

AMDG

STONYHURST

association news



NEWSLETTER 323

AUTUMN 2025



The Stonyhurst Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2025

EDITOR'S NOTE



AMDG.

Much has been said about Stonyhurst being a **'Family like no Other'** and that sense of family, based on mutual respect and support, extends beyond the years spent at the College – where we began our journey with the benefit of a Jesuit education to gain necessary skills, knowledge and attributes – into the communities in which our lives take us.

Demonstrating that we are **'Men and Women for Others'** within a community is something that the Stonyhurst family holds as important for our ongoing personal development. The family of mutual support and service is epitomised in the Lourdes Pilgrimage which we are proud to recognise this year on our cover picture.

In this edition we herald the introduction of OS Ambassadors, alongside our OS news and updates, to encourage the network of contacts after leaving the College. We learn about the recognition of a nation for an OS who lost his life in the service of his country; about an OS who lead the challenge of regeneration in his community after the withdrawal of a major employer; an OS whose religious vocation has taken him to Louisiana to regenerate a retreat centre; and an OS who used his talents and attributes to raise money for the Alzheimer's Research UK.

We also welcome the opportunity to share news from Stonyhurst Penang, for the first time, and look forward to receiving further updates from this international expansion of our Stonyhurst family.

If you have material for inclusion in the newsletter, please email it to me at j.macfarlane@stonyhurst.ac.uk

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

BRENDAN ROCHE OS 82



Our President, Harry Dickinson, and I have recently been in Lourdes on a very happy and successful Stonyhurst and Catholic Association Pilgrimage. A fair number of people, including many members of the Association, return to Lourdes year after year and, thanks to them, we are able to organise a safe trip for a large group of sick and

disabled pilgrims; some staying in the hotels, those in need of more care in a hospital-like building called the Accueil Notre Dame.

One of our helpers, **Nik Hartley OBE OS 89**, whose day job is CEO of the Spinal Injuries Association, has written a longish post on LinkedIn considering what draws him to Lourdes, much of which I reproduce here (with his permission):

“‘You go where?’ On pilgrimage. To Lourdes. ‘Why on earth...?’ The annual August questioning. It’s a fair question: I hardly exude ‘religious, pilgrimage-goer’ but here I sit, equally exhausted and satisfied, after another year’s visit to Lourdes.

I’ve been going since I was ten (44 years ago!), so maybe it’s time I did try to answer why. As a start, I know it is quite literally the best thing I do in a year (for me that is, to be clear). But why? It is not about cures, in case that is what hearing the word ‘Lourdes’ evokes for you. So, what, then? For one week, I get to co-lead a core care team, with responsibility for about 30 of the pilgrims (of the 400) who need more intensive support to get up, wash, go to the loo, have some food and be ready for their day of services, processions, singing, praying, laughing, and crying. And, again, at the end of the day, more support, food, loos and bed. That physical

human work is wonderful. But that isn’t in itself quite enough to answer why I love it. It is something more. Perhaps some sweet spot between the physical care, and then the laughter and chats, the mucking in, the bonding with fellow helpers, late night songs in French bars, witnessing the faith, of course, and the unconditional love pouring out from everyone, the familiarity, the place (it is in the foothills of the Pyrenees)...somewhere in the eye of all that?

But, no – even that isn’t quite the enough to answer why, either. I give up. Ask me again next year. Or...an afterthought: I said at the last night party that one of the people I had been assisting was talking with me and then she fell asleep. I was so loving her story (and needed a cuppa) that I stayed sitting there, next to her, mug of tea in hand. Twenty minutes later she woke up. She looked to her left and said two words with a beaming smile. ‘Still there!’ I am, I said. I was. Because I had nothing better to do (in the whole world). Maybe that is it: in that week in Lourdes we (I) have time. We can be there; still there. Alongside one another. Nothing else to do or distract. Unlike the rest of our light-speed world (measured by profit, KPIs, cost and the race to instant artificial (un)intelligent solutions to everything), in Lourdes people have time, where the pace is set by the slowest walker and creakiest wheelchair. All we have is time; for each other.”

At its best, the Association supports and encourages its members to live the values that they learned while pupils or otherwise connected with the College i.e. to be ‘Men and Women for Others’ and to give ‘Quant Je Puis’. The annual pilgrimage to Lourdes is one way that we can do this. Why not join us in August 2026?

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

HARRY DICKINSON OS 94



A Twitch Upon a Thread

This year I returned to Lourdes with the Stonyhurst Pilgrimage after a gap of a quarter of a century. My son, **George Dickinson OS 25**, was the catalyst. He had some Rhetorician mates going and mentioned he might quite like to go. I decided to book for both of us without even

consulting George; it didn't occur until I was actually in Lourdes that he might object to the presence of his boring old dad cramping his style!

I confess to some trepidation. Twenty-five years is a long time. How would I react to the intensity of a pilgrimage? I was a recent school leaver last time I was here, open-minded and thirsty for experience, and with an immediate two decades of reasonably hardcore Catholic education at my back.

How would I fit back in? The last time I was in the company of lots of OS contemporaries – if memory serves, Beldy (**Stephen Belderbos OS 94**), Shedy (**Simon Head OS 94**), Puggy (**Matthew Pugh OS 94**), Nick Devine **OS 95**, Dan Fattorini **OS 95**, Mitsu Asami **OS 95**, Edward Dunbar **OS 95** and my brother **Hugh Dickinson OS 97**, to name just a few. This time none of those were coming and it definitely felt like a leap into the unknown.

As it was, it was like coming home. You know that feeling you have at a family wedding when most of the guests are your friends, and the guests you don't know yet are just friendships waiting to happen, and everyone is just being themselves, and you are conscious of something very special? Well, that is something like Lourdes. It embraces you and says – you belong here! The Stonyhurst group is particularly good for this – we are a family that welcomes all whether OS, former parents, children of OS or just friends (of which we are lucky to have many). We even had two Benedictine-educated pilgrims amongst our number! The wonderful Rupert Orchard OG with his wife Cecilia (sister of **Christoper Page OS**), and Robbie Schulte OA (great-uncle of the Belderbos tribe)!

It's hard to describe Lourdes to those that haven't yet been. It is a deeply spiritual place, even mystical. It is about service, to the sick and disabled (the so-called "Assisted Pilgrims") and to each other; as much as about giving help as being open to receiving it. Sometimes being open to receiving help is the hardest thing of all. It is most certainly about healing, even if miracles are not your thing.

But of course, it is also a place of tremendous fun where the old adage of "work hard, play hard" still holds amongst the young. A Stonyhurst pilgrimage tradition has long been to gather in

the evenings in a bar that has a piano, to sing and entertain and mix with other pilgrims. This year, we had an incredible impromptu Stonyhurst band comprising variously of **Elliot Hartley OS 25**, his brother **Oliver (Rhetorician)**, **Peter Lorriman OS 25**, **Seb Franck OS 25**, **Dom Hartley OS 86** and **Francesca Fitzsimons OS 24**! Extraordinary talent on display. When somebody turned to me at the Accueil party towards the end of the pilgrimage and said: "Stonyhurst brings so much energy to this pilgrimage", I couldn't agree more. *QJP*.

A week to the day after returning to London I was amazed to turn around to see amongst the guests **Dom Hartley OS 86** and his wife Clare, who I had seen just one week earlier in Lourdes! We were at the RAC Club at the 10th Anniversary party of the Blackthorn Rally, an off-road motorsport expedition for military veterans, including those seriously injured in recent conflicts, founded by our very own **Ben Farrell OS 86**. Ben epitomises the quiet and understated Quant Je Puis spirit so characteristic of many OS that quietly get on with making a difference without any fuss or need for praise.

I am delighted that Ben will be our guest speaker at the upcoming **Association Dinner at Beaumont on Saturday 25 October 2025** to which I exhort you all to come. Ben may even talk about this year's 10th Anniversary rally to Colombia on which I am also taking part – thirty of us will get aboard Enduro bikes and quads in Cali and ride through the Andes to Medellín over seven days, having first acclimatised in Bogotá for 48 hours where we are to be welcomed by the most generous and helpful of Colombian OS, **Camilo Otalora OS 93**. All in all, we will be four OS on this rally – **Ben Farrell OS 86**, **Paddy Mayhew OS 86**, **James Moulton OS 94** and myself **OS 94**. All of us had the privilege of serving in the Irish Guards.

So how shall I end these reflections? Perhaps to say that being President of the Stonyhurst Association is a rare privilege. A privilege because I am seeing firsthand Stonyhurst in action in the world. It is an unusual public school that educates the privileged but says to them that all the education in the world is worth nothing if we are not 'Men and Women for Others'. It is also a rare family that opens its arms to all who share our values, and even to those that do not yet, in a spirit of welcome and friendship. These are the invisible threads that connect us whether we're on pilgrimage in Lourdes or on a mountain track in the Andes. But it is also the throwing down of a gauntlet – for me, the challenge of being open to feeling the twitch upon that thread and then responding.

Father Brown looked him full in his frowning face. "Yes," he said. "I caught him, with an unseen hook and an invisible line which is long enough to let him wander to the ends of the world, and still to bring him back with a twitch upon the thread."

G. K. Chesterton, *The Annotated Innocence of Father Brown*
Quant Je Puis.

DIARY OF EVENTS

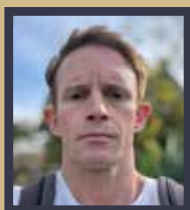
Details will be published on the website www.stonyhurst.ac.uk
email: association.stonyhurst.ac.uk with any queries

DATE	EVENT	NOTES
25 October 2025	Stonyhurst Association Annual Dinner, De Vere Beaumont Windsor	President: Harry Dickinson OS 94 Guest of Honour: Colonel Ben Farrell MBE OS 86 Tickets: • Standard £110 • Sponsored £135 (supports young OS attendance) • Young OS (25 & under) £80 Includes drinks reception, three-course dinner, wine, coffee, and entertainment by Nightlights DJ & Event Services. Dress code: Black tie Accommodation Preferential B&B rates at De Vere Beaumont (quote "Stonyhurst Dinner"): • £150 single/£180 double Free on-site parking available Additional information: • Dietary requirements and seating requests – include on booking form • Transport – free return coach to central London (reserve via form) BOOK HERE: https://forms.office.com/e/WsaynvyLuW?origin=IprLink 
8 November 2025	Rhetoric 1995 Reunion	Reunion for Rhetoric 1995 on Saturday 8 November with Mass on Sunday. BOOK HERE: https://host.nxt.blackbaud.com/registration-form/?formId=8c18f45f-a32d-41bb-a2cf-64d0b8ec05ab&envId=p-aSgQcU9qGE-q6sLxq4Vv6A&zone=eur 
4 December 2025	Stonyhurst Association Carol Service	7pm at St Peter's Church, Stonyhurst, followed by festive refreshments in the Top Ref.
9 December 2025	Stonyhurst College Carol Service, Farm Street, London	7pm at Farm Street Church, London, followed by refreshments.
24 January 2026	OS Lunch at Preston Grasshoppers	Annual OS Lunch at Preston Grasshoppers, Saturday 24 January, when Hoppers play Sheffield. This informal, much-enjoyed event regularly attracts around 100 OS, former staff, partners and friends. Bookings open in November. To register interest, contact Martin Hothersall at martinhothersall@outlook.com
2026 dates to follow	2026 Reunion Dates (booking details to follow)	25 April – Rhetoric 2006 Reunion 17 May – Poetry 1976 Reunion (London; contact Simon Baer, simontbaer@aol.com) 4 July – Rhetoric 2016 Reunion 19 September – Poetry 1986 Reunion 7 November – Rhetoric 1996 Reunion

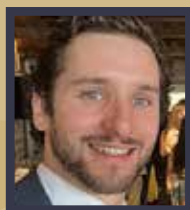
OUR ASSOCIATION AMBASSADORS

Stonyhurst Association is a global family, and as such, there is a need to strengthen community ties, enhance engagement, and provide localised support for alumni across the world.

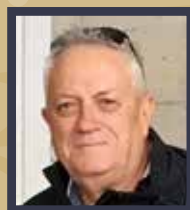
Our new area Ambassador volunteers will serve as a key connector for Association members in your area. Their primary responsibility will be to organise and foster a welcoming, inclusive community for members living in your region through events and support networks.



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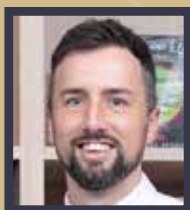
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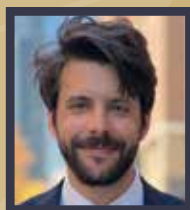
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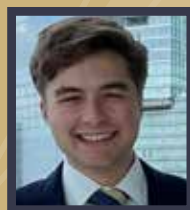
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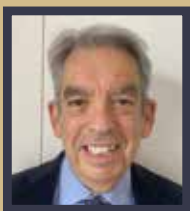
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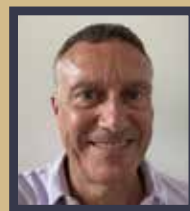
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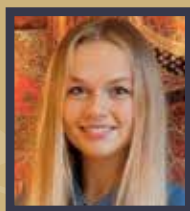
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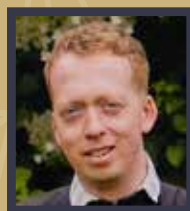
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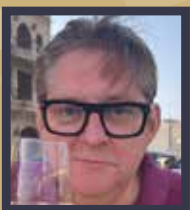
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 to be kept informed of events and news.

www.stonyhurstlink.com

If you would like to offer your services as an
 Ambassador for your area, please contact
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NEWS

STONYHURST HERITAGE: ANTHONY R. MARTIN OS 76 AND A BREWING LEGACY

Few Stonyhurst alumni can claim a legacy as enduring as that of **Anthony R. Martin OS 76**.

As the third generation at the helm of the family business, *John Martin S.A.*, Anthony has played a central role in preserving and expanding a brewing heritage that began in 1909 – when his grandfather, John Martin, left England and arrived at the port of Antwerp.

John Martin introduced English ales like *Bass Pale Ale* to the continent, but his true legacy began with the creation of *Martin's Pale Ale*, a Belgian-brewed homage to its British namesake. He also secured a rare partnership with Guinness to import and bottle a unique, stronger version of a special stout – *Guinness Special Export* – brewed in Dublin exclusively for the Martins in Belgium. These beers, alongside Gordon Scotch Ale and others, quickly became Anglo-Belgian icons.

Anthony Martin built on that heritage with vision and resolve. In 2010, he saved the historic *Ferme de Mont-Saint-Jean*, located on the battlefield of Waterloo, from neglect. He transformed the medieval site, famous for its role as the Hôpital des Anglais in 1815 into a vibrant brewery and distillery that pays tribute to his family's brewing tradition. By reintroducing brewing operations on-site, he restored authenticity and revived the *Waterloo* beer brand in time for the bicentenary of the battle.

While Anthony has remained the guiding force, the fourth generation has also stepped in. His son Edward, trained in marketing and distilling, now supports the production of whiskies and gins while continuing to brew. The philosophy remains unchanged: discipline, authenticity, and a strong local connection. "I still call myself a brewer," Edward says, "because brewing is where creation begins."

Today, *John Martin S.A.* is a rare example of a family brewery that has adapted across generations without losing its soul. Under Anthony's



stewardship, it continues to honour its English roots while embracing Belgian craft. The Martin family's beers and spirits, brewed with precision and aged with care, are now exported globally – but their heart remains in the traditions passed down from one generation to the next.

For Anthony Martin, the values instilled at Stonyhurst – heritage, resilience, and leadership – find expression in the excellence in every cask, bottle, and brew: the Martins in 2024 being elected "World's Supreme Brewer" with the pure malt Whisky also honoured as "The Worlds' Best". His story is not just one of business success, but of cultural continuity, and pride in craftsmanship that began over a century ago with an Englishman's journey to Belgium set on the motto of *Quant Je Puis...*



NEW FOREST OS ANDREW SUTHERLAND OS 66 REPORTS

Michael McCabe OS 71 together with **Giles** and **Dominic Boddington** both **OS 69**, were delighted to host Fr Bossy SJ for a February lunch in Bournemouth organised by Michael, seen here in the photograph. They were very pleased to see him in such good health and "with a memory that soon had us correcting our recollections of our time at Stonyhurst!"



MEMORIAL TO MAJOR FRANCIS SUTTILL DSO OS 26 BY JOHN MULHOLLAND OS 71



A special ceremony took place in Paris on 24 March 2025 to unveil a memorial plaque to commemorate **Major Francis Suttill DSO OS 26**. He was the Head of the Prosper network of the Special Operations Executive (SOE) in occupied France in the Second World War.

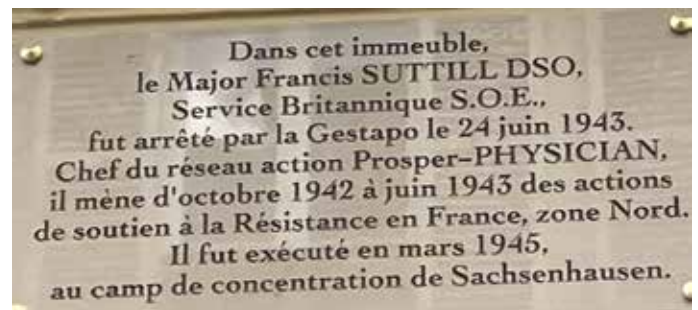
Suttill parachuted into occupied France in October 1942 to establish and lead resistance networks across northern France and facilitate air drops of ammunition, weapons and explosives to enable effective sabotage. This clandestine work was fraught with risk and danger. Despite this, Suttill, with his French and British co-workers, rapidly established Prosper as the largest SOE network in France. With rapid growth came increased security risks; in June 1943, Suttill was arrested at his apartment on 18 Rue de Mazargan in Paris. This was the scene of the commemoration and the plaque unveiling, organised by La Federation Nationale Libre Resistance with support from the Royal British Legion and the British Embassy in Paris.

Suttill heroically resisted arrest and was interrogated and tortured in Paris. In March 1945 he was executed at Sachsenhausen concentration camp. For the full story of Suttill's life see *Prosper: Major Suttill's French Resistance Network*, The History Press, 2018, written by his younger son, **Francis John Suttill OS 58**.



Rue de Mazargan was sealed off for the ceremony and unveiling. It was attended by over 100 people. There were short speeches, including one from the President of Libre Resistance, William Beauclerk, and on behalf of Francis John Suttill who was not able to fly over from Australia for health reasons. Colonel David Hannah, Chief of Staff, British Defence Staff France, represented the British

Government. He provided an overview of Suttill's life and service and described the events surrounding his spirited resistance to arrest in June 1943 at the very spot we were standing. The plaque was unveiled by Major Suttill's niece, Annick-Guenot Suttill and Teresa Suttill, a cousin of Francis John Suttill.



Pictured above is the plaque at 18 Rue de Mazargan where Suttill was arrested in June 1943. Photo by **Stevan Corbett OS 74**.

The plaque, in French, translates: *In this building, Major Francis SUTTILL DSO of the British SOE was arrested by the Gestapo on 24 June 1943. He was leader of the Prosper – PHYSICIAN network from October 1942 to June 1943 which supported the resistance in northern France. He was executed in March 1945 at Sachsenhausen concentration camp.*

Stonyhurst were represented by **Cristina Garlington-Dihl OS 04**, **Stevan Corbett OS 74**, **Andrew Sutherland OS 66** and his wife Sue, **John Mulholland OS 71** and Paul Garlington who taught history at Stonyhurst and SMH for 42 years. Paul is Cristina's father. Before the ceremony we had a very agreeable lunch in a nearby restaurant where we met a family member, Teresa Suttill.

After the ceremony a reception was held at the Club of the Royal British Legion where many interesting conversations took place with those with a common interest in Francis Suttill and F Section SOE, whose first leader was **Lt Col Leslie Humphreys OBE OS 22**.

We all felt honoured to be part of this unique event to commemorate an OS who made an important contribution to the war effort and gave his life in the cause of freedom.





HUGO CROFT OS 23

Andrew Croft, father of **Hugo Croft OS 23**, has sent in the following update on Hugo's cricketing career.

"Whilst at Stonyhurst, Hugo played for Lancashire County age group squads and represented Stonyhurst cricket teams. On leaving Stonyhurst Hugo spent the past 2 years at Old Trafford playing and studying cricket. He was also selected to be one of 25 players nationally to spend an 18-month training programme at Loughborough University at the England weekend residential training camp which provided focussed training with national coaches.

He has had the most amazing year so far playing Mumbai for the Vengsarkar Academy and South Africa.

At home Hugo has scored over 900 runs so far this season for Durham CCC, with a recent unbeaten score of 100 runs against Leicestershire CCC.

In September, Hugo was selected to play as an overseas player for Subiaco CC in Perth, Western Australia, for the season till April 2026.

Hugo spent many years at Stonyhurst and I know the school likes to keep up with its pupils and their successes."

Editor's note: Congratulations to Hugo. We will follow his career with interest and look forward to regular updates.

CHRIS PAGE OS 76 AND HIS WIFE, CELIA, REPORT ON THEIR FAMILY NEWS



"Our tribe is now 21-strong, with 10 grandchildren. Our eldest granddaughter, Segen Majak is joining Higher Line this September; she is really looking forward to it, as are we all looking forward to being part of the 'current' Stonyhurst family again.

Edmund OS 04 and Adhiambo (also known as Mildred) have Segen aged 16, and two boys, Christopher and Kwe, aged 9 and 7. They are both still very busy running Cohere (www.wearecohere.org, previously known as Xavier Project) supporting refugee-led organisations in Africa. The charity goes from strength to strength. They are incredibly appreciative of the encouragement and support that the College has always shown them for their work.

Angie OS 06 and her husband Henry Allen are both partners in a GP practice in Cirencester and have three boys, Bertie, Lawrence and Roddie aged 6, 4 and 2.

Paddy OS 07, is a writer and a part-time tree surgeon and decorator living in Bristol, having returned from living in Lebanon.

Leo OS 10 and **Molly OS 06** (Aylward-Page) live near Oxford and have two children, Alfie Adrian, aged 3 and Alba aged 2. Leo works for Hutchinsons as a Farm Business Consultant and Molly teaches at Oxford High Junior.

Francie OS 11 is a midwife, working as part of the community team in Cheltenham and Gloucester and her husband Charlie Scotcher teaches

Economics at Cheltenham College. They have two little ones, Bridie who is two and a half and Jesse Joseph who is 18 months.

Edmund, Angie, Francie and their families all live within ten minutes of us. We have such a lot of fun together! In September, four of our grandsons will be at our local primary school in Oaksey, of which I am a governor. Our children are still in touch with many of their Stonyhurst friends, some of whom are godparents to their children and vice versa.

Christopher is still working as a lawyer, but not as much as he was. He is currently Chairman of the Trustees of the Catholic Association and has been very involved with managing and overseeing the pilgrimage to Lourdes. He is also Chairman of SPICMA (Special Projects in Christian Missionary Areas). When not working, he is trying to do more oil painting and devotes a great deal of time growing us a lot of delicious vegetables!

We see Stas and Alice Callinicos with Anthony Eyre and his wife Yseult occasionally. They are all on great form. Stas and Alice are both teaching in Malaysia. Anthony lives very near us, and we see him and his wonderful family as often as we can. We recently met Anthony's most recent grandson. Like ours their family is always growing! We love seeing Caroline Aylward (Molly's mum) as and when we can. Caroline lives in Devon and is an accomplished artist.

This photo of our family holiday in Ireland (August 2024) is the last time we took a family photo with everyone present."

JIMMY BURNS OS 71 REPORTS ON THE OS DINNER IN MADRID, SPAIN

The rooftop of the iconic ABC Serrano building, central Madrid, was the setting for a wonderful dinner attended by OS in Spain on 17 June 2025.

A diverse age group of women and men made up the 32 guests – mostly OS residents in Spain but also three OS flying in from Paris, Manchester, and Panama. A very convivial gathering, with very positive feedback. Guests enjoyed the breathtaking city views from the terrace and bar before gathering in a beautifully designed private dining room to savour good wines and culinary delights curated by the acclaimed Chef, Sergio Fernández, known for his masterful fusion of traditional and contemporary cuisine.

After some opening words of welcome and an Ignatian prayer by hosts and Stonyhurst Association Ambassadors in Spain, **Jimmy Burns OS 71** and **Brian Douglas OS 83**, the guests brought each other up to date on their current lives and shared their memories of Stonyhurst and the importance of their educational and spiritual formation as students there; a common theme that emerged was one of fellowship and openness to the world and other cultures, and a sense of service to others.

Due to a last-minute corporate call on his diary, President and Chairman of Grupo Telefónica, **Marc Murtra OS 86**, was unable to join the evening. However, Jimmy's older brother, Madrid-based **Tom Burns OS 68**, effortlessly picked up the baton as guest speaker. Tom drew on his wisdom as an Oxford history postgrad and his knowledge of Spain as an author and journalist to deliver some erudite and inspirational insights into the links between the English College in Valladolid, and St Omers, Stonyhurst, and the Jesuits.

The organisers and guides of the evening: Brian Douglas is a long-time Madrid resident, and Anglo-Spanish Jimmy Burns Marañón OBE, born in Madrid, is a former President of the Stonyhurst Association and a passionate advocate for alumni engagement as a Stonyhurst Association Committee member. Both Brian and Jimmy also serve as Trustees of the

British Spanish Society, a charity established in 1916 to foster cultural exchange and mutual understanding between Britain and Spain, which is proud to have Stonyhurst as partners.

During the evening, they brought guests up to date with developments at Stonyhurst, sharing copies kindly supplied by the Association office of the Stonyhurst magazine, Stonyhurst College and Sixth Form prospectus, and information on the Summer School.

They also introduced guests who were not already members of the British Spanish Society (BSS) www.britishspanishsociety.org which has long benefitted from Stonyhurst's support in its mission of cultural and educational bridge-building. Brian highlighted the BSS's upcoming reception at the British ambassador's residence, in Madrid on 10 September, which several OS in Spain plan to attend.

Going forward, Jimmy and Brian are planning to develop the OS in Spain as a dynamic and connected fellowship and are open to ideas for future events.

Those attending the Spain dinner included the following: **Tom Burns OS 68**, **Jimmy Burns OS 71**, **Brian Douglas OS 83**, **Charles Condie OS 83**, **Edward Condie OS 81**, **Luis Porta Gimenez OS 18**, **Tito de Ramon Luca OS 95**, **Luis Valls OS 97**, **Daniel Losada OS 05**, **Francisco Jose Espejo Morilla OS 20**, **Felipe Cosmen OS 22**, **Cristina Garlington OS 04**, **Victoria Hurst OS 23**, **Javier Foncillas OS 85**, **Santiago Foncillas OS 81**, **Gabriel Yermo OS 89**, **Jacobo Foncillas OS 17**, **Juan Eguigaray Yague 01 SMH**, **Jose Gosmendio OS 81**, **Jorge Gosmendio OS 85**, **Eduardo Gonzalez Ercoreca**, **Monica Laso Hernandez OS 08**, **Hannah Lowney**, **Javier Kindelan OS 90**, **Nicholas Pawson OS 90**, **Stephen Ibbotson OS 85**, **Fernando Souviron OS 19**, **Fernando Souviron de Haro** (father of OS), **Ignacio Siska OS 08**, **Alistair Seymour OS 84**, **Maria Eguigaray** (sister of Juan Eguigaray), **Juan Sanchez de Amoraga**.



CONGRATULATIONS

Please send your contributions to the Editor: j.macfarlane@stonyhurst.ac.uk

BIRTHS



Congratulations to **Alasdair Macfarlane OS 08** and his wife, Mhairi, on the birth of a second son, **Walter Rannoch Macfarlane**, on 18 June 2025; a brother for Arthur.



James Cathcart OS 08 and his fiancée, Elizabeth Coates, are very excited to announce the birth of **Phoebe Elizabeth Cathcart**, born 8 February 2025.





Congratulations to **Phoebe Robertson-Rich OS 09** and her husband, Tom, on the birth of a daughter, Esther Mary Agnes Robertson-Rich, on 15 April 2025 (seen here with their dog, Poppy).



Sam Hall OS 10 and his wife, Kathy, are delighted to announce the birth of a son, Theodore Jamieson Hobbs Hall, in April 2025. Congratulations to them from their Stonyhurst family.



Daniel Eastwood OS 11 and **Vanessa Vaghetti Eastwood OS 13** are pleased to announce that Thomas Vaghetti Eastwood was born on 25 December 2024 in Chipping Norton, and home in time for Christmas dinner at 6pm. Congratulations!

MARRIAGES



Congratulations to **Emily Erel OS 15**, who married Hendrick on 14 October 2024 at Woodchester Priory, Stroud.

OS in attendance were **Laura Erel OS 12** (sister and maid of honour), **James** and **Messalina Morley-Alton OS 15**, **Olivia Turner OS 15**, **Matthias Turner OS 14**, **Lena Schitto OS 15**, **Edward Johnson OS 15**, and **Josh Allan OS 15**.



Congratulations to **Max Attard OS 08** who married Rebecca Muresc at Middleton Lodge, Richmond, Yorkshire, on 30 November 2024.

OS in attendance were **Sam Anderton OS 08**, **Roisin Parish OS 08**, **Benaiah Grunewald Bridi OS 08**, and the groom's brother, **Rollie Attard OS 06**.



Congratulations to **Tom Everatt OS 16** who married Thérèse Monaghan on 9 August 2025 at the Jesuit Church of the Sacred Heart, Wimbledon.

Colm Fahy OS 16 was best man, with ushers **Dominic Sparks OS 16**, **Edward Belderbos OS 16**, **William Jolleys OS 16**, and **William Lamb OS 16**.

The Everatt family had a strong OS presence, including Tom's grandfather, **Alfred Everatt OS 52**, his father, **Sam Everatt OS 86**, his uncles, **Greg Everatt OS 78** and **Joe Everatt OS 79**, and his sister, **Poppy Everatt OS 18**. Other OS from Tom's year who attended were **Jamie Singleton OS 16** and **Jamie Bamber OS 16**.



Congratulations to **Min Sung Kim OS 07** on his marriage to Sabrina Vettorato on 20 June 2025 in Trento, Italy. Since it was a small ceremony with close family only, there were no OS present.



Congratulations to **Laura Hoath OS 12**, who married James Caldwell on 23 August 2025, at a festival-themed wedding in Banbury.

OS in attendance: **Mariana Llorens-Zabala**, **Adam Rawkins** and **Alexander Kearns** – all OS 12.



Edward Belderbos OS 16 married Claudia Thomas at Liverpool Cathedral on 6 September 2024. OS present included **Thomas Belderbos OS 21**, **Katie Belderbos OS 18**, **Colm Fahy OS 16**, **Dominic Sparks OS 16**, **Rhys Morgan OS 16**, **Thomas Everatt OS 16** and **Michael Belderbos OS 55**. Fr David Chadwick OS 12 gave the homily.

Other attendees included OS from 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015 and 1959 as well as members of the wider Stonyhurst Association with past and present parents and staff.

Congratulations to **Edward Macey-Dare OS 84** and his wife, Rowena, who celebrated their silver wedding in July 2025. They were married at Stonyhurst on 22 July 2000. Photographs include their celebration at Gravetye Manor in Sussex, and of the wedding day itself in 2000.



Congratulations to **Romano Petrucci OS 85** who reports on his service to Stranraer and the honour he has received as a consequence of his work for his community:



“In November 2011, after decades of serving as the main crossing for the UK to Ireland market, Stranraer and the entire economy of South West Scotland was left numb and confused when Stena Line repositioned its base 6 miles up Loch Ryan, leaving behind the tried and tested infrastructure of Stranraer.

The east pier soon became over-grown with weeds and I would pass it every single day and look at the huge desolate and empty space. As a result, the entire area began to suffer – shops were quieter, perhaps a little pride was lost and the anger grew every time we looked at the 29 acres of emptiness.

In 2015, along with some other local business associates in Stranraer, I believed it was time for us to take control, and the Stranraer Development Trust was formed.

I was appointed Chairman. In the following two years we created a plan to tidy Stranraer up and were overwhelmed by the community reaction and support.

I was made aware we were home to the last remaining wild and native oyster bed in Scotland and after studying this decided to create a business plan for an oyster festival that would respect the working-class roots of the local area and be inclusive for all the people.

As you can imagine, an oyster festival was met with cries of “elitism” and “I hate oysters” but I was very confident I was creating a product that wasn’t dependent on anyone even seeing an oyster. It included a

fantastic market marquee, a celebrity chef programme, endless children’s entertainment and an entertainment marquee for adults with a music programme that would have you dancing from Friday to Sunday!

Stranraer Oyster Festival was delivered for the first time in 2017 and 10,000, the population of Stranraer, turned out to support. In 2018 14,000 attended, 17,000 a year later – and then came COVID-19.

We were determined our event wouldn’t be another victim of this changing world, and in 2022 over 23,000 supported our event.

By then we had every media outlet and TV programme at our door, so it was no surprise that, in 2023, 27,000 appeared and nearly 30,000 last year. This year the total number will take us through 150,000. The economic benefit has been in the region of £10 million pounds to date.

It has been an incredible journey personally as well as for all those who have played such a huge part in the event. We have been fortunate enough to have received 5 major awards and in 2018 I was very proud to be awarded Regional Ambassador of the Year, mainly because I was up against the Manager of Trump Turnberry and I had thought that I had absolutely no chance!

Now Stranraer, because of The Trust’s resilience and efforts, finds itself on the crest of a very exciting wave. Major development has begun on the waterfront and marina, and in the town centre we see many more developments beginning. The pride is returning to our community as we move on from the memory of the ferries and we realise that we have so much more to give – and that we have people here who are good enough to deliver all our dreams.

At the forefront of all this is Stranraer Development Trust.”



Photo of Romano with his son **Enrico OS 20**.



Congratulations to **Dr John O'Driscoll OS 71**, who has recently been elected the 136th President of the Irish Rugby Football Union (IRFU).

John is a former Ireland and British & Irish Lions flanker who represented his country 26 times and made 19 appearances, including six tests, for the Lions across two tours. He was first capped for Ireland in 1978 and toured South Africa in 1980 with the Lions and New Zealand three years later.

He helped Ireland win a first Triple Crown since 1949 when he played a central role in the 1982 Five Nations competition as it was then. John played for Stonyhurst College in Lancashire before going on to play club rugby Liverpool St Helens and Manchester. At provincial level he represented Connacht for 13 seasons. He captained London Irish from 1979-1981 and led them to the John Player Cup Final in 1980. He was elected as Irish Sportsman of the Year in 1980.

After his playing career John remained deeply involved in rugby. He was coach to the Irish Exiles team which played in the Senior Interprovincial Championship from 1991 to 1995. He was President of the Irish Exiles from 2006-2010.

John was a Lions selector in 2001. He has held various administrative roles within the IRFU including as representative to World Rugby and Rugby Europe from 2016 to 2025.

Outside of rugby John's career was in medicine where he was a Consultant Dermatologist, Clinical Director of Greater Manchester Dermatology and Regional Skin Cancer Network Chair.

Speaking about the honour, John O'Driscoll says:

"It is a great honour to be elected as the 136th President of the IRFU. Irish Rugby has given so much to me since an early age – first as a supporter, then through a wonderful playing career with London Irish, Connacht and Ireland. In more recent years, I have been privileged to contribute to the administration of the game alongside people utterly dedicated to its success at every level.

"I look forward to visiting clubs across the country and meeting the volunteers who are the lifeblood of the sport. Their passion, commitment and depth of involvement are vital to Ireland.

"I owe a huge debt of gratitude to my wife Susan and our children Billy, Danny and Gemma for their constant support. I also want to congratulate Declan Madden on an outstanding year as President. The 150th anniversary was an enormous success, and Declan worked tirelessly to be present and supportive at every turn.

"Now, our attention turns to the upcoming Rugby World Cup. This is a moment to unite behind our women's players and we are extremely excited for what Scott Bemand and his squad can do together."

The black and white photograph is from the Five Nations Championship, Lansdowne Road, Dublin 20/2/1982 – Ireland vs Scotland – Ireland's John O'Driscoll – Mandatory Credit ©INPHO/ Billy Stickland.

IN MEMORIAM

News of the deaths of the following have been received since the March 2025 edition of the Newsletter.

Fr Bob Styles SJ	Former Staff	Christopher Mould	Former Parent
Mary Moss	Former Parent	Thomas Hector Traverse-Healy	OS 1937-1941
David Phillips	Former Staff	Patrick John Sherry	OS 1948-1956
Helen Harris	Former Staff	Fr Donald Anderson	OS 1956-1963
Paul James Barrow	OS 1976-1986	Cormac Joseph Patrick Francis Gray	OS 1968-1973
Richard Neville	Former College Medical Officer	Anthony George Timothy Russo	OS 1965-1975
Peter Guy Chambers	OS 1954-1960	David John M Waring	OS 1947-1956
Stephen James Leach	OS 1955-1963	Patrick Gavin	Former Staff
John Michael Denvir	OS 1942-1950	Louise Winckley	Former Staff
Andreas Johannes Wilfling	Former Parent	Peter Sean Prendergast	OS 1955-1963
Charles Andrew Wenner	OS 1963-1971	Edmund Anthony Middlehurst	OS 1970

May they rest in peace.

FROM THE HEADMASTER

JOHN BROWNE



We start the school year in St Peter's Church with *Ascensio Scholarum*, the Jesuit tradition when each Playroom 'ascends' to the next as part of their Ignatian adventure to 'set the world on fire'. This is my favourite time of the school year. The arrival of returning and new families from all over the UK and all over the globe. This year, 66% of our pupils are from the UK and the international pupils represent some 35 nationalities. Links with

some parts of the world are long standing. The first pupil came from America in 1751 and the first Hong Kong pupil in 1886. Indeed some current families are on their fourth generation! Total pupil numbers for 2025/26 are 689 – a sign of stability in a difficult market – with two thirds of the College as full boarders. There are currently only two empty beds in Higher Line boarding! 131 young people in Poetry is the biggest in my time.

Members of the Association will be acutely aware of the challenging climate for independent schools post the imposition of VAT, the change in business rates and the change in National Insurance for employers; like many schools, we are not able to run at an operating surplus using school fees alone. We have all been shocked and saddened by the closure of Mount St Mary's after 180 years. We have offered support

where we can and I am delighted that we have been able to welcome a few pupils to Stonyhurst as weekly boarders. Other schools have also closed, been formed into groups or been acquired by commercial organisations. Stonyhurst is fortunate that the Jesuits created Stonyhurst a charitable trust in 2009 with a board of trustees and an endowment. In order to better secure Stonyhurst's future in these challenging times, we will soon be driving a campaign to increase that endowment as set out in our Strategic Plan 2025-2030 'Innovation is our tradition'. www.stonyhurst.ac.uk/about-us/ethos-and-aims

In addition, the Foundation has supported Stonyhurst with a grant of £2M this academic year for bursaries.

In 2023, we were judged 'excellent in all areas' by the Independent Schools Inspectorate and this Summer our pupils enjoyed some spectacular public examination results. All the statistics are available on the website, but I was particularly delighted with the A Level results with 19% of all grades at A* and 53% at A*/A. This puts us in the top 1% of UK schools for Value Added. All I ask of Association members is that you become our army and share our successes with your friends.

You will be aware that after a decade at Stonyhurst I will move to sunnier climes in February 2026 to be Principal of St Aloysius' College in Sydney, Australia. It has been an enormous privilege to lead this great institution, but I am still here for another six months so won't sign off just yet. Having been educated by the Jesuits myself, I am delighted to be staying within the Jesuit global family and already am aware of many Stonyhurst connections down under. Any of you who wish to visit will of course be very welcome.

HOMILY: GREAT ACADEMIES 2025 GIVEN BY THE VERY REVD PETER GALLAGHER SJ, PROVINCIAL

AMDG

Quant Je Puis. 'As much as I can'. 'The best I can do'. The College motto is often to be seen with the Shireburn Unicorn. The unicorn is the emblem of singlemindedness, of unity, of purpose. Stonyhurst people do their best to bring about the most desirable result. They discern worthwhile goals, commit to them and pursue them steadily and generously.

A little before the sewing of the oldest part of the priest's vestment worn today, there was woven in Flanders a tapestry called the Unicorn Resting in a Garden, which now hangs in New York, in a museum called The Cloisters. The legends about the mythical beast tell us that the unicorn is hard to find, and once found, or hunted down, it can only be tamed by the love of a very virtuous person. The garden on the tapestry is lovely, but the unicorn is fenced in. Like the Stonyhurst student, the unicorn has a strong will, un seul désir, which enables the best to be done: *Quant Je Puis*. To achieve what is best, must the unicorn escape from the beautiful garden?

The Rhetoric leaver at Great Academies is a unicorn resting in a garden. This is a busy day in a very busy year. Nevertheless, there is, in the thoughtful activities of today, a kind of pause, a sort of peaceful reflection on the past, the present and the future. Is the unicorn planning an escape from the garden? In a sense, yes. The next stage of life beckons. The purposeful unicorn resolutely prepares to move on. In the garden that is Stonyhurst, the unicorns have been prepared, strengthened, built up for what comes next. If the Rhetoricians have been tamed, it has been by the goodness which they have discovered here and made their own.

If Stonyhurst is a garden, you have been trained in it, in the best way to live. The garden has its boundaries, its culture. Plants are trained as they grow. However, progress is organic and well-assimilated, not merely imposed. Like a unicorn rendered gentle by the attention of a virtuous person, you have been educated in many kinds of wisdom by a whole College of teachers who would say of you that you have given to them as well as received from them. Now the unicorns are about to leave the garden in which they have nestled to such fine effect. This is a garden with definite boundaries. It has a fence or a hedge around it. The walled garden is *hortus conclusus*. To leave the garden is to break through or to leap over the wall. The Great Academies are a door, a gate, a portal. We walk serenely through. There



is a freeing from the enclosure of people truly prepared for freedom. Constraint disappears but a joyful restraint remains. We hope for what we do not see, we wait for it in patience (Romans 8:25). The unicorn escapes from the enclosure but it remains purposeful; tenderly devoted to goodness and even more measured and well-balanced in its reaction.

Like the unicorn, you are moving beyond the garden. Yet, you carry the garden or some of its flowers with you. What are the beauties of the garden? The blossoms are the love of God, the friendship of some very dear people, knowledge, wisdom, skills, confidence. No one wants to escape from these. Yet the unicorn does move on, and does so of set purpose. Single-minded, focused, purposeful, the Rhetorician departs when the time comes. Not, in fact escaping, but ready, fully prepared, and full of energy for what comes now. Quant Je Puis. People who have given of themselves generously in one place prepare to do so elsewhere and with the same good results.

The unicorn bursts out of the garden not wilfully but with un seul désir, a will which has been astutely trained and possesses a singleness of purpose. Is this truly an escape? The thrill of the search for the mythical beast can make it seem so. A mysterious creature was finally captured and then studied and understood. The one at bay in the garden of the old tapestry was gently but firmly made to answer some important questions: who am I? What am I for? What do I need to know? Do I now possess or am on the way to possessing that knowledge? Where am I to go next?

So, perhaps to leap over the wall of the garden is less an escape than a sending. The work that had to be done in the garden is now being completed and it is time to proceed elsewhere. Who is sending you out of the garden that is Stonyhurst? The Quant Je Puis and un seul désir side of the matter suggests that you make your own decision, as you will from now on. The good wishes, the esteem, the affection of the community soften the parting from friends here, but they are not sending you away.

The Book of Genesis described God sending people out of the garden as a punishment. Your leaving Stonyhurst is no punishment. On the contrary, you unicorns will bound out of the garden as a kind of reward for all that you have achieved. And yet, you are being sent.

The Gospel describes Jesus Christ sending out his apostles and assuring them of the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The unicorn purposefully leaving the garden in the tapestry does so with a sense of mission: it has a purpose to fulfil mythologically, heraldically, decoratively. The man or woman who leaves Stonyhurst in order to become what has been revealed to them whilst here, should pursue this as best as can be; as much of the Holy Spirit as should be sent, is sent. The sending with the Holy Spirit takes place in the working of the un seul désir, in the functioning of the will which has been trained in the beautiful garden, the unicorn can now run free, do what it wants. But its time in the garden, the serene moments, the moments of schooling, has changed what it wants. The Spirit is now in the wanting and willing. The unicorn follows a lead. It is its own singleness of purpose. However, that purpose has unified in itself all sorts of wisdom learned, and many insights shared. The creature leaving the garden possesses some virtues which from the beginning have seemed so natural. Nevertheless, in the singleness of desire and purpose now are other virtues which obliges a much greater labour to acquire them. They have become second nature.

This is the continuing impact on all of us of the grace of God. We do the best we can, Quant Je Puis – not on a whim, but on the basis of knowledge which has changed us. We are free to leave the garden. But the garden is now our heart. And with the help of the Holy Spirit, we are already cultivating it.

LDS

STONYHURST ASSOCIATION ANNUAL DINNER

SATURDAY 25 OCTOBER 2025

DE VERE BEAUMONT ESTATE, WINDSOR

(FORMER BEAUMONT COLLEGE)



We are delighted to invite you to the Stonyhurst Association Annual Dinner at the beautiful De Vere Beaumont Estate, once home to historic Beaumont College. Hosted by our Association President, Harry Dickinson OS 94, we are honoured to welcome Colonel Ben Farrell MBE OS 86 as our Guest of Honour and speaker.

This black-tie dinner will bring together over 200 OS and Association family for an evening of reconnection and celebration, featuring:

- Reception drinks • Three-course dinner with wine and coffee
- Entertainment from a DJ • Free return coach to London after dinner

TICKETS

- Standard: £110
- Under 25 (subsidised): £80
- Sponsored: £135 (helping us support younger OS guests)

ACCOMMODATION

Preferential B&B rates are available directly from De Vere Beaumont (quote Stonyhurst Dinner):

- £150 single | £180 double
- Free on-site parking included.

SUNDAY MASS

For those staying overnight, a private Mass will be celebrated in the historic Beaumont Chapel on Sunday morning by Fr Keith McMillan SJ.

BOOK YOUR
PLACE HERE



GREAT ACADEMIES 2025 HEADMASTER'S SPEECH

'INNOVATION IS OUR TRADITION'

"One of my favourite phrases of St Ignatius is to have 'one foot in the air'. The instinct to adapt and to change to better deliver our mission wherever the need is greatest. Not to be restless or reactive, but thoughtful, discerning and, above all, to be active global citizens.

I hope that these are concepts which Rhetoric 2025 will take with them as they travel down the Avenue to 'set the world on fire'. Our job at Stonyhurst is to *propel* these young people, some of whom started in Hodder House aged 4, into a *global* world. Rhetoric – we all look forward to seeing your exciting plans come to fruition. I should like to thank you for the amazing way you have led the College community; with good humour, energy and real generosity. A particular delight for me this year has been the launch of the Stonyhurst families and especially the way you have engaged with the pupils of Aloysius House just like older brothers and sisters. Of course, school is all about friendships and stories. Who will forget 'cakegate' in *The Unicorn* or the way Emma, as Director of the Staff Panto, lost her cool with the staff for not learning their lines? I hope that you will maintain your friendships across the world and still be in touch with each other for your 50-year reunion in 2075!

Please can I ask Rhetoric 2025 to stand for us all to express our thanks and appreciation for who they are and all that they have achieved.

Earlier in the year, and mindful of the charge to keep 'one foot in the air', the Governors and Executive undertook a process of discernment to refresh our mission and vision for Stonyhurst. What became clear during the process was that we should become more *audacious* in our aim to be a global hub for Jesuit education and spirituality. The history of the Society of Jesus and of the English College of St Omers, now Stonyhurst, is all about educational innovation and this is our tradition.

We distilled it down to four pillars:

Front and centre of our strategy is that we are a **Catholic and Jesuit school**. Being the oldest continuously existing Jesuit school in the world is both a privilege and a responsibility. The death of Pope Francis has of course brought awareness of the Jesuit tradition to the fore. At his last Consistory Pope Francis reminded the Cardinals (and us) about 'Adventures on the way, the *joy* of meeting others, and *care* for those most in need'.

It is appropriate that the Great Academies Mass, the centrepiece of our celebrations, was celebrated this morning by the Provincial of the Jesuits in Britain: Fr Peter Gallagher SJ – Peter we are so grateful to you for being with us today and also for your thoughtful Visitation earlier in the year. Thank you also for allowing us to keep our cherished Chaplain, Fr Tim Curtis SJ, a little longer. Tim – thank you for the gentle and wise way you guide our community. Tim made his now traditional cameo appearance in the school show. I really enjoyed his blessing of the new Aloysius House blazers, comparing them in the words of St Paul to the Ephesians, to the 'the shields of salvation'.

The second strategic pillar is Stonyhurst as a global school

From the earliest days the Stonyhurst Family has always had a global reach. The first pupils from America came to St Omers in 1751 and the first pupils from Hong Kong came to Stonyhurst in 1886. This year, we have enjoyed visits from Jesuit schools in Hong Kong, Lyon, Montevideo, New York and Sydney. We have also hosted Stonyhurst Family events in eighteen different countries covering some 92,000 miles. I wrote this speech on a rainy afternoon in Vienna! Diversity is part of the Stonyhurst magic and next year the school population will reflect 34 different nationalities.

Stonyhurst International School Penang, in Malaysia, now has 800 pupils and will open their Higher Line in September. I am delighted to welcome to Stonyhurst Fr James Tan SJ, who is the Jesuit Chaplain at Stonyhurst Penang. We are truly grateful to the Jesuit Provincial of Malaysia-Singapore, Fr Francis Lim SJ, for himself being a Governor of Penang and for missioning Fr James to our school.

In June, we look forward to welcoming Fr José Mesa, the Secretary for Education for the Society of Jesus (that is globally).

The third pillar is Stonyhurst as an academic school

'Do not be content with anything save the highest attainable excellence in every branch of your work'. This is from a charming 1882 publication called, *'Hints offered to Young Masters in the Colleges of the English Province'*.

Stonyhurst has always been a pioneer in education. We gave the first performance of a Shakespeare play in a school in the 1630s. We built the first underground Magnetic Chamber for physics/meteorological experiments. In 1880 we opened the first heated swimming pool of any British school.

In recent years, we have introduced the Ignatian Learner Profile across both schools, created the Stonyhurst Diploma to better reflect our Jesuit and holistic approach to 'the other half' of the curriculum, grown the International Baccalaureate to 50% of Higher Line and introduced new subjects and vocational pathways.

The next phase of educational innovation is equally exciting. This summer a new physical Art and Design Department will be created which will offer the new subjects of Product Design and Fashion and Textiles in addition to Fine Art and Photography. We are developing a STEAM curriculum (the integration of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics), a Stonyhurst Business School for Higher Line and English Language will be introduced as an A Level. Stonyhurst keeps innovating.

The final pillar is Stonyhurst as a boarding school with a vibrant community

We are 'a family like no other', as Giles Schendonck SJ notably said, with boarding at its heart. At his Inauguration, Pope Leo talked about how the Holy Spirit brings us 'into harmony, like musical instruments, so that our heartstrings could vibrate in a single melody'.

I want to congratulate the young people of Aloysius House who have embraced College life from day one and brought a youthful energy to College life. I knew they had really 'arrived' when Rhetoric secretly organised for Rudiments to lead a Headmaster's Assembly including swapping jackets, scarves and ties.

Environments are also really important. The Higher Line Centre, which was refurbished last summer has been much enjoyed and astonishingly we get through one kilogram of coffee beans per week in *The Unicorn*. This summer we will complete the refurbishment of all the Playrooms with Grammar and Syntax boys will get new showers. An elegant innovation in the Syntax Playroom this year was the installation of a shoe-shining machine!

We have a phrase here: 'only at Stonyhurst'. This year I have become better versed in swan management, hosted a Museum evening for Syntax parents where historic objects were paired with appropriate wines, and we even had a themed lunch for Cannonball Day (the menu was headed 'Herbaceous Ignatius')! Only at Stonyhurst, indeed!

'Be among them as if you dropped from the clouds'. This is another phrase from the 1882 *Hints to Young Masters*. At this point I should like to thank our incredible staff, resplendent in their academic dress, for their dedication and professionalism in helping to form each young person to be the best versions of themselves.

By the end of the Easter term there had been over 74,000 different grades assessed, 12,000 Brags awarded, 2,000 subject reports written and 1,000 one to one tutorials. Drama productions have ranged from the gripping Lower Grammar play, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* to the energetic and stylish *Guys and Dolls*. In music a new Cantionale with all the best hymns was published, 7,000 individual music lessons have been delivered and the Schola sang in Liverpool Cathedral and in Hampton Court Palace. In sport, 92 teams have played nearly 500 sporting fixtures including three Lancashire cup finals and national championships for golf and tennis. In a first our U13 girls' cricket team reached the national indoor finals at Lord's. Trips have ranged from Penang to Peru. Co-curricular activities have ranged from archery to abseiling. The amazing diversity of this offer is down to the creativity of our amazing staff. Thank you.

I should like to pay special tribute to a number of staff who will retire this summer. Neil Hodgson, Hema Patel, Maggie Strain and Tim Strain have accompanied young people at Stonyhurst over nearly a century of combined service. We also say farewell to a number of long serving staff including Jules Gibson, Emma Kay, Yvette Luker, Judith Morgan and Elaine Whalley.

I should like to thank our Governors who take on an immense responsibility in these turbulent times. In particular, I should like to thank our Chair, Christine Keunen, for the strategic focus and passion she brings to the role. I should like to pay tribute to the Executive and Leadership teams and in particular to my assistant Tracey Ashton who always ensures I am in the right place with the right things (often in different countries)! Thank you especially to you our families for the trust you place in us to educate your children. It is a responsibility we do not take lightly.

We enjoy many interesting visitors. Former rugby international **Kyran Bracken OS 90** came to speak about mental health. A personal highlight for me was the inspiring talk by Lady Grenfell-Baines, one

of the few remaining survivors of the 1939 *Kindertransport* from Czechoslovakia. Her courage and witness were humbling.

Another visitor was a recently ordained OS priest, **Fr David Chadwick Cong Orat**, who preached for the Feast of St Omer's and perfectly summed up what it is to be a Stonyhurst pupil:

'When you leave here today, I don't just want you to remember the names of the St Omer's Martyrs – I want you to live like them. Dare to stand when it's hard. Dare to love when it costs you something. Dare to give all you have – in your sport, in the classroom, in your friendships, in your faith. Because when we stand at this altar and prepare to pray the words that Jesus Himself gave us, we do not whisper them in fear. We dare to say them. And, with the courage of the martyrs, the love of Christ, and the spirit of this great school, we dare to stand. *Quant Je Puis.*'

LDS

Fr Patrick Hough SJ OS 92 Invites you to join him on a **PILGRIMAGE TO SPAIN**

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA



LOYOLA
BARCELONA
LOURDES
MONSERRAT
MANRESA

MARCH 5-14, 2026

SIGN UP



AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 MINIATURE MODELS BY MICHAEL McCABE OS 71



I met my wife Susan at Arundel Cathedral in 1982 on a walking pilgrimage to Wembley, where we attended Pope John Paul II's Mass on his British tour. Over the years, we went on many other pilgrimages to Buckfast, St David's, Canterbury, Walsingham, Lichfield, Lindisfarne, St Michael's Mount, Hereford and other destinations. When they were young, we used to bring our 3 children, until sleeping on hall floors with them became too chaotic!

In 2019 we joined a pilgrimage from Lincoln to Whitby in honour of St Hilda 614-680. Following the pilgrims, with one of us walking and the other in the car, required careful route planning. Susan became unusually confused and we got lost several times. She had been a social worker practicing in Hampshire/Dorset and lecturer/course leader for the social work 'Masters' at the University of Southampton, specialising in social work law. Her memory had always been exceptional, especially for the many families who benefitted from her support. I did not realise at the time, but her confusion was one of the first signs of her Alzheimer's. Earlier in the year we had visited our son in New Zealand, and I had put her unease down to being away from home. It was our daughter, a doctor, who first suggested dementia. When Susan had a dangerous car accident in the summer of 2020, lapses of memory could no longer be shrugged off as

tiredness. Alzheimer's had crept up on us almost unnoticed, until that moment.

In October 2020, Susan was formally diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's. She was just 65. Over the next 3 years she needed increasing levels of personal care at home and 24/7 attention. In January 2024 she became ill and needed a week in hospital. It was the sign that professional help was needed, and Susan moved into a nearby care home. Today she is extremely well looked after but can no longer walk or feed herself and struggles to communicate. Alzheimer's is an immensely cruel illness. Thankfully, Susan is no longer aware of what has happened, and, in that sense, she is much more settled now. We live for each day, and I visit her every afternoon.

Susan still enjoys listening to classical music and I can take her out to concerts in a wheelchair car. We can also go down to the seaside for an ice cream or visit the nearby Exbury gardens and ride on its steam train with our grandchildren. She once drove the steam train as a birthday treat, but now she sits in one of its wheelchair-friendly carriages. On Sunday evenings we attend Mass in Brockenhurst and sit at the front so that she can see. She used to sing with Brockenhurst choir, but now she barely moves her lips when a familiar hymn is sung.

It's so easy to think negatively about Alzheimer's as abilities are lost and physical symptoms increase. There's a need to adapt almost continuously to the mental and physical changes. While there's a wide range of support, finding what works is very much trial and error.

I found it increasingly difficult to maintain a positive outlook, spending many hours sitting with Susan both at home and more recently in her care home. We would often watch the Repair Shop together, but even that became too hard for her to follow. Maybe it was the Repair Shop which triggered me into to remaking some of my old 3D jigsaws and glue them back together. 3D jigsaws have foam pieces sandwiched between card, which can be assembled to make large models, such as a 5-foot Tower Bridge and 6-foot Big Ben (Elizabeth Tower). I quickly found that model-making kept both of us entertained and began to spend more and more time on them while Susan watched. A negative was gradually turning positive. Our world which had shrunk slowly began to grow again.

At Stonyhurst, in the 60s, I never played on any sports team, primarily because of poor eyesight caused by then undiagnosed keratoconus. I did, however, go running, mainly as an escape from the confines of the school! The London marathon was one of many

marathons that I ran, eventually 8 times and once under 3 hours when I was 56. A life-threatening illness in 2016 later forced me to restrict myself to running shorter distances, but my model-making progressed to all the major landmarks on the London marathon course from the Cutty Sark to Buckingham Palace. Among the 33 marathons that I'd run was in Paris, so a 4-foot Eiffel Tower and Notre-Dame cathedral became part of my growing model collection. Next, after building an Orient Express train, I headed Eastwards and built world landmarks in countries including Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Greece, India, New Zealand, Australia, and the US. They ranged from Florence cathedral to the Parthenon, which I visited regularly during work trips to Athens, to the Taj Mahal (a



favourite of the many Indian carers at Susan's care home), and the Sky Tower in Auckland, where our younger son lives. The largest model is a section of Manhattan skyscrapers, complete with the World Trade Centre, from which I enjoyed the view in 1975. Many of the models have a personal link to my life.

The idea of holding an exhibition in aid of Alzheimer's Research UK slowly emerged after holding a New Year's Eve party/exhibition at home. I booked my local village hall in the New Forest village of Sway and model production went into overdrive. Although early models were all kits, I now started designing my own models using thick card, printed pictures and copious amounts of jigsaw glue, almost £100 worth! One of my favourite models is a metre tall version of a local landmark, Sway Tower, which is the tallest unreinforced concrete building in the world, built by Andrew Peterson between 1879 and 1886. Like **Arthur Conan Doyle OS**, Peterson was a spiritualist and consulted with Sir Christopher Wren via a psychic medium on the tower design! I went on to build models of the local Anglican church and even Susan's own care home.



The exhibition on 12 April 2025, called *Around the World in 80 Miniature Models*, had 5 sections: local landmarks, London marathon landmarks, world landmarks, such as the Taj Mahal and Sydney Opera House, British landmarks, such as HMS Victory and, finally, travel and transport into space, from cars to rockets and Dr Who's Tardis. My father, **Edmund McCabe OS 39-45** was a keen model-maker himself, as a retired ophthalmologist; he liked to make very detailed and intricate models of sailing ships. His HMS Victory was left in Lanzarote, when my parents' villa there was sold and renamed the Boat House. I could hardly ask for it back and so had to make my own. HMS Victory is another of my model favourites, because I worked as a maths lecturer at the University of Portsmouth for 30 years and ran past it on my way to winning my age group in the 2005 Great South Run.

The exhibition also included an attractive model train set assembled by friends for visitors to operate themselves. Musical entertainment was provided by a local band Reeds in Harmony and an a cappella singing quartet called Straight Banana. Susan's own singing group from Brockenhurst also sang with her during the short period that she could attend.

Two very successful raffles were organised by friends who were equally devastated by the early onset Alzheimer's of their husband/



father. The main raffle was primarily for prizes donated by local businesses, but it also included space mission badges donated by astronaut Tim Peake. A second "Tower" raffle was held with the winner receiving an exclusive,

personally guided tour of Sway Tower by its private owners for herself and her family. The prize must wait until September because the peregrine falcons which live up the tower need to have fledged first.

Wide media coverage of the exhibition included a preview on Channel 5 news, a report on BBC South Today and an interview for BBC Radio Solent's *Anorak Corner!* An interview with Becky Want was also broadcast nationally on the BBC Radio's *The Late Show*.

Ironically, those of us in the top stream at Stonyhurst during the 60s studied Latin and Greek rather than practical subjects like woodworking and metalwork. Maybe that's why I find myself working creatively with card and glue 50 years later.

The one-day fundraising event has been a great success in raising over £5000. I'm extremely grateful to the very large number of people who helped set up the exhibition and to all those who have been so generous in donating to Alzheimer's Research UK. Susan's care home was exceptional in providing sponsorship, including the purchase of national flags and the baking of a large cake for the raffle. The fundraising total has gone far above anything that I thought remotely possible and will move us closer to finding a cure for this terrible condition one day.

At the end of May, I'm heading up to Edinburgh for its annual marathon. I founded the All Years Edinburgh marathon AYE club, which runs the event every year. After running 13 Edinburgh marathons in previous years, I will be joining the Alzheimer's Research UK cheer team this year.

I'm already planning an even bigger and better exhibition for next year called *Time Travel Through 100 Miniature Models*. Dr Who's Tardis will be making a return, not to mention recently constructed models of Stonehenge and Hurst Castle, where I am a volunteer.

Donations to Alzheimer's Research UK continue to be welcomed at www.justgiving.com/page/modelswithsusan

GRAND COTEAU RETREATS

FR PATRICK HOUGH OS 92 REVIVES AN HISTORIC JESUIT CAMPUS,
OFFERING SACRED SPACE FOR RENEWAL IN THE “MIRACLE ZIP CODE”

Grand Coteau, LA, 15 September 2025



Coteau Retreats. “Spiritual retreats offer the necessary time and space to listen to God’s voice and discern His will in an increasingly noisy world. Further, canon law requires priests to make time for spiritual retreat every year to model Christ’s example of prayer before public ministry. Grand Coteau offers retreatants comfortable, well-appointed rooms with scenic views of our mysteriously beautiful grounds.”



On holy ground known as the “miracle zip code 70541”, Grand Coteau Retreats is writing a new chapter in a story of faith nearly two centuries old. The Jesuits who first arrived in Grand Coteau in 1837 left behind a legacy of education, formation, and one of the only Vatican-recognised miracles in the United States: in 1866, St John Berchmans SJ appeared at the neighbouring Academy of the Sacred Heart and miraculously cured a young postulant. Today, that same sacred soil hosts a thriving retreat ministry where men and women, clergy and laity, come to encounter God in silence, prayer, and community.

Nestled on more than 200 acres in the heart of Acadiana, Grand Coteau Retreats has been newly renovated to welcome groups and individuals from across the country and the world. Retreat offerings include silent preached or directed retreats in the Jesuit tradition, couples’ retreats, themed retreats, parish missions, and youth gatherings.

“In this digital age, undisturbed time with our Lord has never been more important to the Christian life,” said **Fr Patrick Hough SJ OS 92**, Executive Director of Grand



A Sacred Legacy

From its beginnings as St Charles College, a Jesuit boys’ preparatory school founded in 1837, to its later role as a Jesuit seminary and formation house, Grand Coteau has long been a place where faith and learning converge. The Jesuits even operated a dairy barn on site to support community life. In 1938, they expanded their mission with the opening of Our Lady of the Oaks Retreat House, which has since grown from retreats for men to welcoming women, youth, and parish groups from across the country.

Today, Grand Coteau’s historic buildings remain in excellent condition, while plans are underway to develop the former barn and outbuildings into a new retreat campus with



Cajun-style cottages, extending the invitation for even more people to experience the peace and beauty of this holy ground.

A Place for Renewal

Grand Coteau Retreats consists of two campuses – Our Lady of the Oaks and St Charles College – each offering spaces for prayer, community, and silence. Private groups are welcome to host their own events, or individuals may register for one of many scheduled retreats available on Grand Coteau’s robust retreat calendar.

“We have not only seen a physical revival of these historic buildings, but we have also witnessed a holy longing by Catholics for sacred space for prayer, silence, and a deeper connection to God that can be hard to find in daily life,” Fr Hough added. “Grand Coteau is not just about retreats but about personal spiritual renewal, mirroring the renewal of this historic campus. We invite Catholics at any stage in their faith journeys to prayerfully explore ways the Lord might be calling them to experience Grand Coteau Retreats.”

Editor’s note: Fr Hough will be leading a pilgrimage from Loyola to Lourdes in March 2026. A flyer for this may be seen on page 19 if any of our readers are interested in joining him.



THE STONYHURST PILGRIMAGE TRUST

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2025

On 22 August, a group of pilgrims left Stonyhurst on a coach to Birmingham airport to join many other pilgrims flying from there, from Stansted, and from various independent departure points both in the UK and abroad, all travelling with one shared purpose: to be together in Lourdes. 96 Stonyhurst pilgrims joined the Catholic Association, around 450 pilgrims in total.

One of those pilgrims travelling to Lourdes with us for the first time was Hema Patel, who retired from the College this summer after 39 years working as a laboratory technician. Here are Hema's words on what it was like coming for the first time:

"When I decided to retire, a good friend and colleague of mine suggested that I should finish off my 'Stonyhurst life' by doing the Lourdes pilgrimage. I didn't know what to expect and turned up with an open mind, happy to go with the flow. From the moment I stepped into the Domain I knew I was walking on holy ground. The sacredness was in the air, and I could feel the energy. I was surrounded by hundreds of fellow pilgrims from all parts of the globe and there was a sense of peacefulness where everyone had only one purpose – to connect to something or someone greater than themselves.

The highlight for me was on Sunday when I was asked to be a light bearer during the torchlight procession, walking with 'Marian'. Towards the end, when I was standing on the steps of the Rosary Basilica, I could see all the pilgrims arriving into the Rosary Square in front of me, with their candles, all coming together. It looked like an ocean of light, and the view blew my mind. It really was a sight to behold, and a sense of unity and oneness.



Peter, George and Oliver

I was very impressed by the loving service given to the assisted pilgrims by our Higher Line pupils and OS. I watched them attending to these pilgrims with so much care and attention. I really was humbled and inspired, and I saw the Jesuit ethos and Arrupe vision in action.

It was wonderful to spend time with the Stonyhurst pilgrims; everyone was so lovely and welcoming and friendly. I enjoyed our conversations, the many laughs and the two evenings of entertainment. Thank you to all for making me feel so at home.

Would I do this pilgrimage again? Yes, I certainly would like to!"

Hema Patel

We were blessed to have three priests within the Stonyhurst group, **Fr Nick King SJ OS 66**, Fr Anthony Meredith IC, and **Fr Sam Burke OP OS 04**. Fr Nick was Chaplain to the assisted pilgrims, Fr Anthony celebrated Mass and prayed each day for our intentions, and Fr Sam was the Youth Group Chaplain. We are grateful to them all and hope that they will be with us again next year.



Hema Patel and Jayne Wild



The torchlight procession seen from the Rosary Basilica



Fr Anthony Meredith and Peter Kilburn



The Rosary Basilica



Fr Sam Burke OS 04 and Christopher Page OS 76

This year, we had a young water team; a group of children who have been to Lourdes with their families for many years. Their duties were to carry water to each of our events and to give that water out to those who requested it. Lourdes was hot and sunny (most days!) and they did a great job of attending to those who needed it. And off duty? Well, I think the Lac de Lourdes was a great success!



Fr Nick King OS 66

We had a wonderful, happy week with lots of smiling faces. Our young helpers, both pupils and OS did a great job; shifts were sometimes long, sometimes very early, but there was also time to relax and have fun. We were musically entertained by many of our young helpers in the evenings, and at the party in the Accueil. And for one couple it was a particularly special year to be in Lourdes, 60 years since **John Hartley OS 53** came on his first pilgrimage to Lourdes and 59 years since he first met Rosalind there!

Next year the pilgrimage will take place from the 21-28 August. We would love to have more assisted pilgrims joining us. Please do get in touch if you know someone who would benefit from a week in Lourdes. We have doctors, nurses, helpers and equipment to take care of them, and we can provide some financial assistance where necessary. And of course, we welcome and need our wonderful helpers in all categories to ensure the best pilgrimage experience for all! Please email any enquiries to: lourdes@stonyhurst.ac.uk

We would love to see you next year!



The water team



The water team – off duty!



John and Rosalind Hartley

DOMINIC HARTLEY OS 86 REPORTS ON TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSFORMATION: FROM LONDON TO LOURDES WITH VISION – THE LOURDES MUSICAL

They always knew it would be ambitious. The idea of staging *VISION – The Lourdes Musical* in both London and then in the Pyrenean town itself. **Dominic Hartley OS 86** and **Jonathan Smith OS 87** had written the show some twenty years ago (it was performed at Stonyhurst in 2002), and it has enjoyed runs at the Edinburgh Festival and beyond – but they always shared an ambition to self-produce it and stage it in Lourdes itself.

Performing the show was apparently the straightforward part. The cast, crew and production kit travelled from sellout London performances

to Lourdes where *VISION* hit the stage twice a day for two weeks in The Solitude Hotel, in the centre of town.

Stonyhurst connections ran deep through the production, not only being written by two OS, but also with **Dominic Sutton OS 19** performing, current music teacher Paul Topping on the bass and **Elliot Hartley OS 25** on the drums. Laura Dixon, a former Head of Drama at Stonyhurst, offered her considerable expertise as Director, having worked on a previous show by the same OS writers, *Scotch Egg the Musical* (a satirical show about the COVID-19 pandemic). Numerous

OS families attended the London performances over three very hot summer days.

The production team rented most of the kit in the UK, with the addition of a large stage sourced from Paul, and they then began transforming the conference room of The Solitude Hotel into a modern Lourdes bar in which the musical is set. The story tells the tale of two newcomers to Lourdes who enter the bar knowing nothing of the town.

The crew had to deal with overzealous customs officers (who sent them back to the UK!) van breakdowns, missed flights, rebooked ferries and predictable illnesses, but they somehow managed to pull off several sell-out shows in London and in Lourdes, with many standing ovations over the total 23 performances.



“The most incredible part of this story is not actually the musical itself”, says Dom Hartley. “We recruited a professional cast; most knew absolutely nothing about the story of St Bernadette and her apparitions in 1858. In fact, Bernadette was played by Aryaa, a practising Hindu from East London. We just let them enjoy relaying the story which is told by an agnostic Lourdes barman.”

He continues, “One night when we were in Lourdes, I went to look for the cast in the local bar and was wondering where they were. I later found out that they had gone down to the grotto to sit and join in with night prayers and later in the week they all joined us in the Lourdes torchlight procession.”

“At the end of the show cast members reached out to us expressing just how much they had been touched and changed by the whole experience and unbelievably Aryaa is planning on going on a pilgrimage to Lourdes next year!”

Jonny adds, “We always knew we had a powerful thought-provoking show, but the standing ovations and feedback were way beyond our expectations. What took us by surprise was the ‘night out’ factor – assisted pilgrims loving the two-hour theatrical experience who just don’t get to go out and see a show back at home.”

“The best moment for me,” said Dom, “was at the end of one show in Lourdes when a young chap in the front row stood up and shouted out loud ‘How good was that?!’”



Dominic Sutton (centre), in VISION

The duo is considering plans for the future of *VISION*, including exploring the potential for productions of the show in the USA and making it a more regular feature in Lourdes. More information on the show can be found on the website www.visionthemusical.com and the songs are available on Spotify and Apple Music (search ‘*VISION – The Lourdes Musical*’).



The VISION Crew

Back: Sammy, Callum, Alex, Emma, Aryaa, Laura Dixon (Head of Drama 2013-15), AC, Millie, Dominic Sutton OS 17, James, Elliott Hartley OS 25, Oliver Hartley (Rhetoric).

Front: Jonathan Smith OS 87, Dominic Hartley OS 86, Paul Topping (current music teacher).

REUNIONS



“Fifty-one at Fifty” OS 75 Reunion: 15 May 2025, Savile Club London.

Proposals for a 50-year reunion started some 16 months before the event, following the realisation among a number of the year group of the significance of the anniversary and to test the waters as to the response.

There was a definite surge of interest amongst a core group who had kept in touch over the decades, and with the leadership of **Patrick O'D Bourke** and **Niall Macfarlane**, supported by many others, the ball was set rolling.

By a happy coincidence, Julian Malone-Lee, manager of the Savile Club in London, was in our year and very kindly offered the club as a venue. This confirmed the location, and a date of Thursday 15 May was decided, together with a cost of £100 for the dinner including wines and reception drinks.

Next the sleuthing: the Association database was checked to include those in our playroom who left in Syntax, as well as everyone else in our year (not as simple as it sounds!), most of whom left the College in Poetry (in 1975 the year now known as Rhetoric was then called Poetry).

The total potential number of attendees was 116, but we already knew – or became aware – of the sad loss of a number of colleagues (10 known so far).

The Association database was helpful as it contained information from those who had taken the trouble to update contact details over the years – but not everyone had! We needed to do further digging using old photographs, addresses, Companies House, social media e.g. LinkedIn, and followed up quite a number of hunches. In the end, we had acceptances (and payment!) from 51 attendees, with the no response/unknowns dwindling down to 30, which after 50 years is probably not unreasonable.

So, to the event itself: we found that there was pre-attendance nervousness from some, but once the drinks reception started it was just like old times (name badges were essential – some of us may have looked the same but many had changed!) and suddenly everyone relaxed. Some of the attendees had first met at either Hodder or St



John's Beaumont as early as 1965! As the drinks flowed, the conversation decibel levels grew and grew.

The commencement of the meal included a minute's silence whilst Patrick read out the names of the known deceased. This was followed by a group photograph. We encouraged participants to move to another seat after the second course, and many did so. This was still not enough to ensure true circulation for everyone which was taken to be a good sign that future reunions are more likely to occur.

We are very grateful to Julian for his assistance, to Patrick and Niall for steering the project, and to everyone who made the effort to be there, together with the knowledge there could have been more – maybe next time?!

Those who attended were:



Albert Alonzo, Richard Arundell, Richard Atkin, Patrick Bourke, Charles Braund, Richard Bruce, Patrick Casken, Fred Collier, Edward Condie, Marcus Daly, Mike d'Apice, Mike de Giorgio, Mark Delahunty, Ciaran Dixon, Michael Dunseath, Chris Duffy, Clare Featherby (née Posgate), Jeremy Frank, Jerome Fryer, Simon Gill, Stephen Godfrey, Douglas Gray, Patrick Haynes, Anthony Howard, John Howard-Smith, Brian Isola, Peter Jackson, Niall Macfarlane, Charles Maher, Julian Malone-Lee, Seán Maskey, James Middlehurst, John Minch, Charles Monteith, Mary-Ann Moseley (née Lawson), Alastair Nichol, Dom Nixon, Simon Oakes, Clive O'Connell, Simon Partridge, Chris Payne, Peter Pelly, Chris Pinnington, Jeremy Purcell, Richard Sacarello, Simon Scott, Dennis Sewell, Mike Smith, Gerard Tierney, Graham van Terheyden, and Jonathan Viney.



AMDG

Beatty Smith OS 15 reports on their 10-year reunion at Stonyhurst.

Over a sunny weekend in July, around 70 members of the class of 2015 descended on the Stonyhurst grounds like the giddy teenagers we no longer were. 10 years had somehow passed since we were all gathered together, and many of our classmates had made the journey from other countries to celebrate the event – travelling from Spain, Germany, Korea, Nigeria, and the US, to name a few.

We began the weekend by reminiscing over tea and coffee, drinking from Stonyhurst-branded coffee cups that I restrained myself from stealing in bulk, and gushing over our head girl **Olivia Turner's** (née **Haworth**) baby, who made a brief appearance. Our tour of the building flooded us with memories as we all traded stories and shared our jealousy-tinged glee at the amazing renovations in various parts of the school.

We also had the pleasure of being shown around the Historic Collections, Museum & Archives by the incomparable Dr Jan Graffius, who shared wonderfully strange facts about the exhibits and Stonyhurst's history. The highlight for many was the moment our own valiant **Vincenzo Russo** was asked to hold a mammoth tooth a little too long for comfort.

We then reconvened in our formal wear for dinner in the Top Ref, where, appropriately, the portrait of Mr Hopkins towered over us as we ate. We closed the dinner with a speech from our class's head boy, **Victor Keunen**, and then celebrations continued at the beloved Hurst Green hotspot, the Catholic Club. The more enthusiastic members of our cohort decided to keep reminiscing in further locations, the details of which now evade me.

On Sunday, we attended Mass in St Peter's where our classmate **Anthony Chow** honoured us by playing the organ. With his glorious accompaniment, we were able to sing the Pater Noster together as we had done in the same spot 10 years ago. After Mass, we said our farewells, climbed into cars, and headed down the avenue...only for many of us to stop at the Shireburn Arms, because if not now, when?

We were saddened not to be joined by our classmates, **Jonny Whalley**, whose passing in 2024 was a great loss to us all, and **William Magowan**, who was in our thoughts throughout the weekend.

Thank you to Jo-anne Brown, Layla Heaton and the rest of the team in the Association Office for organising such a brilliant event. Thanks also to Dr Jan Graffius for her time and passion, to **Victor Keunen** and **Olivia Turner** for assisting, and to the kitchen staff for taking such good care of us.

Those in attendance included:

Markiyan Antonyuk, Bethany M. Bacon, Paul Baratelli, Kate Bell, William Bell, Raoul Berger, Carlos Canada Baque, Fernando Caraza, Lombe M. Chibesakunda, Ella L. Chippendale, Jay Chitnis, Anthony G. Chow, SooLim Chung, Isabelle S. Coulston, Louis J. Cuddy, Matthew W. Dawson, Olivia H. Dawson, Jorge J. de Larrea Pombo, Louis Decadt, Louis d'Ocagne, Ciara Doherty, Isabelle Eastwood, Brooke Fabres, Elena A. Floto, Hannah L. Fogden, Jose P. Folch, Nicolas Foncillas, Callum E. Ford, Ruth B. Foulds, Giles M. Gabbutt, Eugenio Garcia, James S. Garrett-Campbell, Peter Gasowski, Iona Graham, Lara Hopwood, Tamara Isola, Alice D. Kenyon, Victor T. Keunen, Franziska Klek, Lukasz K. Kolodziej, Olivia Laking, Favour Maduka, Harriet E. Magill, Christopher N. Magowan, Pui Hung A. Man, Alexander J. McHugh, Will Metcalf, Matthew J. Miller, Santiago Morgan Garcia, Jean-Luc Mouttet, Jessica Moyle, Carlota Munoz-Calero, Emilia O'Connor, Ayo Ogunye, Chidubem Okoye, Alex Owolabi, Clemence Picard, Patrick J. Porter, Alexia M. Rabe, Luisa C. Roggenkaemper, Vincenzo Russo, Ed Scott, Olivia Scott, Beatrice Smith, Miguel Soler, Danielle O. Sotuminu, Sebastian J. Stagnetto, Lila J. Tienabeso, Frederick Timmins, Olaoluwatomiwa J. Tolu Ogunkoya, Joseph Topping, Olivia Turner, Rachel Utting, Rhys Williams, Yoma Ziregbe with guest David Ridout.

LDS



Andrew Sutherland reports on a 'mini' reunion in Lymington on 10 September 2025. Four OS living in the New Forest met for luncheon: **Trevor Way OS 72, Giles Boddington OS 69, Dominic Boddington OS 69** and **Andrew Sutherland OS 66**.



An OS gathering was organised by **Harry Dickinson OS 94** in Tokyo. The event was held at Andaz Hotel, on Friday 28 February and welcomed OS and their family members spanning 35 years to reignite the sense of a Stonyhurst community after leaving the College.

The photograph shows from L-R:

Hisashi Arakawa OS 03, Kentaro Morooka OS 21, Paul Tsuchiya OS 99, Mrs Morooka, Rina Morooka, Helen Eastham, Yoji Takano OS 86, Harry Dickinson OS 94, Yasu Asami OS 97.

REPORTS ON EVENTS



STONYHURST ASSOCIATION OS OPEN DAYS – FRIDAY 4 APRIL AND MONDAY 7 JULY

We were delighted to welcome back OS, along with their families and friends, for our OS Open Days.

Visitors enjoyed exploring some of our newly refurbished areas, as well as familiar spaces including St Peter's, the Top Ref, Sodality Chapel and the Academy Room, followed by a relaxed lunch in the New Ref. Following lunch, our visitors were treated to a guided tour of the Collections and Museum led by the Curator of Collections, Dr Jan Graffius and Development Manager, Lorna Goggin.

We are pleased to share that we'll be holding two OS Open Days in 2026, dates to be confirmed. Our Open Days are an excellent opportunity for OS to bring along friends and family to see the College, with the added treat of lunch in the dining hall and the option to visit the Historic Collections and Museum, which is only open to the public on specific occasions throughout the year.

Pictured from our Open Day on 7 July are: **Michael Armour OS 76, Tim Brand OS 76, Michael Burke OS 67, Paul Cavanagh OS 72, Elizabeth Chester OS 04, Geoffrey Fielden OS 07, Peter Jackson OS 75, Nicholas Southward OS 67 and Michael Starkie OS 98.**

CHRIS THORPE OS 82 REPORTS ON THE THIRST FRIDAY EVENT IN YORK ON 1 AUGUST



We had an excellent evening at the Stonegate Yard celebrating Stonyhurst and Yorkshire Day. It was fabulous to see such a range of OS, from 1955 to 2022, mixing so well and enjoying each other's company.

Present were:

Revd David Chadwick OS 12, Michael Cleary OS 81 and Rosie Cleary OS 22, Michael Crossling OS 86, Bryony and Max, Julian Finnegan OS 87, Flavio Ghiradi and Celia Ghiradi – parents and grandparents of several OS, Matt Glendon-Doyle OS 00, Tony Lawton OS 55, Niall Macfarlane OS 75, and Julie Macfarlane OS 78, Colin Riddell OS 83, Brendan Roche OS 82 and Joanna Roche, Chris Thorpe OS 82 and Katy Thorpe, Martin Thorpe OS 80, Tony Tomalin-Reeves OS 55.

Editor's note: This sort of convivial gathering is what the Association community supports. Chris has kindly agreed to be the Association Ambassador for North Yorkshire for which we are very grateful. Please see the contact details of the Association Ambassador in your area within this publication. Alternatively, if you would like to arrange a similar gathering in your area, please contact Jo-anne at association@stonyhurst.ac.uk



STONYHURST PENANG

INTRODUCING OUR INTERNATIONAL STONYHURST FAMILY IN MALAYSIA

BY FR JAMES TAN SJ



Fr James Tan SJ Penang

AMDG

Fr James Tan SJ is the Chaplain at Stonyhurst International School Penang: a flourishing chapter of the Stonyhurst Family.

Perched on the northern coast of Penang Island, Malaysia, Stonyhurst International School Penang has quickly established itself as a beacon of Jesuit-inspired education in Asia. Since opening its doors in 2022, the school has grown into a

thriving community that embodies the traditions, values, and educational excellence of Stonyhurst College while embracing the rich cultural diversity of its Southeast Asian setting.

The school's foundation is firmly rooted in the Ignatian principles of forming "men and women for others." Just as in Clitheroe, students in Penang are encouraged to develop intellectual curiosity, spiritual depth, and a commitment to service. The motto Quant Je Puis – "As much as I can" – guides daily life, inspiring pupils to give their very best in the classroom, on the playing fields, and in service to others.

A blend of tradition and innovation, the campus, located on a beautiful coastal site in Tanjung Bungah, offers state-of-the-art facilities designed to support holistic education. Modern science laboratories, creative arts studios, and performance spaces sit alongside lush playing fields and a new boarding house that welcomes pupils from across

Malaysia and beyond. Yet, beyond the facilities, it is the sense of belonging to the wider Stonyhurst family that truly distinguishes the school. Teachers (drawn from a global mix of experienced educators) deliver a rigorous British curriculum adapted for an international context. Among them are several former Stonyhurst College staff, who bring with



Pupil profile at entrance to Stonyhurst Penang



Time capsule planting Penang 2023

them first-hand knowledge of the traditions, pastoral spirit, and high academic expectations that have defined Stonyhurst for centuries. Their presence ensures that the ethos of Clitheroe is faithfully transplanted into Penang, enriching both teaching and the wider life of the school.

A global community: In just a few years, Stonyhurst Penang has become a vibrant international community. Families from more than 32 nationalities have joined, reflecting Penang's history as a cultural crossroads. This diversity is celebrated and woven into the fabric of school life, ensuring pupils grow into open-minded, compassionate, and globally aware young people. The school also maintains close ties with Stonyhurst College in Lancashire. Exchange visits, collaborative projects, and shared traditions (such as the celebration of St Omers Day), ensure that pupils in Penang feel connected to the heritage and spirit of their sister school. Alumni of Stonyhurst UK have already visited Penang to support the venture, and many families speak warmly of belonging to a worldwide Stonyhurst network.

Growing reputation: Academic outcomes, co-curricular success, and pastoral care are quickly establishing Stonyhurst Penang as one of the region's most exciting international schools. Pupils have achieved awards in debating, sport, and music, while outreach initiatives (such as partnerships with local charities) underscore the school's mission to make a difference beyond its walls. As Stonyhurst International School Penang continues to grow, it stands as a living testament to the enduring vision of Jesuit education: forming individuals of faith, purpose, and generosity who will go out into the world to serve others. With the guidance of staff who know both Lancashire and Penang, the flame of Quant Je Puis shines brightly across continents and cultures.

LDS

Sam Williams OS 06, Deputy Headmaster, reports on Great Academies from Stonyhurst Penang:

As part of our annual Great Academies Celebration, Stonyhurst Penang was delighted to welcome **Brigadier Paul Hayhurst OS 90** to the



school this summer. In addressing pupils and staff, Brigadier Hayhurst reflected on his formative years at Stonyhurst and how the values instilled there – courage, integrity, and a spirit of service – have guided his life and career. He spoke of the enduring influence of a Jesuit education and its alignment with his career to date, and how it has nurtured both intellectual curiosity and personal resilience. Furthermore, he encouraged the current pupils to embrace these same virtues in their own journeys. In sharing his own experiences, Brigadier Hayhurst reminded us that the Stonyhurst motto, Quant Je Puis (“As much as I can”), continues to inspire each generation to strive towards becoming their fullest selves. On behalf of the staff, pupils and wider Stonyhurst Family here in Penang, we’d like to thank Brigadier Hayhurst for sharing his time.

ASSOCIATION.STONYHURST.AC.UK/SHOP/

ASSOCIATION SHOP

VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO SEE OUR FULL RANGE AVAILABLE

DEVELOPMENT NEWS

POETRY BALL

On 2 July, the last of day of term, we held the Poetry Ball. Pupils, parents and staff stepped back into the *roaring twenties* with a Great Gatsby theme, there were feather boas and headbands galore!

As is tradition, this was a fundraising event for a College project chosen by our pupils and will ultimately be their Rhetoric Gift to the school. The Rhetoric Gift is the pupils' gift back to the College, as a means of thanks for the experience they received during their time at Stonyhurst. This is usually the restoration or conservation of a Stonyhurst Museum artefact or, in this case, a College facility.

Our pupils chose to support the restoration of the Stonyhurst Cricket Pavilion. The Poetry Ball acts as the initial fundraiser for their Rhetoric Gift, and they will continue to fundraise during their final year to achieve their target of £20,000.

The Ball raised over £10,000, so they are well on their way to reaching their goal. We are very grateful to our pupils for taking the initiative to support this important project, we are sure they can hit this for six!



RESTORATION OF THE ST ALOYSIUS STATUE

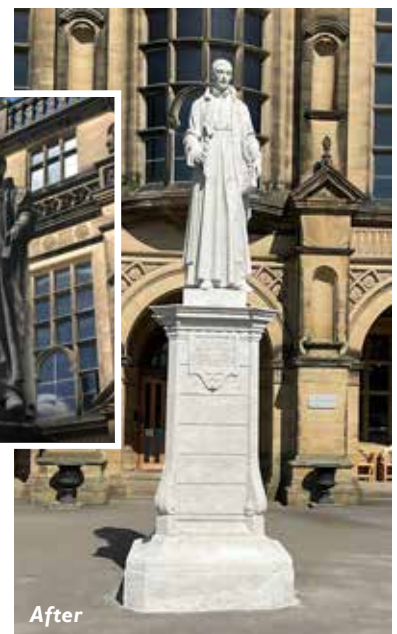
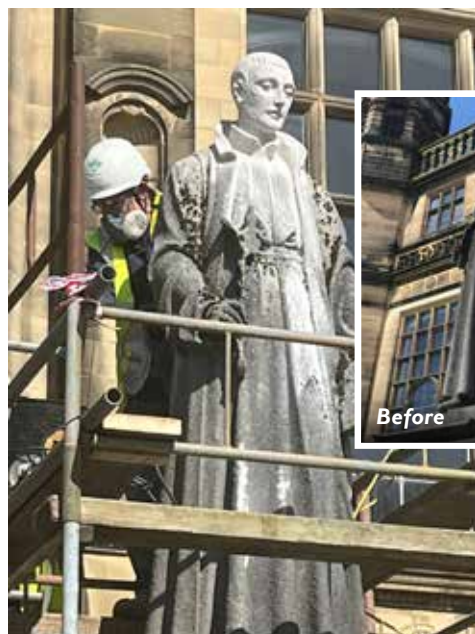
The period of dry weather earlier this year allowed restoration work to be done on the St Aloysius Statue based at the South Fronts.

It was donated in 1889 by Mrs Butler in memory of her son William, who sadly died in 1886 from pleuro-pneumonia. The statue was designed by John Francis Bentley, the architect of St John's Beaumont, the Sacred Heart Chapel at Farm Street Church and Westminster Cathedral. The statue, with its pedestal, stands at 17ft high.

After over 134 years, the Ribble Valley weather had taken a toll on the statue, and it was in need of cleaning and restoration.

The project was chosen and funded by our OS 2024 Playroom as their Rhetoric Gift to the College. A tradition in which our Leavers give a gift of thanks and recognition to their school.

We are very grateful to OS 2024 for helping us complete this much needed project.



STONYHURST NEXT INNINGS – FUNDRAISING FOR THE STONYHURST CRICKET PAVILION

The Stonyhurst Cricket Pavilion has been a beacon on the Stonyhurst Estate for over 130 years. It is the focal point for key events; it stands up to the incoming snow from Pendle Hill and provides welcome shelter against the Ribble Valley weather.

It continues to play a part in key Stonyhurst moments for pupils, OS and staff. After generations of cricketers using the Pavilion, suffering the piercing grip of boot spikes, and standing strong against the Ribble Valley weather, we were planning to refurbish the Pavilion. However, last summer, the need became more urgent as it suffered two arson attacks – seeing smoke coming out of its beautiful windows was heart wrenching to say the least. It is thanks to the quick action of the Lancashire Fire Brigade that the building was saved and that we can restore it to its former glory for future generations of cricketers to walk those steps and take to the field.

If you would like to support this fundraising initiative, we would be most grateful. Please contact the Development Office or visit **Support Stonyhurst** | Donate & Gift Options



STONYHURST RETURNS TO HAMPTON COURT

We were delighted to return to Hampton Court Palace this year for Evening Choral Vespers in the Chapel Royal. The Service was led by The Reverend Canon Simon Bloxam-Rose PhD, Chaplain & Deputy Priest-in-Ordinary to The King, and **Rev Fr Nicholas King SJ OS 66**. They were joined by our Schola Cantorum, who provided the perfect musical accompaniment. Following the Service, guests were invited to join us for a drinks reception at Hampton Court.



We are pleased that this relationship with the Palace continues. Our Museum & Archives will be loaning artefacts to the Palace on a regular basis, which will be exhibited in a 'Stonyhurst Case'. Plans are already underway for next year's visit to the Palace for Choral Vespers.

DILIP MEET UP



In June, **Dilip Gosall OS 23**, **Toby Brady OS 19** and **Meg Murphy OS 19** attended a formal dinner at St John's College, Cambridge.

Dilip said: "It was lovely talking about our experiences at the University of Cambridge whilst also reminiscing about our memories from our time at SMH and the College."

FRIENDS, ASSOCIATES AND PATRONS OF THE STONYHURST MUSEUM

We have been so pleased to see this membership initiative grow and to welcome new members and welcome back recurring ones. We have thoroughly enjoyed having the opportunity to spend time with the members and share the beauty and importance of our historical collections.

This membership initiative allows you to sign up as a 'Patron', 'Associate' or 'Friend' of the Stonyhurst Museum & Archives. Membership has also been bought as gifts for loved ones, and our Museum and Archives Team would be happy to discuss these options with you.

Benefits of membership include:

- A complimentary welcome pack
- Regular communications
- The opportunity to attend Museum & Archives events
- Unlimited free entry to the Museum & Historic Libraries during the summer public opening times.

If you have any further queries regarding this initiative, please contact museumandarchives@stonyhurst.ac.uk to find out more and to subscribe visit: **Stonyhurst Museum – Support Us**

Stonyhurst has been, and remains, indebted to the generosity of others to ensure the work of the Museum & Archives can continue to flourish.



CCF 125

In 1900, the Stonyhurst CCF, referred to then as the OTC, was formed, with the first parade taking place on the 16 October.

125 years later, the CCF remains an important part of the Stonyhurst experience, teaching our pupils key skills in teamwork, camaraderie and leadership. This year, rather fortuitously the 16 October falls on a Thursday – CCF day.

Plans are underway to mark this special date and this important anniversary year. Details will be shared in due course.

However, as a gentle introduction to our upcoming 125th anniversary, one of our recent Junior Under Officers (JUOs), **Katie OS 25**, worked with our Museum & Archives Team to curate a mini exhibition on the history of the CCF. This project, which formed part of her Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), has provided the College with an interesting and eye-catching display, in the Do Room, celebrating our CCF.



PETE THE STREET

This academic year we had the pleasure of welcoming Peter Brown NEAC, a.k.a. 'Pete the Street' back to the College for a second residency. Peter first visited us in 2019 as our '225 Artist in Residence'.

Working mostly in oil, but sometimes charcoal, and very occasionally pastel, Peter has received numerous awards and is a member of several national art societies, most notably the NEAC (New English Art Club) where he has recently completed a five-year term as the society's President.

Peter paints for one-man shows each year – either in London or Bath – and has been exhibiting with Messums London since 2004. He has recently worked on a major exhibition of New York paintings for a debut show in Manhattan with Messums.

During his residency at Stonyhurst, Peter faced all forms of Lancashire weather in order to paint our beautiful buildings and estate. When the weather became too much, Peter ventured into the warmth of the College and captured key moments of the day-to-day life here at the school!

Pete's paintings were exhibited at Great Academies, reflecting the beauty of our College in artistic form. Over half of the paintings have been sold, the remaining paintings can be viewed by searching **Stonyhurst – Pete the Street**.

In addition, two of the paintings have been produced as limited edition prints and are available to purchase through the Development Office.



LEGACY GIFTS – YOUR LEGACY, THEIR FUTURE

Legacy gifts are invaluable.

Stonyhurst has benefitted from legacies since its very earliest days. Each year legacies to Stonyhurst contribute a significant amount to our highest priorities, ensuring that what our donors were privileged to experience will continue to be passed on and that Stonyhurst continues to thrive.

Leaving a gift in your Will to Stonyhurst will make a life-changing difference to a pupil's Stonyhurst education, with no cost to you during your lifetime.

Quite simply, your legacy could help shape their future.

Membership of the Thomas Weld Society is offered to those who have generously made a legacy gift to Stonyhurst, thus keeping the connection with our benefactor, Thomas Weld. We aim to hold a yearly dinner, at Stonyhurst, for members of the Society to thank them for their generosity and to share memories with the Stonyhurst community.

If you would like to find out more about leaving a gift to Stonyhurst in your Will, please do not hesitate to contact us.

development@stonyhurst.ac.uk

01254 827 026



REGULAR GIVING

Stonyhurst has a rich history of philanthropy. Indeed, without the initial support of King Philip II of Spain, subsequent support from the Weld and Eyre families and numerous important acts of generosity since, our school wouldn't be the place we all know and love today.

Since our foundation in 1593, our school has been committed to providing excellent facilities for our pupils. Over 430 years later, we remain committed to this aim.

Stonyhurst strives to provide immediate and future pupil benefit, providing opportunities and facilities for our current and future pupils to thrive. Our school continues to flourish, to this day, thanks to the generosity of our OS, parents, past parents and friends and we are indebted to every one of those donors for their kindness and generosity at every level. Regular gifts to the College and/or the Collections can help us make significant impacts on our pupils' experiences and on the care and conservation of our phenomenal collections.

We hope that you will consider supporting us in our ambition to provide immediate and future pupil benefit, ensuring Stonyhurst continues to develop and prosper.

If you would like to support us, please visit **Stonyhurst College – Support Us** or contact our Development Team, who is always happy to help development@stonyhurst.ac.uk or **01254 827 026**.



THANK YOU

Thank you for all your continuous support for Stonyhurst. With independent schools currently facing the challenges of an increase in business taxes and national insurance, as well as the introduction of VAT on school fees, your support is incredibly important. We are very grateful for all your generosity which helps Stonyhurst in so many ways and ensures it continues to thrive.



THE STONYHURST FOUNDATION



FIVE YEARS OF THE STONYHURST FOUNDATION

On 31 July 2020 the Stonyhurst Foundation was officially launched as the standalone bursary charity raising funds to assist Stonyhurst in widening access to a Jesuit education to pupils regardless of their family situation. The aim was to build an endowment to assist Stonyhurst's bursary funding into the future whilst also providing financial aid on an ongoing basis.

The launch had to be virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but we chose the auspicious date of the Feast Day of St Ignatius. So, on 31 July 2025 we celebrated the Foundation's fifth anniversary.

We are delighted that through the joint efforts of the Stonyhurst community £14M has been raised since the inception of the Foundation and a further £6M is pledged over the next five years. The Foundation has made grants of over £5M to Stonyhurst to date, the majority of which have been used for transformational bursary funding – an astonishing testament to the power of the Stonyhurst family.

In September 2025 the Stonyhurst Foundation will make a grant of just under £2M to Stonyhurst for them to use for bursary funding for the next academic year. At a time when independent schools are facing the financial challenges of VAT, National Insurance rises and changes to business rates we know that this support is needed now more than ever.

The first pupils to be supported by funds from the Foundation left the College in July and we wish them well as they join first-class universities in the UK and the USA.

We are delighted that the Foundation is able to support Stonyhurst and we thank each and every one of our donors for their support to date.

LOOKING AHEAD

At the end of May we bade farewell to John Cartwright-Terry, who has been the Foundation's Director since September 2022, as he rejoined the British Army.

We thank John for his service over the last three years, and in particular for his efforts in widening the supporter base of the Foundation, through the inception of the 1593 regular giving club, engaging the power of collective giving. John also encouraged pupil support for fundraising by leading Rhetoric pupils in the Manchester half-marathon and we are pleased that Rhetoric plan to keep this tradition alive going forward.

John and Ella's three children will continue with their education at Stonyhurst, and we look forward to seeing the family at the Easter Retreat again soon. In the meantime, we send John every best wish for a successful posting.

The operations of the Foundation will continue to be looked after by Cathie Butcher, Head of Operations. Cathie joined Stonyhurst in August 2019 from Ashville College in Harrogate, where she had been Director of Admissions. Cathie was responsible for engaging the Foundation's professional advisers and for setting up the Foundation's operating processes and procedures. She is the first port of call for all enquiries regarding the Foundation and can be reached on c.butcher@stonyhurst.ac.uk

Ian Murphy, the previous Head of SMH, works closely with the Foundation and key donors. Ian is Head of Partnerships for Stonyhurst and liaises with Stonyhurst's partner charities and feeder schools in assisting to recruit pupils on transformational bursaries on behalf of Stonyhurst.

A new Fundraising Director, who will have ultimate responsibility for all of Stonyhurst's fundraising, including bursary fundraising through the Foundation, is being recruited by Stonyhurst and the Stonyhurst Foundation and details of the new appointment will be made known once available.

NEW TRUSTEE – ALEX HANRATTY

We are delighted to announce that Alex Hanratty has agreed to join the Foundation Board of Trustees.

Alex is the CEO and Co-Founder of ReconnectEd, a charity that helps children at risk of exclusion to flourish in mainstream schools. Prior to founding ReconnectEd, Alex was Deputy CEO of Royal National Children's Springboard Foundation, who place transformational bursary pupils into independent and state boarding and day schools, including Stonyhurst.

Alex's grandfather, father, uncles, siblings and cousins all attended Stonyhurst, and we are thrilled that she has joined the Board.

Author: Gene Nealon, Stonyhurst Foundation Chair



CLASSIC CAR TOUR



All Photos by Vanessa Fry Photography

Bill and Helen Ainscough

Following the success of the Classic Car Tour held in May 2024, John Cartwright-Terry put in place plans for the second Car Tour in July 2025, allowing the Foundation and Development teams to pick up the baton and ensure a successful event again this year.

With 15 Classic Cars due to arrive at Stonyhurst on Monday 28 July 2025 we spent mid-July anxiously checking the long-range weather forecast to see if the wonderful weather enjoyed early in the summer would return or if the more usual Lancashire rain would prevail. Contrary to expectations, as the first cars drove down the avenue the sun came out and the cars were highlighted in all their glory outside the South Front.



Andy Scurr OS 80 and Rachael James

Following registration and tea, the participants were treated to a tour of the College and a wonderful tour of the Historic Libraries and Museum with Dr Jan Graffius, a first for a number of the guests who were astounded at the breadth of exhibits and the beauty of the libraries. Stonyhurst catering then provided a perfect relaxed dinner in the Bayley Room which gave the participants time to chat informally and discuss the next day's events.

Day two dawned with showers but some of the cars bravely set off with roofs down as they headed out into the Lancashire countryside. The route took the cars past Browsholme Hall, the Inn at Whitewell and on into the Trough of Bowland, climbing Bowland Fell to the Jubilee Tower, erected to commemorate the Jubilee of Queen Victoria. After a welcome lunch (and escape from the drizzle) at Caton, the tour continued through wonderful Lancashire countryside via Claughton, Wray, Slaidburn, Newton in Bowland, Waddington and back to Stonyhurst in time for tea and the Concours – judged by the Stonyhurst Summer School Scholars, who enjoyed the opportunity to not only view but sit in the amazing cars.

Rested and recharged, we met for drinks at 7.00pm in the Do Room, followed by a Gala



Matthew Hopkinson OS 86 and James Hopkinson OS 83

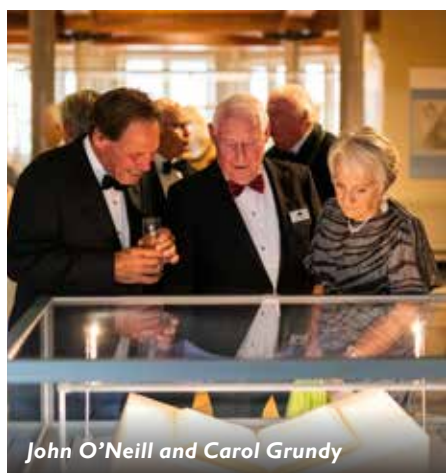
Dinner in the Top Ref hosted by Ed Baker, Stonyhurst Finance and Operations Director. Our sincere thanks go to Dr Jan Graffius, who treated us to an illuminating talk on the College VCs, this was followed by convivial company and an amazing dinner courtesy of the Stonyhurst catering department. In true Stonyhurst style the evening was finished off by a power cut as the guests were leaving, adding an extra element of drama to proceedings.



Gala Dinner



Michael and Frances Joseph



John O'Neill and Carol Grundy

Day three and the sun came out in earnest as the cars met at the South Front before setting off to Bolton Abbey. The morning route took the cars through Waddington, Bolton by Bowland, and on into the villages of North Yorkshire – Hellifield, Airedale, Hetton and Linton before arriving at Bolton Abbey for a delicious lunch at the Tea Cottage and a walk around the Abbey. The afternoon had a different feel with a route through West Yorkshire via Silsden, Trawden and Lower Coldwell Reservoir, Brierfield, Sabden, Whalley and Hurst Green. We were delighted



Mark Brenninkmeyer & Terry Holt OS 72



Antony Joseph OS 93



Nick Corcoran OS 74 and Sarah Atherton

to be joined on the final day by Eugene Nealon, Stonyhurst Foundation Chair, and his wife Jenny who hosted the final evening's event – drinks on the terrace of the Shireburn, overlooking Pendle Hill, followed by the farewell dinner.

Many thanks to Stonyhurst Catering, Security, Ground staff and the Domestic staff for their invaluable assistance in ensuring the event was a success. Our thanks also go to **Michael Joseph OS 59** for his help in designing the routes together to showcase the amazing scenery in both Lancashire and Yorkshire. Finally, thank you to each and every participant for the pleasure of their company – it was a really special few days. Paul Sharples, Experiences Director, Lorna Goggin, Development Manager and I so enjoyed hosting the event and we look forward to repeating it in the future – watch this space.

Author: Cathie Butcher



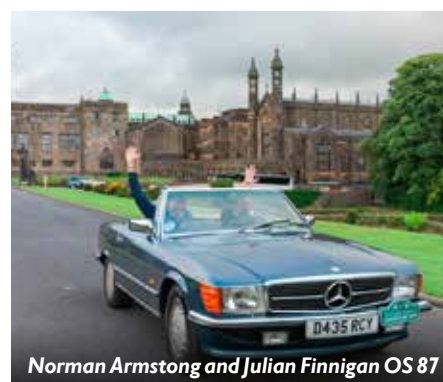
Patrick Hanratty and David Hurst OS 70



Michael Joseph OS 59 and Frances Joseph



Victoria Fattorini, Peter Fattorini OS 60 and Edward Waterson



Norman Armstong and Julian Finnigan OS 87

1593 CLUB

The 1593 Club is the Stonyhurst Foundation's regular giving club for OS, parents, guardians and friends of Stonyhurst. The club represents a way to grow the collective efforts of our Stonyhurst community in support of our bursary charity without relying on large individual donations. Regular giving amounts are set at £15.93, £159.30, or whatever members feel they can afford, and the frequency is monthly and quarterly. All of this (as long as it is personal giving from the UK) is eligible for Gift Aid (25%). The 1593 Club recognises those who support the Stonyhurst Foundation with a regular gift with a Stonyhurst Foundation tie or scarf on receipt of their first donation.

North America-based OS can join the 1593 Club tax-efficiently by making a regular credit card gift through the British Schools and Universities Foundation (BSUF), expressing your preference for the support of the Stonyhurst Foundation*.

*Donors' expressions of their preference are respected by the BSUF, but all grants are made at its sole discretion, as required by the IRS. Contributions made directly to an offshore charity do not qualify for a tax deduction under the IRS code.

Details of how to join the 1593 Club can be found on the Stonyhurst Foundation website
www.stonyhurstfoundation.org



GRASSHOPPERS EVENT 2026

OS LUNCH
AT
PRESTON
GRASSHOPPERS

**Join us on Saturday 24
January 2026 as the
Hoppers take on Sheffield!**

This relaxed and much-loved event brings together OS, former staff, family and friends and we're hoping for another great turnout.

Interested? Get in touch with
Martin Hothersall OS 72:
martinhothersall@outlook.com

Bookings open in November.

**STONYHURST
Summer
SCHOOL**

Friday 10th July - Friday 7th August

The Stonyhurst Summer School is an exciting opportunity to immerse yourself in the English language, as well as British and World culture, with a varied and enriching activity programme. Join the international Stonyhurst family make life-long friendships and unforgettable memories.

Find out more about our summer courses

[W. stonyhurst.ac.uk/summerschool](http://W.stonyhurst.ac.uk/summerschool) | [E. summerschool@stonyhurst.ac.uk](mailto:E.summerschool@stonyhurst.ac.uk) | T. +44 1254 827270



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FR JAMES TAN SJ IN THE CHAPEL AT STONYHURST PENANG

