

24 March

**Br IGNATIUS MATZKE** 12 June 1869 – 25 March 1951



Ignatius Matzke suffered from five indignities in the records!

He was called Fr, not Br. He was called Katzke, not Matzke. His birthday was given as in January not June; his day of death was said to be the 24th, not the 25 of March and, worst of all, the catalogue provided no address for the place where he lived for about forty years before he died other than '*degens extra domum.*'

He was, in fact, in a mental home somewhere near Grahamstown. His brief biography does not mention connection with St Aidan's during those long years though we can hope that members of the community visited him from time to time.

Ignatius Matzke was born in Rathodorf, Bohemia and educated in East London after which he worked on his father's farm for a while. In 1888, he joined the novitiate and in 1890 was at Dunbrody. Soon after he moved to St Aidan's where he was involved in 'housework'.



Health problems began to show themselves and by 1907 he had 'broken down completely'. It was then that he was committed to a home for the mentally sick where he was, as said above, to spend the remaining forty years of his life.