

29 October

Fr JOSEPH DOOLEY

31 March 1920 – 29 October 2012



Born in London and educated at Stamford Hill, Joe Dooley joined the Society in 1938. He was ordained in 1952, he merits mention in this collection as he spent one year at St George's (1968) where he was always on the look out for the 'lame ducks' – those who were weak in studies or unhappy in one way or another. This would include some of the African boys who pioneered multiracial education. Maybe he felt he was a lame duck himself for he was often angry and, for instance, never really got over the closure of Beaumont College in 1965. He had enjoyed his years there and built up a following among the old boys. He was closer to them than he was to his fellow Jesuits. Nick King detected a 'deep anger and sadness in him.' And Mick Bossy commented, 'he seemed to look back to a golden age that was now past'.

But he was a great teacher and taught for many years at Stonyhurst. He spent his final days at Boscombe.