by different writers, most clearly by Philip Rawson in his book which is simply called *Drawing*; but also by John Berger.

Reflecting upon his own 'unremarkable' drawing of his dead father, Berger writes: *'it works in accord with the same hopes and principles which have led men to draw for thousands of years- Every day more of my father's life returns to the drawing in front me.'*

A third rate drawing can be as powerful as a good painting if not more so because, as Berger says, *'The drawn image contains the experience of looking....a drawing slowly questions an event's appearance'...*and later in the essay...*'to draw is to look, examining the structure of appearances. A drawing of a tree shows, not a tree, but a tree being looked at.'* Drawing is an attempt to get to the heart of the matter, while much painting simply imitates. As Rawson writes: *'Nature presents our eyes with coloured surfaces to which painted areas of pigment may correspond, and with inflected surfaces to which sculptural surfaces may correspond. But nowhere does it present our eyes with the lines and the relationships between lines which are the raw material of drawing.'*

Drawings, even by the least of artists, can have a vivacity and integrity which speaks and inspires. Drawing drills down to essentials - which can be lost in painting which seems much more subject to fashion and fad - though there is undoubtedly great painting. This was a live debate even in the 1970s when I was an art student. After a seminar with John Berger, where as a group we discussed this idea of the disparity in quality between contemporary painting and drawing, I was telling my then tutor, John Bellany, that I couldn't go forward with painting; that it would lead me into cliché or mimetic naturalism. He was having none of it. 'Then draw with paint' he declared in his emphatic Scots. The medium wasn't the issue; it was the power of invention in the mark-making which was everything. (He also advised that I painted better when I'd had drink - which was his excuse to continue the tutorial in the pub). In his retrospective at the National Gallery in Edinburgh shortly before his death in



Anastasia Cockerill (B)

2013 one could see that throughout Bellany's ups and downs, drawing with paint was key to his artistic adventure and he emerged as a truly great painter.

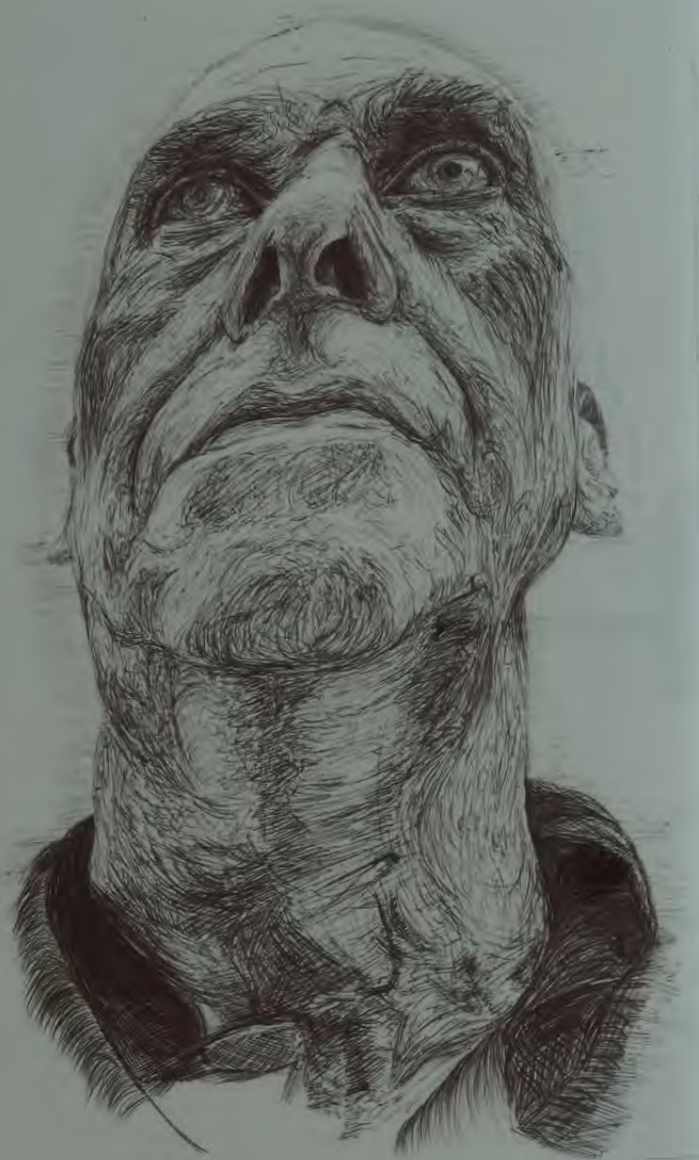
So what have our students achieved in drawing?

Examples are illustrated in these pages and more work is available on the college website. I am often amazed and moved by what they achieve. Certainly they seem to produce much better work than I could at their age.

We run an exercise over the autumn term where we teach one class of Y12 students to draw from the plaster casts and reproductions of Roman portrait heads. We progress to drawings of the skull, and then to the photographs taken from a variety of viewpoints of our wonderful model Mr Dobson, who also bakes very fine cakes. Mr Dobson, who has a powerful and expressive face, comes to the studio to sit for students. We take a plaster life cast of his head, as the Ancient Roman sculptors did in preparation for their portrait carving. We draw and model from the life cast. We make studies of parts of the head and face referring to the instructional studio drawings of the 16th century Annibale Carracci. And then students model a head in clay which is then cast in plaster. It is an intense and thorough learning experience for the pupils. Fantastic work is produced at different stages. The sculpture modelling is for some a bridge too far but they have learnt from the challenge and that being tested beyond one's limits can at times be positive.

Our problem is that, irrespective of the quality of the work achieved, it is unclear how well this project satisfies the A Level assessment criteria, the interpretation of which varies from year to year depending how perceptive and informed the moderator happens to be. The best drawings are the drawings from life where the student has grappled with problems of dealing with form and structure in real space, and being young and inexperienced, invariably has failed to resolve the image. But the works which will often impress the moderator and gain the necessary marks are the drawings from the photographs of the model because these drawings are easier to resolve; the drawings have the required finished look. We are dominated by a lens-based view of the world. The student can make astonishingly beautiful transpositions from their photographs. They are more than simply copies of photographs, but to my mind they lack the richness, the integrity, of the 'failed' life drawings.

But this is not particular to the A level – many exhibitions of representational painting, particularly in the genres of portraiture and landscape, are dominated by lens based observation and recording of the subject. As rich, and often technically outstanding as many of the works are, time and time again they lack that close 'eyeballing' as described by Hockney, that comes from prolonged working from life. The public may applaud the marvellous likenesses and verisimilitude achieved, but



Rachael Thompson (A)

to me these lens-derived works lack the spiritual element which is achieved from drawing from life, from the encounter between artist and subject.

My frustration with the art assessment system is that it does not build failure into its criteria as a pathway to success. We have to channel students into creating, in my opinion, what is a premature finished look. Projects have to be resolved in an absurdly short space of time - the 'summer' examination takes place in early March and early May, selections made of the best looking work for the displays. They have five hours of taught arts lessons a week. We try to keep the studios open as often as possible including Sunday afternoon and evening, but the real amount of time students can dedicate to practice and development of skill knowledge and understanding in art is limited. A prolonged period of observational drawing might not lead to better A Level results, but it might be just what a student needs to be a better artist and perhaps a better person.

Such are the frustrations of teaching to examination.

At the same time artists and art students, have always worked to briefs, often under far from ideal conditions. Wonderful work can and is produced despite the restrictions placed on the curriculum.

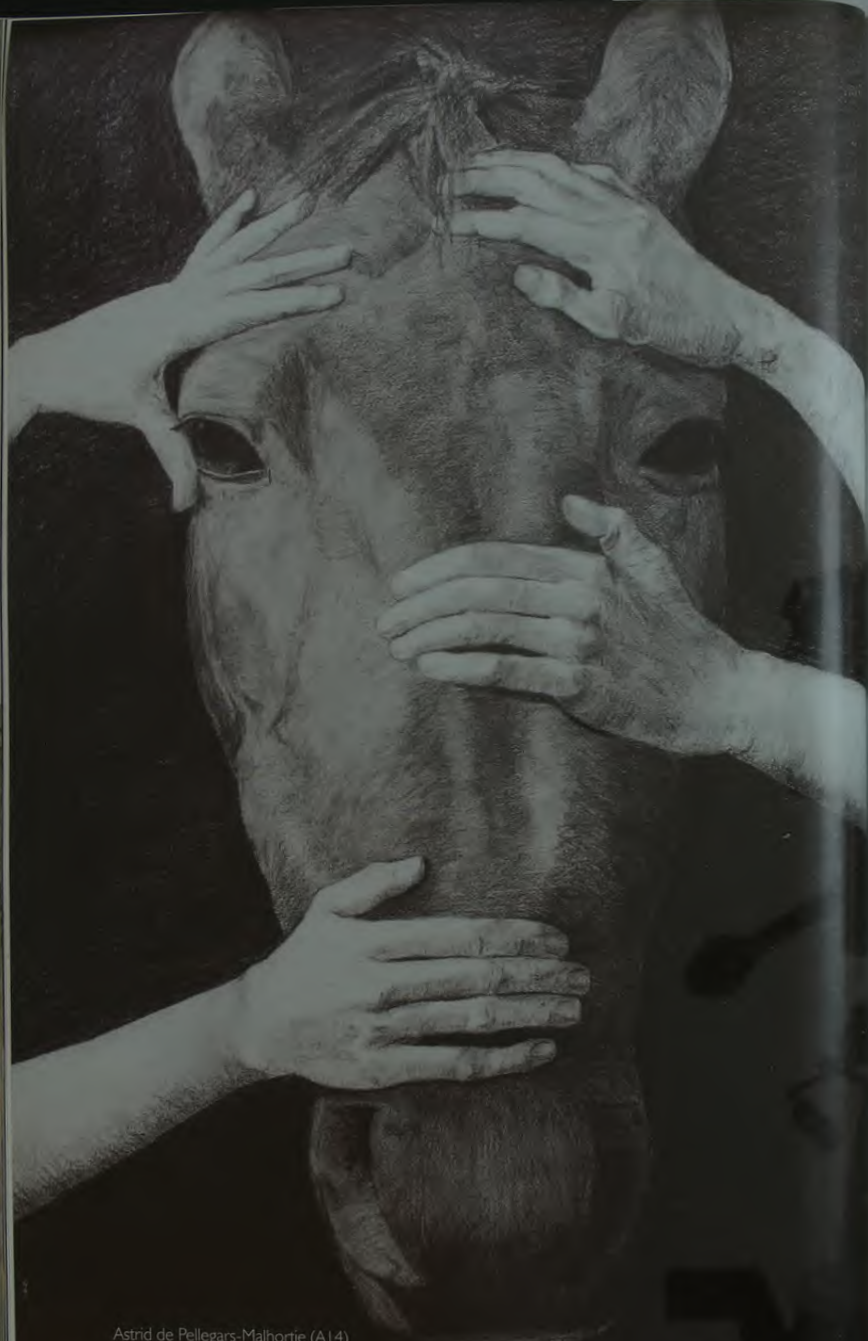
A parent comes into the class, (this may or may not be at Ampleforth - I may have made the story up), her daughter has created the most genuinely amazing work of art for a 16 year old. It is early in the year. We say if she carries on working like this imagine the kind of work we will see in a year's time. Yes, says the mother, I am really looking forward to seeing the grade.

The assessment criteria for the examination certificate do not help. It is too easy for work to be created entirely for the grade rather than for the purpose of development and experimentation and exploration. It is hard to find time to allow students to fail and then overcome failure. But through the teaching of drawing we try to build this into our curriculum. And from this come the real successes.

An ex-pupil comes to visit the school. He took his art education no further than A level and he now runs his own business: 'I still draw' he says.

An email pops in with an attached image of a sculpture - 'in between jobs, so I did this in the garden shed - thought you might like to see it - wish I had gone to art college.'

Students of one or two years ago come back - invariably in the latest art school uniform - and proclaim 'painting is dead...why draw when you can take a



Astrid de Pellegars-Malhorte (A14)

photograph? I do digital video art and performance art – it's more urban more relevant to addressing societal problems' – I reassure them – 'very good but don't worry it will pass' – however, their enthusiasm and passion means we have put them on a worthwhile path.

And then there are others who come back who are now working as artists – 'you know I thought I was so good when I was at school but now I am embarrassed by what I produced at A level.' That is good. If A level was the pinnacle of their artistic achievement that would be distressing. And then they go home and pick up an old sketchbook and see a drawing they did back at school and think 'yes, for all its naivety and innocence that is the best thing I ever did and perhaps ever will do.' A few moments in the past of concentrated looking, recorded, embodied.

As Henri Matisse said, '*Drawing is like making an expressive gesture with the advantage of permanence.*'

In Conclusion

IT HAS BEEN said that Ampleforth does not seek to prepare its pupils for life but for death. We all have to meet our maker one day – whatever that means – to talk about a collapsed ball of nothingness is as inadequate an image as conceiving of a man with a long white beard. We look around and we see an infinite number of vanishing points. We confront the mystery of our being on different levels of understanding; we construct different theories; we conjure different pictures of who we are; where we come from; where we are going. We remain perplexed, if not also awestruck. But our experience is one of unfolding creation, and children that we are, the vestige of an image of a creator who we can hold responsible for our world, remains in our thinking, our language and instinctive responses to our life events. So in our drawing, our art making, if we create something half decent, we have gained an understanding of how difficult it is to be a creator. If the making and contemplation of art is, as proposed by Paul Klee, '*a glimpse into the workshop of God*' then we might be a little more sympathetic and show this created world a little more respect. We might then accept our God's judgement a little more willingly and be less judgemental of our Creator.

The art historian Bernard Berenson put it another way: '*A complete life may be one ending in so full an identification with the non-self that there is no self left to die.*'

And that can be achieved through the making and appreciation of art, starting with drawing.

And finally I wish to end with a little art joke. Hamlet was a terrible draughtsman –

he could never settle down to the task – he would fret and prevaricate – never getting beyond the choice of which pencil to use – 2B or not 2B.

The new clock tower of Harris Manchester College in Oxford is inscribed with the words 'it's later than you think, but never too late.'

Never too late to dedicate yourself to an endeavour you feel is worthwhile. Pick up your pencil, your pen, your paintbrush and start drawing.

Fr Dominic asked me to write an article about the nature of the visual arts at Ampleforth and to do so I have trailed back through my own journals and sketch books – I often make notes of ideas I have picked up – heard in conversations or read. I try to remember to note the source but I am afraid there will inevitably be some inaccuracies in my attributions and acknowledgements.

The notes or quotes for which I can find no source I will credit to *The Man Who Taught Blake Painting in his Dreams*, a drawing of whom is in the Tate Collection.

THE AMPLEFORTH SOCIETY

Trustees' Report

DAVID O'KELLY (C81)

HON TREASURER OF THE AMPLEFORTH SOCIETY

THE TRUSTEES have met twice during this financial year, which is the first one to run fully aligned with the school year, from 1st September to 31st August.

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

The Society continues to support the School through the funding of Bursaries. In this financial year it will have achieved a level of support equivalent to 2.4 bursaries. This is lower than in previous years reflecting the increase in school fees and the reduction in the number of students paying them. Whilst this important aspect of the Society's work will continue, the Trustees continue to examine ways in which the Objectives can be carried to the benefit of a greater number of people, and it is possible therefore that for a short period the support to bursaries may decrease; ultimately however, it is the wish of the Trustees that funds be built up to allow for increased support.

The Trustees continue to provide grants to a number of Clubs within the Society and to some specific events. These are likely to increase over the coming years as the previously mentioned Business Plan comes into effect.

The Hon Secretary, Fr Hugh Lewis-Vivas, in conjunction with a very supportive Development Office, continues to develop and maintain strong relations with all members of the Society personally attending a number of events across the country including various dinners, concerts and a very successful Reception in London. The online element of the Society continues to grow and this in turn will enable the Society to communicate much better with a much wider audience.

At the Trustees' meeting in April, reports were received from the President, Vice-President, Hon Treasurer and Hon Secretary and several issues were discussed. The need for a business plan for the Society was discussed and work on this has been undertaken during the year. This plan, once adopted, will be used as a basis for the Society in the next financial year with the aim of it being fully implemented in financial year 2015/16.

Notwithstanding the difficult financial climate in which the Society has to operate, the finances continue to be robust, and much work has been done during the year to



Sofia Gumbel (B)

examine how best to meet the growing financial needs of the Society. Despite the general economic malaise in the Eurozone in particular, the Investment Portfolio has actually made good progress year to date, helped once again by the US equities, which have outperformed most other regions by some margin, and, perhaps more importantly, by the government bonds we hold, which have gone from strength to strength as economic forecasts have been downgraded once more. The Investment Committee has met to review the current investment policy in light of both current and future needs. More work is still required in this area but they continue to provide useful advice to the Trustees.

The Society has benefited once more from unexpected, but welcome, donations.

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST AUGUST 2014

INCOME	£
Voluntary Income	81,077
Investment Income	6,713
Other resources	356
Total:	88,146

EXPENDITURE	
Investment fees	4,324
Charitable Activities	140,730
Governance	840
Total:	145,894

Net incoming/(outgoing) resources	(57,748)
Gains and Losses on Investment assets	23,191
Net movement in funds	(34,557)
Balance B/F at 1 Sep 2013	587,907
Balance of funds carried forward	553,350

BALANCE SHEET	
Investments	528,779
Cash assets in bank accounts	25,411
Creditors	(840)
Total:	553,350

OLD AMPLEFORDIAN OBITUARIES

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

JOANNES FRANCISCUS SMULDERS (W45) 11th March 1927 – 14th June 2013 was the eldest of eight children and the only one educated in England. Jan's family came to England from Holland in 1940. During his life, Jan spoke with fondness of his time at Ampleforth and his tutor, Basil Hume. After Ampleforth, Jan studied engineering at City & Guilds College and, when he completed his studies in 1950, he decided to stay in England, marrying Brenda. He worked for UK-based companies for the whole of his career, albeit never relinquishing his Dutch nationality.

At Imperial College he took to rowing, winning Morphy races for Guilds, rowing in the IC 1st Boat at Henley and gaining his IC full colours in the process. After graduation, Jan stayed on to coach the IC First Eights. His house boasted a small, but essential, river frontage. From here he could embark in his sculling boat and he also kept a motor boat for family outings.

Jan rowed for Thames Rowing Club from 1960-67 and then for Maidenhead. Throughout his life he never missed Henley Regatta, even when this meant contriving to return to London from overseas postings for conveniently-timed meetings taking place just before Henley was due to start!

Jan loved to meet people and to talk. His other loves were of walking, art and music, especially Jazz. His professional occupation in sales, engineering and project management, mainly in connection with machinery for the chemical industry and for oil and gas pipelines, involved travelling widely in Europe, the Middle East and North America. After Clarke and Ingersoll Rand (now both part of Halliburton) he was Engineering Manager at Bechtel. He worked briefly for Air Products, WH Allen and finally for Coopers and Cooper-Rolls.

In retirement Jan continued to enjoy rowing and boating. He also found pleasure in volunteering at the Stanley Spencer gallery in Cookham. He will be sorely missed by Brenda after more than 50 years of marriage, by his family and by his many friends.

BRIAN JOSEPH GERARD O'CONNOR (A49) 16th August 1932 – 29th October 2013 joined Ampleforth from St Gerard's School in County Wicklow in 1945. He left in 1949 having obtained a distinction in the higher certificate in the

Oxford and Cambridge examination board in history and geography. Whilst at Ampleforth, Brian was prominent in the school Debating Society. On one occasion, Lord Pakenham, then a Minister in the Labour government of the day presided over a debate on Northern Ireland; he congratulated Brian on his contribution afterwards.

Brian's passion for debating was also evident during his University years where he won gold and silver medals for oratory from the Literary and Historical Society of UCD and the Solicitors' Law Students' Society.

Brian qualified as a solicitor in 1955 and was appointed to National Bank. There he acquired skills and experience in banking and mortgage law, which were to be important for his future career. He rose to be Deputy Head of the department and in 1962 he was invited to join the firm of McCann, White and Fitzgerald as a Partner. He played a significant role in the expansion of the firm until his retirement in 1998 while a senior partner.

Brian played a significant role in the drafting of the Irish Takeover Panel Act 1997, which for the first time provided for the supervision of the takeover of companies listed on the Irish Stock Exchange. He subsequently served on its board for nine years.

Brian was Chairman of the Hierarchy's Commission – the CCII which was a product of Vatican Council 2. This was an umbrella organisation which, inter alia, trained religious and others in communications and broadcasting skills. Brian was also honoured to be a Knight of the Irish Association of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta.

Brian married Consuelo in 1961 and they have five children – Rachel (deceased), Adele, Benedicte, Charlotte and Marcus.

MICHAEL MAYDON LANGLEY (E62) 4th February 1945 – 14th November 2013 was one of four brothers who attended Ampleforth College – Christopher (E64), Peter (E65) and Roderick (E75). Upon leaving the College he visited the USA and worked for a time as a trainee for Coca Cola before attending Fribourg University in Switzerland. In 1965, Michael passed his estate agency exams whilst with Strutt & Parker and spent the next 20 years working for Hamptons in Paris and Amsterdam and Healy & Baker in London. In 1984, he went 'solo' and created a modest development company that did well. He displayed terrific application and stated several times that 'if you work for yourself, you never stop' and he never did.

Michael was keen a sailor and was a member of the Felixstowe Ferry Sailing Club where he used to race in the estuary and out to sea. He enjoyed shooting and was

also a keen wild fowler. He enjoyed his holidays in the Far East and Portugal, always acquiring a rich tan!

Michael's brother Christopher writes: "He was a thoroughly honest chap with the highest integrity, very family minded and always kind to people, especially the young. I will miss him as will many others." Michael became ill in late 2012 but bore all his adversities in a stoical manner.

FRANCIS WILLIAM HAY (C47) 19th December 1929 – 26th November 2013 was the middle of three brothers, all of whom were at Gilling when the Second World War broke out. They were evacuated to India in 1940 and returned to England and to Ampleforth in 1945. Francis went to St Cuthbert's, where, amongst other things, he learnt fly-fishing under the tutelage of Fr Sebastian Lambert, then Housemaster, an activity he enjoyed for the rest of his life.

In 1947 he entered the Royal Navy, became an Engineer Officer, served for a time in submarines and then specialised as a Weapons Officer, rising to the rank of Commander. His final posting was to Porton Down near Salisbury, where he settled. When he retired from the Navy, he worked for a time as a consultant to COSIRA, (The Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas).

After full retirement he used his technical skills, as an engineer, first of all developing specialised equipment for handicapped people, designing and constructing to meet their particular needs, work which gave him great satisfaction. He also became a voluntary technical adviser at a local primary school and was elected a governor of the school.

Francis was always a faithful Catholic and loyal to his parish of Holy Redeemer in Salisbury, where he was a Reader and Eucharistic Minister and for many years Chairman of the Parish Council.

Besides fishing, he was a keen golfer and played right up to the time of his fatal stroke. Another hobby, again using his engineering skills, was acquiring old and dilapidated motor cycles, doing them up and taking part in rallies, one of which involved a ride from John O'Groats to Lands End. Francis had a great sense of humour and will be missed at family gatherings for his wonderful store of jokes. He died shortly before his 84th birthday. He leaves his widow, Sheila, whom he married in 1957, and two children and four grandchildren. May he rest in peace.

NICHOLAS JOSEPH COX (C81), 24th August 1962 – 26th December 2013 died unexpectedly on boxing day only three weeks after having been diagnosed with cancer, but showing few symptoms. It is suspected that his unexpected and sudden

death may have saved him a long and probably painful fight against the disease that had taken hold without anyone realising.

Nick was the son of Ann and John Cox and the first of three brothers to attend Ampleforth being followed by Paul (B85) and St John (C87). He went on to Trent Polytechnic and studied Urban Estate Surveying. After graduating Nick moved to London and had a highly successful career at Healy and Baker.

Nick married Sara Barber on 23rd September 1989 and they have three children: Charlotte, Henry and Georgina. They moved up to South Manchester in the late 1980s where Nick joined the family property business which he ran with his father and later with his father and brother Paul until his death.

Nick will always be remembered as someone full of fun. He could make a room light up with his mischievous humour and quick wit and was always the life and soul of any party.

At Ampleforth Nick and his contemporaries set up the Ampleforth Water Polo team and he continued to play after he left to a very high standard. Nick played many sports including water-skiing, triathlon and cricket, before settling on golf when age dictated that the others were no longer fun. He spent many happy days at Ringway Golf Club and on his trips to play abroad, latterly in Dubai.

A testament to the sort of person Nick was and the influence he had on those who knew him, was the attendance at his funeral. There was standing room only at Holy Angels Church in Hale Barnes, Cheshire, with attendees from prep school and Ampleforth, friends from holidays taken in Mallorca, as well as family and friends and a sizable portion of the golf club membership.

Nick was taken from us too soon and will be dearly missed by family, friends and his local community alike.

PETER FRANCIS RYAN (D49) 18th October 1930 – 11th January 2014 was the eldest of four children Patrick (D51), John (D53) and Mary. Peter's parents were both doctors. His father Vincent was a distinguished TB specialist and was adviser to Fr Paul Nevill on public health matters.

Peter won the Headmaster's Literary Prize in 1948. He was Captain of Boxing, and said he was always very happy at Ampleforth. After school he was commissioned in August 1950 into the 33rd Airborne Light Artillery and later served in B Squadron 21st Special Air Service regiment. At Exeter College, (1951-54) he boxed for Oxford and gained an Honours degree in Modern History.

In 1954 he joined Stanvac (Esso Mobil) in East Africa managing Depots up-country and playing polo. Back in the UK he studied mechanical engineering with Timken Roller Bearings 1959-60.

He married Sybil Ann Crane in 1961 and they had three daughters Philippa, Gabriella and Charlotte. From 1963-69 they lived in North Ferriby, near Hull, where the head office of Reckitt & Colman was located. As an Export Manager, he pioneered exports into the "iron curtain" countries and the USSR.

In 1972 he was recruited by a new UN agency UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organisation) in Vienna, as an adviser on industrial and business development.

In 1983, Peter became Head of Mission in Barbados. From there he supervised the design, finance and delivery of some \$30million UN funds annually to 14 Caribbean and two South American states.

In 1990 he was head hunted by Moore Stephens Chartered Accountants in London as the Project Director. He was increasingly asked to join EPZ projects, which led to him establishing his own consultancy in 1992 and still acting as an adviser to the UN system, European Union, Japan International Corporation Agency and Africa Development Bank. He was also Vice President of FEMOZA World Federation of Freezones and was made Honorary President shortly before his death.

In 2004 his novel *The Green Fields of Africa* was published. The book is dedicated "to all those soldiers: African, English, Irish, Scots and Welsh, many long forgotten, who died in small wars and emergencies in Africa in the last half century."

PETER ROLLO DEL TUFO (A55) 8th April 1937 – 23th January 2014 left Ampleforth and did his National Service in the Royal Artillery before reading Natural Science and then Chemical Engineering at Trinity College, Cambridge. He then joined M.W. Kellogg, the chemical engineering and construction firm in London. His career developed quickly, from trainee engineer with valuable early field operations experience, through engineering and department management to senior project management. As a Project Manager he was responsible for the direction within each of his projects of the engineering, procurement, building and commissioning of large petrochemical plants around the world. In a memorial tribute to him one of his colleagues noted that, in addition to his technical expertise, his unflappability and knack of resolving seemingly intractable project challenges meant he could be entrusted with the most challenging clients and projects. Peter was also noted at Kellogg for his integrity, balance and humanity.

Soon after his days at Cambridge and ever since, he was much involved with the Mary Ward Settlement, an organisation in London which combines adult education and legal advice. He was Treasurer for over four decades and had only retired recently as a Trustee. Music, especially opera, and theatre were also an important part of Peter's life.

Born in Singapore, Peter spent some of his childhood in the war years in Tasmania. It was perhaps there, living on the coast, that he developed his lifelong love of boats and the sea. This love was shared by Ianthe Cornwall-Jones whom he married in 1985 and at the age of 48 acquired two much-loved step-daughters to add to his three nieces. In the 2000's his three grandchildren were born and he was delighted in his involvement with them.

Peter and Ianthe lived in London but also had a house in Cornwall where, after their retirement, they spent much of their time and were able to enjoy entertaining friends and their joint interests in sailing and Cornish gardens.

He was extraordinarily warm and caring. He was always generous with his time, and in his interest in his family and friends and what was going on in their lives. He was a great teller of stories, sometimes involving a wicked humour, and he laughed a lot as he told them – whether about difficult work clients or his own doings.

CHRISTOPHER THOMAS CODRINGTON (W45) 17th November 1927-25th January 2014 was born in Ceylon, spending his first years in Kandy before his father retired and returned to England in 1932. In due course he joined Welbury prep school and then Ampleforth, where Fr Columba Cary-Elwes was his inspirational housemaster. Christopher joined the Navy in May 1945 aged 17, retiring 37 years later in 1982. In May 1952 he married Anna Hanscomb in Trieste, where they'd met on one of his runs ashore. A Supply and Secretariat Officer, he served on the cruisers Liverpool and Birmingham, including during the Korean War. There followed a spell in Malta (1954-57), with involvement at Suez. Then came two years on the carrier Victorious (1957-1960), and two and a half years in Singapore (1960-62). He went to sea again on the frigate Tartar (1962-64), with a long deployment to the Caribbean.

On return he began what became a series of jobs through the rest of his career when in the UK, on personnel and Service pay issues. Time in Haslemere meant the family moved from Dartmoor to Havant in 1964. In 1967 Christopher was posted to the NATO base at Naples, ideal for his Italian-speaking wife, but a little more taxing for his own language skills. Back from Italy, he worked in the MOD (1969-73) before going to sea again in the helicopter cruiser Blake (1973-75), which led a small task force to show the flag east of Suez.

Promoted to Captain, he worked in London (1975-79) to help achieve a better system of pay for the Services - his contribution being recognised with a CBE. He ended his career as Naval Attaché in Rome (1980-82), his posting of choice, made more hectic than average by the Falklands War.

Leaving the Navy, Christopher became Clerk of the Worshipful Company of Cordwainers (1983-86). He was particularly interested in the educational support they give to young people to learn the trade of leather-working and shoe design.

In 1984 Christopher inherited an old family house at Wroughton in Wiltshire, where he enjoyed becoming part of the community. Like many retired naval officers, he loved his gardening. He had seen a lot of the world during his career, and was content to limit his travelling to occasional visits to family in Crete and Sydney.

Christopher's life was inspired by his strong faith, with an emphasis on hope, charity and service. He was a gentle, modest man, with a well developed sense of humour. He disliked fuss, and went about helping the old ladies who gravitated in his direction simply and quietly, with great patience. He was quintessentially a family man. There was a twinkliness about him – he had the gift of making those he met feel valued. There was nothing he liked better than gathering friends around a table and celebrating their company, generally listening rather than doing the talking.

Christopher met his terminal cancer with characteristic stoicism and bravery. He had complete confidence in the promise of eternal life. He leaves behind his wife Anna, and their six children, Richard (W71), Caroline, Stephen (W75), Nigel (W77), Joanna and James (W84).

DEREK CLARKE (B31) 31st December 1912 - 10th February 2014 was born two years before the outbreak of the First World War, and was in his son, Christopher's, words 'the last of the Eminent Edwardians.' He grew up in the country around Longthorpe, a village near Peterborough. He was the second of five children and his family's well-being depended on the income derived from a declining family business founded by his father, namely, the infamous Clarke's Blood Mixture, a bestselling tonic of absolutely no medicinal value.

There is no record of the extent to which his artistic talent was fostered during his time at Ampleforth. After leaving the College he went to the Slade School of Art and subsequently he mainly made his living by painting portraits in England. During the war he served with the 16th Battalion of the Durham Light Infantry where he earned the reputation, in the words of a Sergeant who served with him, as being 'a brave man, a very brave man.' He was severely wounded in a fierce battle near the town of Sedjenane and invalided home. His wounds left him with a limp for the rest

of his life, in spite of which he enjoyed robust health and was able to dedicate himself to an extremely fruitful artistic life. He had an eye for the burgeoning talent of his students and was responsible for hiring as a life model at the Edinburgh College of Art, to which he had been appointed in 1947, a young actor who was currently working as a milkman for the Co-op – the actor's name was Sean Connery.

He had four sons in the School – Christopher (B64), Peregrine (W69) who sadly died in 2003, Tristram (E74) and Andrew (E78). He was greatly devoted to Ampleforth and, in particular, to Fr Paul Nevill, and generations of Amplefordians have been profoundly influenced by his portrait of Fr Paul which stands at the top of the Big Passage. There is another, more conventional, portrait by James Gunn in the School Library, but it is the Clarke image which captures more authentically the panache for which Fr Paul is most remembered. This portrait is reproduced elsewhere in this Journal as an accompaniment to Fr Patrick's memoir of Fr Paul.

EMERY EMANUEL BERNARD JOHN ROSS (A49) 22nd December 1930 – 19th February 2014, known as John, was one of several boys of European origin who ended up at Ampleforth as a result of the Nazi regime in Germany and the outbreak of the Second World War. He grew up in a cultured Berlin family, where in the words of a friend: 'they spoke French to the au pair whom John eventually married, German to each other and Italian to the cook.' There was some Jewish ancestry in the family, but the fact that John's father was a fair-haired Hungarian and had a Hungarian passport helped them to make their way to England well before the war.

John was born suffering from cerebral palsy and had a club foot, and the move to England faced his family with considerable difficulty with regard to his education. He went first to the prep school at Welbury, run by the Kenworthy-Browne family and then came on to Ampleforth. Ampleforth, with its many levels and its multiple staircases, represented a huge challenge to a boy with his particular disabilities, but he negotiated them without complaining and with huge determination and good humour. He was in St Aidan's House in the main building, and in the course of an average day John had to negotiate between 500 and 1,000 stairs, often carrying piles of exercise books. He had a huge good humour, a guttural foreign accent and no possibility of taking part in conventional sports, although he made a brave attempt to take part in boxing. He deserved and earned the great respect of very many friends, including those in other Houses, such as your Editor.

After Ampleforth, he went on to study history at Keble College, Oxford, and entered the legal profession. He studied at the Bar, but his linguistic limitations prevented him from being a success as a barrister, so he settled for a career in a legal firm of solicitors specialising in litigation. In the meantime, he had married and, remaining

devoted to his Benedictine roots, sent his two sons to Ealing Abbey School. He had a passionate interest in theology and in later life gained a degree in theology at Heythrop College, and shortly before his death was looking for ways in which his broad experience, both of secular and of spiritual challenges, could be made useful to others. He was devoted to his eight grandchildren, and was throughout his life an outstanding example of how the human spirit inspired by the love of God could triumph over severe physical handicaps.

He will always be remembered warmly and with admiration by those who knew him in his formative years.

MARTIN STEPHEN ROBERT ELWES (B66) 5th May 1948 – 3rd March 2014 attended Farleigh House prep school in Hampshire. He continued his education at Ampleforth where his Housemaster was Fr Basil Hume who had a great influence on him and remained a life-long friend.

Martin's first forays into the world of work were with an animal feed company in Dublin. He spent two years in Ireland after leaving school at 18, before switching to insurance broking at Lloyds of London. Insurance was never a passion and after four years, Martin left the city to join the Estate Agent, John D Wood in Kensington. Here he found his niche; his boundless energy, personable and affable nature alongside his skills as a negotiator and extensive knowledge of London property paved the way for a long and successful career as a central and west London Estate Agent.

Over the next 40 years it was in this field that he was to become accomplished and highly regarded by both his peers and his clients. In 1978 Martin became a partner of Maskells and subsequently worked for Friend & Falke and Boyle & Co, before setting up MEFF, a successful property search agency.

Despite his love of London's architecture, restaurants and society, Martin was a countryman at heart. He was a fine shot and fisherman. The latter talent was fostered at Ampleforth, where Fr Basil had allowed him to skip games in order to fish, provided he shared his spoils. He was a gifted DIYer, a good chef and had a great eye for interior design. He enjoyed tennis, golf, sailing, skiing and, in his younger years, the Cresta run.

Martin was appointed a Knight of Honour and Devotion in 1978 and served on the board of the St John and Elizabeth Hospital. He was a dedicated Christian who often went out of his way to help others, friends or the members of his parish. He was characterised by his approachability and humility.

In 1984 Martin married Sarah Worsley and is survived by his wife and their three children, Jamie, Sophie and Hugo (EW09).

DAVID HUGH COTTON DAVENPORT (B61) 29th May 1944 – 26th March 2014 was in St Bede's House under Fr Basil Hume from 1957 to 1961. Upon leaving the College, he went straight to Dartmouth at the age of 17. There, he was the youngest in his class but had one of those minds that does maths, languages, music, crossword puzzles, bridge and finance effortlessly and very well. From an early age he wanted to become an aviator; he went into the Navy and became one. David joined the Fleet Air Arm, where he flew first Sea Vixens (fighter jets - mostly off carriers) and latterly helicopters as the fixed wing carriers began to be phased out. He left the navy in 1975 to go into industry, working for two steel companies and, since 1984, for Singer Link Miles, which subsequently became Rediffusion and eventually Thales. The company made flight simulators and his role was marketing, civil and military, mostly in the Middle East.

In 1970, David married Gay in a ceremony presided over by Fr Basil. Gay's brother spoke fondly of David at his Requiem Mass saying "he had a bedrock of moral values stemming at least in part from his Catholicism. He had a profound faith, which amongst other things enabled him to confront his cancer with extraordinary bravery, fortitude and not a trace of despair...he knew that ultimately he would not win his fight but he also knew that he was going to a life hereafter."

David retired in 2008 aged 64, but sadly only had five years to enjoy his new lifestyle and having time for family, friends, holidays and golf. He is survived by his wife Gay and their three daughters Celia, Annabel and Georgie.

GEORGE OSWALD BARTON (B40) 21st June 1922 – 26th March 2014, known as Oswald, of Stanley Coppice, Hoghton, died in the morning of 26th March, 2014. He was taken ill in January and after a few weeks in hospital returned home, but his apparent recovery was not to be.

He was born at Darwen Bank, Preston, the youngest of eight. The six boys were all educated at Ampleforth, following in their father's footsteps. On leaving school in 1940, he tried to join up, but had to wait until his call-up, meanwhile serving on the Home Guard protecting Hoghton Station.

After Sandhurst and a brief stint in the Signals, he served with the Royal Armoured Corps, landing at Arromanches shortly after D-day, continuing through Belgium and across the Rhine into Germany. In 1944, when based near Ghent, he first saw Lea Vlaeminck (Lynn), at a dance. They married four years later.

As part of the Army of Occupation he was put in charge of civilian entertainments in Hanover. There he endeared himself to the opera company by letting them perform anything they liked, "as long as it's not Wagner" (of which they had suffered a surfeit under the Nazis!)

On demobilisation, he took articles and became a solicitor. The epitome of the old family lawyer, his advice was much sought after. He served as President of both his local Law Society, and of the North West Group.

Oswald was a proud Lancashire Catholic, with a deep and abiding faith. He was an active member of the Catenians. With a few friends, supported by Bishop Pearson, he founded the Catholic Preparatory School, St Pius X, in 1955 in Preston. He had a very English sense of fair-play, in sport, as indeed in life, although he could be ruthless on the croquet lawn.

For the more than 65 years of marriage, he and his wife said the rosary together every night, in thanks for surviving the war and their subsequent life together. He is survived by Lynn and his four children: James. (D68), Stephen (D70), a daughter Michèle, and Matthew (B82), as well as five grandchildren.

RONALD MACDONNELL (E49) 10th October 1930 – 9th April 2014 left Ampleforth and travelled and worked in North America. He had dual British and Canadian citizenship thanks to his father. He married Diana May and they have two sons Andrew and Hamish and four Grandchildren Finlay, Archie, Tumi and Tanya.

In the early 1960s, Ronald returned to the UK and moved into an old hunting lodge, Inchbae Lodge, near Garve in the Scottish Highlands, which he ran with his wife Diana as a successful hotel until 1978. From there they moved to the Black Isle, here they lived until Ronald's death.

Ronald was very tall at 6' 8" and had red hair and a ginger beard for most of his life but did suffer from poor hearing – having been too close to the blast from a shotgun when he was young. He pursued numerous hobbies over the years, from archery to radio control modelling, all with characteristic thoroughness. A reader of increasingly trashy thrillers and an avid film buff, Ronald liked few things more than settling down (often after midnight) to watch a rerun of a favourite movie – which he would then conscientiously review and grade.

Ronald's son writes of him: "Ronald had such a varied life. Among other things, he had worked in the early warning radar bases in Alaska. He had driven huge trucks in the Canadian quarries. He had been, at times, a car engineer, a taxi driver, a hotelier, a printer and an inventor. In fact, he did so many fascinating things in his

life I don't he even think he realised how interesting they were.

A couple of years ago we happened to be talking about President Kennedy's assassination – probably involving a conspiracy theory and the FBI I should think – and he said: 'Yes, Kennedy always seemed to like open-topped motorcades. I saw him once in a motorcade from my flat in Greenwich Village.'

That was news to me. It was even more of a revelation when I asked him what he had been doing in New York in the late 1950s and he told me he had been writing scripts for some pretty dubious movies at the time.

My father always carried something of those wild times with him – for instance, he had a scar on his elbow from a near fatal crash in one of the huge lorries he drove in Canada and he lost at least a couple of his teeth to a dishevelled Mexican dentist somewhere near Acapulco.

I know some of his relatives like to imagine him now with a dram in his hand, regaling St Peter with tales from his youth with all that customary good humour we all got to know so well."

CHARLES JOHN HARRINGTON (W54) 27th May 1936 – 11th April 2014, known as Johnny, was born in County Cork and joined the family's paint manufacturing firm upon leaving Ampleforth. He left the firm to join the Curragh Bloodstock Agency which started a lifelong career in the bloodstock industry. In the early 1970s, while still working as a bloodstock agent, he set up a small business training and selling horses at Commonstown in the village of Moone in Co Kildare.

He married his wife, Jessica, in 1976 and she took over his training permit in Moone in 1989. According to The Times obituary that was "on the reasonable grounds that she had noticed Harrington, on his return from his horse-buying trips, having difficulty telling his existing horses from his new ones, a story he much enjoyed embellishing later. Moscow Flyer was one of a number of top-class horses, including Dance Beat and Macs Joy that Johnny purchased for relatively small amounts for his wife to train. Bought by him unbroken at Tatterstalls Ireland's Derby Sale in 1998 for 17,000 guineas, Moscow Flyer notched up 26 wins in all."

Their yard has become a sizeable business with 120 horses and offers a welcoming and homely atmosphere that was one of Johnny's most significant contributions. Johnny leaves behind a thriving family business with his daughter Emma managing the yard and his other daughter Kate riding the yard's 'bumper' horses (those running flat races under National Hunt rules) as well as working for Aidan O'Brien, Ireland's leading flat-race trainer. His step-son James, from Jessica's first marriage, farms

with his wife in France and his sister Tara runs an equestrian business in Cork with her husband.

DENYS FRANCIS KELLY (D43) 9th October 1926 – 27th April 2014 was born in Saltburn, Yorkshire, to William and Meg Kelly; he was the sixth of their eight children.

Denys was a man of courage who as a member of the Parachute Regiment, after training at Ringway, was sent to Palestine for four years as part of the Peacekeeping Forces. He celebrated his 21st Birthday there and remained until released in December 1947.

Denys's father, who was faced with three sons returning to a war-ravaged England, decided to help in the best way he could by buying a Farm for them at Ingleby Greenhow where, with the help of a housekeeper, they settled into civilian life. Later they each found a different path, and marriages.

In his middle years he moved with his wife, Marie, and five children (Simon, John, Philippa, Patience and Benedict) to Australia where he lived until his death.

Denys was something of a gregarious loner, a man who easily shared compassion and a very ready wit. He faced the struggles of his life with strength, the worst blow being the loss of his son John in a climbing accident, a sorrow that marked his family forever. Denys bore this and later his physical deterioration with Parkinson's, with as much fortitude as he could muster.

Denys's life was shaped by his early life at Ampleforth. The monks he knew there were, for him, templates of strength and devotion. They remained on visiting terms with Fr Oswald Vanheems (who married him in York), and with Fr Basil Hume who invited each of the five children, in turn, to spend a few days with him at Westminster...the two girls only to lunch! He said "it was their Finishing School."

A contemporaneous friend described him as "a worthy citizen." He was so very much more than this to his family, who knew him intimately.

MARK FITZGEORGE-PARKER (C72) 27th July 1954 – 3rd May 2014 (also known as Mark Daniel) was born in Oxford. He grew up in Lambourn and was educated in St Cuthbert's House at Ampleforth. His former Housemates still recall his ebullient, cheeky spirit and extraordinary wit. Mark often reflected upon his time at Ampleforth as a very happy, singularly beautiful period of his life. He often told many a story, which sounded tall, such as the time there was a camel borrowed from a nearby zoo or circus for a race across the moors. Mark had many colourful stories

which sounded too far-fetched, but when researched, they were always found to be true.

Mark went on to study English at Peterhouse, Cambridge. Eventually he was offered a job in Milan as a tutor. Fluent in Italian and French, he spent several years in Italy before returning to England and living in a converted stable block in Devizes.

He went on to become an accomplished writer of racing thrillers, and also covered a wide range of genres, from teenage novels, comic fantasy, children's verse, etymology, erotica, self-help and several biographies and ghost-written books. His various collections: *A Golden Treasury of Nursery Verse*, *A Golden Treasury of Animal Verse*, *A Golden Treasury of Seaside Verse*, and *A Child's Treasury of Christmas Verse* are found in most schools and nurseries.

Mark married actress Ann Thornton, who had been filming a drama near his Devizes home one day, and knocked on the door asking if she might use his pool. They married and moved to Ireland.

He entered politics, becoming UKIP's first press officer, ghost-writing Nigel Farage's autobiography, and acting as press officer and PT guru for several other MEPs. When pressed to, he stood in elections at borough, county and Parliamentary level for the party, but as in all aspects of his life, despite his huge charisma, he always shirked the limelight himself, preferring to be behind the scenes, encouraging others. At Mark's memorial service, James Carver, MEP credited Mark as being responsible for the ethos and dynamic of the party today.

Throughout his life he maintained a love for surfing, country life and Cornwall. He was always a popular dinner party guest for his humour, stories and extraordinary broad scope of knowledge, but he preferred to be more solitary, in the country or by the sea. He was a very well-known figure in Cheltenham, where he lived for the last four years of his life.

Mark died suddenly at home on Saturday 3rd May, just two weeks after being diagnosed with terminal lung cancer. He leaves his daughter Cressida, son Christopher, and partner Hannah.

WILLIAM GUY BAINES MARTIN (J87) 25th April 1969 – 17th May 2014 who died aged 45 of cancer, had a very fruitful career as a motivational speaker and success coach within the direct selling and network marketing industry. Born in Winchester in 1969, the second of four boys – Hugh (J86), Edward (J90) and Henry (J90), he entered the school in 1982.

A free spirit with a first class brain, he did not quite fulfil his academic potential, attaining the unique achievement of 10 C grades at 'O' level. An accomplished squash player, he represented the 1st V and also found a talent for acting in his final year performing key parts in all three Mystery plays. Lourdes also played a big part in his life and he attended the annual Ampleforth pilgrimage for 15 years.

He went on to study law at Buckingham University where he obtained both Bachelors and Masters Degrees, awarded to him by Margaret Thatcher. He represented the University 1st XI in cricket as the No. 3 batsman, awarded colours with the best batting average on their tour to Australia.

His real passion though was golf, but it was not until after university that his newfound passion was fully ignited. The highlight was participating in the British Amateur Open 1997, where he was paired with the top ranked amateur in the Country, Gary Wolstenholme and mentioned in dispatches in the Daily Telegraph.

He played for the Old Amplefordian Golfing Society on a number of occasions, where he also represented Ampleforth as one of the 10-strong team members in the annual Halford Hewitt public school golf tournament.

His dream was to travel the world and play golf professionally. Four years later with the odd golf trophy and nearest to the pin prize it was time to pack it in and start earning a living.

William always maintained a simple philosophy, where he believed that the secret of living is giving.

After several years of hard work, utilising different ideas and business skills, William came across an American company called Synergy Worldwide that became his passion, energy, focus and life.

William built a legacy with Synergy Worldwide, putting others first and himself second. A company that meant so much to him and he meant so much to many people.

Live, Love, Learn and Leave a Legacy is what he stood by and achieved. An outstanding accomplishment, where he made such a positive impact on so many lives, being talked about with enthusiasm and kindness and remembered for these special star qualities that made him shine.

TIMOTHY JOHN FIRTH (A57) 18th August 1938 – 20th May 2014 was the younger of the two sons of Michael and Eileen Firth. His father was a civil servant

whose career culminated in his appointment as Registrar General of Births and Deaths. Tim and his brother Tony (A50) came to Ampleforth largely because their grandfather had been a close friend of Fr Laurence Bevenot (OA19, died 1990), sharing a passion for plainchant. From Ampleforth he went to Lincoln College, Oxford, and then went to study at the English College in Rome. He was ordained in 1967 and became a curate at Brook Green in London. Subsequently, he was made Vicar-General of the Archdiocese of Westminster under Cardinal Hume. It was after a retreat on the island of Iona that he decided to leave the priesthood. At the heart of this decision was the fact that he no longer found it possible to accept the Divinity of Christ, and thus found himself in an increasingly false position which he could not sustain.

He had been very happy in his priestly ministry and his rupture with the Church and the many friends that he had made over the years caused him great sadness, but no bitterness. He remained closely in touch with these friends and was aware throughout the remainder of his life that his enthusiasms for the causes he supported owed much to his formation as a Catholic and as a priest. This became very clear at the Memorial Mass which was offered for him in the Archdiocese, and which was attended by many of his priest friends, including your Editor.

His leaving the priesthood was wholly unrelated to his subsequent marriage to Elisabeth Tooms – a partnership within which he developed what was in many ways all of a piece with his previous interest in theology and in pastoral service. He was profoundly committed to supporting all those who were in any kind of spiritual need. As Fr Raglan Hay-Will said at the Memorial Mass: 'All the steps he took were always with and for other people: friends and fellow searchers, both old and new. He could concentrate wholly on helping them in the smallest details and loved welcoming them.' He became co-founder of Renewal Arts, which explores the power of creativity to change individuals and society, and was an enthusiastic supporter of Intermission which uses drama to help people renew their spiritual lives. He had a deep love of nature and of walking, and treated all those he met with an instinctive courtesy and lightness of touch which endeared him to people of every possible background.

His book *God's Favourite Colour is Tartan*, which was reviewed in the last number of *The Journal* and which was a passionate affirmation of his deep commitment to a sort of 'Christianity without Christ,' represented a certain paradox: he was no longer able to identify himself with his strong Catholic roots, but he was able to speak with warmth and fervour of many of the causes and values which will always attract and encourage men of goodwill. He is greatly missed by the many people who admired him. May he rest in peace.

BERNARD PETER KENWORTHY-BROWNE (O48) 11th May 1930 – 22nd May 2014, known as Peter, entered St Oswald's house in the summer term of 1943, and soon made his mark as a gifted pianist. Having a fine musical ear and great dextrous facility, he is still remembered by contemporaries for the Chopin that he played at numerous school concerts. He was a good athlete, playing wing forward for the school XV. He won the school long jump in 1948, after reading up on and practising the style known as the "hitch kick". This style, which had not hitherto been seen at Ampleforth, is in general use today among professional athletes.

Peter did his National Service as an officer in the Irish Guards, who were then stationed in London. When off duty he constantly attended the season's parties – which were mostly given for the debutantes. He went up to Oriel College, Oxford, and read law; was called to the Bar in 1955 as a member of Lincoln's Inn and practised on the Oxford and Midland and Oxford circuit. In 1982 he was appointed District Judge and retired twenty years later. He was justly proud of the fact that none of his judgements was ever overturned. (One of his cases was, in fact, successfully challenged in the High Court, but that decision was overturned by the Court of Appeal.)

Besides music Peter's interests included hunting and taking part in point-to-points – he kept a horse in the country for much of his working life. He was also keen on shooting and continued going to shooting parties until 2012.

In 1989 Peter married Elizabeth Bowen Jones at the Brompton Oratory, at which Fr Edward Corbould officiated. They bought a large vicarage house at Staverton in Northamptonshire, and were planning to celebrate their silver wedding anniversary at the Cavalry and Guards Club in July 2014. The funeral at Staverton was conducted by Fr Edward.

DONALD PAUL MONTAGU CAPE (D41) 6th January 1923 – 16th June 2014 joined Brasenose College, Oxford after Ampleforth and served from 1942 to 1945 in the Scots Guards. After returning briefly to Oxford at the end of the War, he joined the Foreign (now Diplomatic) Service in 1946, serving successively in Belgrade, Lisbon, Singapore and Bogota. From 1962 to 1967 he was No 2 in the British Legation to the Holy See during the Second Vatican Council, where he and his wife Cathune gave hospitality (and good advice) to Bishops and theologians from all over the world. His widerange of knowledge and his dry wit made him a very popular host. Counsellor successively at Washington and then Brasilia, he was Ambassador at Laos from 1976 to 1978. He ended his varied and successful diplomatic career as Ambassador and UK Permanent Representative to the Council of Europe at Strasbourg from 1978-83.

On retirement, he was invited to become the first British Administrator of Anglo-Irish Encounter. This was an organisation newly set up by the British and Irish Governments in 1983 to promote co-operation and better mutual understanding between Britain and the Republic of Ireland by means of regular conferences on economic, social, cultural and other issues of common concern. For the next 14 years, Donald worked tirelessly to organise Encounter's frequent meetings and conferences in Britain, in Belfast and in the Republic and ensure that they made a quiet but real contribution to the steadily improving relations between London and Dublin which led to the Good Friday Agreement. Having been made CMG on his retirement from the Foreign Service, he was most unusually honoured again (with the CBE) for his work for Encounter.

ROBERT MICHAEL PURCELL (A41) 22nd October 1923 – 18th June 2014 was known as Michael. His life spanned some momentous events: WW2, end of empire, birth of the welfare state, cold war and massive cultural change. He was shaped by these great events in his very public life, as a soldier, colonial officer and diplomat. He was above all a man of his time, of honour and principle. He was a family man and enormously proud of his family. He was a loyal and entertaining friend. He had enormous charm, increased by a certain shyness, reticence and modesty to a fault.

After Ampleforth (1937-41), Michael enlisted in the 60th Rifles, the Green Jackets (1943-47) and took part in the WW2 Italian Campaign. He was seconded as a parachutist and earned his wings. He saw action at Anzio and Monte Cassino and his name was put forward for a "Mention in Dispatches." Michael then became a liaison and intelligence officer with the partisans in Tuscany. At the end of the war he was posted to Carinthia, Egypt and Palestine.

Having followed the "Devonshire Course" at Keble College, Oxford (1947-48), Michael served as a Colonial Officer in Uganda (1949-62). He had a deep rooted curiosity, studying African customs and mastering many local tongues, including Luganda and Swahili.

After Uganda, he made the difficult transition from redundant colonial officer to diplomat. His first overseas posts were in Sri Lanka and Singapore but his return to Rome (1973-76), as Head of Chancery at the Vatican legation, was a special joy. He describes an impressive if daunting first audience with the pontiff, Pope Paul VI. In Malta, as Deputy High Commissioner (1977-80), he was at the centre of acutely delicate negotiations with the government over the closure of the naval dockyard and NATO base. That it all passed off so well, despite great foreboding, owed much to his charm, tact and above all patience.

His last posting was as Ambassador to Somalia (1980-83), where his tasks included improving relations with Kenya, promoting peace in the long troubled Horn of Africa and countering misinformation being promulgated about the concurrent Falklands War.

Michael was awarded the CMG (1983), on account particularly of his achievements in Malta and Somalia. While in Rome he had also been honoured, receiving a papal knighthood as a Knight Commander of the Pontifical Equestrian Order of St Gregory the Great (KCSG) (1976). After retirement from the Foreign Office, Michael became Secretary and Adviser to the East Africa Association (1984-86), as well as an active member of the Horn of Africa Council and the Committee of the Anglo-Somali Society.

Michael retired to Shaftesbury, Dorset, where he very much enjoyed meetings of Litsoc and regularly playing bridge. Michael's enduring love of the English countryside led him to taking on an active role in the North Dorset CPRE. Two subjects that were of enduring fascination to Michael were religion and science. Michael was a man of his time, courteous, charming and loving of his family and friends throughout an unusual and full life. Michael is survived by his wife, Julia, and two daughters.

THOMAS HUGH FRANCIS FARRELL (A47) 3rd February 1930 – 23rd June 2014 was born in Hull in 1930. He passed through Gilling, Junior House and St Aidan's at the College, where he made an outstanding contribution to the Senior Debating Society, and his friendly manner and sharp wit won him many friends. Tom left Ampleforth in 1947 and joined the family firm of solicitors, Rollit Farrell & Bladon in Hull, the third generation to do so. Owing to his father's ill health, Tom undertook his articles in parallel with taking his law degree at Hull University, then part of University College, London.

In 1953 he began his National Service, being commissioned into the Queen's Bays, and spent two enjoyable years in Fallingbowl in Centurion tanks. On returning to Hull, he continued serving in the Territorial Army, ultimately as a Lieutenant Colonel commanding The Prince of Wales's Own Yorkshire Territorials. Tom was active in Conservative politics (speaking at the 1957 and 1958 party conferences) and was persuaded to stand as the Conservative candidate in the Labour stronghold of West Hull in the 1959 General Election, where he slashed the Labour majority to 2,435. In 1960 at the age of 30 Tom was appointed Sheriff of Hull, a role normally reserved for individuals twice his age. Tom continued to build a successful legal practice, and was senior partner of Rollit Farrell & Bladon for many years, and a respected figure in the Hull and East Riding business communities. In addition, Tom undertook a number of other roles including as a Deputy Lieutenant, as Under Sheriff, and as

trustee of many charities, particularly those with a Catholic focus.

From 1972 until 1998 Tom was heavily involved in the lay governance of Hull University, including 18 years as Chairman of the University Council. He was awarded an Honorary LLD by the University in 1982 and received the CBE in 1997 "for services to higher education."

Tom married Clodagh (Morris) in 1964, and had two children, James (D84) and Sophie. He spent all his life in the East Riding of Yorkshire, only 40 miles from Ampleforth and maintained close connections with the Abbey.

DAVID JOHN CAMPBELL KEANE (E46) 30th December 1928 – 8th August 2014 spent the first seven years of his life in India and Burma where his Father served as an officer in the Indian Army. After leaving Ampleforth College he hoped for a career in the Army and went to Sandhurst where he was injured playing rugby and invalided out. Believing that Canada offered a great opportunity, he emigrated to Toronto in 1952. The investment business in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver proved an interesting and rewarding career for the next 36 years. He was a Partner and Director of Richardson Greenshields and a Chartered Financial Analyst. His beloved wife of 60 years, Susan, was his companion on many trips to wonderful places in Europe and the Pacific. For the last 23 years they enjoyed Vancouver Island and participated in the great community of Arbutus Ridge, its people and lifestyle. David died after a courageous fight with bone cancer. His funeral was attended by more than 300 people. He will be sorely missed.

FR BEDE BAILEY OP (O34) 6th March 1917 – 11th August 2014 and his family lived at Armitage, Staffs, close to the Dominican Priory and House of Studies at Hawkesyard where both his father and mother had been received into the church and where they were very friendly with Fr Bede Jarrett OP. His father was Managing Director of Royal Doulton. Bede – David as he was baptised – was the fifth of seven children, five girls and two boys. Imelda, the third, married Tom Charles-Edwards (B62), the legendary Senior History Master at Ampleforth who specialised in achieving scholarships to Oxford and Cambridge, and whose twin brother was successively Vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields and Bishop of Worcester.

David and his brother, John (O39, died 2002), were both sent to Ampleforth where they were in St Oswald's House under Fr Stephen Marwood who remained an inspiration to Bede throughout his life. He left Ampleforth in 1934, joining the Dominican novitiate at Woodchester in 1935. Fr Bede Jarrett had died in March 1934, so Bede was delighted to be able to 'inherit' his religious name. After his novitiate he did his Philosophy at Hawkesyard and Theology at Blackfriars, Oxford, before being ordained priest in 1941. After a dizzying succession of moves – eight

in 16 years – he was elected Prior of Newcastle in 1956 and re-elected in 1959. In 1964 he became Prior of Blackfriars and Prior of Leicester in 1970. In 1977 he was again Prior of Newcastle. It was in Newcastle that he built the St Dominic's Social Centre and the Hogg Chapel in the Priory Church. The old medieval Blackfriars, much of which still remains, was at this time being redeveloped, and there was even talk of it once more reverting to the Dominicans. It was an unrealistic dream.

Bede remained, throughout his life, hugely devoted to Ampleforth and he kept in very close touch. It was entirely appropriate that, at the consecration of the Abbey Church in September 1961, he should have been invited to consecrate the altar in the Chapel of St Thomas Aquinas, to which the Bailey family had donated the large and very beautiful wooden crucifix, carved – I think – by Anthony Foster, that had stood for many years in their garden at Armitage. He was in good company. Besides Archbishop Heenan of Liverpool, there were three Bishops, 13 Abbots, the Vicar General of Middlesbrough, the Provost of the Middlesbrough Chapter and the Prior of St Dominic's, Newcastle.

In 1965, when he was Prior of Oxford, Bede became the Archivist of the English Dominican Province. He was not a trained archivist, but he had a profound interest in the Dominican heritage, a passion for its preservation and he remained the Provincial Archivist until 2004. After his final stint as Prior of Newcastle he moved to be chaplain to the enclosed Dominican nuns at Carisbrooke in the Isle of Wight. When that closed he moved to Edinburgh where he filled a huge basement with archive material relevant to their history and illustrative of their influence.

Bede's interest in the past went with an interest in people – a wide-ranging and largely non-judgmental interest, an attitude which also made him a very kind and sought after confessor. He had a real concern for the poor whom he was assiduous in visiting. He had, too, a keen interest in ecumenism, and when in Oxford set up some joint lectures with Pusey House. Later he invited Michael Ramsay to lecture in Newcastle, and was himself visiting lecturer for a term at Lincoln Theological College.

He once said: 'One has to prepare for old age just as one has to prepare all the time for dying and dying happy.' He lived to the ripe old age of 97. May he rest in peace.

AMPLEFORTH COLLEGE

HEADMASTER'S EXHIBITION SPEECH

FR GABRIEL EVERITT OSB
HEADMASTER OF AMPLEFORTH COLLEGE

YOU ARE ALL aware by now that this year marks the 200th anniversary of the first Exhibition. Attention to detail, I hope not too tedious but bear in mind Headmasters are often pedantic, requires one to note that this is not in fact the 200th Exhibition, as it has not quite happened every year, for example not always in war years. Still it is a significant anniversary of something which has lasted, albeit with many a change and development, over these many years; in fact rather like Ampleforth College as a whole. It is astonishing to think that the first Exhibition took place the year before the battle of Waterloo, before the agrarian and industrial revolutions, before the reform Acts, before England really took on and lost an Empire, before the reign of Victoria, before all the many and huge technological, social and political changes of modern times and long before the communication revolutions of our own age.

I am by training a historian, though I have never taught a single lesson of History in the school! So it has intrigued me to consider the first Exhibition 200 years ago and I had thought maybe to study its development over the years. I soon found that the research would be beyond me in my present circumstances and certainly also beyond your endurance to listen. It has, however, been interesting to look at the Exhibition in its beginning and then at one moment in its subsequent history, namely at its first centenary in 1914, a date also claiming our attention because of the imminent outbreak then of the First World War. Of course there is only time here for a few vignettes.

The first Exhibition took place in October 1814 and was arranged by Fr (later Bishop) Augustine Baines but either the time of year or the arrangements were not quite right and it was not a success. A second was held within a year on 21 June 1815 and this one worked better and set a pattern. I am sure a move from October to June was at least in part for the sunny and warm summer weather. At the heart of the first Exhibitions, and in fact for many years subsequently, there were recitals of academic work in class rooms attended by parents. So the first class for example demonstrated its skill in reading the book of Isaiah in Hebrew followed by extracts from the Iliad and some Vergil concluding with demonstrations of prowess in Trigonometry. There was no Headmaster then (happy days), but there were clearly some form of speeches and announcements and also a sense of the College being on show. Parental pressure was a force to reckon with. It was announced that the school would bow to a request regarding the teaching of French and hire a French master. Monks gave important

advice and information to parents, for example:

Students are received at the College both for ecclesiastical and secular state ... The terms for the same, Fifty Guineas per annum, the Pensions to be paid half-yearly in advance ... Each young gentleman to bring with him a silver fork and spoon.

There follows then something astonishing about holidays, but remember that on the continent the monks had looked after boys throughout the year and most of the boys became monks. So the brochure continues:

There is one vacation of a month at Midsummer. It is wished that the parents would avoid, as much as possible, taking their children home and, on this account, there will be no additional charge for those who leave them at the College during the vacation. At other times, no student can be allowed to leave their studies; and parents are requested not to ask it.

I am sure you see my point: it was another world yet with some dynamics and points of discussion we still today know and understand. If then we fast forward to 1914 we find an abundance more of information, as since the invention of the *Ampleforth Journal* in the 1890s there has been a systematic and detailed source. In the years 1913-14 the school had grown to its biggest size to that date of 135 boys and a staff of 19 monks and 8 laypeople, the latter being teachers of Art, Music, Cricket, two instructors in the CCF (as we would now say) a medical officer and two matrons. It was still going to be 12 years, however, before the house system would be created so controversially in 1926. Exhibition in 1914 took place 50 days before the outbreak of the First World War. The orchestra played Mozart, Sibelius and Grieg. Boys gave speeches in English, Latin and French. 102 prizes were awarded. There was a speech by the Headmaster, followed by one from the Abbot. The pages of *The Journal* show that the Headmaster (Fr Edmund Matthews) admitted that there had been a disgruntlement among the boys over a minor timetable change which it was felt eroded free time but by means of a precise arithmetical calculation the Headmaster proved, at least to his satisfaction, that the amount of free time was unchanged. Fr Edmund also sought to justify the move from Soccer to Rugby, felt by some to be a quite unacceptably revolutionary change. I cannot help also noticing that quite soon the revolutionary change had become a tradition and that the school was celebrating its triumphs, as it still hopes to. There was a particular problem for cricket, caused by drought. In his Exhibition speech, Fr Edmund reports to parents and friends that there had been an Inspection. He says that the inspector 'had come to Ampleforth with no knowledge or experience of monastic schools and with anything but a prejudice in their favour' but he left 'very favourably impressed by the religious, social and intellectual life of the school.' Please note 'religious, social

and intellectual' – I cannot resist it 'holy happy and hardworking.' There had been building too: the new cricket pavilion (still there) and a new gymnasium praised for its Elizabethan exterior (also still there but called the old gym and less likely now to be praised for its appearance). It was not all perfect however; Fr Edmund comments that 'the examination results were good, but not as good as they should have been.' He blamed overconfidence.

I should close this brief review of 1914 by noting how quickly and devastatingly matters were to change; the next edition of *The Journal* starts to record casualties in war and there is a moving acknowledgement: 'It is a difficult task for an Editorial staff to chronicle the very "small beer" of a school in the midst of such an overwhelming crisis as the present one.'

I have been touching here on some historical patterns of continuity and change, the historian's dappled light on the present and delighting a bit I do confess in those particular lights (or are they the shades?) which suggest there is nothing new under the sun. The more things change, the more they stay the same. I have one final one, for which I go back before even 1814 and in fact before the foundation of the College in 1802, although I am still staying in the valley. In about 1770 Lord Fairfax of Gilling Castle, experienced a surge of disapproval about the youth of his day, which will be understood perhaps in some moods at some times by parents and teachers of later ages: 'Our young people' he complained, in 1770, 'are libertines, more so than the Protestants, and neglect their religion more so as each year passes.' The young just do not see how difficult they make it at times for their seniors, though I dare say this is always a case of vice versa. However I hope I am not hopelessly deceiving myself at the end now of just about 11 years as Head and 22 years of teaching in the school and reflecting more significantly on over 200 years of the presence of a school here in the valley, in thinking that over this long time there has been a lot of work and some success in giving an answer to Lord Fairfax's upset. In any age there is a good deal to be said no doubt on both sides of the balance sheet of a generation of young people, but, just as Fr Edmund Matthews took encouragement from the visit of his inspector in 1914, so we can be encouraged in our own day by the findings of the diocesan inspectors here last January: 'A "day-to-day kindness" was referred to as characterising the spirit of Ampleforth. Prayer is central to the life of the College, emanating from the life of the Abbey which is at its heart.' Of course I am not giving into the foolish optimism that things just keep getting better all the time. The light is a dappled one, but in its variation one may nonetheless see the working of a providence – in the end everything, whatsoever it may be, works to the good for those who love God (see Romans 8:28). I do not believe in the Whig interpretation of history but I do believe in the providence of God.

It is supremely important to the monastic community that this is a Catholic and

Benedictine school and that this goes beyond token labels to being something at the very heart of, and deeply embedded in, the School. You can speak about it all you like and define it, and yes there has been and will continue to be a good deal of definition, necessarily so. But more importantly you have to live it day by day and it becomes true and real not for the saying but in the doing.

I want to reflect, not I realise for the first time at Exhibition, on humility, a quality absolutely key to St Benedict and upon which he devotes a long chapter in his Rule. Again I know that it always sounds a bit odd and maybe even grating, to mention humility at prize giving, but holding together potential tensions in an elusive balance is part of the art of life.

I think that there are two great keys, though no doubt others too, to humility. The first has to do with a sense of humour and not taking oneself always too seriously. I take my main patron as the brave 17th century martyr St Gabriel Lallemand, a French Jesuit and one of the first North American martyrs, but knowing I need all the help I can get, I pray too to St Gabriel the archangel and never refuse kind good wishes on the feast of the angels. My studies in medieval history and theology have always made me quite interested in them and the number of them dancing on the head of that proverbial pin, and so I was very struck when Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI said once in an interview: 'I'm not a man who constantly thinks up jokes. But I think it's very important to be able to see the funny side of life and its joyful dimension and not to take everything too tragically. I'd also say it's necessary for my ministry. A writer once said that angels can fly because they don't take themselves too seriously. Maybe we could also fly a bit if we didn't think we were so important.'

I think a second great key to humility is gratitude, gratitude to others, gratitude to God. St Benedict says (in his Tools for Good Works) "If you notice something good in yourself, give credit to God, not to yourself." The adventure and the challenge is to cure the astigmatism which puts ourselves at the centre and to see ourselves as part of a succession of communities grounded in the creative love of God, of which a school is but one part and to be thankful for it to him.

So let me conclude by taking the advice I am giving to you. In making thank yous, I think today of course not just of the past year but of the past eleven. I am very grateful to all the students in my time, particularly to the school monitors and to the Heads of School, this year Julia Gargan and Peter Dunn, for their good humour and for their dedication. I thank all parents of boys and girls in my time, for the huge, indeed daunting trust you place in us. I thank Fr Abbot, the monastic community, the Trustees of the St Laurence Education Trust, the staff of the Procurator's department, Fr Wulstan and with a special mention for Hazel Raw, leading the HR department. I thank the teaching staff and the school support staff, the Heads of

Department. I thank the housemasters and housemistresses, now and throughout my time, who are the frontline troops in the trenches. I thank my senior leadership team, some who have been with me throughout and I want to make particular mention of Ian Lovat, Director of Studies for his dedication and loyalty. I welcome and thank my Deputy Head Deirdre Rowe and before her I thank Peter Green and John Browne. I owe particular gratitude to two more people. Rachel Fletcher has taught at Ampleforth since 1991, she has been a wonderfully successful teacher of English, has held a number of leadership posts, most recently the very key one of Director of Admissions and this with great success and distinction, she has the Ampleforth DNA, more so than most of us in fact, and personally over all these years, she has been to me a very great friend and support. I thank Linda Featherstone and with her the staff of my department past and present. Linda again has been again through all these years and in fact for most of Fr Leo's, a tower of strength and support, a consummate professional and a model of hard work.

I want to end with a personal word of welcome to David and Sasha Lambon. One of my most favourite Ampleforth sporting events is the 32 runners by 200 metres interhouse relay, the grand finale of the House Athletics (incidentally the popularity of the relays is mentioned in *The Journal* of 1913 when it was run in divisions rather than houses). You will be glad to know, David, that the Headmaster is handed a pistol, which he fires, into the air, to begin the race. Runners, boys and girls, do 200m before handing on the baton to the next runner. I appreciate that eleven years is rather a long time to cover 200m, but it has been full of the exertion and exhilaration one sees on the face of the runners and indeed the spectators; in its way it takes everything one has, though inevitably leaving an awareness of the things that could and should have gone better. I am as determined as I possibly can be to pass over the baton well without fumbling or dropping. And then, and then? It has been the leading question to me of this year: what are you going to do next? I am going to take heed of the wise advice from HMC to 'retiring heads': 'the lowest of low profiles is both essential and best.' And what one may wonder does the lowest of low profiles mean in this particular, rather strange and different context, because, given lifelong vows taken, it is not for sure packing one's bag and heading over the hill for good? Maybe it is to remember what monks, in the famous medieval view, were there for all along: to say one's prayers. Fr Edmund Hatton, a monk who died a little while ago and who among many other roles was for a time Second Master in the School (ie Deputy Head) and so he knew, used to stop me in the cloister and hold my arm and say 'I'm praying for you.' It was wonderful and I am sure explains what is good to the account. David, welcome. Thank you all.

THE ADMISSIONS OFFICE

RACHEL FLETCHER
DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS

FR DOMINIC'S masterly editorial has touched upon the changing pattern of recruitment to the college. In particular he highlighted the volatility of the present market and the disappearance of a confidence, prevalent in the past, that Roman Catholic families looking for a British public school would choose a Catholic school and that Old Amplefordians would choose Ampleforth for their sons. These days are past and their passing has brought not only challenges but also great opportunities. I think that it is a good thing that the argument for a Catholic education and in Ampleforth's case, a Catholic Benedictine education, needs now to be made.

I, like many of my generation, was educated in part by nuns. Many of them were gifted and talented teachers and wonderful guides. However, I think our religious education was overly focused on sin and guilt and lacking in intellectual content; many of my contemporaries lapsed. In contrast all students at Ampleforth study Theology and it is a very popular subject at A level and at university. The religious life of the school is pervasive but not oppressive. The students have morning and evening prayers in their boarding houses, a fortnightly chaplaincy period, annual house and year group retreats and, of course, High Mass on Sunday for everyone, but they can do much more and house chaplains are there to support their individual spiritual journeys. The students are reminded of the rhythms of the monastic day by the sound of the abbey bells and are invited to share in the monastic offices. Benedictine values inform the way we teach and what we teach. The Rule is a constant guide to how we should live. Ampleforth has long been noted for strength of friendships that are made here and the continuing loyalty of its alumni to the monastery and the college; this is not accidental.

In asking parents to send us their children we are asking a lot. We are a remote Northern school operating in a market where full boarding is unusual and distance boarding is unpopular. Parents need to be convinced. I have been very impressed in my years as Director of Admissions by our prospective parents. They are rightly demanding and challenging. They want to know what they are buying in to and challenge our assertions about the quality of our provision. I have been greatly helped in my task of persuasion by our excellent inspection reports. I have also been helped by Fr Gabriel's patent and transparent honesty, although it can make a Director of Admissions wince a bit when picking up a prospective parent from the Headmaster's study to hear him say: "Yes, well, sometimes things can go badly wrong." Although I might have winced, I was also very grateful. We owe prospective parents honesty. The relationship must be based on trust; our treatment of prospective parents and students must mirror our treatment of current parents and

students and this means that at times you must tell the truth with love - however unpalatable it may be. Prospective parents want to know whether their beloved children will be happy and successful. We cannot promise to deliver either success or happiness, neither is in our gift. We can, however, point to the many wonderful achievements of our students and their notably cheerful demeanour. We can talk about how we promote the habit of hard work so essential to success and how we support, love and guide the students through the turbulence of adolescence.

The cost of our education is steep. Many parents make huge sacrifices to send their children to Ampleforth. Perhaps the difficult aspect of my role has been chairing the Bursary Committee. Demand always exceeds supply and we have had to make heart breaking decisions over the years. We want to support students who will make a significant contribution to the school; the award of a scholarship supports a bursary application although it does not guarantee an award. We also want to help children who, for whatever reason, have a particular need to come to us. In common with many of our competitors we have been raising funds for more bursaries. Fr Gabriel suggested that anyone wishing to mark his retirement should be asked to make a contribution to the bursary fund. We are very grateful and humbled by the extraordinary response to this request. So far friends and parents have contributed £125,000. This will make a significant contribution to the lives of children needing our support and is a fitting and appropriate recognition of Fr Gabriel's distinguished term as Headmaster.

I have come to the end of 23 years working in the college. I have had a richly entertaining, demanding and fulfilling time working here. I started as an English teacher but have been lucky enough to have been asked to fill a variety of other roles. When I arrived I was struck by the friendliness of the boys. The atmosphere in the Sixth Form classrooms was informal and lively. I learnt a lot and I like to think they did too. We shared many jokes; I do not think enough research has been done on the importance of laughter in learning. Looking back I suppose the greatest change in Ampleforth was the arrival of the girls. I supported this move and I think few would want to go back to a boys' only school despite the fears of many when we took the plunge. I think the greatest gain in going co-educational was that the school has become a kinder place. Boys and girls bully in different ways. Girls can put a curb on the casual violence that seems to be in the makeup of some testosterone fuelled adolescent boys. Boys can put a curb on the bitchy exclusion that can be a destructive element in girls' relationships with each other. You do not often read about kindness in schools' promotional literature, it can seem to be a dull virtue but to me it is the vital component of a flourishing school. To quote Mrs Moore in EM Forster's *A Passage to India*: "Kindness, kindness and more kindness." Not a bad motto.

ACADEMIC LIFE 2012-2013

IAN LOVAT
DIRECTOR OF STUDIES

Change and challenges

THE ANXIOUS period at the end of the summer holiday continues to occur both for students awaiting the A level and GCSE results and for those of us at Ampleforth waiting to process the results, offer assistance, congratulations and commiserations. Anxious because now, more than at any time in the past, results can have such an effect on a student's future.

This year we were pleased with all the results. At A Level 47% of entries were graded A* or A and, of those, one third were awarded the top A* grade. 74% of entries were awarded A* to B grades. All of these figures are an improvement on last year and represent quite a remarkable achievement for a group of students for whom we knew that ability tests showed as having the biggest challenge to attain top grades of any group since before 2000. Much hard work by them and by their teachers meant that their results exceeded expectations.

As in the past, we continue to add significant value to the attainments of students. Value added is the difference between a result that would be 'expected' given a student's measured ability and the result actually attained. At the time of writing, exact figures are still uncertain but it is likely that Ampleforth students will be in the top 10% of schools nationally for value added in the Sixth Form.

The majority of our A level students go on to university either in the UK or abroad. This year 72% of applicants gained a place at their first choice university and a further 14% gained a place at their second choice university. A further 6% gained places on courses through the UCAS 'next steps' programme. 73% of places were gained at one of the Sutton Trust's 'top 30' universities. A number now apply to study at universities abroad and this year one student succeeded in winning a place to study Medicine at the Université de Namur in Belgium and another secured a place at McGill University in Montreal. The academic year 2013-14 also saw the introduction of specific teaching for the SATs that are required for entry to American universities.

GCSE is a crucial stepping stone to A level success and remains important in the application process for university. In 2014 60% of entries were awarded A* or A grades, an improvement on last year, and a figure exceeded just once in the last 20 years. Two students gained a complete set of 10 or 11 A* grades. With over 83% of entries gaining grades A* to B, also one of the highest in the past 20 years, the hard

work and dedication of both students and teachers has borne fruit. Once again our ability tests had suggested results that would be similar to, if not a little lower than, last year.

This year Mathematics, Languages and History changed to IGCSE examinations and we have been encouraged by the consistency of the results. Next year will see all the Sciences joining the move to IGCSE examinations.

It is, of course, not possible to identify individual causes for improvement because many things change each year and certainly we cannot be complacent that such improvement will continue without significant and continued effort on the part of both students and their teachers. However, last year was the second full year of the new timetable that gives a more regular weekly working pattern and increased teaching time at both GCSE and A level. This means that both A level and GCSE students have benefitted from this additional time and more regular pattern throughout their courses. After two years and a few minor adjustments all seem to be more comfortable with what was quite a radical change that was not initially universally popular.

Additionally our intervention strategies continue to be part of the way we help students make progress; usually with their willing co-operation! Housemasters, housemistresses and tutors continue to work with houses for their academic improvement, alongside all the many other achievements and triumphs of Ampleforth students in sport, music, drama and many other varied activities.

During the year we have also had a radical look at our assessment policy and this coming year sees an updated, more clearly defined and consistent application of procedures and expectations across all departments and all subjects. By providing more time and further specific guidance on 'how to improve' we hope and expect that students will be able to achieve even more in the future.

Planning ahead

WHAT OF THE future? As outlined last year, this is still uncertain in terms of the examination system. A levels are being reformed from first teaching in 2015 for some subjects, first teaching in 2016 for other subjects and 2017 for the rest. The current plan is to make A levels linear, that is all exams taken at the end of two years, and to 'decouple' AS examinations from A level so that AS results will no longer contribute to A level. While many can see advantages to this, it will almost certainly lead to a reduction in grades overall as students will not have the opportunity to re-take units. In addition, A level subject content is increasing and examinations are to be more rigorous. Therefore it will not come as a surprise that we have spent, and

will continue to spend, considerable time and much thought in planning the shape of the curriculum for 2015 and beyond. We are debating the merits or otherwise of continuing to take AS examinations, even although they will make no contribution to A level results. At present it looks likely that AS examinations will not be taken in most subjects.

Between now and September 2015 there is also a General Election and the picture painted above may change, depending on the outcome, so plans need to take into account different possibilities. What is quite clear is that there will be a period of some uncertainty and two years at least when two different systems are running. How that will affect grades and student outcomes is unclear.

At GCSE the picture is somewhat more stable, partly because of recent decisions to move most subjects to IGCSE. GCSEs are being reformed alongside A level and while there will also be a period of change in which some GCSEs will continue to be graded A*-G and some 9-1, we expect the IGCSE grades to remain as A*-G for now. We at least have a little time to watch and wait until the picture is somewhat clearer.

At a more fundamental level, the change of structure for St Martin's Ampleforth and Ampleforth College brings the exciting prospect of closer integration of the curriculum between Years 7 and 8 at St Martin's and Year 9 at Ampleforth College. Watch this space for more on this in the future.

Finally, after nineteen years as Director of Studies, it is time to retire in August 2015. I am grateful for all the support received and for many positive messages in response to these articles in *The Ampleforth Journal*. I know that Ampleforth College will continue to thrive academically.

THE COLLEGE STAFF

SEPTEMBER 2013 - JULY 2014

Headmaster	Fr Gabriel Everitt MA DPhil <i>Christian Theology</i>
Deputy Head	Miss D Rowe MA CCRS <i>Music (from January 2014)</i>
Director of Studies	Mr IF Lovat BSc MInstP CPhys <i>Physics</i>
Director of Admissions	Mrs RMA Fletcher MA <i>English</i>
Director of Professional Development	Mr AS Thorpe BSc CChem MRSC <i>Head of Chemistry</i>
Head of Boarding	Mr AP Smerdon, BSc, <i>Geography</i>
Head of Sixth Form	Mr WF Lofthouse MA <i>Classics</i>
Head of Middle School	Dr R Warren BSc PhD <i>Mathematics</i>
Senior Chaplain	Fr Chad Boulton BA <i>Chaplain, St Aidan's</i>

HOUSEMASTERS/HOUSEMISTRESSES

St Aidan's	Mrs A Le Gall MA <i>EAL/Lang</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	Mr BTA Pennington BSc <i>Mathematics</i>
St Edward's/Wilfrid's	Mr LWB Ramsden BA Mst <i>History</i>
St Hugh's	Mr MB Fogg BA <i>Christian Theology</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	Mr P McBeth BMus <i>Music</i>
St Thomas's	Mr PMJ Brennan BSc <i>Geography</i>

MONASTIC COMMUNITY

Fr Oswald McBride BSc MB ChB BA <i>Chaplain, St Bede's</i>
Fr Francis Dobson FCA FACE-FAW, <i>Chaplain, St Cuthbert's</i>
Fr Luke Beckett <i>Deputy Procurator, Chaplain, St Dunstan's</i>
Fr Philip Rozario BA BTh <i>Chaplain, St Edward's/Wilfrid's</i>
Fr Hugh Lewis-Vivas MA STB <i>School Guestmaster; Chaplain, St Hugh's</i>
Fr Cyprian Smith MA <i>Chaplain, St John's</i>
Fr James Callaghan MA <i>Modern Languages, Classics, Chaplain, St Margaret's</i>
Fr Henry Wansbrough MA STL LSS <i>Christian Theology; Chaplain, St Oswald's</i>
Fr Alexander McCabe MA <i>Modern Languages, Christian Theology, Chaplain, St Thomas's</i>
Fr Cedd Mannion BSc MPhil <i>Chemistry</i>
Br Ambrose Henley MA <i>Classics, Christian Living</i>

LAY STAFF

A Carter MA *Head of English, Director of Arts*
 SG Bird BA ATC DipAD *Head of Art*
 GD Thurman BEd *Physical Education, History*
 HC Codrington BEd *History*
 Mrs PJ Melling BSc BA *Mathematics*
 MA Barras BSc *Head of ICT*
 ID Little MA MusB FRCO ARCM LRAM *Director of Music*
 DL Allen MA DPhil CChem MRSC *Chemistry, Physics*
 JGJ Allisstone BA *Film/TV, English, EAL, School Counsellor*
 WJ Dore MA FRCO *Assistant Director of Music, Organist*
 PT Connor MA *Head of History*
 BW Gillespie BEd *Head of Design and Technology*
 SJ Howard BSc *Chemistry*
 M Torrens-Burton MA *EAL, Classics*
 JP Ridge MA *Modern Languages, Director of Health and Safety*
 AJ Hurst BSc *Biology, Director of Activities*
 J Layden BA *Assistant Housemaster St Cuthbert's, Classics*
 Miss J Sutcliffe BA *Assistant Housemaster St Edward's/Wilfrid's, Classics,*
Director of the Theatre
 MA Dent BSc *Head of Modern Studies*
 Mrs JEC Hurst BSc *Biology*
 TJW Walsh MA *Art*
 D de Cogan ARCM DipRCM *Music*
 CG O'Donovan BSc MA *Mathematics*
 Dr JM Weston BA MA DPhil *Mathematics*
 *Mrs MA Young BA *Art*
 Mrs AM McNeill BA *Head of Christian Theology*
 Mrs F Garcia-Ortega BA *Modern Languages*
 Miss JN Horn BA *Head of Girls' Games, Physical Education*
 Miss B Fuller BA *Assistant Housemistress St Margaret's, History*
 JW Large BSc PhD *Mathematics*
 Mrs J Stannard BSc *Modern Studies*
 Miss JMC Simmonds BSc *Modern Studies*
 JJ Owen BEd *Physical Education*
 *Mrs MB Carter BA, BSc *Christian Living*
 Mrs CRM Dent BSc *Head of Geography*
 JO Devitt MPhys *Head of Physics*
 Dr EV Fogg MA PhD *Head of EAL, English*
 SR Owen MA *Head of Modern Languages*
 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 TTh PGCE *Christian Theology*
 Dr HR Pomroy BSc PhD *Head of Mathematics*
 H Webster MA DPhil *Biology*
 Mrs R Gibson BSc MSc *Biology*
 Mrs J Campbell BA *Head of Careers*
 T Foster BMus *Music*
 Mrs HC Pepper MA *Assistant Housemistress St Aidan's, Christian Theology*
 *Miss TM Jones BSc MSc *Mathematics*
 *Dr LM Kessell BSc PhD *Physics*
 Dr MJ Parker BSc PhD *Chemistry*
 JD Rainer BA *Christian Theology*
 Miss A Kimmerle MA *Assistant Housemaster St Oswald's, German*
 JB Mutton MA *Head of Classics*
 Miss L-L Pearson BA *English*
 *Mrs A Rogerson *Christian Living/Theology*
 Mrs S Baseley *French*
 Miss HK Punnett BSc *Geography*
 Mrs L Roberts MA *English*
 RH Thorley BA *Director of Sport*
 B Townend MPh *Physics*
 Dr CG Vowles BA PhD *English*
 C Booth BSc *Physical Education*
 J Cochrane BSc *Physics*
 M Girvan BSc *Geography*
 RM Hudson MA *Christian Theology*
 A Moore MA *Modern Languages*
 R Pineo BSc *Physical Education*
 C Potts BA *Music*
 *CS Rodda BA *Modern Studies*
 Miss A Rosenberg MA *History*
 Miss MV Serrano Fernandez MA *Modern Languages*
 Mrs E Vowles BA *Art*
 DM Woffenden MA *English*

*Part Time

LANGUAGE ASSISTANTS 2013 - 2014

Mr J Perez Balague *Spanish*
Miss ML Ricken *German*

LEAVERS 2013

JR Browne BA LLB FRCO *Music*
Miss LE Bolton BA *Art*
KJ Dunne BA *Modern Languages*
T Foster BMus *Music*
JE McCullough MSc *Modern Studies*
GJ Muckalt BA *Physical Education, Director of Rugby*
Miss K Selby BSc *Physics*



SCHOOL OFFICIALS SEPTEMBER 2013 - JULY 2014

HEAD MONITORS

JI FGargan (M)

PJE Dunn (T)

MONITORS

St Aidan's
St Bede's
St Cuthbert's
St Dunstan's
St Edward's/Wilfrid's
St Hugh's
St John's
St Margaret's
St Oswald's
St Thomas's
Supernumerary Monitors

GE Grant, RI Lynch
ECE Evans, TCL Moon
EPK Morrison, BT Pignatelli
GF Shrimpton, RG Thomas
ACHM Bidie, AW Jalland
TM Meacham, AP Higgins
MFM Wittman, FC Rex
A Hazell, RJME de Castellane
PWJP Nicol, G Byrne Hill
MBB Walker, GP Hodson
FJ Pratt (B), RB Trant (EW)

CAPTAINS OF GAMES

Athletics
Cricket
Cross Country Girls
Cross Country Boys
Football
Golf
Girls Hockey
Boys Hockey
Lacrosse
Netball
Rounders
Rugby
Squash
Girls Swimming
Boys Swimming
Girls Tennis
Boys Tennis

GA Innes (EW) & AW Jalland (EW)
FC Rex (J)
CE McArdle (A)
WJAH Lyon Tupman (D) & AW Jalland (EW)
GJM Hornung (EW)
HPW Dutton (D)
JI Gargan (M)
PJE Dunn (T)
MCL Baxter (B)
AC Neilson-Clark (A)
KE Welford (B)
MFM Wittman (J)
RH Bush (EW)
AS Ogden (A)
AP Higgins (H)
LMK Douglas (M)
TN Meacham (H)

ACTIVITIES CAPTAINS

Beagling	RG Thomas (D)
Clay Pigeon Shooting	FAC Pitcher (H)
Sub Aqua	MO Higham (M)
Equestrian Activities	CAO Cranfield (M)
Shooting	PJE Dunn (T)

LIBRARIANS

MJ d'Orey (B) <i>Head Librarian</i>	HM Deacy (H)
AHJR Defert (O)	AJ Holt Evans (H)
EJ Matthews (M)	AS Baker (T)
EAC Warden (B)	

The following students joined the school in September 2013:

J Abril-Martorell Saez (T), CD Allardice (B), BE Andrews (T), JJG Andrews (J), C Arco-Zinneberg (C), KO Ati-John (C), I Avila Durán (A), VBV Bacqué (B), JEP Benguigui du Vivier (O), JR Boecker (T), CC Bourassa (B), RP Bourke (M), GADL Boyle (J), EMN Brenninkmeijer (C), HEE Bridel (H), OHM Bridgeman (D), EHC Bromet (M), J Brunar (B), CTK Buchanan (H), A Cabré (J), J Campo-Redondo Hartmann (H), L Cebollero (B), TM Chapman (O), RSA Cheng (H), WF Codrington (A), HBE Craston (H), HL Dakin (H), NSMAG d'Arenberg (M), CM Deacy (H), VMP de Boisredon (H), CMLA de Galzain (M), RAAV Delogne (H), PMM de Metz-Noblat (T), LJP de Satgé (J), R d'Hauteville (EW), GLM Douville de Franssu (T), TPJ Droege (J), WJF Droin (T), BW Duckworth (D), ME Dunne (M), PEIE Durham (B), EMKG Eyring (A), TM Eyston (D), JCS Faller (A), BE Fattorini (O), A Fernández del Valle (H), AC Fernandez de Santaella Duque de Estrada (O), GA Fernando (T), C Fong (D), MKEC Freiin von Aufsess (M), NCFRA Fritton (C), JE Frowen (A), ATR Fullerton-Smith (A), XV Gamo (M), A García-Campal Rodríguez-Sañudo (H), Z Gerhardus (C), GTA Goff (H), A Gonzalez Galindo (C), JAC Grimshaw (C), NPPM Gudefin (C), J Guzmán Guzmán (B), CMG Hamilton (A), B Harmer (T), G Herranz Sarrion (EW), ME Horcajo Rubi (M), DW Hunter Blair (D), DF Hunter Blair (D), A Hurstel (B), D Iakovleva (B), LC James (M), ATP Jenkins (A), JF Johnson (C), EH Johnson-Ferguson (C), PC Johnson-Ferguson (M), SF Jones (M), TJH Kayll (J), BM Kehoe (C), N Kosykh (EW), AM Kouzmenkov (B), CM Kouzmenkov (J), A Kraus Lara (C), PC Krefeld (EW), G Lamarche (T), A Lambert (H), F Lambert (EW), RCA Lane (D), LMJ Langford (B), JW Lasecki (EW), IM Le Gall-Jamieson (B), CJS Luckow (B), R Lusvardi (B), DA MacDonald (O), JEM Madden (B), NEG Majani (O), RA Mamo (B), N Mancera de Olloqui (EW), FAP May (M), TPA Mayer (J), AP McCourt (C), ECF McGovern (B), T McGrade (H), CR Mendritzki (B), CP Milic (A), L Miquel (EW), JJ Mohan (H), AL Moore (M), CMA Morrison (M), PJK Morrison (C), CEJ Nelson (C), K Ng (T), C N'Gbama Missambi

(A), CO Odili (C), DAF Page (O), OA Peers (O), RMP Philipponnat (A), TH Philpott (J), OAB Piasecki (EW), EAF Plowden (D), MI Plowden (A), I Prado Carus (H), J Pujol Lladó (D), D Ramirez de Aguilar Riedel (D), AAJ Ramsay (J), AWF Reeve (D), JMM Reimer (M), PJMN Renard (A), HEFA Reuss (EW), JIB Richard (M), S Rohn (EW), E Sacher (M), AL Savill (M), FGN Scheiff (J), RC Stewart (D), BB Stuart (A), TGM Szapary (M), J Szczepaniec (A), E Talavera Escudero (A), T Talavera Escudero (A), CK Too (J), AJT Turner (B), BM Turner-Berry (H), L Valenzia (A), D Valle Maduro (EW), AB van den Berg (O), R Verduzco Reynoso (T), XW Wain-Blissett (J), M Wang (T), OWA Warwick (J), OB Welford-Carroll (H), AP Willsher (M), A Xuclá Pomés (A), L Yang (C), R Yang (T), Z Ye (J), MJK Yik (C), F Zaforteza Pons (T), TK Zawiszowski (C).

From St Martin's Ampleforth:

OJ Anglim (O), ARM Barran (J), AE Brookes (M), AG Campion (D), HG Durée (B), TM Esnaola (M), AFS Everett (M), IA Fox (M), MHW Foxcroft (D), JP Harding (O), CJ Harrison (EW), AHJ Hewitt (J), R Lei (O), DW McFetrich (O), MBI McGovern (B), GMG Pickstone (O), LFF Ripley (D), HDK Rogers (O), MD Rothwell (B), PDA Scott-Masson (H), SRE Slater (H), XLJ Spence (O), TJP Usher (D), HER West (M), CD Wittman (M), MJL Woods (B).

The following students joined the school in November-December 2013:

BMB Fawcett (H), JMC Alvergnas (T).

The following students joined the school in January-June 2014:

LBFM Brenninkmeyer (H), DPL Donnelly (EW), T Guerlet (EW), TA Thompson (B), F Walewska (A), L Yang (C), K Li (C), M Nickenig (C), OAB Piasecki (EW).

The following students left the school in October-December 2013:

GPL di Montorio-Veronese (EW), RHM Lawson-Tancred (EW), AJJ MacCuish (O), CA Roberts (EW), M Vialle (H).

The following student left the school in March-June 2014:

JD Allison (EW), JM Chambers (C), E Talavera Escudero (B).

The following students left the school in the June/July 2014:

St Aidan's AMG Baker, MM Bland, VVM Carre, R Chahin, A de Croÿ-Solre, JS de Meeûs d'Argenteuil, A de Pellegars-Malhorte, E Degirmen, L Duquenne, J Frowen, AM Geraghty, GE Grant, AAE Hookway, RI Lynch, L Mather, CE McArdle, AC Neilson-Clark, RA Reekie, A Renard, V Senger-Weiss, J Szczepaniec, ICC von Feury, LMDL Wells, KM Wren, LG Zychowska.

St Bede's ECL Baxter, IA Bourassa, ECE Evans, V Haider, CE Heminsley, A Kouzmenkov, C Martignac, SD May, C Mendritzki, MK Miller, TCL Moon, CM O'Brien, FJ Pratt, AEA Sunderland, E Talavera Escudero, KE Welford.

St Cuthbert's E Brenninkmeijer, CT Carroll, J Chevalier, P Cromback, AJAG Dietl, Z Gerhardus, GAF Ginolhac, GAA Gibbs, I Hidalgo Rey, AE Loftie, EPK Morrison, G Nieto Seto, BT Pignatelli, A Prachartam, J Rodriguez-Fraile Villanueva, JWY Siu, MJ Wright, T Zawiszowski.

St Dunstan's CH Cheung, R de Liedekerke, TFO de Meeus d'Argenteuil, HPW Dutton, ECS Gay, JTK Hatschek, WPJ Hirst, WJAH Lyon Tupman, MY Ngai, AES Plowden, D Ramirez de Aguilar Riedel, WPR Riddle, GF Shrimpton, RG Thomas, FWAC Trew.

St Edward's/Wilfrid's ACHM Bidie, HC Blakiston Houston, HR Boydell, RH Bush, CDDM Cunningham, LA Hall, G Herranz Sarrion, A Herrera Itie, GJM Hornung, GSA Innes, AW Jalland, CR Mingay, ADK Rogers, ATL Terry, RB Trant, MW Worsley.

St Hugh's CWE Clough, JAA Craston, B Decombe, A Fernandez del Valle, OAE Fuller, AP Higgins, JPR Kevill, WT Lam, BK Leatham, AM Leeming, AJD Lukas, TN Meacham, J Ogarrio, FAC Pitcher, FP Vaux, DGWWN von Kerssenbrock-Krosigk.

St John's HMM Bedier, A Cabré, AHMHH de Selliers de Moranville, DJL Graham, CF Harratt, MD Hulskamp, SMEA Nikitits, FC Rex, PH Stainton, NK Too, JH Wilkinson, MFM Wittmann.

St Margaret's FVE Andrews, ECR Blenkin, AE Brookes, CAO Cranfield, VG Dawson, RJME de Castellane, EOS Dore, LMK Douglas, AV Espinosa de los Monteros, M-KEC Frein von Aufsess, JI Gargan, A Hazell, MO Higham, CC Lai, AM Moncreiffe, V Osipcheva, J Richard, E Sacher, CME Tyrell, ACM Van Damme, MAE Van Outersterp, E van Praet d'Amerloo.

St Oswald's CGN Byrne Hill, HA Dingwall, TN Fattorini, I Hernandez Lopez, HH Lam, MA Macfarlane, JC McFetrich, CN Micklem, PWJP Nicol, CFF Page, JA Partarrieu, MCB Pickstone, CHY Spence, J Sunen Garriga, TJ van Kralingen, A von Borcke, AF Waley.

St Thomas's TCM Chang, CLA Douglas, PJE Dunn, HDHNA Gasquet, AMJ Hay, GP Hodson, EK Oduoza, ECO Stewart, R Verduzco Reynoso, MBB Walker, TTE Wong.

CHAPLAINCY, SERVICE AND THE SIXTH FORM

FR CHAD BOULTON OSB
SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

MANY READERS will be familiar with the Ampleforth pilgrimage to Lourdes, which for more than 60 years has been offering students the chance to understand the connection between faith and life through serving sick pilgrims in response to Our Lady's call to Lourdes. I suspect readers will be less familiar with more recent developments, which have provided sixth form students with other opportunities for service.

The Friendship Holiday began in 2004, challenging Year 12 students to fundraise during the year so that they can then provide a week's holiday at Ampleforth for students with special needs from a college in Nottingham. The Year 12 Retreat began in 2010, offering all students a day visit to an example of service within Yorkshire. This year a Community Volunteering project was started to offer 15 Year 12 students a week of practical service redecorating the flats of those needing help in York.

All three opportunities are deliberately targeted at Year 12 students as they make their transition to the top year, giving them opportunities of service or showing them examples of service in the hope that they can begin to see their final year at the school not as the enjoyment of a long-desired status, but as the chance to make a difference through their own example of service.

When St Benedict described his monastery as 'a school of the Lord's service' he had in mind not just the service that is offered to the Lord in prayer and lectio, but also the service that is offered to the Lord in his brothers and sisters. In his recent 'the Joy of the Gospel' Pope Francis wrote: 'life grows by being given away, and it weakens in isolation and comfort.' The geographical isolation and the material comfort of the school can engender what has been called the 'Ampleforth bubble,' and these different initiatives encourage our students to discover that their life can, after all, grow by being given away. Below we present different accounts of these three projects, covering the perspectives of the school, the students and the partners making this service possible.

The Friendship Holiday

THIS INVOLVES a group of Year 12 students spending the last week of the summer term hosting students from Oakfield College, a school for children with learning difficulties based in Nottingham. They live for the week at Alban Roe House, with

outing to theme parks and water parks during the day. The Ampleforth students spend the previous academic year raising £10,000 to pay for the Holiday. The Friendship Holiday is one of the 'spiritual value-added's' which really do make Ampleforth different. Up to half the year group apply; it is socially respectable, even cool, to be involved. Fundraising this year included The Big Walk: 45 miles from Whitby to Ampleforth, from Saturday noon to the end of High Mass on Sunday. It was utterly exhausting, quite beyond the expectations of many students; a shared experience of companionship, hardship, banter and bonding. Then the holiday itself: 31 Ampleforth students hosting and living in great intimacy with 17 students with mental and physical disabilities; sharing dormitories, helping them dress and shower, eating, playing, praying with them; sharing fantastic outings; dancing, chatting and laughing – a lot! Our students discovered how commonalities are far greater than differences. It was wonderful to see reservations melt, so that the final party in the Windmill was a hilarious celebration of joy and fast-won friendship.

Richard Hudson (Face-Faw Deputy)

The Friendship Holiday is one of those unique experiences, in that it never really goes the way you thought it would. I came into it ready for a week of hard work in which I would be helping a group of students, of a similar age to mine, with disabilities. You expect a week of service, which in itself is rewarding. However, nothing could prepare you for the mark that the Oakfield students will leave on you. The gratitude they show, and the enthusiasm each of the students put into a new endeavour would be best described as an example set for us to lead. The Holiday itself gives you a new perspective on life you would never have noticed; all the while making new friends on the way!

Charlie Meacham (H)

The Friendship Holiday meant a lot to me, and it is something I will carry with me for a long time. It changed the way I feel about trying to help those with disabilities, and showed me that I am able to help, as well as make friends with new people. It was a very rewarding raising funds during the year and knowing that it was going towards a good cause, but the best part was simply watching the students from Oakfield at their happiest, and being involved with that happiness. There were times when I felt uncertain (perhaps due to tiredness) but there was a reason that we were all so sad when Oakfield left. It definitely developed my friendships with students at Ampleforth, especially as I was spending a week with some who I only ever saw once a week at the meetings. But it also deepened my relationship with my closest friends on the holiday by contributing in a team with them and experiencing harder situations than we would in day to day life. Overall the Friendship Holiday was one of the most rewarding and enjoyable...and exhausting weeks I've been lucky enough to experience.

Dodie Carter (M)

The Year 12 Retreat

THE YEAR 12 retreat after their AS exams are finished is one of Ampleforth's more exciting events. Over recent years the Chaplaincy has developed this retreat around the theme of 'service' to enable the students to think more deeply about their own approach to life, and to reflect upon the call of Christ for Christians to serve others. At this stage Year 12 are in a time of transition, becoming the senior students in the college. Age brings with it both greater power and also the question of what to do with that power – a question that we all meet with at some point. The students are becoming leaders: their actions and words have authority. What they do in their final year is clearly crucial. The retreat sees them setting out in mixed groups to visit one of ten projects in Yorkshire that care for the needs of those less fortunate. They meet those who serve people who are drug addicts, homeless, in prison, in hospices, seafarers, those who help people with learning disabilities, physical disabilities, hearing difficulties or mental illness. From those who are helped they also hear what difference the work makes. Each project is distinctive and each provides its own particular insight into service. The retreat has a significant impact on the students. Prejudices and preconceptions are challenged; fears and nervousness dissipate and new perspectives emerge. While they can recognise that there are personal costs in the work, they also see the reward. Most of all the students find themselves returning to the college in a joyful mood. "The sisters were inspiring and so were the old people at the care home," "Such welcoming people," "Michael in particular was stunning; good to talk to and friendly," "We realised that people need help more than us and had the feeling of wanting to help them," "The port chaplaincy showed that simple actions make profound differences." The day finishes back at the college as the students look back over the day and draw something from it to use in their own life. Mass is the perfect end-point where the boys and girls meet up again and celebrate together. They share impressive reflections and thereby teach one another the way to serve.

Philip Thornley (Chaplaincy Assistant 2010-2014)

ON 24TH JUNE, 15 Year 12 students from Ampleforth College spent a day at the John Paul Community Centre in Middlesbrough to gain some first-hand experience of the work of the North of England Refugee Service and Investing in People and Culture. The students listened to presentations on the work of the refugee charities and also heard personal testaments from refugees which the teachers and students found very moving. The John Paul Centre provides a base for a number of charities supporting those in poverty, the homeless and refugees. In the afternoon the students were assigned to help pack and hand out the grocery carriers with staple foods and the £5.00 per week from the Mary Thompson Fund to individual refugees. Some of the students examined how we can best use the improved basement space at the centre. Fr Luke Beckett felt that important lessons were learnt about the

vulnerable in our communities. The students made a great contribution to the day by working with other volunteers and meeting refugees. During the retreat a wonderful lunch was prepared by refugees consisting of traditional Transylvanian food! Bini Araia of Investing in People and Culture said, "It was special to bring together sixth form students from Ampleforth and refugees. We all need to understand more about local issues and pressures, as well as the good work undertaken by faith groups and charities in Tees Valley."

John Hinman, Trustee, Together Middlesbrough

Community volunteering

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING was a new project offered to Year 12 pupils for the final week of their summer term. The week was based on praying and living as a community and practical work in the community. This year the work was painting and decorating three separate dwellings in York, in three separate work groups, led by three OAs, Angus Duncan (T11), Hester Carter (M10) and Charlie Oxlade (H11) whose experience of spending time in gap years working in Chile with the Manquehue Movement with their 'trabajos' ('works') projects was invaluable.

The group of 15 stayed at Stanbrook Abbey, in their holiday lodges, and each day commuted into York. The work was organised by a Christian charity called Besom, whose aim is to match people's gifts with identified need in the community. The emphasis of the work was quality over quantity, yet what was achieved materially was impressive. Perhaps unexpectedly though, the encounters and conversations with those the students met forged real friendships, if only for the week, as our students were faced with the realisation that, right on our doorstep, people live in poverty through no fault of their own. This was particularly powerful in the encounters one group had with a teenager of exactly their own age, with similar interests, passions and even GCSE grades! Our students conducted themselves with humility and good grace, and unanimously reported the project as a powerful and moving experience.

Mrs Alison Rogerson (Chaplaincy Assistant)

The week was both fun and rewarding. We were split into three random groups: those who weren't already our friends at the beginning were certainly by the end of the week. Each group was allocated a particular placement with different needs required. We were each accompanied by an OA to guide us, which made a big difference as they were closer to our own age. Each project had its own challenges which were daunting at first, as most of us had not done much DIY, nor had most of us encountered some of the conditions that the people were living in. This was shocking as we were in areas familiar to us, but we had not expected the conditions

that we saw. At the end of the day we played games and shared the task of cooking supper which was surprisingly good each night! The whole day was underpinned by prayer, which tied the week together. Overall though the week was hard work, it was rewarding and we formed friendships with not only one another but also with the people we worked for.

Lexie Turner (M)

At the Besom our vision is to be a bridge between those who want to give their time, skills, things or money and those in need. Our focus is on the giver; to equip, enable and encourage the Christians to make a difference. In the last seven and half years we've had givers in their hundreds and as young as five; we've even had Methodist Pilgrims from America. But never in York have we had a school give time. With the hurdles of Health & Safety and Safeguarding to jump over, it would have been easy to say no to the idea that Ampleforth came to me with: to bring a group of seventeen teenagers to York for a week and that's not to mention the fact that they'd not done any painting before! At Besom we have three foundations: love, prayer and relationships. Having relationships of trust is essential. We saw this demonstrated in the teams as they painted together to transform three flats in York. It was clear that 'Team Ampleforth' were responding to God's love, showing this with their actions as they served diligently through the week. We prayed much and saw plenty of answers too, from finding three particular painting projects within walking distance of our base, to the teams decorating to a high standard! All in all we're thrilled with how the week went and wouldn't say no to Team Ampleforth coming back in 2015.

Rob Ainsworth (Besom)

BACH'S ST MATTHEW PASSION

JOHN WARRACK

It was appropriate that Ian Little's twenty-five year tenure, as Director of Music at Ampleforth, should be marked by a memorable performance of Bach's St Matthew Passion during Lent. It was not so much a performance as a celebration of the relationship between the Music Department and the worship of God, which takes place regularly in the Abbey Church every week, and which represents both a constantly renewed challenge and an encounter with the mystery of God. The distinguished musicologist, Dr John Warrack, wrote this review:

OVER THE years, there have been performances of Bach's St John Passion in the Abbey Church. It seemed only a question of time before they should be followed by the St Matthew Passion, the work of which, exceptionally, Bach made a careful fair copy in his strong, flowing hand, and which he referred to privately as the Great Passion. It has taken time. This is not a work to be undertaken lightly. Length is not the only problem, though stamina is demanded of every participant for a work lasting over three hours. The St Matthew Passion ranges wider than the shorter, in some ways more intimate and personal, St John Passion. Though Bach has further refined his formidable musical skills, he was here undertaking a interpretation of the Passion story on an altogether larger scale.

The St Matthew Passion is also a work whose range encompasses the intimate and the grand, the private and the public, sometimes simultaneously. Bach's tremendous opening double chorus, summoning the Daughters of Jerusalem to witness Christ bearing the Cross, is suddenly augmented by a chorale soaring over the complex textures, praying for mercy and forgiveness. He is, surely, establishing early on the religious resonance of the Lutheran chorale; and the clean voices of the Schola Sancti Martini and the Community Children's Choir fitted this well. As the chorale melodies returned periodically, with Bach's harmonisations growing ever more intense, it was properly the entire complex of choirs that joined in, including the comparatively new Schola Puellarum as well as the established Schola Cantorum, Luther's 'priesthood of all believers' sharing in the expounding of the story.

Of the soloists, the most outstanding were Matthew Brook's bass and, though light for the spaces of the church, the soprano of a young Bach singer of whom more will be heard, Rowan Pierce. All were sensitive to the contemplative moments that the arias embody; and James Arthur's Christus sang his words with warmth and dignity. Joshua Ellicott's narrating Evangelist was eloquent. The actual timbre of his voice was not always beguiling, but he knows how to phrase Bach, and it is rare to hear such a moving delivery of one of the most poignant moments in the entire work,

when the contrite Peter, denying Jesus for the third time, hears the cock crow, 'and he went out and wept bitterly.' Ellicott was skilfully supported by William Dore, dealing with Bach's sometimes elaborate harmonic demands discreetly and effectively; but really the only major regret of the performance was that it was not found possible to recruit a harpsichord as well as the chamber organ.

Credit must go above all, of course, to Ian Little. Marshalling choirs and orchestra of this complexity is a feat of logistics, if nothing more; but judging the various levels of expression, of communication, of reflection, of drama, however clearly embodied in Bach's design, is no light matter. Nor is it straightforward to maintain the concentration and enthusiasm of young or amateur players over so large a span. Not only was this triumphantly managed: Mr Little showed himself to be a musician with masterly understanding of Bach's multiple purposes, of the detail of his often long and highly intricate phrases, of his moments of reflection and of fierce dramatic impact, a quality by no means always to be found in Bach conductors, however celebrated their name. It was an occasion in which to rejoice.



ACTIVITIES

ALISTAIR HURST
HEAD OF ACTIVITIES

IN THE LAST 12 months we have begun a period of growth and general 'refurbishment' of the activity programme. The wide range of activities will be built upon with the emphasis on breadth; ensuring there is something that interests everyone. The momentum and interest borne out of the Tour de France in Yorkshire has led to the creation of a road cycling group and the Sub-Aqua club continues to train a group of divers each year, which culminated in another visit to Malta in July 2014, to hone their new skills.

The creative energy within the College is self-evident at present; music, drama and art are thriving and allied to this there are smaller groups that meet to create all manner of things. The textiles group has grown and during the year they made coasters out of mosaic, origami boxes, bracelets using different beading and braiding techniques and knitted snoods in super chunky wool. Our big school project was to make bunting for the main hall with the core values embroidered or appliquéd on to each section. These are now displayed, hanging from the balcony above the Main Hall for all to enjoy. There are now two small groups deconstructing and reconstructing Land Rovers; they have put their skills to good use in restoring the activity department trailer too. This was not only an interesting project but a great demonstration in 'upcycling' and stewardship. Why spend thousands replacing something which with a little care and attention can be returned to excellent order for a fraction of the cost? A great life lesson especially in the current climate.

Richard Hudson took the helm of the Friendship holiday last summer with great success. The visiting students were well looked after and the Ampleforth 'helpers' worked tirelessly. The money they raised during the year was quite superb; the highlight of the fundraising efforts had to be 'The Big Walk.' This 24 hour, 44 mile marathon from Whitby Abbey to Ampleforth Abbey across the North York Moors was a real test of grit, teamwork and determination; a day never to be forgotten by this team of very hardy souls.

Combined Cadet Force

2014 HAS proven to be another fine year in many ways for the CCF. Recruitment and retention have been good, as have the results of the various competitions and events we have taken part in throughout the year. Just as importantly, if not more so, our philosophy and ethos continue to thrive.

The newest member of our staff, 2Lt J Cochrane is now qualified having attended his

standard military qualifying course. We have been successful in competitions too, with the following results:

Staniforth Small Bore Shooting National 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 Military Skills Competition: Regional Runners-up

This being the centenary of the start of the First World War, the CCF has an active role in commemorative events both within the school and elsewhere. Our three Under Officers represented the Corps at the 'Ampleforth Remembers' commemorative church service in the village, where they read the names of the 63 Old Amplefordians who lost their lives in the Great War. Antonia Szapary (M) also carried the CCF Colours into the Church where they were laid behind the altar alongside the standards from seven other representative organisations.

Year 13 CCF cadets have also helped remember the war by presenting about the First World War and the part Old Amplefordians played in it to Years 9, 10 and 11 at their respective year group assemblies.

The Corps is looking forward to, during half term of the Michaelmas term, its first trekking expedition to Nepal where the staff and students will visit Gilung High School with whom a loose affiliation was formed in 2001 and for whom £1,500 was spent on installing solar panels. Then in July 2015 21 cadets and three 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. All in all the year ahead looks as promising as the year that has just passed!

Duke of Edinburgh Awards

8 Silver awards, 12 Gold Awards

THE 2013-14 Gold Duke of Edinburgh programme was very busy with five strong teams completing two training outings in the Yorkshire Dales and a practice expedition in the Lake District. As usual, the climax of the year was the venture to Scotland for the Assessed Gold Expeditions. For the sixth consecutive year, these were undertaken in the Cairngorm National Park, where supervising staff and Award participants experienced conditions ranging from clear skies to hail and lightning.

The five teams had expedition aims varying from filming scenes from Harry Potter to visiting mountain bothies, refuges and ruins and reporting on their condition. One team undertook to produce First Aid videos, another to produce a calendar promoting

Cairngorm beauty spots and another decided that their tour of scenic locations would not be complete unless they climbed the 1004m high Devil's Point. Regretfully one team of four had to pull out when one of the boys suffered an injured ankle on day two and was unable to continue. However, the four external assessors, from the Grampian and Cairngorm Panel, praised the participants of the remaining four teams for the successful and self-sufficient completion of their expeditions and for producing entertaining and reflective presentations.

The Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award continues to develop successfully, with this year's cohort seeing four committed teams of students completing all their training and Assessed Expeditions within the year. All teams successfully completed challenging three-day journeys through the central Pennines.

Students' individual programmes of voluntary work, skilled activities, physical recreation and residential projects continue to challenge and enrich their experiences. In summer 2014 Ampleforth Duke of Edinburgh switched from being managed by North Yorkshire County Council to become a Directly Licensed Centre (DLC). This is becoming a popular choice for Independent schools and gives us more day to day control over operating the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. It also means that if we have any questions we can refer directly to the Regional Office rather than go through a middle tier.

Editor's note: Although it falls outside the academic year covered by this issue of the Ampleforth Journal, it is worth recording this:

On Wednesday 15th October, Duke of Edinburgh Awards Managers Mike Barras and Jon Large accompanied Headmaster David Lambon to St James Palace where the DLC certificate was formally handed over and David Lambon met Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh. Presentations of Gold Awards to the Yorkshire contingent were given by Alan Hinkes, mountaineer and the only Briton to have climbed all fourteen 8,000m summits. Among the recipients was Edmund Irvine-Fortescue (O13).

SPORT AT AMPLEFORTH

RICHARD THORLEY
DIRECTOR OF SPORT

AS THE VALLEY is bathed in late autumn sunshine, the time has come to reflect on another year packed full of students' endeavour, commitment and enthusiasm across the various aspects of the sports programme. Success takes many forms, be it from improvements in results, student and parental feedback or rates of student participation across our sports. This year has been no different, with unbeaten 1st team seasons; OA Emily Thorpe (A12) collecting her 'hockey blue' from Cambridge and the St Martin's U13 Rugby 7 a-side team reaching the school's first Rosslyn Park final in 27 years. National success and international recognition is the pinnacle for any aspiring sportsman/woman and we were delighted for both Olivia Warwick (M) and Toby Pratt (J) who achieved the highest of hockey honours in August as they played for England in Manchester, whilst Hugh Buchanan (H) graced the rugby fields of Murrayfield earlier in the year.

The valley was fortunate to escape any harsh winter conditions this year and both rugby and girls hockey prospered as a result. The Autumn term began strongly for the U16A XV who enjoyed 8 wins from 10, closely followed by a 1st XV under Messers Slingsby and Thurman who recorded 8 wins from 14. Strength across senior teams was a positive that extended across the 2nd and 3rd XV. If the boys had strength in depth at Senior level, this was ably matched by the girls hockey sides. The 1st XI secured 9 hard fought victories and won the Ampleforth Invitational tournament whilst the U14A's enjoyed a succession of wins in both the domestic and cup season. This cup success extended to the Rugby, as the 1st XV enjoyed a NatWest run until the Christmas break when they lost to QEGS Wakefield on tries scored in a 22-22 thriller. Whilst this fine run continued to Christmas, the Squash teams enjoyed a season that lasted until March with over 60% wins recorded at Senior level.

The Lent Term presented the best opportunity to see the College sportsmen and women work together and take advantage of the variety of opportunities across the 9 individual sports. The Boys 1st XI hockey side's success was underpinned by a strong team ethic and some superb individual skill, ably illustrated by Alex Dietl (C) who broke the school goal scoring record with 23 goals. Netball enjoyed a resurgence due to new staff (led by Miss Hampshire, a recent England international) and a movement to indoor netball in the SAC. The U15A's remained unbeaten through to the last match of the season, and further positives were found at U14A level. Our Cross Country and Swimming teams had mixed fortunes yet individual success was never hard to locate and these will reap dividends next year. An increase in numbers choosing football, coupled with a European flair, enabled a greater number of teams

to be fielded whilst the 1st XI proved to be the masters of the 'comeback' and enjoyed late success to achieve a respectable end of season. This mirrored Lacrosse, who extended their sides to include a first Junior Lacrosse side as they performed creditably at their two national events and enjoyed a tour to Edinburgh

Alongside the honest toil on the games fields, the seeds for future success were sown in the newly created PE programme and emerging Sports Development Programme. Sporting Role Model visits grew and included Julian Salvi (Rugby, Australia), Ollie Morgan (Rugby, England), Nat Haythornwaite (Netball, England). Old Amplefordian Sport continued to thrive and further matches seem to be added to the yearly calendar across a growing number of sports. These are always eagerly anticipated matches and often command the highest crowds of the year. However, the largest home crowd this year was reserved for the boys 1st XI hockey as they secured a comprehensive win in their final game of the season. A full and partisan touchline provided a memorable backdrop to a successful hockey season which also saw the U16 side reach the last 16 in the country. The new pavilion will only serve to add to the ability to host these spectators as we move into next year.

When bathed in sunshine, the valley can be one of the most beautiful places to play cricket and tennis. This summer saw plenty of action with the North of England tennis championships being held on the Brickfield courts in both U18 and U16 competitions and Ampleforth's turn to host the annual cricket festival. In the tennis, home advantage paid dividends as Alana Wilsher (M) and Tatiana Szapary (M) won the North finals and went on to gain more success in the AEGON trophy. This success was not limited to single sex tennis, as the mixed tennis VI won the HMC Northern Schools tournament in a very closely contested final on the recently resurfaced brickfield courts. Over 79% of tennis results ended in a win, both U15 boys (who remained unbeaten across the domestic season) and girls showed considerable promise in reaching the final stages of the Eton tournament. Joe Lush (T) scored one of the fastest 100's ever seen at Ampleforth during a 20 over match against Dulwich College (off 33 balls including 5 sixes in an over). Bevan Fawcett (H) quickly moved from the U15A's to play 1st XI cricket and claimed two 5 wicket hauls including a hat trick. This year also saw the House matches move to playing in their House shirts providing a welcome splash of colour during a particularly wet period of the term. Ludo MacLellan (H) scored the only other hundred of the season for the U15A's v Bradford Grammar School. Whilst there were no players representing the County this year, Toby Pratt (J) played for York CC in the National U19 finals held at Leicestershire CCC in front of the Sky Sports cameras. On the track, Athletics remained a sport in transition whilst ability at a lower level is clearly evident, next year is crucial as it seeks to re-establish its prominence in the summer sporting programme.

New sports continued to be introduced across the year including Triathlon as Miss Fenwick sought to recreate her international potential in our younger students. Golf continued to prove a sport with potential, yet results never seemed to match the obvious promise within the side.

Next year sees a sizeable addition to our staffing as Mr James (Gloucester Rugby, Wales) joins the College staff alongside 5 further national level sports graduates. A renewed set of result in our seniors alongside success in our younger years provides much optimism for next year.



SUMMARY OF SPORTS RESULTS

AUTUMN TERM 2013

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>
RUGBY FOOTBALL				
First XV	14	8	4	2
All teams	101	48	50	3

SQUASH (BOYS)				
First V	15	9	6	0
All teams	32	21	11	0

LACROSSE				
First XII	11	4	6	1
All teams	17	8	7	2

HOCKEY (GIRLS)				
First XI	15	9	4	2
All teams	70	31	34	5

LENT TERM 2014

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>
HOCKEY (BOYS)				
First XI	13	13	0	0
All teams	61	30	23	8

SWIMMING (BOYS)				
Seniors	6	2	4	0
All teams	10	3	6	1

SWIMMING (GIRLS)				
Seniors	5	2	3	0
All teams	8	2	6	0

CROSS-COUNTRY (BOYS)				
First VIII	7	5	2	0
All teams	11	5	5	1

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>
CROSS-COUNTRY (GIRLS)				
First VIII	4	2	2	0
All teams	5	2	3	0

FOOTBALL				
First XI	6	4	2	0
All teams	14	6	7	1

NETBALL				
First VII	10	6	4	0
All teams	49	20	24	5


SUMMER TERM 2014

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>
CRICKET				
First XI	15	7	6	2
All teams	47	10	35	2

TENNIS (BOYS)				
First VI	5	4	1	0
All teams	19	14	5	0

TENNIS (GIRLS)				
First VI	4	3	1	0
All teams	19	16	3	0

GOLF				
First VI	4	1	2	1



ST MARTIN'S AMPLEFORTH HEADMASTER'S PRIZEGIVING SPEECH

NICHOLAS HIGHAM
FORMER HEADMASTER OF ST MARTIN'S AMPLEFORTH

IT IS MY pleasure to stand before you today for the very last time at what constitutes a significant moment in the history of Ampleforth. I am not, of course, referring to my departure, which is not without some significance, but it somewhat pales in comparison to the departure of Fr Gabriel which will see, for the very first time in the College's 200 year history, a monk being replaced by a lay Headmaster.

I do not need to convince anyone here of how significant a transition this is, but it may come as a surprise to know that it is not without precedent in this valley, as Gilling Castle back in 1987, following approximately 60 years of monastic rule, opted for a lay head. I thought you might like to hear an extract from the then Abbot, Fr Patrick Barry, from his letter to the Gilling Parents dated 11th February 1987:

"I am writing to you about a change in the staffing of Gilling Castle which will, I hope, lead to new strength and commitment and assurance for the future of the school.

I must withdraw Fr Adrian Convey from the position of Headmaster in September, because he is needed for two appointments. He will be appointed Vicar for Religious for the diocese by the Bishop of Middlesbrough and I need him in the Abbey to be principal guestmaster of the monastery."

In an equally short and succinct explanation, Abbot Patrick Barry, outlined his case for the future of this school.

"The Ampleforth Community with its many educational commitments and other pastoral demands is no longer able to provide a sufficiently strong community with appropriate qualifications for Gilling Castle. Rather than continue to run Gilling with a reduced monastic community, we have decided to appoint a well qualified lay headmaster."

This message, delivered almost thirty years ago, was echoed in similar terms by our current Abbot when giving notice of Fr Gabriel's departure in a letter sent in August 2013.

"We are ambitious for those we teach and care for, as well as for those with whom we work. As a result, we are agreed that at this present time the imperative to appoint

the best possible head for the College compels us to seek a professional lay head. This conclusion has not been arrived at lightly, but given both the nature and commitments of the monastic community, we have decided upon this as the appropriate course of action."

The sentiment, if not the style, is almost identical.

There will be those amongst us who fear the worst and see this transition at the College as the beginning of the end of a Benedictine Education. No more 'A School of the Lord's Service' as we have known it, despite both Abbots' desire to stress that the move towards lay appointments in no way diminishes the monastic community's commitment to the school.

I suppose it is fair to ask, was it the 'beginning of the end' for the Prep School when Abbot Patrick Barry appointed a lay head in 1987? Is the school any more or less Benedictine today? Is St Martin's Ampleforth no longer, 'A school of the Lord's Service'?

These are big questions and ones which are not appropriate for me to comment on, but what is worth listening to is the experiences of your own children and those former pupils who have spoken so movingly and with such honesty here today.

What I can say with utmost confidence is that the support, encouragement and guidance offered to me by the monastic community and the support given to the school has been constant, inspirational and touching. From the Abbot to the Monks who regularly assist in our worship and prayer to those I barely know and recognise who, when visiting the monastery, have taken me by the arm to let me know that they have been praying for me.

Nowhere has this been more apparent than in the relationship between Fr Gabriel and me. Our two schools are more closely intertwined than they have ever been. Perhaps the most ringing endorsement of our relationship has been the disappearance of the fear and mistrust that sometimes existed between our two schools.

This leads nicely into mentioning the input of three monks whose devotion to this school in the past 10 years has ensured that the Benedictine character of the school and consistent high standards have been maintained in all aspects of school life. They – Fr Luke, Fr Kentigern and Fr John have been the living embodiment of our core values and if ever an example were needed of how the appointment of a lay head does not diminish the monastic community's commitment to the school than you need look no further than these three amigos.

NEW HEADMASTER'S INTRODUCTION

MARK O'DONNELL

NEW HEADMASTER OF ST MARTIN'S AMPLEFORTH

IT IS AN enormous honour and responsibility to take over the leadership of Ampleforth's prep school and I look forward to the challenges ahead, maintaining my focus always on what best provision can be made for each child. Working closely with David Lambon, the first lay head of Ampleforth College, I will be using much of my first year at Gilling to become educated in the ways of the school and building ever stronger ties with the College. One of the great assets of a link school is the advantage of having a time-honoured and shared ethos. I am struck each day with the stunning landscape of North Yorkshire that is an incomparable back-drop for all our endeavours. The Gilling experience is important for how we can nurture very young children; prepare them for an immediate future, but also to look boldly ahead to the young adult that is soon to emerge. I have been learning about The Rule of St Benedict and its relevance for the children's understanding of living well together in a community, now and in the years to come. Just as Yorkshire has big skies the school too has a great ambition to provide a curriculum that is informed by the school's unique spiritual ethos. Here at Gilling, it is possible to balance everything inside the classroom with rich outdoor experiences; opportunities that very few children anywhere else in the country have. As teachers and parents there is the chance to create an exceptional childhood experience, as well as laying the foundations for the challenges that our children will face in the 21st Century. If we achieve this balance, then our pupils will go out into the world with their own broad horizons and the knowledge and skills to do great works in it. Underpinning these goals is our desire to teach children to be truthful; to care about other people, especially their family and friends and to develop the personal confidence to command respect. If we get these things right then ambition will not just be for its own sake, but for the benefit of others.

I recognise that I must work assiduously for the school to ensure that we live up to our aspirations and I look forward, especially in this first year, to getting to know as many people in the community as possible. As long as we all move ahead in a positive spirit, with an understanding of the immense responsibility we have for helping children shape their future lives, we will be able to accomplish a lot over the coming years.

ACADEMIC

THIS YEAR St Martin's Ampleforth was awarded five Academic Scholarships, four to Ampleforth College and one to Malvern College – William Armstrong, Zara Elvidge, James Laczko-Schroeder, Patrick McInerney and Sebastian Grace.

St Martin's Ampleforth pupils James Laczko-Schroeder, Gorgia Ofiaeli and Dominic Suttons were awarded Music Scholarships to Ampleforth College. Seven pupils were awarded Basil Hume Scholarships – Francesca Foxcroft, Leo Higham, Mary Laird, Georgia Ofiaeli, Tilly Pern, Jasmin Sykes and Matilda Tidmarsh.

All pupils who took Common Entrance passed this year, with four out of the top five results at Ampleforth College being achieved by St Martin's Ampleforth pupils. Reading and literacy have again been highlighted with emphasis being placed on the importance of literacy across the curriculum. The scholarship process gave William Armstrong, Zara Elvidge, Anna Lawford-Davies, Christian Lee and Patrick McInerney an opportunity to develop their talent in maths to a very high level.

Patrick McInerney and William Armstrong joined Isabella Fox and Oscar Anglim from the senior school to represent Ampleforth in the area 'Team Maths Challenge,' where they came an excellent 4th out of the 21 schools competing.

The Junior Maths Challenge, which is aimed at challenging the most able 20%, gave the children the chance to display their ability, which they did to very good effect. John Armstrong in Year 6 gained a gold award. Christian Lee in Year 8 did so well he was invited to attempt the National Olympiad, but unfortunately this clashed with a school trip to Seville so he was unable to accept.

In Science, in addition to their usual academic pursuits, the pupils have had plenty of opportunity to broaden their horizons this year. Activities have ranged from learning about the development of new varieties of fruit and vegetables from laboratory to supermarket shelf; researching and designing new raised beds for the Green Club vegetable garden and pupils have debated the pros and cons of intensive agriculture and GM crops, they have had expert tuition on the physiology of the human immune system. In Mind Lab they have been able to create light in the laboratory using the process of chemiluminescence and four of our pupils have represented the school in the St Peter's Physics Olympics, performing admirably in many of the challenging activities.

Finally the year was rounded off with the annual Biology/Geography field trip to the Cranedale Centre to study a rocky shore habitat and to learn about the dynamics of a river.

ST MARTIN'S AMPLEFORTH STAFF

SEPTEMBER 2013 - JULY 2014

Mr Nicholas Higham BEd, *Headmaster*
 Mr Julian Godwin BEd *Deputy Headmaster, Head of History, Head of Health and Safety*
 Fr John Fairhurst OSB BSc STB, *Chaplain, Head of Christian Theology*
 Mrs Victoria Walker BA PGCE, *Head of Curriculum and Timetable, Year 4 Tutor*
 Mr Mark Harrison BA PGCE, *Head of Boarding*
 Dr Dolores Ansell BSc PhD, *Head of Curriculum, Gifted and Talented Coordinator, Teacher of Maths, Teacher of Chemistry*
 Mr Paul Arnold BSc, *Head of DT, Science, Assistant Housemaster*
 Mrs Libby Cook NVQ Level 3, *Nursery*
 Mr Vincent Conyngham BA MA BMus, *Director of Music*
 Mrs Susan Davies BA PGCE, *Pre-Prep Reception Tutor*
 Mrs Gaynor De Barr Cert Ed Cert Sp Ld (OCR), *Head of Special Needs*
 Mrs Rachel Eglinton BEd, *Pre-Prep Yr 1 Tutor*
 Mrs Kate Green MA PGCE, *Head of Science*
 Miss Doobori Hazorika BA, *Year 3 Tutor, Resident Tutor*
 Mrs Louise Higham BA, *Drama*
 Mr Andrew Hollins Cert Ed, *Head of Mathematics, ICT*
 Mrs Simone Miller BEd, *Head of Geography, Teacher of Girls' Games*
 Mrs Marian Mortimer BA Cert EYP, *Nursery*
 Mrs Nancy Newlands-Melvin BA PGCE, *Head of French*
 Miss Kate Oakley BEd, *Head of Pre-Prep, Yr 2 Tutor*
 Mrs Maria Richardson BA PGCE, *English, Year 5 Tutor*
 Mrs Angela Scott BEd, *Head of English*
 Mr John Slingsby BEd, *Head of Games*
 Mr Christopher Sketchley MA PGCE, *Head of Classics*
 Mrs Sue Smith BSc PGCE, *Physics*
 Mrs Catherine Thorley BSc PGCE, *Maths*
 Mrs. Anne Vogel-Smith, *French*
 Mrs Laura Waley BEd Hons, *Head of Art, CT*
 Mrs Jill Wood BA MA, *English, EAL, Games*

SCHOOL OFFICIALS

SEPTEMBER 2013 - JULY 2014

HEAD BOY AND GIRL

Sebastian Grace

Zara Elvidge

SCHOOL PREFECTS

William Armstrong

Emily Blackford

Zara Elvidge

Sebastian Grace

Leo Higham

Mary Laird

Jasmin Sykes

Elizabeth Torrens-Burton

Elizabeth Walsh

DORMITORY PREFECTS

Carlotta Amone

Manuel Arias

Nicolas Arranz

Sebastian Grace

Carmen Gutierrez

Leo Higham

James Laczko-Schroeder

Christian Lee

Patrick McInerney

Kit Mangles

Georgia Ofiaeli

Dominic Sutton

Jasmin Sykes

Emma Welton

SPIRITUAL LIFE

FR JOHN FAIRHURST OSB

SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

THE LAST assembly of the year usually takes place outside the Castle in order to award some of the prizes. This year it included the blessing of the beautiful statue of Our Lady of Grace, which was donated by Mr and Mrs Higham as a leaving present to the school. The statue is a focal point at the front of the School and we will be able to use it for our torchlight procession in October. Throughout the year in fact, processions are a regular feature of our spiritual life: at Candlemas and the Blessing of throats: the May crowning of Our Lady and the Summer procession of Corpus Christi as well as the "pilgrimage" walk to the Abbey Church for our Retreat Mass. They symbolise our journey through life and our need for God's grace to guide us on our way.

The Church's seasons were marked in the Pre Prep with our Harvest Festival in the school chapel, our Nativity Play and our Lent/Easter Service, all of which were appreciated by the parents who come to watch and to pray with their children. As usual, St Martin's Day was an enjoyable day for the whole school and with our other Patron Saints, St Benedict, St Alban Roe and St Aelred, helps us to focus on the importance of our Spiritual life at St Martin's Ampleforth.

We have also celebrated the international dimension of the school with Mass and prayers in Spanish for Our Lady of Guadalupe in December, French for Our Lady of Lourdes in February and Italian for the feast of St Francis of Assisi. November, traditionally the Month of the Holy Souls and Remembrance Sunday was an opportunity to add names to our Book of Remembrance and to pray for our departed loved ones. In June we also held a World War I commemoration Day consisting of various activities, art work and drama, which ended with a solemn Remembrance Service in the Sports Hall, a moving tribute to those who died, with the Last Post and wreath laying ceremony and blessing of the roses which will form part of our Peace Garden.

We love to welcome members of the Monastic Community to celebrate Mass with us and to help with Confessions. This year we had a special visit from Fr Edgar Miller who presented us with a cross stand and thurible stand, which he had made in his workshop. Both were solemnly blessed and have been put to good use. We were also privileged to welcome Bishop Terence Drainey who celebrated Mass with Years 7 and 8, followed by a question and answer session with Year 8 and a visit of the whole school. We were also able to offer staff the invitation of a visit to the monastery, joining the monks for Vespers, followed by dinner in the monastery guest room. It is hoped to repeat the event as a way of enhancing our understanding and

participation in Benedictine spirituality. It was also a privilege for the boarding community to be able to attend the ordination to the priesthood of Fr Cedd and Fr Columba. We hope to invite them soon to visit us.

The year ended, as usual, with our Prizegiving Mass in the Sports Hall, when Innes Andres received the Sacrament of Baptism and made her first Holy Communion along with Victoria Warden, George Birkett, Archie Lyness and Theo Craft. It was a rather sad occasion to say goodbye to our Headmaster but we wish him and all the family God's blessing, as he himself says on the plaque next to the new statue:

"Let your holy angels dwell in this place for our protection and peace and let your blessing be always with us."



PRE-PREP

KATE OAKLEY
HEAD OF PRE-PREP

ANOTHER BUSY year has passed in Pre-Prep. This year, as well as many highs, we have also had some sadder moments.

Nursery and Reception started the year with a visit to Thomas the Bakers in Helmsley, they saw how bread was made and were lucky enough to bring some goodies back to school. Our annual Harvest Festival took place in October and the children in Years 1 and 2 treated the parents to a Festival of Food, much of which they had cooked themselves, there was also a trip to the Ampleforth Orchard to learn how the apples were picked and turned into cider, or in the children's case apple juice!

In November we celebrated St Martin's Day with the cutting of the cake, a delicious festal lunch with the rest of the school and finally Mike's Amazing Magic show in the Blackden Hall. The end of the first term was marked by *The Nativity*, a traditional play with music and songs that the children, from Nursery to Year 2, participated in with enthusiasm. Some of the songs were reprised in the Abbey Church as part of St Martin's Ampleforth carol service – the first verse of *Away in a Manger* sung by the Pre-Prep marks the start of the festive season for many.

The New Year started with a trip to The Abbey Church with Fr John for Nursery and Reception, this was a chance for them to learn about the different aspects of the church and its role in the life of Ampleforth. Years 1 and 2 completed their topic about Castles with a trip to Helmsley Castle where they had fun identifying the keep, guardrooms and ice house. The whole of Pre-Prep decorated plant pots and grew their own daffodils as part of the Marie Curie Mini Pots of Care fundraising event. The daffodils were then presented to mothers, grandmothers and aunts for Mothering Sunday. We also had a visit from author Karen Langtree who spent time with Nursery and Reception telling fairy tales based around wooden clogs and with Years 1 and 2 she read an extract of her story, *Fairy Rescuers*, which they completed in class with a chapter at the end of each day.

The summer term was busy from the start and the children practised their concert at Exhibition. Nursery and Reception recited an exciting *Rocket* poem whilst Years 1 and 2 retold the story of *Handa's Surprise* in French. Unfortunately Sports Day had to be postponed due to the weather but we were able to run it alongside the New Children's tea party at the end of June – the Astroturf provided an ideal running, skipping and obstacle track for the children and the viewing for parents was well positioned.

We had several visitors in the Summer Term; PC Paul came to see Nursery and Reception and talked about how the police keep us safe. Mike Smith judged the annual poetry competition and was impressed with the standard of work submitted by the Pre-Prep. We used the Garden Library to host some story tellers who told the children traditional tales from around the world.

Reception and Year 1 rounded off the year with a trip to the Ampleforth Lakes, and Year 2 accompanied Year 1 to Robin Hood's Bay for a day of rock pooling, sand sculpting and fossil hunting.

It was with sadness at the end of the year that we had to announce the passing of Mrs Susan Davies who had been a teacher in the Pre-Prep since 2005. Staff, parents and children attended a Memorial Service early in the new academic year.

MUSIC

VINCENT CONYNGHAM
HEAD OF MUSIC

AT THE beginning of the academic year, over three quarters of the school were learning a musical instrument.

It was a busy Michaelmas term with the first engagement for our choristers being the 40th Anniversary Celebration Mass at St Aidan's RC Church, Oswaldkirk by kind invitation of Fr Edgar Miller OSB.

Later in the term the choristers also sang at Vespers with the Monastic Community, the NSPCC Christmas Fair at Castle Howard, Handel's Messiah in the Abbey Church and our Carol Service in December.

The school enjoyed community singing as part of our St Martin's Day celebrations in November and Year 8 delighted their parents and families with a varied musical programme of songs from musicals at their Year group concert.

Bishop Draine said Holy Mass for the School when he visited in November and was impressed by the sacred music sung by the whole school as well as the singing by the Schola boys and girls.

The Lent Term saw two other year group concerts Year 7 and Year 6. The Year 7 concert highlights included William Hunt, Alice Hunt, Tom Tom Scott-Masson and yours truly, performing a version of the Blues Brothers' *Everybody Needs Somebody*. Whilst Year 6 at their concert performed *The Jonah Man Jazz* by Michael Hurd,

which tells the biblical story with spoken passages narrated between the songs.

A combined junior girls and boys choir, made up of members of the Schola Cantorum and Schola Sancti Martini, reached the semi finals of the BBC Songs of Praise School Choir of the Year 2014 Competition in April. The children performed *I the Lord of Sea and Sky* and received praise from the judges, however, unfortunately we were not put through to the final.

Our schola boys and girls joined the College choirs in March to sing Bach's St Matthew Passion and despite the complexity of the vocal and instrumental writing it was a very powerful performance.

The Lent term concluded with the choristers flying out to Lisbon to sing in some of the city's famous churches including the Cathedral, Jeronimos Monastery and the Church of St Sebastian.

The summer term began with another opportunity to sing at Monastic Vespers. Our Exhibition Concert found the orchestra in fine form and our instrumental soloists performing to a high standard. A number of our instrumentalists played with the College Orchestra or Band at the Proms in the Valley event later in the evening.

We commemorated the beginning of the Great War by learning and performing a variety of WW1 songs in the context of a speal service held in the Sports Hall.

Term finished with Mass on Prizegiving Day which included a hearty rendition of *Jerusalem*.

DRAMA

JILL WOOD
ENGLISH

YEAR 7 had the opportunity to perform in public for the first time in this academic year. The celebrations at the Winter Sports Extravaganza provided an audience for a short play performed by the whole year group. Unusually, the two main roles of Sadako and her best friend, Kenji, were divided up amongst the class so that eight girls and four boys could take a turn at playing the main roles. This play not only produced some fine performances, but brought the whole school together in an unexpected way.

A Thousand Cranes by Kathryn Schultz Miller is a moving play, based on the true story of Sadako Sasaki. Sadako was only two years old when the Hiroshima bomb fell and seemed to be unharmed, but at twelve she was diagnosed with 'radiation sickness.' With boundless optimism, she takes an old story to heart: "If a sick person

folds a thousand paper cranes the gods will grant her wish and make her well again." Sadako begins to fold her thousand cranes but only reaches 654 before succumbing to the sickness.

After her death, Sadako's friends and classmates finished Sadako's work. They folded enough paper cranes to make a thousand. Today children in Japan and all over the world fold a thousand paper cranes and lay them at the feet of Sadako's statue in the Hiroshima Peace Park. Their wish is engraved at the bottom of the monument: 'This is our cry, this is our prayer - peace in the world.'

Year 7, the boarders and, in the end, the whole St Martin's Ampleforth community became involved in making the origami paper cranes needed for the play. The 1000th crane was completed just two days before the performance and joined the rest to be exhibited at the end of the play. The cranes were then packaged up and sent to Japan to join those laid at the foot of the statue.

Year 8 had the luxury of an extra week in the calendar following their Common Entrance exams, so rehearsals for the end of year play were less intensive, allowing the pupils to attend other activities. This relaxation may have contributed to the success of this year's play, *Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll.

Performed in the terraced gardens, partly en promenade, the beautiful serenity of the Castle and its grounds, as well as outstanding weather, lent themselves perfectly to seeing how Lewis Carroll himself would have imagined the characters appearing to a little girl asleep on the grass. When you have once seen the White Rabbit running the full length of the Classroom Gallery in his haste not to be late, you would never be happy to see the production in the confines of a theatre again.

The lead role was taken by Head Girl, Isabella Fox - a heavy task with so many lines to learn at the same time as Common Entrance exams. Isabella brought just the right amount of innocence, fear, wonder and exasperation to the character as she tries to make sense of this mad world she has discovered. Wonderful characters, and performances, from every single child who took part, gradually led the audience to the realisation that you cannot put your own values onto those around you and cannot always judge others by your own standards.

As always, the whole of Year 8 rose to the task with magnificent style and this became the most collaborative production undertaken as the performers grappled with the problems of an outdoor performance. It was a delight to have the largest audiences ever seen at a St Martin's Ampleforth play and feedback was full of admiration for the production.

Year 6 worked through the year on exercises to develop concentration, tone of voice, voice projection, body language, movement and spatial awareness. Pupils worked in small groups, pairs or as individuals. Focus was strong on the collaborative nature of drama to develop a sense of belonging and willingness to participate. At the end of the summer term an informal drama workshop saw the group present *The Big Ship Sails*, a poignant short play based on the migration movement exploring the fate of children being sent to Australia to start new lives in the post war years. It was performed to an appreciative audience of parents. Pupils showed how they had developed their speaking and performing skills working successfully as a group supporting one another as they recreated each scene with the minimum of props and costumes.

A weekly drama lesson took place with Year 5 as one group and Years 3 and 4 working together. The focus was very much on enjoyment with children developing self confidence through performance and participation. Understanding the need for co-operation and collaboration was of paramount importance to help pupils' personal and emotional development as they worked, sharing values and ideals before embarking on each activity.

At the end of the academic year the combined group of pupils in Years 3, 4 and 5 channelled their energy, enthusiasm and skills into a performance for the parents. They staged a very successful and entertaining short musical play by Julia Donaldson, Children's Laureate, entitled *Bombs and Blackberries* set in World War 2 Lancashire and gave a warm, sympathetic delivery of the characters, themes and music.

GAMES 2013-14

THERE HAVE been over one hundred girls' fixtures this year at SMA for hockey, netball and rounders. Every girl has played in at least one match for each of the three major sports, with many having a weekly representation. The girls have had the opportunity to develop their games skills in the three games coaching sessions per week and have benefitted greatly from the coaching expertise on offer from both St Martin's and Ampleforth College staff.

Hockey Highlights

The Senior Girls' hockey squad had an impressive season, winning seven, drawing two and only losing two games. We also had two girls through to the next round of the England Pathway development scheme. Highlights of the season included an excellent draw at Sedbergh to share the annual trophy. They also impressed in their match against the Kenyan touring team. The 2nds, 3rds and 4ths had good seasons too, with the 2nds winning as many games as they lost and the 4th putting seven goals past Sedbergh. There were several weekends when fixtures were possible for four teams enabling every girl in the senior school to play. The U11s had a tough season, struggling to find their feet on the hockey pitch. Impressive performances were noted by Gemma Breese and Helena Mangles. The best results of the season, however, fell to the U9 team, who remained unbeaten. Colours were awarded to the 1st team for their collaborative performances Mary Laird, Tilly Pern and Matilda Tidmarsh were awarded Basil Hume scholarships.

Netball Highlights

Of the 41 netball matches played during the term, the girls secured an impressive 23 wins, 3 draws and 15 losses. On the senior front, all 34 students had an opportunity to represent the school. The most successful team was the U13B team which achieved five wins under its captain. The highlight of the C & D teams' season, came at the very end with impressive wins against Queen Mary's. The first team had a challenging but productive term. They were led superbly well by their captain Georgia Ofiaeli who was a key player as GA, linking play between the centre court and the shooting circle. Her efforts throughout the term were rewarded with a Basil Hume Scholarship for netball. Georgia was not alone in the shooting area and as the term progressed she relied more and more on her steely GS Georgina Kassapian. These two girls could not have had so many opportunities to shoot had it not been for the resolve of Mary Laird, a player who never gave up!

The junior netball teams faced some tough opposition during the term but every girl in Years 5 and 6 played more than five fixtures. Although they only managed a couple of wins between them, their efforts could not be faulted, especially Helena Mangles and Erin Anglim who were the stars of the season.

The U9 netball team continued their winning streak from the hockey season with an impressive five wins out of six.

Rounders Highlights

The 1st rounders team improved immeasurably over the term despite their early defeat in the National Jets Rounders competition. The highlight of the season was their victory in the Choir Schools' Association tournament where they were unbeaten in their five matches. Captain Mary Laird proved a force to be reckoned with in her organisation of the team throughout the term. Colours were awarded to Mary Laird and Alexandra Worth in recognition of their excellent commitment.

The U11s missed several of their planned fixtures due to poor weather during the term, but it proved to be their most successful sport of the year securing more victories than with netball and hockey. The highlight of the season was beating The Minster School in the last match of the season, clinching a 16-14 victory.

Once again, the U9s proved unstoppable on the rounders pitch, winning all of their fixtures except one. The whole squad should be commended on their performance, as they only lost two matches in the whole year.

Rugby

The outstanding achievements of the First XV and First VII should not go unrecorded with the boys winning 12 of their 14 matches in the 15-a-side version of the game.

It was during the Sevens season however where they really excelled taking part in 7 tournaments in total. We reached the final in all but one tournament, winning three and narrowly losing out on conversions in the rest.

The most impressive results took part in three consecutive days when on Sunday 23rd March the boys won the Oundle IAPS Sevens winning 6 matches in the process. Elated, weary and injury hit we headed south from Oundle that evening to London to take part in the Rosslyn Park National School Boy Sevens.

We played and won 5 matches on the next day, Monday 24th March, which took us through to the knock out stages on the final day, where the boys reached the final, losing to Millfield.

U11 Rugby

The U11 squad improved immensely showing excellent ability, teamwork,

determination and an eagerness to learn. The development of game understanding was one of the biggest highlights this season, particularly in those boys who were in their first season of rugby.

The team dynamic allowed for an opening, attacking brand of rugby with excellent strike runners in Gabriel Laird (Captain) and Clem Hirst. Gabriel showed his attacking prowess by finishing as the top try scorer for the team.

The team's attacking ability combined with a strong defence made for some extremely entertaining rugby, which was best illustrated in the 15-14 victory against Mowden Hall.

1st X1 Cricket

It was a season of overall successes, one, in which the team improved dramatically, going from losing to St. Olave's in our first game to an overwhelming victory against Aysgarth in an emotional last match, one enjoyed by everyone. We performed well as a team and mention must go to Tilly Pern, who admirably played in our boys' team.

U11 Cricket

The boys enjoyed a successful season, with excellent individual and team performances. Their development through the season was evident for all to see and resulted in an increase in confidence, which spread through the team. The highlight of the season was two-fold; the 3 wicket win versus Terrington Hall when St Martin's Ampleforth chased 110 runs and the defence of the Ampleforth College 8-a-side Tournament.

The most important statistic from this season was that each member, of the team, contributed a match winning display. This statistic is rare at U11 cricket and bodes well for the future of St Martin's Ampleforth.

Boys and Girls Cross Country

The standard of cross country running at St. Martin's Ampleforth continues to go from strength to strength. We are very grateful to Mr Harrison, Miss Fenwick and Major Blackford for leading the weekly club runs throughout the year. Children from all age groups took part in these training runs and it was good to see, for example, the Under 9s perform well, with their second place at the SMA meeting. Even though the Under 11 teams struggled a bit in terms of results, each child took part with plenty of endeavour and enthusiasm.

Once again, our Under 13 teams led the way with both the boys and girls teams winning at the SMA and Red House meetings, and coming very close at

Giggleswick. Our strongest runners, Hugh Myers and Maria Hague, return next year, so we look forward to further success.

Athletics

St Martin's Ampleforth Prep School pupils achieved their best results ever at the National Prep School Athletics Meet on Wednesday 2nd July 2014. The meet was held at the Alexander Stadium in Birmingham.

Beluchi Diugwu (age 13) won a Gold Medal in the boys 100m final with a time of 12.08 seconds and he went on to win a second Gold Medal in the boys 200m final with a time of 24.77 seconds.

Next came the turn of the boys 4 by 4 relay team. The team consisting of Beluchi Diugwu, Leo Higham, Christian Lee and Kit Mangles (all age 13) reached the final and in an exciting last race of the day, the boys achieved a magnificent silver medal. To finish a thrilling day, Beluchi Diugwu was awarded the Richard Corden Cup for the best performance by a boy on the day.



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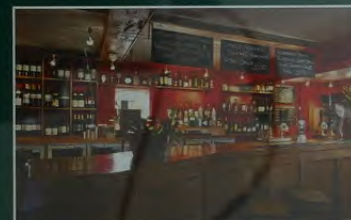
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