



St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London

Faculty of Education, Theology, & the Arts

## **FETTA Newsletter March 2024**

Welcome to March's edition of the FETTA Newsletter, coming at a time when our Level 6 undergraduates are getting stuck into dissertations and entering the last stretch of their time with us, and we prepare for postgraduate graduation ceremonies in the coming days.

We have two particularly interesting interviews today, so read below about our PGCE Secondary Physics student, Mahendra Desai, and Senior Lecturer & Course Lead of Languages Lisa Panford, both of whom give a remarkable insight into the support and concern displayed by our staff, for the future of our students.

There's lots going on in the Faculty at the moment, so do take a look at the events and see if anything is of interest. After all, 'truth is wrought out by many minds working together freely'.



**Prof Jacob Phillips**  
**Interim Dean of the Faculty of Education, Theology, and the Arts**

## **Professor of Systematic Theology**

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### **What's on in FETTA during March and April?**



**Meet a FETTA Student.**  
**This month we talked to Mahendra Desai, who is studying PGCE Secondary Science (Physics) with QTS**



**Tell us a bit about yourself and why you chose to study at St Mary's**

I had been teaching children Physics in India for 8 years, and my students had been securing places in really prestigious medical and engineering institutions, but I thought it was a good time to re-examine my own practice. I started to look at how the Physics curriculum in the UK is more practical based and I thought there was much to learn by doing a PGCE here. I found St Mary's on Google! I knew I wanted to be near London because it's such a vibrant city, I could see the University had a great reputation and everyone I contacted was helpful and friendly, so I took a leap of faith.

**How are you finding being an overseas student here?**

It's my first time in the UK, so there is a lot to get used to, but I like the challenges and I am loving it here actually. My department really looks after overseas students. Jim Moreland is great also Rob Campbell, always talking to us and checking in, it's a really supportive environment.

**Is there a particular staff member you would like to give a shout out too, who particularly inspired or supported you?**

Yes, Sarah Batty. She's actually the Course Lead for PGCE History, so not my department at all. Right at the beginning of semester one, my first assignment was due I was with my friend Abitha Balashanmugam in the refectory and we were stressed and tense because the deadline was coming and we were really not sure how to do it. Sarah walked past, she was actually on her way home and she noticed we were worried and she stopped and asked us if she could help at all. She sat and gave us her time to help explain how to tackle it, she also gave us some resources and I really appreciate that she stayed after her working day to help.

**What is your proudest or most memorable moment at St Mary's**

Most memorable is teaching a practical using oobleck with a group of SEND children, such a simple experiment, but so much fun and they were so engaged with this liquid that when you hit it becomes a solid

**Tell us about something you do outside of university.**

I play cricket and I'm hoping to join a club in time for the summer.

**What do you want to do in the future?**

I'd like to stay in the UK and teach Physics at least in the short term.

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**Meet a FETTA Colleague**

**This month we talked to Lisa Panford, Senior Lecturer & Course Lead of Languages (PGCE Secondary with QTS)**



**Tell us a bit about yourself and how you came to be Senior Lecturer at St Mary's**

I was a teacher of languages for 15 years in secondary schools in West London and was involved in teacher development and the professional development of student teachers within the school context. I applied for a part-time lecturing role here and met Annalise Gordon and Glennis Pye. It was immediately obvious to me that under their guidance, I'd have brilliant opportunities and support to grow. I took over Course Leadership when I joined the team full time in 2021. I'm currently studying for my EdDoc at SMU and my research draws on my experiences as educator and student of languages, to highlight the complexities that People of Colour face in the language classroom.

**What do you enjoy most about working here?**

One of the best things is bearing witness to the development of trainee teachers' confidence over the course of the year, that's such a privilege. The other thing is that I still get to be in schools. I still identify as a teacher - my safe space is still the classroom....specifically the Year 9 classroom! They get a lot of flack as a year group for testing boundaries – but I love their burgeoning confidence, the difficult questions they sometimes ask and all of the potential and brilliance that lies ahead.

That being said I enjoy a greater sense of autonomy in my role now. So many of us at the School of Education (SoE) are grounded in our professional experiences in schools and that makes for a really collaborative and supportive environment. The development of research across the SoE, for example, the new direction of CREMCYA, makes it an exciting place to work.

**You were part of the self-assessment team, whose hard work led St Mary's to achieve the Bronze Race Equality Charter Award – can you tell us about that?**

Professionally and personally, this has been a really powerful experience. On a personal note, I have met colleagues across the whole University and formed deep-friendships, we have a fantastic network of support. The submission was a long and challenging process but it was important to help us to identify trends, gaps in our data and most importantly, articulate a series of action points to improve racial equity within our institution. But the submission is just the start. It's enormously encouraging that the University has made this commitment to prioritise race equity. Now the work begins!

**Who inspires you?**

I am drawn to the body of literature written by Black female academics (hooks, Lorde, Ahmed) whose work inspires and sustains me. I am inspired by this generation of young people – my 11 year old calls out and challenges injustices way more than I did at that age – that feels hopeful in the broader sense (not necessarily when I am trying to get him out of the house and to school on time). My sense of urgency is definitely selfishly propelled by my own children and the world we are leaving for them.

**If you could have another job for a day, what would you do?**

Teaching (in the right conditions) is the best job in the world.

**Do you have a secret talent?**

Absolutely not. Does encyclopaedic knowledge (definite hyperbole) of 00s garage and hip hop count? My 5-year-old would say I give good hugs.

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St Mary's  
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London

School of Liberal  
& Creative Arts

## School of Liberal & Creative Arts Research Seminar Series

**Speaker**  
**Dr Stewart McCain**



**Tuesday**  
**19th March**  
**5.30pm**  
**Senior**  
**Common**  
**Room**

### **‘Migrant Voices: Sound, Citizenship and Immigration in Twentieth Century Britain’**

There will be wine and snacks. Please come and enjoy  
a lively conversation and discussion.

If you would like to give a seminar paper in the series,  
please email [michelle.paull@stmarys.ac.uk](mailto:michelle.paull@stmarys.ac.uk)

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School of Liberal  
& Creative Arts

## School of Liberal & Creative Arts Research Seminar Series

**Speaker**

**Dr Richard Mills**

**Tuesday  
16th April**

**5.30pm**

**Senior  
Common  
Room**

**Speaking  
about his latest  
monograph for  
Bloomsbury  
Academic Press  
“The Beatles and  
Black Music”**

There will be wine and snacks.  
Please come and enjoy a lively  
conversation and discussion.

If you would like to give a seminar paper in the series,  
please email [michelle.paull@stmarys.ac.uk](mailto:michelle.paull@stmarys.ac.uk)



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& Creative Arts

# St Mary's School of Liberal & Creative Arts'

## Festival of Creativity

SAT 20  
APRIL –  
SUN 5  
MAY





## **Welcome** to The School of Liberal and Creative Arts' inaugural Festival of Creativity, which we hope will be an awakening celebration of the treasures, wonders and delights emanating from our new School.

Running over 20 days and featuring over 50 separate events, the Festival showcases the work of students and staff working across our programmes of study, outreaching wherever possible to cultural and creative venues across the Borough.

The Festival has been curated by a collaborative staff and student team and, whether you're interested in film screenings, live performances, installations, music, debate, exhibitions, new research, literature, local heritage, digital futures, journalism, photography, partying, or simply seeing St Mary's campus with fresh eyes, there is something here for you!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Mark at [mark.griffin@stmarys.ac.uk](mailto:mark.griffin@stmarys.ac.uk). If you're interested in bringing a cohort or class to any Festival events, please do reach out to Meg at [schools.colleges@stmarys.ac.uk](mailto:schools.colleges@stmarys.ac.uk).

### **Ticketing and registration**

Please visit [www.stmarys.ac.uk/fetta/school-of-liberal-and-creative-arts/festival-of-creativity/ticketing-information.aspx](http://www.stmarys.ac.uk/fetta/school-of-liberal-and-creative-arts/festival-of-creativity/ticketing-information.aspx) to view the ticketing and registration information for each event.

For on campus events at St Mary's, our £5 one-time purchase wristband provides access to multiple festival events. These can be purchased in advance on campus or at the door of applicable events. For some external events, separate registration and purchasing of tickets will be in place as detailed online.

## Festival schedule

### Events at St Mary's University

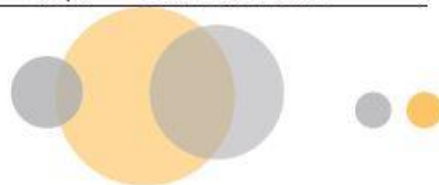
All of the following events are taking place at St Mary's University. Throughout the Festival, there will be music in the Dolce Vita Café performed by student musicians, and attendees will be able to take part in an interactive tour around campus curated by Liberal Arts students. For details and overviews of each event, please visit [www.stmarys.ac.uk/fetta/school-of-liberal-and-creative-arts/festival-of-creativity/home.aspx](http://www.stmarys.ac.uk/fetta/school-of-liberal-and-creative-arts/festival-of-creativity/home.aspx).

Date	Event	Time	Place
Saturday 20th April	School of Liberal & Creative Arts Experience Day	10am	St Mary's University
Sunday 21st April	Festival of Creativity Opening Night Launch	6pm	Waldegrave Drawing Room
Monday 22nd April	Student and Staff Research Conference – Liberal and Creative Arts focus	10am-1pm	D121
Monday 22nd April	<i>Proof</i> by David Auburn (performance)	7.30pm	St Mary's Theatre
Tuesday 23rd April	<i>Three Sisters</i> by Benedict Andrews (performance)	7.30pm	St Mary's Theatre
Wednesday 24th April	Student and Staff Research Conference – Theology focus	10am-1pm	D121
Friday 26th April	Student and Staff Research Conference – Liberal and Creative Arts focus	10am-1pm	Senior Common Room
Friday 26th April	<i>Three Sisters</i> by Benedict Andrews (performance)	3.30pm	St Mary's Theatre
Friday 26th April	<i>Proof</i> by David Auburn (performance)	7.30pm	St Mary's Theatre
Saturday 27th April	Youth Theatre Opening Morning	11am-1pm	St Mary's University
Saturday 27th April	<i>Proof</i> by David Auburn (performance)	3.30pm	St Mary's Theatre
Saturday 27th April	<i>Three Sisters</i> by Benedict Andrews (performance)	7.30pm	St Mary's Theatre
Monday 29th April	The Strawberry Hill Poetry Prize	7.30pm	Senior Common Room
Tuesday 30th April	Student and Staff Research Conference – Papers from The Bakhita Centre for Research on Slavery, Exploitation and Abuse	10am-1pm	Senior Common Room
Tuesday 30th April	<i>Animal Farm, after George Orwell</i> (performance)	7.30pm	St Mary's Theatre
Wednesday 1st May	Student and Staff Research Conference – Papers with a Business and Communications focus	10am-1pm	Senior Common Room
Wednesday 1st May	<i>Chaos</i> (performance) by Laura Lomas	1pm	St Mary's Theatre
Friday 3rd May	Student and Staff Research Conference – Papers with a Law and Society focus	10am-1pm	Senior Common Room
Friday 3rd May	Student Magazine Launch	1pm	Dolche Vita
Friday 3rd May	<i>Chaos</i> (performance) by Laura Lomas	3.30pm	St Mary's Theatre
Friday 3rd May	<i>Animal Farm, after George Orwell</i> (performance)	7.30pm	St Mary's Theatre
Saturday 4th May	<i>Animal Farm, after George Orwell</i> (performance)	3.30pm	St Mary's Theatre
Saturday 4th May	<i>Chaos</i> by Laura Lomas (performance)	7.30pm	St Mary's Theatre

## Events hosted locally or at community venues

All the following events are taking place off campus or at The Exchange. Throughout the Festival, The Exchange will host an exhibition of student-curated photographic work and the Riverside Gallery, Richmond will showcase the best short films and trailers made by our BA Film students; both are free to enter. For details and overviews of each event, please visit [www.stmarys.ac.uk/fetta/school-of-liberal-and-creative-arts/festival-of-creativity/home.aspx](http://www.stmarys.ac.uk/fetta/school-of-liberal-and-creative-arts/festival-of-creativity/home.aspx).

Date	Event	Time	Place
Tuesday 23rd April	<i>What I learnt studying film</i> – A presentation from Bella Gale	2pm	Riverside Gallery, Richmond
Tuesday 23rd April	<i>Animal Farm, after George Orwell</i> (performance)	7.30pm	West Thames College
Wednesday 24th April	Walking Tour of Eel Pie Island with Richard Mills	1pm	Eel Pie Island
Wednesday 24th April	<i>The World of Disney</i> – A talk by Lee Brooks	2pm	Riverside Gallery, Richmond
Wednesday 24th April	<i>Animal Farm, after George Orwell</i> (performance)	7.30pm	West Thames College
Wednesday 24th April	<i>Do Not Go Far</i> (gig theatre)	7.30pm	OGO Arts Centre, Barnes
Thursday 25th April	<i>An Introduction into The Lord of the Rings</i> – A talk by Damian O'Byrne	2pm	Riverside Gallery, Richmond
Thursday 25th April	<i>Animal Farm, after George Orwell</i> (performance)	3.30pm	West Thames College
Thursday 25th April	<i>Chaos</i> , by Laura Lomas (performance)	7.30pm	Hounslow Arts Centre
Thursday 25th April	<i>Do Not Go Far</i> (gig theatre)	7.30pm	OGO Arts Centre, Barnes
Friday 26th April	<i>Cinema and AI</i> – A talk by Fallon Parker	2pm	Riverside Gallery, Richmond
Friday 26th April	<i>Chaos</i> , by Laura Lomas (performance)	7.30pm	Hounslow Arts Centre
Saturday 27th April	<i>Chaos</i> , by Laura Lomas (performance)	7.30pm	Hounslow Arts Centre
Sunday 28th April	<i>The Space – Theatre of Survival</i> (documentary screening)	5pm	The Exchange
Monday 29th April	Patched in – expert masterclasses	1pm-6pm	The Patch Creative Hub, Twickenham
Wednesday 1st May	The Beatles – A walking tour with Richard Mills	1pm	Meet at St Mary's University main reception
Wednesday 1st May	<i>Cinema – the Producer's View</i> – A talk by Joy Mellins and Dave Shanks	2pm	Riverside Gallery, Richmond
Wednesday 1st May	<i>Proof</i> , by David Auburn (performance)	7.30pm	OGO Arts Centre, Barnes
Thursday 2nd May	<i>Contemporary French Cinema</i> – A talk by Sophie Belot	2pm	Riverside Gallery, Richmond
Thursday 2nd May	The Big Debate!	5.30pm	The Exchange
Thursday 2nd May	<i>Behave</i> (2023) – Film Screening	7.30pm	The Exchange
Thursday 2nd May	<i>Three Sisters</i> , by Benedict Andrews (performance)	7.30pm	OGO Arts Centre, Barnes
Friday 3rd May	<i>Proof</i> , by David Auburn (performance)	7.30pm	OGO Arts Centre, Barnes
Saturday 4th May	<i>Three Sisters</i> , by Benedict Andrews (performance)	7.30pm	OGO Arts Centre, Barnes
Sunday 5th May	<i>Three Sisters</i> , by Benedict Andrews (performance)	3.30pm	OGO Arts Centre, Barnes
Sunday 5th May	Wrap party	6.30pm	OGO Arts Centre, Barnes





Please help to share news about this event by adding this icon to your e mail signature, the embedded hyperlink connects to the Festival page on our SMU web site. Many thanks



### **SCALA students launch SAINTS magazine**

St Mary's Creative Writing Society announces the launch of SAINTS magazine, which covers topics that range from arts and culture, politics and society, sports, fashion and beauty, and of course, creative writing. Issue 1 features the collective talents of students across the University who have made this wonderful publication a reality. If you would like to contribute to the next magazine please contact [stmaryscreativewritingsoc@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryscreativewritingsoc@gmail.com).



### **Creative Writing Society Annual Poetry Competition**

The Strawberry Hill Poetry Prize is an annual competition open to all students at St Mary's. First place is awarded £100, with two runners-up prizes of £25 each. Submit any one poem of less than 50 lines to be in for a chance of winning. Submissions open from February 12th - March 24th. The winners will be announced on the 29th of April, in person in the Waldegrave Drawing Room. This year our competition will be judged by published authors, Dr Richard Mills and William Pittam.  
[www.stmaryssu.co.uk](http://www.stmaryssu.co.uk)

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### **Launch of new research centre announced**



#### **Centre for Wellbeing in Education: open meeting**

A new Centre for Wellbeing in Education has been established at St Mary's. The centre aims to explore opportunities and challenges related to:

- the wellbeing of children and young people in schools and colleges.
- the wellbeing of educators in schools and colleges.
- the wellbeing of students and staff in higher education institutions.

The CWE aims to be a space where diverse voices are represented, and a range of perspectives related to wellbeing in education are shared. Please join us for an open meeting on **Tuesday 19th March at 4pm**. We will share a brief overview of current projects and look forward to co-creating ideas for lots more. All colleagues are welcome. Book your place here: <https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/announcements/2024/02/centre-wellbeing-education>

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**New PgCert launched**

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# PgCert in Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)



PgCert	Part-time	2.2	12 months	September
Award	Mode of study	Previous degree required	Duration	Start date

This course combines the study and application of practice and theory to develop the pedagogical knowledge to effectively work with learner with special educational needs and disabilities.

[www.stmarys.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/pgcert-education-send](http://www.stmarys.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/pgcert-education-send)

### Why study this course?

This course is relevant to anyone involved in teaching and learning wishing to advance their knowledge, practice and pedagogy in the field of SEND. You will develop a depth of understanding of a range of SEND across all phases of compulsory education. You will be supported to apply your learning to practical situations within your own setting, using your knowledge to drive effective change in inclusive SEND provision and practice. You will be introduced to seminal and cutting-edge theory and research and consider how this links to current policy and practice. You will also be encouraged to consider wider concepts of inclusion and leadership in SEND.

### Why choose St Mary's?

This programme builds on our long tradition of excellence in teacher education. The success of this course lies in bespoke delivery and the quality of teaching offered. You can study face-to-face, online or a mix of the two. This will allow you to fit your studies around your current commitments, regardless of your location. You will work with lecturers who have a background in teaching as well as experience in research. The course is enriched by visiting experts (e.g. in sensory impairment, dyslexia, child/adolescent mental health). Your learning is also personalised through one-to-one tutorials.

### Teaching methods

Modules are taught either on 3 Saturdays across a semester or in fortnightly twilight sessions. Tutorials are offered in-person or online and arranged at times to suit your work commitments.

### Assessment methods

- Module 1: written assignment (5,000 words) and oral presentation
- Module 2: written assignment (6,000 words)

### Career Opportunities

Students may go on to apply for specific roles linked to SEND (e.g. school SENCO). The 60 credits gained from the course can be put towards a postgraduate diploma (120 credits) or masters degree (180 credits) offered through the MA Education pathways.

### Modules

- Module 1: Critical Perspectives on SEND and Inclusive Practice in Schools
- Module 2: Developing Effective and Inclusive Pedagogies for Learners with SEND



### Entry requirements

You will normally be expected to possess a good honours degree (2:2 or above) from a UK university or an equivalent qualification approved by the University.

### Additional requirement information

Experience of working in an educational setting or a relevant professional interest is also required.

### International requirements

International students should check our country-specific website pages for equivalents. If English is not your first language you will need to achieve an IELTS score of 6.5 overall with no less than 6.0 in any section.



### Course Lead

Dr Clare Martin  
E: [clare.martin@stmarys.ac.uk](mailto:clare.martin@stmarys.ac.uk)



### Contact us

T: +44 (0) 20 8240 2314  
E: [student.recruitment@stmarys.ac.uk](mailto:student.recruitment@stmarys.ac.uk)



### Visit us

Visit us at one of our regular open events or campus tours: [www.stmarys.ac.uk/open-events](http://www.stmarys.ac.uk/open-events)

### 2024 entry

Information accurate at the time of writing, February 2023. For the most up-to-date information please see our website.

### Testimonials

*"It has been so easy to align my learning with my role in school. I can already see how my practice is going to develop so that our provision for youngsters with SEND is more effective."*

*"[The tutor] was very knowledgeable, helpful and extremely thought-provoking in her discussions at University and communicative and supportive via email/tutorials."*



### **CREMCYA conference & call for papers**

CREMCYA is delighted to announce a conference on the theme of 'Reflection and Evaluation: Challenging the Mainstream' on Monday 8th July from approximately 10:30 am-4:30pm.

The in-person event at The Exchange & Heatham House Youth Club in Twickenham will explore evaluation in relation to work with children and young people, through exploring different ways of knowing, co-production and moving beyond 'impact'.

[The call for papers can be found here.](#) We are encouraging a wide variety of contributors from a range of backgrounds. Please contact [mike.seal@stmary.ac.uk](mailto:mike.seal@stmary.ac.uk) if you have any questions about a possible contribution.

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The Academic Development  
team presents the annual

St Mary's  
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# Festival of Learning and Teaching

Wednesday  
19th June  
2024

Call for Papers  
by 5pm Friday  
19th April

Scan me



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**Notices from our SU this month**

Our recently published cost-of-living report found that last year, 53% of St Mary's students struggled to afford food and groceries. In response we have launched our "SU pantry", providing food, toiletries and sanitary products to students in need. **The SU pantry** is completely reliant on donations.

**We currently need donations of the following items...**

- Toiletries (Toilet Roll, Shampoo, Conditioner, Shower Gel etc.)
- Non-Perishable food items (Canned foods, Long-life Milk, Tea/coffee etc.)
- Sanitary Products (individually wrapped and unopened)
- Stationery (Notebooks, etc.)

**We have now set up a page through which we can accept monetary donations.**

**If you would like to donate to the SU Pantry, you can do so here:**

**<https://checkout.square.site/merchant/P44XM5VRDQB1N/checkout/LTZCR7CBN2UT75ZSGGDMBFFH>**

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If you wish to unsubscribe from our newsletter, click [here](#)



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