

14 December

Br HENRY HARDY

4 June 1873 – 14 December 1916



Henry Hardy was born in Tow Law (pictured) near Durham in the north of England and joined the Society in 1892. He served at St Ignatius in London, St Mary's Hall, Wimbledon, Bournemouth, St Aloysius and Manchester before arriving in Dunbrody as sacristan and refectorian in 1907.

In 1909 he was admitted to a psychiatric hospital in 'Fort England' and died there seven years later. That is all the sources tell us and we have to read between the lines. What strikes this writer is he was not the only one of those early Jesuits on the Zambezi Mission who either were mentally unfit from the beginning or whose condition was brought on by the hardness of the life in those days and the inadequacy of available medical treatment.