

smh

2006 Zoo 7

cover star:
may turner
look at me now

the height of
fashion
how we appeal

07

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Look at me now!

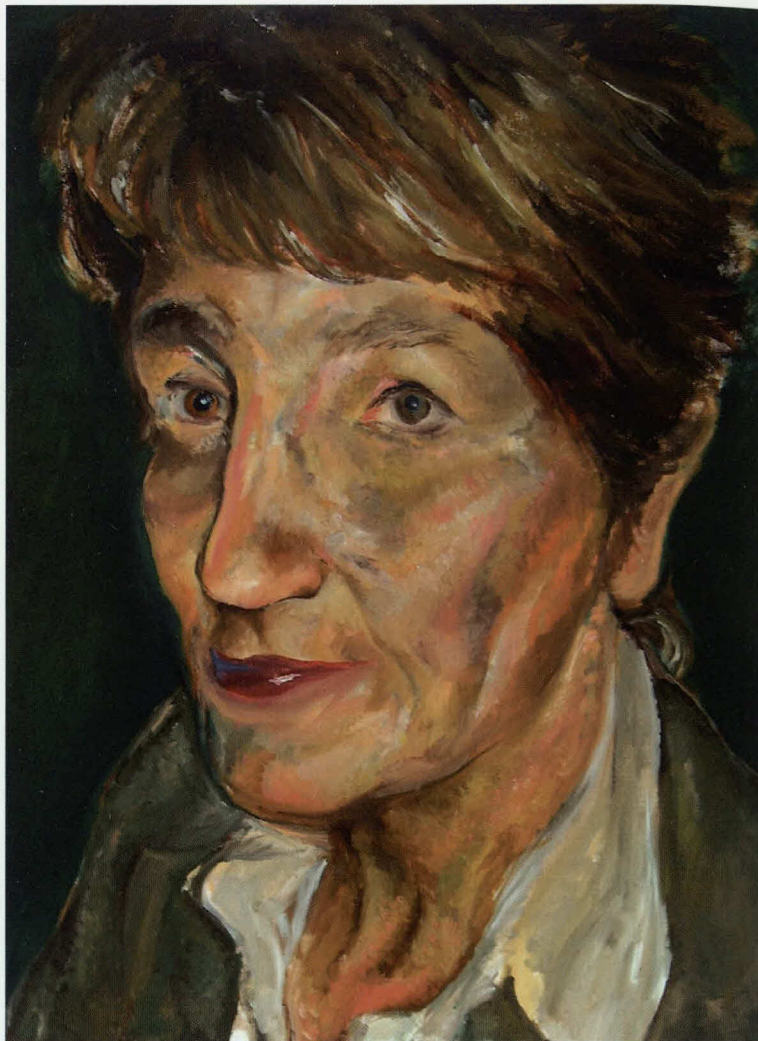
The first time I saw this portrait of myself was when I was asked to proof-read the magazine! I had never sat for a portrait before and, although honoured to be painted by such an accomplished artist as Carol, I was unnerved to be under such close scrutiny, working at my desk, while Carol sketched and photographed and peered at me from a variety of angles!

It must have been a daunting task for Carol, too! Her A-Level project, "Three Heads" (The Chairman of Governors, the Head of Art and myself) was undertaken with the quiet confidence, courtesy and sensitivity of an expert portrait painter. I hope you will view the finished pieces and other wonderful artwork at our Summer Exhibition!

At St Mary's Hall, the students often experience exciting leaps in confidence and self-esteem when they achieve success, either in or outside the classroom, studying or playing, creating or performing. In this year's magazine, I hope you will enjoy some colourful glimpses of "Educating for Confidence". It's not all hard work; there's plenty of fun and laughter to be had, too!

My warmest thanks to the Editors – Mrs Christine Hargreaves and Mr Jock Peebles – for so skilfully collating some of this year's highlights.

Sue Meek
Headmistress



Carol Pau, A Portrait of the Headmistress. Oil on Canvas. 2007
Carol is one of our Art Scholars.
She has gained a place at Chelsea Art College for next year.

From an old girl

Dear staff and students at St Mary's Hall,

I thought I would write to SMH and let you know about what I've been up to since I completed my studies with you.

During my sixth form studies I applied to take part in the Malawi expedition as part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, which takes place every two years for the whole of July. I was lucky enough to be one of the sixteen students offered a place. The first three weeks were spent in Malawi, the last ten days were in Kenya, staying at various locations, camping most of the

time - at one site we had an early morning visit from some local elephants giving us an unusual and very instant wake up call!

I was honoured to have been made to feel so welcomed by all the people we met, worked with and visited during our time in Malawi and Kenya. The trip was a truly amazing experience and I will cherish always my memories of every day of the whole expedition and how fortunate I feel as a result. I aim to return to Nkhotakota and look forward to being

able to help again in any way that I can.

I enrolled for the Duke of Edinburgh's Scheme, in 2002, whilst at St Mary's Hall. The Malawi expedition counted as the residential part of my Gold Award and was an amazing end to all my efforts and experiences, throughout the four years it has taken for me to successfully gain all three Awards. Achieving them has broadened my outlook on life and given me some valuable skills, which will always be an asset to me. I am now waiting to hear when I will be able to

collect my third and last certificate!

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all my teachers and the staff at St Mary's Hall. I appreciate the encouragement and support I was given throughout my twelve years there, both academically and personally, and realise how lucky I was to have been part of the 'family', which St Mary's Hall was for me.

Rosie Holman-Nicholas
Ex-SMH Student

Say hello...



This year saw a change of leadership at our Junior School. We said goodbye to Mrs Hazel Hawtin, who retired at Easter after a number of years service and we welcomed in her place Mr Huw May. We asked Mr May to introduce himself to us.



...wave goodbye

I was born and brought up in Bridgend, South Wales. Whilst at school I developed a passion for music and trained as a singer, at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, for five years. Following my college days I worked as a freelance singer and during this time undertook a job singing in the Metropolitan Cathedral in Cardiff. Part of this role was to teach the boys singing and from this point onwards I was hooked on teaching. I decided that I wanted to be a teacher and so I trained and

worked for ten years in Wales, before taking up the post of Head of Pre-Prep at St Aubyns School, Rottingdean six years ago. I have recently been appointed as Head of the Junior School and I am thoroughly enjoying working at St Mary's Hall. The children, staff and parents have made me so welcome and this has made my transition so pleasurable. St Mary's Hall Junior School is a hidden gem in Brighton. The facilities and teaching are second to none and I am so excited about its future. I hope to meet all the parents

in my first term and take St Mary's Hall Junior School into the next stage of its development. My vision for St Mary's is to build on the excellent work of Mrs Hazel Hawtin. St Mary's Hall is not a 'hot house' but a 'green house' where the whole child blossoms. The core subjects of English, Maths, Science and ICT are central to any child's development but are not the only areas of development. Coupled with these subjects must go the Expressive Arts, History, Geography, Physical

Education and an understanding of the world around them, in which they will play their part. St Mary's ensures breadth of experience for all pupils. St Mary's Hall enables all children to reach their full potential in all areas, in partnership with parents. It truly is a two way process. Children must receive individualised learning and this is not just for the less able but more able too!

Huw May
Head of Junior School

Au revoir mais non pas adieu!

Lou Scandian, Teacher of Spanish

After 11 years at St Mary's Hall, as Head of Modern Foreign Languages (MFL), Mme Vincent-Gill is retiring at the end of this academic year to an undisclosed 'chalet tres bijou dans les Pyrénées!'

The School will miss her energy, enthusiasm and the passion with which she led the MFL Department and wish her a well-deserved and enjoyable retirement.

Un grand merci à vous Mme Vincent-Gill



Mme Elenore Vincent-Gill, our Head of Modern Foreign Languages is leaving this year.

A new look, a fresh start



This year we said goodbye to St Hilary House. This beautiful but decaying building housed our sixth form boarding and common room facilities. It seemed that repairs were constantly being made to the woodwork and infrastructure in what was becoming a

frustrating and difficult home for our girls to live in. On completion of our new Junior School buildings, we recognised a potential for improvement. The vacated Elliott House was refurbished and redeveloped for sixth form use, just in time for Christmas.



Pictured left: Rebecca Pridmore and Alice Heans, above: Mrs Riley-Stewart with Ruby Ho and below: Chloe Sachikonye, Karen Ma and governors, Mr Andrew Russell and Mr Anthony Elliott, a descendant of Henry Venn Elliott with Mrs Meek at the official opening of Elliott House.



This modern building has now transformed into an incredible home for our sixth form boarding students and we now accommodate all our oldest girls in single study bedrooms. As well as this, the trendy, sleek building caters for our day students in what has become a light and relaxed environment.

We think you will agree.



Pictured left: Karen Ma and Mornie Tsang and above: a view of the new communal kitchen area .

Venn House 2006-2007

Meg Wilcox, Housemistress

This year has been one of refurbishment and make over, 'the house is more like a home now' commented a Year 10 girl. Pictures have appeared along every corridor 'Cool. A great idea but we would like more with men in!' (Year 11). Fresh flowers in the entrance hall 'a sophisticated touch', (Year 11). Bowls of bulbs and plants on windowsills and landings, modern lampshades in most bedrooms 'they make the room look like a teenager's room at last', (Year 9). An array of cushions in the common room 'what a great idea, so comfy' (Year 8). New throws on the settees and new noodle bowls and plates.

The staff have worked hard, producing 13 individual cushions, new curtains for 8 rooms and spending the February half term painting and refurbishing the extension. There is now a carpeted end and comfortable furniture, more open, floor space for practising for the all-important talent shows and new curtains at the patio doors. New sofas and bookcases are on order.

Life in the house has been lively and interesting. There have been ups and downs, far more ups than downs I am glad to report, and it has been encouraging to see how the girls support each other during difficult times as well as celebrating happy times.

Weekend activities have been greatly revamped and now most Saturdays there is a mini bus full of girls leaving school to go off exploring. We have been to the Science Centre at Herstonceux. 'This is amazing' (Year 7) – very much hands on and very child friendly, we could have stayed all day. Another day saw us off to the dry ski slope at Knockhatch 'watch out Mrs Maguire I'm coming' (Year 9) and Erica simply could not go in a straight line - exhausting and fun. Ice skating at Guildford and swimming in the leisure pool have been greatly enjoyed. Some girls reached quite amazing speeds on the ice. Golf lessons proved very popular and we seem to have some talent in house – so watch out Tiger Woods.

May Bank Holiday weekend will see two members of staff and 14 girls off to the Isle of Wight 'Do we need passports? (a wary Year 5). We will stay overnight in a Youth Hostel, visit Osborne House, an animal park, go shopping, go shopping again and eat far too many sweets and ice cream. We shall have a great time.

The house committees organised some great parties at Halloween and Christmas. We will never forget the sight of Jemimah ducking for apples, flour covered faces after grabbing marshmallows out of flour, dancing and dancing, pass the parcel (never too old for a good old party game) and the delight of Secret Santa. A talent show brought about weeks of intense practice, dancing in the extension, singing, costumes' trials – the girls who took part were very good indeed. Nina and Katy won with their version of Dirty Dancing, only one mark ahead of Canitta's disco dancing.

These are just some of the activities that we have enjoyed. There have been many others and it is difficult to choose which ones to document. We have welcomed short stay boarders from Spain, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Russia and Switzerland. They have added an extra dimension to life in house and at the time of writing we have 11 different nationalities in Venn. Life in Venn is fun and the girls are enjoying what is on offer, with the house committee always there to offer suggestions as to how life can be further improved. However we must not forget the school work, team practices, matches, Duke of Edinburgh, School play (7 girls from Venn were in the cast and several worked back stage), house plays, orchestra, choir, ballet, speech and drama that also fills their time. I do wonder sometimes how some of the girls have time to sleep!

Cold, lost, alone and away from home, but just loving it

Pictured:
Sophie Bowles with a
newborn lamb.



What would you expect from a Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award practice expedition in March?

Cold winds? Yes.

Lots of hill walking? Of course.

Sophie getting lost? Yes, it's what makes life interesting.

An interesting discovery at a top-of-hill car park? No, that really was unexpected – ask someone in Rachael's group!

A very odd campsite in Seaford?

Yes, sorry about that,

unavoidable I'm afraid.

Sleeping in a designer floral tent?

Yes, if you were in Anna's group.

World-record times for tent

erecting in gale force winds?

Yes, well done!

Finding poetry hidden in trees?

Amazing!

A birthday party for 11 people in a school minibus, with lots of chocolate cake? Perhaps D of E is worth doing after all!

But the most unexpected event was reuniting two newborn lambs with their mother. The picture here tells the story – luckily we had someone with farm experience in the group.

Jayne Dempster

Duke of Edinburgh Award
Co-ordinator

Goodbye and good luck

When Jayne Dempster took over, as Head of Department, from Sheila Crocker many thought she had a hard act to follow. She has however; not only maintained the high standards set previously but has also used her endless energy and enthusiasm to make maths more interesting and approachable to the pupils, running maths clubs,

the Team Challenge Competition and weekly maths quizzes posted on our notice board.

Jayne Dempster is a much respected Head of Department and a good friend and she will be greatly missed.

The Maths Department

Mrs Jayne Dempster, Head of Mathematics, is leaving.

If you are like me and are uncertain what two and two actually adds up to, and think that a logarithm is a piece of wood with syncopation, then, like me, you'll wish that you had had a brilliant Maths teacher like Mrs Dempster. Not only does she make her Maths lessons a pleasure to attend, she brings enthusiasm, humour and

happiness to even the bleakest and blowiest of Duke of Edinburgh trips.

Her legendary skills as a teacher (witness all those fantastic results) are only surpassed by her patience, understanding and good nature with ALL the pupils and staff at SMH. Mrs Dempster is

universally loved, and we are all going to miss her joie de vivre and engaging smile.

Mrs D, we are going to miss you, but we all wish you the very best as you move on to enthral another generation of lucky school children

Jane Abbott



How very enterprising

Young Enterprise - Dream of Fantasy 2006-07

In September 2006, twelve girls in Yr 12 set up a Young Enterprise company called Dream of Fantasy. This name represents the great vision that these girls had – to be innovative in what they do and never give up on the way to fulfil their wildest dream. With lots of support from the company advisors, the link teacher Mrs Riley-Stewart and Miss Shutt, the company succeeded in producing an ultimately original product – a children's story book named "The Path to Growing Up". It was written by a group of company members and illustrated by May Ho, a gifted artist, as well as the Marketing Director of the company. This product was extremely challenging in terms of production and marketing. Since the cost of publication was very high, the company members decided to bind the book themselves! It was very time-consuming and technically demanding, but the girls were committed to producing good-quality, hard-back books.

Production took place in the Dream of Fantasy factory in Elliott House.

Thanks to the support of teachers and students at St Mary's Hall and the friendly congregation at St. George's Church, the sales of the book enabled the company to operate with sufficient financial support and the girls could continue to learn from their experience in this company programme.

The team was able to work together through the highs and lows. The girls' ability to strike a balance between commitment to the company and school work was vital. There were various problems, including communication difficulties within the company and financial strain resulting from poor liquidity. These problems were dealt with in a positive way and the solutions enabled the company to move on and make a good start to 2007.

After reviewing the strengths and weaknesses of the company's progress in 2006, the girls made a lot of improvement



in 2007. A soft-back version of the book was introduced and thus production became more efficient. The book was also available in a CD version to target PC users. A range of merchandise products such as cushions and T-shirts were produced.

The company set up regular stalls outside the Senior School Reception, every lunchtime and in the Junior School every Monday and Friday, at the end of the school day. A very successful sales opportunity was discovered and the company is now selling on Saturday as well,

in the pool block open to the public coming to swimming lessons with the Brighton Swimming School.

In March, the company made its presentation to the judges and is now through to the final. The girls are now preparing for the final night at Roedean on 26th April. Soon after this award ceremony, the company will cease trading and dividends will be distributed to shareholders, along with their original investment.

Kiwi Lau



This creative company won in the following categories at the Brighton, Hove and Lewes area finals for their children's book, "The Path to Growing Up".

Product; 1st prize,
Best presentation; 1st prize,
Best company; 2nd prize,
Best Marketing; 2nd prize,
Best company report; 3rd prize.

Kiwi Lau, Managing Director, won the coveted YOUNG ACHIEVER OF THE YEAR AWARD. In doing this, she was able to beat approximately 200 local Year 12 students.

I would like to thank everyone who helped to make their business run so smoothly and Alison Marsden and Verity Skinner who acted as business advisors.

Company members with Mrs Riley-Stewart and Mrs Meek:

Laura Chaput, Natalie Banfield, Ting Ting Guan, Li Sha Yang, Li Li Zhang, Pui Shan (Krista) Pang, Rachael Smith, Mung Ni (Monica) Lam, Wing Nam (Ivy) Leung, Nga Sze (Kiwi) Lau, Weng In (Rainbow) Lam, Wing Ting (May) Ho

**Mrs Riley-Stewart,
Link Teacher**

In 1831 the Rev Henry Venn Elliott, incumbent of St Mary's, Brighton, first conceived the idea of building a school at Brighton for the education of the daughters of Anglican Clergy, especially those of restricted means. The Marquis of Bristol, who had property in Kemp Town, gave £500 to buy the

land on which the school was built and it opened in 1836. In 1837, the Marquis formulated a scheme, joyfully accepted by Mr Elliott, for the erection of a chapel "which he had so long and so earnestly wished to provide for St Mary's Hall and for the immediate vicinity of Kemp Town." He offered a piece

of land, opposite what were then mews, full of horses and stables, as the site for the new church and provided money to build the skeleton. Various delays and difficulties arose so that it was not until St Matthew's Day, September 21st, 1849 that the church was opened and consecrated. The cost of

furnishing the inside, £4,800, was borne by St Mary's Hall, of which Mr Elliott contributed more than £1,500 himself. The 'Trust of Deed' states that there were 960 seats, 326 were free and that 158 should be free and used by St Mary's Hall pupils in perpetuity and the residue should be reserved for letting, as was

common in Victorian England. A repair fund was set up of £327, sadly far more than that is now needed. Unfortunately the external materials and methods used have not stood the test of time, though the iron pillars have. The architect is unknown but thought to be George Cheesman. In 1872 St Mark's was licensed

for marriages and in 1891 alterations were made which involved the removal of the side galleries, leaving only the back one and adding a shallow sanctuary eastward and a raised platform and chancel westward into the nave. In 1899 an organ was installed and used until 1955. By 1987 St Mark's was

considered redundant by the Church of England and the school trustees decided to take it over, despite a frightening survey. The 1987 October hurricane took many slates off the roof, but after repairs, school assemblies and worship returned to St Mark's. In 2007, further repairs need to be made

and it is hoped to give the Chapel a lasting future for both pupils and the Community as St Mary's Hall Chapel and Arts Centre. To support the Appeal call 01273 647778 or email appeals@stmaryshall.co.uk.

Sue Carnochan
Archivist



Girls' Cricket XI 1902
Led by Miss Wright: B.Binns, M.Hawkins, E.S-Smith, L.Barrett, E.Shirt, M.Chippendall, D.Bloomer, E.Chapman, A.Downes-Shaw, E.Ash, M.Young.



That was then...

The nature of physical education at St Mary's Hall has changed considerably. This change can most easily be seen in these photographs, which are over one hundred years old and from our archive. Girls were expected, even then, to take part in tennis and hockey tournaments, and we even had a girls' cricket team, as seen in the insert opposite. Perhaps most surprisingly, as seen in the main picture, are the swings, which were attached to the quadrangle rafters for all girls to enjoy.

...this is now!



Life at St Mary's Hall has dramatically changed in a century. Girls no longer stay in school for their sports and recreational lessons but go out into the wider community to enjoy a full range of optional activities from horse riding and Kung Fu to wind surfing and golf. As you can see in these pictures, there are no glum faces and everyone is having a tremendous amount of fun whilst maintaining an active and healthy

fitness regime. In Year 10, our girls co ordinate and organise our School Sports Day and all our pupils maintain an active interest in the vast array of competitions and tournaments that are available to us. By refereeing the younger pupils from our Junior School through their own competitions, a sense of responsibility and leadership is felt by our Senior School pupils. It really is true that we educate for confidence.



Mathematics is no challenge for our girls

Jayne Dempster Head of Mathematics

On Wednesday 7 March, four girls (Rebecca Li, Sophie Ballard, Rebecca Brambilla, Vicky Cowlett) went to Lancing College to take part in the 2007 Maths Challenge Regional Finals. The competition comprised four parts; group questions, a mathematical crossword, a head-to-head round and finally finished with a relay, where team members were running back and forth across the gym! Fortunately there weren't too many collisions.

Overall, our girls did really well. They got a special mention at lunchtime, for being one of the best teams in the head-to-head and at the end of the afternoon they finished in sixth place. It was a fun day out and thoroughly enjoyed by all. We look forward to next year!



Pictured: Rebecca, Rebecca, Sophie and Vicky celebrating their success in the 2007 Mathematics Challenge with other girls in Year 9.

National Science Week

National Science week this year was 12th – 16th March and to mark this occasion Year 8 investigated famous Scientists. Pupils looked up information and prepared posters about their chosen Scientist.

Our girls also enjoyed doing experiments suggested by the British Association for the Advancement of Science that would remind them of science in their daily life.

The final day of Science week

coincided with Red Nose Day. We held a lunchtime workshop with the emphasis: 'See Red in Science'. Girls from all years had great fun carrying out experiments, which included making volcanoes with red lava,

bouncing red noses and dyeing flowers red.

Following this successful event the Science Department have plans for similar exciting activities in the future.



If in doubt (perhaps don't) ask Auntie Meg

In school circles, our sage House Mistress, Mrs Wilcox is also known as Auntie Meg. She is an experienced woman and has been dealing with pupils' problems for many years now. She comes with a no nonsense attitude and deals with issues in a way which may be fairly described as being more 'old-school' and traditional. Here is some of the typical advice you could expect to get from her. Disclaimer: The editorial staff cannot and do not take responsibility for any of the advice listed within these columns.

Dear Auntie Meg

I don't know who I can talk to but you see, I have a rash and I mean a RASH. Well there I have said it. Wow. Well I don't know what to do and you should be able to help me as you are an Agony Aunt. Please help.

**Itchy,
Year 7**

Dear Itchy of Year 7

Firstly, well done for writing to me. Did you actually touch the paper you wrote on? I am just a little concerned in case you have something awful that I might catch. You did not say where the rash is, no don't tell me that would be too much information.

I think you should have a long, hot bath with disinfectant and burn your clothes just in case it is something really contagious, then stay away from other people until it goes away.

Well there you are, nothing to worry about really.

Auntie Meg

Dear Auntie Meg

It is my exams soon and I am very worried that I will not do very well. I try so hard to learn the stuff but it never seems to stick in my mind. All my friends say it is dead easy to revise and I find it so hard. Please can you help me?

**Worried,
Year 8**

Dear Worried of Year 8,

Well you certainly have come to the right place. I can help you. I never failed an exam in my life. I always found that you could get a great deal of information pinned on paper underneath your skirt. Remember to use soft paper like toilet roll so you don't rustle. Remember that there are always the toilet breaks too. They can never refuse a bursting bladder; so have plenty of info stashed away in the toilet cubicle. Also soft paper stuck on the inside of your arm will be very useful. If the exam is on the ground floor you can have a friend walk past the window with useful prompt cards, though this is not so easy if it is raining. Hope these little tips help.

Auntie Meg

On meeting the mayor

Gitana Harfleet, Year 6



The Mayor of Brighton signing the St Mary's Hall Visitors' Book on his visit to our school this year.

My Nan and I got out of the car and walked down the road to the Town Hall (from the outside it wasn't the most glamorous place in town).

As we waited in the waiting room, I took pictures of things like old-fashioned police hats, hand cuffs, the tiles on the floor, and the wording on boxes. Then we were shown into a room, where the Mayor shook our hands and invited us in. There was bunting, made from the short-listed flags, draped all around the room and the winning flag in the centre. There were also two beautiful chandeliers and ornaments of gold tigers with jewels cast into them, and a little fan made out of metal, with pandas printed on it. There was a sword, with a gold case and a solid gold mace. Some children, including me,

tried on the Mayor's coat, held his mace, and I had a picture taken with him. Also, all the furniture was once royalty's and all very beautiful. The Mayor told us a story about how he got his gold chain. 160 years ago a mayor from London came to have a banquet with the Mayor of Brighton. The Mayor of Brighton complimented the Mayor of London on his gold chain, and so he gave it to the Mayor of Brighton!

As the children began to eat, the adults started to talk. All the food was things like crisps, cakes, chocolate bars and nuts and raisins.

The reason I was there was because I was short-listed in a flag competition, and so I was invited to the Town Hall to meet the Mayor. When I first got there I was a little scared, and when I saw the Mayor I got even more scared, but as I entered the room my feelings relaxed and I became calm.

A lot of children there were young, and the boy who won looked about six. His picture was a collage of a night scene, with lights on buildings and on the top a bright sun shining down.

Big Knit-In 2006

Isabella Neergaard-Petersen, Year 4

Last year I went to the Big Knit-In and had great fun. It was like a weird and wonderful knitting land. There was a big tree in the garden with wool and pompoms hanging from it - it looked amazing. A large octopus was being knitted with long and colourful

tentacles. Everyone could have a go and help knit the legs to make them longer and longer.

In the tent there were loads of stalls selling balls of wool in beautiful colours and lots of knitting materials. I had never seen giant knitting needles before.

They must have been at least 5 feet long. It was really hard to hold them and knit! You could also have a go at French knitting on a huge loom. I loved trying all the different ways to knit.

At the end of the day some of us helped the design students

to make outfits and we modelled them in a fashion show. There was a 30 foot fashion catwalk, judges and prizes. It was exciting and fun to take part. Sunshine, music and a barbeque made for a smashing day. I can't wait for the 2007 Knit-In. Hope to see you there!!

Plain speaking

Neil Hargreaves



It was rather a journey into the unknown for the team and the staff, as it was our first appearance in this long-standing competition for students in Years 10-11. Mrs

Turner and Mr Hargreaves tried to get to grips with the intricacies of the competition and its rules and set about picking a team. Finally three brave girls from Year 11 came forward: Vivian Lord, Anna Campbell (pictured with Mr. Hargreaves) and Aisha Barda. The heat took place in the pleasant surroundings of Brighton & Hove High School (with our former Librarian, Lucy Dean as an excellent host!) The format of the competition meant our team's

speaker, Vivian, having to join the Chairperson and Questioner of one of the 5 other competing schools. As luck had it, Vivian was "on" first: a daunting experience but at least she had no time for nerves! Vivian had prepared a speech about Patriotism and she delivered it with confidence and feeling to an attentive audience. After the speech she had to face questions from the other team and from the floor. She accomplished this with great

confidence, answering eloquently and with conviction. Later it was Aisha's turn to Chair and Anna's to question, working with a boy from the rather over-confident Ardingly all boys' team. Aisha did well in a difficult role and managed to step in quickly when Anna unfortunately "dried up" after a promising start. We did not in the end win. The Ardingly team took the honours, but very complimentary words were said and many lessons learned.

Team games

In March, Year 9 were given the afternoon off lessons to play "The Real Game". This game was based on different careers and our future. The first thing that happened was we were put into groups and had to come up with a name for a team.

There was a game we played together called "The Spinning Game", where one person from each team had to take it in turns to go up and spin the spinner and there were different categories, which you could land on. Each group was then asked a question to do with that subject.

After this game we were all given a random career to study and see what qualifications that job needed; how many days holiday were allowed; the pay rate per year and other necessary details. We then had to go round and

compare the differences with our friends.

We also had to create a business card relevant for our job which had to include a

fictitious e-mail address; the name of the company and the necessary qualifications.

Overall we thought this was a good experience to learn

about different careers and it gave us an idea of what our future could hold.

Emily Pearce & Jessica Kerrigan Year 9



Pictured: Ciara McGrath, Lily Greening, Julia Hollis, Emily Williams, Katty Sung and Angela Needham

Charities report



We must thank Mrs Moss for all her work in charity fund raising throughout her time at SMH. She

made some valuable links and we were able to contribute to unique causes, notably the Vanessa Grant School in Africa, to which we sent over £700 last year.

We raised £150.87 for the 2006 Jeans for Genes Day in October, which was the main Year 9 fund-raising event and the Christmas Carol service raised £97.05 which was sent to the Brighton and Hove Bereavement Support with Stepping Stones, a charity which helps teenagers and the bereaved.

In the Spring Term the "big push" was for Red Nose Day, when the theme for the mufti day was "BIG". We had some marvellous costumes on display and there were many fund-raising events, including sale of red noses, cakes, crisps, a celebrity sweepstake poster and the Year 10s contributed profits from their tuck shop for the week. This was our International Event, with much of the money going to Africa under the Comic Relief banner. The school mirrored the high profile that this event enjoyed in the media. The Junior School also took part and the total sum raised was in excess of £524. Mention must go to the champion fundraiser for Red Nose Day: Emily Williams who raised over £84! Fantastic! Well done Emily.

From the foregoing you will have gathered that we have a major fundraising event each term so that Autumn Term is for a National Charity; Spring Term for an International Charity and Summer Term is devoted to raising funds for a Local Charity, which in 2007 is The Martlets Hospice. We shall be distributing sponsor forms for this and, again, we should like you to aim for at least a £5 total sponsorship, which could yield a total of £1000 or more!

A sponsored walk on the last Monday of term along the undercliff path to Rottingdean is the key event, with other peripheral activities helping to boost the total fundraising effort.

Most year groups have contributed to other charities. Year 7 and 8 raised over £150

for Readathon and Year 10, have donated the profits from their tuck shop to The Heart Foundation. They raised over £75...well done!

Overall, an active and very worthwhile year wherein we have all learnt much about giving, how fortunate we are ourselves and, without making a typing error, we have all enjoyed much fundraising (sic)!

Mark Hatherly

A big fun day



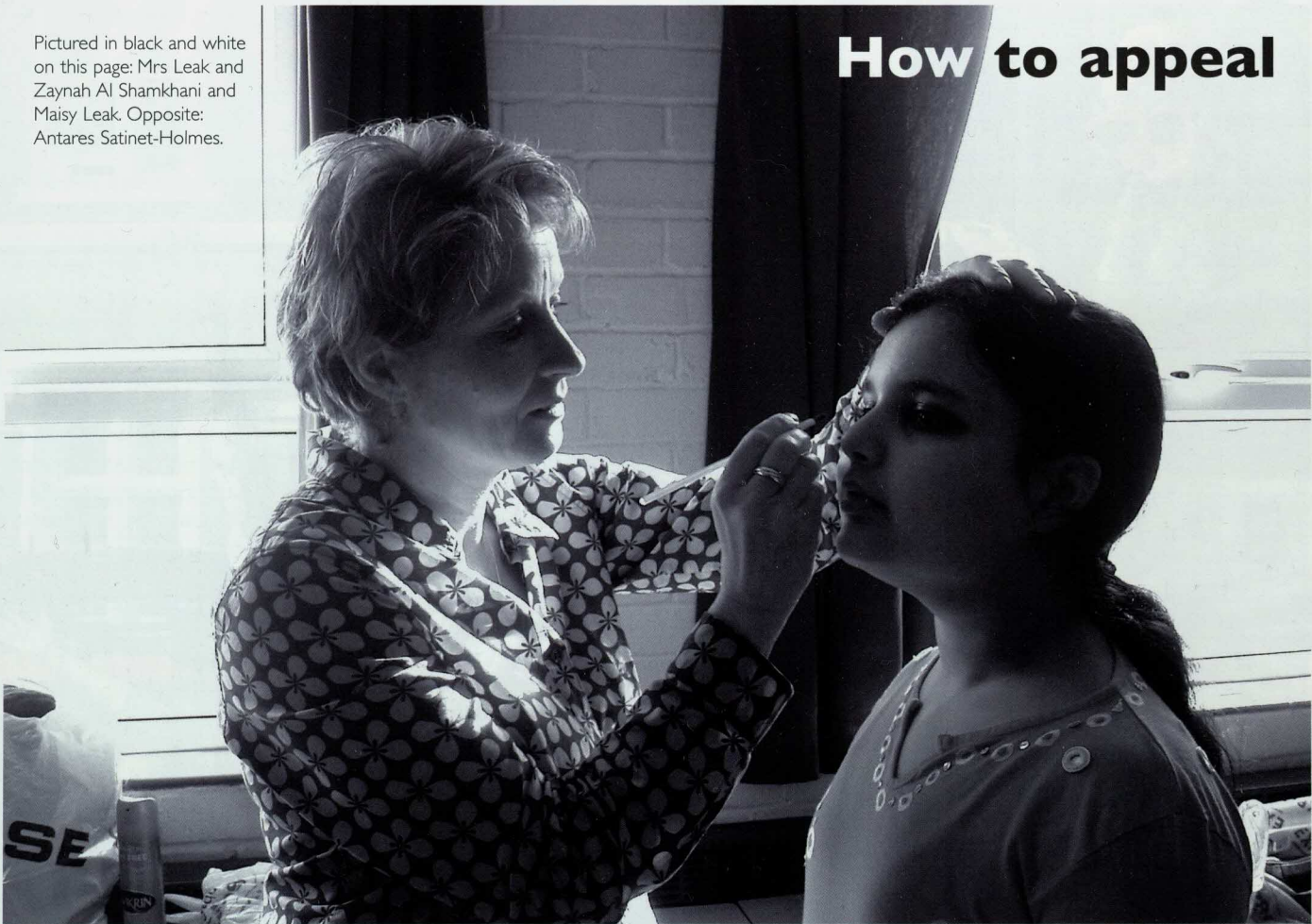
Members of staff who, with pupils, helped to raise over £500 for Comic Relief last March. Pictured above: Mrs Meek photographed during assembly that day.

As well as all the other fundraising that took place in school, Mr Sefton encouraged the year 9 DT classes to design, make and then sell red acrylic key rings to raise money for Red Nose Day 2007.

After 2 weeks of voluntary hard work and dedication they managed to raise over £220 for this worthy cause! We say, 'well done and thank you to everyone who took part'.

Pictured in black and white on this page: Mrs Leak and Zaynah Al Shamkhani and Maisy Leak. Opposite: Antares Satinet-Holmes.

How to appeal



Models pictured here on the catwalk include Miss Whittaker; Sophie Ebeling; Anita Awotar; Laurel Stean and Lois Hoff.

Catwalk images photographed by Tim Richardson



Half term saw a group of Senior School girls get together for the very first St Mary's Hall fashion workshop. Under the expert tuition of Harriet Hoff, professional

stylist, the girls had a crash course in the world of fashion. The week was spent studying couture fashion, styling and methods of self expression through fashion. Some time was also spent

looking at construction, with the aid of innumerable bin liners! With the help of professional choreographer and parent, Amanda Lethbridge-Evans, the girls learned how to walk

the catwalk and the week finished with a photo-shoot with the aid of a professional photographer and make-up artist. The girls did a fantastic job of expressing their 'inner fashion self'.

High fashion

On March 23rd the girls bravely took to the catwalk to show off their designs and were joined by a few intrepid members of staff!

Sara Whittaker even underwent a complete makeover at the top Brighton hair salon, Clipso, whose staff also styled the models backstage, with outstanding results.

The Show raised over £1,250 for the St Mary's Hall Chapel & Arts Centre Appeal. A huge thank you goes to everyone who was involved!

Helen Farquharson

Appeals Manager

What's hot

Holes in school jumpers with elbows emerging randomly.
Pashminas wrapped around necks.

Gold or silver pumps; the flatter the better.

Top-dresses over skirts, jeans or even tights.

Shoulder bags.

Belts.

Individuality through hair, clothes and jewellery.

What's not

Scoobie Doos.

SATS.

Macbeth's head being cut off.

Emos, black is simply too depressing.

Speeches.

Mustard-yellow.



The pupils pictured here are modelling their own hand-made garments, which were created for the St Mary's Hall Chapel & Arts Centre Appeal Fashion Show.

May Turner is shown on the front cover of this magazine wearing her own garment, also created especially for the event.



On this page and clockwise from top left: Jessica Gordon Hall, Indiana Lethbridge, Nadia Hamza and Maisy Leak.

It's all vintage stuff...



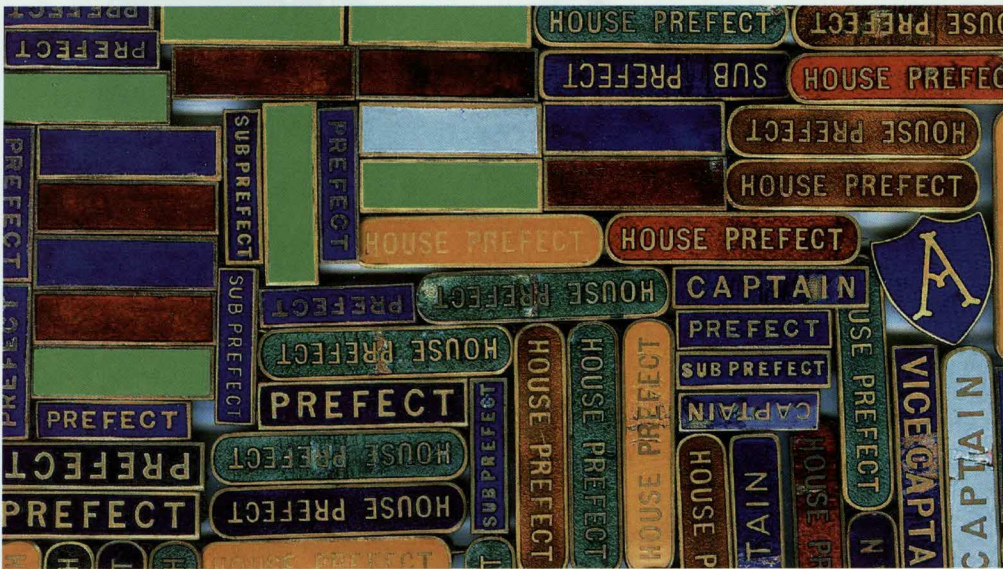
It has been all change this year at St Mary's Hall. We have introduced a stylish and contemporary logo, we have decorated and refurbished the school reception spaces and we continue to look to our future, planning new developments that will continue to improve the day-to-day experience of our pupils.

We value our community and, listening to the concerns of some parents and pupils, we contacted our uniform manufacturers to make improvements to the quality of our uniforms. We await the new arrival of an updated school sports kit in the coming months.

Of course, every year the same age-old question pops out of our senior pupils' mouths, "Why can't we have a trendier uniform?" Despite being a clear winner with parents, our senior girls bemoan the colour, the feel, the cut and the style of our uniform.

What we have uncovered might surprise some of our girls and delight up and coming Trinnys and Susannahs. From our school archive, we have found some examples of past ties, badges and insignias that were an essential part of the St Mary's Hall look in a bygone age.

Perhaps we should not be surprised that our sophisticated and independent young ladies want to stand out from the crowd. After all, we do educate for confidence. We say it's not what you wear; it's how you wear it.



Two short stories

King Arthur

Danielle Phillips, Year 5

For many years after the death of King Uther Pendragon the quarrelling went on. Arthur was now sixteen and Kay twenty. Kay had been knighted the year before. Today he was supposed to fight in his first battle, but as he and Sir Hector rode into the battlefield with Arthur slowly following, Kay reached for his sword and found that it was missing.

"Arthur where is my sword?" Kay asked, worriedly.

"You must have left it in the boarding house," Arthur replied.

"Well fetch it then!" Kay shouted angrily.

Arthur rode his horse to the boarding house but no one was in. Arthur didn't want to let Kay down and as he passed St Paul's Cathedral he noticed the sword in the stone. He ran towards it and pulled the sword out with ease. He didn't stop to read the message engraved on the stone. On Arthur's return to the battlefield he saw all different types of people, including tall and short people. One of the ladies in the street near St Paul's Cathedral had a dog and it

was chasing a man, holding some sausages. Despite this Arthur finally found his way to the battlefield.

As Arthur approached the battlefield Kay snatched the sword out of his brother's hand. Kay realised which sword it was and so he ran to his father.

"Look, look father, I am the King of England!" Kay screamed.

"Let me see the sword, my dear son," said Sir Hector calmly.

As Kay drew the sword from his scabbard his father gasped in amazement and said "Son, how did you come across the sword? I thought you were here with me all the time."

As Sir Hector drew a bible from his pocket he made Kay swear to God that he had pulled the sword out of the stone. Kay couldn't swear on the bible so he told his father that Arthur had given it to him.

"Arthur, how did you get it?" Sir Hector asked.

"Sorry if I have done wrong Sir, but I pulled it out of the stone," Arthur replied, anxiously.

"Did anyone see you?" said Sir Hector.

"No," replied Arthur.

Sir Hector made Arthur show him how he pulled the sword out and once again Arthur pulled the sword out with ease. As Arthur turned around both Kay and Sir Hector knelt down to honour him. Arthur still hadn't read the message, so he didn't know why they were kneeling at his feet.

"Arthur, you are the King of all England," said Sir Hector.

Now Arthur was very happy. He was delighted that he was going to be king.

"Now we must show the archbishop your achievement and show all of the barons too!" exclaimed Sir Hector.

The archbishop came to where the stone was and witnessed Arthur pulling the sword out with ease. All of the barons gasped in amazement and Arthur was worried about what would happen to him. The archbishop was still not satisfied, so he called for a contest to pull the sword out of the stone to be held on the Twelfth Day after Christmas. There would be jousting and feasting and everyone would have a fair go at pulling the sword out.

The sword and the stone were protected day and night. Finally the Twelfth Day after Christmas came. It was a cold day and everyone had a turn at pulling out the sword. The sword didn't move. It was then Arthur's turn and the sword slid out with ease. All the talking stopped and there was a silence and then a muttering of voices. The large crowd of people made it hard for Arthur to hear and all he wanted to do was sit in front of a warm fire.

"You can't be king, you are too young and you are a boy, not even a Knight yet!" shouted the large crowd of people.

"Silence!" said a voice. It was Merlin. "Arthur is meant to be king. After his father King Uther Pendragon died I took him secretly to a town in southern Wales. It was for his own safety. So kneel down to your new king!" exclaimed Merlin.

One by one they knelt down. "Long live our new king, King Arthur! King Arthur!" the crowds of people chanted.

The Amazing Tomb of Tutankhamun

Maddie Higten, Year 5

As I step through the gap in the wall I am so amazed, it's all too much. I can see big, gold boxes with gods and goddesses on them. It's making me wonder what's inside. Everywhere gold is sparkling and shimmering at

me. There are statues everywhere. There are chariots, animals and beautiful jewellery with so much detail. There is bread scattered everywhere but now it is as hard as rock. I am overjoyed. Two huge statues of Anubis

seem like they are staring at me. It's as if they will come alive and trap me in their arms. I have a shiver down my spine but I build up courage. I can smell the stench of death and the feeling is haunting me. I'm worried I will get

stuck in the tomb. I want to see the mummy and climb out at the same time. The silence is unbearable. This is the most amazing day of my life.

Tales of snow queens and lions

On Thursday 29th March 2007 the Junior School performed in an opera called "Narnia."

A company called Opera Brava who enlighten young children about opera worked with us to put on the performance. Adults and children performed together in the opera and the outcome was of high quality.

I played the part of Peter. It was fun and exciting and we all had to sing in operatic style with the professional opera singers. My favourite song was "Goodness Gracious Me" when Lucy met Mr Tumnus.

At the end Jemimah, Gitana, Bethane and I (the four main parts) held a collection where we raised lots of money. Many people on their way out commented on how good the show was! At the end, I was sad, because it was over, and happy because it was so much fun and it went really well. I just want to do it all again!

Grace Sorrell

Year 6

Opera Brava came to St Mary's Hall in the Spring Term to do the show "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" and taught us all about opera and proper breathing.

The next time they came they chose the parts for the characters. Then we started doing scenes and songs. We all

had lots of fun. I got chosen as Mrs MacReady. The Opera Brava people played the parts of Aslan, the White Witch and the Professor. It was a lot of hard work but the fun never ended. On the day of the performance we were all really excited and nervous, but we were also sad because we knew that after that day it

would be over. Because we had had so much fun we didn't want it to end. But it didn't really. If it did end then how could I remember to do this passage anyway?

Jasmine Minter

Year 6

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

When I found out that we were doing "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" with Opera Brava, I was very excited. I had not done this play before and thought that it would be a great experience to be working with real opera singers. We had to audition in front of everyone in turn. It was quite scary, but afterwards I felt brave that I had done it.

Later on that day we all found out what part we were. I got the part of Susan. We had to rehearse every Thursday afternoon. Sometimes we rehearsed in the mornings. We acted the real thing out first in front of the younger children then in front of our parents. At the end, Mrs Hawtin and Mrs Meek spoke and everyone bowed. Three other people and I stood at the doors and collected money for the music fund. Everyone had great fun.

Bethane Harland

Year 6

