



THE DOUGLAS BROTHERS AND SHERBORNE SCHOOL

Justyn George Durham Douglas MD, JP (1849-1893) was born in 1849 at Grosse-Île, Chaudiere-Appalaches Region, Quebec, Canada, son of Dr George Mellis Douglas (1809-1864) and Charlotte Saxton Douglas (née Campbell) (1819-1852). He attended Laval University, Canada, and the University of Edinburgh, M.B. and C.M. 1871, M.D. (Edin.) 1874. He served as Honorary Surgeon (late Residential Surgeon) at the Bournemouth Dispensary and Cottage Hospital, and Surgeon at Firsbank Invalid Home, Bournemouth. On 22 November 1876 he was married at All Saints church, Kensington, London, to Augusta May Ram (1853-1930). He died on 25 October 1893 at Tantallon, Madeira Road, Bournemouth (aged 44), and was buried on 29 October 1893 at Bournemouth Cemetery.

Justyn's wife, Augusta May Douglas (née Ram) (1853-1930) was born in 1853 at Ellastone, Derbyshire, daughter of Rev. Stopford James Ram. After the death of her husband, Augusta moved to Sherborne, Dorset, where she lived at Tantallon in Acreman Street and where eight of her sons attended Sherborne School as day boys. Augusta died on 24 April 1930 at The Crossways, 17 Beechy Road, Bournemouth.

At Sherborne, the school's heritage is not a relic but a living force. It anchors the school as it looks forward, giving shape to how it grows, learns, and imagines its place in the modern world.

That legacy stretches back to the 12th century, when boys were first educated within the monastery's stone walls. Rooted in Christian tradition, the School was founded on values that endure: kindness and compassion, courtesy and respect, determination and purpose.

From those modest beginnings, Sherborne evolved - becoming a Free Grammar School in the 17th and 18th centuries, and later taking new form in 1850 through the vision of the Reverend Hugo Daniel Harper. His tenure as Headmaster until 1877 saw the School transformed. The arrival of the railway opened the gates to pupils from far and wide, classrooms filled, and Sherborne emerged as a centre of educational excellence.

Among those drawn to the School in its golden age of expansion were the Douglas brothers - a spirited Scottish family whose presence in the 1890s embodied Sherborne's ideals. Raised in a tradition of public service, the boys brought with them not only intellect and talent but a quiet strength of character. Their time among the cloisters and classrooms was marked by study, sport, faith and fellowship—preparing each to carry forward the values of the School into the wider world.

This article introduces their stories, and with them, a chapter in Sherborne's living history.

The Children:

Saxton Edward Douglas (1877-1910).

Born 14 September 1877 at Bournemouth, Hampshire. Attended Felsted Prep School. Attended Sherborne School (day boy) May 1894-August 1896. Edinburgh University. Assistant Treasurer, North Nigeria. Subsequently rubber planting. Died at Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States, on 4 November 1910.

Rev. Mellis Stuart Douglas (1878-1963).

Born 11 December 1878 at Bournemouth, Hampshire. Attended Epsom College, 1892. Attended Sherborne School (day boy) May 1894-August 1898; 6th form; Prefect; Greek Prose and Verse prize 1898. Assistant Master at Sherborne Prep School, 1898. Exhibitioner Queens' College, Cambridge; 3rd class Classics. Ordained 1903. Curate of Highfield, 1903-1909. Principal Christ Church College, SPG Mission, Cawnpore [Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, India]. Fellow of Allahabad University. Vicar of Whitchurch, Hampshire, 1923-1933. Married at All Hallows' church, Whitchurch, Hampshire, on 3 December 1929 to Constance Spencer Portal (1881-1991), daughter of Sir Spencer John Portal (1864-1955), Director of the Royal Exchange Assurance, and Dame Mary Laura Florence Mure (1868-1932) of Bere Hill, Whitchurch, Hampshire. Rector of Nursling, 1933-1938. Vicar of Pakenham, Bury St Edmunds, 1938-1946. Rector of Child Okeford, Dorset, 1946-1949. In July 1949 purchased by private treaty The White House in The Avenue, Sherborne, Dorset. In November 1949, Mrs Douglas advertised for a 'cook-general for a convenient modern house with Esse stove, two in family, good outings.' Died at Sherborne on 3 March 1963. Buried in Sherborne Cemetery with his wife Constance Spencer Douglas (née Portal) (1891-1991).

Kenneth Justyn Douglas (1880-1940).

Born 6 March 1880 at Bournemouth, Hampshire. Attended Epsom College. Attended Sherborne School (day boy) May 1894-August 1899; 6th form; Prefect. Queens' College, Cambridge. 1908 appointed Examiner, Exchequer & Audit Dept, Civil Service. Nigeria Civil Service 1907-1933. WW1, Private in the Nigerian Land Contingent. Married on 22 October 1918 at Broadstone, Dorset, to Josephine Carey Duff. Lived at Squirrel Hill, Littleworth Cross, Seale, Farnham, Surrey. Died on 10 September 1940 at Stoke Wood Road, Bournemouth. Buried at St Laurence, Seale, Surrey.

Muriel Stopford Douglas (1881-1957).

Born 18 August 1881 at Bournemouth. Performed as a soprano in the Dramatic chorus of the 1905 Sherborne Pageant. WW1, served with the French Red Cross (6 February 1916-27 April 1916), the Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) of the British Red Cross (Herne Bay Military 15 July 1916, H.M.S. Britannic 17 September 1916-18 November 1916, Prees Heath Military Hospital 21 November 1916-1 February 1917, Wool Military Hospital 30 March 1917. Lived at The Ladies Club, 26 Poole Road, Bournemouth. Died at Bournemouth on 31 October 1957.

Stopford Cyril Douglas (1883-1928).

Born 1 October 1883 at Bournemouth. Attended Sherborne Prep School. Attended Sherborne School (day boy) January 1897-1898. Entered the service of the Royal Navy on 15 September 1898 on HMS *Britannia* (the Royal Navy's training ship). Appointed Sub-Lieutenant 15 June 1903 and Lieutenant 31 December 1905. Served in the South African War. Married on 22 December 1914 at All Saints', Harrow Weald, to Hannah (Nan) Halcomb, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs C. Herbert Halcombe of New York, USA. WW1, 1914-1916 in command of submarines, of HMS *Alecto*, Submarine Depot Ship; 1916, in command of HMS *Q iii*; 1917, joined staff of Admiral Sir Lewis Bayley, Queenstown. Commander (retired), Deputy Chief Inspector of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. Lived at The Hollies, Iver, Buckinghamshire. Died at Ryde, Isle of Wight, 2 September 1928, aged 44. He was buried at sea following a church service, when his coffin was placed on the Yarmouth lifeboat and taken to a spot between the Nab Lightship and the mystery tower, where the committal took place. Flowers were strewn over the spot and a green flare was burnt. Passing vessels dipped their colours. The committal service was read by his brother, the Rev. E.C. Douglas, chaplain to training ships in the Thames.

Rev. Eric Campbell Douglas (1885-1971).

Born 19 April 1885 at Bournemouth. Attended Sherborne Prep School. Attended Sherborne School (day boy) January 1899-August 1904; 6th form. Queens' College, Cambridge. Ordained 1908. WW1, Army Chaplains' Dept, attached 15th Bn. K.O.Y.L.I.; B.E.F.; C.F., France (despatches 2). C.F 1918-1926. Vicar of

Bradford Abbas 1934-1937. Vicar of St Peter's, Rochester 1937-1947. Rector of St Mary's, Tittleshall, King's Lynn 1947. Married in 1933 to Enid Elizabeth Chetwynd. Lived at Pightle, Barnham Broom, Norfolk. Died on 12 July 1971. Buried at Bracon Ash, Norfolk

Rev. Andrew Wilmot Douglas (1886-1961).

Born 4 November 1886 at Bournemouth. Attended Sherborne Prep School. Attended Sherborne School (day boy) May 1900-July 1906; 6th form. Magdalen College, Cambridge. Ordained 1910. SPG Brotherhood, Cawnpore, 1913. Chaplain in India 1915-1927. Married on 21 January 1920 at Windlesham to Madaleine Ljnzee Gordon Musgrave (1897-1995). Vicar of Newington 1927-1931. Vicar of Netheravon, Wiltshire, 1931-1937. Vicar of Southbroom, Devizes, Wiltshire, 1937-1946. Vicar of Steeple Langford, Salisbury, Wiltshire, 1946-1948. Lived at Ashtead, Surrey. Died on 4 June 1961 at Leatherhead Hospital, Surrey. Buried at Hillfield, Dorset, on 16 June 1961 after cremation.

Rev. Justyn Langton Douglas (1888-1941).

Born 24 April 1888 at Bournemouth. Attended Sherborne Prep School. Attended Sherborne School (day boy) May 1900-1907; scholar; 6th form; Prefect. Scholar, Magdalen College, Cambridge. Ordained 1913. Vicar-Hospitaller, St Bart's Hospital, 1923-1936. Vicar of Godmanchester, Hunts, 1936-1937. Vicar of Yetminster, Chetnole and Ryme Intrinseca, Dorset 1937. Lived at St James's Vicarage, South Broom, Devizes, Wiltshire. Died on 27 May 1941.

Rev. George Hamilton Douglas (1890-1960).

Born 4 May 1890 at Bournemouth. Attended Sherborne Prep School. Attended Sherborne School (day boy) May 1903-July 1909. Queens' College, Cambridge. Ordained 1914. In 1919 living at Sidney Villa, The Avenue, Sherborne? Chaplain South African Railway Mission 1925-1928. Clerk of St Michael's Aldershot. Vicar of St Saviour's, Portsea. Vicar of St Peter's, Devizes, Wiltshire. Lived at 198 St Michael's Avenue, Yeovil, Somerset. Died 10 September 1960 at Yeovil General Hospital, Somerset. Buried on 11 October 1960 at Hillfield, Dorset.

1894

CRICKET MATCH between *Day Boys* and *Blanch's*
 played at *1st Innings of Day Boys*

Order.	BATSMAN.	FIGURES AS SCORED.	HOW OUT.	BOWLER'S NAME	RUNS.
1	<i>C.A.S. Ridout</i>		<i>b Stanger-Leathes</i>		0
2	<i>Mc Enery ma</i>		<i>b Martin</i>		4
3	<i>Mc Enery mi</i>		<i>c Stanger-Leathes ma b Martin</i>		28
4	<i>Douglas mi</i>		<i>run out</i>		0
5	<i>Temperley tert</i>		<i>b Stanger-Leathes</i>		0
6	<i>Whalley ma</i>		<i>b Stanger-Leathes</i>		7
7	<i>Gwyther</i>		<i>b Martin</i>		15
8	<i>Mc Enery tert</i>		<i>c Stanger-Leathes mi b L.S.-Leathes</i>		1
9	<i>Douglas ma</i>		<i>b L.S. Stanger-Leathes</i>		0
10	<i>Douglas tert</i>		<i>not out</i>		0
11	<i>Marsh</i>		<i>b Stanger-Leathes</i>		0
	Byes				
	Leg Byes.				
	Wide Balls.				
	No Balls.				
				<i>Extras</i>	10
				Total of Innings.	68

Runs at the fall of each Wicket.	1 for	2 for	3 for	4 for	5 for	6 for	7 for	8 for	9 for	10 for
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SENIOR

CRICKET MATCH between *Blanch's* and *Day Boys*
 played at *1st Innings of Blanch's*

Order.	BATSMAN.	FIGURES AS SCORED.	HOW OUT.	BOWLER'S NAME	RUNS.
1	<i>L. G. Stanger-Leathes</i>		<i>l.b.w. b</i>	<i>Mc Enery mi</i>	49
2	<i>Martin</i>		<i>c b</i>	<i>Ridout</i>	14
3	<i>Thurston</i>		<i>run out</i>		13
4	<i>Stanger-Leathes tert</i>		<i>b</i>	<i>Mc Enery ma</i>	2
5	<i>Bratby mi</i>		<i>b</i>	<i>Ridout</i>	21
6	<i>Yates</i>		<i>b</i>	<i>Ridout</i>	2
7	<i>Stanger-Leathes mi</i>		<i>b</i>	<i>Ridout</i>	0
8	<i>Bratby ma</i>		<i>run out</i>		22
9	<i>Wilkinson</i>		<i>not out</i>		30
10	<i>Adamson</i>		<i>l.b.w. b</i>	<i>Mc Enery ma</i>	7
11	<i>Carey</i>		<i>c Gwyther b Ridout</i>		4
	Byes				
	Leg Byes.				
	Wide Balls.				
	No Balls.				
				<i>Extras</i>	14
				Total of Innings.	177

Runs at the fall of each Wicket.	1 for	2 for	3 for	4 for	5 for	6 for	7 for	8 for	9 for	10 for
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Sherborne School 'Three Cock' rugby team (Wilson's & Hodgson's houses and day boys), Easter 1897 – M.S. Douglas (front row, middle)



F. W. Sopper. $\frac{1}{2}$. H. Skaw. T. Hulbert. C. T. Cheate. H. V. Temperley. J. Gartin. $\frac{3}{4}$. J. F. Windsor.
 A. J. Crawford. $\frac{3}{4}$. L. Partridge. $\frac{3}{4}$. J. G. Wick. $\frac{3}{4}$. W. O. Prichard. H. Metcalf.
 H. Fletcher. M. S. Douglas. $\frac{1}{4}$. R. H. M. Park. $\frac{1}{2}$.

"Three Cock" (Wilson's, Hodgson's, Day Boys) XV. Easter. 1897.

Day Boys & Wildman's House Cock Out-House team, 1898 – K.J. Douglas and M.S. Douglas (middle row, 1st & 2nd from the left)



F. W. Sopper. $\frac{1}{2}$. H. Shaw. T. Hulbert. C. T. Cheate. H. V. Temperley. J. Garstin $\frac{3}{4}$. J. F. Windsor.
 A. J. Crawford $\frac{3}{4}$. L. Partridge $\frac{3}{4}$. J. G. Welch. $\frac{3}{4}$. W. O. Prichard. H. Mitcalf.
 H. Fletcher. M. S. Douglas $\frac{1}{4}$. R. H. M. Park. $\frac{1}{2}$.

"Three Cocks" (Wilson, Hodgson, Day Boys) XV. Easter. 1897.

Sherborne School Duffers Society, 1898 – M.S. Douglas (middle row, 1st from right)



Brewster. J.G. Jewson. R.W.B. Langhorne. L.G. Sunderland. J.C. Johnston.
H.V. Temperley. A.R. King. R.G. McDonald. M.S. Douglas.

Sherborne School Vith Form, July 1898 – K.J. Douglas and M.S. Douglas.



Sherborne School Vith Form, July 1899 – K.J. Douglas (left hand-side, middle row)



Kindly collated for the Douglas Archives by Rachel Hassall. Sherborne, Dorset.