

# ST AUBYNS SCHOOL 1895 - 2013

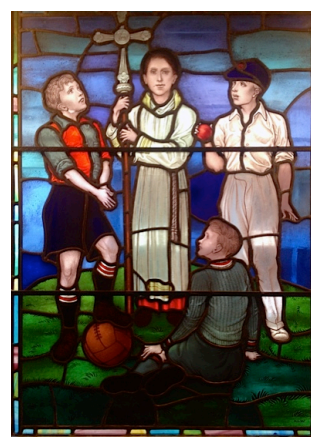
## *Behind Closed Doors...*

*An exhibition at The Grange Museum, Rottingdean*

**Official opening on Saturday March 29<sup>th</sup> 2014  
by William Shawcross**

**F**or nearly 120 years St Aubyns School has been part of the Rottingdean High Street scene. Originally an exclusive boarding school, boys came from all over Great Britain to a different world here, on the Sussex Downs.

It was a world few villagers knew about. They only had glimpses of the boys at play on the field, or walking in the village. It was a world of different rules and regulations, which some boys embraced with enthusiasm but others didn't.



St Aubyns was responsible for the early years of some notable old boys including politicians such as Lord Boothby, Nicholas Soames, and Sir George Young, sportsmen such as Andrew Lindsay (Olympic Gold Medallist), Matthew Fleming (international cricketer) and distinguished soldiers such as Ronald Littledale (who successfully escaped from Colditz) and Conrad O'Brien-french, a secret intelligence officer.

For the village, celebrating a Kipling Festival this year, perhaps the most famous of all was Kipling's son, John, who was at St Aubyns 1909-11. His tragic death a few years later in WW1 was immortalised in the recent film "My Boy Jack".

Through school archives a pictorial history of the school has been created in this exhibition, drawing particularly on the records from the earlier years. The exhibition will also include a contemporary photographic essay of St Aubyns by Sussex artist and photographer Gabby Dempster, as it looked in the aftermath of its closure.

**William Shawcross**, an old boy and eminent writer will be opening the exhibition on **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 4.30 – 6.30pm**. Tickets are £5 including refreshments.

*This Exhibition is supported in part by a generous donation from the Cothill Educational Trust*