

2000 onwards

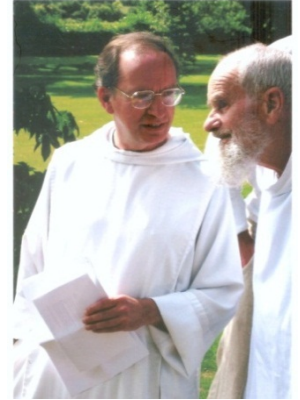
In May 2005, on the death of Dom Gregory, Br John became superior of the monastery of Christ our Saviour.

Dom Gregory had played a significant role in the setting up of Emmaus Village Carlton, which has just celebrated its 10th anniversary, and the Turvey Centre for Group Therapy.



Dom Gregory

Br John and Br Herbert



Dom Paul, who had moved from Cockfosters to Turvey in the late 1980's, died in 2007. A skilled child psychologist who knew how to relate to children, many young citizens of Turvey got to know him at the playgroup—one year a teddy bear dressed as Dom Paul took part in a parachute jump from the church tower!

In 2002, Br Michael Allott, better known as Ralph, was professed as a monk while terminally ill from cancer, dying shortly afterwards. Ralph, who had a great devotion to the angels, had served in the Royal Navy—he treated Dom Gregory as his Commanding Officer, and kept the monks' guesthouse shipshape to naval standards.

By the end of the 2000's the group of sisters who had moved from Cockfosters to Turvey had gone down in number to six.

Sr Mechtilde and Sr Magdelene had died in 1988 and 1994 respectively. Both over eighty at the time of the move, they were always quick to volunteer when help was needed. One autumn day Sr Mechtilde came in from sweeping leaves saying: 'I've left my rake leaning against a tree, but I can't remember which tree'.

Sr Regina (2001), Sr Benigna (2006) and Sr Paula (2009), who had all moved to Cockfosters from Schotenhof had also died. Sr Regina's liturgical posters can be seen as far away as New Zealand, Sr Benigna had worked with enormous enthusiasm to build up the school, and Sr Paula was the last sister to do hand embroidery for customers.



Sr Anne, a native of Rochester, Kent, died in 2007. She had discovered the community at Schotenhof while serving in Antwerp with the British army at the end of WWII, and had moved to Turvey from the community at Strood.

By then, Sr Lucy, Sr Ruth, Sr Miriam, Sr Judith and Sr Johanna had joined the community, bringing with them new insights and skills, and the community developed and grew accordingly.

How the community had lived at Cockfosters slowly became a less vivid memory, new forms of income-generating work began, old forms came to their end.



Giant Sudoku at Sr Zoë's feastday, 2006



The community responds to an April Fool letter from Br Tom Ward urging communities to adopt an Elk. 2006



Community pilgrimage to Lindisfarne 2007



On 11th May this year, Sr Goedele, one of the sisters who moved from Schotenhof to Cockfosters, celebrated her golden jubilee of profession.



Schotenhof, 1962



Turvey, 2012

Later this year, Sr Beatrix will be celebrating her diamond jubilee.

Sr Beatrix, who also moved from Schotenhof to Cockfosters, is a familiar sight in Turvey riding her bicycle.

We hope you have enjoyed this 'impressionistic' look at the unfolding story of our two Benedictine communities.

For more information about the life and work of the Turvey Benedictine Communities, please visit our websites:

nuns: www.turveyabbey.org.uk/

monks: www.turveymonks.org.uk

Whilst Turvey Abbey isn't open to the public as such, you are welcome to visit our chapels. You are also welcome to join us for Mass and for our worship together (the Divine Office), the heart of Benedictine life.