

Freshers' Handbook 2025



WHAT IS THIS HANDBOOK FOR?



It's a pleasure to be the one to introduce you to Cuth's!

Whether you've spent hours researching Cuth's or you haven't yet heard of a JCR, this handbook hopefully will give you a good introduction to the **events**, **sports**, **societies**, **facilities and committees** that we have to offer at Cuth's as well as what to expect during Freshers' Week.

As a third-year Maths and Chemistry student from Oxford, I arrived in Durham with no idea of what to expect from Cuth's. My journey to becoming Vice-President was unexpected, but it's been one of the most rewarding experiences of my time here, filled with opportunities and friendships I never imagined. From day one, living in Mini Refounders during my first year, I experienced how inclusive and welcoming the Cuth's community truly is. It's a place where I've felt at home from the start, surrounded by amazing people who've shaped my journey in ways I'll always be grateful for. Since my second JCR meeting, I discovered a real passion for Cuth's governance. I began as Junior Returning Officer (JRO), helping to run elections, and last year I had the privilege of sitting on the Executive Committee as JCR Chair. You will undoubtedly always find me in the JCR supporting officers with everything from stash drops to setting up drum kits (I just can't stay away!). Most importantly, I've developed a deep love for Cuth's, and I'll always bleed green. \blacksquare

But if I haven't addressed a topic you're dying to know about or you have any questions at all, drop me an email <u>vice-president@cuths.com</u> or DM the @cuthsjcr instagram account!

This isn't limited to just your freshers' experience but throughout the entirety of next year. We are here for you!

COMING UP...

1. Coming into Freshers' week

a presidential welcome, a timetable of events, move-ins, advice from our freps

2. What actually is a JCR?

a diagram to attempt to demonstrate, the exec, welfare, communities committee & how to get involved!

3. Life at Cuth's

accommodation, the library, the gyms and the music room, the bars & sports and societies

4. Tradition and Events

formals, traditionally untraditional, fashion show, michaelmas and summer ball, feast and cuth's day & support

5. Who are College?

college personnel, roles & responsibilities

6. What else can I do at Durham?

the SU, other colleges, local community

7. Good Luck and Contacts

A PRESIDENTIAL WELCOME

Hiya everyone! My name is Thea Cave and I have been elected as this year's President of the Society!! I joined Cuth's back in 2022 when I began my degree in Theology and Religion. I spent my first year living in Brooks House making me a 'Parsons Fresh', and when I graduated this July with my BA in Theology and Religion, I was still every bit 'Parsons'... just not so 'Fresh' after three years. Now that I have completed my degree it is time for me to take on my role as the President of the Society. So you may be wondering, what does the President of the Society do?

As President, I am the one and only employee of Cuth's JCR.

JCR stands for 'Junior Common Room' and is an independent

Charity that is 'for students, by students' separate from our College
and Durham University. Our main aim is to support you in your wider student
experience throughout your degree. The JCR is made up of multiple volunteering roles
that manage different sections of the student experience, and it is my job to take care of
our amazing student volunteers! Nothing that goes on day-to-day in Cuth's would be
possible without our passionate volunteers, I am there to support them and oversee them
in their work, but all of the credit really does belong to them! I would really encourage you
to get involved in the JCR as there is something for everyone, no matter what you are
passionate about. The best thing is, at Cuth's you can make your own committees and
societies. There are truly so many ways to get involved!

Another key part of my role is my collaboration with College and the University. As a recent graduate and the employee of our independent common room, I represent the voice of you guys as students, ensuring that any decisions that are made are in your best interest. This also includes work with our EDI Committee which I am extremely passionate about.

I am so very excited to get to know you all, so I wanted to tell you a bit about myself:

The first thing that you will notice as soon as you meet me is that I am Scouse (and very proud)!! I was born and raised in Toxteth, Liverpool and I am very proud to be at Durham University as a first-generation, working-class graduate. Although I did a Theology degree I am a massive music nerd and the biggest Beyoncé fan. I love all things musical theatre and live music, and you are sure to bump into me at karaoke night or Cuth's Live.

FROM THEA

I have absolutely loved my time at Cuth's and have experienced nothing but kindness and fun during my time here as a student. Cuth's is all about community, and my way of chipping in came from my involvement in the JCR. As a Fresher I attended the odd JCR meeting to meet new friends and gain a better understanding of how things worked. However, it was through my experience as a Frep in my second year that I really felt the urge to get involved. I became the JCR Music Rep allowing me to host live music nights, music room inductions and allowing me to participate in music centred Welfare Campaigns. In my third year I frepped again because I loved it! I also joined the JCR's Executive Committee as the Publicity Officer. This meant that I was in charge of JCR social media pages and the advertising of events. However, my favourite parts of the role were Cuth's News and Cuth's Tiktok, which allowed me to work with my peers to be creative and have fun. Most importantly, my role allowed me to celebrate the hard work and achievements of students in our community. This is what influenced me to run for Presidency, as I believe that it is important for me to give back to the vibrant community that brought me so much joy in my time as a student.

Another exciting part of my role is that I get to live on site, and I cannot wait to bring the scouse to House 8! This means that you guys will probably see me around lots, so if you ever need anything, or just fancy a yap, please come over and say hi. You can also drop me an email at president@cuths.com if you don't manage to catch me in person.

But until we meet in person, I want to wish you guys good luck! I hope that you have the best time during your first weeks in Durham. My top piece of advice to you all is to try your best to live in the moment. Freshers' Week can sometimes be fast-pace and overwhelming, but don't be afraid to take a moment to yourself and just relax.



Frepping outside the club

FROM THEA



Your whole university experience will not revolve around Freshers' Week (even though it may feel that way). You have 3 (or more) whole years to make friends and make unforgettable memories, so try your best not to stress and enjoy the moment. You will find your people, even if you are not sure during Fresher's Week. So make the most of your experience, and make it your own, however that may be. At the end of the day, you're only a Fresher once.

It is such an honour to have the opportunity to meet the next generation of Cuth's and I already know that you guys are gonna bring unmatchable energy. We have a fantastic Freshers' Week planned for you, and I hope that you have the most amazing time.

Best wishes,
THEA CAVE, PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY



A TIMETABLE OF EVENTS



SUNDAY 28TH

9-6PM- MOVE INS

7.30PM- TRADITIONALLY UNTRADITIONAL @ BAILEY BAR

7.30PM- BERTE'S BONGOS BINGO @ BROOKS BAR

10.30PM- JIMMY'S (CLUB)

MONDAY 29TH

9-10AM- CALMAN TALK

EVENING- PG WELCOME FORMAL

7.30PM- OPEN MIC NIGHT @ BROOKS BAR

7.30PM-CUTH'S THROUGH THE DECADES LIVE MUSIC NIGHT @ BAILEY BAR

10.30PM- BABYLON (CLUB)

TUESDAY 30TH

9AM - MATRICULATION

EVENING- WELCOME FORMAL 1

7.30PM- PAINT & SIP @ BAILEY BAR

7.30PM- TONIGHT WE STEAL THE MOON @ PARSONS FIELD COURT

10.30PM- FABIO'S (CLUB)

WEDNESDAY 1ST

1-4PM- SPORTS DAY @ THE RACECOURSE

7.30PM- THE 2025 OLYMPIC GAMES @ BAILEY BAR

7.30PM - GAMES NIGHT ' BROOKS BAR

10.30PM- LOFT (CLUB)

THURSDAY 2ND

2-4PM- PETTING ZOO

7.30PM- INTERGALACTIC PUB QUIZ @ BROOKS BAR

7.30PM- RETRO NIGHT @ BAILEY BAR

10.30PM- JIMMY'S (CLUB)

FRIDAY 3RD

EVENING- WELCOME FORMAL 2

7.30PM- NEON RAVE FINALE @ PARSONS FIELD COURT

SATURDAY 4TH

2-4PM - CUTH'S SPORTS & SOCIETIES FAIR

7.30PM- COLLEGE 'PARENTS' EVENING

SUNDAY 5TH

5-6PM MEET THE JCR

7PM -FIRST JCR MEETING OF TERM

(MATRICULATION IS THE ONLY COMPULSORY EVENT ON THIS TIMETABLE)
(YOU WILL RECEIVE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT FORMAL YOU WILL
BE INVITED TO PRIOR TO FRESHERS' WEEK)

*THIS TIMETABLE MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

A TIMETABLE OF EVENTS

TRESHERS' WEEK ONDED TO SEVENTS

TUESDAY 30TH

AFTERNOON- STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES EVENT WITH LUCA

WEDNESDAY 1ST

AFTERNOON- LOCAL AND NORTHERN STUDENTS' EVENT WITH CHLOE

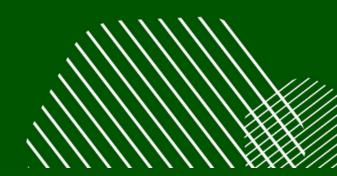
THURSDAY 2ND

3-5PM- MATURE STIDENTS' BRUNCH WITH LOUISE

FRIDAY 3RD

AFTERNOON-INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' EVENT WITH CINDY

*THIS TIMETABLE MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE (ATTENDENCE TO THESE EVENTS ARE NOT COMPULSORY)



MOVE-INS

LEAD UP TO MOVE IN DAY

College will be in touch by email to let you know all the relevant accommodation information as well as your move-in date! Make sure to let college know if you need to move-in early due to being an international student or for disability access reasons.

Make sure to have formal wear ready as well for matriculation and the freshers' formals! (For more information on formals check out the events section!)





KATE PONTER - HEAD FREP

head-frep@cuths.com

Hi, my name is Kate. I am a second year combined honours in social sciences student and I am so excited to be Head Frep this year! This means that I am working with JCR officers this summer to organise Freshers' Week. During Freshers' Week I will be working with the Freps to ensure that Freshers are supported, have fun and feel welcomed to Cuth's. Another element of my role is coordinating open days throughout the year to show off all that Cuth's has to offer. I can't wait to meet you all during Freshers' Week!

WHAT IS A FREP?

"Freps" or Fresher Representatives are volunteers who have already experienced the joys of Freshers' Week and have chosen to come back and help.

When you move-in one of them will greet you and help you with your bags as well as take you to the carousel where you will receive your keys, a physical copy of this handbook and freshers' stash (Cuth's branded paraphernalia).

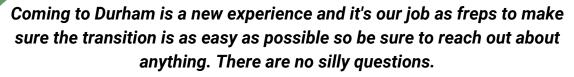
Freps are here for you! To guarantee you have a great and safe experience during Freshers' Week.

The freps will be in the bars each night during Freshers'
Week and will be running the events!!



MOVE-INS





Take a look at the Lit Night Time Routes map which is a super useful way of getting an idea of how Durham is laid out and routes around at night. During Freshers' Week however there will always be freps outside the club to take you home if need be!

Durham has developed its own language between students and sometimes conversations may be a little confusing. Below I've provided a brief and by no means exhaustive 'Durham dictionary' which may come in useful.



DURHAM DICTIONARY

Billy B- Bill Bryson library, a popular study location as well as where you'll borrow most of your books.

Big Tesco- Located in Gilesgate, Big Tesco is often just a rumor for first year students.

BNOC- A student who is regarded as a 'Big Name on Campus.'

Cardiac Hill- Between the science site and Mountjoy. If you're unsure whether or not you are on cardiac hill it's safe to assume you are not.

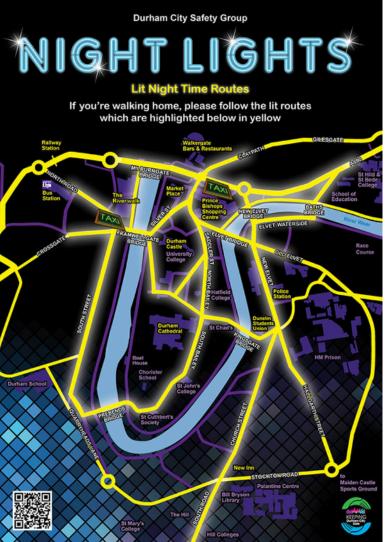
Hill & Bailey- The two classifications of colleges and a point of contention as to who has it better.

Hust- A short speech given when running for a role in a sport, society or the JCR.

Matriculation- Your formal acceptance into the university. Held in the cathedral.

Michaelmas, Epiphany and Easter- The three academic terms in that order.

Stash- Branded college or university paraphernalia. The puffer jacket is exceptionally popular choice and by December unavoidable.



ADVICE FROM OUR FREPS



Cora (she/her)



Matilda (she/her)



LUISA (SHE/HER)



Gabriel (they/them)



Amelia



Rosie



Angelina (she/her)



Sam

What should I bring to Durham?

cordless/rechargeable lamp, fairy lights, my moka pot will be ripped sealing food packets, ikea bags!

A doorstop

Photos or something to decorate be a bit bland so doing some decor can make things feel homely!

Durham. Make sure they're a pair that can handle the hilly & slippery terrain of Additionally, while the uni does not require a dress code, the amount of people hoover. While the house provides you with a communal one, they usually are

your room!!!! College rooms can You should bring hot chocolate! It gets cold in Michaelmas and is a great bonding tool!

> A mattress topper (memory foam ideally). Saved my back in first year. Extra points if you don't have to buy it yourself, some of them can be a bit spenny! And also slides or flip flops or crocs for communal showers.

A portable charger, I feel like not enough people have them for the amount of times their phones die

ADVICE FROM OUR FREPS

What shouldn't I bring to Durham?

Too much kitchen stuff. You're probably gonna have limited cupboard space so only bring the essentials

Drying rack!! save that purchase for second year as dryers are free in cuths and don't bring a small fridge for your room, the porter always finds out

A door

You shouldn't bring endless amounts of Tupperware (unless you're my flatmate from first year!) Your entire wardrobe. Seems obvious but silly me 3 years ago didn't seem to think it was. It'll just be a pain every end of year when you have to move out, and you don't have infinite space!



If you're a Bailey Cuths, my best advice is to steer clear of excessive kitchenware. Bring one mug, one plate, one pair of cutlery and call it a day.

books (i never read during term), too many clothes

Best Durham Spots

The discount section in Tesco Express, that's where my hunter gather instincts come out

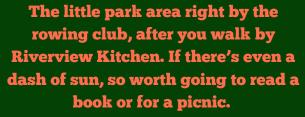
The racecourse

Halgarth house Road

bailey bar

Easily the racecourse during spring/summer term. However, a timeless classic for Cuths this year was the Boatclub - the 2 for 1 deals make it irresistible.

View of the cathedral from Prebend's Bridge

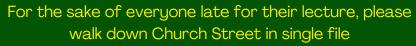




Last words of advice

Get involved with as much sports and societies as you want!

Don't compare yourself too much with other people's academic journey. We each go at different paces and have different goals, don't make anyone better or worse! Not everyone will click right away or entirely with their housemates - and that is okay. To battle this, talk to absolutely anyone and everyone in freshers. It will be daunting and definitely challenging at first, but getting to talk to as many people as you possibly can during that week will massively help with settling down in Cuths and allow you to see the people you actually click with! You might get bored of repeating the same poem of 'where are you from and what do you study' but trust me it is the way to do freshers right.



Don't rush into getting a house with the first people you meet!! People will make it seem like you need to sign a house immediately but you have the time to make sure you're going to get on with who you live with in second year. As your housemates can make or break the 2nd year experience

durham is quite small so can feel a bit claustrophobic - getting away for a day (or a few days) can really help put things in perspective sometimes

Durham loves facebook so purge your account that you made when you were 12 from all the Hunger Games fan pages.



WHAT IS A JCR?

In a literal sense a JCR is a Junior Common Room. A room located on 12 South Bailey for students to use but when we say JCR we're referring to a student-run charity with over 100 volunteers who put together £30,000 events, manage all college sport, welfare peer support, and so so so much more.

The common theme behind it all is a love for Cuth's and a desire to create a welcoming, inclusive and fun society. So far, so good.

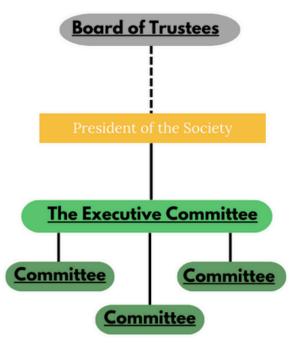


Here's a quick chart to give you an idea of how things work!

The Board of Trustees are an external board and make sure we are compliant with charity law.

The President is a hired member of the charity and works full time as well as living in House 8.

I've detailed who the Exec are as well as each of the committees over the course of this section of the handbook!



WHAT IS A JCR?

Our JCR is independent of college and operates with its own budget to run events, manage sports and societies, purchase welfare supplies and look after our facilities.

College supports JCR volunteers to make a difference and realise their ambitions for students, for example, by providing the physical infrastructure for events and meetings, advice and guidance, and generous grants and bursaries.

Over the course of this handbook, you'll get a larger idea of what you can expect and gain from the JCR during your time at Cuth's though I have to address the elephant in the room.

JCR LEVY

By paying the levy you become a member of the JCR for your entire degree and gain access to:

- College sports and societies
- Heavily discounted event tickets for Balls, Feast, Cuth's Day and other JCR events
- Gyms, music room and other facilities
- The library and conference room
- Be involved in welfare and welfare campaigns
- Volunteering with over 100 other students and have your voice heard.

Join the 90%+ students at Cuth's who have already paid their levy!!

UNDERGRADUATE LEVY

£172.50

POSTGRADUATE LEVY

£57.50

The levy is a necessary part of the JCR functioning and can be paid for in termly installments during your first year. If this is something you would like to do contact Maddie by email fco@cuths.com



BENEFITS OF THE LEVY

Over 90% of our current students have chosen to join the JCR, showing that there is something to be gained for everyone! For the sporty amongst you, the JCR will match your subs for joining sports groups 1:1 up to the price of £20, and 1:3 over that if you choose to be a member. For those less sporty, there are plenty of societies to choose from, from gardening to crochet, and also access to different committees that help run the JCR.

Over three years, attending every JCR ball and event could save you around £150 through the levy alone. And if you decided to join men's football in teams a or b, you'd pay £45 for subs while the JCR would contribute £95 (exact costs vary between sports), which is kind of crazy!

WHERE DOES YOUR LEVY ACTUALLY GO?

2024/25 Forecasted Management

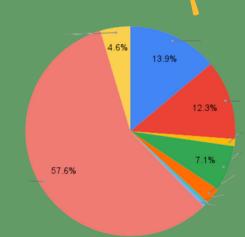
Accounts - Expenditure:

- Events & Student Life 57.6%
- Sports & Societies 13.9%
- Sabbatical Officer 12.3%
- Admin 7.1%
- Funds 4.6%
- Committees 2.5%
- Facilities 1.1%
- Awards 0.5%
- Library 0.4%

Sabbatical officer is for paying Thea her full time wage!

The committees use their budget to plan events and welfare also use some of theirs for FREE sexual health supplies and menstrual products!!

See the welfare handbook for more details!



TYPES OF FUNDS

The levy also provides access to various funds within the JCR. These include:

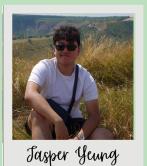
- JCR Event Accessibility fund; partial refunds on JCR events tickets for those receiving the Durham grant which is allocated on a tiered basis.
- JCR Participation fund; offers up to £200 to help cover the costs of sports and societies within the university, with priority given to those within college, for JCR members
- JCR Students with Disabilities fund; a non-means tested fund allocated at the discretion of the SWD rep to help with the costs of accessing support.
- JCR Gender Expression fund; a non-means tested fund allocated at the discretion of the Trans and Non-binary rep to support the purchase of items that will help those in need feel more comfortable with their gender expression.

As treasurer, Maddie is also happy to guide and signpost you to any wider college or university funds that may be of help if our JCR funds aren't suitable. For any questions about funds, please reach out to her at fco@cuths.com and she will get back to you as soon as possible.

THE EXEC

The Exec consists of volunteers whose roles require them to do the most work. Some of us have been already introduced, some can be found with their committees and others will be introduced over the next few pages BUT here's a picture of everyone either way.

































@CUTHS_JCR_ELECTIONS

JASPER YEUNG- JCR CHAIR chair@cuths.com

Hi, I'm Jasper (He/him) and I'm your JCR chair this year. I'm a second year PPE student from Hong Kong but I've been living in London for the past few years. As the JCR chair, I will be chairing the governance committee and I will be responsible for the updating and maintain the standing orders (the constitution of the JCR) and hosting JCR meetings. Feel free to get in touch by emailing chair@cuths.com if you want to know more about the structure of JCR and how it works. I am looking forward to see you all at the JCR meeting!

THE EXEC



MOLLY TAIT - OUTREACH CHAIR

outreach@cuths.com

Hey, I'm Molly, your 25/26 Outreach chair. As well as studying Biology and Anthropology, I love getting involved in Cuth's life, being part of our very own Wildcats Cheerleading team.

As Outreach chair, I organise the charity, volunteering and fundraising events in the JCR. These events are not only a great way to raise money for meaningful charities, they're also a means to get involved and meet new people around college. Look out for our pub quizzes, litter picks, raffles, and even more worthwhile opportunities. If you want to exercise your creativity and passion for fundraising, catch me at the fresher's fair to find out more about getting involved in Outreach Committee!

KATHIANE TOURE - PUBLICITY OFFICER publicity@cuths.com

Hi I'm Kat, a second year law student and your publicity officer! As Publicity Officer I sit on the executive committee. My role involves managing all the social media and ensuring the Cuths JCR social media is informative, useful and accessible but also fun. Part of my role is to keep everyone stylish by organising stash drops and collections. I'm also responsible for producing and uploading CuthsNews every week and I hope to get as many people involved as I can!



SHE HER @CUTHSJCR

MADDIE LEWIS-JONES - TREASURER fco@cuths.com

Hi guys! My name is Maddie and I'll be your JCR treasurer for this academic year. My role involves running the JCR's finances day to day, as well as overseeing the budgets for our sports, societies and events! I also chair the finance committee, which is an excellent opportunity for you to have an insight into our finances. As treasurer I am also happy to signpost you towards any of our college funds and any external grants that you may be eligible for! You can contact me via email fco@cuths.com

MADDY FRANK- SU AND LIVERS OUT REP su-rep@cuths.com

Hi, I'm Maddy and I'm the livers-out rep and SU rep. The first part of my job is that I represent those living outside of the college buildings, usually in independent housing, and any issues surrounding that. The other part of the job is that I represent Cuths - our interests and opinions - at the Student's Union for the whole of Durham University. If you are interested in the SU please do reach out - it's important that we have proper representation and that all voices are heard, especially in discussions about our lives and experience in Durham as students. If you have questions about either of these please don't hesitate to contact me!



THE OFFICERS

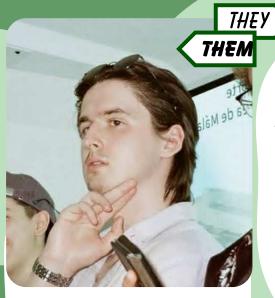
But that's not all! There is still plenty of other important positions and people throughout the JCR such as:

PGM COMMITTEE

At Cuth's Postgrads are part of the JCR, but there is a dedicated Postgraduate and Mature Students' Committee which oversees events aimed at these students and essentially operates in the same manner as MCRs do at other colleges. The PGM President will be elected at the beginning of this academic year, but for Freshers' Week, Matilda and I (Louise) will be acting President and running events. If you have any questions about being a Postgrad or Mature Student at Cuth's email vice-president@cuths.com).



@CUTHSPG



@CUTHS JCR ELECTIONS

GABRIEL CAIRNS-THOMAS SENIOR RETURNING OFFICER

sro@cuths.com

Hi all, I'm Gabriel, a Chemistry and Physics student (NatSci), and I'm this year's JCR Senior Returning Officer (SRO). That means I organise elections, check campaign materials, and talk at you a lot in meetings. Most of my job involves making sure everyone uses the correct Cuth's logo on their posters, and trying to navigate the organised chaos that is Durham's online voting system!

If you're interested in getting involved with the JCR, I'm probably the best person to contact about which roles are coming up and how to run for them. Feel free to reach out!

Saf Ghafoor & Caleb Ross Student Trustees

Hey! We're Caleb and Saf and we're your student trustees.

Organisations like our JCR are independent of the university and a charity in our own right and so we have a trustee board whose role is to keep the charity compliant with the law, provide financial oversight and the strategic direction for the JCR.

The board has both external and internal trustees and includes the President of the Society, the Treasurer and an Exec Trustee. This year the Exec Trustee is Lauren Evans!



WELFARE

Welfare provides free non-judgemental, non-advisory conversation regularly throughout each term of the year as well as providing free menstrual and sexual health products. Not to mention the information and awareness spread by the Welfare Campaigns team. For more information please check out the Welfare Handbook 2025/26!



CARA CAHILL - SENIOR WELFARE OFFICER senior-welfgre@cuths.com

Hiya everyone - hope you've had a lovely summer! I'm Cara, a third year law student from Ireland, and I'm your Senior Welfare Officer this year! This means that alongside my wonderful welfare officers, I'll be providing weekly confidential drop-ins, providing sexual health and sanitary products, and working to make Cuths the most comfortable and welcoming place that it can be! We also run some amazing campaigns - look out for applications to join the team in Michaelmas! As a Welfare team, we are there for you! No issue is too small, and we will be there throughout the year to support you in any way that we can. I'm also involved in Netball (to varying degrees of success) and FemSoc, so do feel free to come have a chat at any time. I can't wait to meet you all, welcome to Cuth's!!

BENEDICT PORTER - MALE WELFARE OFFICER welfare-male@cuths.com

Hey everyone! My name is Benedict and I'm the Male Welfare
Officer for Cuth's 25/26! I'm a second year English Literature and
Philosophy student and you'll most likely find me reading in
chapters, doing 'work' (chatting) in the JCR or doing some sort of
music/drama project! I'll be holding weekly drop-ins for anyone
who fancies a chat or for anyone wanting a little extra peersupport throughout the year! I loved being a part of the Welfare
Campaigns team in first year, and I'm particularly passionate
about inclusion, tackling classism and LGBTQIA+ rights!





EDEN COTTRELL- FEMALE WELFARE OFFICER female-welfare@cuths.com

Hey everyone! I'm Eden, and I'm a second year Politics and IR student from the US! I truly love Cuth's and welfare, having been on Welfare Campaigns in my first year. and I want to continue keeping Cuth's an open, social space, where everyone has the opportunity to be heard! My goal as FWO is to lend a listening ear, provide resources (for everything from mental and sexual health) and create meaningful social activities which help students find their place in uni. I'm also a proud Wildcat and plan to bring the cheer to welfare!! Can't wait to meet you all :)

WELFARE

Welfare can help signpost you to resources for support and information while working under principles of confidentiality. Drop-ins will be held in different locations around the university though we do have a dedicated welfare room on the Parson's Field site in Refounders.



EVAN KELLY - WELFARE OFFICER welfare-officer@cuths.com

Hi everyone, I hope you've had a lovely summer! My name is Evan, I'm a 3rd year History and English Literature student, and I'm looking forward to being your Welfare Officer this year. Alongside an excellent welfare team, I'll be working to ensure everyone in Cuth's feels supported and able to access help throughout the year. I'll be around during Fresher's

Week, available for a quick chat and a biscuit if you ever feel overwhelmed or just need a breather from what is a busy week. For the rest of the year, I'll be running weekly drop-ins, where you can come for a relaxed, non-judgmental chat about anything, no matter how big or small. As a team, we'll also provide free sexual health supplies and period products, and run key workshops on a range of essential topics.

This will be a fantastic year, and I look forward to meeting you soon.

OLIVIA YATES - WELFARE CAMPAIGNS MANAGER

Hello! My name is Olivia and I am a second year PPE student from Devon. For the next year I am the Welfare Campaigns Team Manager. I'll be leading Welfare's campaigns that fundraises and raise awareness for all kind of important things. Some of the topics we'll cover are Movember, SHAG week (Sexual Health and Guidance) and Housing. I would love for you to get involved in our campaigns! It's a welcoming and social environment where we get to plan important and fun things. Please look out for the opportunity to become part of the team!



THE WELFARE ACCOUNT ON MISSIFE TO FOLLOW THE WELF TO

Throughout the year keep an eye out for events and campaigns!!!

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Communities Committee (AKA CommsComm) consists of different marginalised group representatives whose goal is to raise margalinised group issues, foster a sense of community and work with college focusing on diversity, equality and inclusivity.



@CUTHS.COMMUNITIES

CHARLI JAMES - COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE CHAIR communities-chair@cuths.com

Hi everyone! I'm Charli, a third-year English Literature student and your Communities Committee (also known as CommsComm) Chair. My role is to manage the committee of Marginalised Group Representatives (MGRs) in Cuth's! This year we will be working on many different issues faced by marginalised students and will communicate these to the wider JCR and the college. I was on CommsComm as the Students with Disabilities (SWD) Representative last year - a role I absolutely adored, and one that only made my love for our community grow. I want to make sure that the MGRs, and anyone who feels like they need to shout to be heard, can feel safe and enjoy their time at Cuth's. My aims for the next year are; to make sure fresher's week is as accessible as possible, get formals running (when they cannot push for smaller scale college-led events), push for a college EDI tracker to make sure we are all working towards a more inclusive Cuth's. ALSO check out Cuth's instagram for information about running for a position on CommsComm and becoming a member of our lovely committee! Sending all my love and positivity for your time at Cuth's <3

THE REPS

LUCA WHITTLE - STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES REP swd-rep@cuths.com

Hi, I'm Luca and I'm your Students with Disabilities (SWD) Representative this year! My role is to represent the voices of disabled students on various Cuths JCR and College committees, making sure accessibility is considered as a key part of planning and that everyone is aware of the barriers disabled students might face at different points in College life. I'm non-binary and use they/them pronouns, and I'm a 3rd year music student. I love brass banding, choral singing, Radio 4, and Dr Who, as well as having a special interest in disability studies and education (PLEASE yap to me about any of these!). I'm planning some exciting work on a cross-college access guide, as well as collaborating with Cuths social committee to work on publishing access information about all events we hold, among many other things. I'm super excited to work with everyone this year, please do come up and say hi if you see me around! I am faceblind so might not recognise you even if we've spoken before, but please don't be offended by this it literally happens with every face I see. Looking forward to getting to know you all!





@CUTHS.LOCALSTUDENTS

CHLOE SHANNON - LOCAL STUDENTS REP

local.students.rep@cuths.com

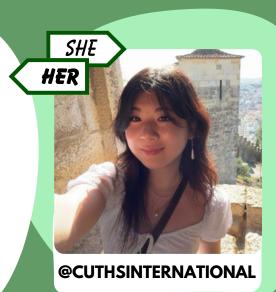
Hiya, I'm Chloe! I'm a third year Education Studies student from Greater Manchester, and I'm your Local & Northern Students Rep for this year! I'm here to make sure that students from around Durham and the North of England feel welcomed here at Cuth's - I understand the feelings that can come alongside coming to Durham University from a Northern background, and it's my job to represent those feelings both in the JCR and within the college more broadly. You can find me at @cuths.localstudents on Instagram - don't

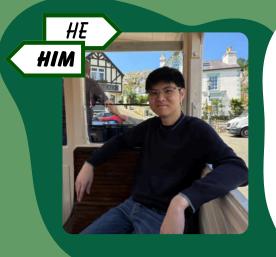
You can find me at @cuths.localstudents on Instagram - don't hesitate to reach out if you need anything!

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

CINDY WANG - INTERNATIONAL REP international@cuths.com

Hi everyone! I'm Cindy, a 2nd year Law student and your International Rep for this year. Having lived in Singapore, China, Canada, and now the UK, I understand the challenges that may come with being in an unfamiliar environment. Moving to a different country can be daunting, but it can also be such a fun, exciting, and welcoming experience! As the International Rep, I'll be in charge of International Freshers' Week, running exciting events for Int and non-Int students at Cuths throughout the year, chairing the International Committee (look out for the chance to apply in October!), running weekly drop-ins, and making sure international students feel heard and represented. Do follow @cuthsinternational on Instagram for updates, and don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions!





DAMON LEE - ASSISTANT INTERNATIONAL REP

Hey, I'm Damon, a 2nd-year International Relations student from Hong Kong and your Assistant International Rep. As your assistant international rep, I would not only assist the international rep in holding activities and fostering a vibrant, inclusive community. I would also be active in enhancing your experience as an international student over the Freshers' Week and throughout the academic year. I understand that it might be difficult to navigate a university while in a foreign country, so you are always welcome to talk to me if there are any issues. Please visit the Instagram page of our International Committee for more information. One of my interesting facts is that I enjoy eating sushi a lot and playing strategy games. Hope to see you all soon, and always welcome you to join the big family of the international committee.

WE HAVE SEVERAL OPENINGS!

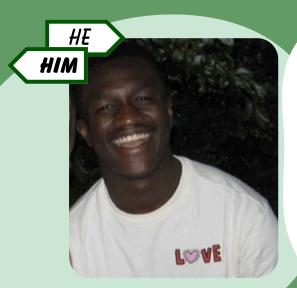
We currently do not have an LGBTQ+ Rep, a Working Class Rep, a POC Rep, or a Trans and Non-Binary Rep all which are a vital voice on CommsComm and in discussions with the university.

These positions are method I, meaning that you will have to campaign for an online election.

7

If you're interested in the role and more on how to run contact Charli James or email vice-president@cuths.com. We'd love to hear from you!!

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE



FERDIE AMEYAW - UK PLACEMENT REP placementrep@cuths.com

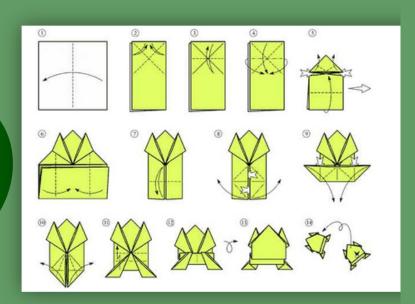
Hiya, I'm Ferdie, my pronouns are he/him, and I'm the Cuth's UK placement rep for the upcoming year! I'm a Psychology student currently on my placement year working as a Clinical Study Administrator for AstraZeneca. My role as placement rep is mostly to represent students in Cuth's who are on placement, as well as supporting people looking at or thinking about applying for placements. I'm based in Luton for the year so if you have any questions, shoot me a message @ cuthsyearsout on instagram!

ROSIE SIBBALD - YEAR ABROAD REP yearabroadrep@cuths.com

Hi! I'm Rosie, and I'm the year abroad rep this year! I study
Spanish and Italian and this year I'm studying in Colombia and
Italy! Since I won't be in Durham, any drop-ins I do will be
online - but I am absolutely available for anyone to chat to
about anything year abroad related - whether you're thinking
of one, are on one, or have come back from one! I'll also be
working with the year abroad committee to organise socials
and such for returners.



LEARN HOW TO MAKE AN ORIGAMI FROG! Frogs are one of our mascots!



HOW TO GET INVOLVED The good news is it's super easy.

LASH PENGUIN- BAR MASCOT

If you're super passionate about a certain issue (or just looking for something to do while at Cuth's) committees are a brilliant way to get involved. Whether it be organising large scale events with SocialComm, volunteering in the local community with Outreach, managing money with FiComm or setting up tech with Facilities (Green Machine) Committee there is a vast range of positive ways to spend your energy. Some positions are elected while others are interviewed but none are unimportant.

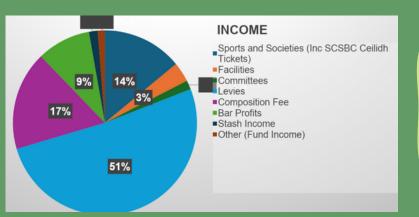
Be sure to reach out to some of the lovely people above by email or on instagram to ask any questions or showcase your interest!



COMMITTEES

CommsComm

Have your voice heard as well as amplifying the voices of other marginalised groups. Foster a strong sense of community. CommsComm has the brilliant assistant roles which allow you to create your own space in the JCR without having to commit too much time.



GovComm

The inner politics of the JCR. GovComm is a brilliant way to get an overview of how the JCR functions as well as the rules it must follow. Members of GovComm are also highly involved in the running of JCR meetings through raffles and elections!



FiComm

Finance Committee is chaired by the treasurer and is an opportunity to be involved in the finances of a charity with a tremendous annual income. With deciding on budgets, approving purchases and financial analysis FiComm could be the role for you...



HOW TO GET INVOLVED



Facilities Comm

Facilities Committee is an opportunity in both managing tech at our own events and loaning it to other colleges. Become familiar with our Green Machine (storage cupboard located in House 8) and involved in events!



SU Comm

SU Committee represent the views of the JCR to the SU assembly and is chaired by the SU rep. The committee cover various issues that the assembly are dealing with at the time. SU Committee members are elected in first term so come along to the JCR meeting if you're interested.



Outreach Comm

Outreach Comm is a fantastic opportunity to volunteer in the local community and give back.

The other chief aim of Outreach is to hold fundraising events to support charities. Be involved in Cuth's traditions while supporting brilliant causes.

Social Comm

Social Committee organise and volunteer at events (with a heavily discounted ticket). Social Comm is a wonderful chance to put your creative vision into practice whether it be through designing themed decorations or choosing rides. A great experience in coordinating large scale events.





Welfare Campaigns

Campaigns is all about raising awareness for welfare issues as well as supporting through signposting. Campaigns runs both online campaigns and in person events in order to achieve its aim of supporting Cuth's students!

ACCOMMODATION

The Bailey is made up of several different houses spread out across the South Bailey. From House 12 located above the bar to the maze of House 8- each building has its own unique character and strengths. A huge highlight is the beautiful gardens open to all Cuth's students.



Assigned Accommodation

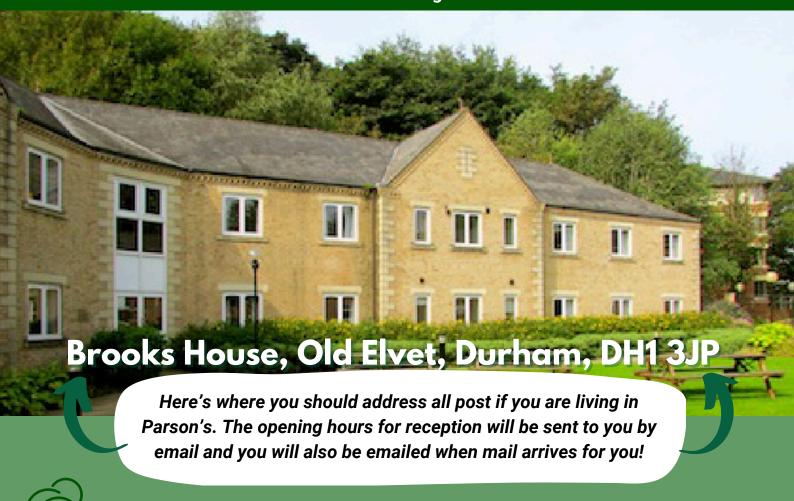
The Bailey has both single and shared rooms. Having a roommate may seem like a scary concept but it's a wonderful way to have someone you can rely on arrival at Durham. After ranking your preferences, you will receive an email from college letting you know what accommodation you've received. Parson's and the Bailey are only a short walk from each other and the facilities are open to both so don't worry about using the gym or JCR even if it's a little bit further from your room. Be sure to fill out the form on your preferred accommodation!



Living on the Bailey means you are catered and get to eat in the dining hall every day! The food in the dining hall is also available to Parson's students through the meal plan or paying for each meal at the machine to your left as you enter. Mealtimes will become the main use of any groupchat and can be found in college's 'Guide to Life at Cuth's'!

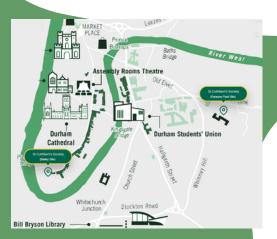
ACCOMODATION

Parson's is made up of several sets of flats over several buildings: Brooks, Refounders, Parson's Field Court and Fonteyn. Housing around 360 students, Parson's is a short distance from Maiden Castle and self-catered allowing students to make their own meals.



Maintenance, Keys and Cleaning

Each site has an RSA (Formerly Porters) who will be available to help you with any maintenance issues you may have, if you've locked yourself out of your flat or you've lost your keys (which happens more than you'd think...) The number to call will be posted around accommodation, so we recommend saving it into your phone in case you need it! Housekeeping staff help keep your accommodation clean and livable by cleaning the kitchen and bathroom. However, it is your responsibility to keep your flat to a reasonable standard and housekeeping staff are not expected to clean up after you!



Laundry



Both sites use Circuit Laundry. By downloading the app you'll be able to add money to your account and use the machines. The laundry rooms are located in Parson's Field Court and House 12.

Cuth's Library is right beside House 8 just slightly further down the Bailey and is a perfect spot for some more relaxed study when you don't want to walk all the way down to the Bill Bryson (Billy B). Complete with free biscuits and academic resources.





@CUTHS LIBRARY

LAUREN EVANS - SOCIETY LIBRARIAN librarian@cuths.com

I'm Lauren - this year's Society Librarian. As a 3rd Year English Student, what roles could be more fitting than books and writing, and none of it for my degree! I'm super excited to begin my role this year, whether that includes an entire library refurb, or simply popping books away! As Society Librarian, I manage the running of our very own college library on the Bailey - from organising volunteers, to ordering books and stocking biscuits.

The library is completely run by volunteers and have their own book club! Reach out to Lauren if you'd like to be involved in either.

The library consists of several different rooms including a main library, reading room, computer room and conference room. Printing is available in the library at the standard university rate. Books can be signed out (as you would expect). Also, the bathroom is supplied with free period products!



THE GYMS AND MUSIC ROOM

Cuth's boasts two gyms located on the Parson's Field site. The **cardio** gym is located at **Refounders** and the **weights** gym is in **Brooks**. To use the gym facilities, you must complete the gym induction which are provided throughout the year. The **Music Room** is in **Fonteyn Court** and we are currently looking for a Music Rep to maintain it!





CHLOE ZANDER - TECH MANAGER tech@cuths.com

Hey! I'm Chloe, a second year student in Politics and History (CHSS), and Cuth's Tech Manager. I'll be in charge of making sure everything involving our equipment, especially during events, runs smoothly and keeping the Green Machine tidy.

I'm from a town called Valbonne in the South of France. Outside uni and the JCR, I'm a big fan of music, and will probably be seen playing in Cuth's Bar with my band, Pink Lemonade. I also love theatre!

I'm really hoping to get more involved with Durham's theatre scene this year. I'm looking forward to working with the rest of the exec and meeting more Cuth's people!

The Tech Chair oversees our Music Rep and Gym Rep
These roles will be elected in the JCR meeting at the end of Freshers'
Week! If you are interested contact sro@cuths.com for more info!!

MUSIC EQUIPMENT LIST

- Upright piano
- Bass amp
- Guitar amp
- Microphone
- Mic stands
- Music stands
- Acoustic guitar
- Drum kit & drum accessories
- Bongos
- Keyboard
- Mixing desks
- All useful cables and extensions



The music room allows for a place to practice and perform by yourself or with others. Whether it be a band rehearsal for Cuth's Live or simply having fun after completing the induction the music room is free to use. There's also a Baby Grand Steinway Piano located in the Tom Percival Annex in Brooks!

THE BARS

An added bonus of being a dual site college is we have two bars. Bailey Bar is the busier of the two bars as it is in the perfect location to visit during a bar crawl. Bailey Bar has two darts boards, a projector to show sports games and large beer garden. Brooks Bar has a more chilled out vibe, but the open mic nights and pub quizzes can still get very lively! Brooks Bar has a pool table, darts board, Wii (with games including Mario Cart and Just Dance), card games and board games. Just ask the member of staff working for a board games or Wii games list or for them to set up the Wii.



As well as being a cheap spot for a quiet pint, the bar hosts many events and it's worth following the @cuthsbar account to make sure you know what's happening and when!

Each college bar has their own 'college drink' and Cuth's is no exception. Be sure to give a toad, frog or tadpole a try (we also have alcohol free versions)! As well as this Cuth's offers a 'Toad of the Week' so keep your eyes out for something new on the menu each week.



Whether you like a few pints or prefer a lemon and lime soda, the bars are a safe and inclusive environment to catch up with friends or meet new ones.

They can also be rented out for events such as birthdays... do with that what you will.



THE BARS

Keep an eye out for bar job openings — it's a competitive role to get, but it's well paid and a great way to earn alongside your studies!





@CUTHSBAR

SCARLET BARRAS BAR STEWARD cuthberts.barsteward@durham.ac.uk

Hi, I'm Scarlet and I am the Bar Steward for Cuth's bar(s). I studied Geology BSc here at Durham and graduated in June 2024. My role is to manage the two bars and help provide a safe and welcoming environment for everyone.

If you have any bar related questions, please get in touch cuthberts.barsteward@durham.ac.uk.

When I'm not behind the bar, you might spot me coxing for Cuth's or playing lead guitar in Durham's hottest band Pink Lemonade!

RECIPE FOR A TOAD/FROG:

- 12.5ml of Apple Corkeys (Sourz)
- 12.5ml of Vodka
- Green VK
- Topped up with lemonade (toad) or cider/larger (frog)



Try mixing different colour VK's with different flavours of corkeys to make different colour toads!

SPORTS AND SOCIETIES

At Cuth's we pride ourselves on our long constantly expanding list of sports and societies. Detailed below are the people to contact if you're interested in a certain sport or society but if you see something missing, please contact us and maybe you can be the president of something new.



@TEAMCUTHS

GEORGE GIBBENS - SPORTS AND SOCIEITIES CHAIR sports-and-socs@cuths.com

Hi, I'm George, your Sports & Societies Chair here at Cuths. Simply, I am the person who makes sure all of your extracurricular opportunities run smoothly (or at least tries). My job is to support all of our brilliant sports teams and societies: whether that's sorting pitch bookings at Maiden Castle, helping to organise fixtures, competitions and events, or just being the go-to person when things get a bit confusing. If it involves sport, performance, creativity, or even a society based around a strangely intense love of hummus; I'm here to help make it happen. I have thrown myself into just about everything Cuth's has to offer. Although I'm mainly a rugby player, I have strutted on the fashion show runway, appeared (questionably) in the Christmas panto, checked out on Bullseye (a few times) for Cuth's darts, and have let in more goals than I can count. It's been a whirlwind of games, events, late-night rehearsals, and probably one too many pints along the way; and now I'm here to help make sure your experience is just as full-on and fulfilling as mine's been. If you're keen to join something, try something new, or even start a society of your own, I'll do everything I can to support you along the way. I want your time at Cuth's to be as fun, fulfilling, and memorable as possible; whether that means joining a club you've loved for years or giving something completely random a go. If you ever have questions or just fancy a chat, I'm usually somewhere between the pitch, a committee meeting... but more often than not, having a pint in the bar.

CUTH'S SPORTS

Below is a selection of sports offered at Cuth's!

Badminton

Basketball

Boat club

Climbing

Croquet

Cricket

Darts

Football (Men's &

Women's)

Futsal

Golf

Hockey

Mixed Lacrosse

Netball

Pool

Rounders

Rugby (Men's &

Women's)

Running

Squash

Tennis

Ultimate Frisbee

Volleyball

Wildcats Cheer













SPORTS AND SOCIETIES







Your sport or society missing? Start it!

The JCR is committed to facilitating as many sports and societies as possible so contact us and we'll see what we can do!

Be sure to come to the Cuth's Freshers' Fair to be able to meet members of the team and find out more information.

Also check on instagram! Many of the sports and societies have their own pages and deserve a follow.

CUTH'S SOCIETIES

A list of some Cuth's societies!

12 South Theater
Art
Bean
Big Band
Choir
CHC Orchestra
Christian Union
Crochet
CRACAS
Feminist Society
F1
Gardening
LGBTQ+
Library
Wine and Cheese Appreciation











PARTICIPATION FUND

You must pay your levy to be eligible

The Participation Fund

What is it for:
Helps cover costs

Helps cover costs up to £200pp for sports & society activities for those who are in need of financial help

Covers:
Subs, nec

Subs, necessary equipment (eg: hockey stick, shin pads, etc), competition costs, required training courses

Doesn't Cover:

Stash/ Kit, anything that is already provided by the club, anything unrelated to Durham University

Eligibility:

It isn't means tested therefore if you find you're struggling to cover extra curricular costs, apply!!

Application:

Applications are released once in Michaelmas Term and once in Epiphany Term, @teamcuths has more info!



Applying for the Participation Fund – Top Tips

- List everything clearly Break down the subs and costs for each sport or society you want to join.
- Include equipment needs Mention any items you don't already own (e.g. badminton racket, football boots).
- Be specific Give actual prices or estimates rather than vague amounts.
- Prioritise Cuth's teams Funding preference goes to Cuth's sports/societies before DU (university-wide) ones.

Email fco@cuths.com if you have any questions!

EVENTS

Social Committee is responsible for organising, promoting, and running all of our major social events throughout the year. These include the Michaelmas Ball, the Feast of St Cuthbert, the Summer Ball, and Cuth's Day. They handle everything from planning to decorations, helping turn creative themes into great events for everyone to enjoy.



LILY LLOYD-WILLIAMS - SOCIAL CHAIR

events@cuths.com

Hiya! I'm Lily and I'm so excited to be your social chair for this year. I'm a second year History student and outside my role in the JCR I play both Cuth's tennis and hockey! My role, alongside the rest of the social committee, is to bring the various events throughout this year to life. I also work with the Head Frep organising the logistics of Freshers' Week, such as booking club events and deciding themes. Events are a huge and exciting part of life in Durham, with major Cuths events including Michaelmas Ball, Feast, Summer Ball and Cuth's Day.

SUPPORT FOR EVENTS

Event Accessibility Fund

What is it for:
Discounts for the Dinner tickets to either of the 3 JCRorganised balls for students on the Durham Grant

Tiers for 2024/2025:

Tier 1	£2,670.00	40% off
Tier 2	£2,136.00 - £2,669.00	25% off
Tier 3	£1,603.00 - £2,135.00	15% off
Tier 4	£1,070.00 - £1,602.00	10% off
Tier 5/6	£700.00 - £1,069.00	5% off

Application:
Submit a
reclaim after buying
your ticket, attach
evidence of your
Durham Grant
allocation, ticket
receipt and any
payment evidence
for the JCR Levy

Eligibility:

- · Receive the Durham Grant
- Feast, Michaelmas or Summer Ball DINNER ticket
- JCR Levy paying member!!

RECLAIMS

Reclaims can be done via cuths.com/reclaims or scan below!



Email Maddie fco@cuths.com if you're struggling submitting a reclaim!

BAILEY WARDROBE

The Bailey Wardrobe is a fantastic, curated collection of formal wear which are available for hire.

To hire an item, you must pay a £5 deposit and £15 cleaning fee.

Check out the Bailey Wardrobe instagram page- @bailey.wardrobe to find out when they are open and DM them with any questions!



We're looking for a Bailey Wardrobe Manager!
If you're interested contact sro@cuths.com

CUTH'S CALENDAR - MICHAELMAS

Michaelmas Term is your first term at Durham and one of the most exciting times of the year. It's packed with opportunities to settle in, meet new people, and experience everything Durham has to offer. It all kicks off with Freshers' Week — a full schedule of socials, taster sessions, and college events to help you find your feet. You'll take part in traditions like Matriculation, attend college formals, and maybe even go to your first Michaelmas Ball. Academically, the pace starts gently but picks up as the term goes on. As autumn turns to winter, Durham's historic setting feels especially magical, and by the end of term, you'll likely feel right at home.

SEPTEMBER							
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28	29	30					

OCTOBER							
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NOVEMBER								
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DECEMBER							
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28	29	30	31				

September is an easy month with only Freshers' Week in it and the Sports and Socs Fair on the 4th!

29th PG and International Students Formal 30th/3rd/6th Freshers' Formal

Term begins on the 6th of October!

14th Returners' Formal

28th Halloween Formal

18th Movember Formal

12 Days of Outreach will begin on the 1st of December and run for the last 12 days of term!

Christmas MEGA formal on 2nd December

Michaelmas ball is on 9th December and last year cost around £70 for a dinner ticket and £40 for an ents ticket.

Term ends on the 12th of December!

CUTH'S CALENDAR - EPIPHANY

Epiphany Term is when many students settle into life at Durham. You'll keep meeting new people and have the chance to get involved in new sports, societies, and college life. While there are still plenty of events — from formals and fashion shows to Fight Night — the focus often shifts more towards academics, with more summative assessments throughout the term. It's generally a bit quieter socially, but a great time to find balance and make the most of everything Durham has to offer.

JANUARY								
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		

Term begins on the 12th of January!

Refreshers will happen in the first few weeks of term

20th Burns' Night Formal

FEBRUARY								
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28		

3rd Halfway Formal

Feast of St Cuthbert is on Friday 20th February and last year the cost of a dinner ticket was approximately £45 and the cost of an ents ticket was £28

MARCH								
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
29	30	31						

17th St Patrick's Day Formal

Term ends on the 20th of March!

CUTH'S CALENDAR - EASTER

Easter Term is mostly focused on exams and revision, so the first half is quieter. But once exams are over, the fun really begins — with garden parties, picnics on the race course, college days, and summer balls filling the calendar. It's a great way to end the year and celebrate with friends in the sunshine.

APRIL								
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28	29	30				

Term begins on the 27th of April!

Sports and Societies photos take place on the first Saturday of term! The bar tends to be open all afternoon and is a nice way to catchup just after Easter holidays and before exams start!

MAY								
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	s		
					1	2		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30		

April and May can be stressful times with exams and summatives

5th May Day Formal

JUNE								
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	s		
31	1	2	3	4	5	6		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27		
28	29	30						

Around the first week of June we have Summer ball and last year cost £70 for a ticket.

2nd June Pride Formal

Then we have Cuth's Week, with lots of different events incuding Sports and Societies Formal on 16th ending with Cuth's Day on 19th costing £25 for a standard ticket and £29 for a late stay last year.

All prices are for JCR members, non JCR tickets will cost considerably more!

Term ends on the 26th of June.

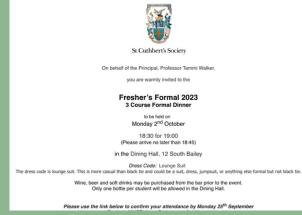
FORMALS

While traditionally college events, some formals are run by JCR personnel due to their theming. Formals happen throughout the year and your first experience of one will happen very soon. Here's some idea of what to expect:

HOW DO I KNOW A FORMAL IS HAPPENING AND WHAT DO I WEAR?

An invitation to the formal will be sent out via email that should look something like this -> After you've paid for your ticket, you will receive a confirmation email and you need to figure out to wear.

Most formals will be *lounge suit* which means you don't have to wear a bowtie or a gown but any formal wear will do. If your outfit can fit the theme even better!



ignore the dates this was for my freshers' formal!!



WHERE ARE THE FORMALS? WHAT IS THERE TO EAT AND DRINK?

Formals are held in the dining hall in 12 South Bailey which is fantastically close to the bar. Before the formal you will get the opportunity to buy a bottle of wine or a drink of your choice. Only drinks purchased at the bar can be brought into the dining hall.

The menu for the formal will usually be released with the invite and can vary.

WHAT THEMES ARE THERE?

Formals can be for a wide range of reasons. From national holidays like Halloween and Christmas to cultural celebrations like Burns' Night and St.

Patrick's Day.

As well as this the JCR run some formals like the Pride and International formal. Who can forget the Sports and Societies formal which acts doubly as an evening of awards.



TRADITIONS

An important part of Cuth's culture are the traditions. Branded as 'traditionally untraditional' our events are no different. Here are a few of the traditions you can expect to see at a Cuth's event:

NOTING

Noting is an exceptionally fun tradition once you get the hang of it and appears at all Cuth's related events!

During dinner notecards are distributed for you to write *positive* messages to those around you. Your message is preceded by a number of digs.

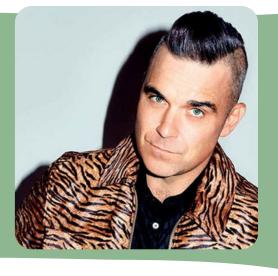
A dig (short for digit) is approximately measured by placing your forefinger level with your drink. Because we are a civilised society, you can only give out digs in quantities of 1 or 2, so if you wish to hand out more than that you must use basic addition. (Obviously, you are under no obligation to actually consume your beverage based on notes if you don't want to).

High Table are not supposed to know of the whole proceeding so subtlety is key and make sure not to pass notes while the catering staff are giving out or clearing up plates.

Miss. Thea Cave, BA (Hons)

2+1 digs for an extremely successful Freshers' Week and making it through Freshers' Week with all your sunglasses!

Sincerely, Miss. Louise Giles



ANGELS

Angels by Robbie Williams is a beloved song across the globe but nowhere is it more beloved than in Durham. The song will be heard at the end of a Jimmy's night out but also at our very own events.

The song is accompanied with a show of comradery as we all gather in a circle waiting for the end when we all come together in the middle and instead of loving 'angels' we are of course loving 'Cuthbert's'!

I AM SPARTACUS

Once High Table (invited guests of the formal) leave and the formal has just about ended someone (maybe even you) will stand up and announce 'I AM SPARTACUS' followed by them downing the remainder of their drink.

At this point someone else may retort that they are instead Spartacus and finish their drink.

This continues until no one else is willing to stand or all the drinks have been consumed.



FASHION SHOW

St. Cuthbert's Society Charity Fashion Show (or SCSCFS) is a brilliant event held in Epiphany term which utilises expression to bring awareness and support a cause. It's typically a black-tie event which features walks for different fashion styles.



LIAM JONES scscfs@cuths.com

Hey! I'm Liam, a second year French and Arabic student here at Cuth's. My role within the JCR is the SCSCFS (St Cuthbert's Society Charity Fashion Show) President. My role includes overseeing and organising the fashion show, running a team of people who, by working together, can produce a night to remember! I sit on a committee with the JCR President and Vice President. The fashion show encourages all Cuth's students, no matter age or experience, to get involved in something new! Of course, it's all for charity: a local cause which is decided by the exec. The fashion show is a big event: and there are many opportunities to get involved, through modelling, compèring, being on the fashion team, or being on the fundraising team! I hope to get as many

people involved as I can!











SCSCFS has plenty of opportunities to be involved through the role of model, compère, choreographer, organising sponsorships and fashion.

Last year, SCSCFS raised £10,000 for the charity DASH, and sold out within hours.

The event itself is a fantastic night out and it's always great to go and support your friends.

MICHAELMAS BALL

Michaelmas Ball is THE event to wrap up a very successful first term.

A black-tie dinner followed by amusements and live music; Michaelmas Ball is held at an external venue somewhere in County Durham which you get the bus out to.

After what may seem a long walk to the bus pickup (and a slightly buzzed bus ride) you will arrive, and the evening events will proceed.

The event is heavily discounted for JCR members and a wonderful spot to get photos you can show your family when you head home for the holidays or to make memories you can keep for over the Christmas break.

Wrap up warm during the Durham December for the walks to and from the bus and make sure to keep an eye out for the ticket release in October/November!



FEAST



Feast is the Epiphany term event and takes place in house. It's a good way to break up what can be a summative intense term.

The ticket cost of Feast is cheaper than the balls as well as the cost of drinks being considerable better (thank you Cuth's bar)!

Themes have included Pop Art,
Disco and Candy Land and with the
event not being black tie there's a
better opportunity to dress for the
theme!

Every event at Cuth's is attended by another college's welfare team incase an issue should come up during the festivities. You can find out where welfare by using @cuthswelfare on Instagram.

A lot of the stalls and amusements are run by our very own volunteers and SocialComm for a further discount on their ticket price!

SUMMER BALL



Summer Ball is the biggest event in the Cuth's calendar and aptly happens just after exams usually in early June.

It's a similar event to Michaelmas
Ball in many ways with rides, live
music and a 3-course meal but the
big differences are the weather and
the freedom from academia.

Follow @cuthsevents on instagram to see when tickets go live and be quick! These events always sell out.

Both events are themed which affects the decor and notecards. Previous years have seen a Venetian Summer, Midsummer Night's Dream and Sicilian Summer Ball!

Each event also operates as a fundraiser for charity which is calculated into your ticket price.

Ticket price breakdowns are available if you're curious as to how we work out the costs.

CUTH'S DAY



My personal favourite of the events we put on, Cuth's day is the last event of the year during the closing weeks of term.

On Cuth's day we ditch the suits and all wear Cuth's day t-shirts.

The doors open at 10am and the event happens across the House 12 and 8 gardens. With live music playing all throughout the day on the outdoor stage and attractions in the JCR, dining hall and House 8 there's always something to be at throughout!

The bar also starts doing their summer drinks menu which is an absolute treat.

There's always the opportunity to pop home during the day for a nap or something to eat but food is provided in the dining hall and by food trucks.

Just a beautiful day of drinking, laughing and enjoying the Sun.

The event closes with a stacked silent disco and those of us still standing at 2am then make the trek up to Observatory Hill to watch the sunrise.

COLLEGE PERSONNEL

College is an essential part of the functioning of St Cuthbert's Society and the student experience. From student support to organising accommodation, having an idea who college staff are and what they do is good knowledge to have.

NOTE: College creates their very own 'Guide to Life at Cuth's' with even more detail on the role and responsibilities of college as well as lots more information! Definitely worth checking out!!





The role of the principal is to oversee all the actions of college internally as well as promoting the college externally.
The role also involves strategically developing college and ensuring a quality student experience.

Professor Tammi Walker is Principal of Cuth's and Professor of Forensic Psychology. She leads the college and works closely with students, staff, and alumni to shape an outstanding experience. She is a Chartered Psychologist and former mental health nurse. She has a national profile and is passionate about justice, wellbeing, and inclusion.

The principal can be reached through the email: cuthberts.reception@durham.ac.uk

VICE-PRINCIPAL

Dr Matthew Mills is Vice-Principal of Cuth's, working with the Principal and student officers to enhance your experience and foster a culture in which all can thrive. Earlier this year, he launched 'Evergreen', Cuth's unique enrichment programme, designed to spark curiosity, creativity, and compassion. A first-generation graduate from the North East, Matthew is passionate about access and the lifelong value of college community. He is also an academic theologian, whose latest publication explores the idea of goodness in the philosophy of Iris Murdoch.

The vice-principal can be reached through the email: <u>matthew.mills@durham.ac.uk</u>



COLLEGE PERSONNEL

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dr Lydia Harris is Assistant Principal of Cuth's and your key contact for student support and welfare. She works closely with the JCR Welfare Team and leads on personal wellbeing—no issue is too small. Together with a background in Classical Studies and Theatre, Lydia is also a medieval historian, with interests in gender, medicine, and sexuality. She's always happy to talk—whether about coursework, challenges, or your latest puzzle. Reach out whenever you need support.

The assistant principal can be contacted through the email: cuthberts.studentsupport@durham.ac.uk





THE SCR

The role of the SCR (Senior Common Room) is to bring together academics and others, including people from the local community, to enjoy fellowship together and to enhance the academic culture of the college community.

DR FIONA GAEMSON - SCR PRESIDENT cuthberts-scr-president@durham.ac.uk

As President of the SCR, I am keen to expand the range of our activities and especially to promote interactions with members of the JCR. Please look out for invitations to SCR events and feel free to contact me if you have ideas for joint projects. I look forward to meeting many of you over the coming year.





If you want to expand your horizons wider than just the Cuth's experience the SU is the place to do so!

While the building itself is the subject of some abuse, the SU provide a number of other societies and sports to be involved in- including the opportunity to be a DU athlete and represent the university.

The SU also provides significant support to students and have frequent discussions with the university in order to better the student experience and have our voices heard.

I'll put down some of the societies you could be involved in but be sure to check out the SU Freshers'

Fair held during Freshers' Week in Maiden Castle!

YOUR OFFICERS







The SU houses nine associations dedicated to representing different groups of students. Operating under the aims of community and campaigning the associations are open to those who identify with the groups.

The associations are run by elected students (much like the JCR) and are easy to get involved with through the SU website.



International Students'
Association



LGBTQ+ Association



Durham Estranged and Care Experienced Association



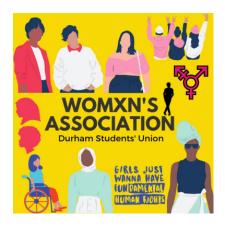
Mature Students' Association



Disabilities and Carers
Association



People of Colour Association



Durham Womxn's Association



Trans Association



Working Class Students'
Association

Team Durham

Team Durham runs both college sport competitions and university sport. Some people will already have been contacted about pre-season training with a university team, but there will hopefully also be try-outs in Freshers' Week, which you shouldn't be afraid to get involved with. The elusive title of 'DU athlete' awaits with so many different sports to be involved in.



SU Societies

While Cuth's has loads of societies and you can find new ones quite easily, the SU has over 250 societies, so you can find a student group for almost any interest, from Catholicism to Calisthenics. You can find an incredibly long list of these on the SU website or come along to the Freshers' Fair and be bombarded by booths!



Music Durham

Music Durham is an umbrella organisation for university music societies. They have a weekly newsletter which advertises auditions, concerts, and workshops. They run loads of auditioned and non-auditioned ensembles across the classical and jazz spectrums, so get involved!



Palatinate

This is the official student newspaper and it's always looking for new writers, editors and online content managers. Keep an eye out for vacancies and also the free copies, which are handed out in our JCRs and all-around Durham. The Palatinate have a wide variety of news coverage and may have a niche for your particular authorial interest.



Visit durhamsu.com or scan the QR code for more information about the work of the SU and what they can offer you!





DUCK

Durham University Charities Kommittee is the fundraising arm of the SU. They support students to raise hundreds of thousands of pounds each year for over 200 charities, as well as organising a huge range of events and expeditions around the world.



& Outreach

DU Volunteering & Outreach

DUVSO is a student-led, community-focused volunteering organisation which responds to the needs of the local communities in Durham, and gives opportunities for the students of the university. It's a great way to gain experience and meet people.



Purple Radio

Purple Radio is the Durham Student Radio Service, and has something for everyone, from in-depth discussions with high-profile guests, to environmental documentaries. If you'd like to get involved in radio, be it in tech, production, on air or much more, they'd love to have you on board.



Durham Student Theatre

DST is an umbrella organisation for the ~25 theatre companies in Durham. It's a union for about 700 members who love the performing arts, and signing up for it will make sure you are informed of auditions and offstage opportunities throughout your university career. The theatre societies range from being related to college to university wide and often specify in a certain genre.



Palatinalps

Palatinalps is the UK's largest single-university snow sports event. Every year, over 1,500 Durham Students make the pilgrimage to France for a week of Alpine Antics. While tickets can be quite dear, people do seem to really enjoy it, both on and off the slopes.

Visit durhamsu.com or scan the QR code for more information about the work of the SU and what they can offer you!



OTHER COLLEGES

With Durham University's unique collegiate status comes its fair share of friendly rivalries, college drinks and trivia about other colleges. Hopefully this will give a brief overview of what the other colleges bring to life at Durham.



COLLINGWOOD

Collingwood is notorious for their sporting prowess. Their F team could compete nationally whereas our F team no longer exists. Their players won't be seen competing at the annual Hill v. Bailey rugby match however as they 'don't want to reveal team strategies'.





GREY

While the name may seem dull it proved less controversial than the original choice of 'Oliver Cromwell College'. 8 months after opening Grey College unfortunately burnt down but in the spirit of its mascot, the phoenix, it dutifully rose from the ashes.





HATFIELD

Cuth's and Hatfield have a long running rivalry to which our mascot stands tribute. Many years ago, our bravest students ventured into Hatfield and captured their solid wood lion mascot. To avoid being caught the lion was then painted as a tiger and our mascot was born... or so the story goes.





JOHN SNOW

I promise you whatever John Snow you are thinking of the college is not named after THAT one. After their move from Stockton their new snow themed bar is well worth a visit. Featuring iced glasses, it's perfect during the summer and less so when winter is coming.





JOSEPHINE BUTLER

The Mound. Anyways, Butler is an inclusive and progressive college like its namesake the 19th century feminist and social reformer. Much to their dismay the college is colloquially known as 'JoBo'. It's not everyone else's fault it rolls off the tongue so easily!



OTHER COLLEGES



SOUTH

As the newest edition to Durham's repertoire, South has not had the time to establish enough trivia. Its name comes from the fact it's south of the city centre. Their mascot's name is Oswald T. Owl... guess what animal it is. Though I'm sure they're okay with that from their perfectly heated, furbished and en suite bedrooms.





ST AIDAN'S

Aidan's remains mysterious to me. There are too many stairs for me to have ever ventured up that far but it does have the moniker 'The Rainbow College'. Now this is selfdetermined but it's good to see they have pride either way.





ST CHAD'S

Chad's is the smallest of the Durham colleges but first let me address the crest. As Chad's is a recognised college rather than part of the university this shoddy JPEG was all I could find. Notably, outside of Chad's is the Chad's tree which has become a jumping challenge for many walking home down the Bailey late at night.





ST HILD & ST BEDE

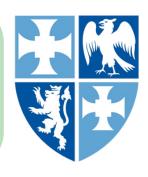
The old and beautiful Hild Bede won't actually house anyone this year instead Hild Bede has moved into Rushford Court. Inching closer and closer towards becoming a hill college.





ST JOHN'S

John's is the second recognised college by the university and Cuth's closest neighbour. They are our closest neighbours on the Bailey and we are jealous of their free laundry. If you are to go to their bar, I would leave your heels and tall friends at home.



OTHER COLLEGES



ST MARY'S

The first and closest hill college to Cuth's on the Bailey; they have a newly renovated bar (0000). The 'Mary's Mile' remains a popular Cuth's challenge and may be reason enough to go.



STEPHENSON

After walking 20-25 minutes to Stevo bar you will arrive at 'Platform 1'- the railway themed bar. Not to be confused with 'Platform 2' - their performance space - or 'Platform 3'their study space and library. This raises the question of whether the theming is creative or just a method to simplify their naming process.





Upsettingly I spent most of my first year only knowing Trev's as a series of hexagons but it's actually multidimensional. They have some fantastic music events, great college drinks and their toastie bar is spectacular. Yet all you'll hear about Trev's is the hexagons.



UNIVERSITY

The confusingly named University College is better known as Castle which is still a confusing name because most students end up not living within the castle itself. Castle bar is located underneath the castle itself and a brilliant spot to wow your non-Durham friends.



USTINOV

The postgraduate college. Ustinov is filled with very hardworking individuals looking to further their academic qualifications. Although this won't stop you hearing rumours of Ustinov Spear Fishing out on a bar crawl on a Wednesday night.



VAN MILDERT

Last but not least, Mildert is known for its lake and promotional video "Van Mildert Open Days 2015!" While writing this I've discovered the lengths someone has went to keep the Mildert Wikipedia page up to date, so I'll signpost you to that for further reading. That's real college pride.









LOCAL COMMUNITY

University is a fantastic opportunity to experience a new place and have fun doing so but it's important to remember that for a lots of people Durham is where they live and work.

It's important to respect the place so many people call home and it's worth seeing as much of it as possible while you're here. While Durham has a massive student population there's still a completely different side to life here.



EXPLORING DURHAM

Durham is a truly beautiful city with a lot of fantastic walking (or running) routes. Be sure to explore down by the river which takes you right around the city.

There's a number of local coffee spots as well as chains which are great for meeting up with people or just a quiet spot to work outside of Cuth's library or the Billy B.

The train station is about a 20 minute walk from both Parson's and the Bailey and has regular trains to Newcastle which is perfect for day trips to museums, art galleries, more eateries or nights out.

It's about a 40 minute walk to the bigger supermarkets located in Gilesgate which may seem like quite the trek but there's always the option of the local buses which are relatively cheap and handy or maybe you'll be lucky enough to have a mate with a car.

The cathedral is absolutely worth having a look around as well as the market which happens weekly in the city centre.

NIGHTLIFE

Durham having a high student population has its fair share of nightclubs and bars and you'll quickly pick up on when to go to where. A lot of clubs sell tickets using the Fixr app so that may be worth downloading. You'll get a good sense of what the different clubs are like during Freshers' Week with the Freshers' club wristband.



GOOD LUCK!

Starting university is a big change, but it can also be incredibly fulfilling. St Cuthbert's Society is a great place to dive into everything student life has to offer.

Freshers' Week is just the beginning - it's a great way to meet people, get involved with the JCR, and start figuring out what university means to you. But remember, it's only one of many chances you'll have to get involved.

Over time, both during your first year and beyond, you'll continue to learn, grow, and experience so much at Durham.



Be open to new experiences, speak to people you don't know, and try not to stress too much. University is a key part of your journey, but it's not a race - your career will still be there when you're ready.

And if you're ever feeling overwhelmed or unsure about what to do, don't be afraid to ask for help.

There's plenty of support out there, and reaching out can really make a difference.























Good luck! I'll hopefully get to meet a lot of you in person during your time at Cuth's. Feel free to come and say hey!

BLEED GREEN!!!

CONTACTS

See below for college staff contact information as well as other useful contacts that you may need during your time at Cuth's.

College Principal

Professor Tammi Walker

Vice Principal

Dr Matthew Mills matthew.mills@durham.ac.uk

24/7 RSA

0191 334 3470

Bailey Reception

Kevin Booth Joanne Franklin 0191 334 3400

Assistant Principal (Student Support)

Dr Lydia Harris cuthberts.reception@durham.ac.uk cuthberts.studentsupport@durham.ac.uk.

SCR President

Dr Fiona Gaemson cuthberts.scr-president@durham.ac.uk

College Operations Manager

Philip Atkinson p.g.atkinson@durham.ac.uk

Brooks Reception

Kath Randell Louise Smith 0191 334 6596

Students' Union Information

info@durhamsu.com

University Counselling Service

counsel.service@durham.ac.uk

Disability Support

disability.support@durham.ac.uk

Students' Union Advice Service

dsu.advice@durham.ac.uk

IT Service Desk

itservicedesk@durham.ac.uk

Nightline

0191 334 6444



CONTACTS

Detailed below you'll find an extensive list of contacts for the different JCR officers! If you have any questions and aren't sure who to direct them towards, please email vice-president@cuths.com and I'll redirect you from there.

President

Thea Cave (she/her) president@cuths.com

Treasurer

Maddie Lewis-Jones (she/her) fco@cuths.com

Vice-President

Louise Giles (she/her) vice-president@cuths.com

Senior Welfare Officer

Cara Cahill (she/her)
senior-welfare@cuths.com

Social Chair

Lily Lloyd-Williams (she/her) events@cuths.com

Sports and Socs Chair

George Gibbens (he/him) sports-and-socs@cuths.com

Outreach Chair

Molly Tait (she/her) outreach@cuths.com

Publicity Officer

Kathiane Toure (she/her) publicity@cuths.com

SU Officer

Maddy Frank (she/her) su-officer@cuths.com

Librarian

Lauren Evans (she/her) librarian@cuths.com

JCR Chair

Jasper Yeung (he/him) chair@cuths.com

Tech Chair

Chloe Zander (she/her) tech@cuths.com

Development Officer

Alex Haworth development@cuths.com

Head Frep

Kate Ponter (she/her) headfrep@cuths.com

SRO

Gabriel Cairns-Thomas (they/them) sro@cuths.com

Student Trustees

Saf Ghafoor (she/her) Caleb Ross (he/they)

Male Welfare Officer

Benedict Porter (he/him) male-welfare@cuths.com

Female Welfare Officer

Eden Cottrell (she/her) female-welfare@cuths.com

Welfare Officer

Evan Kelly (he/him) welfare-officer@cuths.com

Communities Chair

Charli James (she/her) communities-chair@cuths.com

International Students' Rep

Cindy Wang (she/her) international@cuths.com

Local Students' Rep

Chloe Shannon (they/he) local.students.rep@cuths.com

SwD Rep

Luca Whittle (they/them) swd-rep@cuths.com

Placement Rep

Ferdinand Ameyaw (he/him) placementrep@cuths.com

Year Abroad Rep

Rosie Sibbald (she/her) yearabroadrep@cuths.com

POC Rep

poc-rep@cuths.com

Gym Manager

cuth berts. gym @cuths. com

LGBTQ+ Rep

lgbt-rep@cuths.com

Working Class Rep

wcs-rep@cuths.com



CONTACTS



We have an incredible number of instagram accounts and you absolutely don't have to follow them all but I'll list a few below and briefly describe how they operate!

To see a full list of Cuth's related accounts please check the @cuthsjcr instagram!

- @cuthsicr updates from across the JCR!
- @cuthsevents ticket releases, event information and wristband collection times
- @cuths_welfare information about welfare and campaigns
- @cuthslibrary library updates, including book club!
- @cuths.pres updates from Thea on what she's been up to
- @cuths_jcr_elections information on upcoming elections and JCR meetings
- @cuths.outreach information about outreach, volunteering and fundraising

Our Facebook is also a huge source of information especially regarding JCR meetings and elections.

NOTE: You'll probably have been invited to a number of 'Freshers' groups' on Facebook- these have no affiliation with college or the JCR.



www.cuths.com



Check out our website for more information and updates!

Cuth's JCR
Cuth's Elections
Team Cuth's
Cuth's Outreach Committee
Cuth's JCR Welfare
Cuth's Bar
Cuth's Library
St Cuthbert Society's Fashion Show
Cuth's Music
St Cuthbert's Society - Durham University
Cuth's Lgbtq+
Cuth's Anti-Racism Society