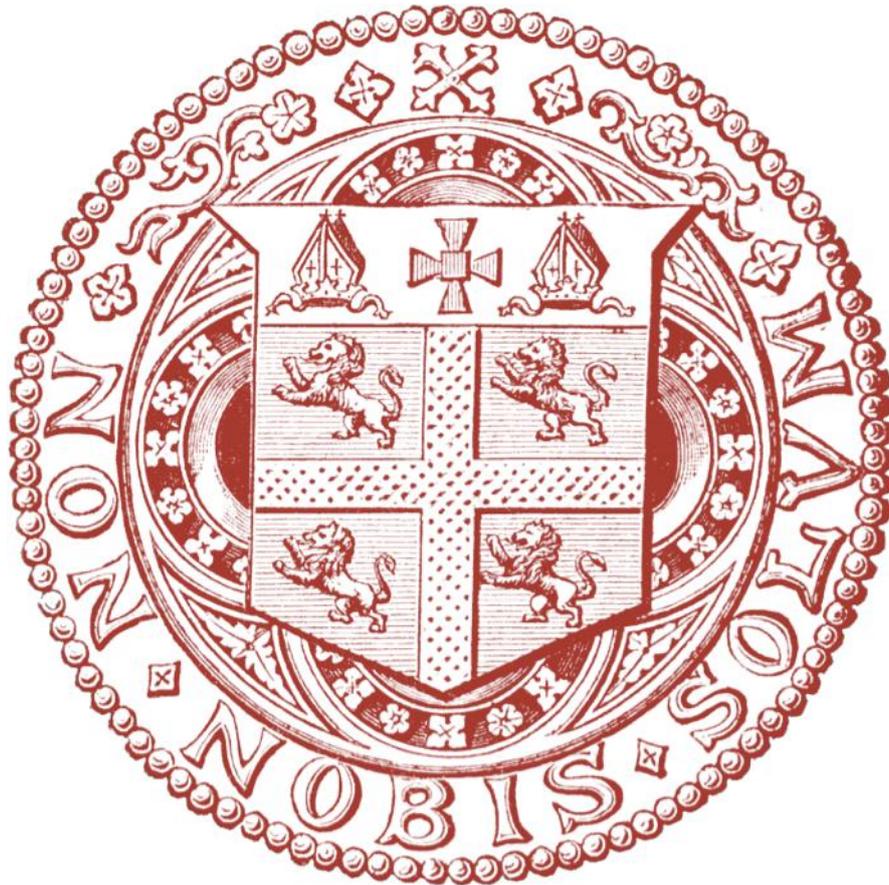


MIDDLE COMMON ROOM  
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, DURHAM



HANDBOOK  
2016-2017

# CONTENTS

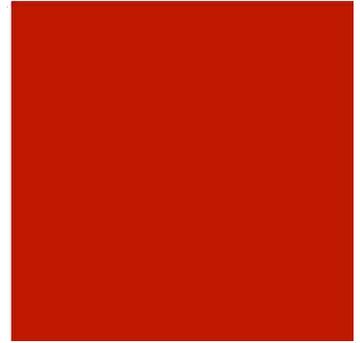
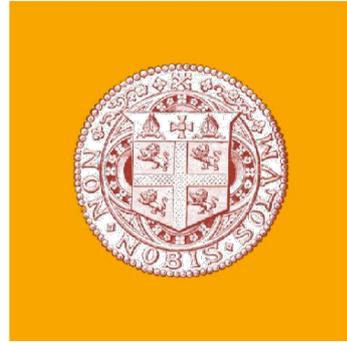
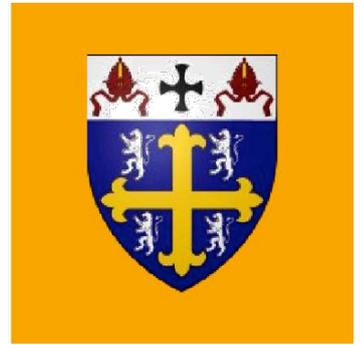
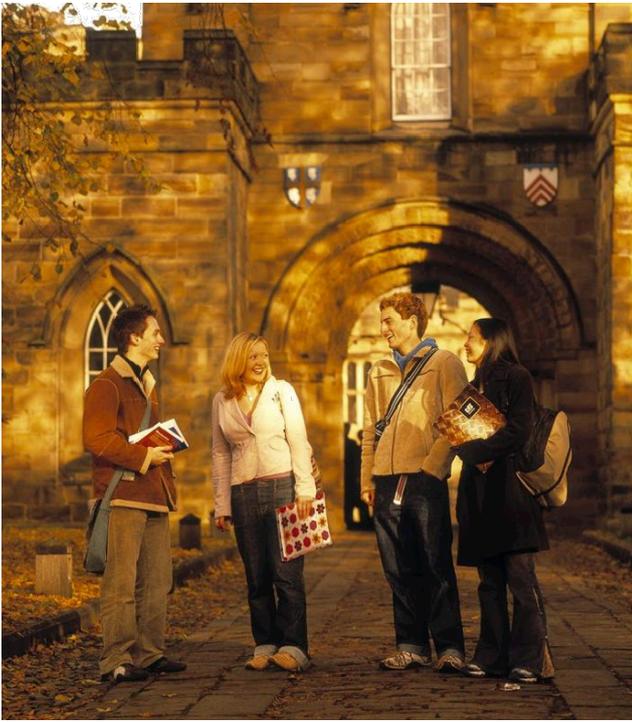
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<b>3-4</b>	<b>Welcome to Castle</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Social Events</b>
<b>5-7</b>	<b>The Executive Committee</b>	<b>20-21</b>	<b>Formal Dinner</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Non-Executive Officers</b>	<b>22-23</b>	<b>Formal Dress Codes</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Welcome Committee</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Awards and Recognitions</b>
<b>10-11</b>	<b>Who's Who in College</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>Brackenbury</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Map of College</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>Welfare</b>
<b>13-14</b>	<b>College Facilities</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>Central University Services</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>The Maurice E. Tucker Room</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>The Necessities</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Academic Events</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>Useful Websites</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>Junior Mentor Scheme</b>	<b>30-31</b>	<b>Durham Dictionary</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>Sports and Societies</b>		

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University College MCR, Durham Castle,  
Durham, County Durham, DH1 3RW

[www.castlemcr.com](http://www.castlemcr.com)



# Welcome to Castle

- and welcome to the MCR!

The Middle Common Room (MCR) of University College is both the body of postgraduates in college - a thriving, diverse, and supportive community - and the physical room in the Castle that is exclusively ours to use. Castle, and the MCR, will quickly become your home for your time at Durham, and we hope and trust that you will enjoy your time with us.

As a college of a traditional ancient university, Castle's community is composed of a Junior Common Room (for undergraduates), a Middle Common Room (for postgraduates), and a Senior Common Room (for academics and other invited figures) - names that also refer to the physical rooms for their members' use. The MCR is housed in the Maurice E. Tucker Room, at the foot of the Keep. You'll see for yourself that this is a spectacular room, used as a quiet and comfortable space to work in during the day and for everything from relaxing with a casual drink to exciting large-scale social events in the evenings.

We're immensely proud to call the Castle our home in Durham, and we hope that through eating meals in the Great Hall (available three times a day), working in the College Library, socialising in the Undercroft Bar (the oldest student bar in the world) in the evening, or using the Castle in whatever way works for you, you'll come to feel at home here before long too.

But of course your experience here will be much more than a building – it's the sense of community that makes it so great. With some events and opportunities shared with the Junior and Senior Common Rooms and others exclusively postgraduate-focussed, you will be able to get whatever you want from your time here, from sharing academic work across disciplines through MCR seminars and lectures, to College and University sport teams, volunteering in the local community, theatre, music, and much more!

To this end, MCR members can join any College or University club or society, of which there is one for just about everything. And if one doesn't exist, you can start it.

The MCR is primarily a scholarly community though, and we like to make use of this by sharing work with each other, across disciplines. We hold monthly informal seminars at which four members speak on their work to other interested MCR members and answer questions. We also run a lecture series for our members whose research is at a more complete stage to present it to a wider audience from the College and beyond. Some of these are accompanied by academic poster sessions too.

The social events in Castle will become an important part of your life, the chief of which is Formal Hall, or simply 'Formal'. These are formal dinners in academic dress (a suit/dress and gown) held twice a week, and are immensely fun events – a chance to indulge in some slightly quirky old traditions in the Great Hall. We join the SCR on High Table on Tuesdays, and sit on Low Table with the JCR on Thursdays.

There are also events such as acoustic and open mic nights in the Undercroft bar, and 'ents', i.e. college-wide parties, to celebrate events such as Halloween, Christmas, Burns Night, St. Patrick's Day, etc. On a larger scale, there are four balls each year: three black tie - Ladies' Night Ball in Michaelmas (first) Term, Halfway Hall and the Charity Ball in Epiphany (second) Term, and the prestigious white-tie June Ball in Easter (third) Term. These include a sumptuous meal and an evening exploring the themed decorations, activities, and further food & drink that fill the Castle before concluding with a band or DJ in the Great Hall.

A Facebook group has been set up to allow you to ask any questions you might have about life at Castle and in Durham, to post photos, events, and anything other members might be interested in, and to keep up-to-date with the MCR community in general. You can also find more information at [www.castlemcr.com](http://www.castlemcr.com).

# THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## Here for you

The MCR is run by an Executive Committee (often simply called the 'Exec') composed of seven postgraduates. They are here to serve the MCR community, organising events for its members, represent them to the College and University, and oversee the day-to-day running of the MCR. If you ever have any need for them, or wish to make comments or suggestions, they are always happy to receive them. Three of these positions, President, Social Chair, and Treasurer, are elected in June.



### **PRESIDENT** – Callum Murrell

c.d.murrell@durham.ac.uk

PhD in History

As President, I lead the Exec and have overall responsibility for the running of the MCR. It is also my job to represent the views of Castle's postgraduate community, both within College and to the University and other external bodies.

Please don't hesitate to contact me about any aspect of postgraduate life - questions, suggestions and feedback are always welcome.

### **TREASURER** – Johannes Schmalisch

Johannes.Schmalisch@durham.ac.uk

PhD in Management

As Treasurer, I am responsible for the sound administration of the MCR's finances. This includes being responsible for supervising the MCR bank account and acting as a co-signatory alongside the President.





**Social Chair – Rose Newman**

rosalind.newman@durham.ac.uk

PhD in English

As Social Chair, I am in charge of organising socials and events throughout the year, as well as daytrips, meals out, and the Castle Charity Ball. If you have any ideas about social events you would like to see organised this year, please come and talk to me – or better yet, join our Social Committee!

**Secretary – Steven Beckett**

s.n.beckett@durham.ac.uk

PhD in English

As Secretary, I am in charge of communication for the MCR, this includes the MCR Newsletter and running the various MCR websites and social media accounts.



**Academic Officer – Alex Llewelyn**

alexander.j.llewelyn@durham.ac.uk

PhD in Biological Science

As Academic Officer, I am responsible for academic events organised by the MCR, such as the Sunday Seminar Series and the Lecture Series. I also represents the opinions and views of the MCR to the Durham Students' Union as Co-DSU Rep for the College.



# Executive Committee positions elected in Michaelmas Term.

Some Executive Committee positions are elected in October, shortly after term starts, in order to allow new (as well as existing) members to get involved in running the MCR early on if they wish.

The positions of Secretary and Academic Officer will both be up for election in Michaelmas.

## **STEWARD**

The Steward is responsible for the Maurice Tucker room (i.e. the physical MCR). They arrange for a stock of hot drinks to be available to members and work with the Housekeeper and Cleaning Staff to ensure that the room remains clean, tidy, and correctly maintained. The Steward also manages the MCR's DVD and board game libraries, and magazine subscriptions.

## **WELFARE OFFICER**

The Welfare Officer ensures the well-being of the members of the MCR, working alongside the Senior Tutor and other College Officers. This position requires meeting with MCR members to confidentially discuss and help with any issues (personal, academic, etc.). In addition, they are involved with the promotion of university and college welfare campaigns.

# Non-Executive Officers

Our Non-Executive Officers aid the Executive Committee and provide members with a great way to get involved without a huge time commitment.



**Internal Affairs** – Sarah Rosen  
s.m.rosen@durham.ac.uk  
PhD in Anthropology

As the Internal Affairs Officer, I am responsible for running the MCR elections and other ballot measures. I also serve as an advisor to the Executive committee and am responsible for maintaining the MCR Standing Orders.

**Deputy Treasurer** – Salvatore Mercuri  
salvatore.mercuri@durham.ac.uk  
PhD in Mathematics

As Deputy Treasurer, I assist the Treasurer in their duties and serve as a signatory for the MCR bank account. In the absence of the Treasurer I manage the MCR finances.



## **CCA Representative**

The CCA (Castle Community Action) Rep serves as the MCR's rep to CCA. They are a member of the CCA Exec and relay information relating to CCA and volunteering opportunities to the MCR.

# THE WELCOME COMMITTEE

## Here to help ease you into college life

In addition to the Executive Committee and the Non-Executive Officers, we have these wonderful volunteers that will run many of the events and are happy to answer any of your questions.



**Daniel Moore** – Daniel is a 2<sup>nd</sup> year PhD student in Biological Sciences.

**Calum Robson** – Calum is a 2<sup>nd</sup> year PhD student in Mathematical Physics.



**Kayla Crowder** – Kayla is a 2<sup>nd</sup> year PhD student in Archaeology.

**Harriet Walsh** – Harriet is a MA student moving up from the JCR. While this is also her Welcome Week, she has a vast knowledge about the Sports and Societies in College.



# WHO'S WHO IN COLLEGE

## The staff who run our college

The following individuals can, for the most part, be found in the College Office, located below the Porters' Lodge:

### MASTER

Professor David Held is the Master of University College and has overall responsibility for its running. He is also Professor of Politics and International Relations and director of the publisher Polity Press.

*david.held@durham.ac.uk*



### VICE MASTERS AND SENIOR TUTORS



Mrs Eva Schumacher-Reid and Dr Richard Lawrie have overall responsibility for the academic and personal welfare of college members. They also deal with more complicated or serious academic and personal problems. Dr Lawrie also fulfills the role of Lowe Librarian, he maintains the college library's collection and will purchase new items for the library at students' request.

*eva.schumacher-reid@durham.ac.uk*

*r.m.lawrie@durham.ac.uk*



### BURSAR

Michelle Crawford manages the day-to-day running of University College. She works in conjunction with the other members of College Office, and divides her time between Castle and Hatfield.

*t.m.crawford@durham.ac.uk*



### **College Secretary & Student Support Administrator**

Mrs Lynne Carrick is the secretary with whom members of college are likely to have most contact, and is generally a useful person to consult with any questions relating to admin. Appointments with the Master and Senior Tutors are also made via Mrs Carrick.

*p.l.carrick@durham.ac.uk*

### **CHAPLAIN**

The Revd Dr Hannah Cleugh is our chaplain. The Chaplain at Castle is part of the Student Support Structure of the College; she can be contacted for any pastoral support, whether faith-related or not. The Chaplain acts to support MCR members of any faiths, or none.



*hannah.cleugh@durham.ac.uk*

### **OPERATIONS MANAGER**

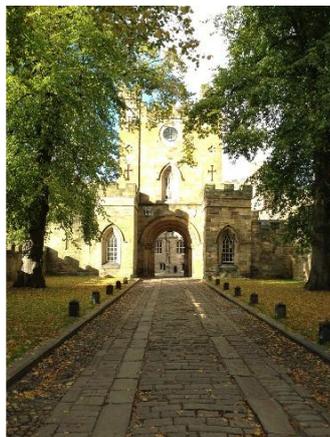
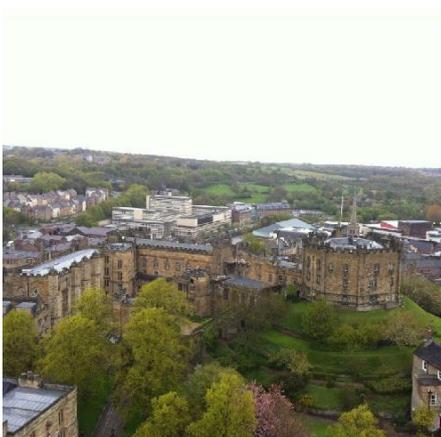
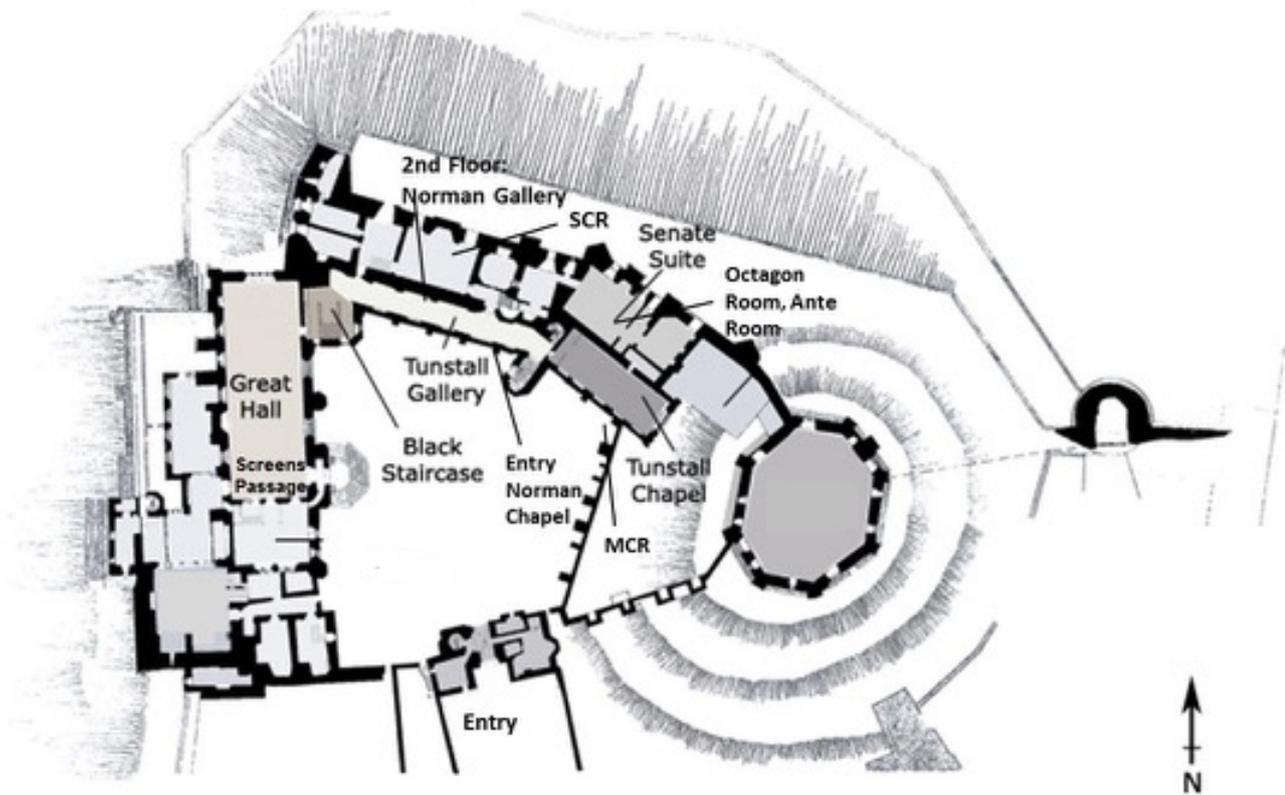


Donna Pudwell oversees the daily operations in college, including housekeeping and organising work to be completed on the castle. Donna is the final point of contact for issues involving Castle accommodation, should all other options have been exhausted.

*donna.pudwell@durham.ac.uk*

# MAP OF COLLEGE

To find your way



# COLLEGE FACILITIES

## A list of facilities for MCR members' use

**THE UNDERCROFT BAR** - The oldest student bar in the world, the beloved 'Undie' is situated beneath the Great Hall, and is open to all members of Castle and their visitors in the evenings from 7.30pm. On nights of Formal Dinner, it is open from 6.30pm for the sale of wines, and plays host to other events (open-mic nights, live music, pub quizzes) throughout the year.

**PORTERS' LODGE** - As much more than providers of the MCR key, the porters can help you find and access any facility within college. All post for the MCR Exec should be handed to the Lodge.



**WEST COURTYARD** - Located just next to the bar, this area contains a pool table, table-football table, vending machines, and the Toastie Bar (open from 7.30pm). Through a door, it extends into the Junior Common Room.

**LOWE MEMORIAL LIBRARY** - Named in honour of William Douglas Lowe (1879-1922). A tutor in Classics at the College since 1903, he became Bursar and Censor of University College in 1913. He also took a keen interest in rowing, and the development of Durham's OTC. At the outbreak of World War I he became an officer in the Durham Light Infantry, eventually commanding the 18th Battalion, DLI. The library is located to the left of the entrance to the Great Hall. It provides a spacious, quiet and comfortable working environment. It is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and is self-service.



**MUSIC PRACTICE ROOMS** – Music practice rooms are distributed throughout the castle, and are available for college members to practice on piano and keyboard.

**COMPUTER ROOM** - This can be found halfway up Hall Stairs (the stairs next to the Lowe Library) and is available to members of the college 24 hours a day.



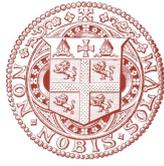
**THE CHAPELS** - Within college there are two chapels: the 11th-century Norman Chapel and the 16th-century Tunstall Chapel (pictured here), within which regular services are held. For more information, please ask a member of the MCR Exec or the Chaplain.

**GYMNASIUM** - The gym, use of which is free to all Castlemen, is in Moatside S-Block. In order to access it, you must arrange an induction course that explains safe use of the equipment. Ask at the Porters' Lodge for details.

**SNOOKER ROOM** - Opposite the laundry, in Bailey Court (across Palace Green) is Castle's snooker room, containing the only free full-sized snooker table in Durham. To arrange an induction, (allowing you to borrow the key from the porters) enquire at the Lodge as to who the snooker room manager is, and send them an email.



# THE MAURICE E. TUCKER ROOM



## Our home in Castle



Located within the walls of the castle, at the foot of the Keep, the Maurice E. Tucker room (often simply referred to as 'The MCR') is the hub of postgraduate life in college, a smart and comfortable space in which to socialise, relax or work, 24 hours a day. Access to the MCR is gained by signing out the key from the Porters' Lodge, using your campus card as a deposit. If for any reason you have to leave the room, please ensure that everything is locked.

The room's facilities include:

- Wi-Fi
- Free tea and coffee
- Flat screen television
- DVD player
- Upright piano
- A variety of board games
- Garden games
- Croquet set
- Welfare supplies
- Academic gowns



The Maurice Tucker Room is named for Maurice Edwin Tucker, Master of University College, 1998-2011. Professor Tucker was himself a former undergraduate at Castle (1965-1968), later returning to Durham to lecture in Geology, with a focus on limestone. In his time, he oversaw the formal establishment of the Middle Common Room (1999), the great expansion of our community (from c. 30 members to more than 150), and the enhancement of a large number of postgraduate facilities and wider inclusion in college life. His portrait can be seen in the Great Hall, across from the entrance to the Black Stairs.

# ACADEMIC EVENTS

## A scholarly community

The MCR is a distinctively scholarly community, and one of the great benefits it offers to our members is the chance to share work with each other and learn about interesting subjects beyond our own disciplines, to become more well-rounded and broadly educated. To that end, we hold a range of academic events throughout the year.

### SUNDAY SEMINARS

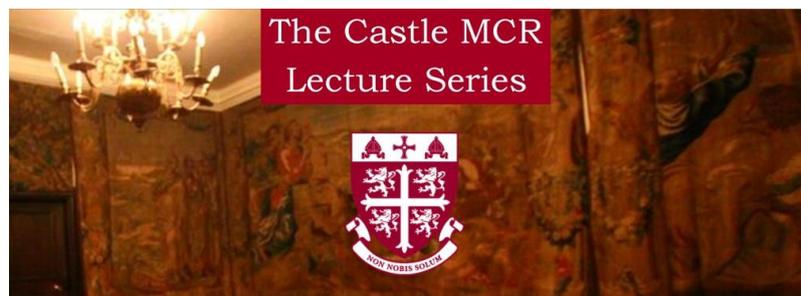


On the last Sunday of every month during term-time four MCR members give a talk of approximately ten minutes, followed by questions, to an audience of other MCR members in a very casual and encouraging atmosphere in the MCR. The subject is anything related to their work – e.g. an introduction to the field or their

methodology, or a discussion of a recent finding or paper of theirs – and the audience will of course be primarily non-specialists from a range of disciplines. Free wine is provided at these events, and they are a great way of finding out what other MCR members actually do.

### THE CASTLE MCR LECTURE SERIES

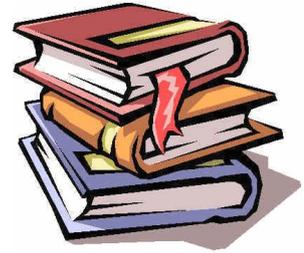
The Castle MCR Lecture Series is a more formal chance for MCR members who are further along in their studies, with significant findings to



report, to showcase their work to a wider audience from all three common rooms in Castle and people from outside the college and the university. The lectures take place twice per term, in the stunning setting of the tapestried Senate Suite, and are approximately 40 minutes long, followed by questions.

# JUNIOR MENTOR SCHEME

## Pass on your knowledge



Junior Mentors are current MCR members at Castle who have volunteered to provide ex-tra academic help or advice to any undergraduates, i.e. JCR members, who feel it would benefit them. The aim is to aid students who are struggling with their studies - providing support, confidence building, and extra tuition as required.

Junior Mentors will either be contacted by interested JCR members directly (contact details are advertised on the college website) or put in touch with potential mentees through College Office, and can take on as many or as few students as they like.

What they offer will vary depending on what the JCR member in question needs, from meeting up once for a casual chat to help them understand how to do a specific set problem or to discuss an essay, to



regular formalised tutoring to help them catch up on lectures they missed or work they're falling behind with. Junior Mentors can also be contacted for help and advice on module choices, careers, and most other academic matters – basically, they are there to offer their

knowledge and recent experience (having in many cases been in a similar position to that of JCR members only a few years ago) in whatever way it's most helpful.

This voluntary system offers a great opportunity for postgraduates who are in the early stage of their career, particularly those who aspire to become academics. Working with undergraduates in a pastoral and tutorial role will provide skills and experience that will prove invaluable later in your career.

If you would like to become a Junior Mentor, look out for the introductory evening a couple of weeks into term, or contact our Academic Officer after their election in October.

# SPORTS AND SOCIETIES

## Open to all

All members of college can join any college society or sports club they wish. Teams and clubs welcome members of all ability - or curious newcomers - so don't let anything put you off, and you can join at any time of the year. Information and contact details about most of them are posted on the MCR website. All students are recommended to attend the sports and societies fair in college on Saturday 8th October where you can find out more, but if you miss out just contact the Exec to be put in touch with someone from the club or society you're interested in.

## Popular sports include: Popular societies include:

- Cricket
- Croquet
- Darts
- Football
- Rowing
- Rugby
- Castle Arts Society
- Castle Big Band
- Castle Choral Society
- Castle DUCK (Charities)
- Castle Orchestra
- Castle Theatre Society

Also on offer are university-level societies and sports clubs. There tends to be a greater variety of university societies than college ones due to larger numbers, so whatever your interests there's likely to be something for you. University sports clubs are generally for those of a decent level of ability (although some do accept complete beginners too). It's definitely worth visiting the DSU clubs & societies fair on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October to see what's on offer.



# SOCIAL EVENTS

## The fun side of life

The MCR hosts a number of social events throughout each year, which provide members with an opportunity to get to know one another better. These events can be formal, such as the black tie Senate Suite meals, or informal, such as film nights, trips to the beach, paintballing, and barbecues. The Social Chair does their best each year to ensure that there is a broad range of events; hopefully there will be something for everyone. However, if you have an idea for a social event, please contact them, as suggestions are always welcome!



In addition there are plenty of college-wide social events, at which we join the JCR and sometimes the SCR. These include the three JCR-ran balls (the MCR puts on a fourth, the Charity Ball), 'ents'. (i.e. themed parties in college) for Hallowe'en, Christmas, Burn's Night, etc., and several events to celebrate the end of the academic year in summer such as Castle Day, and Bierfest. There's plenty to look forward to!

# FORMAL DINNER

## One of Castle's best traditions



Formals are held every Tuesday and Thursday during term-time. It's a three-course meal held in the Great Hall to which academic dress is worn.

The JCR sit at Low Table (i.e. the majority of the tables in the Hall) and the SCR at High Table (the two rows of tables below the stained glass window). On Thursdays the MCR sit at Low Table with the JCR, but on Tuesdays we join the SCR on High Table, and in the SCR before and after formal.

Formal commences at 7.00pm sharp. While those at High Table enter, all those who are at Low Table stand. Following this, the College Grace is said, after which all members sit for the meal, served by college staff. Everyone is required to remain seated throughout the meal, which normally finishes by 8.00pm,.

### **Gowns & Dress Code**

Everyone - including any non-Castle guests you wish to bring along (who are welcome!) - attending formal must wear a gown. These can be borrowed for guests from the MCR.

The dress code is smart. Men wear a suit and tie or bow tie, and women a cocktail dress or other smart outfit.

### **Wine**

Wine for Formals must be purchased through college, and can be bought from the Undercroft Bar. Non-alcoholic beverages will be provided on the tables during the meal. Bringing other drinks into Formal is not allowed.

### **Thursday Low Table Sign-up**

An email will go out at midday on the preceding Sunday containing a link to sign up online. Please specify any dietary requirements and if you want to bring a guest. You'll receive the bill at the end of term.

### **Tuesday High Table Sign-up**

If you wish to attend High Table formals, it is first necessary to sign-up via the SCR system. All MCR members are automatically given an account for this.

An e-mail will be sent to the MCR when sign-up opens around midday on the preceding Friday. The sign-up system can be accessed by following [www.dur.ac.uk/university.college/scr/](http://www.dur.ac.uk/university.college/scr/) and clicking 'Enter SCR Online'. Once logged in, select 'View Calendar' to see upcoming meals. Up to two guests can be added, and please specify all dietary requirements.



### **Pre-Formal**

Before dinner, members meet in the MCR around 6.30pm. Wine can be purchased from the MCR or the Undercroft from then. For Low Table we proceed to the Great Hall at 6.50pm; when dining on High Table we proceed to the Senior Common Room (via the Black Staircase) at around 6:45pm., although MCR members are also welcome there any time after 6pm.

### **Post-Formal**

Following a High Table formal, MCR members are invited to retire for a short time to the SCR, before continuing downstairs to either the Undercroft or the MCR. Members will also retire to the MCR or Undercroft following a Low Table formal.

### **Formal Rules**

For a more detailed summary of formals and the rules & traditions associated with them, see the 'Guide to Formals' document available on the MCR website and on the noticeboard in the MCR.

# FORMAL DRESS CODES

## What to wear

During your time at Castle you'll come across some specific formal dress codes, which can be confusing if you're not used to them. Ultimately, these dress codes are meant to be fun, and are just a way of adding a sense of occasion and elegance to certain events. They're very enjoyable when everyone makes the effort to follow them, but you should never feel intimidated by them, and should certainly never be put off from attending anything by them! Some brief guidelines are given below to help you figure them out and join in the fun.

Black and white tie are usually reserved for evening events, i.e. after 6pm. If you want more information on either, the Wikipedia pages are fairly comprehensive, and there are many style guides on the topic on the Web.

### **ACADEMIC DRESS'**

This is the dress code for matriculation, formals, and a few other occasions throughout the year.

For men, it entails a dark-coloured lounge suit, a shirt, tie or bow tie, and smart black shoes, with a gown. For ladies, a smart knee-length dress, skirt & blouse, or similar smart outfit, under an academic gown.

### **'BLACK TIE'**

There are plenty of black tie events scattered throughout the year, so it's definitely worth investing in an outfit if you don't have one.

Traditionally, for men, this entails:

- Black dress trousers (i.e. with a strip of satin covering the outside seam)
- A white dress shirt (i.e. marcella or pleat fronted, with double cuffs and cufflinks)
- A black bow tie
- A dinner jacket (black with lapels of contrasting material, usually silk or satin)

National dress alternatives usually exist (Highland dress is particularly popular) and can look very stylish.

Ladies traditionally wear a cocktail dress that comes to below the knee and covers the shoulders. The choice of style, colour, pattern, etc. is myriad, but the formality of the event in question should always be borne in mind.



### **‘WHITE TIE’**

It’s the most formal of all the dress codes, today usually reserved for royal and state occasions, but also used once a year for Castle’s June Ball – the sumptuous twelve-hour extravaganza to end the academic year. Most people attending June Ball rent a white tie outfit for the occasion, although it is now acceptable to go in black tie if desired.

For men, white tie entails:

- Black dress trousers (i.e. with a strip of satin covering the outside seam)
- A white, marcella fronted, wing collared dress shirt with French cuffs and cufflinks
- A white marcella bow tie
- A white marcella evening waistcoat
- An evening tailcoat (i.e. ‘tails’ - a black jacket with peak lapels of a contrasting material, usually silk or satin, cut away at the waist with tails at the back)
- Black socks and dress shoes (i.e. shiny black shoes)



Ladies wear floor length and often elaborate ball gowns. This is a chance to indulge yourself! Traditionally, the shoulders are covered, but bare shoulders are often seen and can look just as elegant.

# COLLEGE AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

## A thank you from Castle

### **COLLEGE COLOURS**

College Colours are given out each year in Easter (third) term, in recognition of exceptional contributions to Castle from all common rooms. All nominees are invited to a special 'College Colours' formal, during which those who are awarded colours will receive a tie (men) or scarf (women) as thanks. Nominations are to be made by email at the start of Easter term, and will be finalised by your Exec.

### **THORP CLUB**

The Thorp Club, named after the founding Master of University College, was established to recognise the contributions of members of the college - be they students, staff, or others - to the postgraduate community within Castle. The Club is independent of the MCR, but invites the MCR Exec to nominate new members to the Club each year. In the past, people have been nominated for many different types of contributions to the postgraduate community:- be it in helping to organise events, raise money for charity, help in the local community, for outstanding contributions to clubs or societies, or to recognise involvement in running the day-to-day activities of the MCR. In addition, nominations are always welcome to be sent directly to the President of the Thorp Club, Mark Shaw ([m.r.shaw@durham.ac.uk](mailto:m.r.shaw@durham.ac.uk)). The Club meets twice a year for a dinner in the Senate Suite.

### **VAN MILDERT CLUB**

The Van Mildert club was established in 1950 in order to recognise members of Castle who regularly contribute to college life, through hard work, enthusiasm and their broad range of extracurricular involvement. Bishop Van Mildert was the last Bishop of Durham to reside in the castle and was the bishop who handed the Durham Castle over to the university, thus establishing University College. Named in his honour, the club brings together Castlemen for a relaxed evening of dinner and conversation. Set within the backdrop of the Senate Suite, the dinner celebrates students' achievements and rewards their dedication to the college. The club is by invitation only and each year a number of students from both the JCR and the MCR are asked to attend.

# BRACKENBURY

## Castle's postgrad accommodation

Brackenbury is Castle's postgraduate accommodation, located to the north-west of the city, adjacent to the University Hospital. Fifty-one MCR members live there, with each flat containing six en-suite rooms, with a shared kitchen and common room. Students with cars can obtain parking permits via Ustinov College. Please see [www.dur.ac.uk/ustinov.college/accommodation/carparking/](http://www.dur.ac.uk/ustinov.college/accommodation/carparking/) for more details.



There are a number of transportation links between Brackenbury and other areas of the university. The X1/X2 bus can be taken for free, on presentation of your campus card, between the Aykley Heads roundabout and any of the other university sites on the route, including the Science Site, the DSU, Maiden Castle, and Elvet Riverside. Walking between Brackenbury and Castle takes between

20 and 30 minutes, while walking to the Science Site can take between 40 minutes and an hour.

Any issues related to Brackenbury, including any repair or purchase requests, should be made initially to Mrs Maureen Midgely, who can usually be found in Keenan House. Any issues that cannot be resolved locally should be addressed to Donna Pudwell, at [donna.pudwell@durham.ac.uk](mailto:donna.pudwell@durham.ac.uk)



# WELFARE

## Pastoral support for postgraduates

### Welfare

One of the many benefits of the collegiate system in Durham is its excellent welfare system, giving you support within college as well as access to wider university services.

The MCR's Welfare Officer is always willing to offer help, advice, or just a listening ear, to help you work through any difficulties you may be facing, whether big or small.

Eva Schumacher-Reid and Richard Lawrie, Senior Tutors and Vice Masters (PT), both based in College Office, and Rev'd Dr Hannah Cleugh, the College Chaplain, located just off the Black Staircase, are all invaluable sources of advice on personal and academic matters.

Outside of the college environment, the university operates a confidential Counselling Service. Please see the website for more information: ([www.dur.ac.uk/counselling.service](http://www.dur.ac.uk/counselling.service)). You can also visit the DSU Advice Centre in Dunelm House, on New Elvet.

If you simply need someone to talk to, Nightline is a confidential student-run service open every night of term between 9pm and 7am. You can find the telephone number on the back of your campus card, drop into the office behind the Dun Cow Pub on Old Elvet, or chat anonymously over Skype, by adding [durham.nightline](https://www.skype.com/name/durham.nightline). Nightline also provides free contraceptives, pregnancy tests, chlamydia tests and information.

We hope you enjoy your time as a member of the college, but if you ever feel like you're struggling, remember that there are numerous sources of support for you here at Castle.

The logo for NightLine, featuring the word "NightLine" in a white sans-serif font. The "i" in "Night" has a dot, and the "L" in "Line" is stylized with a dark blue oval shape behind it.

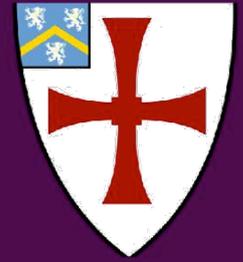
A confidential,  
non-judgemental,  
non-directive  
listening service, run by  
students, for students.

**0191 334 6444**

**We are here for you every  
night of term.  
We always will be.**

# Central University Services

A brief guide to the facilities offered to post-graduates by the wider university



## Libraries

The main university library, the Bill Bryson Library, is located at the entrance to the university's Science Site and is entered using your campus card. There are also other university libraries located throughout the City. Reference books and Special Collections (including local and Middle Eastern documents) can be found in the library on Palace Green, which is also a museum. The Education Library is at the Department of Education, near the College of St. Hild and St. Bede.

## Computers

There are both computer rooms and Wi-Fi hotspots located around the university. These can be found in the Main Library, Elvet Riverside and most individual departments.

## The Students' Union

Located on the riverbank, next to Kingsgate Bridge, Dunelm House is the building that contains Durham Students' Union (DSU). This is the organisation that supports and represents all Durham University students. Whether you are interested in joining one of their fantastic student groups, would like to get involved in student representation on a local or a national level, are keen to build up your CV with training and development experience, or perhaps you need help with something more serious, such as being represented on academic matters, they are there to make sure you get the most out of your student experience.

DURHAM  
**STUDENTS'  
UNION**  
Enabling Students



Also in Dunelm House are Kingsgate Bar and the Riverside Café, which provide reasonably priced food and drink, and a number of related organisations, including the Housing and Accommodation Office and Student Education and Welfare Support.

# THE NECESSITIES

## **SUPERMARKETS**

Durham is well-equipped to meet all produce demands. There is a small TESCO EXPRESS on North Road near the bus station, a TESCO METRO in the Market Place and a positively gigantic TESCO EXTRA in Gilesgate, but this is best reached either by car or a bus departing from the station. There is also a MARKS & SPENCER'S for those with more up-market tastes in the Market Place, and a new SAINSBURY'S on North Road.

If you wish to escape the multinational corporate stranglehold, the INDOOR MARKET, also located in the Market Place, has a wide variety of small traders—including excellent butchers, game dealers, cheesemongers, and more, selling food and other goods, very often at cheaper prices. In Gilesgate there is a SAINSBURY'S LOCAL, and other supermarkets, namely LIDL and a large SAINSBURY'S, can be found in the Arnison Centre at Pity Me, whilst an ALDI and ICELAND are also situated at Dragonville.

## **PHONE NUMBERS**

### **IN COLLEGE**

Chaplain	0191 334 4166
College Secretary	0191 334 4104
Senior Tutor	0191 334 4139
Porters' Lodge	0191 334 3800

### **IN THE UNIVERSITY**

I.T. Service Helpdesk	0191 334 1515
Palace Green Library	0191 334 3032

### **POLICE**

Police (Court Lane)	0191 386 4222
EMERGENCY ONLY	999

# Useful Websites

## IN COLLEGE

Castle MCR	<a href="http://www.castlemcr.com">www.castlemcr.com</a>
Castle JCR	<a href="http://www.castlejcr.com">www.castlejcr.com</a>
Castle Homepage	<a href="http://www.dur.ac.uk/university.college">www.dur.ac.uk/university.college</a>

## IN UNIVERSITY

Student Gateway	<a href="http://www.dur.ac.uk/student.gateway">www.dur.ac.uk/student.gateway</a>
Library Services	<a href="http://www.dur.ac.uk/library">www.dur.ac.uk/library</a>
Students' Union	<a href="http://www.durhamsu.com">www.durhamsu.com</a>
Durham University Online	<a href="http://duo.dur.ac.uk">duo.dur.ac.uk</a>
CIS	<a href="http://www.dur.ac.uk/cis/students">www.dur.ac.uk/cis/students</a>

## HEALTH

Nightline	<a href="http://community.dur.ac.uk/nightline">community.dur.ac.uk/nightline</a>
Health Centre	<a href="http://www.durhamstudenthealth.co.uk">www.durhamstudenthealth.co.uk</a>
Samaritans	<a href="http://www.samaritans.org">www.samaritans.org</a>
NHS	<a href="http://www.nhs.com">www.nhs.com</a>

## FACEBOOK

Castle MCR 2016-2017	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/1774808589472957/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/1774808589472957/</a>
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# DURHAM DICTIONARY

**Bailey:** The geographical centre of Durham City (where the Cathedral, Castle and Market-place are), around which loops the River Wear. The Bailey colleges are Castle, Hatfield, St. John's, St. Chad's, and St. Cuthbert's Society.

**Battels:** College bills for accommodation, meals, and common room membership.

**Castle:** The informal name of University College. Nearly everyone calls it 'Castle,' leading some to even erroneously believe its name is Castle College.

**Castleman:** Gender-neutral term to describe a member of University College.

**CIS:** Computing and Information Services. Formerly known as ITS.

**DSU:** The Durham Students' Union.

**DUCK:** Durham University Charities 'Kommittee'. DUCK is part of the DSU and organises various charity events.

**Dunelm:** Abbreviation for the Latin name for Durham - *Dunelmensis*. When you graduate you can use it as a post-nominal abbreviation to indicate that you studied at Durham University - i.e. "Joe Bloggs, MSc (Dunelm)"

**DUO:** Durham University Online.

**Easter:** Other than the holiday, it's the third academic term in Durham, beginning in late April and ending late June. A busy time of year!

**Ent:** College party, usually themed for a special occasion, such as Hallowe'en, Christmas etc.

**Epiphany:** The second academic term, running from late January to mid-March.

**Exec:** Abbreviation for executive committee. All common rooms and societies have them.

**Formal:** Three-course dinners on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Castle, for which academic dress is worn.

**Formative:** Used to describe academic assignments that must be done, but do not count towards your final degree mark.

**Fresher:** First-year undergraduates. They look younger every year!

**Gown:** Black academic robe. You must wear these to formals and Matriculation.

**Hatfield:** The second-oldest college in Durham, Hatfield has always been our college rival.

**Hill:** There are many hills in Durham, but typically this refers to the colleges not located on the Bailey, i.e. Collingwood, Grey, Josephine Butler, St. Aiden's, St. Mary's, Trevelyan, Ustinov, and Van Mildert.

**JCR:** Junior Common Room: in most colleges, the student body of undergraduates. This also refers to their actual room, which in Castle is located past the West Courtyard.

**Klute:** In 1996, Klute was voted the second-worst nightclub in all of Europe by FHM, and then the worst one (somewhere in Germany) burnt down! Your Durham experience is incomplete without at least one night spent in Klute.

**Matriculation:** Ceremony held during Induction Fortnight in which a representative from every college will sign the 'matricula.' This is the official moment of induction and ceremonial registration to the university.

**MCR:** The Middle Common Room. Refers both to the body of postgraduates in college, and physically to the Tucker Room itself (located at the entrance to the Keep).

**Michaelmas:** The first academic term of the year.

**Non Nobis Solum:** The Latin motto for University College, translating to: 'Not for ourselves alone.' Derived from Cicero's philosophical work *De Officiis*.

**Palatinate:** Historically, Durham is a 'county palatine,' which meant that the Prince Bishop could exercise certain rights (like maintaining a standing army, and minting coinage) that were normally only reserved for the royalty. Palatinate has thus become a general descriptor for various things in Durham, and currently is the name of the student newspaper, and the specific shade of purple used by the university.

**Porter:** The porters are responsible for the daily maintenance of the college, and control the access to keys to get to certain places. It is very advantageous to learn their names and become friends with them!

**Sconce:** A fine issued by College Office or the head of a common room for loutish behaviour or damage caused to college or university property. These can range from a small fine for the use of a mobile phone at a formal, to a very large fine for going into illegal places on the grounds (i.e. the roof).

**SCR:** The Senior Common Room. This refers both to the senior members of college - staff and lecturers - and to the room itself which is located off the Tunstall Gallery.

**Senior Student:** The head of the JCR is the Senior Student (Formally 'Senior Man').

**Spags:** Formally known as La Spaghattata, it's a very popular Italian restaurant with students because it is incredibly cheap. Everyone should experience Spags at least once.

**Stash:** Souvenirs of your tenure in Durham, of Castle, or the MCR, e.g. cufflinks, lapel badges, pens, and mugs, rugby tops, scarves, hoodies, etc.

**Smenergy:** Castle's college drink, available from the Undercroft bar. Consists of a Smirnoff Ice and an energy drink in a pint glass. Bright orange and sickly sweet.

**Summative:** Academic work that does count towards your final marks.

**Undie:** The Undercroft Bar, located below the Great Hall of the Castle. Make sure to visit the toastie bar for a delicious evening snack!



University College is the founding college of the University of Durham, established in 1832. Today the University comprises sixteen Colleges and Societies. Find out more at [www.dur.ac.uk/colleges](http://www.dur.ac.uk/colleges)

## University College MCR

University College, Palace Green  
Durham, County Durham, DH1 3RW

[www.castlemcr.com](http://www.castlemcr.com)

