



ST MARY'S
COLLEGE
SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER
2010-2011

A MESSAGE FROM THE SMCS PRESIDENT

Earlier this year I was travelling on a train from London which was full of Durham students returning for a new term. I asked the young woman next to me which college she was in. When she replied, 'St Mary's', I didn't want to bore her about how things were in my day but asked how she found it. 'Mary's is the coolest College', she replied. Maybe 'cool' is not a word that could have described us when I was a student and maybe we wouldn't have wanted to have been considered 'cool', and in a way this highlights how the culture of St Mary's, which is held dear across the generations, is continually changing.

And it's right that it should change. The Committee was so sorry to learn that Phil Gilmartin will be moving on to a new senior academic role at the University of East Anglia in the autumn. Building on existing strong foundations, he has done a huge amount to transform St Mary's into the college of choice for so many applicants and to make it the dynamic institution it now is. Yet Phil has always been very conscious of the history of St Mary's. Helped by Anne Elliott from the Society Committee, we have had a number of exhibitions of significant past events: the corridors, for instance, feature several photos of the young Queen laying the foundation stone in the early 50s. How many of you still remember that occasion?

In the past year, the Society has also aimed to bridge the gap between past and present. We now have an active online presence which means we can be more flexible, but we have always been clear that those who do not have access to the Internet will not lose out. We have done much more to relate to the current generation of students, sponsoring the Freshers' dinner from the funds we have saved from cutting newsletter postage costs, and administering the travel bursary funds. Inviting current students to the termly Society lunches we are now establishing to talk about their travel experiences not only provides them with an experience to plan and give a presentation but reminds us long standing members of the amazing opportunities that exist. Current college officers are also invited to our annual Reunion in September, and have been clearly fascinated by life in the 'old days'. The first of what I know will

be a traditional old boys' hockey match, for which the Society contributed to a cup, was a resounding success. It has already been followed by a rugby reunion match, and there are likely to be more.

Finally, for my own part, I have decided that after four years as President of the Society it is time for someone else to take over the reigns, so this will be my last Report. It has been a really enjoyable time for me, and I would like to thank my colleagues on the Committee for their support and continued enthusiasm for, and commitment to, St Mary's. To Vicky Lorimer and Georg Nuechtern, who only graduated recently, and who have been incredibly efficient as Treasurer and Secretary respectively, to Margaret Collins and Jan Harwood for organising the successful Reunions, to Anne Elliott for pulling together a number of fascinating exhibitions, to Jennifer Cawthorne for her support as Vice President and for her work with Andy Hopkins in setting up Mary's Angels, to Dorothy Wilson who has regularly represented the Society at College Development Committee meetings, to Elizabeth Boyd for her popular after-dinner speeches, and last but definitely not least, to Steven Spencer and Laura Deacon for producing the new-style newsletter.

DR LIZ MANNING, SMCS PRESIDENT

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As I sit down to write my final letter to you as Principal of St Mary's College, I am filled with a range of emotions. I am of course sad to be leaving St Mary's and Durham University but at the same time excited by new challenges and opportunities that await me in my new role as Dean of Science at the University of East Anglia. It is hard to believe that I have already been at St Mary's for three and a half years; the time has quite literally flown by. It is also hard to believe that I have only been here for three and a half years; so much seems to have happened.

In reflecting on my time at St Mary's I am filled with pride, it has been an honour and a privilege to be Principal and to have had the opportunity to contribute to shaping the future history of the college. When I arrived at the beginning of January 2008, I recognised that in order to take the college forward I needed to understand and recognise the history of St Mary's so as to maintain and build on important traditions and values. I also recognised that with the arrival of a new Principal there was an opportunity to shape the future and make some changes.

We have, with the support of current and former students, made a few changes, and we are now one of the most popular colleges in Durham. Prior to 2009, the number of first choice applicants to St Mary's was below the number of spaces we had to offer, but now we are one of the most competitive selector colleges in Durham with over 1000 applications for the 160 or so places on offer for first years. Although much of this success could be attributed to having gone mixed, St Mary's now enjoys a truly enviable reputation as the college of choice ahead of colleges that have been mixed for decades. We also now enjoy the reputation for holding some of the best formal dinners with the best food. We established an art fund within the College Trust and were the first college to establish a sculpture garden and have an impressive and growing collection of fine art on the walls. We now have our own label red wine, white wine and champagne with art labels featuring paintings commissioned from our artists in residence. A further specially-com

missioned painting awaits selection of a suitable port to carry the St Mary's label.

This year, we achieved a truly outstanding achievement as the number one college for sport in the university league table of points per player. With an average of 3.27 points per player, St Mary's claimed the top spot well ahead of our nearest rival (Van Mildert) with 2.92 points per player. Our darts team also won the university league, but darts is not counted in the university sports league tables so their points are not included. I am certain that the recently-established sport fund within the College Trust, generously supported by alumni donations (which enabled all competitive players to receive 75% towards the cost of their team kit) made a great difference as the teams were all kitted out in matching Mary's purple strips. The shared sense of college pride as well as sporting prowess took us to the top.

St Mary's has always been a special place to those who are part of it, and the current mood and atmosphere at St Mary's is optimistic and vibrant with great ambition. St Mary's is recognised both across the university, and externally, as an exciting place to be where there have been many changes and new developments. However, when I step back and reflect on the past three and a half years, I wonder what really has changed. This is perhaps best summed up by Dr Gillian Boughton, who as Vice Principal and Senior Tutor has supported me so wonderfully throughout my time as Principal, in a speech she made at the recent college garden party. Gillian made the extremely perceptive observation that amongst all the perceptions of change, excitement and new initiatives, nothing fundamental has actually changed. St Mary's still is, despite these perceptions of change, just the same, enjoying the same values and ethos as it always has. It is, I think, this mix of new initiatives and ambitions, in parallel to sensitivities to the culture, history and tradition of St Mary's that in combination account for our tremendous popularity.

At a recent open day for prospective students I was asked by a parent to sum up the ethos of St Mary's. It was simple. 'Equality of opportunity with a strong sense of social responsibility, coupled to a collective pride and ambition, alongside unambiguous aspirations to academic and extra curricular success'. The founding principle of equality of opportunity is as alive today at St Mary's as it was when the college was founded in 1899. The secret of our current success and popularity is however not just down to hanging a few pictures, acquiring some sculptures, making high quality dining the norm, creating a range of own art label wine and establishing a fund to equip our sports teams. It comes for the enthusiasm and ambition of our students and the unwavering support of our alumni who together with college staff and SCR members comprise the extended college community.

As I prepare to move on, I know that St Mary's College is in good shape and I am pleased to be able to announce the appointment of my successor, Professor Simon Hackett. Simon is Professor of Applied Social Science in Durham and will join St Mary's in September. I am already in regular discussions with him as part of what we plan to be a seamless handover process. Although I am sad to be leaving, I know that St Mary's will be in safe and good hands and I hope that he can rely on the same level of support from you as I have enjoyed.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my brief window of time at St Mary's and it has been a pleasure to get to know some of you during my time as Principal. Thank you for your support. I will truly miss St Mary's, but I will always feel part it and I will take away many many fond memories.

With all best wishes,

PHIL GILMARTIN
PRINCIPAL JANUARY 2008 – AUGUST 2011

A MESSAGE FROM THE JCR PRESIDENT

It's been an incredible year to have been the President of Mary's. The year has been filled with wonderful social events, brilliant sports results, evenings showcasing Mary's artistic talents, and so much more.

Michaelmas term saw a larger intake in the number of Fresher's than usual. We took an extra 40 students and they have lived at Houghall College. The slightly larger number has really benefited the college. Sports teams, societies and committees have all had greater participation, and we have really excelled this year. One of the highlights of the term was the Michaelmas Dinner, where our speaker was Simon Franglen, who did the music for Avatar, and won a Grammy for Titanic's 'My Heart Will Go On.' He gave a wonderful speech and left us all feeling rather star struck. Another highlight was the pantomime, which was 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarves.' In a twist, Snow White was kidnapped and dropped off in Stockton, as the wicked Queen figured she would never be able to make it back to Durham. During the Christmas holidays, we went en masse to throw ourselves down some mountains in Val D'Isere.

This year has seen the final solution to the problems created by the change in charity law in 2006. During the year, a team of JCR Presidents and Principals, including both myself and Phil have worked incredibly hard with the University to come up with a new framework. This framework means that the JCR will merge with the University, but still continue to operate exactly as we always have. The DSO (Durham Student Organisation) Framework was put to the JCR, along with the Charity option, and we decided that going as a DSO would be the best option for Mary's, as we have such a strong bond between College and the JCR. It is so warming to know that the big problem that had frustrated my predecessors could finally be put to bed in a way that satisfied everyone.

The arts have really flourished this year. Epiphany term saw an incredibly successful Art's Week, during which we had the 'Masquerade Ball' which was a wonderful black tie event. We also staged the summer musical which this year was Cabaret.

Our sports teams have done equally well, with our women's football team getting to the final of their division and being promoted once again. At the beginning of the year, college donated a considerable amount of money to ensure that every team had kit, and this has been reflected in the results, and so was certainly money well spent. Hopefully with the help of the JCR, this is something we can continue over the coming years with the teams continuing to rise through the ranks.

It has been an absolute privilege to have been President this year, and I have enjoyed every moment immensely. The Mary's 'Spirit' is alive and well, and every time I go into the dining hall, I am touched by how much of a family we really are. This is also the final year for our current Principal, Phil Gilmartin. It has been such an honour to work with him this year, and I wish both him and Jenny all the best in their next adventure together. Mary's will welcome a new principal in the Autumn, and I wish every luck to my successor and the new principal and I know they will continue to help Mary's grow and develop as the best college in Durham.

EMILY WARBURTON-BROWN
JCR PRESIDENT 2010-2011

A MESSAGE FROM THE MCR PRESIDENT

It has been a challenging year for the MCR, as we continue to grow in number and develop a distinct identity within the college. We now stand at around 80 postgraduate members, half of whom live in, and continue to extend our membership to the fourth year undergraduates and mature students. This year we have been aided by the provision of a brand new MCR common room, complete with plasma TV and DVD player. Situated across from the college gym, the new MCR also boasts a fully-equipped kitchen. The room has proved popular for a range of social events. Thanks must go to the college and last year's President, Rob Powell for his work in overseeing this project.

Despite a healthy start with a busy Fresher's Week, the MCR have faced difficulties in engaging new students. All exec members were elected at the AGM in mid-October, meaning that plans for the year could only begin several weeks after the new students arrived. This delay meant we struggled to get new postgraduates enthused, with low attendance at some events and the resignation of the new President in Epiphany Term. Lessons were learned and plans are now afoot to form a stronger MCR for the future. The introduction of online voting has seen the number of voters more than double. We have also pulled forward our presidential elections so that they are elected before the end of the academic year allowing us to plan events in good time. We are also working closely with the JCR to ensure postgrads are welcomed at all major events as well as planning formals, academic speaking evenings and visits with other colleges. One termly fixture is set to be the MCR-SCR dinner – a black tie event – where we enjoy a wonderful three course meal.

As the college looks towards growing its postgraduate community, the MCR will continue to develop and improve. Professor Phil Gilmartin has commissioned an MCR painting by former artist in residence Roar Kjernstad. The painting will be unveiled later in the year and the current plan is to hang it in the new common room.

ANDY HOPKINS
MCR PRESIDENT 2011



AROUND COLLEGE

REFLECTIONS ON THE CAROL SERVICE

On Monday, 13 December, members of St Mary's College gathered first to celebrate together the end of Michaelmas term at the Christmas formal dinner. The seasonal good cheer continued with minced pies and mulled wine, and then walking by candlelight to the Cathedral. This year Jack Frost added some magic by sending early snows to create the perfect atmosphere.

Again this year, members of St Mary's College filled the cathedral nave and revelled in the incomparable beauty of the place. The first highlight was singing together some of our favourite carols. A balance of readings from the Bible, poems, and excerpts even from fiction were used to tell the traditional story of the birth of Jesus. But the moment which gave us all goose-flesh was when the lights were lowered and the choir sang the ethereal 'Lux Arumque' by Eric Whitacre. By the end of the service we were all ready for Christmas, and grateful to have been together for this celebration.

If you'd like to join us for the next one, it will be Monday, 12 December 2011 at 7.30pm in Durham Cathedral.

REVD DR JENNY MOBERLY - ST MARY'S COLLEGE CHAPLAIN

When asked to write a piece on the event from a student perspective, my first thought was, 'what can I say about it, apart from the fact that it happened?'

After further pondering, I began to ask why the event happened at all. We are led to believe, from sources such as the media, that society is becoming increasingly secular. Church attendance is falling, churches are closing and religion is often presented as something which should be restricted to the purely 'private sphere'. This appears, on face value, to be completely at odds with the fact that the college carol service is so well attended. There are several reasons for this, ranging from purely anthropological/sociological interests, to philosophical and theological beliefs. Whatever the reason, the carol service seems to be as popular as any other college event. This ensures, intentionally or otherwise,

one aspect of the fabric of college tradition. The carol service stands together with the college name and motto, the chapel, choral scholars and chaplain, in witnessing to the Christian heritage of the college and is likely to do so for the foreseeable future.

The future is obviously uncertain, however, and one hopes that events such as the carol service, along with the Christian tradition of the college, can co-exist harmoniously with the ever-changing dynamic of the college community.

CHRIS HACK - THEOLOGY FINALIST

**THE DEDICATION OF THE NEW CHOIR STALLS BY THE VERY
REVEREND MICHAEL SADGROVE, DEAN OF DURHAM CATHEDRAL,
TUESDAY 8 JUNE, 2010**

During Epiphany Term 2010, the Mouseman Thompson firm installed the beautifully-crafted choir stalls in St Mary's College Chapel. The stalls feature the trademark mice, and hand-working of the wood using the adze, which leave the oak shimmering and pleasing to touch as well as behold. They are not only seating for the choir, but include desks to hold their music, as well as lighting to enable the choir to see their music. Their presence in the chapel has enhanced not only the beauty of the chapel, but the ability of the choir to sing well.



So it was with great joy that the Principal, Professor Philip Gilmartin, and the Chaplain, Revd Dr Jenny Moberly, welcomed the Dean of Durham Cathedral, the Very Revd Michael Sadgrove to St Mary's College, who dedicated these stalls and spoke warmly in support of the college and its chaplaincy.



ST MARY'S CHRISTIAN UNION

St. Mary's Christian Union has definitely been alive and kicking this year! Our aim is to encourage each other in our faith journeys by meeting weekly to read the Bible, pray and spend time together. We try to be a welcoming community within the college by helping out with Fresher's Week and what we call a 'late night café' which involves serving refreshments to clubbers coming back from Klute because we believe that 'we love because he first loved us' (1 John 4v19). Other things we have been up to have included houseparties such as the one at Edmundbyers Youth Hostel near Durham during snowy November where we joined Hatfield and Chad's. We had a guest from St. Helen's Bishopsgate Church in London who taught from the Bible and we made use of almost being snowed in by going sledging lots and having log fires.

As part of DICCU (Durham Inter Collegiate Christian Union), we are involved in Uni-wide events such as the main events week that happens in February. This year the title of the week was called 'Rescued?' and there were many talks that were aimed at both Christians and non-believers. These talks explored how Christianity fits into the big questions people might have today such as 'how can someone be scientific and a believer?' and 'isn't Christianity narrow-minded?' In college we have also held our own events that have been more discussion-based. During the past year, some examples of events include a film and discussion evening and 'text a treat'. Typically discussion would include exploring who Jesus is and why He is essential to what it means to be a Christian.

We are very happy for the opportunities we have had being part of St Mary's and look forward to another great year. We hope to continue encouraging each other, be outward looking to the rest of the college and to be welcoming to freshers as they arrive in October. We are also hoping that the former Christian Union members who have graduated will continue to support us in prayer for the things we do in college.

EMILY MAUDSLEY, CU REP 2009-2010



ST MARY'S ARTS SOCIETY

The past year has been exciting for the Arts Society with a whole host of successful events including concerts, productions and social events such as our annual Masquerade Ball. Going from strength to strength this year we have welcomed two new societies, Fine Arts and Flute Group, both of which have been very successful, playing an active role in our annual Arts Weekend in November as well as Arts Week during the Epiphany Term.

As ever, Arts Week was the highlight of our year with events held throughout the week including a live lounge acoustic night featuring the many talented artists we have in college and our concert at the Gala, featuring college music societies such as the Chapel Choir, Mary's Mixed Voices and Flute Group as well as gifted soloists. The new cabaret concert which was introduced this year showcasing non-classical acts was a triumph with the dance society performing as well as jazz singers and solo dancers and its success will no doubt secure it a place during the week next year. The week was crowned by the Arts Society Masquerade Ball organized by Malik Al-Mahrouky and Jonny Barnes. Its 1920s theme as well as a performance by the dance society and fantastic after dinner entertainment made the evening a great success for the entire college.

The college Dance Society continues to thrive having had a busy year participating in events not only in college but out, with a repeat appearance at the Bombay Ball as well as dancing at the Amnesty International Talent Show.

The Chapel Choir under the direction of Matthew Morgan have continued their work within the college chaplaincy as well as singing

evensong in the Cathedral and recording their own CD at local church St Brandon's in Brancepeth. After a week of recording during the first



week of the Easter Holidays the CD is currently in production and proceeds from sales will go towards the future of the choir.

Last summer saw the immensely successful production of Grease the Musical and a highly enthusiastic cast really bought the production to life and this summer the Drama Society is set to wow again with their production of Kander and Ebb's musical

Cabaret under the direction of fresher Lucy Smith. The annual college musical brings not only members of the cast and crew together but provides a fun-filled evening for the college members in the audience during the last week of the academic year.



Speaking of fun, the Drama Society's

other annual production, the college pantomime this year remained a fantastic spectacle, selling out completely. Written by members of the society, this year's show was based on Snow White and the Seven Dwarves littered with Durham and Mary's based puns which meant that great fun was had by all involved.

SARAH COOMBS, ARTS SOCIETY PRESIDENT, 2010-2011

THE JEAN COWLING PRIZE IN THEOLOGY

Katharine Lane was awarded the Jean Cowling Prize for 2009/10 for the performance in her Theology examinations.

The prize, to the value of £140, is awarded annually to a first-year student of St Mary's College who, in the opinion of the Board of Examiners in Theology, performs particularly well in the Preliminary Honours Examinations.

MARY'S SPOTLIGHT

A TOUR OF THE COLLEGE SCULPTURE TRAIL

One of the most exciting opportunities during my time at St Mary's has been to contribute to the expansion of art work in college. As a scientist, I have enjoyed exploring a new world of art and expanding my own horizons while seeking to enhance cultural opportunities for all members of the College community. Our artist-in-residence scheme is well established and we have hosted Roar Kjernstad, Terrence Bennett, and our most recent artist in residence Chris Gollon, all of whom have contributed works to St Mary's and undertaken commissions for us. But our expanding art collection is not limited to paintings; it includes photographs, furniture, and now statuary and sculptures. I include furniture so as to embrace our growing collection of wonderful Mouseman furniture which includes the high table and original, as well as recently purchased chapel furniture and choir stalls. The focus of this article is however to provide a tour of our sculpture which has taken art into the gardens and grounds.

To begin our sculpture trail we must start in the Chapel where the wonderful sculpture, *Mary*, carved in wood by the Durham-based artist Fenwick Lawson is located. This was the first sculpture



in college and pre-dates my arrival, but was inspirational in my ideas for a sculpture garden. The second piece in our collection was an anonymous gift, a bronze, *The Flying Angel* by Kiril Sokolov which is displayed in the SCR. The planned expansion of our collection into the garden also resulted in the acquisition of some large marble statues which are located in the college main corridor.

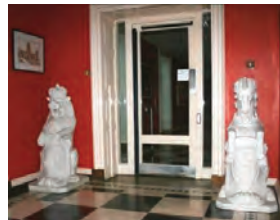
The Seated Lady, sometimes called 'The Lady with the iPad', is a delicate marble sculpture of a



seated young woman reading from a tablet. She reflects the important role played by St Mary's as a pioneer in women's education. A plinth has just arrived to elevate her to a more prominent position in the main corridor.

The Lion and the Unicorn, again carved marble, each weighing around a quarter of a ton, were purchased just before the 2010 Summer Ball where they were appropriate additions to complement the theme of

Alice in Wonderland. Their presence on the black and white chequered floor adds an extra dimension to their position in the main corridor.



Perhaps the most spectacular statues are the two wild boar which guard either side of the portico entrance. Although a recent addition, their weathered and well rooted appearance has surprised a few people. A senior member of the University called into college the day after they arrived to express his astonishment that although he had walked through the grounds for the past 25 years on his way to the Science Site he could not understand why he had not noticed them before! These are replica stone statues of *Il Porcellino*, a bronze statue in Florence modelled on an original Hellenistic marble statue. *The Wild Boars* feature in a painting by Terence Bennett which forms the red wine label for St Mary's College 'Wild Boar' Merlot.

The cloisters is now home to a wonderful sandstone statue of Mary, a statue dating back to 1850, saved and salvaged from an old church. This is the only truly old statue in our collection and was obtained, along with the majority of others from Andy Thornton's; their



web site includes a range of photographs taken of our statues in their new home. Mary now overlooks the cloisters and the north east wing which houses the chapel. The cloisters as viewed by Mary is the subject of a further painting by Terence Bennett which features on the white wine label for St Mary's College 'Cloisters' sauvignon blanc.

The wooded area between the cloisters and the SCR lawn is home to *The Four Seasons*, marble statues representing Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. This wooded area provides an ideal place to experience the changing seasons, with snow drops on the ground in spring, green leaves on the trees in summer, autumn colours in the fall, and snow and stark branches in winter.



The SCR lawn is now graced by *Apollo and Diana*, two life-sized cast lead statues. They make an impressive pair both from ground level and when viewed from the library and bedrooms overlooking the SCR lawn. During the recent Mary's day celebrations they were adorned with numerous Mary's-purple helium balloons.



Overlooking the SCR lawn on the mound before the woods is *The Lion*, affectionately known as Clarence, a wonderful stone figure on a plinth. Viewed from all angles he makes an impressive sight and adds further grandeur to the grounds. We bought Clarence at the same time as the other statues, but have only recently been able to install him in position, just in time for this year's summer ball which had a safari theme!



current collection, but there is still scope to enrich other areas of the grounds, including modern sculptures around the Williamson (New)



Building to complement the traditional statues surrounding the (Original) Fergusson Building. The expansion of art has been made by the College Trust Art Fund which has received generous gifts and donations from alumni, as well as income from the garden party fund-raising auction.

One final twist in the Sculpture Trail was the wonderful leaving present that Jenny and I were presented with in the rain, at the college garden party; our very own miniature wild boar statue who we have named Merlot. A boar named after the wine, which carries a label, painted as a water-colour, that hangs in College, by an artist in residence, and depicts the two magnificent wild boars, that were at the start of our outdoor sculpture trail. I do hope that you will come back and visit college to share and enjoy the wonderful and various works of art that now enrich St Mary's.



PHIL GILMARTIN, JUNE 2011

ARCHIVE FOCUS: THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO ST MARY'S, 1960

On 27th May, 1960, seven years after her coronation, (2nd June, 1953), Queen Elizabeth II, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, came back to see the building of which she had laid the foundation stone thirteen years before, (23rd October, 1947). It was a short visit, between lunch in the Castle and Newton Aycliffe later in the afternoon.

At 2.40pm, the royal couple drove from the Cathedral, along South Bailey, Prebends Bridge and Potter's Bank to St. Mary's College. The Principal, Marjorie Williamson, in her account of the visit in the 1961 Newsletter to former students, writes, "It was a day of sunshine, all green and gold, and her Majesty...looked relaxed and happy," and describes how the Royal Standard flew from the flagstaff on the roof as Her Majesty arrived at the portico steps to be received by Sir James Duff, Warden of the Durham Colleges, and the Principal.



THE QUEEN WITH PRINCIPAL MARJORIE WILLIAMSON

The Queen was presented with a bouquet by Dawn Thompson, a Geography undergraduate from the Bahamas, and welcomed by the students. In the dining-hall, the foundation stone, set in the north wall, was shown to the royal couple then the domestic staff watched the presentations of Mrs. Gordon (member of governing body), Miss Ford (Senior Tutor), Miss Calvert, Miss Cramp, Miss Jenkinson, Mrs. Offler, Mrs. Tallentire (all tutors), Miss Chilton, (Secretary and tutor) and Miss Klumper (Bursar) and in the West JCR, officers of the JCR, including the Senior



THE QUEEN PREPARES TO LEAVE ST MARY'S

Woman, Margaret Tindle, and Secretary, Judith Scott, were presented. The royal party made a short tour of the building, signed the visitors' book in the library, talked to students and visited some of the East Wing first floor rooms then crossed the lawn from the south end of the wing and departed from the forecourt amid cheers of appreciation from members of the college.

In the 1961 Newsletter, Angela Packham, the next Senior Woman, summed up the students' view of the visit: "All our expectations were fulfilled by what was a very happy, though brief, visit. We were all delighted by Her Majesty's gracious charm and the Duke's sense of humour. The visit was as informal as such an occasion can be, which made it particularly enjoyable."

ANNE ELLIOTT
ST MARY'S COLLEGE ARCHIVIST



THE SMCS LUNCH

A singularly cold Saturday in March was made much brighter by a College Society Lunch. The venue was the Kenworthy Room, where a good number of alumni and current students sat down to a typically delicious meal. In the gathering were two of the recipients of the SMCS Travel Bursaries for 2010, Ciara Courtney and Katharine Thane, and after we'd eaten they each gave a PowerPoint presentation on how they had used their bursary.



Ciara, a third year English and Philosophy student, has been studying German outside her degree studies and put her bursary towards spending the month of July in Vienna at the end of her second year. She stayed with a host family in the centre of Vienna and particularly enjoyed embracing their culture and family values and speaking German at the dinner table. She also taught English at Active Kids, a private holiday camp. With only five children in her group, she was able to get to know the children really well. The whole experience afforded her a great opportunity to develop her German and to explore the sights of the Vienna area, and she was able to share with us photos she had taken of the areas she visited. But the key benefits of her time in Vienna from

Ciara's point of view were the teaching experience, being able to improve her German language skills, living in a new environment away from home and embracing a new culture. While she found it all initially daunting, it was ultimately exciting and memorable. Indeed, she said Vienna helped make 2010 her most memorable summer so far.

Katharine used her bursary at the end of her first year at St Mary's to go to Kenya, where she worked with a Christian charity in a village. Her main activity was helping the charity build simple houses for/with the villagers. She showed us many of her photos, where the abiding memory is of the pride and sheer happiness on the faces in her photos, the faces of people moving into a proper house for the first time, after living in shanty conditions. That pride and happiness was a joy to behold. Katharine had already visited the area and worked with the charity just after she left school, after a teacher had advertised the opportunity, and the bursary allowed her to fulfil her dream of returning to help a second time. Both Katharine and the villagers therefore benefited from the bursary.



It was very clear that both students had put their bursaries to good use, to the benefit of others as well as themselves, and we thank them for their fascinating presentations. It is good to know the bursaries' effects can be felt in such far distant places.

SHELAGH JONES

SPOTLIGHT: COLLEGE FELLOWS, **PROF. IAN WRIGHT AND PROF MONICA GRADY**

Monica and myself were privileged to have been able to stay at Mary's for the Epiphany Term in 2010, during our time as Fellows of the University's Institute of Advanced Study (IAS). The theme for the 2009-2010 session was water and attracted scholars from a range of academic backgrounds). As a pair of professional scientists interested in the origin and distribution of water in the cosmos, our perspective was very much shaped by the substance we all know as, er, water. The ethos of IAS is that it brings together people who are interested in a particular subject area in its most general form – so, for instance, there are aspects to water that include its philosophical meaning, the way it used as metaphor, its abstract nature, its role in religion and culture, and so on. Ironically, for the time spent in Durham, a cold winter ensured that water (as Ice Ih) was an omnipresent feature of the ground cover; it was also found in a similar form (along with gin and tonic) in the SCR prior to formal hall. Which brings me round to our host (Professor Philip Gilmartin) who, along with his wife, Jenny (and dare I say it, some rather huge dogs), helped to make our stay in Durham so enjoyable and memorable.

OK, so why were we there? The traditional career path of an academic involves periods of study away from their home institution to work alongside colleagues (whom they will generally have known for years) in areas of mutual interest. Such sabbaticals are used to work on collaborative research projects, to write joint papers, develop new ideas, and so on. In the sciences the normal objective would be to take up residence at an institution with relevant expertise to work intensively with people who share practically the same interests and to engage in a very narrowly focussed program of study. A stint at the IAS is practically the antithesis of this; the whole point is that, having selected a theme, people from a diverse set of backgrounds (who most probably don't know each other) are literally thrown together for a period of interaction. The facilities and ambience of Durham provide the most perfect backdrop for grind involves management, committee meetings, targets, metrics, risk assessments, etc. It simply must be a fact that the proportion of an

academic's time spent on the things they like best (and are best at), i.e. teaching, research and other forms of scholarship, is now lower than it was in the past. The time at Mary's afforded the chance to escape from this modern "reality", to empty our minds, and to reflect both on our interest in water and the reasons for why we are interested in water. But more than that, it was an opportunity for many varied and sometimes oblique scholarly discussions; we were in a near permanent state of being outside the box (and occasionally out of our heads if we had spent too much time in the college bar).

It was interesting to be away from our own institution (the Open University) at a time when the outcome of the Browne Review was eagerly awaited. I recall vividly that colleagues at Durham generally seemed to have very few misgivings about the increases in tuition fees that were widely predicted (and which have subsequently come to pass). However, it is clear that all universities will be affected by the revolution that we are now living through. At the Open University we are excited to have the opportunity to become far more mainstream in our undergraduate provision. Our unique selling proposition will be something along the lines of: "education without the distractions of college life" (it may be hard to believe in the cloistered halls of Mary's, but many do not aspire to it). For universities like Durham the challenge will be to maintain a balance in their approach to admissions such that the experience of college life is something that can still be enjoyed by people regardless of their backgrounds and/or financial situations.

It is difficult to quantify the successes of our sojourn at Mary's (sometimes referred to as a "holiday" by our envious colleagues). We wrote and submitted a grant proposal (which was ultimately funded to the tune of £3.4M), we wrote essays, gave talks, Monica worked on a book, I devised a new pedagogic model for teaching, we had high-level meetings/communications with the European Space Agency, we developed some new thoughts for research, and so on. We also had a really great time and would dearly love to do it again!



MEMBERS' NEWS

BIRTHDAY HONOURS FOR MARY'S ALUMNI

MBE

Mrs Mary R Hawgood, (nee Clibbon) 1953-57

Mary was born in Suffolk and came to Durham as an undergraduate in 1953. After teaching in the south, she returned to Durham in 1959 with her husband, but her teaching career was cut short by serious spine problems. Following three major operations she joined Radio Durham and also worked her way up to become Principal Community Development Officer for County Durham. She was elected a Liberal Democrat Councillor in 1992 and was Mayor of Durham in 2004-5. She has continued to work tirelessly for local charities, campaigning for issues affecting the people of Durham, including the establishment of St Cuthbert's Hospice in 1986.

When Mary returned to Durham she became involved again with St Mary's College, in both the SCR and the Society, serving for many years on the Society Committee. Although she retired from this in 2006 she is still supports the College wholeheartedly, as well as continuing her local charity work. Unfortunately Mary's serious health problems continue, but we rarely hear her complain and she is well-known and loved in College.

DBE

Professor Rosemary Cramp

Rosemary was born in Leicestershire and graduated from Oxford University. She was rapidly acknowledged as being one of the country's foremost experts on Anglo-Saxon History. She came to Durham University as a lecturer in 1955 and became its first female Professor in 1966. Her work in Archaeology was renowned world-wide and she was awarded a CBE in 1987. Although she officially retired in 1990 she is still extremely active in the field. She is a Professor Emeritus and an Honorary Doctor of Science of the University, as well as holding many other awards. Rosemary's involvement with St Mary's started when she first



came to Durham and she was a resident member of staff for many years. She is always quick to help and encourage students and continues to support the college as much as her international commitments will allow.

She was given the accolade of becoming one of our Honorary Fellows a few years ago, and remains a popular member of the college. Rosemary is well-known and loved in college as a public speaker and she has added much thought and entertainment to many of our occasions, including being the main speaker at our special reunion, “A Weekend of Celebration” in 2005.

BIRTHDAYS

Audrey Lonsdale (nee Barker) 1948 - 1951 Audrey celebrated her 80th Birthday in 2010. She is pictured here with husband Selwyn Lonsdale who was at the College of the Venerable Bede (before it became Hild Bede).



DEATHS

Elizabeth Bearshall (nee Cook 1933) died on 3 August, 2010.

Mary Wilson Brodie died on February 9th 2011, following a seven year battle with Alzheimers.

Vicky Pemberton died of cancer on the 13th of October 2007, after battling bravely for three years. She was at St Mary's, Durham from Sept 1976 - Jun 1979.

OTHER NEWS

Rosalind Gardyne (nee Lonsdale) 1981 - 1984

Daughter of Audrey Lonsdale, Rosalind left her management career in 2002 to pursue acting. Since then she has appeared in FIVE's docudrama *Jack The Ripper* as witness Mrs Elizabeth Long in 2011. Please see my website for film clips www.RosalindLonsdale.com



ST MARY'S COLLEGE GARDEN PARTY 2011

On Saturday 18th June, students, staff, alumni and members of the SCR gathered together for the annual St Mary's garden party. Despite the rainy conditions a healthy turnout enjoyed an array of entertainment throughout the afternoon. These included 'Ophelia Bitz' (of Radio 4 fame), a cultural display from the students of Teikyo University, a sneak preview of the JCR musical 'Cabaret', a display from the archives, cream scones, a range of stalls selling arts and crafts produced by staff members, a tombola, and of course, the annual charity auction. The JCR, College staff and the SMCS honoured Professor Gilmartin with gifts to acknowledge his departure from Mary's and thank him for his considerable efforts to improve our college.

THE FIFTY-SIX FUND

The Fifty-Six Book Fund, administered by the Society, has once again provided awards for St Mary's students. Applications were requested between October and November 2010. The Committee received twenty-two applications spanning all years and a wide variety of subjects. These were judged primarily against financial hardship and a need to actually own the books requested. Twelve students were successful and were awarded between twenty and fifty pounds.

Whilst there is continued demand for a college book fund as evidenced by the level of applications received, efforts to secure an endowment so the fund may continue into the future have not resulted in success. Therefore, St Mary's College and its Society have decided to continue the fund until it is depleted, whilst seeking to develop a new fund in order to maintain the fine tradition of providing Mary's students with much needed assistance in acquiring academic books.

This new fund will seek to reflect changes in the student body and wider higher education environment and thereby meet the needs of future Mary's students. If any member wishes to contribute to the Fifty-Six Fund please visit the Society website's fundraising page. The new fund is at an early stage of consideration, further details will be announced using the website, email and newsletter.

MARY'S ANGELS



Choosing a career is not always easy and not everyone goes to university knowing what they want to do when they graduate.

When you were first looking for a career, did you ever think it would be helpful to talk to someone who was actually doing what you wanted to do? Did you ever wish that you know someone who could tell you what it is really like? Mary's Angels is all about the career questions that you have always wanted to ask but do not know who to contact.

The Mary's Angels scheme was set up in 2011. Mary's alumni wanted to help current students and recent graduates and so entered their details with some useful information about their career. Angels can also be contacted by email for students to ask relevant career questions.

If you are reading this and are now working yourself, it would be great if you would also be prepared to add your details to our growing list. Even if you have now retired or are on a career break any advice you could give would be useful. We are always looking for new alumni to help: the more details we have about different professions the more helpful we can be to students.

Location is not important (all contact is through email) and we have a small but growing number of overseas Angels. The experience from similar schemes is that most Angels get one or two emails per term, but this depends on how much information you offer in your website entry, and will perhaps increase in the second term.

Information will be maintained on the websites by St Mary's College Society and full compliance with all relevant legislation will have to be ensured. It must be clearly understood by all involved that any advice or information given by the 'Marys Angels' is in confidence, and without prejudice. We can also confirm that access to the site will only be through a secure server and you will be given a secure login and password to ensure security.

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN ANGEL PLEASE CONTACT US ON
MARYS.ANGELS@DURHAM.AC.UK**

ST MARY'S COLLEGE REUNION REPORT

MEMORIES OF A DECADE
FRIDAY 24TH – SUNDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER, 2010

Twenty-six alumni (plus the present and a former Principal, Vice-Principal, a former Bursar and several guests) attended the weekend. The atmosphere was relaxed and friendly and everyone voted it a great success overall, with a good balance of planned activities and plenty of chances to relax and chat with old friends. What made the weekend particularly enjoyable was undoubtedly the food served at each meal. The Chef and kitchen staff excelled themselves and we were most appreciative.

The weekend got off to a flying start on Friday evening with a welcome reception hosted by the Principal. Most of those staying for the weekend arrived in good time for this so it was a very pleasant occasion to meet each other, before the first of our fantastic meals!

Following a well-established routine, the Society AGM was held on Saturday morning, led by the President, Liz Manning. Our theme for the weekend, Memories of a Decade, was expanded in the afternoon with reflections, archive displays and a chance to talk with Phil again and hear his views. After tea, we returned to a previous reunion pattern of having the Chapel Service on Saturday afternoon. This was very well attended and a much appreciated activity. The sermon, given by the Chaplain, was both thoughtful and amusing on the theme of “the Magna Carta as sung by Mary”, a child’s mistake proving well worth further consideration.

The Reunion Dinner is worth a report on its own. It was a wonderful occasion with excellent food and the room looked beautiful. We don’t normally go in for long speeches, but we asked the student helpers if they could say a few words about their experiences as current students at Mary’s. They had been so interested in hearing our tales from long ago over the weekend, and it demonstrated that despite the changes over the years, we’re all still the same enthusiastic Mary’s students at heart,

whatever our age.

On Sunday we organised something different for those who wanted to revisit parts of Durham which they knew many years ago or wanted to see because of new developments. Quite a few of us walked across to the Science Site firstly to visit the Physics Department and the Ogden Building, where the new telescope was being set up. The Head of Department, Professor Ward, showed us a 3-D film about space and research on the Big Bang. The new Calman Building and its wonderful views of Durham from the top floor was next and a quick visit to the Library finished off the tour. The staff on duty there were amazed that, for some of our number, the whole library was new, not just the “new” part. The discussions stimulated by the different aspects of the morning kept us going for quite a while afterwards, and certainly into the traditional Sunday Lunch, which always finishes off our Reunion weekends.

As usual, the shop (run very ably by Shelagh Jones) was open at various times during the weekend and provided a focus for meeting up and chatting. Having the bar open in the hall before and after meals also offered excellent chances for meeting together, and readily-available tea and coffee facilities ensured we could have plenty of chances to relax together. Ann Elliott again provided us with a splendid display of archive material. A few students came to help over the weekend and their help was invaluable.

Thanks must go to all who helped to make the weekend such a pleasant and successful occasion, and being able to organise it all in-house meant we got very good value for a reasonable price and excellent service and attention.

MARGARET COLLINS (NEE PURNELL, 65-68)

ST MARY'S COLLEGE REUNION 2011

We hope to welcome as many members as possible on the 23rd, 24th and 25th of September 2011. You will see lots of changes, not least the explosion of art in the shape of paintings and statues adorning the wall and grounds respectively, but you will also immediately feel at home in the still familiar surroundings. Here is the programme:

<u>FRIDAY 23RD</u> <u>SEPTEMBER</u>	18.30	Welcome Reception with the new Principal, Prof. Simon Hackett, in the Kenworthy Hall with student entertainment.
	19.00	Buffet Supper in Dining Hall
<u>SATURDAY 24TH</u> <u>SEPTEMBER</u>	10.00 10.30	Coffee Available in Atrium. AGM in Kenworthy Hall.
	1300	Buffet lunch
	1500	The Afghan Experience at St Mary's Come and meet our Afghan students in the West JCR with Afghan-themed tea.
	17.30 19.00	Chapel Service Champagne reception in Atrium.
	19.30	Reunion Dinner in Kenworthy Hall. Mrs Mary Hawgood MBE (1953-7) will give a short talk on being Mayor of Durham.
<u>SUNDAY 25TH</u> <u>SEPTEMBER</u>	10.00	A visit to the Chapel of the Holy Cross, Deanery & a visit to the Durham Heritage Centre or Communion in the Cathedral at 11.30am
	13.00	Traditional Sunday Roast (served)

If you wish to attend the easiest way to book is to visit our web-site: <https://sites.google.com/site/stmaryscollegesocietysite/reunions> to download a booking form. If you are not online please write to the below address to request a reunion booking form by return of post:

Mrs Karen Fisher, Bursar's Secretary/College Administrator, St Mary's College, Elvet Hill Road, Durham DH1 3LR

Rooms are available from £26.50 per night for a standard single with meals ranging from £9.00 for the buffet supper to £22.00 for the Saturday dinner. Full price details available when booking.

SMCS 2010 AGM REPORT

The Annual General Meeting of St Mary's College Society took place on a sunny, autumn morning on Saturday 25th September 2010. There were 17 members present. During the meeting we heard a report from the President, Liz Manning about how the Society is working in two directions at the moment:

- 1) to cement relationships and facilitate communications and;
- 2) to see what we can do to support the current students

We also heard detailed developments from the Principal about life in college at the moment. The Vice-President of the Society, Rev. Dorothy Wilson stepped down from her position and was thanked for her work and received a bouquet of flowers as a token of our thanks. She now continues to represent the Society on the Development Fund committee. We welcomed Jennifer Cawthorne (1994-1997) as the new Vice-President of the Society. No other elections took place during the meeting. The meeting finished with a discussion about how to make reunions more popular. Since the meeting, some of those ideas have materialised which has been positive to see.

ST MARY'S COLLEGE DEGREE RESULTS, 2011

Class I – 24; Class II Division 1 – 113; Class II Division 2 – 30;
Class III - 2

Congratulations to all St Mary's graduates!

NEXT SMCS AGM

The Annual General Meeting of St Mary's College Society will take place in St Mary's College on Saturday 24th September at 10.30am. Papers for the AGM will be available on arrival.

Liz Manning is standing down as President of the Society from September, and we are looking for someone to replace her. The role is to lead the Society Committee, to continue to develop links with current and former students and to build our relationships with generations of alumni. The annual newsletter is a major activity, as is the September Reunion. Ideally you will be someone who lives within reasonable travel distance from Durham, who will be able to attend the occasional college meeting, such as College Council, the Travel Bursaries Committee, and the Development Committee, as well as the chairing of three Committee meetings each year, but that is not essential.

If you would like to learn more about what is involved, Liz would be very happy for you to get in touch. Her email address is eman-ninge@yahoo.co.uk

In addition, there is a vacancy for one more ordinary committee member. This offers the opportunity to become involved in shaping the work of the society by attending three meetings annually at St Mary's and offering time/expertise and ideas. Travel expenses to meetings are paid by college. If you are interested in applying to join you should contact the Society Secretary using smc.society@durham.ac.uk.

Nominations for committee representatives, stating willingness to serve for one, two or three years, will be accepted from now up to the start of the AGM. If you are interested and want to find out more about what your role would entail, please feel free to email the Society Secretary, Vicky Lorimer (smc.society@durham.ac.uk).

If submitting your nomination it must include:

Name and address of nominee

Names of one proposer and seconder

All those named must give their name when in College and years of study.

SPOTLIGHT: SMCS COMMITTEE MEMBER
CLARE ROLLO (1991-94, NATURAL SCIENCES)

My enduring memories of my time at Mary's are the slogs down to the Anthropology Department or up to the Psychology department. I also look back fondly on Jaffa cake-fuelled revision, and the luxury of Saturday tea when we could have bread and potatoes - chip butties were the highlight of the week.

I graduated with little idea of what I'd like to do, I'd had so much fun at college that I hadn't really thought about what came next. I spent a few months finding out about the graduate options, and applying in the milk round for various jobs that looked interesting. I joined the National Audit Office in London in 1995 and was allocated to the National Lottery team, and the National Museums and Galleries. This led to unique experiences like auditing film script applications for lottery grants, and up close encounters with stuffed giraffes and dinosaur fossil casts behind the scenes at the Natural History Museum.

Nearly 16 years on I still work for the National Audit Office, although I'm now based in Newcastle as a Financial Audit Director for DEFRA. I've rotated across a selection of government departments, from Inland Revenue to Health. I've audited UN Missions in Bosnia, Service Children's Schools in Germany, nuclear decommissioning in Scotland, and NHS logistics in England. I've worked on our technical support team, introduced an audit software package, and relocated to develop our office in Newcastle from 8 people to 90. It's a constantly-evolving career which keeps me interested and engaged, as no two clients are the same, and its certainly not just about figures.

Outside of work I've just celebrated my 6th wedding anniversary, and we have a wonderful 2 ½ year old who keeps us on our toes.

Being a committee member has given me a tremendous insight into how college operates, and how important it still is to today's undergraduates. I've been a committee member for 3 years, it's a small commitment each year for around 4 meetings, and I can apply what I do at work to support the Society.

SPOTLIGHT: LIZ MANNING, SMCS PRESIDENT

WHAT WAS YOUR MAIN AIM WHEN TAKING OVER AS SMCS PRESIDENT?

I think I wanted to bring together all the generations of former Mary's students and make the Society relevant to us all. Also to raise awareness among current students about what we do. We are, after all, one college. I also wanted to review the way we communicate to our members.

DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE ACHIEVED THIS?

My goodness! Perhaps this is for others to judge! I think the fact that we have a wider range of generations on the committee now means that a wider range of interests are reflected. We have also been involved in a number of activities in college, administering the travel bursaries and 56 book funds. Asking current students to give presentations to us at society dinners has been really great. But I think it's wrong to ask what I have achieved: I couldn't have done anything without the support of my committee colleagues and Phil Gilmartin, and Gill Boughton.

WHAT WAS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT AS PRESIDENT?

I think it is representing the society at student dinners and seeing how much college has changed since I was there.

WHAT IS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE STUDENT MEMORY?

I hate to admit this: at Mary's (if that is what you are asking), the regular evening coffee drinking in each others' rooms and the candlewick dressing gowns. Oh, and the fearsome Miss Bailey if you were late for a meal.

WHAT WAS YOUR MAIN MOTIVATION WHEN STANDING FOR PRESIDENT?

I had my arm twisted by the former Principal...

WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE PLANS?

I have one more year to go before I retire from my job at The Open University. My role there is changing; that and the frequent travelling I will still have to do are the main reasons for my decision not to continue. I am looking forward to playing more music and want, if I can, to do some voluntary work with young people who are already disaffected. I hope still to continue on the SMCS Committee.

HOW WOULD YOU HOPE SMCS TO HAVE DEVELOPED IN TEN YEARS' TIME?

We are dependent on volunteers, many of whom have little time. Some tasks, like the preparation of this newsletter, require a lot of time and effort, and we keep our fingers crossed that our talented and willing colleagues will keep going. If there were some assurance of sustainability, perhaps provided by College (if it could afford it), I think we could do even more. And in the next few years, there will be ever-increasing opportunities for electronic communications.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE MARY'S EXPERIENCE OF TODAY'S STUDENT?

Very different from mine! As I say in my President's Report, today's students consider Mary's to be 'cool'...

SPOTLIGHT: REBECCA TOPPING, PRINCIPAL'S SECRETARY

Hello everyone, some of you will already know me, I am Rebecca Topping, Principal's Secretary. I started in St Mary's in January 2005 as an advanced apprentice; in May 2006 I qualified and became a General Secretary in the College Office. Then in September 2009, a restructure took place and I became Principal's Secretary. In my current role I am primarily responsible for providing secretarial support to the Principal.



I am currently studying at New College, Durham towards my HND in Business Management, so a lot of my spare time is taken up with coursework; however I do like to spend time with my family and friends.

I feel privileged to say I work in St Mary's College as it is such a wonderful place to be. I have enjoyed every single minute of working in the college and hope there are many more to come.

ALUMNI NEWS

MARY'S RUGBY- FIRST ANNUAL OLD BOYS' WEEKEND

With three years of male Mary's graduates, the time was ripe for an Old Boys' weekend. The organization of the event was made much easier as the Old Boys had founded their own society, the economically-titled St. Mary's College Rugby Football Club Old Boys Rugby Football Club Society.

As I arrived at Maiden Castle, I was blinded by a group of grown men wearing a tight-fitting kit that seemed to have been inspired by a pink highlighter. Within seconds, the banter had already begun, these guys had come back up to Durham to re-unite with old friends, but they'd also come for a win. This team had pedigree, three years after founding the club from nothing, they had an undefeated season, winning promotion from Division 1 as a result.

The tone was set from the kick-off which Alex Kerr caught for Mary's, however tough-tackling Tom Lewis arrived with a huge hit which Kerr did well to take. Had that tackle occurred off the rugby field, one may have heard cries of GBH! For the first ten minutes, the Old Boys were unrelenting, throwing themselves into every tackle. Mike Gaunt was hitting ruck after ruck like a man possessed.

The Mary's incumbents weathered the storm and hit back against the run of play with a well-worked try with John Spicer touching down in the corner. The Old Boys then put a string of phases together with Sean Parry and Tim Potts both making yardage. Nevertheless, the current Mary's squad were next to score, with props Alex Taylor, assuming the role of scrum-half, and myself at fly-half exploiting the blindside to release quicker men down the wing for a second try.

After this point, the game opened up with both teams bringing out the flair and gaining a try apiece. Ultimately the superior organization of the current Mary's squad was the difference between the two sides.



Post-match, the current Mary's side were presented with a cup from the Old Boys for winning the match and both teams went out for a meal. A highlight of the ensuing social was the Kangaroo Court set up in Chad's atrium, including a jury of Old Boys. The purpose of court is to rule on various embarrassing stories committed by members of both squads. With justice meted out, the Old Boys then awarded Nick Bourne man of the match for our team and we award Sean Parry Old Boy of the match. It was an excellent event for the club and I am already looking forward to returning for it next year.

JONNY SMITH

SMCHC FOR LIFE

On the 29th January 2011, after three months of preparation and excitement, sixty past and present St Mary's hockey players took part in the first ever old boys and girls weekend complete with numerous trips to the New Inn, a fantastic and fun filled three course dinner, and of course the minor detail of the hockey games themselves!

The day looked set for ruin with Maiden Castle first changing, and then cancelling our pitch time, but after some much-appreciated negotiating from the boys we were not only allowed to play on the water-based pitch, but also given free reign over it for the whole afternoon. The girls were up first. With not a female goalie in sight the two male goalies stepped up, much to the amusement of the boy's teams. A stalemate at

half time saw tensions running high. Not to worry though, the current girls proceeded to score two goals and after some very favourable umpiring and the sending off of the current girls best player and their goalie, the old girls, finally, managed one goal in 'extra time'. Then, the boy's game, which in true male competitive fashion, was filled with egos, tricks and a seventeen strong old boys side who hadn't picked up a hockey stick since leaving Durham. Several goals were scored on both sides and the overall score got blurred in amongst all the flair. A controversial call for penalty flicks to decide the overall result was disputed by some. However in true St Mary's fashion the old boys showed the current ones what it was to have true Mary's spirit winning 5-3.

After a day of hockey, the evening meal, beautifully presented and served, in the Kenworthy Hall was a great way to round off the day; with old boys and current students along with Liz Manning, Anne Furness and Professor Gilmartin coming to join us for the evening. Trophies were presented and a wonderful display of photos from across the years was shown throughout the meal, as well as a display of the history of St Mary's hockey club since 1911.

The hockey club has a fantastic ethos and welcoming atmosphere and both teams have been extremely successful in their current seasons. The event organised by Anna Chamberlain-Webber was a chance for all the past and present successes and friendships to be celebrated with a fantastic reunion in Durham. With twenty-four leavers attending this year's event, the aim will be to see that number steadily rise over the years. A new position of old boys' secretary has been added to the hockey club's executive committee to make sure that the success and pride of SMCHC continues to be celebrated annually. To all those who came and supported the event thank you very much and to those who could not make it this year, we look forward to meeting you all next year.

ANNA CHAMBERLAIN-WEBBER



GEORGE GENTLY UPDATE

As some of you will remember from the last newsletter, St Mary's College was chosen as a location for the BBC drama George Gently. Several students and staff members from Mary's were lucky enough to be chosen as extras. Here's Mary's groundsman Stephen Tindale on his experience:

During last April filming for a feature length episode of George Gently was held within various locations of Durham University including St Mary's. Along with other members of Mary's staff and students, I was selected as an extra. For those people who like me had no idea what type of programme George Gently is all about, it is a detective series set in the 1960s. The principal actor is Martin Shaw and this particular episode also included famous TV stars such as Warren Clarke and Sara Lancashire.

The life of a film extra is not one of Hollywood glamour. Meeting on the former site of Whinney Hill School in Durham at 8 in the morning and being given a truck drivers' type breakfast, it involved being put into clothes suitable for the day's filming and then into make up for alterations to hair etc. I was to be a university academic and was dressed in a brown overcoat and briefcase with my hair slicked back. Transport arrived and you are taken to the day's filming location. My day's filming took place on Palace Green and the castle. Instructions were given by the film crew to what was expected from you. This mainly involved background scenes where you would stand around having pretend conversations with other extras or being told when and where to walk during certain parts of film being shot. During takes extras were "held" in the castle bar. Which was just as well because it was freezing cold! The hours of the day dragged over and the work was tiresome and repetitive. Tea and sandwiches were given for lunch and provided much relief. Filming concluded at 9 at night. £50 is the daily rate for a film extra however I was unsure what Martin Shaw's fee was. The actual episode was shown on TV in early October and I have it recorded for future posterity.

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE SOCIETY
COMMITTEE LIST 2010-2011

HON. PRESIDENT	DR LIZ MANNING (1965-1971)
VICE-PRESIDENT	MRS JENNIFER CAWTHORNE (1994-1997)
SECRETARY	MISS VICKY LORIMER (2004-2007)
TREASURER	MR GEORG NÜCHTERN (2005-8)
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	MISS LAURA DEACON (2002-2006)
ARCHIVIST	MISS ANNE ELLIOTT (1966-70)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1952-7	MRS ELIZABETH BOYD
1954-8	REV DOROTHY WILSON
1963 – 66	MRS JANET HARWOOD
1964-67	DR. DOROTHY MIDDLETON
1964-68	REV SHELAGH JONES
1965-1968	DR. MARGARET COLLINS
1991-1994	MS CLAIRE ROLLO GARDNER
2005-2009	MR STEVEN SPENCER
2005-2009 / 2010-2012	MR ANDY HOPKINS

PRINCIPAL	PROFESSOR PHIL GILMARTIN
VICE-PRINCIPAL	DR. GILLIAN BOUGHTON
MCR REP	ANDY HOPKINS
JCR REP	MISS EMILY WARBURTON-BROWN (PRESIDENT) 2006-2010