

**Back Through the Mists of Time.....were you at Stockport Convent, or do you know somebody who was?**

St James' has been open now since September 1980, and many parents and staff have passed through as pupils themselves. The fact that so many ex-pupils send their children here too, or even seek to work here themselves, is a testament to the fact that St James' is a successful happy family in God, as well as being an excellent school!

Our history as a school did not materialise out of nowhere back in September 1980, however. St James' was purpose-built to house the new coeducational school that had formed from 1977 at the previously all-girls' Stockport Convent Grammar School on Buxton Road in Woodsmoor. Many ex-pupils will have spent some years at the Convent and their later years in the spanking-new St James' buildings.

And so our history goes back to Stockport Convent, a venerable Catholic institution in Stockport for many years. The Convent buildings were bought in 1980 when vacated by St James', by the neighbouring Stockport Grammar School, and incorporated into their expanding school.

We would very much like to have an archive here in St James' of our history. We have several boxes full of various photographs of the school and its pupils since 1980, and we should like to do research on the earlier Convent element of its history, for posterity. The internet yields very little, so we are asking for your help out there; ex-pupils, parents, and former staff.

**Does anyone have any photos (for borrowing, scanning and returning) of early St James' days, or the Convent, or be willing to share some memories or knowledge with us to build up a factual picture of our "ancestry"?**

Mrs Smith, St James' librarian (and ex-pupil), is coordinating this project in school, and would be delighted to hear from you. Research is already ongoing, and several sources have been contacted, but anyone who remembers those distinctive "deckchair" blazers, please have a look through your old photos for us!

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