

St Chad's College University of Durham



SENIOR COMMON ROOM

Information for Members

The Senior Common Room of St Chad's College, Durham exists to further the aims and objectives of the College, the College's aims and objectives being:

- (i) To advance education, learning, religion and research within the College in accordance with the principles of the Church of England;
- (ii) To provide a College for persons who shall be members of the University of Durham wherein they may work for degrees and other qualifications of the University of Durham (including, in particular, advancing the education, spiritual and moral welfare of students enrolled at the College).

General Enquiries (College Office): 0191 334 3358
College email: chads@dur.ac.uk
Website: www.stchads.ac.uk

Membership of the Senior Common Room

The following are *ex officio* members of the Senior Common Room: the Chair of the Governing Body of the College, the Principal and other College Officers, College Fellows, College Tutors, College staff of graduate status, members of the academic and academic-related staff of the University resident in the college. Members of the Governing Body of the College are also *ex officio* honorary members of the Senior Common Room.

Others may from time to time be elected to membership or to honorary membership by the Senior Common Room.

A subscription is levied on members other than *ex officio* members which currently stands at £15.00 per member. The subscription for the academic year must be paid by 31st October and names will be removed from the membership list for non-payment if payment is not received by the end of the following March..

The Senior Common Room

Members are welcome to make use of the Common Room (situated off the main entrance foyer) unless it has been booked for a college event or by an external user. You can check availability with the College Office and, when it is not open, a key can be obtained from the College Secretary or a porter.

SCR members are welcome to borrow books from the College Library in accordance with the standard rules of the Library.

SCR members are able to purchase wine from the JCR Cellar which is open before Formal dinners.

The College Bar is situated below the Junior Common Room, with the quad bar also open on some occasions. They are administered by the JCR during term time and, by permission of the Principal, SCR members may patronise them.

Social Events

Formal meals are good opportunities for members to meet together. "SCR Conversations" are arranged before formal dinner on an occasional basis and are open to members of all common rooms, as are other events, such as the postgraduate research forums. After dinner, members adjourn to the Senior Common Room where port and cheese and coffee are served and the evening adopts a more informal style. Each term one of the formal meals is designated a "special SCR formal" (at an additional charge) and members are particularly encouraged to attend on these evenings.

The Officers of the Senior Common Room are always keen to hear members' ideas for other activities which may be of interest to the Common Room.

Currently, there are approximately 250 members of the Senior Common Room of St Chad's College (including all Fellows, Governors and Tutors) and it is hoped that all members will actively participate in the Common Room as a mark of their support of, and enthusiasm for, the ethos of this unique academic institution.

Formal Meals

The College dines in formal style on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7.30 p.m. during term time. Members of the Senior Common Room may dine on High Table and are required to wear academic gowns. Members may invite a maximum of two guests to accompany them. Members (and their guests) meet in the Senior Common Room from 7.00 p.m. onwards for drinks.

Formal meals are charged at £10.50 (except special formal meals, of which notice is given, which are charged at £18.00). For those who opt out of having any alcoholic drinks before, during and after dinner (gin/sherry, wine at table, port), a reduction of £4.00 will be made (£6.00 for special formals). Opting out is only possible at the time of booking. Members can attend three formals per term, plus the special and combination formals (the latter having no High Table and SCR members sit with the other Common Rooms). Members will be notified on Thursday if there are places free at the subsequent week's formals - signing up in this case is exempt from the three formal limit.

Places can be booked by contacting Michelle Smith (formerly Francis) on 0191 3343337, or by email at chads.admin@durham.ac.uk by 11.00 a.m. on the day of the dinner - notifying any specific dietary requirements and the names of any guests at the same time. Cancellations should also be notified by 11.00 a.m. or you may be charged. Members are advised to book early for the termly Special Formal and mega-formal (which uses both the main dining hall and the quad) in order to avoid disappointment.

College Meals

SCR members may dine in College on any other occasion during term time. Lunch is served every day at 12pm and supper is served at 6.00pm from Monday to Friday and at 5.30p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Lunch is charged at £4.50 and dinner at £5.25.

College Guest Rooms

There are two guest rooms and SCR members may book one or other of them for the use of guests. During term time, bed and breakfast is charged from £30. Please enquire at the College Office. Outside term time, full commercial rates apply, and more rooms are available.

College Chapel

On Sundays, the principal act of worship is the Eucharist at 11.00 a.m. It is celebrated in the modern Catholic manner and the College Choir sings.

Choral Evensong is also sung in the Chapel as advertised on the Chapel Card. SCR members who are dining on these evenings are encouraged to attend the service before moving to the SCR for drinks at 7.00 p.m. before dinner.

Details of all services and times can be found in the Chapel Card.

Officers of the Senior Common Room

President	Mr Colin Ferguson
Secretary	Ms Jenny Parker
Treasurer	Mr Mark Roberts
Representative on Governing Body	Ms Sue Shaw

Senior Common Room Meetings

The Senior Common Room meets once a term at which business is discussed and social arrangements are made. The meeting which falls in the Easter Term is also the Annual General Meeting.