



# **Strength and Serenity :**

An archive exhibition exploring  
140 years of Blundell's School Chapel

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# Blundell's School Tiberton Chapel Building Fund

## SUBSCRIPTIONS ALREADY PROMISED.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
The Bishop of Exeter	100	0	0	xMr. Alex. R. Payne	5	0	0	xMr. E. Lindsay Phillips	1	1	1
Earl Devon	50	0	0	xRev. John Bere (Skilgate)	5	0	0	xRev. A. L. Becker	1	1	1
xSir John H. Amory, Bart., M.P.	50	0	0	xRev. J. O'Neill	5	0	0	.. H. Venn	1	0	0
xMr. W. C. L. Unwin	25	0	0	xPer Mrs. A. L. Francis	4	10	0	.. T. G. Stokes	1	0	0
.. A. L. Francis, Hon. Sec.	25	0	0	xMr. G. F. Miller	3	3	0	x.. R. Drake	1	0	0
xMessrs. W. H. and F. Dunsford	25	0	0	xMr. H. A. Palmer	3	3	0	Mr. W. Lloyd-Worth	1	0	0
Rev. T. U. Cross, Hon. Sec.	25	0	0	xMrs. Cecil Cox	3	3	0	xMrs. Lindsey	1	0	0
xMr. F. Mackenzie	21	0	0	Mr. A. R. Fisher	3	3	0	xMr. T. Anstey	1	0	0
x.. G. H. Pinckard	21	0	0	xMr. G. Alexander	3	3	0	x.. A. H. Onslow	1	0	0
.. H. R. Francis	20	0	0	xMr. J. Broadmead	3	0	0	xJ. and G. Carpenter	1	0	0
xMiss Richards	20	0	0	Mr. R. H. G. Price (paid £1)	2	2	0	Mr. J. J. G. Couper	1	0	0
xRt. Hon. W. N. Massey, M.P.	10	10	0	xMrs. Roberts	2	2	0	x.. E. Gregory	1	0	0
Mr. L. Mackenzie	10	10	0	Rev. A. K. Noon	2	2	0	.. E. Simmons	1	0	0
.. T. O. Lazenby	10	10	0	xMrs. Patch	2	2	0	xRev. W. Fookes	1	0	0
.. W. B. Gamlen	10	10	0	xMr. W. H. Cross	2	2	0	x.. J. A. Miller (Glastonbury)	1	0	0
.. G. H. Spring	10	10	0	x.. F. R. Cross	2	2	0	x.. A. J. Miller (Leeds)	1	0	0
Rev. Donald M. Owen	10	10	0	xSir Arthur Elton, Bart.	2	2	0	x.. William Martin	1	0	0
.. R. Hill	10	10	0	Rev. John Russell	2	2	0	xMiss Buck	1	0	0
x.. J. B. Hughes	10	10	0	x.. S. H. Reynolds	2	2	0	Mr. Arthur Fisher	1	0	0
.. E. Fursdon	10	10	0	.. H. Barne	2	2	0	xMr. F. G. Tophill	1	0	0
The Principal of St. Alban Hall (Rev. W. C. Salter)	10	10	0	x.. Walter C. Priteaux	2	2	0	xMrs. Darvall	1	0	0
Sir J. W. Walrond, Bart.	10	10	0	x.. George Body	2	2	0	xMiss Darvall	1	0	0
xMr. W. Partridge	10	10	0	xTiberton Gazette	2	2	0	xCapt. Rogers	1	0	0
.. George W. Mackenzie	10	10	0	xMr. G. D. Cann	2	2	0	xMr. George C. Little	1	0	0
xRev. L. T. Rendell	10	0	0	x.. J. H. Cann	2	2	0	x.. F. E. Little	1	0	0
Mr. E. P. Rooper	10	0	0	x.. S. W. Jenkin	2	2	0	xSister of an old Master	1	0	0
Rev. C. S. Bere	10	0	0	x.. H. Marsh-Phillips	2	2	0	xMrs. Walter Rado	1	0	0
.. E. A. Dayman	10	0	0	Sir Philip Mainwaring, Bart.	2	2	0	xCollecting Cards	16	11	0
xRight Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., M.P.	10	0	0	Mr. Seymour Hill	2	2	0	x..	2	0	0
xRev. C. Plucknett	10	0	0	x.. W. C. Barne	2	2	0	Rev. Walter Priteaux (2nd don.)	5	5	0
Lord Coleridge	10	0	0	x.. Walter C. Hillier	2	2	0	xMr. Frank T. Dayman	20	0	0
xMr. C. O. Dayman	10	0	0	xCol. Bovill	2	2	0	xRev. M. Anstis	5	0	0
.. C. Marshall Hole	5	5	0	xThe Misses Barne	2	2	0	xMr. A. Crawys Sharland	5	0	0
.. W. W. Martin	5	5	0	xRev. N. V. Fowler	2	2	0	xMr. Fred. Snell	5	0	0
.. J. H. Lloyd	5	5	0	xMrs. Bevan	2	2	0	xMr. C. Fenwick	1	0	0
xMrs. and Miss Cross	5	0	0	Mr. John Barne	2	2	0	Mr. H. Body	2	2	0
xRev. D. S. Ingram	5	0	0	Rev. W. Lloyd-Worth	2	2	0	xCapt. H. E. Tronson	1	1	0
xMr. G. E. Mackie	5	0	0	Mrs. W. Lloyd-Worth	1	6	0	xMr. T. B. Patterson	1	0	0
x.. G. H. Norman	5	0	0	xA. and H. F. Lea	1	4	6	xMr. A. M. Hill (Collecting Cards)	3	11	0
xRev. S. Middleton	5	0	0	xRev. R. Boodle	1	1	0	Mr. E. F. Clarke	5	0	0
.. R. J. Drury	5	0	0	xMr. W. Pittman	1	1	0	Proceeds of Bazaar	430	0	0
xMr. Stephen Fisher	5	0	0	xRev. W. C. Baker	1	1	0	W. W. Lath-Raw	10	10	0
x.. F. B. Fisher	5	0	0	.. W. Knight	1	1	0	.. A. R. Brind +	1	0	0
xGeneral Goodwin	5	0	0	xMiss Patch	1	1	0	.. L. H. Mills	1	0	0
.. Unwin	5	0	0	Mr. J. J. Cross	1	1	0	Sir T. D. Arland M.P.	10	0	0
Mrs. Collier	5	0	0	x.. S. E. S. Cox	1	1	0	Rev. S. H. G. Fagan	1	0	0
Rev. G. Hadow	5	0	0	xMiss E. Broadmead	1	0	0	Mrs. G. R. Robertson +	1	0	0
xMr. R. Henry Taylor	5	0	0	xMrs. R. W. Lambert	1	0	0	.. W. R. Dickinson	1	0	0
.. F. A. Payne	5	0	0	xMr. E. Clapp	1	0	0	.. J. Bogard +	5	0	0
x.. John Carpenter	5	0	0	Rev. G. Martin, D.D.	1	0	0	.. John Puff +	10	0	0
Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart.	5	0	0	x.. T. Clapp	1	0	0	.. Frank Beal	2	2	0
xMr. W. J. Hill	5	0	0	xMr. and Mrs. Brown-Mason	1	0	0	.. P. R. Hooker	10	0	0
.. W. Sweet	5	0	0	xRev. S. A. Ellis	1	0	0	W. F. Stokes	2	2	0
xRev. G. Hest	5	0	0	x.. R. Bassett Rogers	1	0	0				
xMrs. Chandless	5	0	0	x.. F. J. Tavorner	1	0	0				
xRev. G. H. Kempe	5	0	0	Mr. J. Goodenough Taylor	1	0	0				
x.. F. H. Manley	5	0	0	x.. Granville Smith	1	0	0				
				x.. Hayne Smith	1	0	0				
				xRev. T. H. Rust	1	0	0				

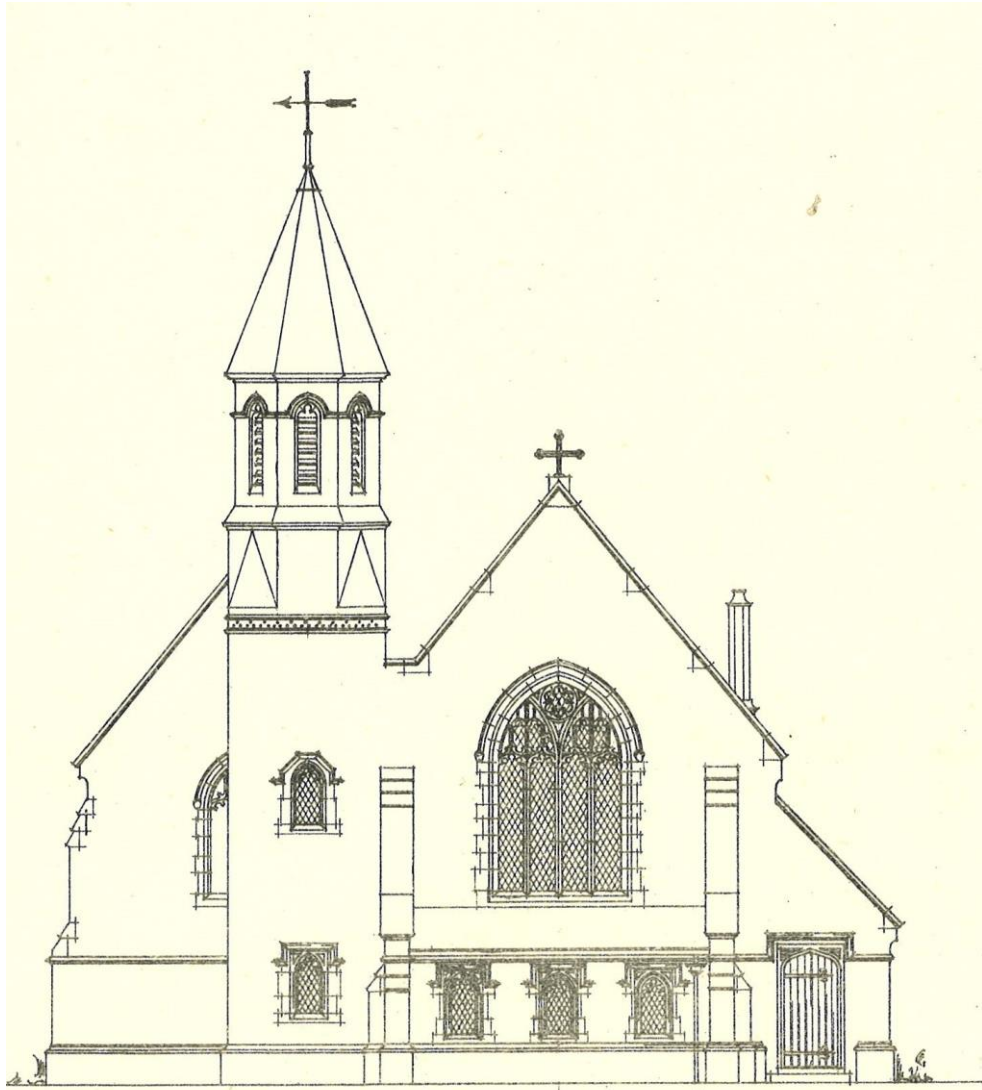
x Those marked thus have already paid their Subscriptions. £ 31 0 0

Additions to the above List will be gratefully received. The estimated sum now required is £1600, towards which £1400 has been promised.

Tireless lobbying by the Earl of Devon, A.L. Francis and the Rev. Thomas Cross, combined with the Chapel Building Fund allowed it to be built.

The Chapel was consecrated on St. Peter's Day, 1883 with much pomp and ceremony with OBs, local civic wardens, local clergymen and the Bishop of Exeter (and OB), Frederick Temple.

Subscriptions for the new chapel, c. 1882



Plan for the new spire, *c. 1893*

It soon became clear that more space was needed. Many improvements were made in the first decade or so including:

- The Victoria Aisle, to commemorate Queen Victoria's jubilee (1887)
- The Choir Vestry (1892)
- The Pulpit (1893)
- A spire to commemorate the life of the first chaplain, the Rev. Thomas Cross who drowned at sea (1894).

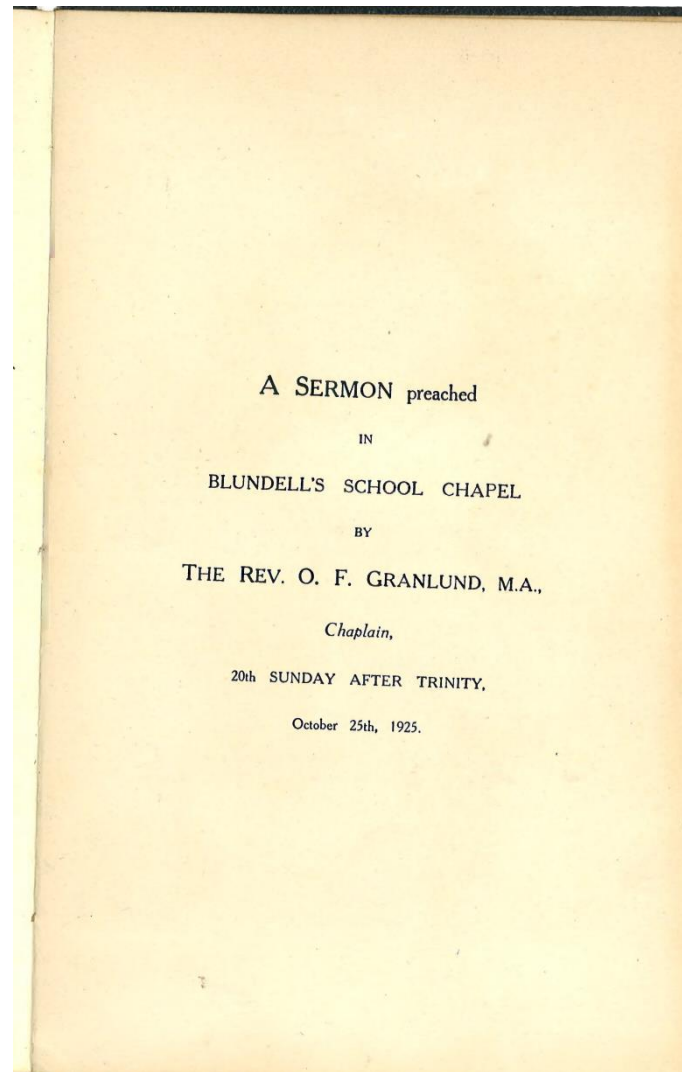
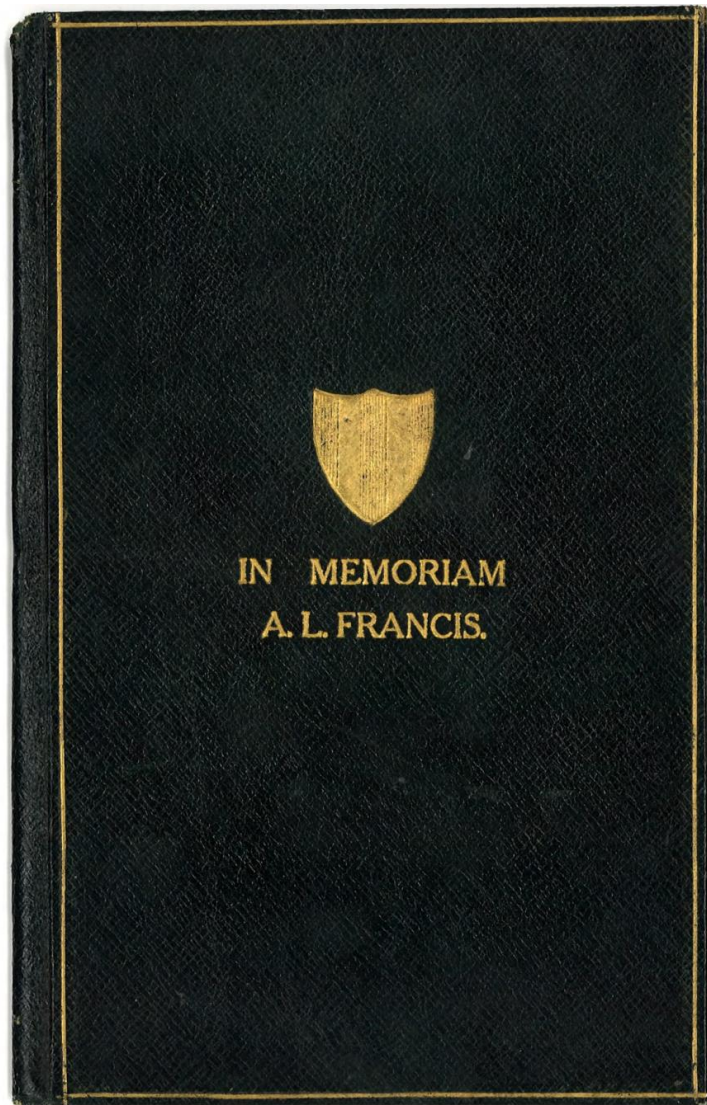




The war memorial, fashioned in the style of the cross of Eyam was consecrated in November 1920, to commemorate the 195 Old Blundellians who fell in the Great War. The design, inspired by the words of Wykeham Chancellor, was deliberate: the intricate knots chosen to ‘symbolise the difficulties which beset those who would choose the straight and narrow way leading to salvation’.

Remembrance Day, *2007*





A.L. Francis was instrumental in the establishment of the new site at Horsdon and successfully guiding the School through the financial crisis between 1874 and 1917, improving the boarding accommodation and curriculum during his Headship. Given his monumental standing within the Blundell's community, it is perhaps hardly surprising that following his death in 1925, a new memorial window was planned for the Chapel.

A.L. Francis Memorial Sermon, 1925



The design included Peter Blundell; Walter de Stapleton, Bishop of Exeter (1308-26); Frederick Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury; and Augustus Francis and was consecrated on OB Day 1929. The design was created by Mr. Archibald Nicholson, of London and cost around £500.

The new Francis Memorial Window photo, *1929*





Boys putting the new altar together, *1937*

The interior of the chapel changed significantly by the late 1930s, when the Headmaster, Neville Gorton, introduced many aesthetic changes including:

- Making the Eucharist more central to the chapel's design
- Removing blocks of pews near the sanctuary
- Blocking up the three east windows
- Removing the back panelling
- New black concrete replacing the original floor for the new altar– this was laid by the boys themselves.





The new “Gorton” altar, as it became known at the time, was created by the boys, and their art master, Phillips, assisted on his occasional visits by the sculptor, Eric Gill. Certainly, the ornateness of the new interior and the connections with the catholic Gill caused some anxiety at the time.

Photo of the ‘new’ altar on its circular base with the marquetry cross hanging above, *c. 1937*



The detailed front of the 'new' altar , c. 1937

That said, the new design went down well in many quarters. Frederick Temple's son, William, who like his father went on to become the Archbishop of Canterbury, wrote in the chapel archive book in 1943 –

*“I have today visited the chapel dedicated by my father sixty years ago. I greatly admire the work recently done for its dignity and beauty and especially rejoice that so much of this was done by the boys themselves.”*

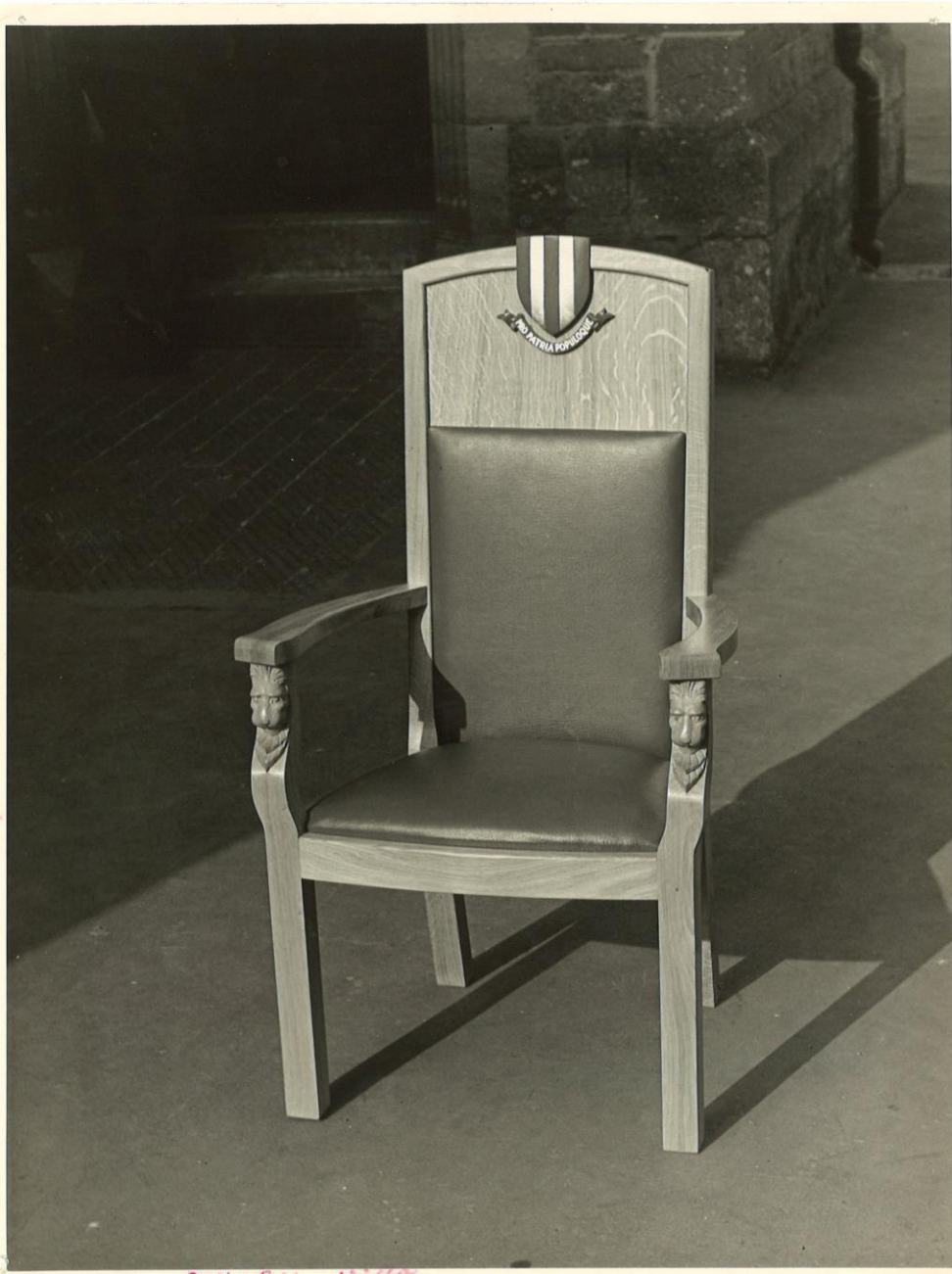




Following disagreements under the headship of R.L. Roberts (Gorton had left the school in 1942, to become the Bishop of Coventry), the altar and the large marquetry cross were removed in 1947.

The Chapel – interior facing the East End, *1959*





The Chapel was central to the Queen Mother's visit in 1954. She attended a private music concert on June 4<sup>th</sup> as part of the celebrations to commemorate the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the School. The special chair complete with the School's coat of arms, which continues to be in active use in the Chapel today, was especially created for her by teachers, Jack Perrin and Bill Fisher.

The Queen Mother's Chair, *1954*



HM, The Queen Mother, signing the Chapel  
Book, *1954*

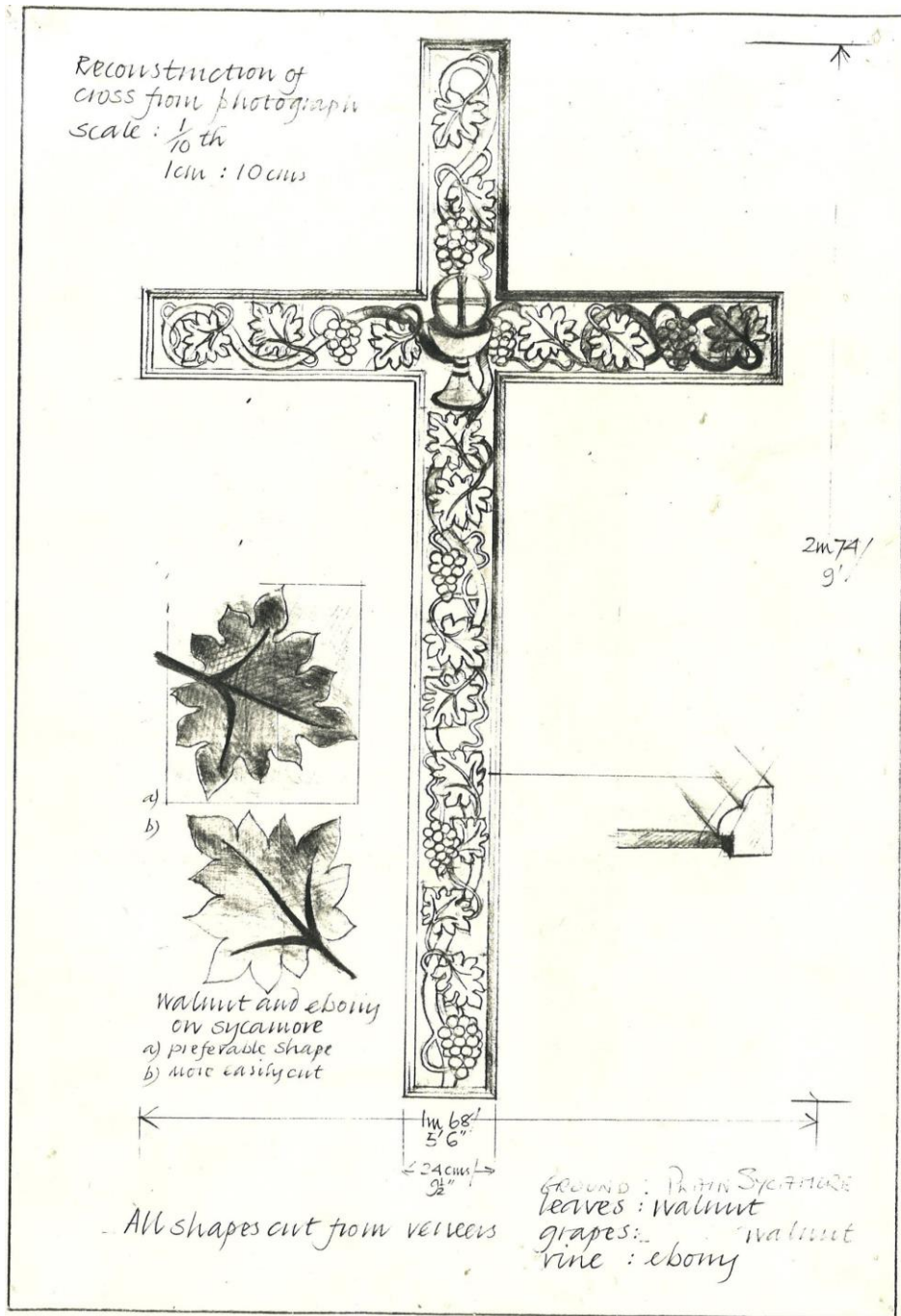
She was led to the chair by Head Boy, Tom Holden (W 1949-54) who incidentally spent his national service under the guidance of a young Idi Amin (probably the only dictator to find his photo published in the *Blundellian* as part of Tom's OB news sent back to the school!). The Queen Mother signed the Chapel Archive Book as part of her visit.





Main school building with the chapel, by Charles H. Clark, c. 1960





It was not until 1993, that the Gorton altar was re-installed, after a group of Old Blundellians successfully bid on it at auction (it had been in a Coventry Mother and Baby home in the intervening period). At the time, it was the largest amount spent at auction on a piece of pupil-created artwork!

It was also decided that a copy of the original hanging marquetry cross would be created and Bill Fisher, who had worked on the original as a young man, was happy to undertake the project.

Sketch for the reinstated chapel cross, c. 1992/3



Part of the Lady Chapel Extension plans *c. 1980*

The most recent and substantial remodelling of the chapel was in 1980/81. Headmaster, Clive Gimson, wished to improve the chapel as a vehicle for worship, and the Peter Blundell Society kindly put up the money for the building of a small chapel for private prayer, small groups, confirmation classes and week-day communions. The Lady Chapel, was designed by Mr. Rag Squire (SH 1926-30) was described as having ‘interpreted the brief with imagination and sensitivity’.



The newest addition to the Lady Chapel is this painting which OB, Sir Christopher Ondaatje (P 1947-51), kindly donated a few months ago. The chapel remains a place of prayer, silence, contemplation and peace in 2023.

'Brown Christ', by Sir Christopher Ondaatje, *photographed in 2023*





Music has always been an important part of chapel life, from daily hymn singing, services and evensong. Hardly surprising, the school choir over the years has maintained close connections with the chapel building.

Evensong; *2021*





The Bach Choir performed Handel's Messiah on Easter Sunday in Chapel, March 25<sup>th</sup> and then repeated the performance in Exeter Cathedral as part of the Festival of Britain, on June 21<sup>st</sup> 1951.

Bach Choir, **1951**





Choir picture, *undated*



**Evensong; 2011**



*as yeaman*  
*Quenville S. Hartam*, *F.S. Jackson*  
*J. Greenblode*, *I. Tucker*, *H.T. Blair*  
*D.H. Hamilton*, *V.E. Chalk*  
**J. S. BACH**  
 Cantata No. 50. 'Nun ist das Heil'  
*Mosles*  
**F. SCHUBERT**  
 Mass in G  
*W.A. Mozart*  
**J. BRAHMS**  
 German Requiem  
*David G. Reid*, *R.J. Magor*, *J.G. Turner*  
**Blindell's School Chapel**  
 6.30 p.m. 30 July  
 1950  
*I.D. Lloyd Jones*, *C. Bowerman*  
*M. Anshman*, *J.J. Jewell*, *G. Bowerman*  
*P. Russell*

*W.W.I. Davies*, *J.N. Reynolds*, *R.S. Atkinson*  
**RAGOFF**  
*P. Jackson*  
 The School Choir has sung the following Works:-

1923 May Queen Sterndale Bennett	1939 Motets* Byrd, Gibbons, Redford
1924 St. Cecilia's Day Parry	German Requiem Brahms
St. Matthew Passion (part) J. S. Bach	1940 †Opera, "Dido and Æneas." Purcell
Christmas Oratorio (part) J. S. Bach	1941 ††Ave Verum Corpus* (Motet). Byrd
1925 Christmas Oratorio (part) J. S. Bach	Missa Æterna Christi Munera.* Palestrina
Peasant Cantata J. S. Bach	Messiah. Handel
1926 Messiah (Part I) Handel	Ode, "Come, ye sons of art, away" Purcell
Cantata 140 (Sleepers Wake) J. S. Bach	1942 St. Cecilia's Day Hubert Parry
1927 Song of Destiny Brahms	Te Deum and Jubilate in D Purcell
Blest Pair of Sirens Parry	Anthem, "Rejoice in the Lord alway" Purcell
1928 Offertorium in F minor Purcell	1943 ††Sunday Half-Hour (Forces Programme)
Magnificat in D J. S. Bach	1944 Requiem Mass Mozart
Psalm 148 Holst	1945 ††Motets, Madrigal and Part Songs* Weelkes, Byrd, Dowland, Stanford, Hebridean
1929 Mass in B minor (Kyrie and Gloria) Parts I & II J. S. Bach	Christmas Oratorio (Parts I and II) J. S. Bach
Fantasia on Christmas Carols Vaughan-Williams	Fantasia on Christmas Carols Vaughan-Williams
1930 Cantata 11 (Praise Jehovah) J. S. Bach	Ceremony of Carols Benjamin Britten
1931 Mass in B minor J. S. Bach	1946 Cantata 106 (God's time is best) J. S. Bach
1932 German Requiem Brahms	Requiem, Op. 48 Gabriel Fauré
1933 Te Deum and Jubilate in D Purcell	††Evening Service (Choir and School) Palestrina
Benedicite Vaughan-Williams	Missa Brevis* Palestrina
Messiah Handel	Motets* (for 4, 6 and 8 voices) Redford, Orlando Gibbons
1934 Dido and Æneas Purcell	Madrigals and Part Songs*
Peasant Cantata J. S. Bach	1948 Mass in B minor J. S. Bach
1935 Mass in B minor J. S. Bach	Stabat Mater* Palestrina
1936 Song of Destiny Brahms	††Service of Carols and Lessons
Cantatas 106, 21, 80 J. S. Bach	1949 ††Stabat Mater* Palestrina
1937 Motet "Lobet den Herrn" J. S. Bach	††Tudor Motets* Byrd, Gibbons
Te Deum (Dettingen) Handel	Service of Carols and Lessons
Jubilate in D Purcell	1950 Service of Tudor Church Music and Lessons for Palm Sunday
Ode, "Come, ye sons of art, away" Purcell	Byrd, Tallis and Weelkes
Peasant Cantata J. S. Bach	Cantata No. 50, "Now hath the grace" J. S. Bach
1938 Anthems, "O Sing unto the Lord" and "Praise the Lord, O my Soul" (Ps. ciii.) Purcell	Missa in G Schubert
Requiem Mass Mozart	German Requiem Brahms
Cantata 190 J. S. Bach	
Motet. "Jesu, Meine Freude" J. S. Bach	
††Carols. Choir and School	
1939 ††Missa Brevis* Palestrina	

\*Motet Club (small Choir). †With Dramatic Society. ††Performance broadcast

**REHEARSAL PROGRAMME**

Programme for music concert, signed by participants, 1950





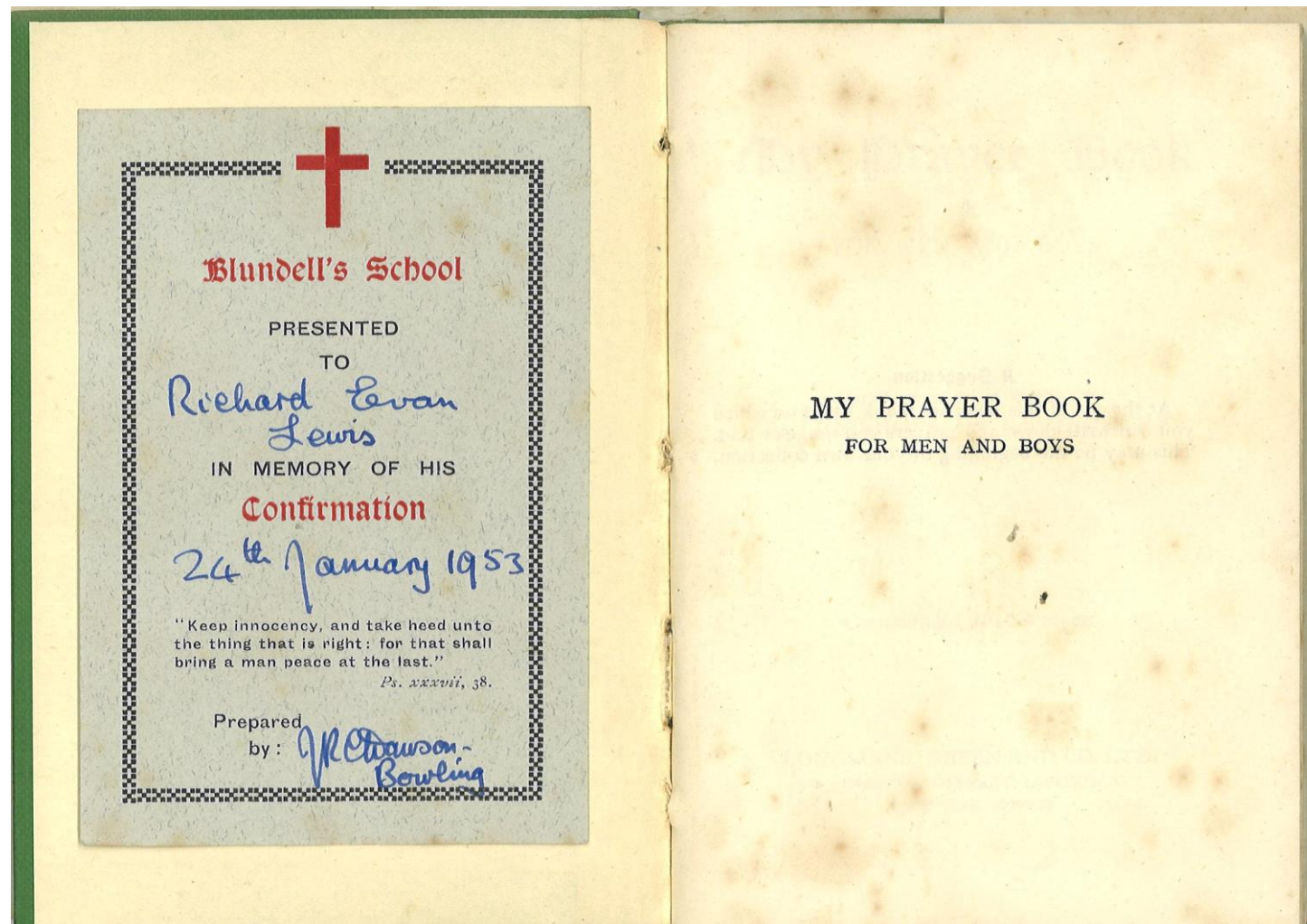
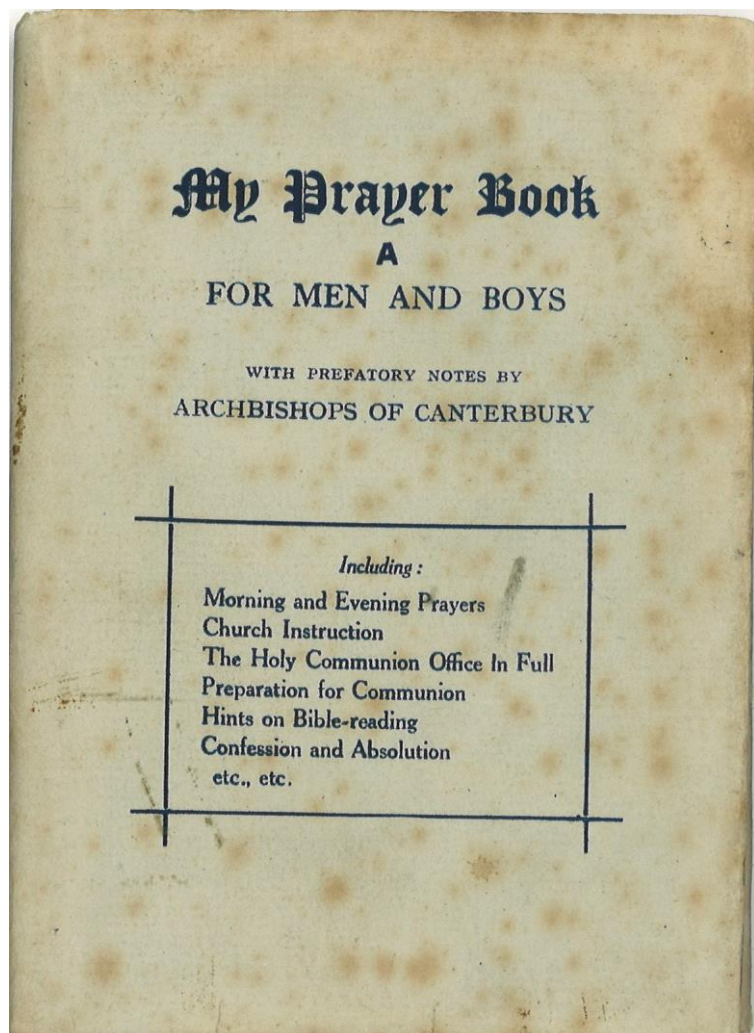
Chapel Choir, *2015*





The School Chapel is very much a living Christian community and as a result important religious rites have been honoured for the last 140 years including baptisms, marriages, funeral and memorial services, confirmations, and the Eucharist.

Confirmation photo, 2006



My prayer book for men and boys; *presented to Richard Evan Lewis (FH 1951-56) 1953*





Marriage of classics teacher, Becky Milne, *2009*



Alternative Services  
Second Series

An Order for

**HOLY COMMUNION**

*Roger Akhilly.*

Jean M. Brown

*Richard Eastmond*

*D. Coulthard*

*R. Bow*

*Tamsin Harey*

*A.W. COX*

*Alyson Hemmiman*

*A.D. Chapman-Andrews*

*Tom Greig*

*Robert Gray*

*Chris Balleth.*

*Rh. Maunder*

*Dominic Blackborough*

*Peter Dickson*  
*Mark Beard (server)*

*Nicholas Franbick.*

*First Communion, the*  
*new Lady Chapel.*  
*5.40 pm 11th December 1980*

*Celebrant: David Hamer.*

AS 220

Order for Holy Communion, **1980**





OB Day, *2011*

Beyond the daily chapel and a weekly Sunday service, the school holds annual services for Harvest, Remembrance Sunday, OB Day and the Christmas Carol Service\*, Ash Wednesday and Palm Sunday (if it should fall during term time). A new service for welcoming new students *Salvete Scholastici* was introduced in 2023.

\*although this is held periodically now in Exeter Cathedral





Morning Chapel, 1999





Remembrance Day,  
*2017*





Palm Sunday, 2005





Carol Service, 2003





Offerings representing different aspects of school life and history for *Salvete Scholastici*, 2023





The name of the exhibition – ‘**Strength and Serenity**’ comes from Frederick Temple’s commemoration sermon in 1883 and both words liberally litter the chapel archive across the generations.

Prayer statue, by Quentin Keynes (*P 1936-8*), *carved in 1936*