

THE STONYHURST FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER



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Dear Supporters and Friends,

We have had another very busy term here at The Stonyhurst Foundation. Perhaps most notably we bid farewell to Stephen Withnell as our founder and first Director. We also set in train the process to recruit a new Director.

I wish to thank Stephen for establishing the Foundation and for his leadership. In just four years Stephen has built an enterprise which is the envy of schools throughout the UK - the Foundation is now the largest and most successful bursary endowment of any Catholic independent school in the UK.

The success of the Foundation means that in the future hundreds of children will be able to attend Stonyhurst regardless of their family's financial circumstances. It is a wonderful legacy for which the whole Stonyhurst family now, and in the future, thank Stephen most sincerely. I am delighted he has agreed to remain involved with the Foundation going forward and has agreed to become the Foundation's second Patron.

It gives me great pleasure to announce that Stephen's successor will be John Cartwright-Terry OS. John is an alumnus of Stonyhurst, and we are delighted he has agreed to take up this new appointment, effective 1 September 2022.

The Trustees engaged Peridot Partners, a London-based executive search firm, to run a national and international search for the Director role. John was the unanimous choice of the Trustees following this rigorous professional search process.

John re-joins the College after twenty years of service in the Royal Logistic Corps of the British Army. One of the key attributes we were seeking was someone who would understand the school and its Jesuit ethos. John and family have been returning to Stonyhurst on a regular basis for the Easter Retreat and we are confident the desire to increase access to an education here is at the heart of why he applied for the post.

We are delighted he has accepted the role and we greatly look forward to welcoming John, his wife, Ella, and their children Emma, Elizabeth, and Joseph, back to Stonyhurst. The family will move to the Ribble Valley and the children are enrolled to attend the school.



FAREWELL FROM STEPHEN WITHNELL

I am incredibly grateful that I was given the opportunity to help establish The Stonyhurst Foundation and to serve as its first Director. In particular, I am grateful to Michael Joseph for his leadership and mentorship – one of the first conversations I had upon preparing to return to Stonyhurst in 2018 was with Michael. He shared with me his 20 year-long hopes for establishing a bursary endowment for the College. It was clear from the outset that the first step in setting up the Foundation would be to ask Michael to be the inaugural Chairman. Sincere thanks also to all of our Trustees – the calibre of the Foundation Board is truly remarkable and a tremendous asset for the wider Stonyhurst community.

It has been a hugely rewarding four years and I also wish to express my gratitude to the pupils, staff, Executive and Governors who have made my return to Stonyhurst so memorable. In particular the Headmaster, John Browne. John has been a tireless champion of the Foundation and of the importance of its independence.

In 2018 we put together the External Affairs Team – a team which encompasses Development, Admissions, Marketing, and now also The Stonyhurst Foundation, working in partnership with the Association and the wider Stonyhurst family. I will always be grateful to Cathie Butcher, Suzanne Wheeler, Eva Fortune, and Lorna Goggin for all they have done for the school and Foundation. The External Affairs Team has achieved a huge amount since 2018, some of which I have summarised below.

In 2018 the school had no plans in train to celebrate our 425th anniversary as a school, the 225th anniversary of the school's return to England from the Continent, the 20th anniversary of full Co-Education at Stonyhurst, or the 100th anniversary of Rugby at Stonyhurst! There were also no plans to establish a permanent new charity to fund bursaries and widening access at the school. Quite a few things to get on with then!

In 2018/2019 the team raised a permanently endowed bursary and held a successful Bursary Ball to celebrate our 425th anniversary, we also worked with the Collections Team to produce the translation of the St. Omers Customs Book.



In 2019/2020 we welcomed our 225 Artist in Residence, Peter Brown; and The Stonyhurst Foundation was formally launched on 31 July 2020. To mark the significance of the 20th anniversary of full Co-Education at Stonyhurst, the team arranged for inspiring alumnae to return to the school to speak to pupils, and created Sisters' Walk, the natural partner to Brothers' Walk, joining the College and SMH. In 2020 we secured Stonyhurst's first ever inclusion in the Tatler Schools Guide, and also a nomination for Tatler Public School of the Year. In 2020 on the passing of Adrian Aylward, Stonyhurst Headmaster 1996 – 2005, we set up a permanently endowed bursary in his memory.

For the 2021/2022 Centenary of Rugby, we worked with our indefatigable Assistant Headmaster, Tim Hanley, to arrange the biggest alumni rugby tournament ever held at Stonyhurst, and the largest gathering of OS since the Centenaries Celebrations in 1993. We were able to partner with our Gibraltar OS to fund the construction of the beautiful Gibraltar Pavilion on Smithfield. A hugely successful Rugby Gala Dinner for more than 400 alumni and friends was held at the College, raising money for the Pavilion and for a Rugby Tour of South Africa.

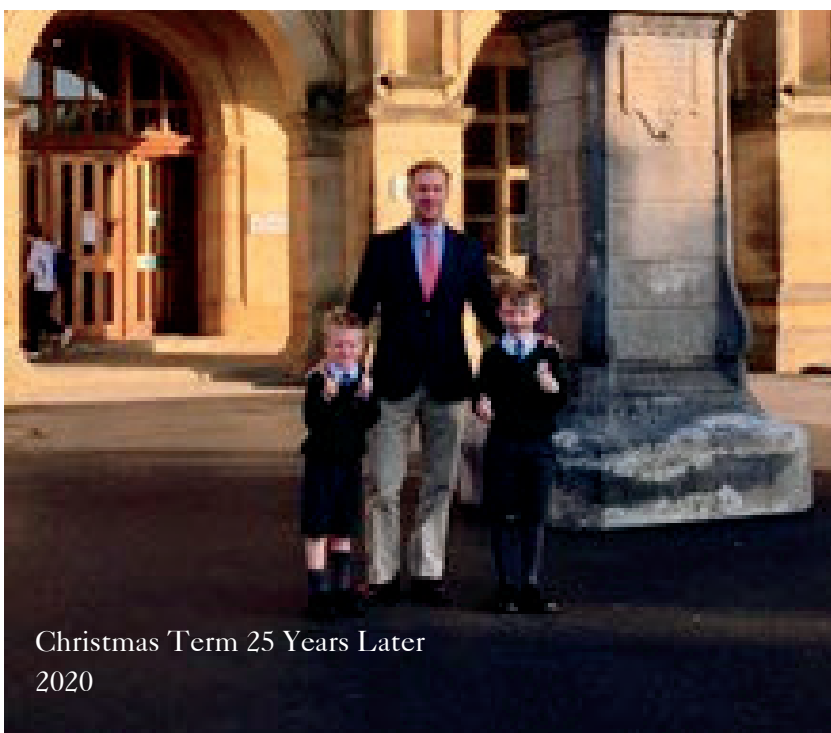
One of the initiatives we are most proud of is the 2021/2022 Rhetoric St. Aloysius Bursary. In early 2021 the two Heads of the Line, Tristan and Saskia, proposed that the OS22 gift to the school could be a full bursary for a pupil to attend Stonyhurst. Through their inspirational leadership and with the support of the Committee, they were able to raise over £180,000 for this initiative. What a truly amazing gift to give.

I am excited that John Cartwright-Terry OS has accepted the invitation to become the next Director of The Stonyhurst Foundation. John's love for Stonyhurst is clear to all – his distinguished career at Stonyhurst was followed by another impressive and distinguished career in the Army. He brings skills, experience, drive, and determination that will hugely benefit the Foundation. John was JUO of Dease when I was a member of that storied platoon in 1995/96 – he was an inspiring leader, and he remains an inspiring leader: I wish him great success in this new and exciting role.

Stephen Withnell



Christmas Term
1995



Christmas Term 25 Years Later
2020



Photo taken by Dr Withnell

NEWS

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INTRODUCING THE NEW FOUNDATION DIRECTOR

John is a former Army Officer with some twenty years of experience in leadership, training delivery and project management.

He is Stonyhurst alumnus, leaving in 1996, and studied Business at the University of the West of England before being selected to attend the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, eventually leading to a Commission in The Royal Logistic Corps. Over the years, John has held a variety of appointments within the Army and has served operationally in Afghanistan and Iraq (and a somewhat less taxing tour of duty with the United Nations in Cyprus). His niche, however, has been within the training and personnel management arenas, having recently been responsible for the leadership and development of Junior Soldiers at the Army Foundation College, Harrogate, and latterly for strategic leadership and resource management as the Deputy Chief of Staff of 1 Mechanized Brigade.

John holds various strategic leadership and project management qualifications and is currently in the final year of a Master's Degree in Programme and Project management with Cranfield University. He is married to Ella, and they have three children all of whom will be joining Stonyhurst imminently.

Following some twenty years serving Her Majesty in the British Army, he has seen first-hand the power of investment in people that only comes about from authentic and unified belief in the mission and in those that are delivering it. That mission, to give the opportunity for the development of 'men and women for others', is something that he is utterly impassioned toward.



Stonyhurst CCF



NEWS ~ THE ST ALOYSIUS BURSARY

Stonyhurst's Jesuit ethos encourages our pupils to be 'Men and Women for Others'. This message has clearly been instilled in our Rhetoric 2022 pupils, who approached the Foundation with the ambitious task of setting up a bursary as their Leavers' Gift.

Our Rhetoricians explained

“ We know first-hand how very special a Stonyhurst education is and all the advantages we have been lucky enough to enjoy. We have therefore decided that our Playroom gift will be a bursary, enabling a child who financially would be unable to attend Stonyhurst to benefit from the advantage we have enjoyed - a Stonyhurst education. ”

The St Aloysius Bursary was launched to all Rhetoric parents supported by a pupil-led video and a dedicated brochure. In addition to generous donations from parents and staff our pupils held fundraising events to support their initiative. Our Rhetoricians assisted at the Association Carol Service, and we are very grateful to the Association for generously allocating the retiring collection to the bursary. These donations, along with those raised at the Farm Street Carol Service, gave our pupils encouragement to continue their fundraising plans in the Easter Term and resulted in two of our Rhetoricians leading a sponsored marathon reading of Homer's 'Odyssey'.

This epic marathon reading aimed to raise £2,000 before the end of the event, during which OS, parents, staff, and pupils took part. Thanks to the generosity of the Stonyhurst family the initiative not only exceeded its target but did so before the reading began -the final amount raised totalling £3,605!

We are delighted to announce that the St Aloysius Bursary currently sits at: £187,000. It will sit as an endowed and restricted fund within The Stonyhurst Foundation, partly funding a boarding place in perpetuity.



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ADRIAN AYLWARD MEMORIAL SERVICE

We were pleased to be able to assist Adrian's family with the plans for his memorial which took place on Saturday, the 2nd July 2022 at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, London. Particular thanks to Cathie Butcher, Beverley Sillitoe and Lorna Goggin for organising this event on behalf of the family.

The sheer number of people in attendance from Stonyhurst, Leweston and Downside was a true testament to the impact Adrian had not only on the schools as institutions but on those he interacted with.

During his time at Stonyhurst, Adrian's achievements were many and varied - resulting in a school that was well prepared for the future. Adrian was responsible for extensive building projects, was key in enhancing access to, and use of, the Historic Collections, and in 1997, he oversaw the introduction of girls to Stonyhurst St Mary's Hall, an important step in Stonyhurst's journey to full co-education. Under his leadership academic results improved, however, Adrian withdrew Stonyhurst from academic league tables, believing they were not compatible with the ethos of Jesuit schools. In 2003, he set up the Stonyhurst Access Appeal widening access to the College to those from lower income families.

The Foundation has continued Adrian's passion to help widen access to Stonyhurst and in 2020 set up the Adrian Aylward Award in his memory. The Foundation is grateful to Adrian's family who agreed that the donations from the memorial service will be allocated to the Adrian Aylward Award, to help provide funding for a pupil to live, learn and grow at Stonyhurst.

Adrian has undoubtedly left a lasting memory on all those who had the opportunity to meet him, and he will now have a lasting legacy for generations to come.



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THE STONYHURST CENTENARY OF RUGBY



Rugby at Stonyhurst lies at the heart of our sporting heritage and 2021/2022 marked our first Centenary of Rugby. To celebrate this anniversary, we have redeveloped our rugby facilities with particular focus on Smithfield, where we have built a distinctive new pavilion. The pavilion, which overlooks the beautiful views of the Ribble Valley, has been named 'The Gibraltar Pavilion' in recognition of the cornerstone funding provided by our Stonyhurst Gibraltar community. This funding was supported by the 'Captains' Campaign', led by our historic 1st XV Captains, allowing us to complete the interior and exterior features of the Pavilion, as well as provide new rugby equipment.

After a year of all things rugby, including numerous match wins, including successes against our sporting rivals Ampleforth and taking the cup at the Stonyhurst Rugby 7s; we brought our Centenary of Rugby to a close with our Decades Tournament and Gala Dinner.

On the 3rd June, we welcomed many members of the Stonyhurst community to Smithfield for the blessing and official opening of the pavilion. Fr Tim Curtis SJ, Fr Michael Bossy SJ and Fr Donal Godfrey SJ OS77 blessed the pavilion before we heard from two rugby (and Stonyhurst rugby) legends, Richard Greenwood OBE and Brian Ashton MBE. The ribbon was cut, and The Gibraltar Pavilion was officially opened!

As the clapping died down, our OS teams took to the field. Smithfield and Cemetery Field were busy throughout the day with members of the Stonyhurst Family watching matches on both fields whilst enjoying a variety of food options from local artisan stalls.

It was an exciting day, with an electric atmosphere capturing the essence of the renowned and much loved Stonyhurst 7s. When the final whistle blew it was OS20 who took the win, just edging out OS19.



Celebrations continued long into the evening of the 3rd June, when 470 guests attended our Gala Dinner. This included a panel with our rugby internationals Barry O'Driscoll, John O'Driscoll, Kevin Barrett, and Joe Ansbro plus live music; fireworks; and the opportunity to catch up with old friends. This dinner was the largest school event held at Stonyhurst since the Centenaries Ball in 1993/94.

It was wonderful to see generations of the Stonyhurst Family enjoying themselves whilst celebrating the past, present and future of Stonyhurst rugby.

The majority of the fundraising proceeds from this event will support the completion of the new pavilion and facilities on Smithfield and a portion supported the 2022 Stonyhurst Rugby Tour of South Africa.

On Saturday 4th June, the Centenary events drew to a close with Mass in St Peter's. Fr Tim Curtis SJ, the Principal Celebrant, was joined by Fr Donal Godfrey SJ OS77 and Fr Michael Bossy SJ.

Fr Donal perfectly summed up, not only the weekend, but our centenary year and the hard work from so many to make it possible:

"Pope Francis said to visiting rugby teams in the Vatican that rugby is about belonging – it marks the personal and collective memory, having the capacity to unite people, transcending language, race, religion, and ideology. The need for others, Pope Francis said, includes not only teammates, but managers, coaches, supporters, the family, groundskeepers, all whose dedication make it possible to give the best of oneself."

Hearing our OS sing the Pater Noster with such passion and gusto seemed a very appropriate way to end a weekend celebrating with the Stonyhurst Family.

Particular thanks go out to our Maintenance, Domestic, Security, and Estates Teams and to those that volunteered at the Gala Dinner; including Claire and Mark Ashworth, Paul Cooke, Ruth Crossley, Michael Hargreaves, Yvette Luker, Alice Charles OS21 and Amelia Mastrobuoni OS21. Special thanks must go to Steve Whitford for laying so many tables, and to Zoe Livingstone and Layla Heaton who helped on the day, during the evening and in the days leading up to the weekend. Never faltering - no matter the task.

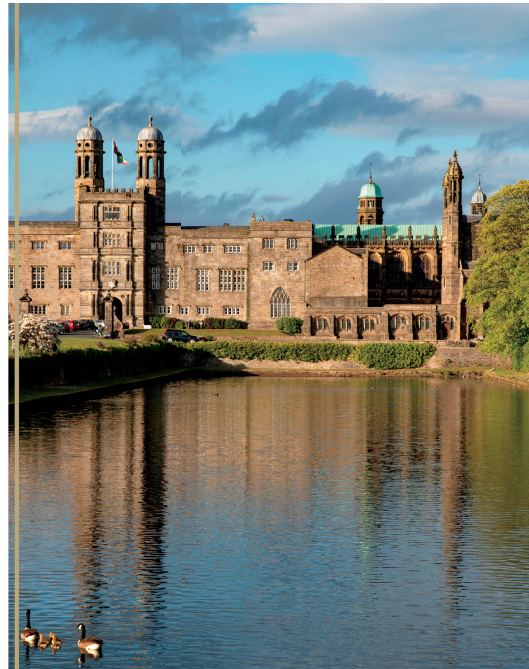
Of course, we cannot forget Beverley Sillitoe who helped organise, run and work this event with us from day one and Tim Hanley whose inspired vision for the tournament and Gala Dinner provided the opportunity to bring the Stonyhurst community together in celebration.

Stonyhurst's Centenary of Rugby has now come to a close and what an anniversary it has been. The Development Team is sincerely grateful to all those who supported this year. It was truly a team effort from so many here at Stonyhurst!



Holy Mass
for the
Stonyhurst
Rugby Centenary

Saturday 4th June 2022
St Peter's Church, Stonyhurst



STONYHURST DEVELOPMENT UPCOMING EVENTS

The Thomas Weld Society Service of Thanksgiving & Lunch 1st October 2022 Stonyhurst

On Saturday the 1st October 2022 the Stonyhurst Development Team will be hosting its annual Thomas Weld Society Service of Thanksgiving followed by lunch.

Membership of the Thomas Weld Society is offered to those who have generously made a legacy gift to Stonyhurst, thus keeping up the connection with our first benefactor, Thomas Weld in 1794. Leaving a legacy to Stonyhurst and membership of The Thomas Weld Society is an opportunity to provide massive and unqualified moral support to our magnificent schools.

This annual event takes place to thank our legacy donors for their generosity.

Henry VII Cope Tour of America 7th-12th November New York

We are delighted that the Henry VII Cope, on loan from the British Jesuit Province, will be on display at the New York Metropolitan of Art Museum this autumn. The Stonyhurst Development and Collections Teams, the Jesuit Province and Campion Hall, Oxford are organising a number of events to celebrate this.

- On Wednesday 9th November there will be a tour of the MET
- On Thursday 10th November, Mass will be held at St Ignatius of Loyola Church on 5th Avenue

Other events, in conjunction with Fordham University, are to be confirmed.

All members of the Stonyhurst family in New York and across America will be emailed in the first week of September.



STONYHURST ASSOCIATION EVENTS

A Tolkien Family Walk- 18th August

The Association has arranged a Tolkien family walk on Thursday 18th August, starting at 12 noon at Hobbit Hill. Car parking and facilities are available. There will be two led walks, one for little legs taking approximately 1.5 hours and a longer walk that will take around 3 hours. It is a circular walk, ending back at Hobbit Hill, where there will be a complimentary afternoon tea, and a cash bar will be available from 3.00pm. Weather permitting, there will be a bouncy castle for the children!

Whilst the walk and the afternoon tea are free of charge, there is another purpose to the invitation, apart from the chance to enjoy a lovely walk with friends old and new, the Association would like you to bring a non-perishable food item with you. All donations will go to Maundy Relief, the charity the Association President, Julie Macfarlane OS78, is supporting during her year.

Please note: Joining instructions will be sent in advance to those who book. Whilst dogs are very welcome, they cannot go inside Hobbit Hill. In order to arrange the catering, and to have an idea of how many children we may have for this family event, it would be very helpful if you could indicate that you plan to attend by submitting the booking form available on the Stonyhurst Association website.

www.association.stonyhurst.ac.uk/2022/06/29/upcoming-summer-events/

Thirst Friday at Richmond- 2nd September

Richmond Athletic Ground, Twickenham Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 2SF

The Association invites you to join them at Richmond Rugby Club for a very informal Stonyhurst family social event starting at 5.30pm. The first drink is on the Association and there will be a complimentary barbecue. They would love to see you there; children are very welcome. Do join them for what should be a lovely end of summer get together!

Please note: For catering purposes it would be very helpful if you could indicate that you plan to attend by submitting the booking form available on the Stonyhurst Association website: <https://association.stonyhurst.ac.uk/2022/06/29/upcoming-summer-events/>





Get in Touch

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