

The Badger

(The festive special)



EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to the third edition of the Badger! The Festive Special. Here we are, at the end of term, on the cusp of enjoying a 4 week break. I hope you have all had fun-filled first terms and have lots of stories to report back to your friends and families.



In this edition, there is a strong Christmas theme throughout. If you are struggling to get into the festive spirit, after flicking through these pages you'll feel more Christmassy than a roasted pine-cone, covered in snow, listening to Mariah Carey.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this edition. I would just like to remind you that anyone can contribute to the Badger! Add the Badger on St Aidan's and watch out for content calls for the opportunity to be featured next time! Or email secretary@st-aidans.com to find out more.

I find that December is the best time to go on walks! Please let me encourage you to really explore Durham in these last two weeks. Climb Observatory Hill, wander into the Bluebell woods next to Maiden Castle, and absorb the merry atmosphere in Durham centre.

I hope you all enjoy the last two weeks of term and have relaxed and merry Christmas breaks. Remember to wear a scarf, wear an extra layer, and sleep! xoxo

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The 5 PEOPLE of Lumiere

Unless you've been living under a rock these past few weeks, you will be well aware of the Lumiere hype buzzing around Durham. The spectacular festival of lights returned to fill the streets of Durham with twinkling instalments ready to be admired by nearly 200,000 people. If you had the opportunity to experience the magic, you may have bumped into one of the many types of people you find at Lumiere, let's explore shall we?

(1) The INSTAGRAMMER

Let's face it, anyone with a social media account is the Instagrammer. Who doesn't want a pic of one of the prettiest nights in Durham on their profile? Um...it's art? However, the problem appears when the perfect snap has been achieved but there's a desperate scramble to choose the exact amount of saturation, the most aesthetically pleasing filter paired with the wittiest of captions to match. You inevitably are left behind by your friends who got bored 7 pics in, meaning you then spent the next half an hour shouting down the phone in an attempt to reunite just for you to do it



(2) The PRAMMER

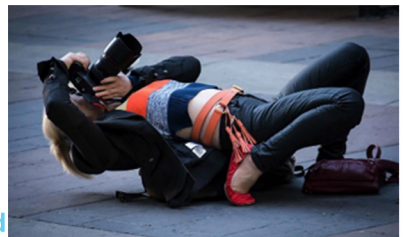
This is very specific visitor, an individual bringing a small child to see the pretty lights, that's all chill and I can live with that. The issue arises when this individual uses the pram wielding child as some sort of human battering ram, taking down visitors

one toe at a time. No one is safe in the path of the prammer- except those who sport steel capped boots on the reg.

(3) The PHOTOGRAPHY Dad

The unsung heroes of Lumiere. Their partner panic bought them a semi-professional camera for their birthday because they mentioned not liking the quality of their iPhone 6 camera that one time now they're convinced they're the next David

Bailey. It's cute, they're capturing the playful days of their toddler before the years wiz by and they become an angry teenager, hell bent on taking down the bourgeoisie. However, the photography dad doesn't really know what he's doing and just attempts to look the part by kneeling down for that perfect angle, when we all know the camera is 100% out of focus or the lens cap is still on.



(4) The CONNOISSEUR

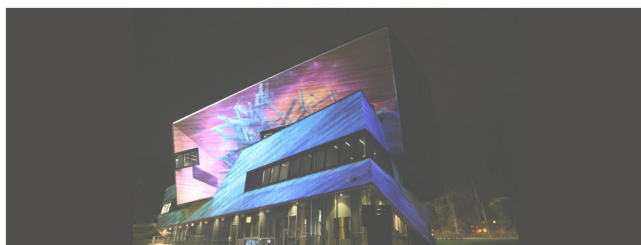
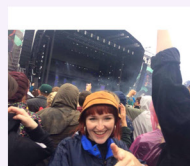
Lumiere is an event celebrating the remarkable work of many artists, we all appreciate that but there always one who takes the appreciation just that one step further. You overhear them obnoxiously stating 'I just get it' whilst staring at the trees on the Bailey, illuminated by a single red light...we all could replicate that one with one trip to B&Q! Pipe down.



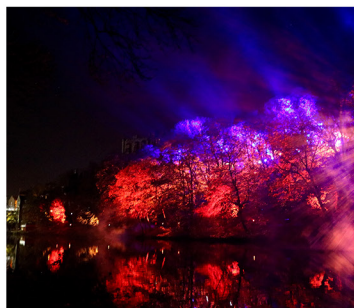
(5) The Dawdler

The non-ticketed slot, post 7:30pm, didn't allow for a strong power walk but definitely let all the dawdlers out of their cave. It was as if Lumiere was an enormous beacon waking them from their slumber, calling them to the centre of Durham. A steady paced group trundled across the Elvet Bridge ready to see what Lumiere had to offer until it was brought to a standstill because a man had slowed to record breaking snail pace in order to read his £2 map. Look up Derek, the installation is right next to you! God bless the dawdler, tripping people up by abruptly stopping in their tracks to tie their lace or suddenly turning around to go against the flow in an attempt to reach the lightsabers kart like some sort of novelty gift crazed salmon- God bless you.

by EMILY HARRISON



L e O
U R I
M e T
i 2





by Abi
FRENCH



DURHAM-STAGRAM

So, here you are in Durham. There's no Primark, no McDonalds (no globalisation either tbh, down with the corporations) and not much to do at the weekends. However, one thing Durham definitely has going for it is its instagrammability (#neology). Here's a ranking of the top Instagram spots from me, a seasoned veteran of the iconic Cathedral snap.

1. FRAMWELLGATE BRIDGE ***

One of the best views Durham has to offer, the perfect blend of man's architectural prowess and nature at its finest is enough to bring a tear to the eye of any Nat Geo photographer. The main problem with this setting is it's overdone - we've seen it all before from ten other followers. This means that your caption game has to be extra strong to compensate for the deficit in your originality elsewhere. May the odds be ever in your favour.

AN oldie but a goodie



THE ROMANCE OF THE SETTING
CAN ADMITTEDLY BE OVERWHELMING



2. OBSERVATORY HILL *****

I would recommend this location during summer - a revision break to take some piccies at sunset can be a visual acknowledgement that there's more to life than the library stacks. When you're craving home and hating summatives, toddle up Observatory Hill to remind yourself that actually, Durham isn't really that bad

3. Aidan's STEPS **

I get oddly competitive when I start mounting the steps at the same time as a stranger. I have to prove that I AM up to the job as I desperately try to suppress my borderline hyperventilation and maintain my calm exterior. Often however, I just tap out and use “taking a photo” as an excuse to recover from sweating like a pig. Thankfully the view IS instaworthy so my disguise is a good one. Apart from the fact that I’ve just blown it.

AUTUMNAL SCENES (WITH THE SOUNDTRACK OF MY NOSTRIL BREATHING)



4. Flat White *****

Some may consider Flat White to be a clichéd choice for this article, but to those haters I merely say...don't be jealous of how good my poached eggs look on this “rustic” wooden table. People may roll their eyes at your insta story, turn up their noses at your snapchats...but you're the one eating the cool looking buttermilk pancakes with the hip potted plants behind you, so feel free to plaster it all over the internet. Treat yo self.

IF YOU DIDN'T INSTA THE BRUNCH...DID THE BRUNCH EVEN HAPPEN?

5. Aidan's JCR *

We love the JCR. We really do. But it is a truth universally acknowledged that the lighting in the beating heart of our college is quite honestly horrible. Every classic group photo quickly snapped on someone's phone during a formal will inevitably be met with incredulity and distress from at least 3 of the people in the picture. While the novelty value of the grubby domes is difficult to downplay, they're doing nothing for MY SELFIES. Get that flash on and get yourself to the Plodge or the Bailey Room where you can really stand a chance of racking up some likes.

ME LOOKING GOOD IN THE BAILEY ROOM



HERE ENDETH THE MASTERCLASS. Make good use of your final weeks here (and the snow) and get your David Bailey on x

by Isabel Watkins



HOW TO GET INTO THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT FROM YOUR BEDROOM

We've all been there. The 1st December rolls around and you are supposed to be consumed by excitement for Christmas; but you just can't get hyped like normal. With temperatures at sub-zero levels, why bother leaving the embrace of your radiator; when this problem can be remedied from the comfort of your bed.

ORIGINAL SONGS

We all know Last Christmas and Silent Night but, if you're not quite feeling festive cheer quite yet, some original choices might be the just inspiration you need.

1. Ho Ho Ho (Sia)

Celebrating the party side of Christmas festivities, Ho Ho Ho (as with most of Sia's Christmas album) is catchy, energetic and merry. Must be listened to at full volume.

2. Lil SNOWMAN (MARIAH CAREY)

50s inspired rock 'n' roll Christmas track written to accompany new animated film "All I Want For Christmas Is You" and filled to the brim with festive cheer.

3. Say all you want for Christmas (NICK JONAS AND SHANIA TWAIN)

A romantic country-pop duet that unexpectedly works and is sure to melt your icy heart.

4. You make it feel like Christmas (GWEN STEFANI AND BLAKE SHELTON)

Another duet with something of a country twang but much more upbeat and easy to dance to so a definite must for a Christmas party playlist.

5. Finally it's Christmas (HANSON)

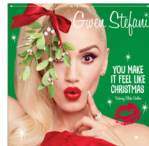
A fun, feel good Christmas banger that's easy to sing along to and will make you really, genuinely happy that Christmas have finally arrived.

6. Christmas c'mon (LINDSAY STIRLING AND BECKY G)

This cheery, sparkly pop song with its violin accompaniment is the perfect choice to put a spring in your step on the way to 9am lectures.

7. Perfect (Ed Sheeran) Music Video

Not so much the song as the music video, set in a winter paradise, that evokes all the cosy feelings of Christmas (and excitement for the prospect of snow).



CHRISTMAS ON NETFLIX

Netflix truly epitomises the student entertainment experience so how better to get into the festive spirit than to dive into Christmas film. Admittedly, I don't rate Netflix's movie selection but they have a few Christmas classics that will just about do.



1. Love, Actually (as of 14 December - but if you're not in the spirit by then you're frankly a lost cause): does it really need justifying?

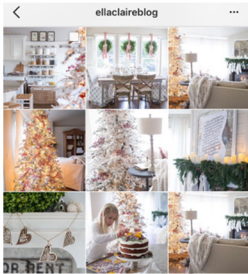
2. Blackadder's Christmas Carol: not strictly a film but a classic, twisted British comedy that will always be hilarious. Pure genius.

3. Arthur Christmas: when better than Christmas to feel like a child again with this clever and heart-warming animation.

4. Miracle on 34th Street: an oldie but a goodie and definitely worth a watch.

INSTAGRAM ACCOUNTS

If you're still feeling Grinch-like, these Instagram aesthetics should fill you with the warm feelings necessary to psyche yourself for the 25th.



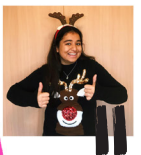
CHRISTMAS CRACKER JOKEs

Of course, they're terrible. We all know that. But nothing says Christmas quite like a terrible cracker joke. You really can't help but laugh, even if it is usually preceded by a groan.

- Why didn't the skeleton go to the Christmas party? Because he had no body to go with.
- What did Adam say the day before Christmas? It's Christmas Eve.
- How does Jack Frost get to work? By ice-icle.
- What do you get when you cross a lion with a snowman? Frostbite.
- What do monkeys sing at Christmas? Jungle bells, jungle bells.
- Why are Christmas trees so bad at sewing?

They always drop their needles.

by Saya Taneja



FESTIVE HOT CHOCS AND CUP DESIGNS OF 2017: How did They do?

A WAY TO PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS...

I had never been into buying festive drinks, until one lecture early in the morning: instead of focusing on the lecturer, my eyes were woken up from noticing on a girl's desk, a Starbucks coffee cup. Not just any, but the new flamboyant festive edition. My quest to try every festive drink in their seasonal design had begun. This quest has now turned into an urge to rank each drink based on design and taste. Please read on for more insight on this year's Christmas hot chocolates...

STARBUCKS: FUDGE HOT CHOCOLATE (£3.40 WITH CREAM)

This was my first festive hot choc, and indeed I was very excited, more for keeping the cup than the hot chocolate itself. It was shining out with gold flakes on top of the 'snowy' whipped cream, (how festive indeed). The cute red and white doodles of baubles, snowflakes and presents definitely set up the feel for Christmas, so that's a tick. However, some may say I'm harsh, but the hot chocolate itself was...well, fine. First of all, not hot enough. The temperature has to be almost to the point of burning the tongue (for me this is) otherwise I waste the experience of drinking it by downing it in two seconds. It was sort of chocolately... but not 'this has taken it to a whole new level' chocolately.

DESIGN: 8/10
HOT CHOC: 7/10



DESIGN: 7/10
HOT CHOC: 8/10

COSTA: LINDT HOT CHOCOLATE (£3.35)



Thankfully I was more satisfied by this branch. The sight of a cosy red with the nutcracker doll is rather nostalgic for me, but the few trickles of snow or twinkling stars (I can't tell) are the only extras included. I know less is more, but in this case, it's not got the eye-opening wow-factor. However, depending on the cup size you could get a gingerbread man or even Father Christmas himself on the design. More importantly, the chocolate really was something else. Lindt of course has to live up

to its expectations, and sure enough it has. The deep rich flavour definitely hits the spot. And fortunately the heat was just right.

Café NERO: GINGERBREAD HOT CHOCOLATE WITH CREAM

This place personally does amazing hot chocolate. Before venturing to the festive special, I want to advertise the Milano hot chocolate, for it is absolutely TO DIE FOR. It's silky smooth, rich and proper hot chocolate not like a mere supermarket powder overly sweet one. So attention chocoholics, this is for you. Anyway, back to festive business: wow, this design was truly something. The winter blue cup with snowballs, figures in hats and gloves and the whipped cream acting as a pile of snow is so warming. The bonus here is you can build your own festive drink: latte or hot chocolate, gingerbread or salted caramel with both whipped cream and marshmallows (without the extra cost!) That totally won me over. Ample whipped cream with marshmallows and choc chips, a photo needed to be taken it was that aesthetically Christmassy. A delicious balance of gingerbread and chocolate, so couldn't ask for more.

DESIGN: 9/10

HOT CHOC: 8/10 (10/10 FOR THE MILANO)



DESIGN: 6/10

HOT CHOC: 1/10



PRET A MANGER: MINT HOT CHOCOLATE (£2.80)

I adore Pret, but based on the cup design and hot choc, well... I sadly have to admit it was not the winner of this review. The cup design is truly Pret, using food to create a reindeer's head, which is original, but even making the cup red would have been a step-up from their rather banal cup. The hot chocolate itself had the right balance of mint and chocolate, something I would indulge in on a cold winter's night on the sofa by the fire. Perfectly yummy, but by Pret's standard...more was expected.



by NANA SMITH



ADVENT calendar

1 ADD
THE BADGER
ON SNAPCHAT
'THEBADGERAIDANS'

8 TAKE A PHOTO
OF THE CATHEDRAL

23 GO ON
LONG WA

17 DO SOME
MEDITATING

13 HIGH-FIVE
6 PEOPLE

10 HAVE A STAR
CONTEST

12 SMILE AT
EVERYONE YOU SEE

19 WATCH A XMAS
FILM

15 TELL SOMEONE
BAD JOKE

21 READ THAT BOOK
YOU LEFT UNTIL
THE HOLIDAYS

5 START SINGING
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
AT DINNER

18 HAVE A
DRINK

Calendar

A
ALK

20

PLAY A GAME
WITH CARDS

2

READ THE BADGER!

6

MEET SOMEONE
NEW

ING

14

TRY AND TOUCH
YOUR TOES

3

COME TO THE
JCR MEETING

16

DO SOME
DOODLING

VE A
E

7

SAY THE
ALPHABET
BACKWARDS

11

RECONNECT
WITH AN OLD
FRIEND

22

START A GAME
OF CHARADES

HOT

24

GO TO BED
EARLY!

4

TELL SOMEONE
YOU APPRECIATE THEM

9

COME TO
THE PANTO

5 TOP TIPS FOR BODY POSITIVITY

It's that time of the year again. The mixture of fashion shows, a few extra potatoes, and many stops at Paddy's after a night out can leave us all feeling a little "meh". But no fear, self-love season is also here. Here are my top tips for loving yourself unconditionally.

1. STOP JUDGING EVERYBODY ELSE. The minute you can learn to appreciate every single body around you is the minute you'll realise that you can love your own. Bodies come in all shapes and sizes and that's the most beautiful thing so if you can accept others, you'll understand how to accept yourself.

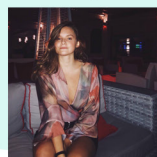
2. STOP BELIEVING IN JUST ONE KIND OF BEAUTY. Yes, there are a plethora of supermodels who all look vaguely similar and are splashed before us every day but that doesn't therefore mean they are the only form of beauty that we must conform to. Regardless of shape or size, everybody is beautiful and that's including your own.

3. SPEND SOME TIME NAKED. Have a boogie around your room in the nude, take a second to appreciate yourself in the mirror, or even just lounge about after a shower. Once you become comfortable with your own body, it becomes a lot easier to practice self-love. (If you have a roommate this may not be ideal, but having some self-appreciation in the shower is always a viable option.)

4. REMEMBER THAT WEIGHT MEANS NOTHING. A number on a scale, a piece of clothing, a tape measure, etc., they don't mean anything really. Don't let yourself be defined by them, you deserve more than that. You have an abundance of more qualities that don't involve your shape or size, don't ever demean yourself to just a number.

5. THINK OF ALL THE INCREDIBLE THINGS YOUR BODY DOES FOR YOU. Every time you walk up those 85 steps, dance the night away at a Lloyds Wednesday, or stay up until a ridiculous time writing essays, your body is working hard. Care for it the way it cares for you.

by Alice Williams



by Calum Maclean

The Badger has adopted a BADGER!



In the spirit of all things festive, the Badger has decided to spread a little charity and cheer of its own. The Badger is now sponsoring a real-life Badger family for a whole year and they really are a lovely bunch.



There's the parents, Beth and Billy, their two children, Ben and Becky, Uncle Bob and Uncle Bertie, Grandma Brenda, Grandfather Bradley and Cousin Steve. They live in a lovely little set, the name for a Badger home don't you know, near Burford in the Cotswolds and although life can be tricky for a Badger over the cold Christmas period, they make sure always to stick together.

Indeed, our Badger family is just one of many badger families in the area and they all form one happy Badger community. So be sure to look out for termly updates of how our Beth and Billy and the rest of the Badger family are doing. In fact, I can give you our very first update right now. Beth and Billy along with the rest of their Badger family were shot as of 12:00PM on 28/11/17 to prevent the spread of Bovine TB. Merry Christmas.

(All jokes aside, we have just adopted a Badger in Warwickshire. Stay tuned for future updates!)



EXCLUSIVE ARTIST I

Following the release of his first album, *Adolescence*, The Badger was lucky enough to score an exclusive interview with rising artist Surya. The 11-part album follows a young man on his journey of self-realisation as his various desires battle to take over his dreams. Surya mixes very real and relatable topics with witty commentary about society, all over his very own original beats.



Your bio on Spotify describes your mission statement as “making accessible, entertaining music without compromising the integrity in its content.” Can you elaborate on that a little?

“When you listen to modern RnB music, the content is often generic, or about love. My main goal was to have intercontextuality within the songs in the album and the themes that take shape in the lyrics, while also producing good melodies that are pleasing to the musical ear.”

Tell me about the inspiration for your music. Does it come randomly? Or do you have writing sessions?

“My music usually comes to me randomly. For example, and I’ve never told anyone this before, ‘Move It’ was written in the Aidan’s library and I made the melody in the music room. Sometimes I sit down with the intention of writing music but I’m not always satisfied with the results. I record my beats and melodies quickly as they come to me, and take time with the lyrics to construct a story. Some songs are finished in 30 minutes, while other songs were put on hold until I was sure about the structure of the album.”

“Thought it was a spelling mistake”

Who are your musical inspirations and/or favourite artists?

“Definitely D’Angelo, he’s an incredible musician and it’s a shame he isn’t known as much in mainstream media. Also, Justin Timberlake is a complete entertainer and does everything. I’d say Michael Jackson doesn’t need any explanation, and the most legendary hip-hop group would have to be A Tribe Called Quest.”

Do you have any musical guilty pleasures?

“I’d have to say DJ Khaled. He’s so positive, it just brings me joy. His constant shout-outs add so much hype to all his songs.”

Now, on *Adolescence*. Firstly, what does the title mean?

“It’s funny actually, some of my friends thought it was a spelling mistake. It’s a play on the essence of adolescence. To be honest, I’ve had this title in my mind for my first project since I was around 15, although I hadn’t told anyone about my interest in music.”

INTERVIEW: SURYA

BY ERIN BARRETT



What kind of flow did you aim to create with the album?

“The whole album is about a guy who wants material success because he wants to fill a void and feel accepted by society. He realises society is telling him he can’t achieve material success, and so instead he tries to find purpose in a girl. Each song contributes to the series of events as he realises he has intimacy issues and other problems. One of the songs, ‘Move It’, is actually a commentary on the fine line between persistence and harassment. I think that material success is a very fleeting sense of fulfilment, whereas if you do something you truly believe in you’ll begin to see work more as pleasure than a chore.”

“SOME SONGS ARE FINISHED
IN 30 MINUTES”



So now you’ve released your first album, what are your plans for your career? Where do you see yourself, musically, in five years?

“If I had my way, I’d be signed and will have released a couple of studio albums. No one around me has really done anything to do with music, so the whole music industry feels a bit like a fantasy world to me. I’d love for it to become a reality, and to be recognised by people who are respected in the industry.”

Finally, do you have any advice for aspiring musicians?

“If you’re really interested in music, start off with something simple like making beats on Garageband. I started out using just the microphone on my headphones to record demos, so the quality doesn’t matter at first as long as you get your ideas down. Also, it’s always fun to listen to different types of music, and to collaborate with other people who are doing cool things with music.”

“MATERIAL SUCCESS IS FLEETING FULFILMENT”

Check out *Adolescence* on Spotify, and watch out for Surya’s next live performance in Aidan’s at the Shop’s Christmas Live Lounge on Monday 11 December.

ST AIDAN'S COLLEGE WINTER PANTOMIME: Jack and his beany stalk

Ever wondered what would happen if Jack and the Beanstalk was set in Durham? Neither did we. Guess what though? Thanks to Ed Cook's brilliant script writing skills, you now have the chance to find out. The annual Winter Pantomime is taking place on Saturday 9th of December in the JCR. Over the past few weeks the cast and crew have been slaving over getting Haroon Faqir (Jack) to pretend to be a sexy fish, finding a way to drop Gabby Walker off the stage most gracefully, and figuring out how on earth we're going to get a beanstalk up in the JCR. Following last year's Pantomime which, to put it nicely, was an absurd firework of slapstick princess hysteria, this year's panto is shaping itself to be a wittier version of similar absurd. Displaced from time and space, this delightful epic will take you on a trip you won't want to remember. And if not, at least you'll get to see a lovely bunch of people embarrass themselves whole-heartedly for your personal entertainment.

Will Jack's beanstalk ever get climbed? Will Richard III lower the accommodation fees? Will Luke Hollander finally get milked? Come to the JCR at 7pm on Saturday the 9th. Part of the profit will be going to the Aidan's Charity Fund for the Refugees so just be a good sport and come. Popcorn, drinks and beans will be sold upon arrival and at the interval, tickets cost £3 and will be sold at the door. See you there!

CAST LIST

JACK - HAROON FAQIR

ISABELLE - GABBY WALKER

LADY ELMONT - KIRSTY MACLEOD

LINDA - HANNAH CROSBIE

MARTIN - CALUM MACLEAN

RICHARD III - ED COOK

SQUIRE - TOM MALPAS

GIANT'S MAID - SERRA YEDIKARDEZ

QUEEN - ELLIE SELBY

SERVANT - AARON ROZANSKI

OLD PERSON - BEN GEORGE

VILLAGERS — BIG CLARA, RACHAEL GRIFFITHS, ARABETH LECUYER

HENCHMEN - ALEX LONGMAN, HARRY STEPHENSON

BARMAN - RIAZ VK RAFIQUE HOW WITTY AND UNEXPECTED.

-AND THERE WILL BE A SURPRISE APPEARANCE FROM OUR VERY OWN
PRESIDENT LUKE HOLLANDER-.



NOVEMBER SPORTS ROUND-UP

TEAM OF THE MONTH - NETBALL B TEAM

In a month when many Aidan's teams have lacked consistency, our netball club has continued to go from strength to strength, with the combined records of all three teams showing only a single

defeat deep into Michaelmas Term. With this in mind, the Team of the Month award could go to any of the sides, but I have decided to give the B team the nod due to the emphatic nature of their victories to date.



Following a disappointing campaign last year, which ultimately culminated in relegation from Division 1, the B team hoped to bounce back at the first time of asking. Crushing victories over Stephenson B (32-2) and Hatfield C (27-6) in October set the wheels in motion, while Grey D (42-1) and St. Chad's A (35-8) have since been added to the ever-growing list of teams to have been swept aside by this juggernaut of the inter-collegiate competition.

While the team's success has largely been thanks to its exceptional attacking prowess, arguably more impressive is its defensive record, which is the division's best by some way. The refusal of the team to take their foot off the gas when in commanding positions reveals an innate winning mentality and, although the season is still relatively young, suggests that they will end the year in one of the two promotion places.



In badminton, our men's A team are on track for promotion following a perfect start to the season (five wins out of five). However, their female counterparts have had contrasting fortunes, with the A and B teams only having been able to muster a sole victory between them so far this season.

Our men's basketball team have enjoyed a solid start to the year, securing victory in three of their four outings, although the women's team are yet to put any points on the table.

FULL ROUND-UP

Elsewhere in netball, the A team are currently sitting pretty at the top of the Premiership table, having only been beaten once in their opening six fixtures. Meanwhile, the C team are leading division 4 by virtue of their 100% record.

Aidan's men's A football team have maintained their unbeaten league record in November, while they have also secured progression to Round 2 of both the Floodlit Cup and the Football Trophy. With confidence high amongst the group, Ed Harrington's charges will be hopeful of continuing their fine form when they meet Premiership side John Snow A in the Football Trophy on 6th December. Elsewhere, after a promising start to the season, the B team have failed to pick up any wins this month, although they produced a heroic performance to take Premiership side



St. Cuthbert's A to penalties in the Football Trophy. The C team returned to winning ways in a thrilling 5-4 victory over Collingwood I, while the F team are arguably the surprise package of the season, as they sit top of Division 6. Following their historic start to the campaign, the E Team have returned to familiar territory, picking up three consecutive defeats in November, while the D Team's vastly improved performances are still yet to yield a victory. After a slow start to the season, the women's team have been picking up momentum in recent weeks, securing a huge 8-0 victory over Stephenson Rangers.

Our men's futsal team have been in relentless form this year, epitomised by their terrific unbeaten run in November, in which they have scored 29 goals in just four matches.

The form of both our men's and women's hockey teams this year hasn't provided much to write home about, with the two sides still winless and struggling to hit the back of the net.

The mixed lacrosse team have got into a great winning habit this term, running out winners in four league games as well as thrashing St. Chad's B 11-1 to qualify for the last-16 of the Mixed Lacrosse Trophy.



In rugby, the men's A team have gone through November undefeated, leaving them fourth in the Premiership. The B team have found the going tougher, sustaining heavy defeats at the hands of Collingwood B and a combined Chad's/John's team, while the women's team occupy a mid-table position after two games.

Two wins in November have seen our women's squash team climb to seventh in the Premiership, but the men's side have been unable to follow suit, having narrowly lost out to Collingwood's B and C teams.

After two emphatic victories to get the season underway, our table tennis A team's winning streak came to a halt as they went down 5-4 to runaway Premiership leaders St. Mary's A. However, the early indications suggest that a successful season is in store for Simon Yu's team. Meanwhile, the B team are joint-top of Division 1 on the back of three successive wins, although the C team have hitherto registered only one victory.

Our ultimate frisbee club continues to impress, with both sides notching clinical victories during the past month, which most notably means that the B team currently lead Division 2.

by ARCHIE HODGSON



MEET YOU

This is JournoComm! Let's meet our writers. They will be answering the following questions:

- 1) What year are you in and what do you study?
- 2) What are your general interests/What sorts of articles will you usually be writing?
- 3) Your best joke?
- 4) Your favourite Christmas song?
- 5) What makes you smile?

Saya Taneja



1. 1st Year, PPE.
2. Life, travel, food and occasionally current affairs.
3. Why do communists only drink herbal tea? Because proper tea is theft.
4. Song: Fairytale of New York (The Pogues).
Carol: The Holly and the Ivy.
5. DOGS. Japanese food, a well-used emoji, hygge and ABBA.

ERIN BARRETT

1. 2nd Year, Biomedical Sciences.
2. I like writing about fashion, music and other bits and bobs.
3. My life.
4. Mistletoe by Justin Bieber.
5. The number of dogs in town on the weekend.



IRNOCOMM



ISABEL WATKINS

1. 3rd Year, English Literature.
2. Pushing my feminist killjoy agenda (and dogs).
3. What's Forrest Gump's password?
1Forrest1.
4. Last Christmas for the drama of it all.
5. Spilling milk with Ben George.

HAROON FAQIR

1. 1st Year, Spanish and German.
2. I'm a Fulham fan. I'm also really into drama. Other than that: from foreign culture to Aidans banter.
3. The JCR Shop.
4. Anything with Michael Bublé
5. Watching Molly Briscoe dance

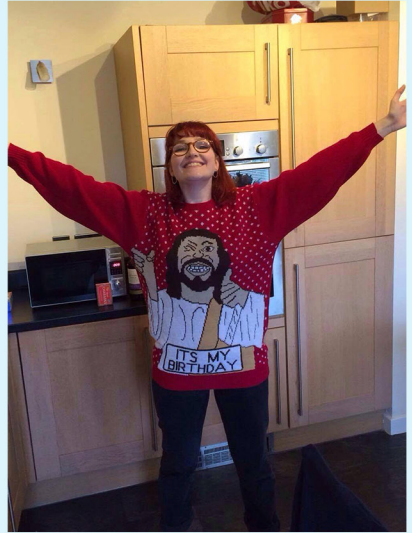


Alice Williams

1. 1st Year, Law.
2. Music, sports and all sorts of positive content.
3. A blind man walks into a bar. And a table. And a chair.
4. Last Christmas - Wham.
5. People who are unapologetically themselves.

EMILY HARRISON

1. 3rd Year, Theology.
2. Second to wasting my life in front of the telly, my favourite past time is complaining.
3. What are made of brass and sound like Tom Jones? Trombones. (LOL).
4. Wish I was at home for Christmas. (I miss my mam)
5. Tesco £3.50 red wine.



Calum Maclean

1. 1st Year, History.
2. I enjoy drama and will produce content of all kinds - written, performed, visual, and everything in between.
3. 'I told my doctor I broke my arm in two places, he told me not to go back to those places.'
4. Christmas (baby please come home) Leona Lewis Version)
5. A good hot chocolate and that video on youtube of a news report where an Australian guy goes 'What a joker' and has an amazing laugh.



MERRY CHRISTMAS!
LOTS OF LOVE
JOURNOCOMM XOXO



