**Black History Month Virtual Table Talk:**

**‘Why do we need black history month’**

**Thursday, 22nd October from 2 – 3pm**.

**Join:** [Obi Oputa](https://www.linkedin.com/in/obieze-oputa-92529633/) and [Melina Healy,](https://www.linkedin.com/in/melina-healy-4a215690/?originalSubdomain=uk) and [Femi Yusoof,](https://www.linkedin.com/in/femiyusoof/) and Kene Umeasiegbu and St Mary’s students

**Register:** Sign up for your place on our [**webinar registration page**](https://stmarys.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_z68ZWDQcSEuAbMmX6IXoxw)

Every October we celebrate Black History Month. Why? What does it really mean and represent? Do we still need it today, given the multi-cultural society we live in?

A virtual table talk made up of St Mary’s staff, students and external guests will meet to explore and discuss the relevance (or not) of black history month to them.

Join us in an open and inclusive space where we seek to learn and understand by sharing our experiences, thoughts and knowledge.

**About the speakers:**

 [Obi](https://www.linkedin.com/in/obieze-oputa-92529633/) has been a Careers Consultant for nearly 4 years, having worked at the University of Arts London before settling at St Mary's. Previous experience includes recruitment and account management. Obi holds an undergraduate degree in Law (LLB) and is currently studying towards a postgraduate degree in Careers Guidance in Higher Education.

[Mel](https://www.linkedin.com/in/melina-healy-4a215690/?originalSubdomain=uk) is a Learning Academic Development lecturer here at St Mary’s, having recently joined in January 2020. Her role is focused on driving student engagement and experience, and research in the area of student attainment. She has prior is an experienced Sports Therapist and a published author.

[Femi](https://www.linkedin.com/in/femiyusoof/) is the Employer Engagement lead at St Mary’s University, and also a published author. He has expertise in recruitment, business consultancy and partnership working, having worked in higher education and welfare to work sectors. He sits on and has sat across several board committees focused on development local communities, educations and nurturing young people.

Kene Umeasiegbu is Tesco’s Campaigns Director, responsible for building societal trust in the company. He was previously Tesco’s Head of Environment, addressing climate change, renewables and zero deforestation.