



ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

FRESHERS' HANDBOOK 2018

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# Introducing Your Freshers' Week Coordinators

Dear Freshers,

First of all, let us introduce ourselves, we're Joe and Lauren and we are your Head Feps for 2018! This basically means that we're in charge of making sure you have the best start to university and settle into John's life as smoothly as possible. We're both third years studying law. Joe is president of the Bailey Theatre Company, John's own dramatic society, whilst Lauren is part of the Durham University Ballet Company and writes for Durham's student newspaper, The Palatinate. We have both been involved with many college activities and if you have any questions about any committees feel free to ask us!

Secondly, **MASSIVE** congratulations on your results and for getting into Durham! We can't wait to meet everyone and welcome you into John's upon confirmation of your place. We have a huge range of events planned during Fresher's week; from boat parties and themed bar crawls, to 'Open Mic' acoustic nights and John's very own **MEGA PARTY** at the end of the week.

There are so many opportunities waiting for you as soon as you arrive in Durham; meeting new people, getting involved in sports and societies within both college and university, and of course the chance to study the subject you love. Whatever your interests, John's is the perfect place for you, and you will always find support and encouragement to pursue what you most enjoy most and to try as many or as few new things as you wish.

The information you find in this handbook is to help you settle in and enjoy your first few weeks at Durham. It explains the college system, the support available both in college and university-wide, some of the many opportunities you can take advantage of, and most importantly our fab team of Feps who'll be looking after you during Fresher's week.

If you have any questions that aren't answered in the handbook, then please contact us – all of our info is at the bottom of the page. Once your place with us as a member of St. John's is officially confirmed, there is also a Freshers' Facebook group for you to join called 'St John's College Freshers 2018' –we'll be using this to update you with info about your first week at John's. In the coming weeks you will also be contacted by your college parents who will be happy to answer any questions or worries that you might have!

Our Frep team is currently working really hard to make sure your Freshers' week is the **BEST** yet! We look forward to meeting you all on Freshers' Sunday!

*Joe & Lauren*

Freshers' Week Coordinators 2018

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**Facebook:** St. John's College Freshers 2018

**Twitter:** @JohnsFreshers18

**Instagram:** johnsfreshers18



**Name:** Joseph Pape

**Nickname:** Joe/Papé/Paps/Papi

**Hometown:** Ashford

**Degree:** Law

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** Probably at the point in the future where we can artificially create an afterlife for our consciousness... like in that one episode of Black Mirror that didn't emotionally scar everyone.

**Favourite fictional time traveller or historical figure?** Fry from Futurama and Ol' Billy Shakespeare respectively.

**Favourite musical era?** A BuzzFeed quiz once told me I belonged in the early 70s so I guess I couldn't possibly argue with such authority.

**If you could change one thing in history or one thing about yourself, what would it be?** With all those historical atrocities I probably could think of a lot of things I'd change, but I'll just say I'd like to be able to grow a proper beard (sad reacts only).

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Make the most of your first year and get involved in as much stuff as possible!

**Role:** ½ of the Head Frep Dream Team

**Claim to fame:** Proud owner of two 'Loo News' Awards at John's Day 2018.

**Favourite place in Durham?** Subway. Eat Fresh.

**Ask me about:** Acting/Drama, St John's Summer Shakespeare, Living Out, Frepping, and pretty much anything John's related!



**Name:** Lauren James

**Nickname:** LeBron James

**Hometown:** St Albans

**Degree:** Law

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** 1920s USA.

**Favourite fictional time traveller or historical figure?** Elizabeth I

**Favourite musical era?** 1970s –solely for ABBA!

**If you could change one thing in history or one thing about yourself, what would it be?** I would stop the Ice Age and save the dinosaurs!

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Get involved in as many societies as possible –it's the best way to meet people and help you settle in to college.

**Role:** The other ½ of the Head Frep Dream Team

**Claim to fame:** I'm famous for being famous...

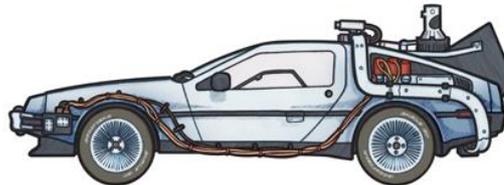
**Favourite place in Durham?** Jimmy's.

**Ask me about:** Law, pro bono, the Exec/SJCR, dance.

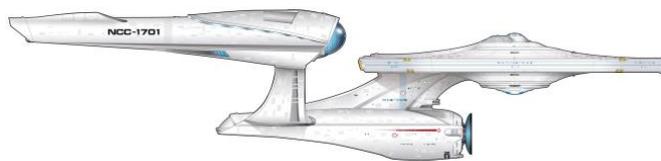
# Introducing Your Freshers' Reps...

## Who are we and what do we do?

We are your superstar team dedicated to making sure that you have the best freshers' week possible here at Durham! We organise just about everything that goes into freshers' week so come and talk to us about anything and everything you may need. We're very easy to spot; no doubt we'll be seen wearing hoodies with our names on the back, so come up and give us a tap on the shoulder! We're here to help you navigate through the madness of our 'Time Machine' themed week, so hold onto your DeLorean; you're in for one hell of a ride. Great Scott!



Now, please allow me to introduce myself (there's a Rolling Stones song in there somewhere...), my name is Ellie and I am your handbook and social media co-ordinator for your freshers' week this year. It is my job to welcome you to Durham and to John's and to give you this handy guide filled with things to help, reassure and lead you through a jam-packed freshers' week. Be sure to also follow us on our social media accounts to keep updated with everything and if you have a question that isn't answered in this book, be sure to come and ask one of us!



What we don't know about Durham isn't worth knowing –we went through the same baptism of fire as you will, so you have all of that to look forward to! Below are our 'frep profiles' –like 'Top Trumps' except more useful (and apologies for a very, very outdated reference). The pages detail our super-powers and photographs of friendly faces of comrades that you can approach here at John's.

We hope to see you around!



**Name:** Ellie Farrell

**Nickname:** Farrell, Bangers Inc.

**Hometown:** Manchester

**Degree:** Biological Sciences

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** I can't decide between two! I'd like to go back to Medieval Britain and see a real jousting match or jump ahead to the future and enlist at Starfleet Academy.

**Favourite fictional time traveller or historical figure?** Technically not a single individual but the crew of the USS Enterprise.

**Favourite musical era?** '80s

**If you could go back in time and change one thing in history, or one thing about yourself, what would it be?** I'd enjoy my school years more as life gets more stressful the older you are!

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Try not to stress; enjoy freshers' week, don't say 'no' to anything (as long as its legal!). And no matter how bad the homesickness is, it really does wear off eventually!

**Role:** Handbook and social media co-ordinator.

**Claim to fame:** For being part of a family of 'near misses' –my nana was almost a famous opera singer, and my great-great grandfather was the inventor of the Spinning Jenny loom but got none of the credit. So not really a claim to fame, but an almost claim to fame! I did get a handshake from Prince Charles and have been in the same room as the surgeon who did George Best's liver transplant, though –so not bad, overall!

**Favourite place in Durham?** Waterstones, the cinema or anywhere with a good pint of Guinness (see: The Shakespeare).

**Ask me about** Biology, coxing, Durham Student Theatre, writing, film & TV, Manchester and a whole manner of nerdy things!

**Name:** Imo Wigdahl

**Nickname:** Imo

**Hometown:** English/Norwegian. I'm from Cambridge and central/southwest London.

**Degree:** Philosophy and Theology

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** I wish that I could go back in time and wear ankle supports and knee pads so that I wouldn't hurt myself each time that I fell over!

**Favourite musical era?** Musicals and classics.

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Make sure that you rest in-between socialising and partying. Join as many clubs/college teams as possible –you can always withdraw afterwards!

**Role:** Decs

**Claim to fame:** I survived John's Charity Fashion Show without falling over, I have been in Durham Hospital 8 times (and that was just in Term I) and I am also the National Crabbing Competition winner of 2009.

**Favourite place in Durham:** John's or one of Durham's many, many coffee shops.

**Ask me about:** Joint honours degrees, drama outside of college, all college sports.





**Name:** Grace Morales

**Nickname:** Gracc, Grachay, Grass

**Hometown:** London

**Degree:** MLAC French and German

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** The fall of the Berlin Wall.

**Favourite fictional time traveller or historical figure:** Marina Ginesta –social activist and journalist during the Spanish Civil War.

**Favourite musical era:** Jazz

**If you could go back in time and change one thing in history, or one thing about yourself, what would it be?** Brexit

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Nobody cares if you don't go to the party.

**Role:** Ents

**Claim to fame:** My mate does Chinese with 'Durham's Fittest Fresher 2017'<sup>TM</sup>.

**Favourite place in Durham:** Cathedral

**Ask me about:** Netball, Palatinalps, mixed lacrosse.

**Name:** Mohibur Rahman

**Nickname:** Mob

**Hometown:** London (More specifically, East London)

**Degree:** PPE

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** The March on Washington –the moment Martin Luther King delivers his famous speech.

**Favourite fictional time traveller or historical figure?** John Maynard Keynes

**Favourite musical era?** Mid 2000's R & B and Hip Hop.

**If you could go back in time and change one thing in history, or one thing about yourself, what would it be?** I would tell my younger self to learn another language fluently.

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Don't break your own rules...

**Role:** Treasurer

**Claim to fame:** First person to go to Durham from my Sixth Form.

**Favourite place in Durham?** Wharton Park

**Ask me about:** Anything related to PPE, nightlife, and John's inclusivity/diversity.





**Name:** Jacob Whitehead  
**Hometown:** North London  
**Degree:** English

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** Woodstock looked pretty groovy.

**Favourite fictional time traveller or historical figure?** Nye Bevan

**Favourite musical era:** 1967-1977. Beatles, Bowie, The Doors, Motown; need I say more?

**If you could change one thing in history or one thing about yourself, what would it be?** Harry Kane wouldn't have hit the post at 1-0 up against Croatia.

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Learn to nap!

**Role:** Making the freshers' video

**Claim to fame:** I lost 3 campus cards in one term.

**Favourite place in Durham:** Observatory Hill or The Swan.

**Ask me about:** Sport, writing, the college bar.

**Name:** Molly Byford  
**Nickname:** Molls  
**Hometown:** Groombridge  
**Degree:** Liberal Arts

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** The moment parliament granted women the vote in 1918.

**Favourite fictional time traveller or historical figure?**

Dr Who (obvs!) and Nellie Bly

**Favourite musical era?** 1980s

**If you could go back in time and change one thing in history, or one thing about yourself, what would it be?** The Brexit vote.

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Throw yourself into as many opportunities as you can. Don't end first year feeling like you've missed out societies and sports.

**Role:** Ents

**Claim to fame:** Sat in a pub with Ian McKellen.

**Favourite place in Durham?** Sitting along the river by Prebends Bridge; either near Castle Boat House or the benches by the Wear.

**Ask me about:** Women's Rugby





**Name:** Sam Richards

**Nickname:** Don't have one

**Hometown:** Bowness-on-Windermere

**Degree:** NatSci: Mathematical Physics

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** A Pink Floyd summer 1974 tour concert.

**Favourite fictional time traveller or historical figure?**

Richard Feynman seemed like a cool guy.

**Favourite musical era?** Probably 60's-70's

**If you could go back in time and change one thing in history, or one thing about yourself, what would it be?** I'd drop the apple on Newton's head.

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** First year is very much a transition year. Sometimes you have to work hard but make sure you enjoy it.

**Role:** Making the freshers' video

**Claim to fame:** The prestigious John's Summer Shakespeare 2018.

**Favourite place in Durham?** Probably one of the hills.

**Ask me about:** NatSci: Maths, Physics, Chemistry.

**Name:** Maria Southwell

**Nickname:** No nickname

**Hometown:** Nottingham

**Degree:** Anthropology and Archaeology

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** 1920s New York

**Favourite fictional time traveller or historical figure?** Tim in the film *About Time*.

**Favourite musical era?** 00s growing up with 'pop princesses'.

**If you could go back in time and change one thing in history, or one thing about yourself, what would it be?** Probably getting that fringe back in 2012 #regrets.

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Make friends with everyone, it will make such a difference for the rest of the year to have a great friendship with everyone in John's.

**Role:** College Families

**Claim to fame:** Taylor Swift dedicated a song to me at one of her concerts on my birthday.

**Favourite place in Durham?** The river/good coffee shops.

**Ask me about:** Anthropology, changing courses, rowing, the Christian Union, the best coffee shops in Durham.





**Name:** Faye Wilson  
**Nickname:** FWilson  
**Hometown:** Sunderland  
**Degree:** Chemistry

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** When Charles II raps the greatest song of all-time.

**Favourite fictional time traveller or historical figure?**  
Marty McFly

**Favourite musical era?** 1920s

**If you could go back in time and change one thing in history, or one thing about yourself, what would it be?** Every time I didn't stroke a dog that I wanted to ☹️

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Never feel ashamed for wearing socks and sliders to college dinner (bonus points if they're slipper socks).

**Role:** Welcome Packs

**Claim to fame:** I was once asked to be on Geordie Shore (as an extra!)

**Favourite place in Durham?** Anywhere that has an event on with free wine and cheese.

**Ask me about:** Chemistry, Eco Soc, cheap wine at Tesco and things to do in the North East.

**Name:** Emily Nanovich-Walker (it's a long one)

**Nickname:** Ndubs (not really but it sounds cool)

**Hometown:** Guildford, Surrey

**Degree:** Modern Languages –French and Russian ab initio

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** I would want to be around with the dinosaurs.

**Favourite fictional time traveller or historical figure?** Henry VIII –he seemed like a cool guy.

**Favourite musical era?** 00s –McFly all the way.

**If you could go back in time and change one thing in history, or one thing about yourself, what would it be?** If I could be a bit taller, that would be nice.

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Get involved with as much as possible and branch outside John's. Don't be afraid to wear your sliders and pyjamas down the Bailey on the way to Tesco!

**Role:** Decs

**Claim to fame:** The porters know me because of my many, many deliveries to college. I was also once a chess champion.

**Favourite place in Durham?** Anywhere that sells avocado on toast.

**Ask me about:** The best places to brunch in Durham, sport (mainly lacrosse), 'Durham Students to Fiji'.





Name: Simeon

Nickname: Sim

Hometown: Exeter

Degree: Theology

If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be? 1966 World Cup final.

Favourite fictional time traveller or historical figure? Sherlock

Favourite musical era? 80s

If you could go back in time and change one thing in history, or one thing about yourself, what would it be? England would have won the World Cup this year.

The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self? Play even more games of pool.

Role: Room packs/John's CU rep

Claim to fame: I've played football with Marcus Mumford.

Favourite place in Durham? The fort.

Ask me about: John's CU, churches, football.

Name: Sophie Heywood

Nickname: Sophie

Hometown: Buckingham

Degree: Combined honours in Social Sciences (Economics and Geography)

If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be? I would watch the Beatles, before they were famous, at the Cavern Club in Liverpool.

Favourite fictional time traveller or historical figure? Austin Powers

Favourite musical era? 60s rock 'n' roll

If you could go back in time and change one thing in history, or one thing about yourself, what would it be? I would have the equality of voting occur much earlier in history.

The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self? By the end of the year you will understand the course enough for exams!

Role: Stash

Claim to fame: I saw Mary Berry in a pub on New Year's Day.

Favourite place in Durham? Cranmer C kitchen

Ask me about: Novice rowing, SEC, Durham for Refugees.





**Name:** Hannah Nuttall

**Nickname:** Bit boring but Han

**Hometown:** Lytham St Anne's (near Blackpool)

**Degree:** Criminology

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** 150th anniversary of the birth of the golden retriever in Scotland 2018, what's better than being surrounded by 361 golden retrievers?

**Favourite fictional time traveller or historical figure?**

Marty McFly

**Favourite musical era?** Literally any

**If you could go back in time and change one thing in history, or one thing about yourself, what would it be?** I would be a Kardashian.

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** First year doesn't count! You only need 40% to pass.

**Role:** Ents

**Claim to fame:** Barack Obama follows my mum on Twitter.

**Favourite place in Durham?** Jimmy's

**Ask me about:** Hockey, sharing a room, napping, the best places to eat and drink in Durham and putting up with friends who constantly row and fight.

**Name:** Emily Simpson

**Nickname:** Em, Mum

**Hometown:** Barnsley

**Degree:** Biological Sciences

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** The future when I've (hopefully) managed to graduate.

**Favourite fictional time traveller or historical figure?** Hermione Granger

**Favourite musical era?** The Noughties

**If you could go back in time and change one thing in history, or one thing about yourself, what would it be?** The invention of flares –it never should never have happened...

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Put yourself out there and meet people, they'll be your best friends in a couple of months.

**Role:** Decs

**Claim to fame:** I was asked to be on Gogglebox (I promise I am funny).

**Favourite place in Durham?** Jimmy's, is there anywhere else?

**Ask me about:** Biology, college hockey, netball and rowing.



## Introducing your International Reps...

My name is Matilda and I am one of the International Freps this year. I am Swedish but was born in London and have lived most of my life in England and Hong Kong. I am a second year studying Liberal Arts. Durham is a beautiful place and has a great international reputation so congratulations on making it here! Besides the atmosphere and studies, there are many opportunities to get involved in sports and societies on both a college and university level. Feel free to get in contact and send any questions you may have; we will help you as best we can to navigate the beginning of your first year. Welcome!



**Name:** (Sannie) Matilda Cimmerbeck

**Nickname:** Matty

**Hometown:** Junsele, Sweden

**Degree:** Liberal Arts (with Chinese and Sociology)

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** I would go back in time to live in Lapland and learn the ways of life there.

**Favourite fictional time traveller or historical figure:** Marty McFly

**Favourite musical era:** '80s

**If you could go back in time and change one thing in history, or one thing about yourself, what would it be?** I would warn the Titanic to take extra care on its journey.

**The one piece of advice you would go back and tell your fresher self?** Don't stress; everything works itself out in time.

**Role:** International Frep

**Claim to fame:** John's Most Eligible Bachelorette 2018.

**Favourite place in Durham:** The Cathedral and its grounds.

**Ask me about:** Liberal Arts, languages, college netball, lacrosse, rowing, choir, living abroad.

Welcome to the University of Durham! After getting through the Home Office requirements, interviews and the files of paperwork, you have finally arrived here. Matilda and I are so happy to welcome you to St. John's College as your International Freps. I'm Augustine and I'm from the USA but have lived in Sweden, Mozambique, Morocco and now the UK. If you need anything, please don't hesitate to contact me. There will be a lot of transition to University and the UK, and some cultural differences and we are here to help and navigate you through them. I know I have been there as a student. You will also have a lot of fun exploring the North-East of England, getting stuck into your course and developing friendships that will last a lifetime. You are very welcomed!



**Name:** Augustine (Aug-us-tine)

**Hometown:** Chicago, Illinois USA

**Degree:** Theology and Ministry

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** I would only want to be present now because history has not always been not on my side. Maybe the future.

**Favourite fictional time traveller or historical figure:** Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

**Favourite musical era:** 1960's Motown

**The one piece of advice you would go back and tell your fresher self?** Don't just surround yourself with people from the same background; get to know people and places in the North-East. It's an amazing place.

**Role:** International Frep

**Claim to fame:** My mother's father is cousins with Michelle Obama's father and I do stand-up comedy.

**Favourite place in Durham:** Dark Matter Café

**Ask me about:** You can ask me about anything. Ask me about what the heck is Cranmer Hall! I live in Cranmer B4. So, if you want to chat or chill let me know.

# The St. John's Common Room (SJCR)

## Congratulations new Johnian!

We hope that you're excited to be here at Durham; we know we are!

The next few pages are a short, sweet taste of:

- 🕒 What the SJCR is
- 🕒 Why you should care about it
- 🕒 Who the SJCR Exec are and what they can do for you
- 🕒 How you can get involved

After reading, we hope that you will feel much more confident about how to make your way around the SJCR: all the way from our fancy lingo to our odd practices. So, what are you waiting for? Hit the flux capacitor!

## What is the SJCR and why should I care about it?

The SJCR is the college's mini 'students' union' and is exclusively for members of St John's. It is run for the students by the students. We are led by a sabbatical President and an Executive committee – all of whom you'll meet during Freshers' Week. All students in John's are represented by the SJCR; undergraduates, postgraduates and theological students of Cranmer Hall. We are a totally separate organisation from college – we handle our own finances and run our own social events as well as providing your welfare team and sports and societies.

Although college does contribute some money towards many aspects of student life, it is the SJCR that organises Freshers' Week among other events. We also subsidise sports teams to ensure that there are no additional fees for engaging with a sport, or a society (apart from the Boat Club). Additionally, we provide services such as stash\*, gowns, vending and game machines. As a member of the SJCR you will be eligible for the SJCR Members' Fund (if you are ever in financial difficulty) and be able to take full advantage of the student-to-student welfare support we provide.

*\*definitions for the un-initiated: 'stash' is items of clothing acquired at University usually bearing the name of a club or, in our case, college. Stash is highly prized and must be obtained at all costs.*

The SJCR also represents the needs and wishes of the students to college, and the wider university community. In short, the SJCR permeates all aspects of college life, often without people realising it!

### How is the SJCR structured?

The structure of the SJCR can seem complicated (mostly due to the many, many acronyms!), but it's simpler than it sounds. While the majority of students in the SJCR are undergraduates like you, there are also postgraduates and Cranmer Hall students. These two groups have their own subsidiary common rooms; the Middle Common Room (MCR) and Cranmer Common Room (CCR). Altogether we form the St. John's Common Room. The situation is summed up in the diagram below:



Although both subsidiary common rooms have their own executive committees and constitutions, they both have a representative on the main SJCR executive committee in the form of the Vice-President (MCR) and Vice-President (CCR).

You may also hear about the Senior Common Room (SCR). This is made up of tutors and affiliated scholars, but is not a part of the SJCR.

If you ever have any questions, the entire SJCR's structure, procedures and everything else is laid out in the SJCR Constitution which is on the SJCR website ([www.johnsjcr.org.uk](http://www.johnsjcr.org.uk)).

### WARNING!



***The SJCR constitution is 40 pages of legalese (but by all means have a read).***

## How can I get involved in the SJCR?

Of course, for us to provide these amazing opportunities, you need to become a member. Unfortunately, this does mean a fee, but you only pay **once**, and you get all the benefits for as long as you remain a student. This fee is **optional**, you do not have to become a member of the SJCR, but we encourage that you do! This is because once you're a member, it is really easy to get involved with the SJCR and have a positive impact on college life; just come along to our SJCR meetings!

These meetings, usually held three times a term, are your main chance to have your say in the running of the SJCR. They can be exciting, inspiring, controversial and often downright hilarious. They tend to be quite casual, although you will need your gown if you want to speak (everybody will shout "GOWN!" at you if you don't). You could be wearing your PJs under it or sitting at the back munching on sweets; no-one will mind in the slightest. The SJCR Chair, who prepares and runs the meetings, always provides free\* pizza and beverages to enjoy during the break!

*\*definitions for the un-initiated: 'free' is the single most important concept for a university student. It is the word that you will always want to hear, and you'll always get a bit excited when you do.*

During SJCR meetings, we debate and make decisions regarding the SJCR's policies and money. No matter is too big or small to be brought before the SJCR, as long as it matters to someone who is a member. In the past, the SJCR has voted on everything from our ethical policies, to how and what and when we give to charity, to rules about snogging and petting in the College bar.

We also elect people to SJCR positions (called SJCR Officers) in these meetings. At John's, anyone may volunteer to take on a position of responsibility. This could be: as a member of the Executive Committee who leads the SJCR or a FiComm (Financial Committee) representative, just to name a few.

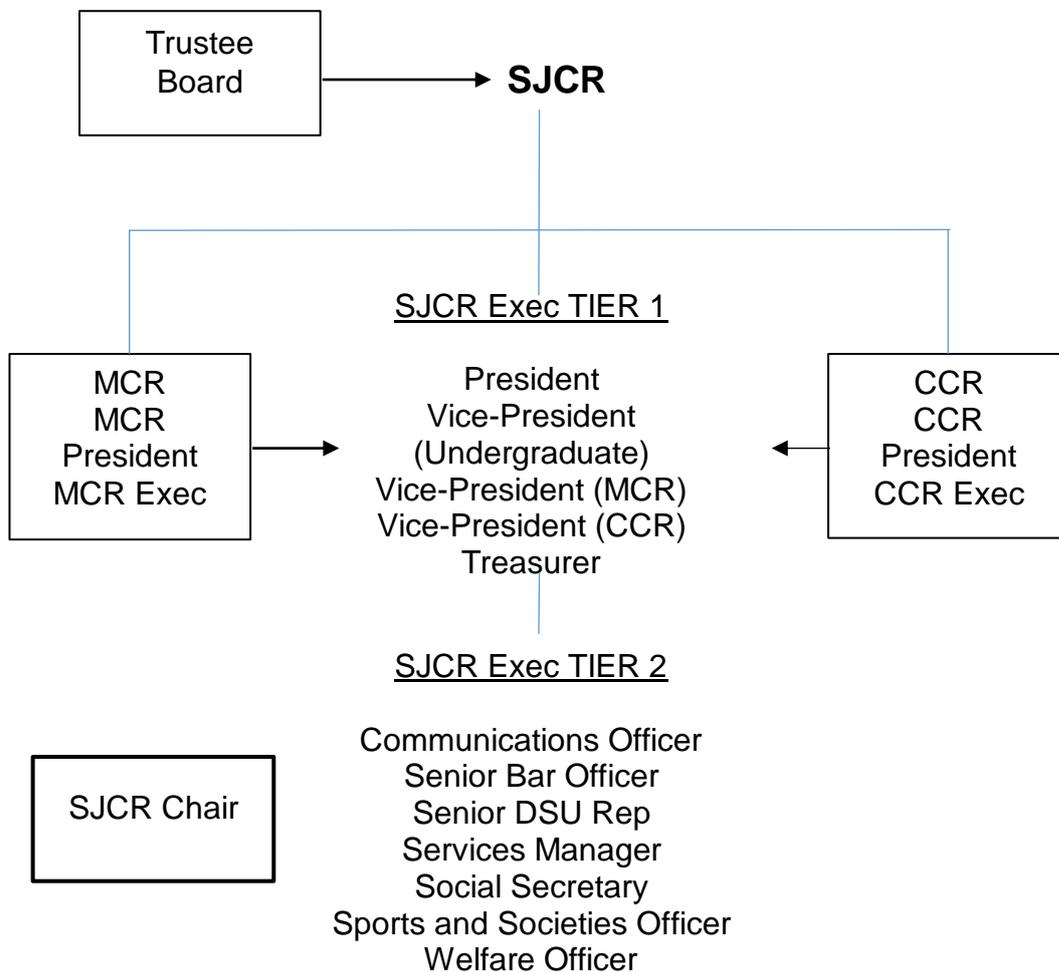
In order to stand for a position, you may have to write a manifesto and will probably be called to hust\*. Similarly, if you want to debate something in a meeting you will need to write a motion. Think that sounds scary? Fear not! There are guides on how to do this on the SJCR website and the SJCR Chair can always lend a hand.

*\*definitions for the un-initiated: a 'hust' is where you stand up in front of your peers and give a brief speech about why you deserve the position. Like the House of Commons, but more important...*

## Where does the SJCR Executive Committee fit into all this?

The SJCR Executive Committee (SJCR Exec) is elected annually by the SJCR to manage all SJCR activities. The Exec gives reports in the esteemed publication *This Week* (the SJCR's newsletter, no prizes for guessing how often it is published) to let you know what they've been up to. At SJCR meetings you will also have the opportunity to ask questions to the Executive committee. The Exec are completely accountable to you, so if you feel as though they aren't doing their job properly, or they haven't fulfilled a promise in their manifesto, please ask them about it.

The Exec is organised as shown in the diagram below. You will note that, as a charity, we have a number of trustees. There are 9 in total; 4 external and also the 5 members of Tier 1.



The next few pages detail the members of your SJCR executive team. They're all incredibly friendly and willing to help you with any queries that you may have, so don't hesitate to speak to them!

## SJCR President –Caragh Aylett

Name: Caragh

Nickname: Crag/Craggy

Hometown: Manchester

Degree: Combined Arts (Theology and History)

If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be? 1920s New York (pre-Great Depression)

The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self? Always save room for dessert at formal.

Role: President

Favourite place in Durham? Observatory Hill or Riverview Kitchen.

Ask me about: Anything SJCR or College related (if I don't know the answer I will probably know who does), John's Eagles Career Mentoring, Student Volunteering, University Strategy, taking a Year Abroad, where to find the best coffee/cake.



My main role is to oversee the day to day running of the Common Room as well as considering the longer-term strategy. I also represent the Common Room to the wider University, ensuring that your views are heard. As the President of the SJCR, my job is to work for *you*, this means that if you have any issues at all during your time here then let me know and I'll either find a way to help or let you know who the best person to talk to about it is. I'm sure I'll see you around college in the coming weeks and I'm always available for a coffee if you'd like to chat!

## SJCR Vice-President –Richard Dyer

**Name:** Richard

**Hometown:** Lancaster

**Degree:** Physics

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** Right here, right now.

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Make the most of every opportunity, try new things and don't be afraid to talk to people

**Role:** Vice-President (Undergraduate)

**Favourite place in Durham:** John's

**Ask me about:** The SJCR, Physics, Theatre in Johns.



My job is to deputise for the SJCR President when she is absent from Committee meetings, as well as attend a number of committees in their own right. I also field and respond to internal complaints and queries, liaising between SJCR and College Officers as necessary; 'pick up the slack' on projects presented to or initiated by the Executive and am responsible for overseeing their completion

## SJCR Vice-President (CCR) –Cameron Hume

My role is to be the point of contact between the Cranmer Common Room (CCR) and the St. John's Common Room (SJCR); organising and advertising events, encouraging inter-common room relations, meeting with college staff, being a trustee, and generally being a Cranmer voice in wider college life.



**Name:** Cameron Hume

**Nickname:** Hume Hefner

**Hometown:** Gateshead (basically Newcastle but better)

**Degree:** Theology, Ministry and Mission (Cranmer Hall)

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, where would it be?** Football coming home –Qatar 2022.

**The one piece of advice you would go back and tell your fresher self?** The cordial in the dining room isn't diluted.

**Role:** CCR Vice President (SJCR)

**Favourite Place in Durham:** The Bailey Room (free pool table + vending machine + piano = winning)

**Ask me about:** Cranmer Hall, running, the North-East

## SJCR Treasurer –Connor Simmons

As treasurer I handle all the finances of the SJCR. I am responsible for reimbursing SJCR members, approving motions for spending under £200 and keeping track of the budgets. I spend several hours a week working for the SJCR and my day-to-day activities include replying to emails, writing cheques, attending meetings, filling in spreadsheets, making trips to the banks and processing payments online.



**Name:** Connor Simmons

**Nickname:** Simmo

**Hometown:** Sittingbourne, Kent

**Degree:** Philosophy and Politics

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** Klute, every Sunday night.

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Register for a Tesco's Clubcard because you'll be in there a lot.

**Role:** SJCR Treasurer

**Favourite place in Durham?** The Billy B

**Ask me about:** Reimbursements and the SJCR in general.

## SJCR Communications Officer – Esmé Gray

As Comms Officer, I'm responsible for minuting a wide range of meetings that occur between various committees and parties in the SJCR. I'm also responsible for making the noticeboards look lovely, for sending out emails (including the newsletter and 'This Week', which I make every week) and for sorting out little bits of things like pigeonholes. It's a lot of work, but it's nice to directly contribute to college in such a big way!



**Name:** Esmé Gray

**Hometown:** Cambridge

**Degree:** History

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** As a History student this is a tough one, there are too many choices!

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Really try to get to know as many people as possible – don't socialise solely with your corridor, or even solely with Johnians!

**Role:** Communications Officer

**Favourite place in Durham?** Vennels (they do a fab pot of Earl Grey!)

**Ask me about:** Communications in and around John's, SJCR meetings, History.

## SJCR Academic Affairs and Student Union Liaison Officer –Antonia Barber

I run academic events within college such as the 'Big Talk' debating events and a newly introduced Cranmer vs. John's College 'University Challenge' style event. I will also be running the 'University Challenge' trials on freshers' week (so get practising!) Furthermore, I represent John's at the Durham Students' Union and ensure that the views of John's students are heard at the termly assembly meetings.



**Name:** Antonia Barber

**Nickname:** Unfortunately, and embarrassingly, renamed as 'BNOC Barber' by my companions during my first year.

**Hometown:** Retford, Nottinghamshire

**Degree:** Sociology

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** The 'Love Island' villa of 2017 so that I could marry all of the male islanders.

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** I would tell myself to not stress too much about having to read the whole *Communist Manifesto* in freshers' week because they will never check that you've read it anyway!

**Role:** Academic Affairs and Student Liaison Officer

**Favourite place in Durham?** Flat White Kitchen

**Ask me about:** Rowing, the Durham Students' Union.

## SJCR Services and Estates Manager –Jack Sykes

I am basically in charge of making sure that all of the services you have available to you to use in college are functioning; this includes the washing and vending machines. I also organise the termly college 'stash' order, as well as selling gowns.



**Name:** Jack Sykes

**Nickname:** Syko

**Hometown:** Holmfirth

**Degree:** Geography

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** I would go back to a time before humans evolved to see what life was like with no humans –maybe see a dinosaur or two!

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Make the most of your time at Durham and get involved in with (and go to) as many events as you can because your time here will go very quickly!

**Role:** Services and Estates Manager

**Favourite place in Durham:** Observatory Hill because it has a fantastic view of Durham, especially the cathedral.

**Ask me about:** Being involved in the SJCR, DU gymnastics, DU conservation society.

## SJCR Social Secretary –Shreeya Ranchhod

I'm in charge of organising John's main events, including John's Day, Summer Ball and best of all, Bailey Ball! It's a hard job but also very rewarding. I also organise mega-formals (which happen once a term) as well as BOPs –which you'll all find out about soon enough!



**Name:** Shreeya Ranchhod

**Nickname:** Shree

**Hometown:** Northwood, London

**Degree:** Law

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** The first ever Bailey Ball

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Make the most of college life! Get to know other years and the staff as they are all so lovely and helpful.

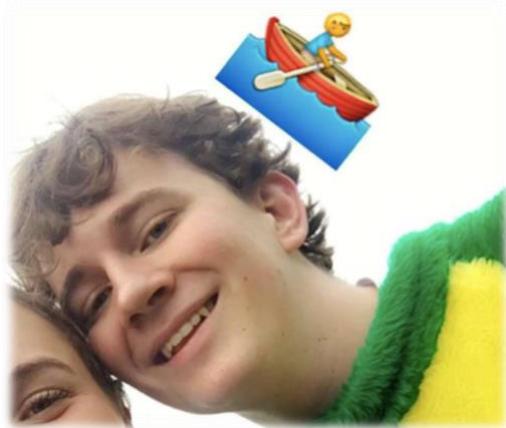
**Role:** Social Secretary

**Favourite place in Durham:** Lloyd's/Fabio's

**Ask me about:** Bailey Ball, John's Summer Events, the hardships of a law degree, anything Indian, how not to do sports.

## SJCR Sports and Societies Officer – Alexander Tattersall

My role is to ensure that our sports and societies continue to function. I liaise with Sport Captains and Society Presidents to arrange equipment, funding and fixtures. Additionally, I organise events such as John's-Chad's Day and the Colours Ceremony. My job is also to ensure that Sports and Societies have active members, and to encourage the creation of new ones, as demand allows. I also look after SJCR sports equipment and facilities. Lastly, it is my duty to communicate sports results back to the SJCR and College as appropriate.



**Name:** Alexander Tattersall

**Nickname:** Arndy

**Hometowns:** Cannes and London

**Degree:** Natural Sciences

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** I would choose Sagittarius A\*, the radio source at the centre of our galaxy that is likely to be a supermassive black hole, any time in the last 13.7 billion years.

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?**

I would encourage myself to meet as many people as possible, both in and out of college. Some of my friendships with people outside of college are very important to me and allow me to engage with different groups and communities.

**Role:** Sports and Societies Officer

**Favourite place In Durham:** College, Durham Cathedral (the green to the south side of Durham Cathedral)

**Ask me about:** Joining a sport or society, creating a new sport or society, sports events, St John's College Boat Club, equipment and facilities.

## SJCR Chair –Kiran Shivalingam

As Chair, my main job is to organise meetings, interpret the constitution and sit on a number of committees. If you have a motion you want to pass or a position you want to run for, I'm your guy.



**Name:** Kiran

**Nickname:** I'm not cool enough to have a nickname 😞

**Hometown:** Sydney, Australia

**Degree:** Politics

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** The year 2020 at President Kanye West's inauguration.

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** "Trying is the first step towards failure." –Homer Simpson

**Role:** Chair

**Favourite place in Durham:** DH1 3RJ

**Ask me about:** Simpsons references and Vegemite. I know nothing else.

## SJCR Welfare Officer – Marie Polášková

As a Welfare Officer I am here to make sure you get support if needed. I am in charge of both our amazing student support team & welfare events team. I am also doing drop in sessions and will be living in college this year so if you need anything, please find me.



**Name:** Marie Polášková

**Nickname:** Marushka

**Hometown:** Prague

**Degree:** Psychology

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** Right now, in Japan (I really want to visit that place!)

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Don't worry about anything. You will find great friends and will have a really great time in John's.

**Role:** Welfare Officer

**Favourite place in Durham?** Observatory Hill

**Ask me about:** Welfare, student support, Prague, international stuff, chocolate.

## SJCR Senior Bar Officer: Ciaran Armstrong

The role of Senior Bar Officer is to lead a 6-member strong bar team. This team ensures that the bar runs successfully on a week-to-week basis. Each member leads a shift on one night of the week, so you'll get to know them pretty soon –especially throughout fresher's week! Our main goal is to that ensure everyone who comes down to visit John's Bar has the best time. This year, one of my many aims is to start up some different events at John's Bar which will appeal to a variety of people –so keep your eyes peeled for those. If you have any questions or ideas, then please come down and have a chat with me or another member of the team. Looking forward to seeing you all soon!



**Name:** Ciaran Armstrong

**Degree:** Sport Science

**If you could be present at any point in time and space, when and where would it be?** America 1865-1895, I always wanted to be a cowboy.

**The one piece of advice you would go back in time and tell your fresher self?** Join a sports team and get yourself down to John's Bar!

**Role:** Senior Bar Officer.

**Favourite place in Durham?** John's Bar

**Ask me about:** Rugby, John's Bar, The Wild West, Spanish and Scotland.

## John's Welfare

The SJCR Welfare Team is here to provide peer support through your time at university. The Welfare team is led by the St John's Common Room Welfare Officer, and consists of the SJCR Student Welfare Team, the Welfare Events Team and the Representatives Committee. The support we offer is a listening service for students, by students, designed to signpost you to professional support if necessary.



Everything you discuss with our welfare team remains

**CONFIDENTIAL**

in line with our SJCR confidentiality policy

### The welfare team is also able to supply:

- 🕒 Condoms
- 🕒 Pregnancy Tests
- 🕒 Dental Dams
- 🕒 Rape Alarms

There are daily drop-ins with the team. Location: Haughton B10. Time: 19:00-20:00

## SIGNPOSTING

Our welfare team can also direct you to the relevant people and organisations which may be able to help you even more:

- **College** – Senior Tutor's Office (College Student Support Team)
- **University** – Counselling, Disability Support, International Office, Student Finance & Immigration
- **Durham** – Doctors, A&E, Police
- **Durham SU** – advice service and Nightline
- **Organisations** – MIND, the Samaritans

**LISTENING – SUPPORT – SIGNPOSTING**

## Your SJCR Welfare Team

The Student Welfare Team hold drop-in sessions every evening 7-8pm in the Welfare Room. Here, you can come and have a chat about anything you like in a **confidential** and **non-judgemental space**. The team can also point you in the direction of places you can get professional support, such as the Senior Tutor's Office in College, University Counselling Service or the DSU Advice Centre. You can also collect **welfare supplies** (e.g. pregnancy tests) from these sessions, and there are always condoms available to collect from the Welfare Room door.

<p>Marie Polášková</p> 	<p>Gabriel Callaghan (Disabilities Officer)</p> 	<p>Clarissa Wemple</p> 
<p>Jessie Davie</p> 	<p>Alison Williams</p> 	<p>Harry Rogers</p> 
<p>Emma Wilkinson</p> 	<p>Ninian Schmeising</p> 	<p>Ben Lewis</p> 
<p>Ellie Rolfe</p> 	<p>Sophie Perkins</p> 	<p>Jordane Williams (Disabilities Officer)</p> 

## Other Areas of Support

**Senior Tutor's Office:** The team comprises of the Senior Tutor, Assistant Senior Tutor, Student Support & Admissions Administrator, Resident Tutors who live on site and Pastoral Tutors who each look after a group of students. [www.dur.ac.uk/st-johns.college/collegelife/wellbeing/](http://www.dur.ac.uk/st-johns.college/collegelife/wellbeing/)

**LGBT:** The LGBT+ rep works with the wider LGBT Association. The association aims to provide representation for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and all other students who define themselves under the LGBT umbrella, including, but not limited to, those on the asexual spectrum and those questioning their sexuality or gender identity.

**The LGBTa Association** is specifically for LGB and Ts and those who don't wish to self-define. The website can be found at [www.lgbta.durhamsu.org.uk](http://www.lgbta.durhamsu.org.uk) and as a member of Durham University there's no sign up or joining fee. For more info, go to their stall at the Fresher's Fair or email [lgbta@durhamsu.org.uk](mailto:lgbta@durhamsu.org.uk)

**The Community Officer** is elected by students and is involved with the running of the Students Union. They are involved with university welfare campaigns and are a great point of contact for any questions you have about university welfare.

**Durham Students' Union Advice Centre** comprises fully trained, professional advisors who can give you advice on any problems you may have. They're the people to go to about housing contracts in order to get them checked. They can also give you advice on a load of other things. Full details can be found at: [www.durhamsu.com/main-menu/advice-and-help/advice-and-help-service](http://www.durhamsu.com/main-menu/advice-and-help/advice-and-help-service).

**The Durham University Service for Students with Disabilities** assists any student with a disability who needs support. They have wonderful support for a range of disabilities, so get in touch with them to find out what support they can offer you. If you have a disability that the University or College should be aware of then please contact the Senior Tutor's Office on [johns.studentsupport@durham.ac.uk](mailto:johns.studentsupport@durham.ac.uk) as soon as possible.

**The Nightbus** is the Durham Students' Union's minibus which is available every night of term, at the cost of £1, and will bring you home safely! You book it like a taxi (07854 838890) and arrange a time and a pick-up point. The driver's word is law, so he may not be always able to pick you up immediately.

**The 'Get Home Safe' Taxi Scheme** means that you can still get a taxi home even if you can't pay the fare. Instead, you give the driver your campus card and go to the Durham SU the next day, pay your fare and get your campus card back. The participating companies are: JD's Taxis, Sherburn Taxis, Stanley Taxis and Paddy's Taxis.

**The Counselling Service** aims to enable students to work through personal and emotional difficulties in a confidential and non-judgemental space. It employs a team of professional counsellors and is free to all students.

**Nightline** is a student led listening service that operates every day of term from 9pm-7am. They can be contacted on 0191 334 644. They are 100% confidential, non-judgemental and anonymous.

**The University Health Centre** can be found on Green Lane. To book appointments call 0191 386 5081, or you can go to the Open Surgery (9-11am on Mondays and Fridays & 2-4pm on Wednesdays) if you don't have an appointment.

# Welcome to Durham

Durham Nightline is a fully student-run **listening support service** exclusively for Durham students—you can contact us about absolutely anything, and we'll listen and talk things through with you.

We have a **phone line** (number on your campus card, DUO and keyring) as well as an **instant messaging service** available through our website.

We **don't give advice**—we're here to support you through your own decisions, at the end of the day you're in control; we can never know your full situation, or what the right thing for you might be.

We're a fully **anonymous and confidential** service—we can't trace your call or know anything beyond what you tell us, and that information never goes beyond the volunteer you speak to; we don't pass information along.

No volunteer will ever judge or assume your situation, regardless of what you want to talk about **we're here**. We're not linked with any religion/political group/other societies, you can talk to us about anything.

It could be you're in a really difficult situation and need **support**, or that you're **walking home alone** and would rather have someone to talk to.

We train new volunteers three times a year, so follow our social media or drop us a message for more information on volunteering with us.

We hope your time at Durham is absolutely amazing, but there may be moments where it's a little less than that, so if you need someone to talk to, **we're here**.

Phone number—0 191334 6444

Website—[durhamnightline.com](http://durhamnightline.com)

Email—[nightline@durham.ac.uk](mailto:nightline@durham.ac.uk)

Facebook—[@durhamnightline](https://www.facebook.com/durhamnightline)

Instagram—[@durhamnightline](https://www.instagram.com/durhamnightline)



# Boundaries Respect and Positive Intervention

# CONSENT MATTERS

Thinking  
about  
consent

ONLINE COURSE

Looking  
out for  
others

Accessing  
support



## Information for new students

Durham University recognises the significant impact of all experiences of sexual violence and is committed to promoting a culture in which sexual violence is not tolerated and will be addressed. To achieve this, all members of our University have a responsibility for upholding the principles of dignity and respect. Before the conclusion of Induction Week, all new students are therefore expected to complete the online course, 'Consent Matters; Boundaries, Respect and Positive Intervention', which is available on DUO (Durham University Online) before participation in College-based clubs, societies or committees, or activities with Experience Durham. Access to DUO will be available to you upon completion of your University registration.

During Induction Week, your College will require you to confirm that you have, or will, complete this course. Questions about the course should be directed to your Student Support Office who will be happy to discuss the course with any member of the College community.

**We hope that all students will find the course interesting and commit to maintaining our valued culture of respect at Durham University.**

The University's Sexual Violence & Misconduct Policy and Procedure can be found at [www.dur.ac.uk/university.calendar/volumei/policies\\_and\\_strategies/](http://www.dur.ac.uk/university.calendar/volumei/policies_and_strategies/)

## WHO ARE WE?

**DURHAM**\$U

Durham Students' Union exists for a purpose: we're the champion of every Durham student. We're interested in the things that matter to you and in helping make them possible.

Every year, students throughout Durham vote for the next Durham SU Officer team, who will represent the interests of students on a variety of issues, from the price of accommodation to securing extra eating space in the library.

Durham SU has two cafés – one of which is a bar by night – with the cheapest Starbucks in Durham, a wide range of drinks, and space to study or socialise. We're also home to over 250 student groups. And if you need a helping hand, our Advice Service is there for you.

## WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

As a student at Durham University you're already a member of our Union, which brings you a whole host of benefits to help you get the most out of your time here.

- Meet like-minded friends at over 250 societies.
- Hundreds of organised events and activities to choose from.
- Be welcomed into a ready-made peer support group.
- Got a good idea? We've got the resources to make it happen.
- Free confidential advice about your student rights.
- Seize the opportunity to make a difference in the world.
- Be heard, and help improve the University.
- Enjoy fairly-priced products and services that directly fund student activities.



**DURHAM**\$U

## WHAT'S ON IN FRESHERS' WEEK?

Your college will no doubt have a packed schedule for your first week in Durham, but make sure to find time to visit our Freshers' Fair – the only place to meet all our student groups at once. We also have a range of welcome events to help students settle into Durham and meet freshers from across all colleges.

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
International Welcome Night	28 September	Dunelm House
Postgraduate Welcome Night	29 September	Riverside Bar & Café
Freshers' Fair: Day 1	2 October	Dunelm House
Freshers' Fair: Day 2	3 October	& Elvet Riverside
Give it a Go Week	8 -14 October	Various locations



## SAY HELLO

We're here for you throughout the year. Whether you chat to us in person or online, we'd like to keep in touch.

-  **/durhamsu**
-  **Your college's Union Rep**
-  **@durhamSU**
-  **0191 341 777**
-  **durhamsu**
-  **info@durhamsu.com**
-  **durham.su**
-  **Pop into Dunelm House.**

[durhamsu.com/freshers-hub](http://durhamsu.com/freshers-hub)



# CRANMER HALL DURHAM

John's is also home to Cranmer Hall. This is not a building, but instead refers to those connected with the college who are training for jobs in Christian ministry. Many of those at Cranmer will go on to be vicars in the Church of England, while others will work with other churches or organisations.



Cranmer Hall comprises a mixed group of people ranging from 18-year olds leaving home for the first time, to people right up to their fifties who already have degrees or are re-training for a new profession. Others are 'mature' students –we are married, some with children, and come from the UK and beyond. They offer a whole mix of life-experiences and perspectives.



The students of Cranmer Hall have their lectures in college, typically in Leech Hall, and some are 'livers-in'. Cranmer students are usually involved in placements across Durham and the North-East, training alongside those already working as vicars and chaplains in churches, hospitals and elsewhere in the region.

The Cranmer students share worship in services in the chapel and at college communion on Tuesday evenings. Everyone in college is welcome to attend these events and collective worship.





# ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE CELLARS

No. 3 South Bailey, Durham

St. John's College Cellars was founded in 2013 and is housed in one of the cellars beneath St. John's College, on the Bailey.

The cellars are run by a team of students from St. John's College to provide a range of wines available for purchase before weekly formal dinners, or on a private basis upon request.

The cellars were set up with the aim to provide quality wines at cost price to promote the enjoyment of wine and formal dinners within the college.



The cellar is open for **an hour** before every formal dinner. This is usually between **17:30 and 18:30**. The cellar can also be opened upon some requests.

The St John's College cellar offers a range of wine (including both reds and whites), starting from the relatively inexpensive (£7) to more costly labels. Card payments are accepted, but cash (exact, if you have it!) is greatly appreciated and favoured.

## Sports and Societies at John's

St John's College has a hugely successful array of sports and societies for everyone to get involved in. For a small college, we punch well above our weight. It is encouraged that you embrace as many of the opportunities afforded by our sports teams and societies early on; this serves as an excellent way of getting to know the people at John's but also to become a part of the triumphs and achievements St John's College never fails to strive for!

One of our biggest sporting events is John's-Chad's Day, where we play our neighbours in every sport and bar game to determine who takes home the Wilkinson-Cassidy Cup. John's-Chad's Day 2018 resulted in a landslide triumph for St John's following a suitably fierce contest. Let's repeat this success this coming year!

And onto our societies: John's Music Society (JMS) has grown year-on-year –you can get involved yourself as part of the orchestra, choir or solo vocalist, or come along to one of their 'Open Mic' nights. If acting is your thing, our Bailey Theatre Company perform three productions a year –be sure to get involved on-stage or backstage! Our famous Cheese Society meets bi-termly (free cheese and crackers, what more could you want from a society?), while the Real Ale Society would be more than happy to welcome any new members to its already 40-strong contingent of real-ale enthusiasts.

If you have any questions regarding sports and societies during Freshers' Week, speak to our Sports and Societies Officer, Alexander Tattersall, [johns.sportsoc@durham.ac.uk](mailto:johns.sportsoc@durham.ac.uk) and he'll be happy to help. If you find that there isn't a society at John's that you were looking for, you can always make it happen by starting a sport or society of your own.



## Sports and Societies Continued...

Below is a list of both the societies and sports clubs that John's has on offer. Have a scan through to see if any tickle your fancy and be sure to come and speak to the sports and societies presidents during the freshers' fair in Leech Hall during freshers' week. If nothing takes your eye, why not start a society of your own? All of this (with the exception of the boat club) is included in your SJCR membership and run by the SJCR –all this SJCR lark seems pretty good, am I right?

Sports Societies	General Societies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🕒 Athletics</li> <li>🕒 Badminton</li> <li>🕒 Basketball</li> <li>🕒 Cheerleading</li> <li>🕒 Cricket</li> <li>🕒 Darts</li> <li>🕒 Football</li> <li>🕒 Ultimate Frisbee</li> <li>🕒 Hockey</li> <li>🕒 Lacrosse</li> <li>🕒 Netball</li> <li>🕒 Pool</li> <li>🕒 Rounders</li> <li>🕒 Rugby</li> <li>🕒 Squash</li> <li>🕒 Table tennis</li> <li>🕒 Tennis</li> <li>🕒 Volleyball</li> <li>🕒 St John's College Boat Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🕒 Art society</li> <li>🕒 Bailey Theatre Company</li> <li>🕒 Board Game Society</li> <li>🕒 Cheese Society</li> <li>🕒 The Christian Union</li> <li>🕒 John's Chronicle (blog)</li> <li>🕒 John's Environment Society</li> <li>🕒 John's Music Society</li> </ul>



# Environmental Sustainability

St John's College is proud to be committed to Environmental Sustainability.

**Greenspace** coordinates environmental initiatives across the University relating to 8 key areas:

1. Energy
2. Waste
3. Water
4. Travel
5. Biodiversity
6. Fairtrade
7. Procurement
8. Low carbon



## How can you help?

- 🕒 You can complete the short online sustainability training module. This is accessed under the 'Environmental Sustainability' tab on your [duo](#) homepage.
- 🕒 Label the electrical equipment in your room with **green**, **amber** and **red** stickers (found in your welcome packs) to inform others about the following:
  1. **Green**: item may be switched off
  2. **Amber**: please ask before switching off
  3. **Red**: do not switch off
- 🕒 Turn your radiator off or to a lower setting when the room does not require heating.
- 🕒 Recycle your plastics and paper –you will be directed to where the recycle bins are sometime after your arrival. In your room you will find a dedicated blue recycling bag for paper, but it is advised that you should also have a separate recycling bag for plastics, glass and cans.
- 🕒 Report dripping taps and any other leaks you may find in and around college.
- 🕒 Walk, bike and use as much public transport as much as you can in Durham –it's a nightmare to drive in the city centre anyway!

**For more information on Environmental Sustainability in College and at Durham University, contact the Eco Soc reps, sign-up to the [University's Environment Bulletin](#) or visit the [Greenspace student webpages](#).**

**Thank you for supporting environmental sustainability at St John's College and at Durham University.**



**Every small step leads  
to big change**

# Handy Stuff to Know

## Getting in and around Durham City and Beyond...

Students are able to travel for free between Durham City and Queen's Campus, Stockton using the Arriva X12 inter-campus bus service. There are also many other bus deals for Durham University campus card holders including free travel on Arriva's 56, 57 and 57A services between Coxhoe and Durham City and £1 daily tickets for unlimited travel on other Arriva bus services.

If you fancy a trip further afield and long for a few hours outside of the 'Durham bubble', Durham has good bus links to Newcastle, as well as the train. The train service between Durham and Newcastle takes only 13 minutes! Plus, with a railcard, the cost of a return ticket is only around £5, and £8 for those without one.

## Financial Aid and the SJCR Members' Fund

The SJCR Members' Fund exists for all SJCR members who have entered into financial difficulty as a result of necessary, unexpected expenditure.

All Members' Fund applications are treated as strictly confidential and bound by the SJCR confidentiality policy. Upon receiving an application, it will be discussed by the Presidents and Treasurer who will then allocate an appropriate amount of money; it may not be possible to allocate all of the money requested.

**Forms may be found outside the SJCR Office and should be given to the SJCR President.** An **electronic version** of the form may be found on the **SJCR website** under the **SJCR Documents** then **Forms** tab. You should receive a response to your application within a week, and a sealed cheque for any allocated money within a week after that (unless the application is made during the holiday period).

The Members' Fund is able to support SJCR members in handling specific items of expenditure. You will need to justify on the form why the expenditure is necessary and essential to your development and experience here at Durham University (it can be either degree or extra-curricular related).

Sometimes we may not be able to allocate your application any money. In this case, **DO NOT PANIC**, there are other funds available:

- 🕒 **The University Hardship Fund** offers funding for unforeseeable and unavoidable funding shortfalls which prevent you from completing your studies successfully. This is for students who have had a sound financial plan when beginning their studies but encountered difficulties along the way. Enquiries about this can be made via a scheduled appointment with the Senior Tutor, or Jeanna Spencer (Assistant Senior Tutor).
- 🕒 **The College Emergency Cash Loan** is a small hard cash sum of money which college reserved for emergencies which require immediate assistance. Speak to the Porter or the Finance Office regarding the CECL.

## Starting Up a Club

Despite the extensive list of clubs waiting to welcome you, both in college and university wide, it is *possible* that you have other interests and would like to start a new club that does not already exist.

If you affiliate your club to the SJCR you will be able to get funding and other support.

Here's how:

- 🕒 Discuss your ideas with the **Sports and Societies Officer** who will be able to offer advice.
- 🕒 Elect an Executive Committee: sports and societies must have (1) a Chair responsible for running the society and (2) a Treasurer, responsible for any grants from the SJCR. Both of these positions must be held by SJCR members. You can appoint any other positions that you like (e.g. Secretary, Publicity Officer etc.)
- 🕒 You can choose to accept the pre-written Default Society Constitution, which is available to print from the SJCR website. Alternatively, if you are so inclined, you can write your own.
- 🕒 Finally, the new society or sports team and its Exec have to be approved at a SJCR meeting. Write a motion for the meeting that resolves to affiliate your society or sports team to the SJCR and that ratifies all the members of the Executive Committee (you can ask the SJCR Chair or Vice-Chair for help with this).
- 🕒 Once your society or sports team has been passed by the SJCR, you will be allowed to receive funding and access other facilities. You're not allowed to charge a membership fee, so talk to the SJCR Treasurer about obtaining funding. There is no minimum number of members needed to receive money, so we'll always be here to help!

You can also motion to set-up a club through the Durham Students' Union (which is what I and my associates did when starting up the Colin Firth Society, yes really!). Details about this can be found on the DSU website. Applications need to be put in fairly quickly as there is a deadline which is usually around the end of October/start of November.

## How to Stand for an Election

Freshers are positively encouraged to run for positions when they get to John's. Check out the SJCR website to see a list of SJCR positions that you may fancy running for. If there is something that catches your eye, here is a list of things to do to help secure that role:

- 🕒 Decide which position you are going to run for and talk to the person currently holding the job, or the Vice-Chair.
- 🕒 See if you fit the criteria. Some positions have certain conditions of candidature restricting who can be elected. If in doubt, the SJCR Vice-Chair will always be there to answer your questions.
- 🕒 Find two members of the SJCR Exec, with the exception of the Chair and Vice-Chair, to propose and second you. This means that they officially support you as a candidate.
- 🕒 Some roles require you to produce a manifesto. These roles are clearly indicated on the website. Your manifesto should be displayed in the Bailey Room and it is designed to tell the SJCR why you'd be good in that position, what your experience is, and what you'd like to achieve while in that role.
- 🕒 Attend the SJCR meeting in a gown. If you can't make the meeting, you must send your apologies to the Chair in advance and ensure that your proposer is there on your behalf to read your manifesto.
- 🕒 At the election itself you may have to give a 'hust': the fancy word for a short speech telling the SJCR why you'd be good at the role and what you can offer to the post. If you are absent your proposer must hust in your place. If you are standing for a manifesto position or in a contested election, then you will definitely have to hust. In other elections you may not have to, although any SJCR member can request that you do, so be prepared!

After husting, the SJCR can question you. To help you prepare, you should speak to the person currently holding the role and look through the past minutes of SJCR meetings to see what questions may be asked.

This may all seem a bit daunting but, if in doubt, the SJCR Chair and Vice-Chair will always be at the end of an email to give you the advice you need! We really aren't all that scary...

## A few words on Manifestos:

### Manifestos must include:

- 🕒 Your name
- 🕒 Your proposer and seconder
- 🕒 The job title
- 🕒 The date of election

### They must also:

- 🕒 Be fewer than 250 words
- 🕒 Not refer to any other candidates
- 🕒 Be signed by a member of Chairs Committee (the Chair, Vice-Chair, President, Treasurer or Comms)

## Voting

If the election is unopposed and non-manifesto, and the candidate has not been asked to hush, the Chair will ask the SJCR to accept the candidate on a 'General Aye' to which the SJCR calls out 'aye' if they accept the candidate.

If the candidate has hushed but the election is uncontested, they will be asked to leave the room which the SJCR votes by a show of hands. A voter may indicate 'yes' or 'no', or they may 'abstain' (choosing not to vote).

If the election is contested, the SJCR will vote by STV (single transferable vote) paper ballot at the end of the meeting or electronically, where the Chair will email the link to the voting site to the whole SJCR. If the voter does not approve of any candidates and wants the nominations reopened, they can vote for R.O.N. (Re-Open Nominations).

The votes will be counted, and the winner informed by the Vice-Chair. All successful candidates take up the post immediately, unless elected at the last meeting of term, when the new officer takes responsibility at the beginning of the holidays.

## How to Write a Motion

Writing a motion is your way of getting the SJCR to do what you want. Motions come up in SJCR meetings and are the method through which everyone decides whether or not to take a certain action. A motion needs to be proposed (by you) and seconded (by any other member of the SJCR, apart from the Exec, Chair or Vice-Chair).

Motions need to be submitted to the SJCR Chair around a week before a SJCR meeting (you'll always be informed of the deadline when the meeting is advertised).

Motions should contain three clauses, presented as follows:

- ⌚ **'This SJCR notes...'** and then factual reasons for bringing the motion forward are supplied.
- ⌚ **'This SJCR believes...'** The thoughts of the SJCR on the notes section, and if the motion passes, is what the SJCR thinks is true.
- ⌚ **'This SJCR resolves...'** These are the proposed actions of the SJCR.

What you propose as the action depends on what you want your motion to achieve, i.e. you can mandate a SJCR officer to do something, release money for spending, or insert/amend something in the Constitution, etc.

Another option is to state **'This SJCR resolves as a matter of policy...'**

If the SJCR passes a motion of policy it becomes the ongoing stance of the SJCR, until it is changed, removed or expires. Policy motions must be renewed by the SJCR every three years.

Past and present policies have included: policies to ask college to change (or maintain) how it works; policies to allow linguists and fourth year's places on the room ballot; and political policies against top-up fees and Third World debt.

So, you really can make a difference at a SJCR meeting!

## How to Write a Motion for Spending

At each SJCR meeting, you can petition the SJCR for money for an item not covered in the budget. Previous motions for spending have covered a variety of different items: from new curtains in the bar over-spill, to a trophy for the tennis team, and even a new College croquet set. It's best to start by contacting the **Treasurer**, who can advise you on the motion.

A motion for spending is written in the same as any other motion, but with difference in the third section. There are three options with regard to how much money you would like to be released; you'd pick one depending on how certain you are of how much money you will need.

You can say '***This SJCR Resolves...***':

- 🕒 '***To release exactly...***' This stipulates an exact figure.
- 🕒 '***To release up to...***' This is any figure up to and including that stated.
- 🕒 '***To release approximately...***' This is any amount within 20% of that stated.

This motion needs to be submitted to the SJCR Chair by the motion deadline before the next meeting. Then it will be discussed at Finance Committee, which you are required to attend to answer questions about your motion. Finance Committee meets before every SJCR meeting. Members of the SJCR with a position connected to spending, and also representatives from each common room, vote on the merits of the motion. If the motion passes, then it will go on to the SJCR meeting agenda. You will also need to attend this meeting to state your case and (hopefully) get final approval from the SJCR.

## Money Request Forms

Without a motion for spending, money cannot be released and given to an individual, except in certain situations.

Money Request Forms are available from the SJCR website. You need to fill out a form, attach your receipts to it and place it in the Treasurer's pigeon hole outside the President's Flat.

Once your form has been received, the Treasurer will write you a cheque and contact you by email so that you can pick it up. If you have any doubts, please contact the Treasurer **BEFORE** spending any money.

## Signing Up for Formals

The information you've been waiting for! John's formals are the best in the whole of Durham. '*Why is that?*', I hear you cry; because they're free!

Formals are typically held once a week in Leech Hall and comprise a three-course meal, followed by a (free!) cheeseboard in the Vasey Room.

Formals are extremely popular, and places are allocated on a first come, first served basis. We recommend that you apply every other week to maximise your chances of getting a place.

Signing up for formals is quick and easy. All you need to do is:

- 🕒 Log onto the SJCR website.
- 🕒 Under [Sign up for John's events](#) click on the [Formal Sign-up](#) option.
- 🕒 Follow the instructions: entering your dietary requirements, whether or not you need a guest place and if you are a liver-in or liver-out.

Mega-formals are arranged once a term, and usually have a theme. These formals have a cava reception, a half bottle of wine is included on the table, and the cheeseboard is brought to you! The only downside is that these have an additional cost of £5, but you really do get bang for your buck.

With all formals, you will be notified by email by the Food and Formals Officer if you have bagged yourself a place on the formal, and the sign-up for all formals opens during the preceding formal, usually at 19:00.



## Formal Etiquette

Formals are great fun, but it is important to remember that they are *formal* and, as a result, a certain level of appropriate behaviour is expected. *'The suit is the modern gentleman's armour'*, but it can be difficult to judge just what sort of attire is appropriate for a formal setting. Below comprises a rough guide as to what is acceptable:

### Ladies

**Regular formals:** Knee length cocktail dresses, formal jumpsuits, or suits and shirts can be worn beneath your gown.

**Mega formals:** 'Black-tie' events require a great deal more formality; floor-length dresses are welcomed, but not essential. Dresses should otherwise be knee-length, and playsuits are not typically worn. Women may also wear 'black tie' suits.

### Gentlemen

**Regular formals:** A lounge suit with a tie is acceptable, but formals are a strict 'no-chino-zone'. Again, gowns must be worn.

**Mega formals:** 'Black-tie' unless otherwise stipulated. This doesn't mean a literal 'black-tie', but a black tuxedo with bow-tie. A pocket square is also traditionally worn. Dinner-jackets are also appropriate.

It should be acknowledged that gowns are not required at mega-formals.

### Additional Formal Requirements

In general, if you have any particular wishes or cultural conventions that differ to those stated, the clothing simply needs to be at about the same level of formality as the above conventions.



## Table Manners: ‘Manners Maketh Man’



Although they may seem stuffy and outdated, manners are not *optional*, instead they are *essential*. They're simple to nail, and you never know when you might be eating in the presence of royalty.

- 🕒 Mobile phones are not permitted for use at the table. Anyone caught using a mobile phone during a formal may be fined (up to £50) and could even be removed from the formal.
- 🕒 Remember to use your napkin, place it on your lap just as the first course is about to be served.
- 🕒 Cutlery is easy; start from the outside working your way inwards.
- 🕒 Your side plate, or 'bread plate', and butter knife are to the left of your dinner plate.
- 🕒 Your beverage glasses are found to the right of your dinner plate. John's formals typically have two glasses set out on the table; the shorter of which will be for your water, and the other for your wine.
- 🕒 Never let anyone describe you as HKLP: 'Holds Knife Like Pen'. Commonly mistaken as upper-class dining etiquette, but it is quite the contrary. Do not use your knife to 'stab' or shovel your food.
- 🕒 You only need to wait for everyone else to start, before you can tuck in, if the dish is cold (or royalty is present). However, most people usually wait until their whole table is served before eating.
- 🕒 Do not lean across the table, instead ask for something to be passed to you if you require it.
- 🕒 If you need the bathroom during the formal, you must bow to the high table when you leave and return. You must also leave and return as discreetly as possible, resulting in the least amount of disruption. Avoid leaving in large groups; ones and twos preferably.
- 🕒 Avoid placing your elbows on the table whilst eating, but whilst conversing during courses it is acceptable.
- 🕒 You must remain stood behind your chair at the beginning of the formal until 1) the high table arrives, 2) the Latin grace is recited, and 3) the high table is seated.
- 🕒 Smile and look engaged. Always be on-hand with witty remarks, interesting facts and conversation starters which bring the best out in everyone. And, most importantly, enjoy yourself.

# A Guide to Your New Home

**Reception:** Your first port of call. Here is where you collect parcels and post, report any lost keys or other lost property and collect the keys for the gym and John's Boathouse. The Porters are incredibly knowledgeable and friendly; they're a useful resource and are happy to answer any general questions and queries you may have about college life.

**Haughton Dining Room and Haughton Orangery:** The dining rooms, and the home of breakfast, lunch, dinner and formals. John's is a wholly catered college, so you will spend a lot (and I mean, a *lot*) of time here. John's is notorious for having some of the best food within the university so don't hold back, fill your boots!

	<b>Mondays-Fridays</b>	<b>Weekends</b>
<b>Breakfast</b>	<b>8:00-9:30</b>	<b>8:00-10:00</b>
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>11:45-13:30</b>	<b>10:00-13:30</b>
<b>Dinner</b>	<b>17:30-19:00</b>	<b>17:15-18:45</b>

If your timetable means that you are unable to return to college and eat during the allocated times, you can order a packed lunch. Packed lunches are ordered using slips found in the dining room and must be handed to the kitchen staff before 19:00 the day before you require the meal. We'd encourage you to go to as many meals as possible as they are included in your accommodation fee. Mealtimes are also key social times and are especially good for meeting new people during freshers' week!



**The Bowes Living Room:** A hidden treasure in college – a cosy room available to use to watch DVDs (you can borrow the college projector) or just hang out. Leave a note on the door to book it and it's yours. It just requires your room key to open!

**The Crossroads:** Next to Leech Hall, this spacious area is ideal for working/revising as it's light and doesn't have to be silent (unlike the library)! A head's up –the coffee machine is pretty good and only £1!

**Leech Hall:** Leech Hall is the largest room in college. It serves as a multifunctional room for concerts, plays, dances, rowing and relaxation events during the exam period. SJCR meetings and the majority of formals are held in here too. During Fresher's Week, many of the introductory events and important meetings take place here –so make sure that you're familiar with it!

**Bailey Room and Post Room:** Legend has it that John's 'trophyed'\* the Bailey Room from Chad's. Here you can play pool, table football and snack to your heart's content on the vending machines. The sofas are super comfy so it's a great place to have a break from work or come back to after a night out. The post room, next door, requires your key but you can access your personal pigeon hole with all your post. Larger parcels are kept in reception and you will be emailed if that is the case.



*\*definitions for the uninitiated: 'trophyed' basically means that we were superior in a match of sports, or wits, and were awarded the Bailey Room as a prize –the spoils of war.*

**Linton Lawn:** Linton Lawn is the best place to sunbathe. There are a few picnic benches, which are nice to sit at and revise in the summer (weather permitting, of course). It is also fantastic for relaxation, BBQs and John's annual 'Beer-Fest'.



**Computer Room:** The John's Computer Room is pretty self-explanatory! It has a colour and black and white printer which requires you to top up credit onto your account – this can be done on DUO which you will become familiar with very soon! It is open 24/7 so is handy in case of emergencies with a laptop breaking!

**The Laundry Rooms:** There are three laundry areas in college for you to use. One is found at the bottom of Cruddas (hidden from the eyes of civilisation). Another one is in the top floor of the Garth, and the last at the bottom of 28 North Bailey. NB: always remember your laundry card!



**The Linton Room:** The Linton room is more or less the Bailey room's posh little brother. Used for the Whisky society, SJCR committees and similar events, you can book it if you want to.

**The Bar and Overspill:** Probably the best room in college! The bar offers cheap drinks (pints are £2 or less), good music and good company. Known for its small size, the bar has been extended to the TV room and a new bar has been opened next to the Bailey Room! You will probably spend most of your time and money here before you go on a night out. It is the best bar in Durham and you will very quickly come to love it and defend it when it comes up against other college bars!



**The Linton Bar:** To deal with the overwhelming number of thirsty students, the Linton Bar was opened. On nights that are particularly busy this bar will also be open for you to use. It offers most of the drinks that are in the main bar and is situated right next to the Bailey Room.

**Bowes Dining Room:** This dining room is often used by Cranmer students, however, both dining rooms are available to any student of the college for any meal being served there.

**Haughton Staircase:** This is next to the reception and the Haughton dining room. The Principal, the Senior Tutor and the Assistant Senior Tutor have their offices up the staircase. You will spend a considerable amount of time on the staircase whilst standing in the queue for the meals. I recommend it as an ideal location for photos before Bailey Ball!

**Cranmer C Kitchen:** This is the biggest kitchen in college. It has all you need if you want to cook for yourself if you're feeling bored of college food. It includes a working oven, fridge, microwave etc.



### **The Tristram Room:**

Found in the Bowes house, which belonged to the Queen mother's family, this is a very refined room. Cava receptions before mega-formals are held here and it gives a real sense of class to John's! It is also a lovely space to revise in, particularly in the Summer. No other college can boast anything like it.

**The Gardens:** John's is immensely lucky to find itself with plenty of gardens. The amphitheatre, below Linton lawn, may resemble Glastonbury on occasions but overall the gardens are a large part of why John's is a lovely place to live. Library Lawn is sometimes used for croquet matches but every year it is used to perform the Summer Shakespeare.



**The Gym and Fitness Room:** Our small but dynamic gym has been recently renovated and comprises all new equipment as of June 2018. Gym memberships are really cheap (£20 for 3/4 years' membership) but you will require an induction before you are allowed to use any of the equipment. Keys to the gym can be collected from the porters at reception.



**The Library:** To many, this is the most important place in college. It is equipped with Wi-Fi and sockets for charging laptops. Open 24 hours a day, you need only use your room key to access it. There is a wide selection of books but if the library is missing an essential book from your reading list, you can make a book request and they will quickly buy a copy. Towards the end of term, the library can get very busy, but it is still a nice quiet space to get work done.

### **The Music Room:**

If you are hoping to get involved with the Bailey Orchestra (and the John's Music Society) you may need a space to practice without bothering your roommates. Luckily, we have a room in the old parsonage next to the chapel, to book it out just have a word with the porters at reception.



**The Staircase to Nowhere:** At John's, we have a ninth Wonder of the Modern World; the Staircase to Nowhere. This is, quite literally, is what it says on the tin; a mysterious set of steps which leads directly into a wall. No doorway, no entrance, no room. Finding the Staircase to Nowhere is considered a rite of passage for every fresher, so telling you where it is would defeat the point. Happy hunting!

**The Chapel:** The Chapel of St Mary the Less (more commonly known as John's Chapel) is the oldest college chapel in England. Predating the Cathedral, the chapel is absolutely stunning inside and a wonderfully relaxing place. College Communion is occasionally held here while the Chapel Choir sings Evensong here on Wednesday afternoons. In February 2018, Prince Charles visited the chapel to unveil a commemorative plaque honouring Dame Elizabeth Bowes, who lived in Durham, and is an ancestor of His Royal Highness through Queen Elizabeth and the Queen Mother, his grandmother. Dame Elizabeth Bowes is buried in the college chapel, and the plaque can be seen on the outside of Bowes House, you shouldn't be able to miss it. *(Also, not to brag but I got a handshake from Prince Charles. I wouldn't mind popping in a time machine and revisiting that moment again...)*

**The Learning Resource Centre:** Construction of this new building will continue this coming year. The LRC is designed to replace the current library and provide rooms for teaching. Once completed, this library will be the envy of all the other colleges. The LRC is set to be completed in 2019, and currently relies on crowdsourced funding for development so getting involved in events raising money for the construction of the LRC is a great way to leave your mark here at John's.



*Above: an artist impression of what the completed Learning Resource Centre will look like (front view).*

## A Quick Message from the Services Manager

If you want to keep your personal hygiene at a level that is socially acceptable whilst at John's, then fear not! There are 4 laundry rooms in college where you can wash your clothes: Cruddas, 28 North Bailey, the Garth and Cranmer D laundry. The Cruddas Laundry is the biggest, hosting 4 washing machines and 4 dryers. For Cruddas, you can see what washers and dryers are available by going to the Circuit Laundry website and clicking on 'LaundryView.' The laundry service is free but requires a £20 deposit to ensure that the laundry cards are given back at the end of the year. You will need to bring your own detergent –washing tablets or capsules are much easier than powder. Irons and Ironing boards are available in all laundry rooms as well as the kitchenettes on Linton B, Haughton B, Cranmer B and C. You can always email [johns.services@durham.ac.uk](mailto:johns.services@durham.ac.uk) if there are any problems with the machines. Please do this if you notice any machines, irons or ironing boards broken or out of place. Happy washing!

## Some College Staff and Officers

### The Principal: Rev. Prof. David Wilkinson

David Wilkinson has a PhD in '*Star formation, chemical evolution of galaxies and terrestrial mass extinctions*'. He trained to be a Methodist minister at Cambridge and has even written a few books on the side. The man may be a genius, but he's also one of the loveliest men you'll meet. He is also known to have the odd dance in Klute and is basically the 'big dog' in college. He returns to us from research leave in October 2018, so lucky you!



### Senior Tutor: Dr. Rebecca Bouveng

Rebecca's role is to promote student wellbeing and personal development, and ensure the efficient administration of undergraduate and postgraduate matters. She is also responsible for maintaining the general discipline of the College and its students. Rebecca is from Sweden and came to John's as a Fresher a long time ago. She is interested in the politics of everyday life and did her PhD on Russian statecraft and identity.

### Deputy-Principal: Dr. Anne Allen

Anne joined St John's as Deputy Principal having previously served as the University's representative on College Council. She has a background in fundraising and capital project management and is overseeing the construction of the new Learning Resource Centre. In her spare time Anne is the Training Officer for Teesdale and Weardale Search and Mountain Rescue.



### **Assistant Senior Tutor: Dr Becca Hasler**

Becca is the main point of contact for undergraduate student support matters, undergraduate accommodation, and College pastoral tutors. She can provide support, information and guidance, and signpost you to the most appropriate services as required. You're welcome to drop in to her office, her office hours are displayed on the outside of her door.



### **Director of Finance & Administration: Angela Cook**

As the name suggests, Angela is responsible for the money that college has. She oversees the Finance Office, the place to go to should you want to pay your accommodation fees, and optional room service (£54 per term) by card, or if you have financial difficulties. Your laundry cards can also be returned here at the end of the year.

### **The College Porters: John, Ken, David, Steven and Paul**

They are the first point of contact in College for any general enquiries. What they don't know about College facilities isn't worth knowing! The team are responsible for security, keys, post, meal tickets, gym admission and numerous other things. They are also all qualified first-aiders and the first point of contact in an emergency.



### **Housekeeping & Cleaners: Sue Hobson (Domestic Manager) and Lynne Ramage (Housekeeper)**

The cleaners are some of the loveliest people around college and are responsible for the general cleanliness and upkeep of the college. They are

around college a lot of the time and clean your bathrooms 2/3 times a week. Bins are also collected twice during the week. The Housekeeping Office is in Haughton House, and Sue and Lynne are happy to help with any student/guest accommodation queries. They manage the team of Domestic Assistants –the ladies work in pairs and are allocated a block of accommodation for the year, so you will get to know them really well and they will always be up for a chat! A word of warning, the cleaners do have the master key, so if you know they are due to clean your room, it is best to avoid embarrassing incidents!

## Catering:

Another group of lovely people. They deliver three meals a day every day during term time. If you have an allergy or food intolerance requirements, they will be happy to help and cater to your needs. The Catering Assistants are the 'front of house' faces who serve food daily in the Houghton Dining Room. They deliver good quality food, and John's is said to be one of the best places for college food.



## Warden of Cranmer Hall: Rev. Dr. Philip Plyming

Philip has been Warden of Cranmer Hall since May 2017. Originally a linguist, he trained for ordained ministry at Cranmer Hall 1998-2001 before undertaking doctoral study at the University of Edinburgh. As well as overseeing the life of Cranmer Hall, Philip teaches leadership and the New Testament and has also written on Harry Potter. He's very friendly and a very smiley face around college.

## The Maintenance Team



Alan Usher manages the team as well as drinking a lot of coffee. Brian oversees building projects within the College and the off-site properties, such as Brass Thill. Ted is chief decorator and handy man. Colin works mainly with IT. Harry takes care of the grounds, gardening, and recycling. Mark does routine maintenance and the heavy lifting. The maintenance team ensure that everything in College functions and take care of the grounds. If you'd like to report a problem, you can fill out a ['blue slip'](#) online and a member of the maintenance team will fix it as soon as possible.

## Pubs, Clubs and Bars in Durham

Despite Durham's small size, it is home to a fairly large number of clubs. During freshers' week, the freds will take you on a variety of nights out, which will give you a taste of what Durham has to offer. You will soon learn which are your favourites, and which clubs to visit on certain nights for the best atmosphere.

### Jimmy Allen's

By far Durham's superior nightclub. Jimmy Allen's to the uninitiated but Jimmy's to its regulars, the bar is set in the caverns beneath Elvet Bridge. It has a quirky vibe even if the music can be hit-or-miss. Jimmy's is *the* club for Friday nights (which is usually when they roll out the 80s classics). Entry is free (there's that important word again) and is only a stone's throw away from Paddy's (formally Patrick's Pizza) which is where any good night out ends.



### Klute

Possibly the most famous\* of the Durham clubs. Mysteriously named (seriously, no one knows why it's called Klute!) and voted Europe's 2<sup>nd</sup> worst club by FHM and becoming the worst by default after the previous titleholder in Belgium burned down, Klute is the definition of Marmite. Love it or hate it, you need to experience it at least once during your time at Durham. Sticky floors, cheesy music galore, and a generally sweaty atmosphere; it's advised that you don't wear nice shoes here as they won't stay nice for long.



*\*definitions for the uninitiated: 'most famous' doesn't necessarily mean the best.*

### Lloyd's

Wetherspoons by day and Lloyd's by night, this pub turned club has gained popularity in recent years ever since the closure of its neighbour 'Love-Shack'. Wednesdays are the nights for Lloyds, with half of Durham being packed onto its extensive dancefloor and stood at its lengthy bar. The queue for a drink may be long, but they're prices worth queuing for. A good atmosphere and intriguing eclectic of musical styles (including a remix of the *Lion King's* Circle of life, yes really), Lloyd's is definitely worth its £3 entry.



## The Swan and Three Cygnets

The most popular non-college pub in Durham. Usually packed to the brim with John's students at the start of a Friday night crawl, the Swan has a more relaxed atmosphere than just about all of the other pubs and clubs in Durham. It's the perfect place for a relaxed evening, post-lecture pint, or a laid back 'end-of-exams' blowout.



## Fabio's



why

Like most places in Durham, Fabio's is found at the top of a gruelling set of stairs. Fabio's (Fab's for short) sells a range of drinks from the expensive and indulgent to the cheap and affordable. It often has a live band playing, which makes Fabio's a fantastic place to spend the evening if you don't fancy going to a club. Fabio's is also located directly above Durham's infamous *La Spaghettata* notorious for its cheap Italian food and 2 litre bottles of wine. A favourite venue of the John's Rowing Club socials; not make an evening of it?

## The Champagne Bar by Ebony

Fabio's classier and more sophisticated cousin, and a personal favourite of mine. The Champagne Bar is the go-to place if you have a swankier night in mind. This is the perfect destination for birthday celebrations and offers the largest variety of cocktails you will see anywhere in



Durham. Although not cheap, you certainly get bang for your buck; the cocktails are delicious and presented beautifully. The place itself is extremely modern, clean and has a greenhouse extension which is particularly nice to sit in on a cold winter's night. A personal recommendation for bourbon lovers is their 'Classic Old Fashioned' –make sure to stick around at the bar to watch the show as they make it.



## Studio

Studio is a three-floored club and is great fun no matter the occasion, mainly due to its cheap entry. Known for their 'Studio Saturdays'. I'm not particularly well-acquainted with this club so consider it a 're-freshers' resolution' of mine to give this place another try in the coming year. Hope to see you there!

## Loft

Best on a boring Monday when the other clubs are typically barren. A freshers' week favourite. Usually a good atmosphere, although you can be stung by pricey admission depending on the day, and on the mood of the bouncers. Loft is found on North Road and rounds off many peoples' nights out.



## The Boat Club

Fittingly situated on the river side, and next to the Browns Boats Dock, this upmarket yet surprisingly affordable bar and restaurant can be found. The 2 for 1 deal in the early evening makes it a lovely place to have a drink whilst watching the rowing. It's also a great place to sit and support the SJCBC team during races.

## Whisky River

Found right next to the riverbank and Jimmy Allen's, you'll find lots of whiskies. It can be pricey, but that is to be expected with any whisky bar. Another good place for a more relaxed, sophisticated evening. They occasionally host live music, which makes for an excellent atmosphere without requiring the club setting.



## Wiff Waff

Possibly the oddest bar/club you will find in Durham and the Monday night alternative to Loft. Named after the original title of 'Ping-Pong' the venue hosts, you've guessed it, ping-pong tables –just in case your nights out weren't complete without a round of table tennis...

## The Shakespeare

Durham's oldest pub, and allegedly one of the most haunted in the North-East. It serves the best pint of Guinness in town (but at a price). Homely atmosphere but popular with locals. A nice place to go to if you're in the market for a long chat over a cheeky pint.



## The Library

The Library isn't a cheap place to spend an evening, but it is a popular one. Part of a chain, it offers a varying atmosphere ranging from somewhere low-key to eat and relax to a more party atmosphere. The choice of music is (usually) a win (there's an affluence of music from Manchester bands –which is certainly popular with me!). Some of the deepest conversations I've had have been at this place, perhaps there's just something about it...



## The Waterhouse

The other Durham Wetherspoons. The Waterhouse is definitely a pub, no hidden clubs here. Generally, this establishment is more popular with the locals and it is rare that a student is spotted here. The Waterhouse is cheaper than its sister establishment (shhh...keep that to yourself); you can eat and drink

heartily for less than £10! Found on North Road, this place is perfect if you have a cheap night in mind and need a break from college food.

**And, last but not least, our lovely own [John's Bar](#).  
The cheapest college bar in Durham, cosy and  
quirky; it's where all the best nights begin.**



The best way to see the other Durham college bars is to embark on the 'Infamous Durham Bar Crawl'. Each bar, and college, has its own college drink and one must be sunk at each fine establishment to win eternal glory and respect. Best avoided if you value your liver and your idea of a fun night isn't spent in A&E.

## And now onto the lesser –I mean, other– Durham colleges...

Durham is home to 16 colleges and will welcome a 17<sup>th</sup> in 2020. Each college has their own unique identity, but there are two distinct ‘clans’ to know about...

The Bailey Colleges: The traditional, the originals™, the best.

College	Emblem	Motto	Review
John's		" <i>Fides nostra victoria</i> " –‘Our faith is our victory’	5/5. Obviously. The superior Durham college and your new home. Friendly people, lovely staff, and with sport societies which punch above our small size.
Chad's (our big rival)		" <i>Non vestra sed vos</i> " –‘Not yours but you’	Likes to think it's better than John's. A greenhouse surrounded by shared rooms. Chad's has two bars (yay!) but they don't take card which can be annoying if you're short on cash.
Cuth's (technically a 'society', and not a college)		" <i>Gratia gratiam parit</i> " – ‘Friendship begets friendship’	Small, generally friendly people. Most of the first-year students do not live on the Bailey. They have a sports bar and a beer garden but charge a price for mediocre jagerbombs.
Castle (technically 'University' college, but everyone calls them Castle)		" <i>Non nobis solum</i> " –‘Not for ourselves alone’	The oldest Durham college with delusions of grandeur. Few students actually live in the Castle. They have an impressive bar (don't let them hear you say that) but it's definitely worth a visit.
Hatfield (the Slytherin house of Durham)		" <i>Vel primus vel cum primis</i> " – ‘Either first or among the first’	If there is one thing that all of the Durham colleges can agree on, it is that we're all united against Hatfield. This college is infested with signet rings and chinos. They have an array of nicknames; you'll pick them up very quickly.
Hild-Bede (the college at the top of a big hill...)		" <i>Eadem mutata resurgo</i> " –‘I rise again changed but the same’	Technically not a Bailey college and on top of a hill. It's a bit of a walk from the other colleges but has a nice bar and fabulous film society; just don't walk back alone.

**The Hill Colleges:** the new kids on the block. Oxygen tanks required.

College	Emblem	Motto	Review
Collingwood (the 'sporty college)		<i>"Aime le meilleur"</i> –'Love the best'	I'll give Collingwood their due; these guys are actually pretty cool. They're very sporty and known for liking a good party. Their bar is like a homely traditional pub.
Trevelyan (‘Trevs’)		<i>"Vera fictis libentius"</i> –'Truth more readily than falsehood'	Designed as interconnecting hexagonal blocks; there are no four-sided rooms. It is meant to be a 'post-modern reflection of Castle', but I don't see it. They recently earned notoriety for a recent event organised by their rugby club (see: BBC News).
Stephenson		<i>"Me quondam mirabitur orbis"</i> –'One day I shall astonish the world'	One of the two colleges located at Queen's Campus, so they're basically miles away... That is until this year! Queen's campus is merging with the Durham City campus, so expect to see a lot more of these guys.
John Snow (No, not the Channel 4 News anchor, or that one from Game of Thrones...)		<i>"Per scientiam et prudentiam quaere summam"</i> –'To seek the highest through knowledge and wisdom'	The second of the Stockton campus college. John Snow students have already made the move over to Durham City, and they are the second set of 'alien invaders' into Durham. We're joking, they're a harmless bunch, really.
Grey		<i>"Gradibus ascendimus"</i> –'We ascend by degrees'	Pretty much what it says on the tin; grey. Fairly average. They have zero tolerance of drinking games <i>and</i> they don't let you buy more than one drink at a time!
Josephine Butler (known as JoBo)		<i>"Comme je trouve"</i> –'As I find'	The only fully self-catered college in Durham. Used to be the home of 'Big Fat Pres' (until it was stopped by the porters). Another trek from college; pass through Mordor, and throw the One Ring into Mount Doom, and you might just make it.

Ustinov		<i>"Diversitate valemus"</i> –'Strength in diversity'	A post-graduate only club. It is the college the furthest away from John's, so you may require a map, oxygen tank, and three days' worth of food for your journey.
St Aidan's ('King of the Hill')		<i>"Super fundamentis certis"</i> –'Upon sure foundations'	Gym wear required for the sweat you'll break out into after climbing the 87 steps up to the college. One of the bigger Durham colleges; it's where most people who put 'open' UCAS applications end up. Small bar, but a nice view of the Bailey.
St Mary's (Known as where the 'Dementors' live, because its atmosphere lacks a soul)		<i>"Ancilla Domini"</i> –'The handmaid of the Lord'	This college was female-only until 2005. It is the closest to the science site (much to the envy of Butler and Aidan's). The green in front of Mary's tends to turn into an ice rink during the winter months. Their bar is tiny and soulless.
Van Mildert		<i>"Sic vos non vobis"</i> –'Not for yourselves'	Home to a lake (see; fly infested pond). Do not go for a dip in the lake unless you want to catch something. The ducks are the best part of this college unless you think 60s architecture is incredible. Their bar, like that of Grey's is small and nothing special.

Durham, unlike Oxbridge, does not teach within their colleges. Your colleges are here to support you pastorally, so the chances are you will meet other Durham students from other colleges whilst attending lectures, tutorials and practicals for your course. For this reason, Durham can only submit one University Challenge team pooled from all of the colleges, unlike Oxbridge which has a team per college. You can tell I'm not salty about this at all...

Durham's colleges really add another level of something special to this university; it encourages college-crossed lovers and inspires rivalry. It's like Hogwarts, but better. As much as John's community is important, it is also imperative to branch out and make friends in the other colleges –it really will broaden your horizons!

## Day 1 of the 'Durham Experience'

Driving down the Bailey to move into Johns' for the first time can feel scary but also very exciting. Our freshers' reps will be there to celebrate your arrival; don't be afraid to ask them any questions you have –we've all been in the same position!

### When you arrive:

- 🕒 You can move your **luggage into your new room** and begin to **unpack** (and in some cases you'll get to **meet your roommate**).
- 🕒 Head to the Bailey Room or Houghton Dining room to buy everything that you'll need for life as a fresher (bring your cheque book, cash or card with you). This will include:
  1. Your **SJCR membership** (£135 for 3 years or £180 for 4 years) which covers the cost of taking part in the sports, societies and the other great stuff John's has to offer throughout your University life. Again, this is **optional**. You **do not** have to opt-in. If you choose to opt-in on freshers' Sunday, the SJCR membership fee will be taken out with your accommodation fee for the first term. If you want some time to think, you can always join and pay later, you'll just need to speak to Caragh!
  2. **A gown** (new gowns are £55, second-hand gowns are £35). You'll need a gown for our college formals, SJCR Meetings and university Matriculation. Be warned, there is a limited supply of second-hand gowns, so get there quickly.
  3. **A Freshers' T-shirt and Wristband combo**. These are £20. This money goes towards funding your Freshers' week events.
  4. **Your laundry card**. This is also £20 and allows you to use all of the washing facilities in college. Laundry is free, and the £20 deposit for the laundry card is returned when you hand it in to the finance office at the end of the academic year.
- 🕒 Get to know your **cleaners**: they really are the best and you will be grateful that they are there. If you are nice to them they will help you with whatever mess you might have created...or gotten yourself into!
- 🕒 Get to know your **corridor**; these are the people who you'll have the most direct contact with! I should know, I'm living with all seven of my corridor mates next year... (I must be mad, I know!)
- 🕒 At some point, everyone will be gathered into **Leech Hall**. This will commence the Johns' Freshers' Week 2018!

## Last Words

And that concludes our Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy. Oops, wrong book. That concludes our Fresher's Guide to Durham (much better!)

We really hope that this handbook has helped inform and, more importantly, excite you for freshers' week and beyond. There is a lot of information here (and we don't expect you to read it all), but hopefully you've found some of it useful. If you have any further questions, you're welcome to ask any of the Exec, Freps, or me; we're all happy to help, and promise that we don't bite! You can also head over to the college website where you can find updated information about college, its facilities and other important documents.

This week may seem quite daunting (it certainly seemed that way to me) and it is completely natural to feel nervous, and a little out of your depth. Try not to worry as everyone at the university has been through this beginning transitional period. It may sound cliché but there really is no such thing as a silly question. We are here to make your experience as enjoyable as possible, you aren't alone!

Finally, we want to congratulate you on managing to get into Durham University and into St John's College; that, in itself, is a huge achievement. Whilst some things might be tough at the beginning stage of the year whilst you settle in, you will have such a unique and special experience at Durham and we are sure you will grow to love John's as much as we do!

All that is left to do is wish you luck for the rest of your time here, and we hope that you enjoy your Time Machine themed Freshers' Week. And, who knows, you might want to turn back time and do it all again next year.

Allons-y!



### Special Thanks Go to:

- 🕒 All members of the Exec and Frep team, including Joe, Lauren and Caragh.
- 🕒 Katie Vause, who designed last year's handbook, for being so helpful in allowing me to re-use sections of her work, and for being an amazing help.
- 🕒 St John's College –for being incredible as always!
- 🕒 Everyone who replied to my requests and nagging for entries and photographs.
- 🕒 The Senior Tutor, Rebecca, for proof-reading this whopping manual!

**Thank you for reading and, remember, live long and prosper!**

Ellie 🖐️

***SEE YOU SPACE COWBOY...***

