



# SACA NEWSLETTER

Summer 2015



## St. Andrew's College Alumni Golf Outing

Date: Friday 18th September, 2015

Venue: Edmondstown Golf Club  
(tee times from: 1.30pm)

Meal and prizes at 7.30p.m. (sharp)

All Past Pupils ( and all standard of golfers ) are welcome

Competition: Singles Stableford playing in threes

Cost: Golf and Dinner: €60 Golf only: €40

Special rate for post 2005 school leavers

Golf: subsidised rate of €20 and stay for dinner as an optional extra (additional €20)

Please contact Sally Walker to book a tee time now as places are limited  
(please advise if you intend staying for dinner)

If you want to come along please drop a line to Sally in the Alumni office [s.walker@st-andrews.ie](mailto:s.walker@st-andrews.ie)  
[s.walker@st-andrews.ie](mailto:s.walker@st-andrews.ie) or Tel: 01 288 2785





# ST ANDREWS COLLEGE ALUMNI (SACA)

## Annual Dinner



FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2015  
PRE DRINKS AT 7.15pm.  
DINNER AT 8pm.

RADISSON BLU ST. HELEN'S,  
STILLORGAN, CO. DUBLIN

DRESS CODE:  
BLACK TIE OR NEAREST EFFORT!

GUEST SPEAKER:  
GEORGE HOOK

TICKET PRICE:  
€65



Please return the booking form by 25 September 2015, together with payment (cheque or credit card) to:  
St. Andrew's College Alumni Office, Booterstown Avenue, Blackrock, Co Dublin • Tel: 01 288 2785 • Email: [alumni@st-andrews.ie](mailto:alumni@st-andrews.ie)  
Or book with eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/saca-annual-dinner-tickets-18339368545>



# Class of '82 Informal Reunion at Ryan's of Beggar's Bush

Paul Eccles Reports from The Beggar's Bush:

Once again the Class of '82 met for yet another fantastic gathering of laughter and friendship. Eunan Ryan offered the Beggars Bush as the gathering spot and his generosity in providing comfort and revelry took the group to new heights. With 12 students, two teachers and some extras, it was an excellent showing and reinforced the old and new bonds. It was fantastic to see both Arthur Godsil and David Boyd. I had just happened upon David at St. Andrews earlier in the week as I was showing Flynn, my son, where his dad had gone to school. There was David, out on the playing field and still involved with school rugby since retiring from teaching.

Many thanks to all '82ers that showed up. Amanda Williams, Tracey Hayes, Patrick Marks, Kieron Knight, Eunan Ryan, Nicola Cochrane, Eileen Switzer, Alan Lewis, Coleman Gallagher, David Norman, Paul Hourihane.



## SACA Social Media - Join Us!

If you're a visitor to our social media sites you are not alone. We have over 5000 people connected by our social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn) in 46 different countries. If you haven't already, please get involved in the conversation on social media so that you can see great segments like our series of legendary teachers pictures. See below for some of the highlights.

Like our Facebook Page [here](#) Find us on LinkedIn [here](#) Follow us on Twitter [@StAndrewsCoDub](#)





## SACA Social Media News

What is it about the Class of 2009 where talent abounds with two entries in this **Summer's Shindig** competition! **Aoife Murray** and **Mark O'Callaghan** both received fantastic support from Alumni with their entries into the competition.



Aoife Murray (2009)



Mark O'Callaghan (2009)

Congratulations to **Alanna Plekkenpol (Class of 2011)** who received the overall **Future Makers Student Award** of €2,500 (and €500 Materials Support) recently. Awarded by the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland, their aim is to support and promote the next generation of Irish craft and design creatives. Alanna, a recent graduate of Textiles in NCAD, is a talented and deserving recipient and we are sure to see a lot of her designs in the future.

Visit [www.alannaplekkenpol.com](http://www.alannaplekkenpol.com) to view her work.



Alanna Plekkenpol (2011)



Alec Ward (2nd in from right) & Jack Kirwan (2nd in from left)

**Sprout&Co Juices** is going from strength to strength. Providing juices to businesses all over Ireland as well as numerous retailers. Owned and run by alumni **Jack Kirwan and Alec Ward (Class of 2007)** the Sprout&Co juices are becoming popular in Ireland and abroad. Noticeably by celebrities including Camilla MacKintosh, Elle MacPherson and Daisy Lowe. Follow their journey here:

<http://www.sproutfoodco.com/#blog>

This is a great story. Andrew's had three players representing Ireland in the quadrangular **Glorney Gilbert International 2015** against England, Scotland and Wales hosted by Ireland in July with our president Michael D. Higgins in attendance. Well done to **Tom O'Gorman, Alice O'Gorman and Ross Beatty** who represented Ireland brilliantly with winning records, we're really proud of you!





## SACA Social Media News - continued

Look what David Boyd and the Rugby Programme took delivery of in June! An Arms of Steel bag, a Grip and Rip Bag and three Hit and Drive Shields. All courtesy of a donation from us, SACA, from proceeds raised at the Rugby Evening in March. They will be well used, thank you all for your support!



Congratulations to **Sarah Murphy** (Class of 1999) and her husband Robin Gill who had two restaurants, The Dairy and The Manor, featured in the Good Food Guide 2016, with The Dairy being named in the top 50. Robin also took home the Editor's Award for Chef of the Year.



Peter Jones (aka PA System) from the Class of 84 played with his band Paranoid Visions at the "World Cup" of Punk, the Rebellion Festival in the UK. The line up included The Boomtown Rats, the Damned, Sham 69, the Buzzcocks, the Ruts and many more. Peter is heading off shortly with Paranoid Visions on their American Tour.



## SACA Sports News

### Ireland Hockey

Congratulations to **Gillian Pinder (2011)** and **Chloe Watkins (2010)** who both played in the team that won the European Championships in Prague.

Congratulations to **Alan Sothern (2006)** and **David Fitzgerald (2005)**, who were a part of the Men's team that came third in the European Championships in England. Ireland beat hosts, England, 4-2 in the third place play-off to claim their first ever elite hockey medal after narrowly missing out on a final spot with a 1-0 loss to the Netherlands. Alan scored the equalising goal in the match against England.

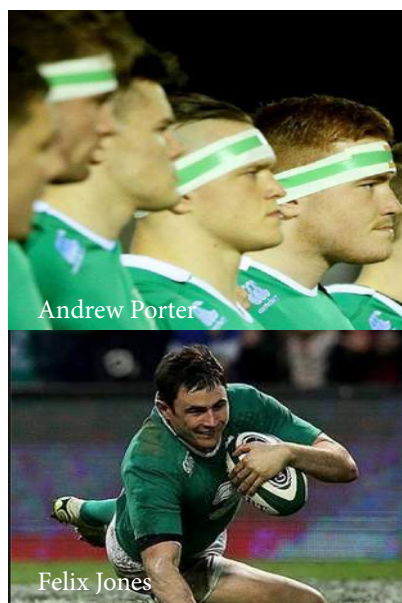




## SACA Sports News - continued

### Ireland Rugby

Congratulations to **Felix Jones** who played for Ireland and scored a try against Wales. Felix unfortunately missed out on a place in the 31 man squad for the Rugby World Cup but remains on the injury cover list. **Andrew Porter (2014)** played for Ireland's Under-20's in the World Rugby U-20 Championship. Ireland were in pool C with Argentina, Scotland and New Zealand and had a fantastic victory over Scotland.



Andrew Porter

Felix Jones

### Ireland Wakeboarding

After wowing Dublin at the Docklands Festival in May, former pupil, **David O'Caoimh**, won the European Wakeboarding Championship for Ireland in Maurik.



David O'Caoimh

### Provincial Rugby

A fantastic few months for St. Andrew's College students, with **Jordan Larmour, Peter Sullivan and Greg Jones** all playing for Leinster Under Age Teams. Jordan played 13 for the Leinster U-19's against Worcester Warriors in England and went on to score two tries. Peter was a part of the Leinster U-18s squad that went on tour to the South West of France while Greg played second row in the Leinster U-20's 55-15 thumping of the Exiles in Donnybrook.



Jordan Larmour



Peter Sullivan



Greg Jones

### Ireland Cricket

Also a fantastic summer for St. Andrew's College students representing their country in cricket. **Andy Balbirnie** has been a consistent member of the Irish team that qualified for the T20 finals in India including a tough match against the mighty Australia. Current students **Lucy O'Reilly, Gaby Lewis and Robyn Lewis** as well as past pupil **Shauna Kavanagh** played for the senior Irish women's team in a double win in Nottinghamshire and a three match T20 series against Australia.



## Sad loss of St. Andrews Past Pupil Lorcán Miller 16th June 2015 in the Berkeley Tragedy

The thoughts and prayers of everyone in the St. Andrew's community were with the family of former Andrew's boy Lorcán Miller and the other young people who died or were injured in the accident in Berkeley, California.

Lorcán was an outstanding student who left the College in 2012 to take up an Entrance Exhibition Award to UCD to study medicine. He was a Deputy Head of School, a very fine hockey player and a strong supporter of our music and the Model United Nations.

Lorcán was well known to all and had a very well developed social conscience which clearly motivated his concern for others. Lorcán was one of our brightest and best students who made a generous and wide-ranging contribution to St. Andrew's. Since leaving in 2012 he would return regularly to assist students in preparing for HPAT examinations.

The Alumni and the entire St. Andrew's community is devastated by his loss and our thoughts are with the families who have lost loved ones or have children involved in the accident.





## Eamon Agnew

The St Andrew's College community was saddened to learn of the death of Eamon Agnew who passed away on Saturday 6 June after a long illness.

Eamon taught in Belfast and in St Gerard's School in Bray before he joined St Andrew's in 1978 as a teacher of English and music. He quickly established a reputation as an exacting taskmaster. First Year pupils discovered to their alarm that Mr Agnew expected all margins in copy books to have a uniform width and colour (one inch wide and red). Those who had come from primary schools that favoured group work and relaxed class discussions learned that he viewed such pedagogical innovations with suspicion: for Eamon, a hard-working class was generally a silent class.



As pupils progressed through the school they gradually discovered a softer person, gifted with a sharp wit and gentle humour. In Belfast, he had organised school debating and his love of robust debate enlivened many of his Fifth and Sixth Year classes. He enjoyed attempting to defend opinions that were often indefensible for the sole purpose of encouraging pupils to speak out in class and challenge him. Occasionally, classes were asked to address themselves to frivolous debate motions: one of his favourites was simply 'That this house would draw the line...'. By the time his pupils had reached Sixth Year a bond of respect and affection had been established, the strength of which could be measured by the large number of past pupils who attended his barbecue parties. As Eamon got older, he derived enormous pleasure from the many letters and cards he received from his former pupils, occasionally commenting with a certain pride on their excellent standard of penmanship and punctuation.

If Eamon was demanding of his pupils, he was no less demanding of himself. His concern for syntax and phrasing made him a natural choice for overseeing school documentation and preparing accreditation reports. The effort he expended in scrutinising each comma, semi-colon and full stop became the stuff of legend and eventually the process of submitting a letter or document to Eamon for proofing became known as 'eamonising'. No official school document was released until it had been fully 'eamonised': superfluous adjectives and wayward prepositions were mercilessly eliminated; sentences were reworked again and again until they finally met his uncompromising standards. Eamon continued happily in this role long after his retirement from teaching until ill health finally forced him to hang up his red pen only two years ago.

English was not Eamon's only interest. People were sometimes surprised to learn that he was an obsessive snooker fan and that he would put everything on hold when important tournaments were being televised. In moments of weakness, he would also admit guiltily to being addicted to Judge Judy. Music, however, was his great passion. He played the organ at assembly for many years, ran a small staff choir, conducted the carol service on a number of occasions and rehearsed tirelessly with the Sixth Years so they could give a stirring rendition of Vivaldi's Gloria at their Valedictory in 1992. The last event he organised was in 2012, many years after his official retirement, when he succeeded in persuading the celebrated Whiffenpoofs of Yale University, a world-renowned a capella group, to perform in the College.

Eamon made a huge contribution to the life of St Andrew's College and he will be missed by colleagues, friends and past pupils. The College extends its sympathies to his sister, Marie, his brother-in-law, Brendan, and his nieces and nephews.



## Dates for your Diary

### **SACA Golf Outing**

**Date:** 18th September 2015

**Venue:** Edmondstown Golf Club, Rathfarnham

**Tee off Times:** from 1:30pm

**Contact:** Sally Walker - [swalker@st-andrews.ie](mailto:swalker@st-andrews.ie) or 01 288 2785

### **Class of 1990 Informal Reunion**

**Date:** 25th September 2015

**Venue:** House, Leeson Street, Dublin.

**Contact:** Katharine Crawford - [katharine@cosmopolitan.ie](mailto:katharine@cosmopolitan.ie) or 087 950 8376

### **SACA Annual Dinner**

**Date:** 9th October 2015

**Venue:** Radisson Blu St. Helen's Hotel, Stillorgan

**Time:** 7:15pm Drinks Reception - 8pm Dinner

### **10 & 20 Year Reunion for Classes of 2005 and 1995**

**Date:** 14th November 2015

Drinks Reception at St. Andrew's College

7pm Dinner and Music at Dublin City Hilton Hotel, Charlemont Place



## **Engagements**

Niamh Murphy (2003) to Tim (getting married 19 Sept)

Helen Morrogh (2002) to Meisonas

## **Weddings:**

Michelle Byers (Class of 2001) to Philip Reynolds

Jeanie Tomkin (Class of 2000) to Alan O'Brien

Niall Doyle (Class of 1998) to Laragh

Babs Luke (Class of 2004) to Neale Richmond

Roland French (Class of 2001) to Leila Johari

## **Births:**

Amy Kerins (née Wallace, Class of 1998) and Ross, a daughter Amber Lana

To Shauna McGivern Hamilton (Class of 2010) and Nathan, a daughter Kaia

To Rebecca Lee (Class of 2006) and David Tiernan, a daughter Sophie

To Shaun O'Brien (Class of 2002) and Ceira Lambert, a son Joey

To Hayley Sarratt (Class of 2012) and Michael Stiles (Class of 2010), a son Leo

To Robyn Ingram (Class of 2007) and Ross, a daughter Zara

## **Deaths:**

Lorcán Miller (Class of 2012)

Noirin Plunkett (Class of 2002)

Peter Gatenby (Class of 1941)



# ST ANDREW'S COLLEGE ALUMNI (SACA) ANNUAL DINNER 2015

FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2015 • PRE DRINKS 7.15 DINNER 8 PM  
AT RADISSON BLU ST HELEN'S HOTEL, STILLORGAN, CO. DUBLIN

**DRESS CODE:** BLACK TIE OR NEAREST EFFORT!  
**GUEST SPEAKER:** GEORGE HOOK



## BOOKING FORM

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Name:

Year:

Email:

Mobile:

Number of Tickets @ €65 each:

**Total payment due:**

Method of  
Payment:

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Guests' Names:

Request to be seated with:

Special dietary requirements:

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### **PAYMENT INFORMATION**

Cheques should be written in favour of "St Andrew's College PPU" or payment can be transferred directly into our bank account (please ensure to use your name as the Reference to enable us identify your payment).

Bank: AIB 100/101 Grafton Street, Dublin 2

Account Name: St. Andrew's College PPU

IBAN: IE02 AIBK 9312 3338 2830 29

BIC: AIBKIE2D

**If you wish to pay by credit card please call Sally Walker at +353 (1) 288 2785.**

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**Please return this form by 25 September 2015, together with payment, to:**

St. Andrew's College Alumni Office, Booterstown Avenue, Blackrock, Co Dublin

Tel: 01 288 2785 Email: [alumni@st-andrews.ie](mailto:alumni@st-andrews.ie)

Or book with eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/saca-annual-dinner-tickets-18339368545>