

SALESIAN COOPERATORS

U K PROVINCE NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2008

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Salesian Directory)*

Designed by Huyton Cooperators

"I will give you shepherds after my own
heart who will feed you with knowledge
and understanding."

(Jeremiah 3:15)

STAN TAYLOR—NEW COWLEY COOPERATOR

David Stanley Taylor was born in Tunbridge Wells on 3rd November 1939. The bombing of London led to his rapid Baptism in the local church (Anglican). Some months later the family moved to Oxford. His brother had been evacuated to Hertfordshire and re-joined the family in 1946. Stan was brought up as a Catholic, was educated in local schools and attended the Franciscan church.

Stan's family moved to Cowley in 1949 where the family remained. In his late teens Stan decided that he would like to become a "full" Catholic. He was prepared for reception into the Church by Kathleen Walsh and welcomed as a full member by Fr McKenna SDB in 1959.

Stan started working life as an office boy in the Treasury Department of Oxford City Council and through promotion became a Personnel Officer. With Local Government re-organisation Stan was appointed Personnel Manager of the South Oxfordshire District Council. He took early retirement in 1991.

During Stan's early working life he felt the need for more education. He applied to the Catholic Workers College and two years later, in 1964 was successful in gaining the Oxford University Diploma in Politics and Economics. That diploma reinforced his continuing desire to play a leading and active role in both local politics and local charities over a period of forty years.

In 2001 Stan became ill and the diagnosis was cancer. With the deterioration in his health and the need for surgery it became necessary for Stan to spend more and more time in hospital. He had been attending co-operators meetings for a short time and it was decided to enrol him as a Cooperator. Stan was enrolled by Fr Kieran Anderson SDB in the Chapel of St Luke's Hospital on 14 March 2008. In attendance were Sr Teresa FMA, Bob Hitchen, Mabel Golkowski, Kathleen Pill and Dermot Carroll. A celebration followed with a special cake for the occasion.

Footnote: Stan died 29 May, peacefully in his sleep

Kath Pill (Cowley Cooperators)

U.K. Province—Contacts

The Provincial Council:

Daniel Sharp	(Chair)
Paul Barnes	(Secretary) - Cornwall & Detached
Steve Langton	(Treasurer) - Cowley & Henley
Eleanor Neeley	Bollington
Ann Oboh	Bermondsey, Streatham & Battersea
Kathleen Pill	Cowley & Henley
Jessica Wilkinson	Liverpool, Bootle & Huyton
Anne-Marie Fulton	Scotland & Kendal
Fr Bernard Parkes	(SDB Delegate)
Sr Eileen McGarry	(FMA Delegate)

LEAVING SAFE HARBOURS

To build the parish anew, is not just down to me or to you.

The exciting task challenge to us all,

as we try to respond to God's loving call,

We are not harvest reapers, but sowers of seed,

Tending, nurturing as we proceed.

It is hearts that we hope to move, through the Gospel of love

with gentleness, tenderness, kindness and care

with trust, with hope, and confident prayer,

Accepting each other, as God made us to be,

United in God's love, as we sail on life's sea.

Terry Gilvin Liverpool Gillmoss

PROVINCIAL DELEGATES PAGE



October Retreat 2008



You will have seen from the Provincial Council minutes that have been sent to each group, that planning is already well under way for our annual retreat, which this year takes place at Savio House 10th—12th October. You should have booking forms. The theme is “In the Footsteps of our Founders”. The retreat team are: Fr Michael Winstanley SDB, Sr Georgina McPake FMA and Mr Ken Greaney Cooperator. It promises to be very stimulating. It is so important that we are true to our special charism and we can understand that much better if we get to know our founders better. We need to be always learning.

Our Charism

The practical concern we have for the wellbeing (in the broadest sense) of young people—is what makes us so attractive. And it's not surprising that others are drawn to this way of living and acting. Cowley have recently enrolled four new members and Easterhouse one. Let's thank God for the interest and enthusiasm that our being Salesian evokes and let's pray for Stan, Janet, Rosie, Ursula and Mary now they are enrolled. In the last few weeks Kendal have conducted a recruitment drive and met with a wonderful response from their three local parishes—spare another prayer for their continued success! By inviting others to join us we lay foundations for the future.

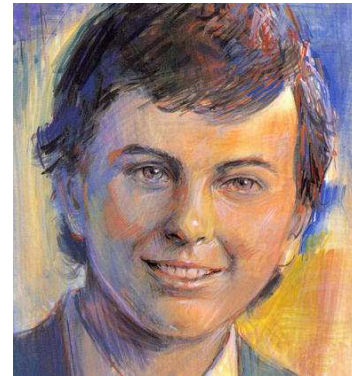
Centre Visits

In his visits to centres this year Fr Bernard has been encouraging members to celebrate what has made them Salesian, while also laying foundations for the future. Both are so necessary!

Article by Fr Bernard Parkes SDB

SALESIAN SAINTS

SAINT DOMINIC SAVIO



Dominic was born on 2nd April 1842 in a little village called San Giovanni di Riva near Turin in northern Italy. When he made his First Communion he wrote down as a plan for his life: “Jesus and Mary will be my friends.”

At the age of twelve he met St John Bosco and was accepted as a pupil at Don Bosco's school in Turin. He asked St John Bosco: “Please help me to become a saint.” At first he thought he had to do extraordinary penances and say long prayers but Don Bosco taught him that he would become a saint by carrying out the ordinary tasks of a school boy as well as possible and by being a good influence on his companions.

Dominic learned this lesson well so that he was able to say to a new pupil at the school: “Here we find holiness by always being very happy!”

Although he was not physically strong, Dominic was very popular with the other pupils. He said his prayers and often went to Mass and Communion. One day after Communion he imagined he was in England (It was foggy, and so he guessed it was England!) and he saw the Pope bringing the light of faith to dispel the fog. After that he would often pray for England. Mamma Margaret, Don Bosco's mother, had a very high opinion of Dominic. She said: “He is the best among the boys here.”

After just three years at Don Bosco's school, Dominic was taken ill. He died at home in Mondonio on 9th March 1857, just a few weeks before his fifteenth birthday.

He was canonized as a Saint on 12th June 1954.

Sr. Eileen's Page

THANK YOU & GOODBYE SR EILEEN

Sr. Eileen has stepped down as FMA Provincial Delegate to the Cooperators. She has been our delegate for the past nine years. We would like to thank you for all the hard work and commitment to the Cooperators during this time.

Welcome to Sr. Agnes McGuinness who is our new FMA Provincial Delegate.

Cooperators everywhere

Maura Kinsella (Chertsey Cooperator) R.I.P

Please pray for Maura, a cooperator, who died and was an active member of the Chertsey group for many years. "She always radiated a deep personal love for Don Bosco and everything Salesian and in her own very quiet way touched the lives of so many people. Please pray for her soul."

Please remember also in your prayers Peter Hull's mother-in-law, who has died recently at the age of 100 years. May they rest in peace!

Ken Greaney Chertsey

PROJECT OF APOSTOLIC LIFE – PAL

Efforts are being made to have copies printed cheaply so that we can use it in our on-going formation programmes.

SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS!

Gifts received with gratitude are often shared with others.

What of the wonderful gift of our Salesian Spirituality and lifestyle ? How are we answering the call to share this with other people?

There are individuals out there waiting for our help to recognise and follow this Call. Do you or your Centre have experiences you could share with others?

How have you made moves in this direction?

Let us know about your efforts to 'Spread the Good News' and/or to recruit those who might have a Salesian Call. e.g.

Sisters on Mission appeals bring Salesian Literature to leave in the parishes. In Cowley the Cooperators have had 'Come and See ' evenings and have followed a year through in the Parish sharing their Salesian way.

In Kendal they went to each of the three parishes and gave a TWO MINUTE introduction about Salesian Cooperators and offered an invitation to Brettagh Holt – a good number of people showed interest

Grateful people had more joy, more energy. And they were MORE OPTIMISTIC

How often do we realize how grateful we are? Try making a Gratitude Journal and see how beneficial this is for your health, happiness and wellbeing. Gratitude expressed to others usually comes back round. People who feel appreciated are more willing to make an effort for those who make them feel valued.

How often do we thank people? e.g. Doctors who receive a little bag of sweets were better able to work on difficult cases. Don't you think Don Bosco had the right idea? It's called the new science of 'thank you'.

Sr Eileen McGarry FMA