

EXTRACT FROM NEW HALL AND ITS SCHOOL

Author: TONY TUCKWELL

On the spiritual front the Community and school lost their direct link with the Archbishopric of Westminster when, in 1917, the Diocese of Brentwood was created. That very summer the new Bishop of Brentwood, Bernard Ward, visited New Hall, following on from Cardinal Bourne who had visited every year since 1904. In 1918 Reverend Mother Joseph Sales Kendal died and the Chapter elected a new Prioress, Reverend Mother Aloysia Magdalen Dolan. She was the last Prioress to be elected for life and was 'much more worldly with a love of dancing, music, colour and beautiful dresses'. She was aware of the need for New Hall to accommodate itself to post-war realities. As the niece of Alfred Austin, the Poet Laureate and not an Old Fish, she was able to take a broader view of New Hall and its needs. "Modern Times had begun".
