



JBMS

John Bradburne Memorial Society



JBMS NEWSLETTER

Summer 2024

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WELCOME



Welcome to the Summer Newsletter from the John Bradburne Memorial Society.

We are grateful for the steadfast support of our donors. Your unwavering commitment helps us to continue our vital work at Mutemwa Leprosy Care Centre and to advance the Cause for Sainthood of the remarkable John Bradburne.

MUTEMWA LEPROSY CARE CENTRE

Currently there are 30 residents living at Mutemwa. Fifteen live with leprosy, whilst the other residents are physically and mentally challenged. The clinic continues to be manned by 2 nurses under the supervision of Mutoko District Hospital – Dr Mangwiro and his nursing team visit every fortnight. Dr Mandizvidza a volunteer physician also visits once a month. All patients are doing well and their health is being monitored continuously.

There are numerous projects ongoing at Mutemwa – piggery, poultry, bees, cattle, arable crops and garden. Due to the drought, there has been a shortage of maize.

Thanks to your support, JBMS continue John's legacy of supporting the Mutemwa community in whichever way is necessary.



CYPRUS PLAYED A BRIEF BUT IMPORTANT PART IN JOHN BRADBURNE'S LIFE

BY VANESSA COUTTS



In 1950, John Bradburne and Fr. John Dove passed through Cyprus on their way to the Holy Land. Perhaps here he was inspired to join the Lay Franciscans? They both benefited from the hospitality and social connections of a Franciscan priest in Limassol, Fr. Carmelo. A local official in the commercial shipping industry of Famagusta arranged for their free passage to Haifa on board the cargo ship, San Antonio.

Nearly 75 years later, Cyprus and John Bradburne are intertwined again, like a sun-kissed grapevine.

In the spring of 2024, at Larnaca's Catholic Church, Our Lady of Graces, two British parishioners, Desmond Smith and Vanessa Coutts, wanted to spread the word about John. They had been moved by Fr. Dove's biography, *Strange Vagabond of God*. Vanessa believes that John Bradburne interceded in the healing of an Anglo-Cypriot woman with stage four cancer.

Des, a retired school principal and history teacher from London, was convinced that few people in Cyprus had heard of John Bradburne.

So, after agreeing with the Franciscan priests in Larnaca, Des gave a talk about John Bradburne's life, work and martyrdom on Saturday 20th April 2024 at the end of the 6:30 p.m. Mass. Vanessa, a former journalist, English teacher and translator

wrote the talk and compiled a slide show of images. There were about 80 people in the congregation that evening.

Thanks to the people of Our Lady of Graces, Larnaca for the money raised for the Mutemwa Care Centre. Thanks to the parish priest, Fr. Andrew Arhin, OFM, and assistant parish priest, Fr. Andrew Verdote, OFM, for supporting the event. Thanks to Kate Macpherson for the prayer cards, booklets and other materials posted from the UK. Thanks to Trevor Murray for technical assistance.

Thanks to the Servant of God John Bradburne.



WORLD LEPROSY DAY 2024

On Sunday 28th January, we marked World Leprosy Day. JBMS endeavours to continue and uphold the legacy of John Bradburne and the work he did for people living with leprosy. Leprosy is a curable disease, but unfortunately the stigma and lack of education associated with the disease, means people do not get treated early enough to prevent the development of disabilities. Together with your kind support and prayers, we continue our promise to uphold John's legacy in supporting those living at Mutemwa with leprosy. Thank you to everyone who supported us on this World Leprosy Day 2024.



ETERNAL MEMORIES



Chris Mwaturura

Christopher Mwaturura was JBMS' trusted accountant in Harare, for over 30 years. He ensured that any donations sent out to Zimbabwe by JBMS were safely and securely given to Mutemwa. His wealth of experience, knowledge, dedication and clear vision was a remedy for success. Beyond his professional achievements, Chris was renowned for being a man of integrity, honesty, and had unwavering commitment. May his soul continue to rest in peace.

Anne Lander

We are sorry to report the loss of dear Anne Lander. Devoted friend to John Bradburne and huge supporter of JBMS. Anne was involved in much charitable work when she lived in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) which showed her compassion for people and her true commitment for helping others. She had a very strong catholic faith of which she and John were deeply connected by. Our hearts go out to her daughters, Claire and Frances and husband Roy. May she rest in peace.



DIARY OF A MUTEMWA RESIDENT

My name is Coster Geza, I am 52 years old and have two sons, a 10 year old and 1 year old. I was diagnosed with leprosy in 1998 and started treatment in 2002 - 2004 at the Harare Provincial Hospital. After the treatment was completed, I was discharged to go to Mutemwa Leprosy Care Centre. I had to move there as the doctor told me I needed to be near a health care centre, as I had chronic wounds which needed daily dressing, skin irritations and eye problems. I was happy to go to Mutemwa because I was from a poor family, and I worried about where to go and who would have accepted me with my condition. At Mutemwa I keep myself busy by doing exercises for my limbs along with projects like broiler rearing, dress making, sewing machine repairing. All of these help to provide for my family with basic needs.



A CHANCE OF EDUCATION FOR BERNADETTE

Bernadette has been brought up at Mutemwa by her mother, Maria who lives with leprosy. Representatives from Littlerock International School visited Mutemwa bringing donations of food and clothes that had been raised by their pupils. Whilst there the headmaster offered Bernadette a scholarship to attend the school, which she started in 2023. The school covers her tuition fees and boarding and JBMS helps with transportation, uniform, groceries, stationary and books. Bernadette is thriving at her new school and grasping every opportunity that arises and is extremely grateful for this opportunity. Thanks to your donations, JBMS can continue to support Bernadette.



VISIT TO MUTEMWA

BY CHRISTINE PRATT (JBMS TRUSTEE)



I arrived in Zimbabwe towards the end of January this year, stayed with family in Harare for a few days before driving out to Mutoko. Along the way the lack of rainfall that season was evident, the few crops along the way were green but very short in growth and density and becoming more so the further we travelled. The journey which normally takes one and half hours took three because of the many deep and frequent potholes! My plan was to stay at Mother of Peace Community (MOPC) for two months.

Driving along the familiar main road through Mutoko it was very busy with goats, cattle, donkeys, chickens, turkeys and vendors, vehicles and more potholes! Finally turning left after Chinzanga Primary School along a new and very well-made dirt road to MOP which completely missed out the usual route through Mutemwa!

I went to Mutemwa the next day to say hello to Aquinamary Guri, the Administrator. It was good to be back and to see familiar faces and meet new ones. Kate had sent me a 'few' Rosaries (222!) and I asked the Administrator if I could walk round, see the residents and staff

and give each two rosaries. This was an excellent way to meet and greet many old friends and to say Hello!

The area around the Clinic and Chapel is beautifully kept and because it is shaded by many trees was still green. There are a couple of residents who also help in those gardens, and it is a welcome sight after travelling through a very dry landscape! The piggery and egg layers help towards resident's meals and are also income generating and the vegetable garden with onions, tomatoes and relish leaves provide for the resident's meals. The Clinic continues to be busy and is an important asset to those who live at Mutemwa and the local community and the staff work hard to provide a happy home and community for those who live there

Many of the residents have a small garden area where they can cultivate and grow maize and vegetables and two have a broiler chicken income generating project. Sadly this season there has been so little rain that most crops have failed. Increasing numbers of Pilgrims come to Mutemwa from all over Zimbabwe and other countries too, so there is now a large car park behind the Clinic to accommodate coaches, trucks and cars. Those Pilgrims who can, climb Chigona Mountain and many stay there all night and return to Mutemwa in the morning for 7am Mass in the Chapel. The kitchen staff also provide meals for those who have booked ahead. Many Pilgrims bring food and general household items, clothes and donations which is a great help to the community.

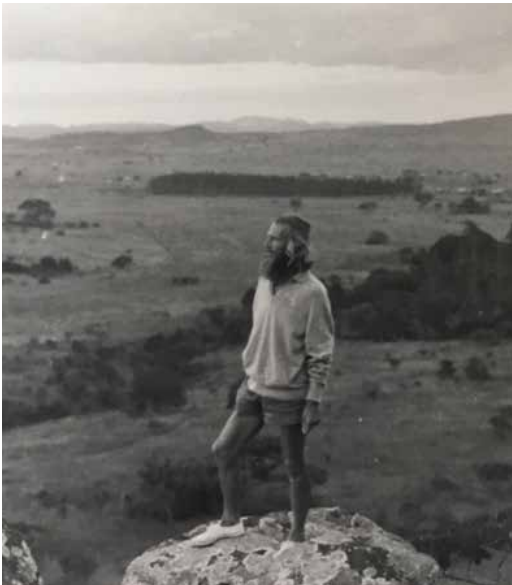
I planned to stay for two months but ended up staying for four and during that period it only rained once! However, the Harare road had had most potholes filled and my last drive back only took 1½ hours!



HOW HAS JOHN INFLUENCED MY LIFE?

By Charles W Yonge (John's nephew)

If I had any doubts at all about different religious beliefs, be they Christian, Muslim, Buddhism, Russian or Greek Orthodox, or whatever religious denominations, John has set the record straight. There is only one God (Our Father in Heaven) son, Jesus or Logos (the word) and Holy Spirit, three in one. John's devotion to Love (God) speaks volumes of his love for all walks of life, as a healer, protector, care giver, poet, mystic, jester, baptiser and miracle worker. His Love of God, and the Holy Trinity, and Mother of Jesus, Mary was always evident in his deeds of compassion, during the Second World War in Burma, tending to the wounded and the dying, and after the war tending for the people living with leprosy at Mutemwa. Where he fed them and bathed them and clothed them, and treated them when they were sick, he baptised them and when they died, he buried them and treated them like Kings and Queens. His devotion to God, and his selfless acts of generosity and kindness towards others is a reminder of how we should all treat others, no matter what age, gender, colour, disability or religious denomination with gentle care and attention and with honour and dignity and respect. John's short life was a reaffirmation of the ever present Love of God, who sees all and hears all and loves us all.



UP HERE

by Charles W Yonge, For John, poet, martyr, Saint

*Up here on the rock where time stands still,
By the wind and sun parched, a faraway land,
Lies in position whence made, His will,
Strewn with rocks and trees, grass and sand.*

*Up here, fresh air, a breeze, birds and bees,
Where pilgrims pray on bended knees,
For peace and love, in the name of Baba John,
Where once he danced and sang a song.*

*A song of praise, an eagle's call,
Crickets and night jars, enjoy the thrall,
A spring of life, in a desert forlorn,
Up here on the rock, where the dew is born.
The air is pure, far off in the valley, campfire haze,
Like loving arms caressing cover of cleft and yard,
Up here Chigona sprawls in sunset glaze,
Proclaiming the blessed altar of the bard.*

JBMS EASTER APPEAL 2024

Thank you so much to all our wonderful supporters who have donated so generously to our JBMS Easter appeal this year. Your contributions have enabled us to buy Mutemwa 500 chickens and feed for the year ahead. These chickens will provide valuable nutrition and create a sustainable income for those living at Mutemwa.



THE JOHN BRADBURN MEMORIAL SOCIETY
GIFT A CHICKEN

CHICKENS ARE BENEFICIAL TO THE MUTEMWA COMMUNITY AS THEY PROVIDE EGGS, FOOD AND GENERATE AN INCOME.

Help JBMS by donating just £25 to buy a chicken with its food & supplies for a whole year. The perfect Easter gift this year.

DONATE:
WWW.JOHNBRADBURN.COM
TEL: 07979 187498
POST: JBMS, PO BOX 32, HEREFORDSHIRE, HR6 0YB

JBMS SUMMER FUNDRAISER

Join us in making a difference this summer as we rally together to support Benson in his journey towards a new beginning. Benson Charera, who recently underwent a left leg amputation due to leprosy, needs our help in acquiring a new prosthetic leg and a cart for ease of movement. The cost of the prosthetic and cart is significant, but with your generous donations, we can make it possible for Benson to regain mobility and independence. Thank you for your generosity and compassion.



To donate:

Website: www.johnbradburne.com

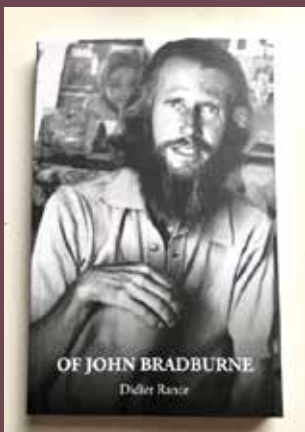
Tel: 07979 187498

Post: JBMS, PO Box 32, Herefordshire, HR6 0YB

For BACS details please email:
info@johnbradburne.com

SPECIAL MASS

A special Mass for John Bradburne is celebrated by Fr Landsberg SJ at the Dominican convent in Harare, every last Thursday of the month. For more information on attending these please contact us on info@johnbradburne.com



NEW ITEMS

Exciting news, dive deeper into the fascinating life of John Bradburne with Didier Rance's latest book 'Of John Bradburne'. With forty years of familiarity with Bradburne and fifteen years of dedicated research, Didier Rance presents a compelling collection of studies and essays. From companion pieces to his biography to unpublished insights, this book promises to enrich your understanding of Bradburne's extraordinary life, work and thoughts. To purchase your copy for just £10, order online at www.johnbradburne.com

JOHN BRADBURNE PILGRIMAGE

BY ALEX & JAN WALKER



On Saturday the 8th June, 43 souls began the 4th annual pilgrimage walk up Cross Fell, in memory of John Bradburne's birthday which is on the 14th June. John would have been 103 this year!

Our pilgrimage journey started out by meeting up at Skirwith Village Hall for refreshments, kindly provided by Christine and Joe who live in the village. In the Hall were display boards of the life and times of John and the work being carried out to assist him on his journey to "recognised sanctity". There were also books and CDs and other spiritual aids available to purchase in order to learn more about John and at the same time provide needed funds to promote his cause. Our thanks go especially to Kate Macpherson, the Secretary of the 'John Bradburne Memorial Society' who, having driven up from London the day before, set up the whole memorable display for all to see.

After we were all suitably refreshed, we made our way to the nearby 'Church of St John the Evangelist'. There, Fr Paul Harrison, celebrated mass for us (ad orientem), as did John Bradburne's father before him, as the Anglican Vicar of that Parish. It was good to have that connection with the past and to celebrate how far we have come in the present to share churches for the greater glory of God. The mass we celebrated was in honour of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. This was fitting as we had a number of sisters from the 'Little Children of Our Blessed Lady Congregation' based in Morecambe, a community that was founded by the late Archbishop Aston Ignatius Chichester SJ

on 8th December 1932 in Zimbabwe, the adopted country of John.

In his homily, Fr Paul focused on why we need saints and what is sanctity? Saints are ordinary people who do extraordinary things for God. Their example can help and inspire us to become saints ourselves. All of us are called to sanctity and holiness. It is not the preserve of a few. Each day we must strive to become more Christ centred. Fr Paul's homily was a timely reminder that sanctity is not what happens to other people - it is something we should strive for ourselves.

Having been fortified by the sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood, we slowly made our way to our cars and make the short drive to Kirkland to don our walking boots and decide what clothing we should take with us to prepare for the elements. For



the first time on our annual walk it was not actually raining! This has to be a miracle. Having said that, we know that whatever we experience in the valley will be nothing like what we will experience on the flat, open, football pitch x 6 sized plateau of Cross Fell. The horizontal winds that normally welcome us were not to disappoint.

Cross Fell is the highest point in England outside of the Lake District and stands at 893 metres (2,930 ft). Cross Fell summit is crowned by a cross-shaped dry-stone shelter. On a clear day there are excellent views from the summit



across the Eden Valley to the mountains of the Lake District. On the northern side of Cross Fell there are also fine views across the Solway Firth to the Southern Uplands of Scotland. The fell is prone to dense hill fog and fierce winds. A shrieking noise induced by the Helm Wind is a characteristic of the locality. It can be an inhospitable place for much of the year. In ancient times it was known as "Fiends Fell" and believed to be the haunt of evil spirits. St Augustine of Canterbury is said to have blessed the hill when he arrived here on his travels so it became known as Cross Fell in the Christian tradition, although it has been speculated that the fell became known as Cross Fell ("cross" meaning "angry") because of the evil spirits.

As in the description of Cross Fell, it is a mountain to be respected. The right clothing and footwear are essential when making this climb. Even for experienced walkers it can be a taxing climb. The five to six hour walk up and down is covered over grassy uplands, and boggy patches that just can't be avoided or circumnavigated easily. The steep inclines over limestone strewn paths have their challenges too. Should you be reading this and thinking I would like to try that next year, then please be aware it is a hard slog and requires the right equipment. Please do not wear shoes or trainers when making this pilgrimage journey.



Obviously when there are so many people joining the walk, everyone will travel at different speeds due to fitness levels and the slower you are the more likely it is that you will experience the cold. Hence the importance of correct kit and preparing fitness levels prior to this event through regular walking. Even though the weather was kind to

us insofar as it did not rain the wind was bitterly cold. When we arrived at the summit of Cross Fell the wind was a horizontal gale and the only form of protection was behind the walls of the cross-shaped dry stone walls, or the few trig points that scattered the top. The view from the top on a clear day as it was, is spectacular. Views into Scotland, Northumberland, the East Coast of Yorkshire and of course the Lake District are fantastic. All the hard work of making the ascent is rewarded.

Having said some prayers on the top we make our way back down the same way we came up. We return the same way because the alternative route back down is even boggier and fraught with having to scramble over large limestone scars.

The journey down allows us to enjoy the fabulous views of the Lake District Fells and the sunlight and clouds provide a wonderful backdrop. Conversations and friendships are made as we descend and I meet Paul, someone I have not seen in over forty years! I didn't recognise him but he remembered me! Another person, Dave, whom I went to boarding school in the '70's, we hadn't seen each other for a very long time. What a joy to reunite and rekindle old friendships.

Our pilgrimage journey was over for another year and we are grateful to Kate Macpherson for organising it. For Gavin Young who led us safely up and down, Vera in the church and to Christine and Joe in the Village Hall who served us refreshments and made us feel so welcome.

Next year our Walk will be held on Saturday July 5th when we hope that even sunnier and warmer weather will make our journey more pleasurable. We look forward to seeing you on Saturday 5th July 2025 and welcoming new pilgrims who may want to take on this wonderful challenge.



JOHN BRADBURNE: A PILGRIM AND MESSENGER OF HOPE

BY FR MGCINI JOSPEH MOYO (VICE POSTULATOR)



On May 9, Pope Francis issued a papal bull proclaiming the 2025 Jubilee Year. In Roman Catholic tradition, a Jubilee is a significant religious event, also known as a Holy Year. It is a time for conversion, forgiveness, reconciliation, solidarity, hope, and justice. The motto chosen by the Holy Father for the 2025 Jubilee is “Pilgrims of Hope.” Jubilees are also associated with pilgrimages, intense prayer, and a focus on spiritual life. As we embark on our faith journey and Jubilee journey, running the race of salvation (Hebrews 12:1), it is comforting to know that a great multitude of saints in Heaven have walked this path before us. In light of the Jubilee preparations, we can look up to John Bradburne, a man who speaks to us today and exemplifies a pilgrim and messenger of hope.

A Pilgrim in Search of God

Pilgrimages are a fundamental aspect of every Jubilee event. They echo the journey of faith and offer immense spiritual benefits. Each pilgrimage involves movement, trials, prayer, companionship, and a destination. Pilgrims leave their regular lives in search of meaning and deep spiritual experiences. In the Jubilee Year, many pilgrims from around the world will embark on traditional pilgrimage routes. Local Churches are also organizing itineraries for their congregations to experience the Jubilee. John Bradburne stands tall among the cloud of witnesses to the

life of a pilgrim. His life was marked by a long spiritual journey, deeply drawn to silence and solitude. He described himself variously as a pilgrim, drifter, and a ‘rolling stone.’ The “Strange Vagabond of God” wandered through many countries in Europe, often traveling on foot with few belongings, always searching for silence and space to contemplate. He longed for silence and contemplation, and in 1962, he wrote to his friend John Dove asking if he could find “a cave in Africa where I can pray.” Jubilee 2025 will give us an opportunity to revive and grow in prayer. John inspires and challenges us to be men and women of prayer. At the root of prayer is always the desire to be open to God’s presence and His offer of love.

John Bradburne’s Legacy

Mutemwa Shrine has become one of the most visited and popular shrines in Zimbabwe, attracting thousands of Christians, particularly Catholics, from across the country. The shrine is directly linked to John’s life and work among lepers. John was a father, friend, and companion to the lepers who had been ostracised from society. He gave hope and dignity to the lepers at Mutemwa. In the Jubilee decree, known as a “Bull of Indiction,” for the Jubilee Year 2025, Pope Francis says, “I ask with all my heart that hope be granted to the billions of the poor, who often lack the essentials of life.” He emphasises that in this Jubilee Year “we are called to be tangible signs of hope for those of our brothers and sisters who experience hardship of any kind.” He urges us to care for “the sick, at home or in hospital” through “closeness and affection” and to care for the elderly who “often feel lonely and abandoned.” John stands out as a shining example of what the Pope is asking us to do.

Continuing John Bradburne’s Mission

Responding to the call of the Holy Father and keeping alive the legacy of John, the servant of God, we continue to work, in the words of the Holy Father, to “re-establish a collective climate of trust and hope, and to initiate processes of integral human growth, with special attention to the most fragile”.

TESTIMONIES

As a primary school kid, I visited the Mutemwa Leprosy Colony in 1972 with our teacher Andy Crabb, and a bus load of school children. We had done a number of activities to raise funds in the school term so we could bring clothes and food to the colony.

I remember meeting John as we drove in. Very modest dress (a monk's habit) and I remember really cool leather strap sandals. We stayed most of the day meeting the residents and climbing the big rock dome which is the feature landmark in the district. Most of the residents were from Mozambique and there were a few who had been there for many years. After the initial shock of seeing people with fingers, hands, toes, feet and noses missing it was one of the most memorable school visits for me now 52 years later.

I was doing my National Service in '79 (RLI) and heard of his terrible murder. My mum who lived in Salisbury went to the Cathedral for his memorial service. A truly amazing man. I subsequently did medicine and saw many patients at Harare Hospital with leprosy.

Doug Paxton



My Father was in the Selous Scouts, Dr Charles Griffiths. My mother and he met in Zimbabwe. My mother Anne shared a story from the time they were there. Here is what she said with photo: This was Rhodesia in 1976. The gentleman in the middle wearing the beret, John, took care of and ran a leper colony. So many of those in his care did not have leprosy but their villages had ostracised them after they were in contact with

other lepers. He was the purest, gentlest soul I have ever met. The army would try to bring him provisions whenever they could, and we visited several times. We spent one Christmas with him singing and playing music for the colony. Shortly after that word came down that he had been killed by terrorists. We were dumbfounded actually as to why this happened, but on further reading we found out that weeks later his body was brought to one of the big churches in Harare. It was left a while till a service could be read and during that time blood seeped from his coffin. His body had been drained and there were some serious thoughts about the possibility that he could be a Saint. I didn't hear any more but when I got this picture printed, I noticed the position of the steering wheel behind his head!

Sarah Griffiths

John's funeral was held at the Catholic Cathedral in Salisbury (now Harare). The priest who conducted the service, was Fr. Reiderer. He relayed this story to me. During mass, he observed a spot of blood the size of a half crown on a white tile, directly beneath the coffin. He placed a small linen cloth over the spot of blood. After the service, the coffin was inspected, and it was found to be sealed and there was no blood coming from inside the coffin. Some people said it must have been from one of the swallows that sometimes come into the church. How could a spot of blood that size be found directly under the coffin? Fr Reiderer was convinced that it was a sign from God.

Patrick Sherry

When I was 12 years old I would go with my stepmother Polly Hayes and her friend Pauline to the Leper Colony, Mutemwa. It was there I met John. This was towards the end of his life. He was living in a small hut outside of the leper colony. It had basic furnishings, but the wall was covered with postcards of all the places he had visited. I was fascinated and asked him about them. He spoke fondly of England hearing the church bells and the lush green land.

Another memory was standing with Polly and Pauline waiting for John and seeing him walking

on the dust road under the shade of the trees in his Franciscan robe and straw hat. I thought then if Jesus had lived in our time he would have looked very much like John. That memory stayed with me.

John would speak with fondness of going up the hill close to Mutemwa Leprosy Centre. It was a place he went to bathe and pray. This you could tell was a very special place for him which gave him great joy and where he could spend time with God in peace away from the world.

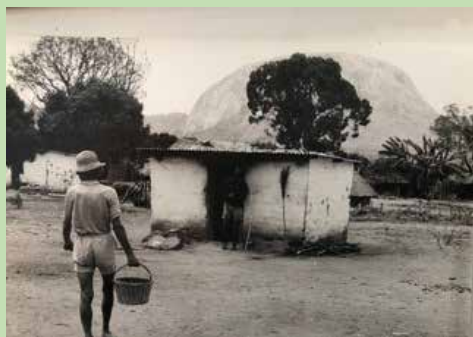
We would have communion with John when we went to visit him. What I remember was how he stared intently at the Eucharist for a length of time. I felt his experience and understanding of receiving the Eucharist was greater than our own.

My reflections are from a young person's perspective.

Towards the end of John's life, we didn't visit as the area was unsafe to travel. The farms were being attacked as well as the mission stations. John remained at Mutemwa. All around people felt very unsettled and were moving away from the area. I remember hearing my parents talk of the death of Dr Luisa and then of John's death and funeral. They were unable to attend the funeral but talked with amazement of hearing the drops of blood that were found under the coffin. It was difficult to comprehend what had happened.

Over the years I have come to reflect on how privileged I was to have met such a holy man. He wasn't bothered by what people thought of him. He just lived his life with the local people in the area. If he needed to go anywhere, he caught the local bus. I met John for a very brief time in my life, but he made an impression which I often reflect on. My memories are not so much of what John said but of who he was and how he reminded me of Christ. To me John reflected Christ here on earth.

Veronica Kardos



My father passed away in 2022 and in January 2023 we put his bungalow up for sale. I will not go into to many details but just to say there were lots of delays and in the end it was clear that our buyer was unable to raise a mortgage. We started again and a new buyer was found but again there were lots of complications including a lady in the chain having to go into hospital!

By December I was despairing of ever selling the property when I suddenly remembered that John Bradburne had assisted individuals with house sales. I began a novena using the prayer to John Bradburne on 6th December and on 14th December, the final day of the novena, my wife and I were contacted to say that a completion date had been agreed for 5th January! I could not believe this. This was the first reference to a completion date, and indeed it was completed on 5th January.

After 14th December there was a little bit of renegotiation of price following someone in the chain deciding that the house, she was buying was overvalued, but everything was resolved and on 5th January it was all over. I am truly grateful to John Bradburne's intercession and help in this matter!

Chris Housden



WINTER FUNDRAISER

83KM WALK FOR LEPROSY - OCTOBER 2024

Hello, I am Colin Carr OP (that means I'm a Dominican Friar). Last year in October I walked 82km over 10 days to celebrate my birthday on 8th October. No prizes for guessing how old I was, especially if I tell you that this year, I aim to do 83km! The older you get the more aware you become of the fragility of life, and its preciousness. And the more precious the lives of others seem, especially those of the people who live with leprosy in Mutemwa, whom John Bradburne cared about so passionately. JBMS took care of the details of the fundraising and gave me a target of £2000 via JustGiving. I thought "Help, that's far too much!", but in fact we went well beyond that, I think we reached £3000 or very nearly. I use my Steps App and report on progress every day. Blackfriars, Cambridge, where I live is quite spacious, so I build up quite a few steps without even going outside! But I'll send a picture of me outside, last year with a t shirt I hope to wear again this year. As you can see its XXL and worn over lots of other clothes: this is Cambridge! Till October Colin.

For Fr Colin's fundraiser we will be trying to raise funds for the Mutemwa Leprosy Care Centre. If you would like to support please go to: www.justgiving.com/campaign/jbmswalk83



DATES FOR DIARY

On 5th July 2025, JBMS will be holding our annual John Bradburne Pilgrimage in Cumbria, so make a note in your diaries.



Testimonies/Intercessions: If you have received any intercessions, graces or testimonies while praying through John Bradburne, we would love to hear from you. Your experiences are highly valued for John's Cause process. Please contact us at info@johnbradburne.com or write to us at JBMS, PO Box 32, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 0YB

Distribution: We welcome any support from our JBMS members in distributing leaflets and prayer cards within your parishes, friends and families. The more people learn about John Bradburne, the better. Please contact at info@johnbradburne.com or 07979 187498.

Support the John Bradburne Memorial Society (JBMS)

As we emerge from the most challenging period of a generation, please consider supporting our work with the Mutemwa Leprosy Care Centre in Zimbabwe in honour of John.

JBMS work tirelessly to be able to relieve people at Mutemwa, who are suffering sickness, hardship and distress from leprosy or other causes, through the provision of supplementary food, medicines, medical care, and shelter, with the objective of improving their conditions of life.

**To learn more about our work visit www.johnbradburne.com
or call us on 07979 187498.**

**To see the vast collection of John Bradburne 's poetry visit
www.johnbradburnepoems.com**

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