



Sports, Societies, and Committees Handbook

24 / 25

Welcome

JCR Union and Societies Officer

Georgina Worton-Boughen (she/her)
castle.uso@durham.ac.uk

Hello, and a warm welcome to the sports, societies and committees here at University College.

I am Georgina and I am the Union and Societies Officer for this academic year. My role is to oversee all of the 40+ sports, music, societies and performing arts extra-curricular activities we have on offer here at Castle. All of our sports and societies are part of 'Team Castle'.

Also included in this handbook are the committees that you can get involved with.

Taking part in sports and societies are where you will meet some of your closest friends, having fun both representing college and of course all the fantastic social endeavours college sports and societies get up to!

If you have any queries please do pop me a message either by email or on one of our social media platforms.



To keep up to date with college sport and societies, join Team Castle on

Instagram @team_castle
Facebook @teamcastle

Freshers Fair

Our Freshers Fair is held on Saturday 5th October, 11am-2pm in the Castle. Here you can see all of the sports and societies on offer. I would really recommend coming along to see what you can join. Our sports and societies cater to all levels, from complete novices to the experienced so everyone can get involved!

Taster Sessions

In the first couple of weeks of term (14th-27th October) we offer taster sessions to try out all the sports and societies. This is known in college as the 'give-it-a-go two weeks' so please do come and give everything a go!

Sports, Societies, and Committees

Badminton

Yoga & Pilates

Volleyball

Running



Squash

Croquet

Darts

Football

Rugby

Rowing

Tennis



Basketball

Golf

Cheer

Hockey

Cricket

Lacrosse

Netball

Rounders

Frisbee

Table Tennis

Choir & Orchestra

Big Band



Chamber Music

The Fellows

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Basketball

Golf

Cheer

Hockey

Cricket

Lacrosse

Netball

Rounders

Frisbee

Table Tennis



Badminton

Castle Badminton

President: Benjamin Kolicic

benjamin.kolicic@durham.ac.uk

Whether you are a badminton pro, or it's your first time picking up a racquet, there's a place for you at Castle Badminton. We hold weekly training sessions open to all skill levels where the focus is lighthearted practice (or fierce competition for those who want it). We would love for you to be there!

Facebook: [Castle Badminton 2024/25](#)



Yoga and Pilates

Castle Yoga Society

President: Amy Bunce

amy.bunce@durham.ac.uk

Castle Yoga Society meets regularly to stretch, strengthen, and unwind away from the chaos of uni life. You need no prior experience - yoga is an ongoing practice where wobbling and falling is expected, encouraged and essential for improvement. Join us for a year of stress-free classes and socials!

Facebook: [Yoga at Castle](#)

Instagram: [@castle_yoga245](#)



Volleyball

University College Volleyball Club (UCVC)

President: George Zang
hanxi.zhang@durham.ac.uk



UCVC has developed rapidly thanks to our dedicated members. Open to everyone for competitive or casual play, we have weekly training sessions in Michaelmas and intercollegiate league matches in Epiphany. Last year, we finished second in the premiership, and this year we aim to continue our success! There will be social events sprinkled throughout every term, culminating in our charity tournament in the summer!



Instagram: @castlevolleyball

Running

University College Running Society (UCRS)

Captain: Amy Bunce
amy.bunce@durham.ac.uk



Welcome to Castle from UCRS, Club of the Year 2023/2024! We are an enthusiastic, inclusive, and relaxed group, meeting several times a week for social runs around Durham. Alongside training, we compete in university-wide events against other colleges. Come along to explore the city, enjoy great sessions and socials, keep fit, and make like-minded friends.



Facebook: University College Running Society
Instagram: @castle.running
Strava: University College Running Society

Squash

Castle Squash

President: Louis Hargreaves

jgfg88@durham.ac.uk

Castle Squash carries out training sessions for people of all abilities. We have plenty of equipment for members to use. Last year the Women's team won the Premiership and the year before that, so did the Men's team. Come and get involved!

Facebook: [Castle Squash 2024/25](#)



Croquet

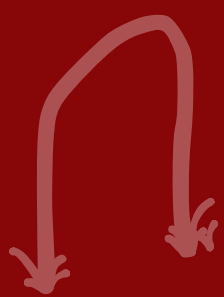
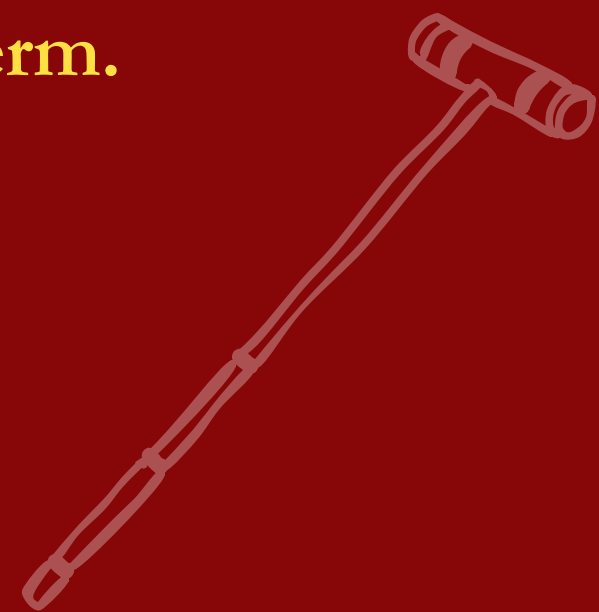
Castle Croquet

President: Josh Gosling

joshua.j.gosling@durham.ac.uk

Croquet is a staple of college life during Easter term. Whether playing an intense game with friends in Fellow's Garden or simply a 1-v-1 in the Castle Courtyard as a break from exams, Castle Croquet is for everyone!

Facebook: [Castle Croquet](#)



Darts (Men)

University College Darts Club (UCDC)

President: Doug Sanderson

douglas.sanderson@durham.ac.uk

"Darts or dart-throwing is a competitive sport in which two or more players bare-handedly throw small sharp-pointed projectiles known as darts at a round target known as a dartboard" - 'Darts (sport)' (2024).

Wikipedia. Available at

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Darts>
(accessed: 23 July 2024).

Every Monday night. All are welcome.

Instagram: [@ucdc_a](#)/[@ucdc_bs](#)



Darts (Women)

University College Darts Club (UCDC)

Co-Presidents: Sienna Danson and Ella Rose

sienna.danson@durham.ac.uk; ella.rose@durham.ac.uk

UCDC Gs is the all girls darts club. We take all levels of experience - don't worry if you haven't played before, most of us hadn't before we joined, so come along and give it a go! It is a fun, social sport and we compete in a league against other colleges. Practices and matches are often held in the evening in the Undie, and its a great way to mix with the ladies of Castle. With our matching customised pink skirts, we are a club you don't want to miss!

Instagram: [@ucdc_gs](#)

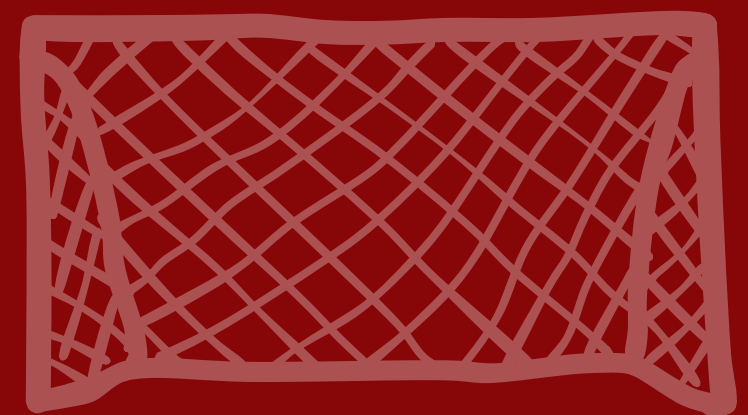


Football (Men)

University College Association Football Club (UCAFC)

President: George Peach
george.w.peach@durham.ac.uk

Castle AFC is a society not only for keen footballers, but also has remained one of Castle's largest social clubs since 1886. With teams competing in four leagues, Castle AFC caters for a quick kickabout or competitive leagues to take part in. Please, if interested, feel free to shoot me a message or visit us at the Freshers' Fair.



Instagram: @castleafc

Football (Women)

University College Women's Association Football Club (UCWAFC)

President: Maggie Naylor
maggie.naylor@durham.ac.uk

Hello! We are University College Women's Football Club. We welcome all abilities, especially if you haven't played before. Join us for regular training, matches, and lots of fun socials! Follow on Instagram and Facebook for updates. We can't wait to have you on the team!

Facebook: UCWAFC 2024/2025
Instagram: @ucwafc



Rugby (Mens')

University College Rugby Football Club (UCRFC)

President: Harry Laventure
harry.r.laventure@durham.ac.uk



UCRFC has long been one of the most prestigious of the college's institutions. Our squad trains once a week, and takes to the turf almost every weekend. Whether you play to a decent standard or remain exclusively social, we welcome every calibre of member. Athletic endeavours aside, our notorious socials boast immense fun, and our annual tour simply isn't a fixture to miss. For many members, club memories are the punctuation marks of their Durham experience. In fewer words, there really is no club like it - Castle boys are happy, and Castle boys are we.

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

Facebook: [UCRFC 24/25](https://www.facebook.com/UCRFC24/25)

Rowing

University College Boat Club (UCBC)

President: Oscar Gray
oscar.s.gray@durham.ac.uk



Welcome to University College Boat Club! Founded 190 years ago, we're the oldest and largest society in Castle. Our dedicated novice captains run our successful learn to row programme for complete beginners. Experienced rowers can join our competitive senior squads right away with the opportunity to train up on the river in Newcastle and race in London. If rowing isn't for you, you are more than welcome to get involved with the active social side of UCBC, which begins with the infamous Bailey Boat Race at the start of term.

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

TikTok: [@ucbcdurham](https://www.tiktok.com/@ucbcdurham)



Tennis

University College Lawn Tennis Club (UCLTC)

President: Anna Franklin
anna.franklin@durham.ac.uk



UCLTC is a relaxed, social club open to all, from those preparing for Wimbledon to those waiting for the day where the ball makes contact with the racquet. Tennis is exclusively a summer sport, so we spend the first two terms training so we don't lose all our ability. College tennis is doubles only so joining is a fantastic way to meet new people and have fun on and off court.

Facebook: UCLTC 2024/25

Instagram: @ucltc



Basketball

Castle Basketball

President: Patrick Timmins
qmvx56@durham.ac.uk

Castle Basketball club is a fun and diverse club open to anyone, whether you're an experienced player or you want to try something new, or just come for socials. Last year, we even got to play at York in the College Varsity competition, so don't miss out on the action!



Instagram: @castle.basketball.club

Golf

University College Golf Club (UCGC)

President: **Gianluca Berto**

gianluca.berto@durham.ac.uk

Taking the John Daly approach to Golf, we aim to have a laidback but fun approach to playing the beautiful game. UCGC is open to all genders and playing abilities and is a great way of de-stressing while at university.



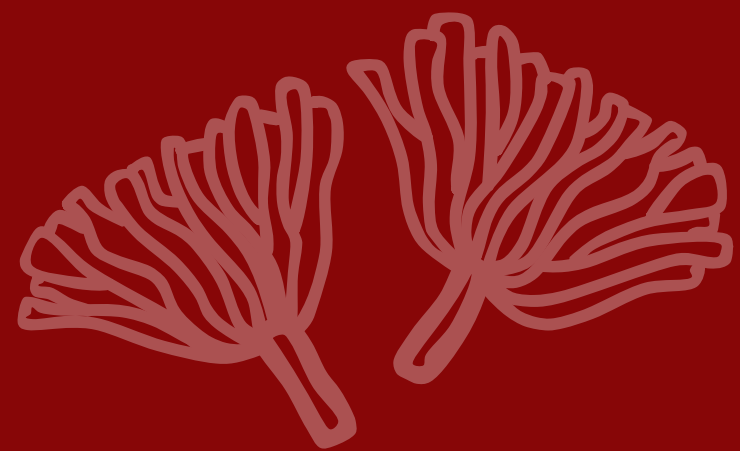
Facebook: [UCGC 24/25](#)

Cheer

Bears Cheerleading

Co-Presidents: **Amerlia Harvey** and **Natalie Ottesen Aas**
amelia.harvey@durham.ac.uk; natalie.o.aas@durham.ac.uk

Welcome to **Bears Cheerleading**, a joint team of **Hild Bede** and **Castle**! Our club welcomes everyone, regardless of background and experience. Join us to build team spirit, develop athletic skills, and make lasting friendships. Whether you're a seasoned cheerleader or a complete beginner, there's a place for you with the Bears!



Instagram: [@hildbedecastlecheer](#)

TikTok: [@hildbedecastlecheer](#)

Hockey

University College Hockey Club (UCHC)

President: Matilda Plantenga
mathilde.m.plantenga@durham.ac.uk



We are an active and dedicated club, with both a men's and women's team. While our leagues are separate we have many mixed socials and pub trips. We train all together once a week and there is usually a men's and women's match each weekend. Everyone is welcome!

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



Cricket

University College Cricket Club (UCCC)

Co-Presidents: Joe Dugay and
Huw Harris
joseph.du'gay@durham.ac.uk;
huw.harris@durham.ac.uk



UCCC is one of the favourite clubs in college. Welcoming all abilities, we ensure having a laugh whilst playing the great game. We play indoors in Epiphany with nets throughout before moving outdoors for the season in Easter term. Off the field we are regulars at Durham staples NKD Bird and the Swan, whilst hosting some of the most prestigious socials in college. Whether socially or as a playing member, get involved and drop us a follow.



Facebook: University College Cricket Club
Instagram: [@castle_cricketclub](https://www.instagram.com/castle_cricketclub)

Lacrosse

Castle Mixed Lacrosse

President: Alec Symington
alec.symington@durham.ac.uk



Following a fantastic year of laxing, Castle Mixed Lacrosse is keen to keep the momentum going. With electric socials, a fantastic club spirit, and, from a select few, some dubious lacrosse skills, this is the club to join. Training and intercollegiate matches take place every week (weather permitting), with socials happening each term (weather independent).

Facebook: Castle Mixed Lacrosse 2024/25

Instagram: @castlemixedlax



Netball (Mixed)

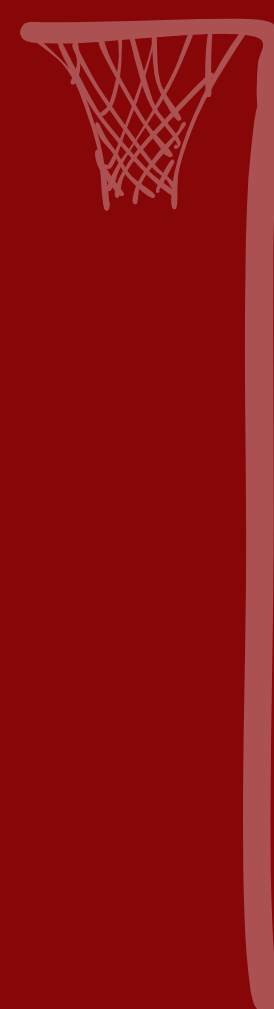
University College Mixed Netball Club

President: Roddie Turner
roderick.g.turner@durham.ac.uk



Mixed Netball is a newly emerging sport that is really easy to pick up and learn and a great way to meet all sorts of people. We have weekly games where everyone is welcome regardless of ability and last year we had lots of success with a really diverse team of backgrounds and experiences, which I'm hoping we can repeat that this year. Please get in touch if you have any questions!

Facebook: UCMNC 24/25



Netball (Women)

University College Netball Club (UCNC)

Co-Presidents: Tallis Hill and Caitlin Elliot

tallis.hill@durham.ac.uk; caitlin.elliott@durham.ac.uk

UCNC is a vibrant, competitive, and social club, with matches each week in the first two terms. We have three trialled teams (A, B, and C) and it is a great way to continue sport at uni, whilst making new friends across year groups. We can't wait to see you at trials and socials!



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

Rounders

Castle Mixed Rounders

President: Chloe Everest

chloe.everest@durham.ac.uk

Rounders is a highlight of the summer sport season and not one to be missed! The social aspect is at the heart of the games and no prior experience/ability is required.

We tend to play a match per week and there is no training, just good spirits and good weather!

Facebook: Castle Mixed Rounders

2024/25



Frisbee

Castle Mixed Ultimate Frisbee

President: Luke Oakley

luke.oakley@durham.ac.uk

Join Castle Mixed Ultimate Frisbee: a fun, friendly, and welcoming sport society at Castle College. Enjoy exciting and competitive gameplay while making new friends. We offer weekly training sessions every Wednesday at 1:30 PM on Whinney Hill. Don't miss our taster session on the 4th of October!

Facebook: Castle Ultimate Frisbee

Instagram: @castlefrisbee

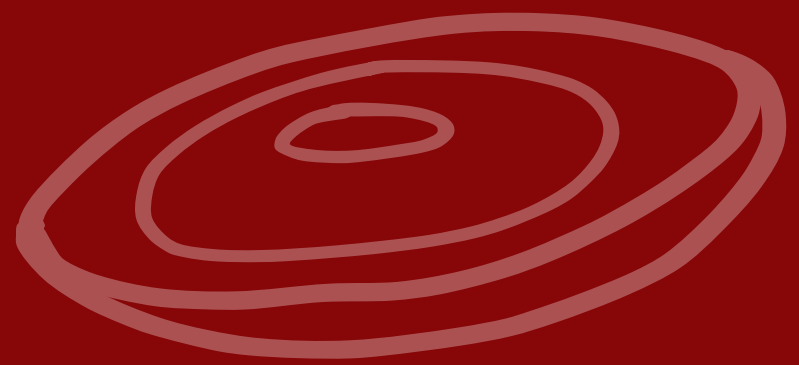


Table Tennis

Castle Table Tennis

President: Oreofe Subair

oreofeoluwa.subair@durham.ac.uk

Castle Table Tennis is a relatively low-key club that meets once or twice a week to play table tennis. You can just come to play casually or if you're up to it, participate in inter-collegiate matches and represent Castle. Sessions typically take place in the toastie bar or JCR. Join the Facebook and Instagram for updates.



Facebook: Castle Table Tennis

Instagram: @castletabletennisclub

Societies

Choir & Orchestra

Big Band

Chamber Music

The Fellows

Magnolia

Chapel Choir

Warm Hearts

Pride Society

First Gen Society

Board Games

Krishna

Consciousness

Environment

Feminist Society

Christian Union

Chess

Theatre



Choir and Orchestra

Castle Choir and Orchestra (CCO)

President: Callum Tilley
callum.g.tilley@durham.ac.uk



CCO is a non-auditioned choir and orchestra. We have weekly rehearsals (biscuits provided!) developing repertoire for termly concerts. We also have two auditioned quartets - Floreat Flutes and the Castellum Quartet (for strings) - playing high-level chamber repertoire and host their own concerts. If you fancy a friendly, welcoming environment, sold-out concerts, outreach initiatives, and great socials, please don't hesitate to reach out and come along!



Facebook: Castle Choir and Orchestra
Instagram: [@castle.cco](https://www.instagram.com/castle.cco)

Big Band

University College Big Band (UCBB)

President: OGS
hmt55@durham.ac.uk



UCBB is Castle's very own Big Band. We are non-auditioned, and have a very chill environment where you can come along to jam and prepare for our termly gigs. Our socials, designed by Social Sec Axel, are super cool (I promise). We play a mix of traditional and contemporary swing, jazz, and popular music. We rehearse once a week and welcome any instrument that will fit into a big band.



Facebook: University College Big Band
Instagram: [@ucbigband](https://www.instagram.com/ucbigband)

Chamber Music

University College Chamber Music Society

President: Jamie Holland

jamie.holland@durham.ac.uk

The University College Chamber Music Society is intended to facilitate participation in chamber music within the College, by assisting in the formation and organization of ensembles, providing music through the society's library, and giving opportunities for performance. The society's membership is open to musicians of all abilities.



Instagram: [@castle.ccms](https://www.instagram.com/castle.ccms)

The Fellows

House Band

President: Amelia Doherty

ameliadoherty@durham.ac.uk

We're Castle's house band and Society of the Year '23! We play rock, pop, and funk, with a regular Monday set (Mundie in the Undie) and performances throughout the year. Last year's gigs included Hatfield's Lion in Winter Ball, the CCA Auction, and DUCK's Pink Week. Audition to get involved!

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



Magnolia

House Band

President: Jasmine Lee
seungyeon.lee@durham.ac.uk



Magnolia is Castle's non-auditioned house band where "your niche is our niche"! Our diverse music repertoire spans from pop, band, and jazz from artists around the world, reflecting each member's unique tastes to enhance performance experiences and foster inclusivity. Our weekly rehearsals are flexible, aiming to fit everyone's schedule so come and join us!



Instagram: @themagnoliaband

Chapel Choir

University College Chapel Choir

President: Barney Howard
Chaplain: Sam Hole
sam.hole@durham.ac.uk
Choir Manager: Kate Ryan
kathrynne.ryan@durham.ac.uk



University College Chapel Choir is one of the finest auditioned collegiate choirs in Durham. We rehearse on Tuesday evenings for chapel services on Thursdays and alternate Sundays, as well as additional special services throughout term. We sing a vast range of repertoire, such as early modern acapella, organ-accompanied choral, and twenty-first century compositions. The choir also regularly sings at Durham Cathedral, and goes on annual tours (this summer to Rome and the Vatican). The College offers 16 choral scholarships (4 per voice part) and 2 organ scholarships. Auditions for both scholarships take place during Freshers' Week.

Instagram: @castlechapelchoir/@castlechapedurham

Warm Hearts

Charity Project

President: Ele James

eleanor.james@durham.ac.uk

Warm Hearts is a warm, welcoming, and *very pink* charity project that endeavours to support NHS hospitals and services via an array of voluntary projects. We welcome all students to come along, make new friends, and give back to the NHS.

Instagram: @warmheartsproject_



Pride Society

President: Daisie Ellis

daisie-anne.ellis@
durham.ac.uk

Castle Pride is a pride-inclusive space for students to meet new people. We hold social events, from tote bag painting to bar crawls and primary school projects and we work closely with the Welfare Committee on the annual Pride campaign. If you want to meet a great group of people and get involved or have ideas, please reach out! We advertise predominantly on Instagram.

Instagram: @castlepridesociety



First Generation Society

President: Evie Miller-Soleil
evie.miller-soleil@durham.ac.uk



Welcome to the First Gen Society, where being the first in your family to attend university means you're basically a certified legend! We are dedicated to creating an open, inclusive environment that celebrates our unique journeys and diverse backgrounds. Connect with fellow students and share your experiences and incredible achievements. Let's navigate college life together and learn to thrive! If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact us!

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

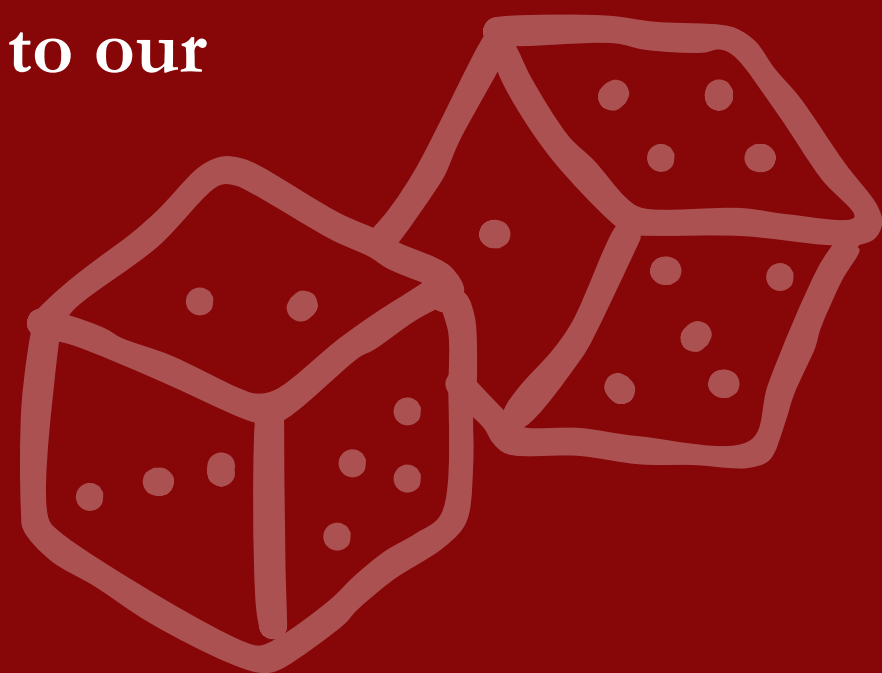


Board Games Society

President: Nico Chambers
(nico.chambers@durham.ac.uk)

We are a friendly society who meet for a fun evening of board games of various types. There will be lots of this available during Freshers' Week, so get a taste for it and come along to our weekly meetings!

Facebook: University College Board Games Society
Instagram: [@castle.boardgames_society](https://www.instagram.com/castle.boardgames_society)



Krishna Consciousness

President: Edwin Herrera
glqq39@durham.ac.uk

KCSoc promotes spiritual well-being through weekly events, including meditation, yoga and instruments practices. We run catch-ups to explore how Vedic wisdom applies to everyday life, university, and self-discovery. Members attend events and retreats at Temples. All backgrounds, spiritual or not, are welcome to enjoy the peaceful environment and positive connections. Join us!



Instagram: @durhamkcsoc

Environment

Society

Castle Environment

President: Alex Martin
alexander.martin@durham.ac.uk



Do you want to help lead Castle into a sustainable future? Then Castle Environment is the society for you! Whether you want sustainability socials, talks, our allotment or our new policy, we probably have something for you. You can work with some great people and help bring meaningful change to Castle. So come find us at Castle Freshers' Fair and say hello!



Facebook: Castle Environment 2024-25

Instagram: @castleenvironment

Feminist Society

President: **HIRING!**

thecastlefeminist@gmail.com



The Castle Feminist Society is an inclusive and intersectional space where feminists can feel surrounded by like-minded people. Our most regular socials are paint-and-sips, where our members can meet other feminists and feel a part of the community.

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

Christian Union

President: **Jake Bell**

jake.bell@durham.ac.uk



Castle Christian Union aims to give every Castleman the chance to hear and respond to the gospel of Jesus Christ. We meet every Monday at 18:45 to look at the Bible and to catch up with one another, and then usually join the University CU afterwards. Everyone is welcome!

Facebook: [Castle Christian Union](#)



Chess

Castle Chess Club

Co-Presidents: Azim Chowdhury and Emma Ainsby

azim.chowdhury@durham.ac.uk;

emma.ainsby@durham.ac.uk

Castle Chess Club welcomes all with weekly sessions and tournaments in the great hall.

Our amazing members foster growth and connection through regular socials. Join our thriving chess community!

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



Theatre

Castle Theatre Company

President: Tom Carroll

tom.c.carroll@durham.ac.uk

Castle Theatre Company is the oldest student theatre company in Durham! We put on an array of plays throughout the year, including a black-tie event called the Comedy Cabaret. We have just completed our 45th annual Shakespeare tour of the UK with 'As You Like it'.

Facebook: [Castle Theatre Company](https://www.facebook.com/castletheatrecompany)

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

TikTok: [@castletheatrecompany](https://www.tiktok.com/@castletheatrecompany)



Committees

Music Committee

Castle Tech

Floreat Committee

Castle Dresses



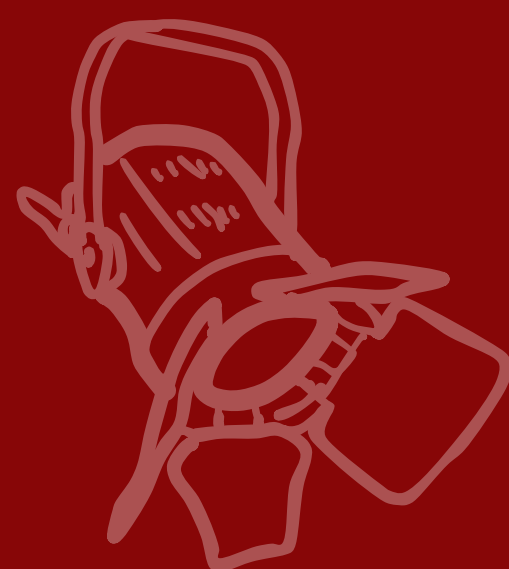
Music Committee

Castle Music is the umbrella JCR organisation that manages and represents all musicians at Castle. It is our job to ensure that we are represented internally to the JCR and to external bodies such as Music Durham and the Musicians' Union of Durham Students, as well as make sure that we meet various guidelines and rules. We also manage the JCR's physical music resources, such as equipment and the three Bailey Court practice rooms. The Music Committee includes the President, Treasurer, and Equipment Officer, the Presidents or representatives of the five active music societies at Castle, and is chaired by the Union and Societies Officer (USO). The Chapel Choir is covered by Castle Music, but has a degree more independence due to its strong ties to the Chapel and Chaplain. Additionally, if you wish to set up your own music society, you absolutely can! Reach out to Callum and the USO, and we can help you set it up through the JCR. Castle Music is an incredible, welcoming social and musical environment and a great way get involved in college life, offering loads of opportunities to play and perform at any level. We look forward to meeting you!

Instagram: [@castle.music.durham](https://www.instagram.com/castle.music.durham)

Castle Tech

Tech consists of the Tech Director (Stranex), the Vice-Tech Directors (Jasmine and Anousha), and a whole host of workers! As one of the few paid roles in college, it is overseen by our Services Manager (Josh), and is a great way to get involved in events, learn new skills, and utilise the variety of different talents. available at Castle.



Floreat Committee

Your one stop shop for all things Castle, including sports, socials, and general goings-on. Get involved by submitting articles for publication every term!

Instagram: [@castle.floreat](#)

Castle Dresses

Probably one of the most wholesome committees, Castle Dresses provides dresses to rent, free of charge. It is a sustainable and body positive scheme. The initiative began in 2020, and now has over 200 dresses available from sizes 4 to 22, sourced from Vinted, Depop, and donations. Castle Dresses also includes Castle Tails, offering a similar service for those wearing suits.

Instagram: [@castle_dresses](#)

Website: www.castledresses.com

