

I arrived at St Mary's Hall a couple of weeks ago, as the new "magistra", with some trepidation but also with a real sense of excitement, which the warm welcome from other staff and the enthusiastic interest of the girls have heightened. There has been so much to do, that the time has passed by very swiftly, but I am just beginning to find my feet!

I have had a great deal of fun, delving into the corners of the stock room, where some discoveries have served to remind both myself and Mrs Thomason how much fashions in method and materials can change over the years . . . even in Latin! The Romans were justly proud of their technology and I am sure would have been the first to welcome the World Wide Web. Imagine how much easier it would have been for the Emperor to e-mail his governors and generals, instead of having to send messengers on horseback! I certainly hope to introduce modern technology into Latin and look forward to CD

Roms and the Internet, which will enable the girls to learn, to 'meet' other Latin students and just to have fun. I look forward also to museum and archaeological visits jointly with those taking Classical Civilisation, to help strengthen the natural bonds between us.

I have found Latin to be flourishing at St Mary's Hall and I hope very much that it will continue to grow and expand. Spurred on by a famous Latin speaking predecessor in this country, I can say "I came, I saw . . ." "I conquered" might take a bit longer!

Jacqueline Miles

P.S. In the past the Greeks and the Romans did not always get on very well. I am pleased, however, to report that all is kalliston and optimum in SMH in 1998!

Sarah Thomason



We are delighted to welcome Father Andrew Manson-Brailsford and Father Colin Midlane as our new Chaplains. Father Andrew is vicar and Father Colin curate at St George's Church, Kemp Town, where our boarders worship on Sundays. The St George's clergy and congregation are using our Chapel this year while the crypt of their own church is being converted into a community centre. We have been very pleased for this opportunity to share our Chapel with the local community.

SMHA

(St Mary's Hall Association)

I have been delighted that many 'Old Girls' of the School have been re-discovered during the course of this year. We are trying to establish an 'Old Girls' network and database, so whether they are members of the Association or not we are always delighted to re-ignite links with past pupils. If you know anyone who is in hiding, please let me know!

This year's May Reunion was great fun for all the family, with activities such as tours of the School, rounders, croquet, craft, swimming – and a tasty Ploughman's Lunch. There was a recital on the new Chapel organ in the afternoon and a wonderful cream tea, provided by the PSA. The more formal dinner in September was preceded by a workshop with Mrs Fincham to encourage 'Old Girls' to contribute to our Millennium anthology; and then the AGM, where ideas and thoughts about the future of the SMHA were discussed.

We have been delighted to be able to welcome back Penny Barries (née Hunt) to talk about her work with the Marie Curie Foundation; and Penny Gardiner (née Buck) to speak to Young Enterprise about running a company.

We so enjoy seeing past pupils – if you know any, please pass on an open invitation to visit!

Mrs S M Meek, Headmistress



SMH 16/8