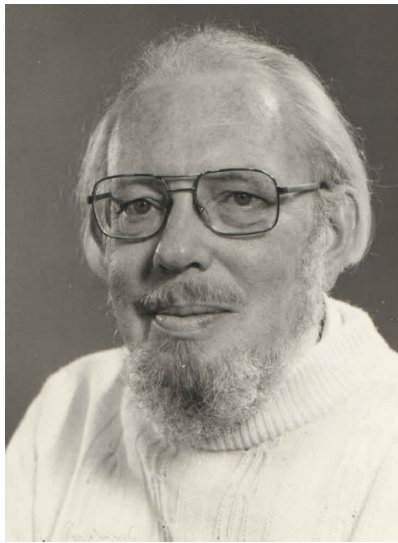


5 October

Fr JOHN BYRNE

29 January 1931 – 5 October 1987



John Byrne was born in Liverpool and educated at St Francis Xavier College. He joined the Society in 1947 and one of his interests during his years of study was in printing (see sample below) and, when he came Africa, we wanted to work in the Chishawasha Press. He was ordained in 1962 and this writer does not know if he ever worked in the press. He arrived in 1964 and started at St Peter's Mbare before taking responsibility for Kambazuma and Rugare. In 1967 he moved to the School of Social Work.

In 1973, he went to Makumbi where he took charge of the book-keeping as well as doing pastoral work. He took a great interest in the Children's Home and knew all the children by name.

In 1986, he went to Mabelreign and in the following year he was in St Anne's hospital from which he never emerged alive. JB suffered from ill health all his life. He moved around slowly and seemed always to lack energy. In the old Heythrop the rector, David Hoy, once gave an exhortation which, for some reason, contained the following: "In the army they have a saying, 'If it moves, salute it; if it doesn't move, pick it up; if you can't pick it up, paint it.'" Some wag, said to JB as they left the chapel, 'Get a move on, JB, or we will paint you.'

