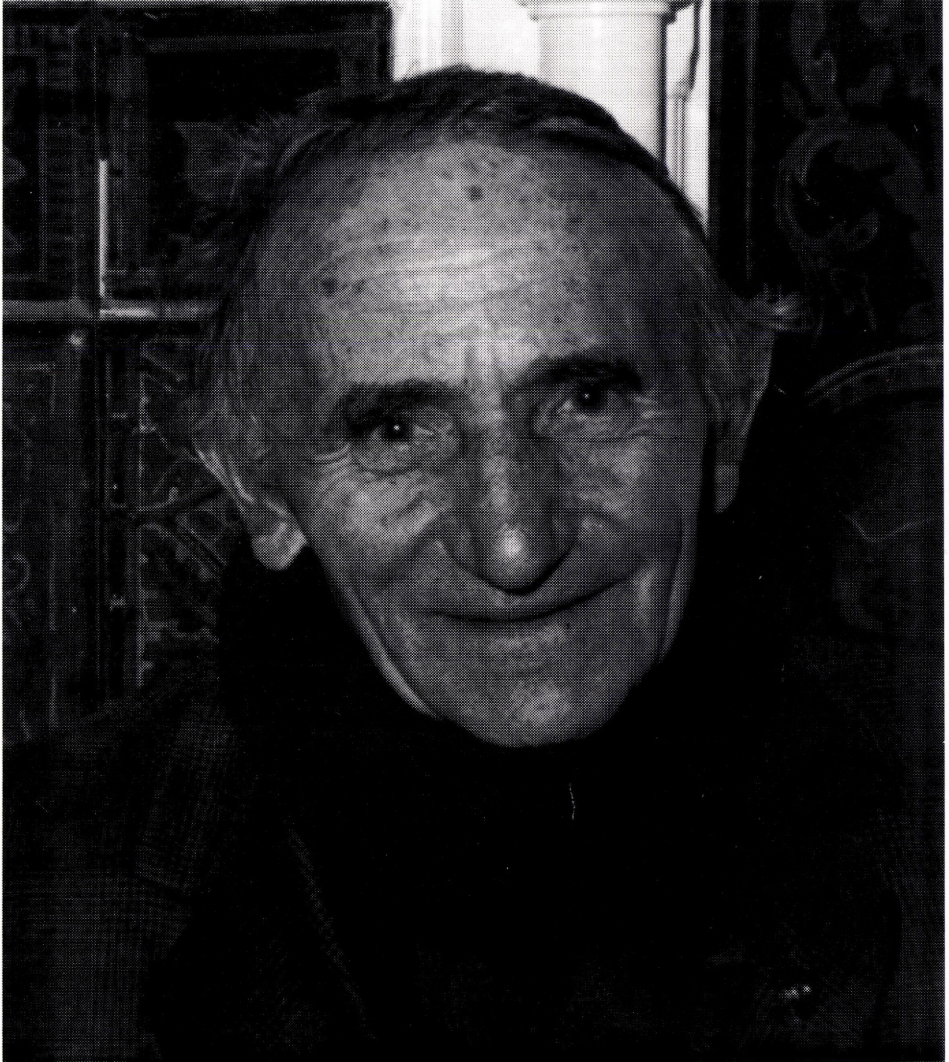


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SALESIAN COLLEGE "RUPERTSWOOD" SUNBURY, VIC. 3429



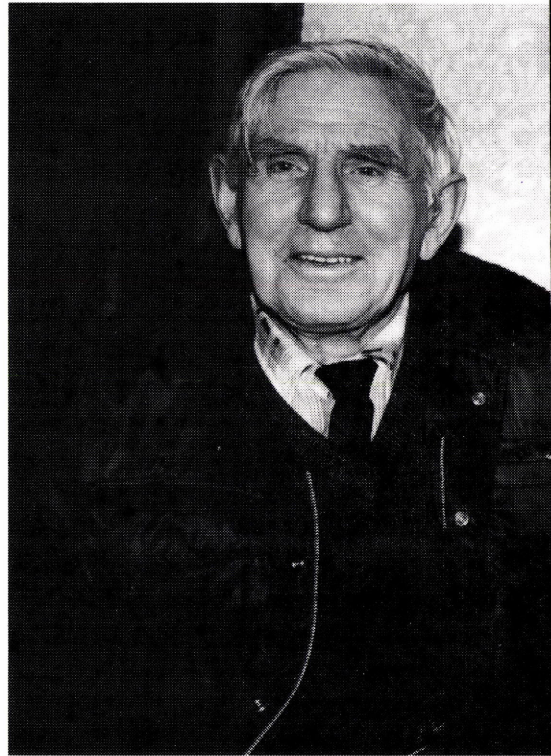
Brother Sebastian Durando SDB
(1907-1994)

Brother Sebastian Durando, one of the pioneers of the early days at Sunbury, died peacefully at St Joseph's Nursing Home, Northcote just before 5.00 pm on Monday 15 August 1994, the Feast of the Assumption of Our Blessed Lady into Heaven.

There was an influenza epidemic at the Home at the time and Brother Sebastian was affected by it. The doctor was called to see him and proposed to put him into hospital on the following day if his condition had not improved. The nursing sisters visited him frequently during the day and assisted him with his respirator to help his breathing. When they looked in on him just before five o'clock, they found that he had quietly passed away.

Sebastian Durando was born at Favigliano (Mondovi) Italy on 18 December 1907. He was a student at the Oratory at Valdocco in Turin from 1919 to 1926, and he was also an aspirant there. He went to the novitiate at Villa Moglia in 1926 and made his first profession into the hands of Father Philip Rinaldi, Rector Major, on 17 September 1927.

After two years of training at Martinetto (Turin) and a year in the shoemakers' shop at the Oratory at Valdocco Brother Sebastian made his perpetual profession in Turin on 19 September 1930. Shortly afterwards he set out for Australia, arriving in Melbourne on 16 December 1930. He was welcomed at Sunbury and set up a shoemaker's shop where he began teaching his trade and attending to the footwear needs of the community in 1931. Those who were



Brother L. Amann and Brother S. Durando

privileged to be at Sunbury in those early years well remember having their boots repaired by Brother Sebastian.

Due to health problems Brother Sebastian diversified into farming in 1934 and worked alongside Brother Amann for many years at Sunbury.

Later he worked at Brooklyn Park (1951-52), Oakleigh (1952-55) and again at Brooklyn Park (1955-72). Brother joined the Sunbury community in 1973 and worked there as curator of the grounds until ill health forced his retirement.



Brother Sebastian returned to Italy in September 1988 to visit relatives and the Salesian places where he spent his early years. He was later admitted to Casa Andrea Beltrami, a rest home for Salesians at Valsalice, Turin where he remained until September 1989. He returned to Australia with Brother Peter Dezani, who had gone home to visit relatives.

Brother Sebastian was admitted into St Joseph's Nursing Home of the Little Sisters of the Poor at Northcote and remained

there until his death, edifying everyone with his great spirit of piety and his tender devotion to Our Lady, Help of Christians. His Rosary was his constant companion in these final years.

The Rosary was recited for the repose of the soul of Brother Sebastian at St Joseph's Nursing Home on Wednesday evening 17 August and the Requiem Mass was celebrated there on 18 August. Father Provincial was the main concelebrant and more than thirty priests concelebrated with him. Father P Laws led the Prayers of Final Commendation.

The funeral cortege then went to Sunbury where Brother Sebastian was buried in the Salesian Cemetery of Salesian College, Sunbury. The Rector, Father J Papworth, led the recitation of the final prayers. The Salesians of the Australian Province are proud to have had such a worthy representative of the Casa Madre in our province for more than 60 years. We also wish to thank the Little Sisters of the Poor for the great kindness and loving care bestowed on our confrere during the years that he resided at St Joseph's Home Northcote.

The Sunbury Community.



Sunbury 1940s



At picnic with Br. Amann



Sunbury C. 1950

Brother Sebastian Durando

Born 18 December 1907
Professed 17 September 1927
Died 15 August 1994