



St Mary's  
University College  
Twickenham  
London

Edition 4  
Spring 2012  
[www.smuc.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.smuc.ac.uk/alumni)

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# SimmarianOnline

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

During 2011 St Mary's undertook an extensive Strategic Review that involved hundreds of staff members and students. The results of this process were approved by the Board of Governors on 24th November 2011 in the form of a new Five Year Plan that comprises a refreshed Mission, a set of seven institutional values, together with four new Strategic Aims and, under each, a number of new Strategic Objectives. Here is the new Mission: 'St Mary's prepares its students for flourishing lives, successful careers and social commitment through excellent, research-enriched teaching in a strong community of mutual respect based on our Catholic ethos and identity.' I tried out a version of this on alumni from 1968-1971 who were here for a weekend last September and were very happy when they said that that was how they understood St Mary's Mission. Our aim is to refresh but not change our identity and values as we move into the future, so it is important that our alumni recognise the continuity.

This is especially the case since we are going through a period of tremendous change in Higher Education in England. It is vital that we preserve a distinctive identity and a very high quality offer to continue to attract excellent students, and we have attracted a very healthy number of applications in spite of the new higher fees.

Last September Archbishop George Stack, following his elevation to the Archbishopric of Cardiff, stood down as Chairman of our Board of Governors after ten years of skilled and dedicated service to St Mary's, for which we are immensely grateful. In November we were pleased to welcome Bishop Richard Moth, the Bishop of the Forces, as our Chair in his place.

It is not only the beginning of the new fees regime that makes 2012 a big year for St Mary's.



Professor Philip Esler, Principal

This summer we will be hosting elite athletes from China, Ireland, Japan and South Africa as they spend a number of weeks here in preparation for the Olympics. We expect to receive a high press profile during the Olympic build up. These athletes will benefit from our new £8.5 million sports building that was opened by Lord Seb Coe last October.

We certainly hope to see as many alumni as possible here at St Mary's this year. Although Martin Thornton has left us, we have employed Josie Ellis and Gemma Martin in our Alumni Office. They have the task of assisting us to keep in touch with you and of arranging a busy cycle of events for alumni. Please bear in mind that you are all vital members of the St Mary's family and that we want to see you as often as possible so that you remain fully a part of our community.

Professor Philip F Esler  
DD (Oxon), FRSE, Principal

## 2012 Olympic Lecture Series

A series of lectures addressing key issues associated with the Olympic Games.

For tickets please apply to the named contacts below:

### Lecture 2 – More Peace through More Sport

26 April 2012 5.30 for 6pm

Mgr Vladimir Felzmann

Contact: Nicola Condon-Cusden

Email [nicola.condoncusden@smuc.ac.uk](mailto:nicola.condoncusden@smuc.ac.uk)

### Lecture 3 – The Austerity Olympics:

When the Games Came to London in 1948

15 May 2012 5.30 for 6pm

Janie Hampton

Contact: Jessica Jeske

Email: [jessica.jeske@smuc.ac.uk](mailto:jessica.jeske@smuc.ac.uk)

[More details available online.](#)

## Alumni Office

In January this year, St Mary's appointed two new members of staff to join its Alumni Office.

### Josie Ellis

Since graduating with a BA (Hons) in English Literature, I have worked in various roles with a focus on events, project management and internal communications. I am joining St Mary's after working for three years at Kingston University in their Development and Training team. Whilst there I managed events and organisation – wide initiatives on behalf of the Vice Chancellor, including conferences, celebration events and staff reward schemes. Part of my role was also to communicate to staff through newsletters, webpages and emails on staff development opportunities.

Roles prior to my time at Kingston University included organising county – wide training programmes with Surrey County Council and co-ordinating summer schools in China. I look forward to supporting your alumni events and reunions this coming year and keeping you updated on St Mary's news and developments through editing the Simmarian Online.

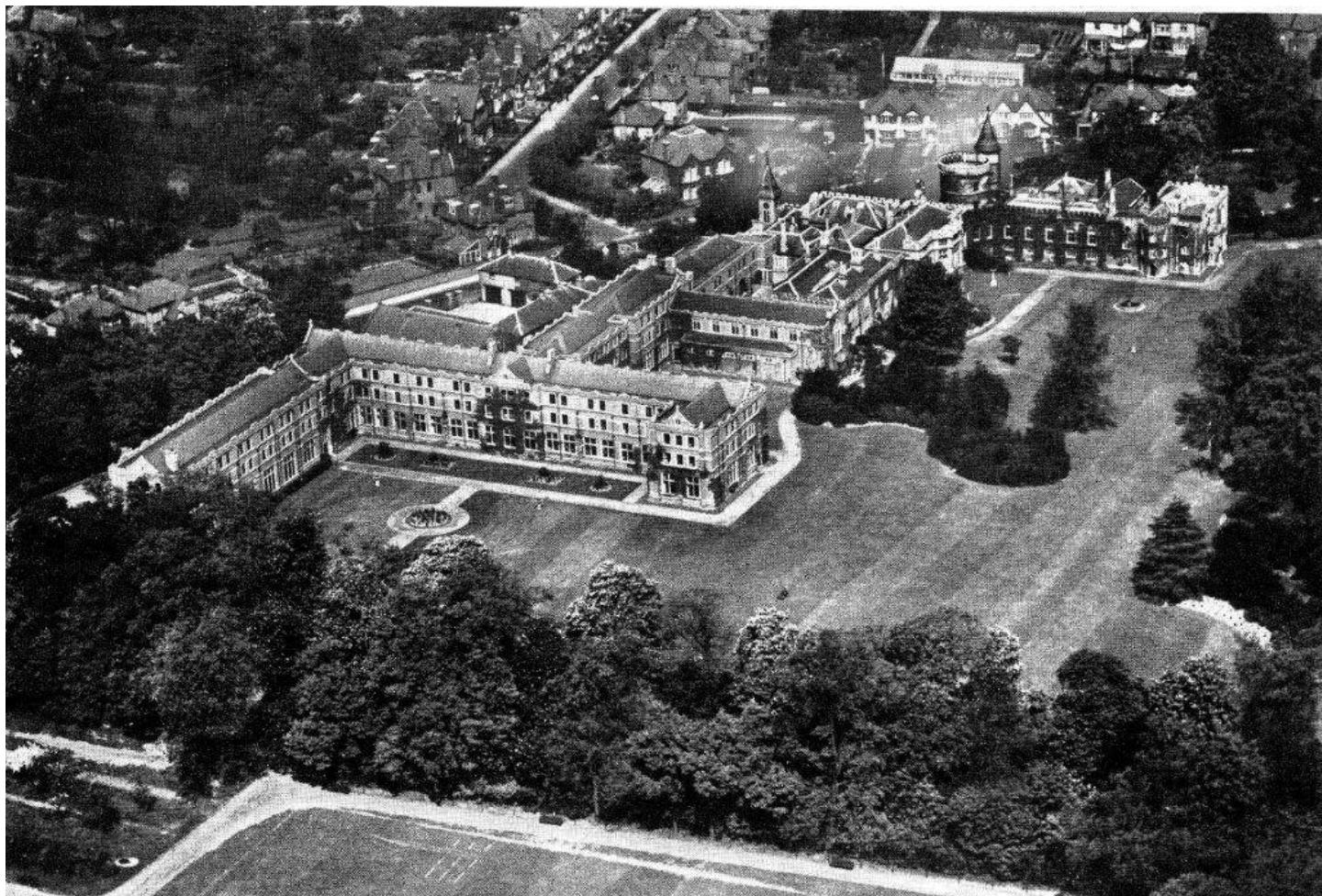
### Gemma Martin

After graduating, I secured a place on the Council for Advancement and Support of Education's (CASE) Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) Graduate Trainee scheme in Development and Alumni Relations. Working at my alma mater, the University of Southampton, I gained experience and training in many areas of Development, including alumni engagement, events, newsletters, annual giving, donor relations, prospect research, and major gifts. During this time I also worked at the University of Portsmouth and assisted with setting up their Development Office.

Prior to joining St Mary's I was working with the University of Sussex, running their telephone and direct mail appeals, creating a community fundraising initiative and working on the campaign newsletter. In the next year, I am looking forward to communicating with and meeting our alumni and building a mutually beneficial relationship between alumni and St Mary's.

To see how the campus has changed visit our virtual tour [www.smuc.ac.uk/virtual-tours](http://www.smuc.ac.uk/virtual-tours)

# AERIAL PHOTOS



The pre-WWII aerial photo of our campus above makes for interesting comparisons with new aerial photography we recently commissioned from renowned photographer Jason Hawkes. Displayed on our website at [www.smuc.ac.uk/virtual-tours/a](http://www.smuc.ac.uk/virtual-tours/a), the

new photos show the various additions to the campus since the photo above was taken, including our chapel and other 1960s buildings, athletics track, various halls of residence, and the new £8.5 million sports centre completed last year.

You can also see our Teddington Lock sports facilities acquired by St Mary's in 1999, as well as the recently repainted Strawberry Hill House (formerly known as Walpole House).



## New Virtual Tours



Along with our new aerial photography, we've also added new 360° panoramic virtual tours including external campus shots, the LRC, new sports facilities, Strawberry Hill House, Richmond Hill and Richmond Bridge. These have been added to [www.smuc.ac.uk/](http://www.smuc.ac.uk/) virtual-tours along with our existing virtual tours in a more user-friendly interface based on a map of the campus, with the tours appearing particularly impressive in full screen mode.

## Winter Graduation Ceremonies



This year's winter awards ceremonies were held on 4th February. Photos from the day have been posted on [www.facebook.com/yourstmarys](http://www.facebook.com/yourstmarys) and links to these photo albums – along with albums from previous winter and summer graduation ceremonies can be found at [www.smuc.ac.uk/alumni/facebook.htm](http://www.smuc.ac.uk/alumni/facebook.htm).



**2012 St Mary's Olympic clothing on sale soon!** To mark St Mary's involvement with London 2012, some exciting new St Mary's Olympic clothing items will soon be for sale. These will be available at various events or from the SU shop.

## RECENT EVENTS

### Psychology Student & Alumni Networking Event – 18th January

Alumni met with current students and shared stories of the career paths they have taken since graduation at a special Psychology networking evening in January, organised by the School of Management and Social Sciences. The talks provided a wonderful insight into postgraduate study and employment options for Psychology graduates. The alumni enjoyed coming back to campus, sharing their stories and catching up with old friends.

### Afternoon tea with the Chaplaincy

Some local alumni enjoyed tea, coffee and cakes with Father Gerry Devlin, Fiona Burns (Assistant Chaplain) and the Alumni Office on 15th March. The tea took place in the Chaplaincy Centre and was enjoyed by all.

### Principal's Alumni Evening

The first of the Principal's Alumni evenings was a big success with nearly 80 alumni and their guests being welcomed back to campus by the Principal Philip F Esler.

The evening started with a drinks reception with music to set the scene by local pianist Geoffrey Boyer and was followed by a meal in the beautiful Waldegrave Drawing room. Dinner was followed by an update from the Principal on the many developments at St Mary's in recent years and a presentation by Professor Richard Fisher on the University College's involvement with the 2012 Olympics.

Alumni and guests left having enjoyed the hospitality, opportunity to catch up with old friends and of course coming back to campus!

"A very enjoyable and interesting evening. It's great to return to SIMMS."

*Alumnus Chris Curtis (60-93)*

"It was a great evening and lovely to meet up with past students and staff. I'm sure when the word gets out how great it was the demand for places in future will be overwhelming."

*Former staff member Bill McLoughlin (66-94)*

**The next Principal's evening will be taking place on Wednesday 13th June. Register your interest now online or by emailing [alumni@smuc.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@smuc.ac.uk).**

### Get involved

If you would be willing to take part in a similar event for any subject/specialism, please let us know. We would love to organise future events like this for our students. Please email us at [alumni@smuc.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@smuc.ac.uk) if you'd be interested in taking part.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

No matter when you graduated we'd love for you to come back to campus. All St Mary's alumni are invited to the following:

Alumni Drinks in the SU Bar

– Friday 13th April from 6pm

SIMMStock Festival – Saturday 21st April

Spring Coffee Morning with the Chaplaincy

– Date TBC

Alumni Drinks in the SU Bar

– Friday 8th June from 6pm

Principal's Alumni Evening

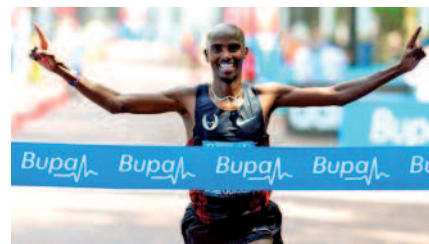
– Wednesday 13th June 2012

An evening reception hosted by the Principal with staff, students and your fellow alumni.

[www.smuc.ac.uk/alumni/forthcoming-events](http://www.smuc.ac.uk/alumni/forthcoming-events)

## Visitors to the Campus

### Mo Farah



Mo Farah launched his new charity, the Mo Farah Foundation, at a press conference held at St Mary's in December. The UK's national media gathered in the Waldegrave Drawing Room to hear about the Foundation which aims to provide essential aid to Somalia. The World Championship gold medallist trained at this University College for several years and received a warm welcome back.

Full story: [www.smuc.ac.uk/news/2011/158-mo-farah-press-conference.htm](http://www.smuc.ac.uk/news/2011/158-mo-farah-press-conference.htm)



### Brian Paddick

London Lib Dem Mayoral Candidate, Brian Paddick, enjoyed a guided tour of St Mary's new sports centre in January to find out more about how the University College will be involved with the London 2012 Olympics, and to discuss use of the facilities thereafter. Prof

Richard Fisher, Head of London 2012 Olympic preparations at St Mary's, and Andrew Reid-Smith, St Mary's Director of Sport, provided the tour of the 8.5million sports centre that will be hosting Olympic squads from China, South Africa, Japan and Ireland.

Full story: [www.smuc.ac.uk/news/2012/001-brian-paddick.htm](http://www.smuc.ac.uk/news/2012/001-brian-paddick.htm).

## Reserve Your Place Now

Register your interest for any of the events by completing this online form. You will be sent more information on each event closer to the time. Guests are welcome.

### Annual Reunion Weekends

#### 1st-2nd September 2012

Reunions for the following cohorts are taking place:

- 1962-65 (Organiser: Thomas Clapperton)
- 1964-67 (Organiser: John White)
- 1987 25 year Reunion Celebration (Sat 1st Sept) (Organiser: Phil Gallagher)

#### 7-8th September 2012

- 1966-70 (Reunion organiser Barry Hickey)

If you would like to get in touch with any of these reunion organisers, please email us at [alumni@smuc.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@smuc.ac.uk) and we will forward your enquiry.



Simmies, to put it bluntly: we miss you. Here at SMSU, we put our heads together to think about how we could entice our alumni back to show the current crop of students how it's done. Then the inspiration came – SIMMStock 2012!

SIMMStock is our own St Mary's version of Woodstock '69, with two stages, a huge set-list of bands, singers, performers and DJs, two bars, food stalls and a variety of other attractions. This multi-cultural event is certainly not to be missed and hopefully we'll have the same blazing sunshine that made SIMMStock 2010 and 2011 one of the best days of their respective academic years.

The event kicks off at 12 noon in the beautiful surroundings of the Priest's Lawn on campus here at St Mary's. We have a jam-packed schedule of entertainment for you; all you need to do is turn up and chill out. The event will run into the early hours of Sunday morning, finishing in the Students' Union from 8pm until 2am. You can just come for the day part of the event or you can go the whole hog and party into Sunday morning! The main acts have been confirmed as:

- Bluey Robinson
- Soulfish (Motown Tribute)
- Duke (Beatbox musicians)

We at the Students' Union hugely value the continued support of our fellow St Mary's staff and the students who have contributed to the St Mary's community (you!) in the past, so we really hope you can make it to this year's event. Without wanting to sound clichéd, we are really aiming to make this year's the biggest and best ever, so don't miss out!

Tickets will be £25 and will be available from the SU Shop prior to the event or available upon arrival, on the day itself!

SMSU Team

## BE A PART OF SIMMSTOCK

Are you a singer/comedian/entertainer or band member? Fancy a gig playing to nearly 1,000 people? We're always looking for acts of all shapes and sizes to help beef up the SIMMStock line up. If you're interested, email Joni Miller, SU President on [supresident@smuc.ac.uk](mailto:supresident@smuc.ac.uk).

We are also looking for stalls to include in our 'Village Fête' as part of the festival – if there is a charity you would like to raise awareness of or something else that you want to get to the masses, get in touch with Ben Solomon at [ben.solomon@smuc.ac.uk](mailto:ben.solomon@smuc.ac.uk).

## Reserve Your Place Now

### Principal's Dinners

The Principal's Dinners promoted in the last Simmarian Online will not be taking place on the dates previously advised. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

We will be looking to organise a Principal's Dinner with our Alumni in Ireland in the coming months. Suggestions on your preferred city for this are particularly welcome as we really would like to host this event somewhere convenient for as many of you as possible.

## Strawberry Hill Conferences and Banqueting

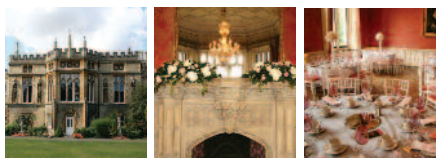
Wedding Receptions, Conferences and Private Parties

Tel: 020 8240 4044 / 4311

Email: [conferences@smuc.ac.uk](mailto:conferences@smuc.ac.uk)

[www.smuc.ac.uk/conferences](http://www.smuc.ac.uk/conferences)

10% discount on all room hire bookings received before 31st May 2012



## ALUMNI 'CRAZY TAXI' PHOTOBOOTH

Keep an eye out for the Alumni's Crazy taxi at SimmStock that will be available for you and your friends to have photo's in ... or on!



## Get Involved

### Alumni Mentoring Programme

*'Mentoring is one of the most important tools in professional development.'*

St Mary's University College has created an Alumni Mentoring programme which aims to bring enthusiastic and bright students together with successful professionals in mutually beneficial mentoring partnerships. It is a wonderful opportunity, not only to pass on your skills, knowledge, and wisdom to someone else, but most importantly, impart to them lessons on the art and science of living and being successful. You will also be helping our current

students acquire vital knowledge and skills more quickly and more effectively than if it was acquired through the "school of hard knocks."

What's in it for you? For the mentor this is an opportunity for personal growth and development from sharing your experience and enthusiasm about your profession and industry. You will have the chance to gain excellent leadership and mentoring experience, engage once again with St Mary's, create links with other mentors and gain some volunteering experience for your own future career development. You can dedicate as much time as you would like to mentoring, with a minimum of two meetings with your mentee in a six month period. We hope that you can support us in this programme and become a mentor to a current St Mary's student.



Contact St Mary's Careers Service on 020 8240 4055 or send us an email [careers@smuc.ac.uk](mailto:careers@smuc.ac.uk).

Careers Service Team

\* The Arts Marketing Association

## Inspire Others With Your Story

What did you do when you graduated? What exciting journeys have you embarked on in the last few years?

We want to interview you for the next Simmarian Online and for our alumni webpages to let current St Mary's students hear about your experiences and successes. If you'd be interested in taking part, email us at [alumni@smuc.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@smuc.ac.uk) and we'll be in touch to arrange an interview in a way that works best for you – be it by phone, email or in person. Interviews will be conducted by a member of the Alumni Office or one of our Student Alumni Scheme members and we'll check you're happy with the write up before anything is published.

## Alumni Associations

### An update from the Liverpool Simmarians Club, 1904 -2012

The Club continues to thrive with well attended monthly meetings. We also had three major celebrations in 2011. The first on 26th May was when we welcomed for lunch Philip Esler in his inaugural year as Principal and our long time friend Fr Gerry Devlin, University College Chaplain. Twenty eight Simmarians attended this memorable occasion.

The second celebration was our Annual Mass on 12th November when we remembered in particular three recently deceased members namely Joe Liddy (59/61), Austin McLoughlin (50/52) and Bill Swainson (53/55).

Finally, our third celebration was the University College feast day on 8th December when Mass was concelebrated by Fr Alex Fleming (44/46) and Fr Joe Cunningham (48/50). At the lunch that followed Fr Alex was presented with a cheque for £700 as a mark of appreciation from Liverpool Simmarians in recognition of Fr Alex's forty years of Club Chaplaincy.

Our mailing list comprises 56 members of which 42 have email addresses – so much for busy retirements! Peter Colston (54/56) informed me of the sad death of Terry Marshall (53/55) who made such an impressive contribution to our Simmarian 1st XV in the 1950s and will be remembered by many of his playing partners from The Liverpool Simmarian Club.

We continue to meet on the last Thursday of each month at 12 noon.

Geoff Farrell (54/57) Secretary

### Liverpool Simmarian Club Dates:

12 noon on the following Thursdays: 26th April, 31st May, 28th June, 26th July, 30th August, 27th September, 25th October.

**Saturday 10th November** 11am Mass for Deceased Members at St Joseph's Blundellsands. 12.15pm Drinks followed by Formal Lunch.

**Saturday 8th December** 11am University College Feast Day Mass at St Joseph's Blundellsands 12.15 pm Drinks followed by Christmas Lunch.

NB: All social occasions will be held at The West Lancashire Golf Club, Blundellsands, which lies midway between Liverpool and Southport. The nearest station on the Northern Line is Hall Road.

If you require any further information please let us know by emailing [alumni@smuc.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@smuc.ac.uk) and we will forward your enquiry on to Geoff Farrell, Club Secretary.

## Simmarian Associations

We want to hear from you: news, updates and reunions! Please email [alumni@smuc.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@smuc.ac.uk)

## Where Are They Now?

### Darrel J Gardner (1978-79; American exchange student)

Darrel is a Criminal Defence Lawyer (solo law office) in Anchorage, Alaska. He has just restored and rides the same year/model motorcycle he had when he was a student at St Mary's. Darrel visited the campus last summer with his wife and son for the first time since 1979. His visit was great fun and brought back wonderful memories!

### Tom Dooley 1967-1970

After teaching for many years at Worth Abbey, Tom moved to Greenwich CT where he taught French and soccer in New York and New England. Tom is now in South Africa and would love to hear from former colleagues.

### Paul Stathers 1967-1970

Paul retired from headship in 2008 and is now very much enjoying the good life including travel and helping to renovate his number one son's house.

## Rest In Peace

**Reg Harber** – staff member at St Mary's from 1969-1992.

**Michael Rathborn** – staff member at St Mary's in the 1960s and early 1970s.

**Thomas O'Malley** – Vice Captain of the College Hockey team, 1933-1934.

## Lost and (Hopefully) Found

A member of the class of 1960-1964 is looking for a long lost friend who was at St Mary's from 1960 – 1963. If any of you are still in touch with Simmarians from this cohort who do not receive this online newsletter it is likely we do not have their details on record. Please ask them to get in touch with us by emailing us at [alumni@smuc.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@smuc.ac.uk) or phone: 020 8240 4007/4370.

## Alumni Discounts

### Career Coaching

St Mary's alumni can receive a 15% discount on all of C2's individual career coaching services.

C2 is a careers consultancy, which is part of The Careers Group, University of London that allows any St Mary's alumni who graduated more than two years ago to get some careers advice and guidance.

## Holidays

Peter Sommer Travels ([www.petersommer.com](http://www.petersommer.com)) is a UK-based tour operator specialising in archaeological, gastronomic and cultural tours aboard beautiful wooden sailing yachts in Italy, Greece and Turkey. This small family run company is offering a special discount for St Mary's alumni. To receive your discount quote 'Simmarian' when booking.

## On Campus Benefits

### Room Hire

Alumni receive 10% discount for room hire on campus. More details are available online at: [www.smuc.ac.uk/conferences](http://www.smuc.ac.uk/conferences).

### Sports Facilities

There is a special alumni rate for the hire of all sports facilities, gym membership and access to the running track. Take a look at [www.smuc.ac.uk/sport/facilities](http://www.smuc.ac.uk/sport/facilities) for more details.

## A Request for your College Days Pics



This picture shows the College Hockey team in 1933/34 when Thomas O'Malley was Vice Captain. This was sent to us by Thomas' son who is keen to track down any other photos of his father. If you have any images of the Hockey team, please let us know.

We would also like to build an online photo album of alumni pictures. Please send in any photographs you have with a caption of the memory it sparks for you and help us start building an alumni picture archive.

## KEEP IN TOUCH

To keep in touch and ensure you are updated on events and benefits, we encourage all former students to keep the Alumni Office up to date with their details on the Alumni Response Form at [www.smuc.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.smuc.ac.uk/alumni)

**How did we do? Your views on this edition – what have we missed? What would you like to see included? What events would you like to be organised? Please email [alumni@smuc.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@smuc.ac.uk)**



## Choose Postgraduate Study at St Mary's University College

We offer a range of taught MA, MSc, PG Diploma/Certificate Programmes and Research Degree Programmes.

Opening evening: 16 May 2012

Programmes include:

- Applied Linguistics and English Language Teaching – London
- Applied Sport and Exercise Physiology
- Applied Sport Psychology
- Applied Sports Nutrition
- Bioethics and Medical Law
- Catholic School Leadership
- Charity Management
- Creative Writing: Writing the first novel
- Education: Leading Innovation and Change
- Education: Pedagogy and Professional Practice in Physical Education
- Education: Pedagogy and Professional Values and Practice
- Education: Pedagogy and Professional Values and Practice (for International Students)
- Gothic: Culture, Sub Culture and Counter Culture
- International Tourism Development
- Irish Studies
- Managing for Sustainability
- Mentoring and Coaching (in Education)
- Nutrition and Physical Activity for Public Health
- Pastoral Theology
- PGCE Primary
- PGCE Secondary
- Physical Theatre (International Ensemble)
- Religion, Politics & Conflict Resolution (Formerly History, Culture & Belief)
- Sport Rehabilitation (Pre-Registration)
- Sports Journalism
- Strength and Conditioning
- Theatre Directing

10% discount for alumni on postgraduate tuition fees (excluding PGCE courses)

Please see our website

[www.smuc.ac.uk](http://www.smuc.ac.uk)

or contact 020 8240 4027

## REUNIONS

Need help organising your reunion or an event? Whether it's some informal drinks in London, or an entire weekend on campus reliving your student days, staying in halls and having a drink in the Student Union bar – we're here to help.

From advising on room bookings, promoting your reunion or sending out invites, just let us know what you're planning and we'll see how we can best support you.

## LinkedIn

Check out our new St Mary's Alumni LinkedIn group: [www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=4261105](http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=4261105) launched in January 2012. LinkedIn is a business related social networking site used predominately for professional networking.

We'll be continuing to keep our Facebook ([www.facebook.com/yourstmarys](http://www.facebook.com/yourstmarys)) and Twitter ([www.twitter.com/yourstmarys](http://www.twitter.com/yourstmarys)) sites updated (also worth following, if you aren't already) but have created this LinkedIn alumni group to give you even more opportunity to engage with St Mary's and each other.



## ALUMNI SUCCESS STORIES

With increased university tuition fees coming into effect in 2012, it has never been more important for school leavers to understand the value and benefits of a university education. With this in mind, we're looking for alumni testimonials to use on our website and in our prospectus.

We'd like to hear your stories about what skills you learnt at St Mary's, how they benefit you in the workplace, and how your career has progressed since you graduated. If you're interested in sharing your story with our prospective students, please email a short testimonial (2-5 paragraphs) to [alumni@smuc.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@smuc.ac.uk).

## Calling all the romantics amongst you!

As we've recently enjoyed Valentine's day we want to hear your romantic stories of meeting your partner at St Mary's or maybe even returning here to get married in the Chapel. Please email your stories to [alumni@smuc.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@smuc.ac.uk), with a photo, if possible.

To see how the campus has changed visit our virtual tour [www.smuc.ac.uk/about/virtual-tours](http://www.smuc.ac.uk/about/virtual-tours)