

Easter Term 2019

Easter Term is always a mixed bag – the intensity of revision and exams, with what feels like certain impending doom, and the joy of post exams celebrations, whether it be Midsummer Ball or a fun night out to Jimmy's with your friends. Once again Mary's has proved itself to be a fun, inclusive and supportive community, helping us through exam period and organising spectacular events, formals and balls to celebrate, as described below. This year in Durham, no matter what year we are in, will have taught us many things (not just academically) and given us memories to talk about for many years. To those who are graduating this year I wish all the best in the future, and to all Mary's students I hope that this year has been fulfilling, successful and fun. I hope everyone enjoys the summers and comes back refreshed and ready to go again!

By Susie Bradley (President)

Arts

To celebrate the end of exams, the last few weeks at Mary's have been filled with events, which for many marked the end of their time at Durham.

The Midsummer Ball lived up to this with live music and DJs throughout the night from 8pm to 4am. Great acts included the Gospel Choir as well as the great cover band The Lost Degree. The Peter Pan theme was honoured with amazing decorations and seemed an appropriate theme for those just about to embark on adult life.

Mary's Day was also made memorable by an impressive array of live music and performances, including the band Witless' impeccable and varied covers, Mary's Cheer with their amazing routines and, of course, the Queen Tribute Band which rounded off the night. The Total Wipeout event hosted by Helen Paton was also a lot of fun, and the weather thankfully held out for the most part, which was a blessing considering how much of the day took place outside.

A production of High School Musical came at the end of the term, with ambitious dance and musical numbers which were executed well, especially considering the little time they had to rehearse. If you are interested, there is also a full review on our website.

By Isabel Carmichael-Davis

Sport

I think 2018-19 will go down as one of the most successful years of sport for St Mary's. We have had an unbelievable year of punching above our weight, always helped along by many people coming down to watch and support our college teams – showing that we are definitely one of the best colleges in terms of pure spirit, if not always raw ability per se.

Just to recap a few highlights of this year's sporting achievements: reaching the semi-finals of rugby and men's hockey, reaching the final of mixed lacrosse, and winning the intercollegiate trophies in both cheerleading and, on the second-last day of term, winning the intercollegiate rounders finals. A huge shift has been put in by every single person who

has put on the Mary's purple this year and everyone should feel incredibly proud of all the many highlights that this year has had.

By Rob Birch

Events

Easter term, the term where our minds can only think of all our post-exams fun. To start it off we had President Guest Night, a formal designed to all of those who have a heart for college life. A night of awards and celebrations as we bid farewell to our JCR President, Ellie Ng.

After an intense month of hard work and WAM snacks, End of Exams Formal treated everyone with a night of gowned adventures and disposable cameras. A few days ago Mary's was transformed into Neverland. The Midsummer Ball committee worked for weeks pulling an spectacular ball, full of entertainment and our beloved observatory hill Instagram photos. The event was as always, a highlight and one of the most awaited events of the year.

To finish off the year, our awaited Mary's day came along with an 80s theme. A day packed with incredible performances across the Durham musical scene, including our Mary's bands who stole the show as well as the Queen tribute band. Various entertainments, Pimm's and SNK was the perfect end to our 2019 social calendar. With an emotional speech our very own principal, Simon Hackett, took the stage to say a final goodbye to our community. For all our surprise the night ended with an unexpected Angels in the pouring rain; it wouldn't be the same without it...

By Helen Paton

Lifestyle

Another year done at Mary's - well done to all on making it through Easter term and especially for those graduating next week! Easter term was full of many exciting events, with Midsummer Ball and Mary's Day taking the front row but also with PGN and societies and club photos. Easter term is in many ways a celebration of Mary's values and pride, in the midst of the chaos that is exams.

Midsummer was such a highlight, with no end of activities to try out all night. Such massive kudos to the team who pulled it off! Mary's Day, with the Queen Tribute Band, alongside the incredible natural talent of singers, guitarists (big up Jonny Wong) and college bands, was truly a day to remember and the perfect end to a year at Mary's.

PGN commemorated students and staff who exemplified extraordinary commitment to college, with new Half and Full Colour Awards and Honorary Life-Time Membership of the JCR being awarded to deserving attendees.

Elections have seen fresh faces win positions for the new year in the JCR, and regardless of the outcome of the restructuring of the colleges underway, I have no doubt that our incoming exec will give their all to Mary's community.

I hope you all have a magical summer with lots of sun, and let's welcome the new cohort of freshers that will arrive in October and show them what Mary's is made of.

By Katrina Scotford