

Simmarian

Issue 17 2005

The Alumni Magazine of St Mary's College

www.smuc.ac.uk



St Mary's College
Twickenham : London
A College of the University of Surrey

Welcome to this issue of the Simmarian magazine which is sent free of charge each summer to former students of St Mary's College. As usual, we have enclosed a reply card which you can use to inform us of any change to your personal details. You can also contact us by visiting the alumni pages on our website at www.smuc.ac.uk where you will find information on the range of services available to former students of the college.

As you may know, Strawberry Hill House featured on the BBC's Restoration Programme last July. The house competed with twenty other buildings of historical importance to obtain restoration funding via viewers' votes. Sadly, we did not win our regional heat, but the programme generated a significant amount of publicity for the house. Thank you to everyone who voted for us and to everyone who participated in the 'Save Strawberry' campaign.

We were delighted to welcome HRH Prince Phillip to college in February and you can read about his visit on page 2. You can also read about our significant achievements in a number of national assessments and about the activities of some of our academic schools and services.

I hope that you enjoy reading this issue of the Simmarian.

With very best wishes

Karen.



Death of Pope John Paul II Saturday April 2, 2005

by Fr Gerry Devlin, Senior College Chaplain

There have been so many tributes written about Pope John Paul II and it seems futile to add to them. He was unquestionably one of the great Christian figures in our time. When he was elected on October 16 1978, people were trying to find out more about him, the media speculated on what he would be like as a Pope, and I think it is fair to say that he did not disappoint in his role as the third longest Pope in history.



He chose the names of St John and St Paul like his predecessor who reigned for thirty three days, choosing the names of the two greatest teachers of the new testament giving us the deepest and richest vision of Christ. Over the years of his pontificate he wrote many encyclicals but

everyone realises that his teaching by word, by letter and by personal experiences was extraordinary.

The words that he spoke to the young people gathered at Murrayfield on the May 31, 1982 are still challenging for our students at St Mary's today when he said: *'Your lives cannot be lived in isolation, and even in deciding your future you must always keep in mind your responsibility as Christians towards others. There is no place in your lives for apathy and indifference to the world around you and there is no place in the world for selfishness. The Holy Spirit must radiate from you to others.'*

His utter confidence in and encouragement of the youth of the world is epitomised in his final message to them in Rome at the end of the World Youth Day 2000: *'If you are what you should be, you will set the whole world ablaze.'*

During the latter stages of his life Pope John Paul II represented for each of us a picture of the suffering

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LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL



I am very pleased to introduce the latest edition of the Simmarian and to report on developments currently under way or in prospect.

The outstanding success of the last year was the employment level of our graduates. St Mary's came top in the league table of graduate employability published by the Sunday Times drawing on the official statistics from the Higher Education Statistics Agency. 97.3% of graduates from 2003 were in employment or further study six months following graduation.

The quality of student experience at St Mary's and the excellent job prospects of graduates have had an impact on recruitment for Autumn 2005, with overall applications up 38% on last year's figures. With the prospect of variable tuition fees of £3,000 in 2006 it was to be expected that applications would increase in 2005. A 38% increase, however, is far beyond our expectations.

The students who arrive in 2005 will find the new running track on campus, new halls of residence alongside Graham, Wiseman and Doyle and a new cafeteria adjacent to the running track. While the campus is changing, I hope that they will find at St Mary's the same collegial ethos that has influenced the lives of so many previous generations of Simmarians.

With best wishes,

Dr Arthur Naylor
Principal

HRH Prince Phillip visits St Mary's

In February, HRH Prince Phillip visited St Mary's to present the awards at the Competitive Edge rugby tournament. The college has played a significant partnership role in developing the programme aimed at encouraging young people in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames



to take part in competitive sport and team games. The event involved four hundred young people from twenty eight schools and players and coaches from the England women's

rugby team, Harlequins RFC and London Irish RFC. Competitive Edge has proved so successful that the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames has decided to extend the project.

Contact Service

If you have lost touch with a fellow Simmarian, the PR and Alumni Office may be able to help.

All information is held under the Data Protection Act. We do not give out individual's details without their prior consent the we will forward stamped mail or contact an individual on your behalf.

Careers Information Exchange

The Careers Information Exchange allows Simmarians to provide current students with information about professions in which they are interested. If you would like to be a representative for your profession please say so on the Alumni Reply Card.

Careers Services For Alumni

The St Mary's Career Service is available to alumni for up to two years after graduation. Services include an individual analysis of career options, guidance on CV preparation, applications and interviews, use of careers software and use of the extensive careers library. Contact the Careers Adviser on 020 8240 4055 for further information.

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of the crucified Lord. Having preached about the value of each and every individual life from the first moment of conception until natural death, the Pope continued to teach by his every action in his old age, frailty and ill health that he appreciated the value of human life. He was a great inspiration to the sick and the elderly and his Lenten message 2005 was extremely appropriate when he said that 'The care of the elderly above all, when they pass through difficult moments, must be of great concern for all the faithful'.

As we remember him in our prayers, we pray that his example may inspire us to follow Jesus Christ ever more closely in our own ministries as we try to bring Christ ever more closely to others.

Pope Benedict XVI elected

On April 19 2005 the College of Cardinals elected Cardinal Ratzinger as Pope Benedict XVI. He is known as a man of deep spirituality and a renowned theologian. The election of a Pope is a time of joy and hope for Catholics around the world and we join with many others in asking God's fullest blessing on our new Pope. His greatest title is perhaps the most simple, 'Servant of the servants of God'. May he indeed serve all people as Christ served and did his predecessor, Pope John Paul II.



May our new Pope work for peace throughout the world following the example of his earlier predecessor Pope Benedict XV who died at the time of the First World War. St Benedict is one of the Patron Saints of Europe, may he inspire us as we remember Europe's Christian roots and may our new Pope also keep before his own mind and ours the final words of St Benedict's rule: 'Place no one before Christ'.

St Mary's Meets the Standard

The Careers Service at St Mary's has been assessed against the Matrix Quality Standard of the Guidance Accreditation Board. The Matrix Quality Standard is the industry standard for those working in information, advice and guidance and the college's Careers Service was assessed and accredited during a five-day inspection. The Careers Service at St Mary's is part of The Careers Group, University of London. All of the elements and criteria of the Matrix Quality Standard were met following the inspection.

The Careers Service Needs You

Recently, former students returned to a nearby university to talk anecdotally to current students about their career paths. Around one hundred students heard a panel of speakers talk about varied careers in human resources, museum marketing, the media and business. The speakers took the chance to look around their old college, marvel at some of the changes, say hello to their tutors and got the satisfaction of knowing they had provided inspiration and information for current students.

It is our intention, with your help, to make such events a feature of our own careers programme next year. If you would like to help please get in touch with the Careers Service on 020 8240 4055. No preparation is needed, you simply need to be willing to talk for ten minutes on topics like what you wish you had known whilst at college or what happened to you after St Mary's and then meet students informally over a drink and nibbles.

St Mary's High in Teacher Training Table

The college has come twelfth out of a total of seventy-four universities and colleges in the annual rankings of teacher training provision compiled by the Centre for Education and Employment Research at Liverpool University using the performance profiles published by the Teacher Training Agency. The TTA ranks universities and colleges on a number of factors including OFSTED inspection grades, student entry qualifications and student employment records. St Mary's is the highest placed Church college or university in the table and the second highest provider in London.

Have you graduated from Theology, Religious Studies or History in the last five years? As part of an internal project we are interested in what careers students have pursued since leaving college and how they have used their degrees in their jobs. Please contact Lynn Scholefield on 020 8240 4159 or e-mail scholefl@smuc.ac.uk if you can help.

TeachAlert

Any former students of St Mary's who have become Head Teachers or are in other positions in which they recruit NQTs will be interested in a new service from St Mary's Careers Service. TeachAlert allows you to advertise your teaching posts directly by email to our current students. The service is very keenly priced and puts your vacancy in the inbox of students with exactly the kind of qualifications you are looking for. Further details are at www.thecareersgroup.co.uk/smuc.teachalert. Alternatively contact careers directly on 020 8240 4055 or drop us an email at careers@smuc.ac.uk

The New Running Track Opens

The new running track was officially opened on May 11 in conjunction with the inaugural St Mary's adidas Relays. The new track is a superb addition to the facilities for students at St Mary's and has been made possible



through the support of the Sport England Lottery Fund and the London Marathon. Contributions were also made by the students, alumni and staff of the college. Former student David Bedford

(Race Director of the Flora London Marathon) and Hayley Yelling (European Cross Country Champion) officially opened the track after a welcome address by Dr Naylor and a blessing by Fr Devlin.

One World – Get Global

The new global awareness project developed by St Mary's College, 'One World - Get Global', took place between April 20-29 at Strawberry Hill.

The project was a series of workshops and seminars focusing on global awareness and global citizenship. The event featured a number of distinguished speakers including representatives from The Geographical Association, UNICEF and CAFOD.

The project will contribute to the basis of a publication to be published by London Southbank University.

Albert Traverso Presents Book to St Mary's

Former student Albert Traverso returned to St Mary's in February to present a copy of his book,



'The History of Education in Gibraltar', to Dr Naylor. The college has a long association with Gibraltar and St Mary's is featured in the book. Following the Second World

War, a considerable number of students came to St Mary's from Gibraltar to train as teachers. Many of those students became head teachers, school inspectors and government ministers. St Mary's continues to welcome students from Gibraltar and there is a flourishing Association on the Rock for former students of the college.

Mr Traverso's book, written with Edward Archer, is the first comprehensive history of education in Gibraltar to be published. It describes the roots and origins of Gibraltarian education using documentary and oral evidence. Dr Arthur said, 'St Mary's was delighted to accept this illuminating book written by a distinguished former student. We are proud of our long association with Gibraltar and the contribution we have made to its educational systems.'

The book is available from AA Traverso, 2 Westside Mews, Queens Way, Gibraltar at £20.00 plus £6.00 post and packing. Please make cheques payable to AA Traverso.

A New Printing Press at Strawberry Hill

The Professional and Creative Writing Programme at St Mary's has released a CD-ROM of the work of their students of Creative Writing. The selection of stories on the CD-ROM is taken from the work of first and second year undergraduates working with tutors in creative writing. Since our degree programme in Professional and Creative Writing started in September 2002 students, together with some students of Creative Writing in the English Programme, have produced a considerable number of short stories.

alumni news

Honorary Fellows 2005

Rebecca Romero, Jonathan Holloway, Fr Phillip Walshe CM and Antonia Watson were the latest recipients of Honorary Fellowships from St Mary's College. Honorary Fellowships are conferred on people eminent in their chosen field who have made an outstanding contribution to society.

Rebecca Romero, a former student of the college, won a silver medal in rowing in the 2004 Olympic games. Jonathan Holloway, another former student, is the founder of the Red Shift Theatre Company and is a renowned director and writer. Fr Philip Walshe CM is a Vincentian Priest and highly respected former member of college staff. Antonia Watson, also a former student, is Director of the Irish Centre Housing which provides assistance to homeless Irish people in London and the South of England. The new Honorary Fellows were presented to the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Rt Rev Bishop George Stack at a ceremony in the Waldegrave Drawing Room in February.



Forthcoming Reunions

If you are a former member of staff and would like to attend any of the following reunions, please contact the alumni office.

The 1952-54 group are holding another reunion weekend at St Mary's College. The reunion is being organised by Ted Balmer and takes place from Friday September 2 to Sunday September 4

The 1962-65 year group are holding a reunion at St Mary's from Friday September 2 to Sunday September 4. The evening reunion will be in a restaurant in Esher on the Saturday night.

A reunion for the 1965-68 group, organised by Tim Hipkiss, is being held in the college Tartan Bar from 7.00pm on Saturday September 3.

The year groups from 1953-57 are holding a reunion in the college SU Bar from 7.00pm on Saturday September 3. The event is being organised by Roddy Beare, Dick Bland, Terry King and Dave Renton.

The 1971-74 group are holding a reunion on April 22, 2006 at Strawberry Hill. Please contact Sharon D'Souza on 020 8614 6281 for further information.

PLEASE NOTE: All college accommodation must be booked in advance as there is no provision for booking into accommodation on the day.

Year group members are automatically sent letters of invitation to their reunion, approximately three months in advance. If you would like further information about any of the above reunions, or would like a fact sheet about arranging your own reunion, please contact the PR and Alumni Office.



Rest In Peace

News of the death of the following Simmarians has been received. Please remember in your prayers these Simmarians, their families and their friends.

Mr Boyd 1948-50 Blaydon	Frank Harris 1945-47 Liverpool	Jim Moran 1951-53 Liverpool
Francis Brady 1988-91 Portadown	Gerald Henebery 1945-47 St Helen's	Gerry Noonan 1952-54 Wirral
Patrick Carroll 1947-50 Sunbury on Thames	Thomas Henebery 1941-43 Liverpool	Gerald Rowe 1942-44 St Helens
Thomas Corr 1936-38 Co. Antrim	Michael Houghton 1959-62 Hightown	Alan Skehan 1996-99 Ashford
Leo (Charles) Cottriall 1946-48 Lancs	Albert Kinsey 1944-46 Norfolk	Tom Steele 1955-58 France
Bill Coulson 1953-55 Solihull	Patrick Keaons 1936-38 Newry	Mark Walsh 1938-40 Liverpool
John Cullinane 1947-49 London	John Kerr 1966-69 Strabane	Patrick Walsh 1944-46 Cardiff
Colm Donlon Ireland	David Lynham 1945-47 Belfast	Staff Vanessa Ayling
Simon Fuller 1978-82 Cardiff	Thomas Marsh 1947-49 Catterick	Ken Breen Mike Diprose Jonathan May
Mary Hann 1965-67 Cardiff	Brian McKeating 1953-55 Merseyside	Margaret Newey Fr Michael Prior C.M.

Did you know?

In the 1960's, students were expected to return to college each evening before a prescribed time. Students could sign the Late Night Register to have Late Night Leave until 1.15 am.

In the 1980's, the Biology Department had its own python named Monty.

St Mary's has its own on site medical centre which operates like any other General Practice. It is staffed by local GPs and by two nurses.

Reunion Reports

1964-67

Over fifty members of our cohort attended the fortieth year of entry reunion for a weekend in September along with three former staff members, Joe Jagger, as guest of honour, Bill McLoughlin (both PE) and Andrew Sinclair (Education). We were also joined by about a dozen members of the 1952-54 cohort who were celebrating their fiftieth year reunion.

There was a steady build up of numbers starting with a Friday afternoon 'warm-up' session in the Waldy, followed by a 'practice' session in the college bar on Friday night, in readiness for the full Saturday programme, which included either a rugby match at Twickenham or a river cruise on the Thames. As expected though, the most popular 'fixture' was the Saturday night buffet supper and drinks event at the college, concluding with a late supper in nearby restaurant.

The Sunday reunion Mass was concelebrated by our former colleague Fr Robert Plourde and the college Chaplain Fr Gerard Devlin, with dedications by Peter Murphy delivered in memory of nine known deceased colleagues and support was expressed for two others who



Joe Jagger at the reunion

were too ill to attend. After this very moving ceremony, numbers only began to both droop and drop towards the end of the Sunday lunchtime 'warm-down' session at the Pope's, when stamina was beginning to run low. This was

in stark contrast to the fiftieth year reunion group, who reportedly were still singing at full throttle in the Pope's at closing time that night! Clearly we need to get in some serious extra training for our next event.

The overall response and turnout to this reunion was very good but we are sure we can do even better for the return 'match' next time. We are currently updating our contacts list for the next fortieth year of leaving reunion planned for September 2007, so keep in touch, pass on this news, let us have any further contact information on other former colleagues, and don't forget to plan early enough to be there. Meanwhile, copies of the 2004 reunion souvenir programme and a set of photos on CD together with an index list are still available from John White.

John White and Peter Murphy

1952-54

Perfect weather, perfect company, our old rooms in Old House, the pleasure of the beautiful grounds, the Pope's Grotto round the corner. It all added up to a fabulous reunion for the sixteen Simmarians, plus three wives, who attended the fourth reunion of the 1952-54 group. Thanks are due to all of the staff for their efforts, especially Toby Booth in the Conference Office and Karen Smith.



Ted Baulmer

1972-75



Some of the many attendees at the 1972-75 reunion. L/R John O'Connor, Jim Hunston, Bernie Reese, John Spicer, Bernie Kelly, John Vines

Around one hundred and thirty former students attended an enjoyable reunion in the as Strawberry Hill on April 2. Former students travelled from Ireland, America and all parts of the British Isles. The event was organised by John Booth, Frank Sudlow and Jim Hunston. The group presented a cheque for £1000 to SHOC to help the work of Sister Dee Smith in Guatemala.

Jim Hunston

Alumni News

Michael Glover was awarded the CVO (Commander of the Royal Victorian Order) in 2004 for services to the Royal family.

Mary McCarney (nee Christie) (1984-88) is a columnist for the Times Educational Supplement. Last year, Mary relocated to Georgia, USA, to teach and she has been writing about her life there for the TES.

Calling all Former Members of Staff!

We would like to invite former members of staff to college events and informal reunions. Please indicate on the alumni reply form if you were a member of staff and would like to receive information about events at St Mary's.

The Examination Office at St Mary's can provide academic transcripts for many courses for a small administration fee. Please visit the alumni pages on our website for further information.

simmarian associations

The Simmarian Association

The Simmarian Association AGM will be held on Saturday September 3 at 5.30 in the C1 (the former Chapel). All former students are welcome, so please come along!

The Annual Mass for Deceased Simmarians will take place in the college chapel on Sunday November 13 at 11.00am. All former students and former members of staff are invited to Mass and to coffee afterwards.

Ken Breen, a long serving member of the Association, died earlier this year. He was a dedicated former student and former member of staff who remained involved in many college activities until his death. He will be missed by members of the Association and by the college.

Liverpool Simmarian Club - 1904-2005

The Club celebrated its centenary in November 2004 with an annual Mass for deceased members at the Metropolitan Cathedral Of Christ The King on Saturday November 27, 2004. More than sixty people attended, including Dr Arthur Naylor and Father Gerry Devlin. Fr Devlin concelebrated the Mass with Father Alec Fleming, the club's Chaplain, and Father Joe Cunningham, both fellow Simmarians.

Father Gerry Devlin gave a witty and incisive sermon, reflecting on the highest values that Simmarians strive to attain. Father Alec Fleming paid particular tributes to two of our members who died during 2004; Brian McKeating (1953-55) and Mike Houghton (1959-62).

After Mass, a celebratory lunch was held at Liverpool Harbourside Marina. At the end of a most enjoyable meal, Dr Frank Harris (1945-47) read extracts from the club's early records and presented them to the Principal with a bound copy of the minutes to be kept in the college archives at Strawberry Hill.

December saw us enjoy what is now our customary Christmas lunch at the Hightown Hotel. Club members continue to meet on the last Thursday of each month.

Sadly, our Treasurer for over thirty years, Jim Moran (1951-53) died on December 19, 2004 and on January 22, 2005, Frank Harris (1945-47), our secretary for a similar period, also died. Whilst we mourn their deaths, we remember and are grateful for the unselfish and tireless work which they undertook for the Liverpool Simmarian Club: in particular generating moneys for the Liverpool Simmarian Benevolent Society which helped so many Catholic teachers. They will be sorely missed. May they rest in peace.

Mention must also be made in this context of the unswerving help and dedication to the club given by Terry Roose (1946-48) who has been unwell lately. Our prayers are with him. In February 2005, club members voted in a new committee: President John Malone (1954-56), Secretary Geoff Farrell (1954-57) and Treasurer Steve McKenna (1958-60)

John Malone, in his acceptance speech, reminded members of the tremendous debt of gratitude we owe to the outgoing committee in particular, to Tony Larkin (1946-48) President, whose unstinting efforts have made a major contribution to the continued existence of the Liverpool Simmarian Club.

To the future, we move into our second hundred year period with renewed confidence and the hope of continued support from the current members and, in anticipation of new Simmarians from more recent years. Any Simmarian in the Liverpool area will be given a very warm welcome at our meetings. We meet on the last Thursday of every month at 12 noon in 'Ma Boyles', a delightful drinking hole close to St Nicholas' C E Parish Church, Pier Head, Liverpool.

Geoff Farrell, Secretary.

Manchester and District Simmarians

Some interesting archive material about the Manchester, Salford and District Hammersmith club (as it was known at its foundation in September 1907) has come into our possession. One very interesting find was a telegram dated February 18, 1904 sent by the Duke of Norfolk on what was presumably the occasion of a family celebration. He expressed his thanks for the students' best wishes.

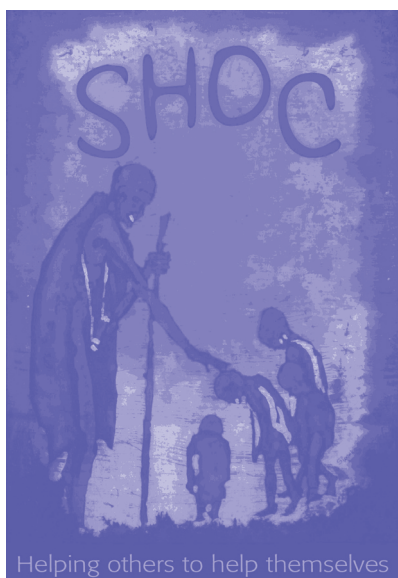
We suffered a sad loss at the beginning of the year when Ernie Sands died. Ernie was not a former student of the college but was regarded by all as an honorary Simmarian. Ernie was a most loyal and dedicated supporter of our group and a close friend of John Tasker and Gerard Hanbury. May he rest in peace.

Our Annual Mass will be celebrated in Tuesday June 21 at 7.30 pm in the Alexian Brothers Care Centre, where Father Frank Austin (1946-48) is Chaplain and John Mulligan (1943-45) is a resident. Any Simmarian from the Greater Manchester Area interested in attending the Mass, or in joining the group may call Kevin Madden on 0161 746 6007.

Kevin Madden, Secretary

shoc

Regular readers of the *Simmarian* will be aware that the college has been supporting Proyecto Vida and the work of Maryknoll Sister and Simmarian Dee Smith for many years. In the last edition I wrote at length of Dee's latest ambitious project, the planning and construction of an HIV/AIDS hospice. I wrote of the completion of the boundary wall around the donated land and of work starting on the building itself.



Over the past months, construction work has continued and in August, the Santa Maria HIV/AIDS hospice at Coatepeque, Guatemala will be officially opened.

Now, only a few months from its opening, I can record my sincere thanks to so many people for their generosity. I estimate that donations to SHOC for Proyecto Vida have exceeded £25,000 and to this can be added the £15,000 that Dee herself raised on a recent visit to the UK and Ireland. Further donations from the

US and from Guatemala have meant that her target of £50,000 has been reached and exceeded.

Dee now has to consider the annual maintenance costs and the salaries of those who will meet the needs of the HIV/AIDS patients. SHOC has promised to continue to help her and Simmarians wishing to contribute can do so by sending a cheque, made payable to St Mary's College, to me here at the college.

By the time you read this article, the Proyecto Vida web site will be up and running. The site is the work of one of our current geography undergraduates who has been taking our level three module on Web Design and kindly offered to use Proyecto Vida as his submission. My aim is to keep the site up to date with news of Dee's work. I shall be visiting the Project in the summer and will return with images and a report on the opening of the hospice and interviews with the sisters and workers. The web site address is: www.proyectovida.org.uk

SHOC's support of projects in other parts of the world has, understandably, not been as extensive as it might have been this past year because of our concentration on Proyecto Vida. We have, however, continued to support our projects in Ghana and in Tanzania. We were delighted to be able to contribute to the Drama department's work with schools in Tanzania. We continue to help the Lancashire-Gulu project in Uganda through Simmarian Mark Wiggins. We have also retained our links with Sister Mary Ann Katiti in Zambia. Finally,

we were pleased to be able support a collection for the hurricane ravaged island of Grenada organised by current member of staff, Sally Ann Richard. Sally Ann is leading a field visit of Tourism and Geography students to Grenada in early 2006 and this will provide an opportunity to see how our donation has been used.

Kevin Cook
Patron of SHOC

SHOC was founded nearly thirty five years ago in 1971 as the college's overseas charity. It was the brainchild of a small group of staff who wanted to find a way of helping Simmarians working in what was then known as the 'third world'. With the help of the Vincentians, the organisation started its work raising awareness within college and passing on donations to selected projects. Over the years it has raised nearly £150,000 and has supported in excess of one hundred projects.

From September 1971 until Christmas 2004, the major force behind SHOC was Ken Breen RIP. The charity was his idea and he continued to support its principles right up to his death a few months ago. He was an enthusiastic believer in helping others less fortunate and he will be much remembered in places as far apart as Bo (Sierra Leone), Marigat (Kenya), Singida (Uganda), Kabwe (Zambia) and Coatepeque (Guatemala).

To celebrate a life devoted to the needs of others, one of the rooms at the Proyecto Vida hospice will be named in his honour. It is also proposed to provide a small bench in his memory to be placed near Walpole House; a view Ken loved. SHOC has lost a tremendous supporter of its work and college has lost a dear friend.

75 Years Ago

Mention must be made of the 'Spot Dances' which again proved so popular with the Juniors, who were thereby induced to throw off their coy reserve and trip the light fantastic.
P King. *The Simmarian*. June 1930

50 Years Ago

The heavens did not smile on the (centenary) garden party held in the college grounds ... the band of the Irish Guards put up a sterling show by playing throughout the afternoon and evening, and though they looked miserable sheltering under the trees, their efforts were appreciated.'
The Simmarian Newsletter. November 1950

An Active Chaplaincy

Since the beginning of the academic year the Chaplaincy has been very active and the response from the students has been encouraging. There is a large number of students attending liturgical services in the college Chapel and volunteering to take part in the various groups and activities which are facilitated and organised by the Chaplaincy.

At the start of the new term a ministry training evening was facilitated by Diana Kline, a diocesan catechetical advisor for Eucharistic ministers, readers, sacristans and ushers. The Commissioning Mass was celebrated in the college Chapel on Sunday October 10. A music day was organised for members of the Music Group and facilitated by Chris O'Hara.

On December 8, 2004 we were joined by Bishop Alan Hopes who brought with him the Our Lady Seat of Wisdom Icon which Pope John Paul II gave to the universities of the world in September 2000. The icon has visited a number of different countries as Pope John



Paul reminded us that 'this is your vocation: make the university an environment where knowledge is cultivated, a place where the individual finds direction for the future, knowledge, inspiration for effective service of society. Mary supported

the apostles with a prayer at the dawn of evangelisation, may she also help you to invigorate the university world with a Christian spirit.'

At Your Word Lord

The 'At Your Word, Lord' programme has continued to run throughout the academic year. A Taize-style Prayer Evening is held in the Crypt every week, and a group of students are going on pilgrimage to Taize during the summer. During the Season of Lent, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament has taken place in response to Pope John Paul II's invitation to 'Celebrate the Year of the Eucharist'. The RCIA group has met weekly throughout the year and two students will go forward on the Feast of Pentecost, one to receive the Sacrament of Baptism and another the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation.

Lenten Retreat

Our Lenten Retreat took place at Cumberland Lodge, Great Windsor Park in March and was very successful. Our theme this year was 'Who do people say I am' (Luke 9: 18-21). The weekend concluded with a Service in the Royal Chapel and some of the students were able to meet the Queen, Prince Andrew and Princess Beatrice. The

Principal of Cumberland Lodge, Dr Alistair Niven, has written to me and has said kindly 'that the impression the students made on us is very positive and that everyone here enjoyed your visit'.

Fundraising by Students

The Second Vatican Council says that 'Jesus Christ shows us not just who God is, but also what it is to be human'. The gospel is an instruction manual on what it means to be human. All the people working in St Mary's find the real meaning in trying to make the world more humane and are to be applauded for their tremendous efforts. The students and staff involve themselves fully in raising money for many worthwhile causes at home and abroad. This year we decided to donate our carol singing money to the CAFOD Tsunami Appeal, we contacted the charities who would normally benefit from our generous giving and they were supportive of diverting the funds. We continued our fundraising and with two local primary schools St Vincent's, Acton and St Edmunds, Whitton we donated £24,086.28.

Since the beginning of the academic year we have raised £450.00 for a member of staff whose family suffered as a result of the hurricane in Grenada. Sr Dee Smith, a former student of St Mary's, came along to talk at the Sunday Masses and we collected £529.04, the money will be used to build a hospice for young people who are permanently ill. The Simms Lourdes group has been successful in raising £3124.00 and this year we paid the full fare for two children travelling to Lourdes as part of the HCPT pilgrimage. We also assisted the students who were travelling with individual groups and with the money left over we hosted a reunion for the South East region. Two students have raised £700.00 for Breast Cancer Awareness and we are supporting other students who are raising money for SENSE and St John's Ambulance.

During the Season of Lent a second collection was taken up for St John Bosco's Teacher Training School in Ghana. This year we managed to raise £1500.00 and the money will be sent to Brother Agoah Francis, a former student of the college.

The outreach programmes are very well supported and we are delighted that students are choosing to volunteer to work with many worthwhile projects in the London area. Students volunteer to work with existing projects and new opportunities for volunteering are created each year, students can now obtain credits towards their final degree if successful on the voluntary placement. The Chaplaincy maintains regular contact with the outreach programmes and encourages staff and students to get involved as much as possible.

Fr Gerard Devlin
Senior College Chaplain

Athletics Squad Excels

If last year was an excellent season for the St Mary's athletics squad, so far 2004/05 has been even better. At the BUSA Cross-Country Championships the St Mary's team won the overall trophy. In the men's 10 kilometre race, Steve Vernon finished 3rd, Andrew Baddeley 4th, Mark Draper in 8th, Matt Pierson in 16th and Matt Ashton and Anthony Moran in 18th and 22nd respectively. This secured a team gold through a thrilling one point victory over Birmingham University. The overall trophy was achieved when the women's team took silver position in the 6km race. Faye Fullerton finished 4th, Jenny Pereira 9th and Kate Reed, despite a heal injury, brought the team home finishing in 11th place. At the BUSA Indoor Championships individual medals were won by Colin McCourt, Joe Ankier, Anthony Lovell and Daryl Stone.

Running Track Opens

The UK Athletics Endurance Performance Centre based at St Mary's continues to demonstrate a significant level of success. At the European Cross-Country Championships, for the first time Britain won team medals in all four events. Team leader Alan Storey said 'this was an outstanding performance by the British Team and St Mary's College played a significant part in the development of these athletes.' The work of the Centre has been enhanced by the completion of six-lane running track with a refurbished strength and conditioning suite and changing rooms. In following years we plan to hold an early season relays meet which will run along similar lines to the prestigious Penn relays in the USA.

Rugby League side in National League

The St Mary's men's rugby league side are still involved in what is proving to be a truly wonderful season. Against the odds, the team beat the National League North Champions Leeds Metropolitan University, in the semi-final of the Student Rugby League BUSA Championship, by 30-25. In the Grand Final, St Mary's played against Loughborough University, winners from the three previous years. In an extremely tight game the team displayed resilience and great endeavour, and a marvellous team performance resulted in an eventual win of 25-22. Matt Jeffery, the Student Rugby League Manager said 'the BUSA Final was an amazing occasion and produced an outstanding game between two excellent teams.' Winning the final ensures that next season the St Mary's side will play in the National League, and they will be the Student Rugby League representatives in the 2006 Powergen Challenge Cup - the League's most historic and prestigious tournament. Steve Owen and Gary Peacham, two of the players, are scholars on the Talented Athlete Scholarship Scheme (TASS). This is a Government funded programme through which St Mary's is providing support services for talented athletes who are combining sport with education.

Outstanding Results for Gaelic Teams

The St Mary's Gaelic teams continued their outstanding record of results. The men's team retained the BUSA Gaelic Football Championships scoring a late goal to gain their 4th title in a row, beating John Moores University 1-3 to 0-5. In the Trench Cup Final the side lost in the semi-finals to Letterkenny IT 3-10 to 1-12. The women's team won the Championship Finals beating Liverpool Hope University 2-6 to 0-5 to win an incredible 10th title in a row. The side travelled to Belfast to participate in the Lynch Cup where they lost 3-10 to 0-12 to Trinity College.

Premier South League for Women's Hockey

The women's hockey team won the South Eastern Conference 1A winning an impressive eight out of ten games, beating both Royal Holloway and Hertfordshire University by 10-0. After losing 4-0 to Exeter University in the last sixteen of the BUSA Championships, the side went on to beat Bristol University in an exciting and tense play-off game. Consequently, next year's squad will participate in the Premier South league.

Strong Rugby Union Club

The men's rugby union club again proved their strength. The 1st XV came 4th in the Premier South League, but beat Birmingham University 7-8 in the last 16 of the Championship, finally losing 11-5 to Loughborough in the quarter-finals. The 2nd XV repeated the last two-year's successes by again winning the South Eastern Trophy 1A; they lost 3-22 to Bristol University in the Trophy quarter-finals. The 3rd XV also won their league, the South Eastern Trophy 2A, winning six out of eight games. The side lost in the semi-finals of the Vase to UWIC 11-5. Ian Martin, James Dunne and Joseph Ajawa were all selected to play for English Universities.

Individual Successes

This year has also seen a number of memorable individual performances, from students past and present. Katie Whitlock finished third in the advanced ladies section of the BUSA Trampoline Finals. In addition, recent graduates Rebecca Romero (silver medal women's quadruple skull), Matt Wells (men's double skull) and Ross Killian (sailing 470 class) all competed at the Athens Olympics. Ian Wynne, who trains at St Mary's working with the English Institute of Sport, won a bronze medal in flat water canoeing, competing in the men's K1 500m. In partnership with St Mary's, the EIS has developed a dedicated Human Performance Laboratory on the main campus, which includes an environmental chamber. This feature is a unique facility and the high performance centre will play a critical role in preparing athletes for the Beijing Olympic Games.

This year has provided several high-points in terms of sporting achievement. The excellent partnerships that exist with UK Athletics and the EIS are continuing to develop in a very positive manner, and the inclusion of St Mary's in the TASS is a significant accomplishment. The new track has been keenly awaited and this facility together with the on-site partnerships will attract additional quality athletes to the college. In this environment high sporting expectations have very much become the norm and it is accurate to say that at a local, national and international level St Mary's students and graduates are performing admirably.

Andrew Reid-Smith
Director of Sport

developing opportunities

New Courses at St Mary's

St Mary's undergraduate courses continue to thrive with new programmes including Film and Television, Philosophy, PE in the Community, Physical Theatre and Sport Health and Exercise entering their second successful year of recruitment. The Foundation Degree in Education in Context has become a very popular programme with two pathways. The first is 'classroom support', which provides two years day release study for classroom assistants with an option of further two years of study leading to qualified teacher status. The second pathway is 'administration' for people who are working in an administrative role in an educational institution. In April the first intake of students started on the Foundation Degree in Healthcare Chaplaincy. This two-year part time programme offers a unique opportunity for people working as Chaplains in hospitals or other care settings to gain new perspectives on their work. The programme is the first of its kind in the country and is a joint venture between the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches.

Two exciting new courses will be available for 2006 entry, Single Honours Tourism Management and Business Law which will be offered as part of the Joint Honours programme. Management will also be offered as a Single Honours degree for the first time, increasing the choice available to students and reflecting the demand for vocational subjects.

Postgraduate Programmes

St Mary's now offers masters degrees in the following programmes

MA Applied Linguistics and English Language Teaching
MA Bioethics
MA Catechesis (also offered at Exeter and Portsmouth)
MA Catholic School Leadership
MA Chaplaincy Studies
MA Directing
MA Education (CPD for School Improvement)
MA Education (Professional Values and Practice)
MA Health, Nutrition and Activity
MA Pastoral Theology (also offered at Exeter and Portsmouth)
MA Religion and Conflict
MA Religions History
MSc Sport Performance
MSc Sport Rehabilitation
Graduate Diploma in Sport Rehabilitation
(for those with a Sport Science Degree)

Increase in Undergraduate Applications

We are delighted to report that undergraduate applications for 2005 entry have shown a significant increase in nearly all programme areas with applications for teacher training being particularly buoyant. The reasons for this may include recruitment activity, the increased range of options for students, widening participation work, national recruitment campaigns and possibly the effects of variable fees starting in 2006. Whatever the reasons for this increase, it is very positive news.

We still need your help!

We all know how much the college has to offer not only in terms of the range of courses available but also the support that it offers to students and its academic and employment success rates. From surveys of students we know that recommendation is a very important way for people to find out about us.

You may be a teacher and may be able to draw your students' attention to the opportunities at St Mary's or want us to come in to visit. You may know someone who may be interested in courses that we run. You may be interested in returning to college for postgraduate study or continuing professional development. In fact, if you can see any way that we might be able to work together to spread the word about St Mary's we would be delighted to hear from you. Please complete the card enclosed in this magazine or contact the Recruitment Team on 0208 2314/4156

Moving Forward to 2006

Setting the level of the new variable fees for 2006 was high on the list of priorities for all universities earlier this year and St Mary's was no exception. After careful discussion it has been decided to charge £3000 for all undergraduate programmes in line with nearly all higher education institutions. However, the college is pleased to announce a package of bursaries and scholarships to help students finance their studies. This includes a bursary of £300 for all full time students and additional bursaries of up to £900 depending on the household income of students. There will also be entry scholarships of up to £1000 for gifted and talented students who can make a contribution to the college in sporting excellence, or cultural and community work. More information is available on 0208 240 4093.

OPEN FOR ALL

Next Open Days

Saturday 18th September
Wednesday 26th October

Open Evening

Wednesday November 2nd

Potential students and their families or friends can see the campus and hear more about the courses on offer.

Visitors should book in advance if possible on 0208 240 2314

The St Mary's College Credit Card

Help St Mary's at No Cost to You!

For further information contact MBNA on this free number
(charges may apply to mobile phone users)

0800 028 2440

St Mary's College Alumni Merchandise

Our book, '150 years of St Mary's College', gives a full account of our fascinating history. This beautifully presented volume includes many previously unpublished photographs.

The college badge, featuring our coat of arms in full colour, is an inexpensive way of showing the world that you are a Simmarian. Our bear sports a white ribbon embroidered with the coat of arms in blue and is produced by one of the world's best-known toy manufacturers. The tie is in blue fabric and features the coat of arms in full colour. Finally, the limited edition blue and white porcelain anniversary mug will brighten any coffee break.

Please complete the order form and post to: The PR and Alumni Office, St Mary's College, Waldegrave Road, Twickenham, TW1 4SX.

Your order should be dispatched within fourteen days of receipt.



There may be a surcharge for overseas deliveries, please contact the Alumni Office for further information.

Badge	£0.99	<input type="checkbox"/>	I enclose my cheque/ postal order (sterling only) for the total amount payable to: St Mary's College.
Teddy Bear	£11.99	<input type="checkbox"/>	Please deliver to:
Coat of Arms Tie	£7.99	<input type="checkbox"/>	Name: _____
Gothic Window Tie <small>(old design)</small>	£5.99	<input type="checkbox"/>	Address: _____
Anniversary Mug	£2.99	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
150 Years of St Marys	£4.99	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Total amount payable	£ <input type="text"/>		Post code: _____ Tel: _____