

23 August

Fr JAMES PENDELBURY 22 June 1897 – 23 August 1944

James Pendelbury was born - and died - in Leigh, Lancashire, NW England. He spent much of his early years on a farm and learnt forestry, beekeeping and gardening. He went to Mount St Mary's and entered the novitiate during the war (1915). The war – and the novitiate - affected him and he ended up with a 'broken head'. It seems he got little understanding and ill health dogged him throughout his short life.



He taught at St Ignatius Stamford Hill for four years from 1922 and at the same time attended some biology lectures at the University of London. He was artistic (see the drawing of his of a Kalahari elder) and he developed this talent over those years. In 1932 he was in Southern Rhodesia at Driefontein, St Benedict's and Monte Cassino but he struggled with the food. Eventually he went to St Aidan's where he did some painting, particularly renovating the stations in the boys' chapel. But he spent a lot of time in hospital and eventually went back to England where he died in his home town.