

Rev. Maurice Headon, S.J., Prefect of Studies

**In Memoriam – Fr Maurice Headon, S.J.
(November 21, 1912 – August 6, 1960)**

Taught at Wah Yan College, Kowloon (1952-1959)

Prefect of Studies at Wah Yan College, Kowloon (1957-1959)

Years as Form-master at Wah Yan College, Kowloon

1952-1953	F5B	1955-1956	F5A
1953-1954	F5B	1956-1957	F5A
1954-1955	F5A		

Appointed Prefect of Studies

It was with great regret that we “bon-voyaged” Fr. Maguire, who had to return to Ireland after a serious operation. As Prefect of Studies he had shown great understanding of boys. His place was taken by Fr. Headon, whose unobtrusive manner and steady interest in the students kept the cauldrons of studies and discipline at a bubbling boiling point. At the beginning of the year each boy was presented with a leaflet giving all the “Do and Don’t” rules of the school, thus automatically erasing from the lips of the most innocent-faced cherub that handy excuse, “But I didn’t know.” At Christmas he launched his “secret weapon.” This fearful engine was a special report sent to the parents of those whose conduct was multiplying the grey hairs on their teachers’ harried heads. It proved highly effective, and led to a great improvement in that small number aimed at and caught in the line of fire.

From the editorial, The Shield 6 (1958)

Left Wah Yan College, Kowloon to return to Ireland

Our losses: Fr. Headon, Prefect of Studies, left us for a year's rest at home;

From the editorial, *The Shield* 8 (1960) –

A. Photographs, 1952 - 1960

As Form-master

FORM V B

Form-Master: Rev. M. Headon, S.J.



F5B, 1952-1953



FORM V A

F5A, 1956-1957

As Staff of Wah Yan College, Kowloon



1955-1956 – bottom row – 6th right



1958-1959 – bottom row – 5th right

Staff of the School (1954-1955)

Very Rev. Fr. P. Toner, S.J., *Rector.*
校長陶德華神父

Rev. Fr. P. Finneran, S.J., *Minister.*
事務主任方學良神父

Rev. Fr. R. Maguire, S.J.
Prefect of Studies.

負責人萬貴理神父
Rev. Fr. J. Collins, S.J.
郭樂賢神父

Rev. Fr. T. Doody, S.J.
杜達明神父

Rev. Fr. J. Doris, S.J.
莊禮思神父

Rev. Fr. J. Foley, S.J.,
Student Counsellor.

公教學生神師科理神父
Rev. Fr. M. Headon, S.J.
希達仁神父

Rev. Fr. Howatson, S.J.
侯奕純神父

Rev. Fr. R. Kennedy, S.J.
簡耀榮神父

Rev. Fr. M. Morahan, S.J.,
Student Counsellor.
公教學生神師莫樂天神父

Rev. Fr. J. Moran, S.J.,
Editor "The Eastern Messenger"
東方聖心報編輯武倫神父

Rev. Fr. J. O'Meara, S.J.
馬良神父

Rev. Fr. E. Sullivan, S.J.
蘇惠民神父

Rev. J. Hurley, S.J.
于理修士

Rev. G. Keane, S.J.
甘賢修士

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Chow Cheng Lam, Esq.	周清林先生	Pun Yau Pang, Esq.	潘友彭先生
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Miss Lee Tun Yung	李端容先生	Wong Alexander Esq.	黃全先生

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校醫鄧以賢先生

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Lee Kang Ching, Esq. 李鏡澄先生

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秘書劉華甫先生
Felix Poon Wing Kong, Esq., *Clerk.*
潘永康先生

The School Staff 1957-1958

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Rev. J. Foley, S.J., *Minister.*

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負責人 希典 神父

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公教學生 神師-陳福偉 神父

Rev. M. Cryan, S.J.

許禮仁 神父

Rev. T. Doody, S.J.

杜達明 神父

Rev. J. Doris, S.J.

莊禮思 神父

Rev. R. Kennedy, S.J.

簡理察 神父

Rev. R. McCarthy, S.J.

穆嘉田 神父

Rev. J. Kelly, S.J., *Assistant Prefect of Studies.*

助理負責人 紀烈義 神父

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連民安 神父

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莫樂天 神父

Rev. J. O'Meara, S.J.

馬良 神父

Rev. T. O'Neill, S.J.

廖爾意 神父

Rev. E. Sullivan, S.J.

蘇惠民 神父

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公教學生 神師 陶德華 神父

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蔡成彭 先生

何鎮源 先生

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馬黃潔 君

潘友彭 先生

沈叔堅 先生

譚志成 先生

譚詠璋 先生

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王鈴 先生

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MEDICAL ADVISER

Dr. Y. Y. Tang, M.B., B.S.

校醫 鄧以賢 醫生

CATECHIST

Hung Shui Ching, Esq.

熊瑞微 先生

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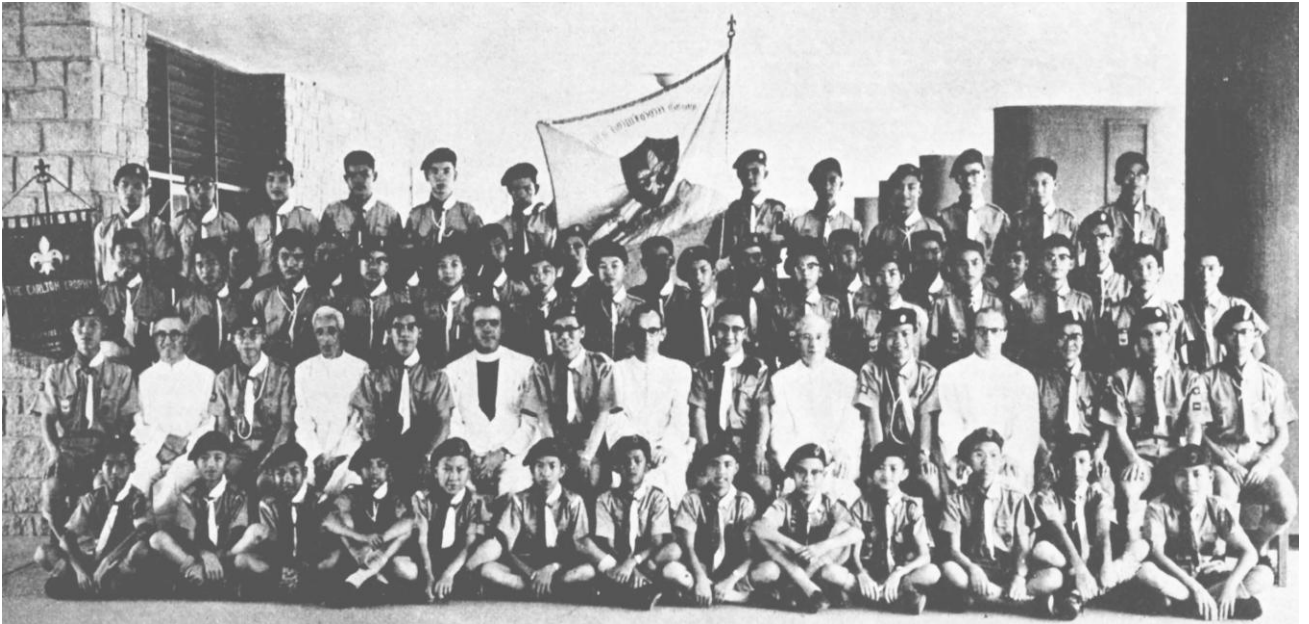
秘書 李士媛 先生

Alex Chan Jao Yau, Esq. *Clerk.*

陳佐堯 先生

1957-1958, Staff list

As Scout Advisor



1957-1958 – seated – 6th right

As Priest



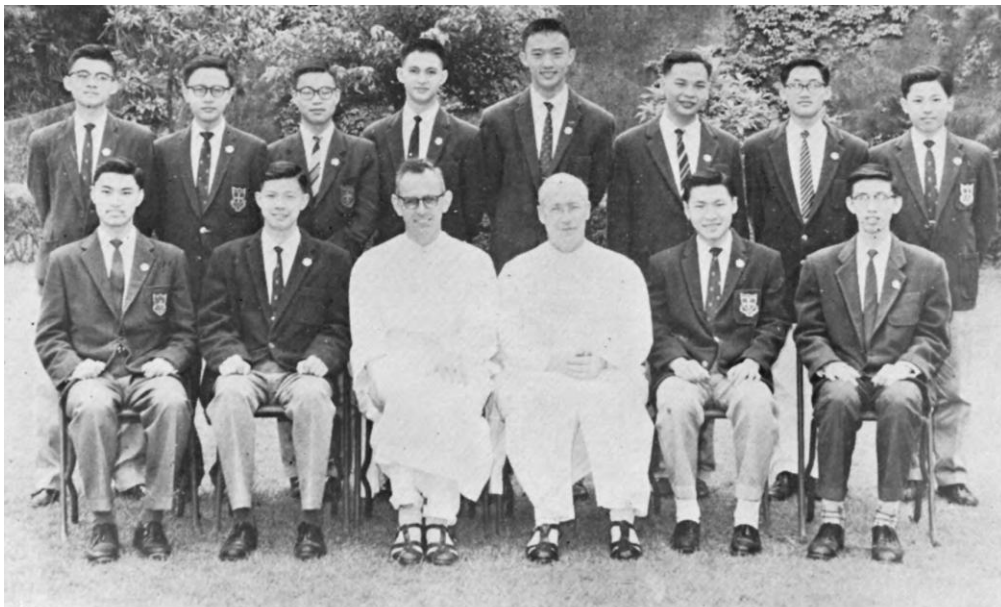
1952-1953 – Baptising St Teresa's Church

As Prefect of Studies



THE SCHOOL PREFECTS, 1957-1958.

1957-1958 – seated – 3rd right



THE SCHOOL PREFECTS, 1958-1959

1958-1959 – seated – 3rd right

Other Photos

THE
BIG
THREE



1953-1954, Serious discussion – 2nd left

Striking the spark of thought.



1958-1958, Brainstorming – 2nd left



*Fr. Headon
delivers
his speech
of welcome.*

1957-1958, Prize Distribution Day



From Fr Morrissey, S.J.'s "Jesuits in Hong Kong, South China & Beyond", p 767 – 2nd row from left – 1st right

哀

痛

之

回

憶

F.4B 葉國偉

聖堂響亮的鐘聲一下一下地清晰傳進各同學的耳鼓裏，聖堂的鐘聲一向是充滿着讚美的啓示，但今天它在我們的耳朵中卻起了異樣的感覺，這異樣的感覺真是難以形容的。同學們，不論教友、非教友，甚至教師們也爲這鐘聲的號召所吸引，不期然地踏進聖堂來。

不一會，聖堂的空間已給黑漆漆的人羣所填滿，同時琴聲也悠然而起，奇怪得很，連今天的琴聲也是特別的，它所發出的是充滿着悲哀和沈痛的調子，使在聖堂內的人也爲它所動而感覺哀悼。

隨着琴聲之後，輔祭和神父們亦相繼步出祭臺，今天他們所穿的祭衣是黑色的！是悲痛的表现啊！果然，當主祭念完了聖經之後，校長便步上講臺，很悲傷地說出今天的安所彌撒是爲前教務主任希典神父的逝世而奉獻的，跟着就是敘述希典神父的生平和他對九龍華仁書院的貢獻。這不幸的消息使我心中一陣酸痛，不自禁的回憶起他生前的一切。我第一次和他認識是遠在八年前，因我大哥是

他的學生之關係，當時他蒞臨舍下，希望說服我的父親給我們兄弟幾人受洗，他先後和父親交談數次，結果，他終於獲得父親的允許，因此我們兄弟幾人得以順利領洗。歸根結論，他對我們幾兄弟的幫助可算太大了。

因此，他對我的家庭也有所認識，他常常來探望我們，看我們有沒有盡好教友的本份，除此之外，他有時還和我們玩在一起。記得有一次元旦，他到我家吃晚飯，那天他還帶着很多烟花和我們在晚飯後一起燃放，這一切的一切有如電影般在我腦海中閃過，真是難以使我遺忘的。

這時，主祭高聲誦經，繼着輔祭打鐘三下，它把我從回憶中喚了過來，再誠心祈求天主早日賞賜他的靈魂得享永福。

不久，安所彌撒的禮節完了，我隨着同學們步出聖堂，當我看見他以前的辦公室時，我又不禁的回想起他臨別時對我所說的話，他說：「我希望回來時你又已高一班了。」語極懇切，現在我已升高了一班，但他卻在那裏呢！

散

文

詩

憶希頓神父

(FATHER HEADON S. T.)

F. S. D 張振翱

世界上的偉人死了，人們爲他建石像，立紀念碑，寫傳記，他們長活在世人心中。

世上的平凡人死了，親屬爲他悲傷，朋友們爲他追悼，最後，人們會慢慢把他忘記。

希頓神父死了！

希頓神父死了已二年多了！

最初，人們爲他開追悼彌撒，念經文，寫讚美文章，每人見面時都談起「多惋惜啊！」

最近，我不見有人說起他了。

可是，希頓神父卻長活在我心中。

那管是二年，二十年，二百年……

在我心目中他是偉人，也是平凡人，偉人平凡地死去，平凡人壯偉地死去。我對他的死因不大詳細，可是這學識淵博，能詞善辯的偉人卻靜靜地投向天主的懷抱，沒有紀念碑，沒有石像。他死前曾施過幾次大手術，平凡的他，蒙受着一切肉身的痛苦，展望着將來，待着，待着，待着投向天主的懷抱。

希頓神父，你看到我長得很高嗎？

希頓神父，你看到我們學校已建了一座大聖堂嗎？

希頓神父，你知道我是多想念着你的。

當人們呼喚我的聖名時，我便憶起這是希頓神父給我起的；當上聖經課時，我便憶起我是在聖經課因聽希頓神父的道理因此覺悟而領洗的；當星期日早上到聖方濟各聖堂聽彌撒時，我便憶

起從前希頓神父做祭師的。

現在，聖名常叫，聖經常唸，聖堂常去，希頓神父已死去兩年多了。

過去，一切都已成過去。

最初我領洗時，神父啦、朋友啦都給我念珠，聖牌，聖相……等禮物，可是當我向希頓神父說：

「神父，你有什麼禮物給我呢？」

慈祥的神父笑了一笑。

「有，但不是物質的，我給你唸幾首經。」

我怔住，接着我明白希頓神父又給我上了一課最寶貴的聖經課。

真的，唸珠，聖牌……雖然可貴，但卻遠遠不及希頓神父給

我的一首天主經；人死了，唸珠、聖牌全都不能帶去，短短的一首天主經卻能在吾主寶座前發出它的光芒。

我就快要離開這學校了，我檢拾着這幾年的回憶，有快樂的，有痛苦的。

但我永遠忘記不了希頓神父給我解說痛苦的真諦和快樂的泉源。

神父，你不是常給我描述救世主受難的情景嗎？

我那時還是個楞小子，我只覺得動聽，有趣。

現在，我明白了，因爲我聽說你在香港時已是身體極不適，但你還是春風化雨，勤勞聖事，不肯少休。

這不就是實踐吾主的至聖寶理嗎？

x x x

本來，我是要寫一大堆希頓神父生平事蹟的，但所知的實在太少了，只零零碎碎收拾筆者幼時和希頓神父相處的情形，不過，偉人並不需要壯烈的事情來顯示他的偉大，正如吾主耶穌基督所說：

「誰若想做第一個，他就得做衆人最末的一個，並做衆人的僕役。」

Obituaries

From Sunday Examiner, Aug 2, 1960

<http://archives.catholic.org.hk/In%20Memoriam/Clergy-Brother/M-Headon.htm>

R.I.P. Father Maurice Headon, S.J.

News was received on Sunday, 7 August 1960, that Father Maurice Headon, S.J., formerly of Wah Yan College, Kowloon, had died in Ireland aged 49. He had gone to Ireland a year ago for a rest and it was known that he was suffering from a blood-clot. The news of his death was, however, quite unexpected.

Father Headon was born in Ireland and was educated by the Irish Christian Brothers in O'Connell School, Dublin. He entered the Jesuit noviciate in 1930, took a B. Sc. Degree in the National University of Ireland, did his ecclesiastical studies partly in France and was ordained priest in 1944.

Having worked as a priest for some years in Ireland, he came to Hong Kong in 1949 and spent ten years here teaching, first in Wah Yan College, Hong Kong, later in Wah Yan College, Kowloon. For his last two years here he was prefect of Studies in the latter college. From the beginning of his time here, he devoted himself to the study of Cantonese and quickly gained a mastery of the language that was truly remarkable in one who was already engaged in the demanding work of the classroom. His command of Cantonese enabled him to do a wide variety of pastoral work. For many years he was well known as a confessor and a preacher in St. Teresa's Kowloon, and in the parish of St. Francis of Assisi, Shumshuipo, where the parochial clergy made him welcome as a sharer of their pastoral burden. As an educator he maintained his interest in his former pupils after they had left his care, even undertaking the heroic labour of keeping in touch by letter with all old boys of Wah Yan who had gone abroad for further studies.

He will be very widely mourned in Hong Kong.

SUNDAY
EXAMINER
Catholic News of the World

2 August 1960



Rev. Maurice Headon, S.J.

The sad news of Fr. Headon's death was a great shock to all. It was wholly unexpected. When he returned to Ireland two years ago after about 10 years out here, no one guessed that he bore within him the seeds of a heart-affection and a leg-disease which would combine to bring about his death within twelve months.

Fr. Headon was extremely talented. He taught chemistry in both Wah Yan Colleges, though English, in which he had won First Place in Ireland in his Senior Intermediate examinations, remained his first love. His talents, his experience with boys and his knowledge of educational problems led him naturally to the chair of the Prefect of Studies. In this position, he showed himself most approachable and the boys knew that they would get a fair and sympathetic hearing. Any boys "in trouble" could present their appeal without any fear; and if they left his office, the "trouble" remaining withal, they recognized that they had, at least, got a fair hearing.

His heart, however, was in direct apostolic work. He eagerly seized the chance of regular weekly Sunday Masses and a Chinese sermon in the parish church of St. Francis of Assisi. Here again, his zeal, his understanding of human nature, and his friendliness made him extremely popular. The number of people who asked to have Mass said for the repose of his soul bore eloquent testimony of the affectionate esteem in which they held him.

May he rest in peace.

From The Shield 9 (1961)

Compiled by Wong Hin-Shing, with the assistance of Yu Fong-ying, Feb 11, 2012