

The Badger

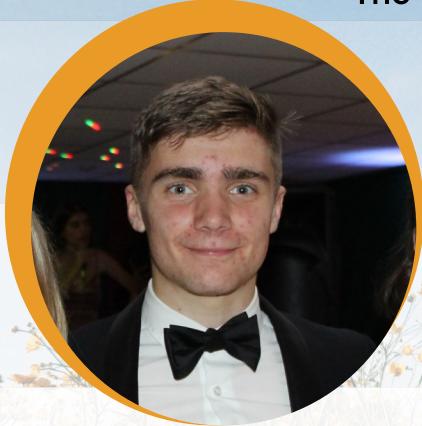
Summer
edition



21st June
2020

Editor's Note

The Handover Editorial: Joseph Eaton's JCR Eulogy



“ Hello lads. Well, this is it. This is the last Badger that I'll technically be responsible for, as I finally hand over to the next JCR Secretary - even if the last Badger, that I actually wrote myself, was a problematically long time ago.

I've just been kind of vibing this year, bleaching my cloths and things. It is what it is. At least 2020 turned out a bit luke-warm anyways. Jimmy's shutting down briefly upset me for a bit ngl but, like a phoenix, DJ Dave Bean has risen from the ashes. Hallelujah, Amen.

Shout out to Longman and the Exec on being cool and stuff. Honourable mentions to:

- Beth Knight and Govind Nair, for services to attending a JournoComm Meeting
- Juan Abril and Penny Maloney, for services to putting JournoComm on their CV but never having contributed
- Silas Welsh, for services to minuting at JCR Meetings
- Reception, for services to letting us borrow the stapler
- The Symposium; the Whiney Hill lot; the Hockey Boys and Liv; Saab; Thistly Cross for putting us in vulnerable positions; Juan's parents for the same reasons; the stoners; Tyla, Ed and Smiley John; the little wooden dildo at Longman's birthday that time; Sim Kumar and Abdullah; Vickery and a few funny first years; Mark Caar in *that* police uniform; the four Toms I frepped with; Rebecca; Conrad; Chit and the staff at Jimmy's.

Anyways, back to the point of this editorial. I have absolute full confidence that the next JCR Secretary will bring the Badger from strength to strength. I know that because she's already been doing it since, and before, the day she was elected - back way whenever ago.

So, as my final act and with the power invested in me by the votes of like 47 voters in my first-year election: I hereby dedicate this Badger, that she planned, wrote and edited, to her and to all her hard work.

The Badger: Summer Edition (2020) Dedicated to Saoirse Ellis, JCR Secretary

Joseph Eaton, JCR Secretary (2019-2020)

Rest in Jimmys.

Better Days Will Come, We Will Soon Be Back in Journocomm: An Ode to Joseph

My note can't really follow that piece of art but here goes:

As this academic year winds to an end I'll be taking over The Badger and all things secretary. I'll be sad to see Joe go because he's been such a good secretary, and he has an unrivalled knowledge of completely irrelevant facts about Aidan's and the JCR. I'm grateful for his help and guidance so far and inevitable input into the upcoming fresher's handbook.

I don't really have any honourable mentions yet but here's some thanks for helping me get here:

- Joe- who was the one who encouraged me to get involved in the JCR in the first place and for dipping out of the last JCR meeting a year ago which gave me a taste for what being secretary would be like
- Durham Irish soc because both of our husts last year were at the end of a very long St Paddy's day bar crawl, and well, they were interesting
- The rest of journocomm (Beth and Govind) who have been v helpful with writing actual journalism (which ironically is my weak point). Aisling for pointing out all my spelling errors **after** it has been printed and for always submitting something
- And finally big thanks to penny for reading my hust when I was living it up in costa del university hospital
- The biggest thanks of all goes to McGarry, my dad, chappers and whoever it was that chappers called, when I accidentally deleted the Badger publisher file and couldn't find it- theeeeeee most stressful experience

Above all I'm really excited for the year ahead writing The Badger, taking minutes and hopefully engaging you all in some Aidan's Journalism! Enjoy your summer and enjoy the final badger of this year!

-Saoirse

Editor's Note

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Question Time

Last edition of the Badger we had questions submitted to crush and fess in the segment called Agony Aunt, this edition we had you submit questions for this arguably useless segment called Question Time (Disclaimer: does not resemble the real question time)

Questions submitted by anonymous, speaking to Joseph McGarry

Joe would you still be my boyfriend if I had no skin?

Juan we've talked about this.

Short answer: no long answer: can be found in the criminal justice act of 1967



Mr Eaton, would you throw a bowling ball off the balcony and risk tarnishing the parquet floor or individually burn every bog roll in existence?

Easy q, the bog roll. I will die for that parquet

Fuck marry kill but with each other

Fuck myself Marry ed Kill longman

Fuck the girl out of la la land

What did you have for dinner last night?

Enchiladas

Just enchiladas

I had a bacon sandwich at 11 too

Guilty crush?

Stuart Corbridge

Out of Longman, Cook, and Eaton who would be the top?

Out of us 3, me

Have you ever dreamt about Susan Frenk????? (Details pls).

No because my emotional attachment to college has collapsed alongside my capacity to maintain prolonged thoughts, so now I just replay 3 or 4 tik toks in my head every night or have a recurring dream where I'm in the king of the world but all my money is made out of ham





Do you use your phone on the loo and if so what have you lost recently done?

I bring a lot to the toilet with me ngl. Usually tik tok and whatever I'm drinking at the time. Evie thinks it's disgusting. I need to be constantly consuming mindless entertainment

Wrong answers only: what's your biggest secret?

One day The Guardian is going to publish the findings of an investigative journalist who covered my life before the 2008 financial crash

Who'd win in a fight 100 eaton sized eds or 1 ed sized eatons?

100 Eaton sized eds, my mom says I'm looking pretty RIPPED recently

Speaking to Ed Cook

What is the weirdest place you've ever chatted someone up?

I'm always flirting (accidentally) so literally any place I've ever been. Tho, the online doctor who society quiz via google doc is definitely a contender for the top spot

How does Pokemon go next to the Mildert pond eating strawberries while having a 2m distanced intense eye gaze???? Ed my love xxx

I think it's just gonna is that lockdown will be the one thing that we do so the energy will not be on the Hill unless it is raining or maybe even a Wednesday

Ed what would you get if you added Parmesan to McGarry?

Ed would you still love me if I had no skin?

I'd try but tbh idk if I could ://

Ed what is Longmans spirit animal?

Prolly a dog bc of his loyalty and enthusiasm

And his penchant for public urination

fuck marry kill but with each other

This is hard, bc I'm already married to



Question Time Cont.



Longman
and I really
wanna fuck
Jeaton, but I

don't wanna die, so I think imma have to
chuck jeaton under the bus and fuck myself

Ed why do you never drink beer

Tastes grim and I'm scared of the calories

Guilty crush?

Mary Berry is actually a bit of alright

I really want to know what shampoo you use

Chiiile, why?! Um, anyways... I'm on day 862 of no-shampoo x



**Wrong answers only:
what's your biggest secret?**

I don't actually do a masters, I have an office job in Newcastle I just came to Durham every night for the vibes

Question from Jeaton: Ed Cook, what tax band do you think you'll die in?

I'm not planning on earing, imma just be living off whatever my wife's

boyfriend does

Body count ?

That's a wrap, thanks for all the questions!

Who has been the best and worst members of the exec this year?

The best has to be me, because I've put the most hours in and the worst has to be ed cook because he didn't come to any of the meetings, not a single one all year

I'm allowed to be big-headed now that I've finished

Longman quick choice - Jigglypuff or a Magikarp

I've never played Pokémon but I think Jigglypuff is better from the name

Who'd win in a fight: 100 Eaton sized eds or 1 ed sized Eaton

It'd reach a bitter stalemate like WW1

Ed what would you get if you added Parmesan to McGarry?

An even tastier McGarry

Speaking to Alex Longman

Lick someone's toe or have your toe licked

Have my toe licked prolly

fuck marry kill but with eachother

To be fair I'm not gonna turndown the opportunity to fuck and marry jeaton and ed so ill prolly have to kms but dw everyone I'm doin ok
but I'll marry ed and fuck jeaton, jeaton will give me a night of passion

Who's the next power couple of the JCR? Aisling and Saoirse

Editors note: false acc 2 dig

Which year group of aidanites is your favourite this year?

Oh, that's a hard one, this year probably second years because third years are too busy working and freshers are too... fresh. Second years are the right balance

Who would you say Ed would be if he was in Game of Thrones

His personality is the opposite of most got characters, they're all power hungry. I'm gonna say he's little finger, because [spoilers redacted] and he causes drama

Highlight and lowlight of your time in Durham?

Lowlight let's start with that- coronavirus meaning I don't get a proper chance to say goodbye to everyone

Highlight was when I finished exams on

my 21st birthday and celebrated without chunning unlike whenever I got president

Guilty crush?

The curves of b-curve, damn she thicc and sometimes you want a bit of curve down there

Yo Longman- how long is too long? 87 steps

Wrong answers only: What's your biggest secret?

I didn't vote RON in the SU election

Who do you think stole your bike?

My favourite uber driver russel clement because he misses me

Question from jeaton: Longman, if you discovered a giraffe for the first time: what would you name it?

Joe Eaton (to clarify this is meaning the species)





Going Down Formal

The last few months have been a really weird time, and this is definitely not how any of us imagined ending this year. The post-exam period at Aidan's is usually filled with **celebration and excitement**, especially for the finalists, who have all worked incredibly hard to get to this point in time. Though we can't be together right now, we still want to celebrate that massive achievement. With that in mind, we're hosting our **first ever online formal!** The Going Down formal is going to take place on **Thursday 25th June at 7pm, via Zoom**. We hope it will be a good way to continue the atmosphere of comradery and community that typically comes with attending an Aidan's formal, so everyone can get their friends together and enjoy a virtual meal. The best part is **the menu is completely optional**. People can even coordinate a menu with the rest of their table if they feel like it, to add to the community vibes. **It's an opportunity to get dressed up and have a little change to normal everyday routine**. At the end of the event **we're hoping for one of Susan Frenk's iconic speeches followed by the last round of college chants for the year**.

Here's a little information on how to sign up:

To submit a table just fill out the form sent on your Durham email accounts and send it to **formals@st-aidans.com**, with the table leader's name at the top. The deadline for table submissions will be **Tuesday 23rd June at 11:59pm**. Every table will then be sorted into a breakout room so you'll be sitting with your friends. There will be more updates leading up to the event, so make sure to click on 'going' on the Facebook event to keep up to date with everything that's going on, and to get the zoom link when it is available. Hope to see a lot of you there :)

Formals love xx

Charity Spotlight



Given that 2020 has been a it mediocre so far, it's time to shed some light on all the good work that has been happening, some of which right on our doorsteps! In this edition's charity spotlight we're taking a look at Durham Pride UK

With it being Pride month in June it seems the perfect opportunity to highlight the amazing work being done by the organisation **Durham Pride UK**, especially due to its strong affiliation with the university population and opportunities for student engagement.

Until **2014 Durham County did not celebrate LGBT Pride**; this changed when the



current Chair of Durham Pride UK, Mel Metcalf, began asking why this was the case. Less than 6 months later the first Pride happened with an estimated, diverse audience of 2,500 people. Following many requests for support, Durham Pride UK was formed in 2015 as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation to **promote equality and diversity** for the public

benefit and in particular the elimination of discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity. Whilst Pride was unable to physically occur this year for obvious reasons, the continual growth of LGBT+ visibility in Durham is reflected in 2019's audience size exceeding 25,000 people.



Beyond staging four annual prides (an event the Journocomm correspondent will focus on), the charity notes they have successfully cultivated a sentiment in favour of equality and diversity in particular through celebrating the diversity of the LGBT community in Durham. Equally, Durham Pride have staged smaller events such as regular socials for the LGBT community and its allies to enjoy in a **safe environment accessible for everyone**. However, the organisation's work is far from finished: one of its ongoing projects includes a new initiative called the **Rainbow Alliance**. The Rainbow Alliance is a group of representatives from different agencies who seek to raise awareness and improve responses for LGBT+ people living, studying and working throughout Durham.



One of these agencies is Durham University, meaning we already have strong ties to this up and coming initiative. Specifically the initiative tries to **support victims of same sex domestic and/or sexual violence**, hate crime and bullying through education and training. Agencies who are assessed as fully committed to LGBT+ equality and inclusion are **awarded through the Rainbow Alliance Award**.

Thus, despite there being no opportunity to celebrate fully this year through Pride festival, it is important to remember the **struggles faced by the LGBT+ community and recognise the incredible work still being performed by organisations such as Durham Pride UK**.





LOCKDOWN RECIPES TO TRY



SERVES 18

DIFFICULTY: HARD

Ingredients

125g soft butter

225g plain flour

150g golden caster sugar

3 medium eggs (very important to use the correct size)

Pinch of salt

1tsp vanilla extract

edible food colouring - red, orange, yellow, green, blue and purple, plus optional pink (see below)

1 tsp baking powder

For the icing

1tsp vanilla extract

3x 250g tubs cream cheese

350g icing sugar

Method

- Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Grease 2 x 20cm round sandwich tins and line the bases with baking parchment. Tip all the sponge ingredients, apart from the food colouring, into a mixing bowl, then beat with an electric whisk until smooth.
- Working quickly, weigh the mixture into another bowl to work out the total weight, then weigh exactly half the mixture back into the mixing bowl. Pick 2 of your colours and stir a little

into each mix. Keep going until you are happy with the colour – the colour of the batter now will be very similar to the finished cake, so be brave! Scrape the different batters into the tins, trying to spread and smooth as much as possible – but try not to waste a drop of the batter – a rubber spatula will help you. Bake on the same oven shelf for 12 mins until a skewer poked into the middle comes out clean.

- Gently turn the cakes out onto a wire rack to cool. Wash the tins and bowls thoroughly, and start again from step 1 – this time using another 2 colours. Unless you're making the optional pink layer, repeat one more time to get 6 sponges, all of different colours. Leave them all to cool.
- To make the icing, very briefly beat the vanilla and cream cheese or mascarpone with an electric whisk until smooth. Sift in the icing sugar and gently fold in with a spatula. Be careful – the more you work it, the runnier it will get, increasing the chance of splitting.
- Smear a little icing on your cake stand or plate – just a splodge to stick the first sponge. Start with the red, then spread with some icing right to the very edge. Repeat, sandwiching on top the orange, yellow, green, blue and finally purple sponges. Spread the remaining icing thickly all over the sides and top of the cake.



Black Lives Matter Durham

Durham has a bit of a way to go in terms of creating a welcoming environment for people of colour and the recent events sparking the Black Lives Matter movement have really hit home for a lot of people in Durham. People gathered for a socially distanced peaceful process on the 6th of June to not only protest the systematic oppression of black people but to stand in solidarity with black and other POC students of Durham.

This is the beginning of a new chapter in Durham and hopefully will allow 2020 to end with some positive changes.

We want to amplify the experiences of our own POC students here at Aidan's and highlight some of the challenges they face. Some students have written short sections on their experiences here at Durham. If you would like to submit something similar for the next badger (the fresher's badger, please email anything to secretary@st-aidans.com)



Hi! If you don't already know my name is Irenitemi Agbejule 1st (3rd) year at Aidan's!! I've been asked to write a bit about my experiences in Durham as a POC.

Before coming to Durham. I had the perception that it was going to be super posh and there were going to be very few POC around. This isn't to say that I'd never experienced something like this before as I went to a sixth form with a similar sort of atmosphere but the thought of it exhausted me. This was because I had felt myself changing over



the years that I had attended that sixth form to be more palatable to the people that attended there.

This wasn't always a conscious choice as I would often avoid mentioning certain aspects of how my culture differed at home in discussions or changing my behaviour to

be more like others in an attempt to fit in. Looking back, I wish that it had been made easier for me to have a space to express myself in that way without fear of looking strange or like an outcast. But when I actually came to Durham and saw how well different cultures are adored and respected by the majority of the student body that I came across (Shout out to Aidan's international society).



I felt like I no longer had to be a chameleon. It felt natural to do things like wear my dashiki to lectures or blast the music of Fela Kuti (which if you've never heard of please go listen to Zombie its brilliant). But yeah this isn't to say that my time here was been without incident.

For example, I had found racist comments scrawled in a book I was reading for my economics degree and the comments on the whole overheard debacle with our black SU president elect. But on the whole things are changing for the better and I'm excited to be a part of this community going forward!











A DAY IN THE LIFE OF...

an Aidan's Finalist

By Beth Knight

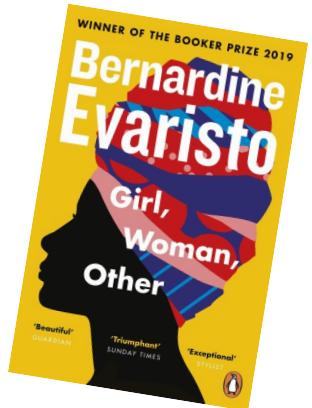
disclaimer: I'm not sure I really even realised I was a finalist until my exams were over – so this is very much a record of me coming to terms with the fact that uni is finished!!

8:30 – 9:30 (AM)

Wake up, refreshed for the day ahead

(Who am I kidding? While I do normally wake up around this time or earlier, I can't lie – it is sometimes hard to motivate myself to get out of bed. I think it's important to make even **small plans** so that you have some reason to get up and on with the day!)

I normally have a read in bed for about an hour before I face socialising with my fellow humans. Current read is *Girl, Woman, Other* by Bernadine Evaristo and can highly recommend!! It has quite short chapters that are all interlinked, so while the content is powerful and important as a whole – it isn't too overwhelming when read chapter by chapter



9:30 – 11 (AM)

I normally have a **shower or spend an age trying to plait my own hair** and end up having to ask my sister anyways

Then its feeding time: breakfast normally consists of cereal OR fruit and yoghurt (so exciting, I know!! and is entirely dependent on who has awoken before me and **IF there's any milk**)

Mid-morning I also try and make a mini to-do list. Obviously now exams are over, there's quite a lot less on my list but I think it's still important to have **something to work towards**. Some of my tasks include:

- Batch cook/ bake a certain meal
- Apply or research a certain number of jobs/ internships per day
- Ring my parents

- Make sure I go on my daily walk (at least once)
- See if there's anything around the house that needs doing (sometimes I do this purely to procrastinate the other things on my list, it's a problem, I know!)

11 – 1 (AM/PM)



Now, depending on the **ever-temperamental British summer**, this is sometimes my favourite time for a walk – it gets me out of the house and refreshed before lunch

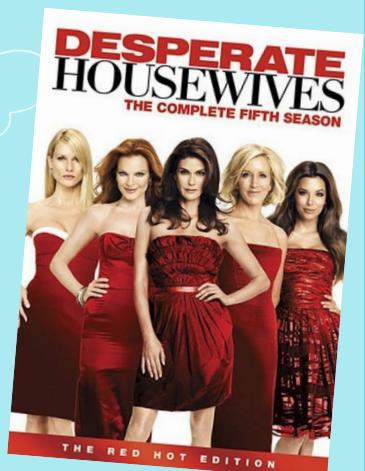
Sometimes I like to ring friends while I'm out and about because it's nice to have company and catch up **without being static**. At the start of lockdown, we tried to organise regular FaceTimes but I personally found them a bit awkward. They can be super successful, and I know lots of my friends who do them really regularly but for me they were always just a bit stunted. I'm a bigger fan of chatting on the phone while walking because it's **almost like the other person is there!**

Speaking of which: now the guidelines are changing, and we can walk with our friends and sit in the garden or park with them (at a distance of course), it's really nice and important to see fresh faces if we can! **It really lifts my mood.** Where I live, the pavements are quite narrow, so my walks basically consisted of walking down a hill single-file, yelling 'pardon?'. But the chats in the garden after are always very nice!

1 – 2 (PM)

Normally lunchtime in our house. Either leftovers from tea the night before or pasta. I find pasta gets judged and branded as a 'student' meal in my house – but I'm just not used to **so many different carb options!** Like we eat so. much. potato. at home. And pasta is such a versatile dish! In the first few weeks of lockdown we barely ate any! And I missed it – so I've been having it for lunch with some veggies and normally I make enough for a few days so that's good!

With lunch, me and my sister normally enjoy an episode of Desperate Housewives (seasons 1-8 on Amazon Prime). I think we may have binged the series in a record time but it's just so DESPERATE! It is definitely my guilty pleasure!!

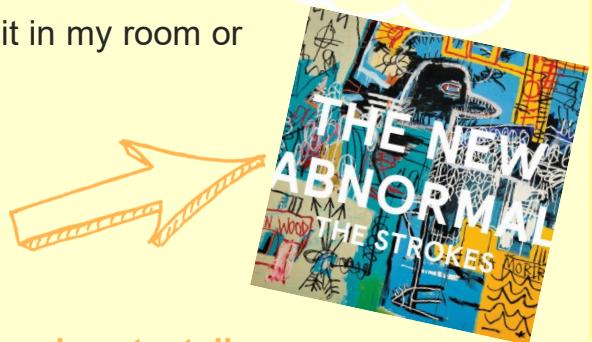


2 – 4 (PM)

Honestly, probably the time of day I most struggle with at the moment. **This is the time I try and complete some of the things from my to-do list.** I normally sit at the kitchen table with my laptop and some paper and try and think about some applications I want to make and if there's anything I can do for them.

But in all honesty, if it gets too much – I either go and sit in my room or the garden (again, weather dependent) and read some more or listen to some music. Another recommendation that no-one asked for: **The Strokes, The New Abnormal (9/10).** (What a title: it's like they knew??)

I don't feel guilty if I haven't managed to achieve all my tasks for the day – **as long as I have actually tried.** Sometimes it is hard and that is okay. **It's also okay to talk about this and express how hard you're finding it.** I know that's really helped me, because I was worrying that I was the only one struggling and it turns out I'm really really not! I find, at the minute, it's just about making small steps and trying, even if they're not always successful.



I've also really enjoyed writing to my friends and family! I've ordered some cute postcards from some small businesses on Etsy and I've sent the odd 'congratulation' card here and there! It's so nice to receive post, I know it's really cheered me up, especially when I submitted my final exam and just felt really flat...

Writing is also just quite freeing, and **I'm always surprised by how much I have to say when I sit down** – so I think it's quite a nice thing to do, for yourself and others!

4 - 6 (PM)

I normally either go on another walk around this time or just sit and chill in the living room. And by chill – I mainly mean play The Sims! I am definitely guilty of **living vicariously through my Sims** – they can graduate without a pandemic!!! During the random 3 week gap between my exams I was playing it way too much, so I have tried to limit myself to certain times in the day, when I've (tried) to do the more pressing tasks on my list – but I think it's important to take the time to do things we enjoy and not feel guilty about them



6 – 8 (PM)

Honestly, I wish I could be more specific – but in our house you need to add a good 45 minutes to scheduled teatime because for some reason we're incapable of cooking



to a certain time.

Since coming home for the foreseeable, I've definitely been cooking a lot more than I would usually at home. I think this is for a few reasons: it still helps me keep my **independence**, I feel like I've been productive and helpful, and it also **gets me out of washing up!**

8 – 10 (PM)

Now, depending on the general vibe, I either play on my computer some more, or we watch some TV together. We've been trying to watch the Marvel movies on Disney +, but I think I need to start paying closer attention because **I'm normally just confused...**

10 (PM)

I normally go to bed around 10, maybe a bit later if we've watched too many episodes of Desperate Housewives! I either ring my boyfriend or we've been watching classic tennis matches online at the same time. (I had tickets for Wimbledon this year – so I'm just trying to make sure I don't forget the rules or players before we can go next year!)

Then I like to read before bed, I find if I've been on my screen before I sleep, then my sleep is so much worse.

In order to help this, I've also enforced like a **social media timer** on my phone. I have it set that after I've spent an hour on social media throughout the day my phone gives me a notification and 'times out' my apps. I've actually found this super helpful because it just makes me aware of how much I'm on social media mindlessly and it's really helped to control how much I just scroll with no purpose.

I did actually give up Instagram and Twitter for Lent and it was a beneficial thing to do for my mental health. I like to have social media and I've found it particularly helpful at the moment for sharing links, petitions and resources concerning the BLM movement, in order to help me educate myself more.

I've found the timing thing really helpful because then the time I do spend on social media is actually a lot more engaging.

It's definitely been a really weird time as a finalist during the pandemic, and it really hasn't sunk in that I am a finalist... and like my undergraduate degree is ... **over?**

It's definitely been important for me to write and chat with people from uni, so that I don't feel like I've lost such a huge part of my life for 3 years!! And we know that **when our new normal sets in, we can celebrate together, just (quite a lot) differently to how we expected!**



Pride 2020

By JournoComm JCR Correspondent

HAPPY
PRIDE
MONTH

The month of June, for the past 50 years, has been **a celebration of everything queer**, from the successes of the gay rights movements, to the contributions of LGBT+ people to culture, historical and modern. All around the world LGBT+ people and allies have all come together in parades, events and other celebrations to show pride for their sexual identity and gender expression. **Pride is always lots of fun**, and I've never missed going to my local city's parade since I was 15: getting to dress up in rainbows, watching spectacular drag performances, and eating lots of candyfloss were my highlights every year. Sadly, 2020 has not been very accommodating for public events; we've lost Easter, countless birthdays, and many more holidays that we haven't been able to celebrate. Thankfully, there is so much going on via the internet and social media that **you don't have to miss out on pride this year!**

Online Pride

Pride Inside will be a virtual pride parade, replacing the real-life London Pride Parade, lasting one week from the 28th of June to the 5th of July. A **collaboration between Amnesty International, UK Black Pride, Stonewall and ParaPride**, the week will be filled to the brim with comedy shows, panel discussions, music, arts events and talks. Pride in London have also started You! Me! Us! We!, a campaign which encourages people to get involved in LGBT+ allyship and promotes unity through digital actions. People can make pledges to help support their local LGBT+ community, as well as donate and share their stories to create more

of a sense of community spirit.

Similarly, many cities have **taken Pride onto zoom or social media**, so checking



the Pride website for your city can be helpful in making sure that although we can't go outside, you can still attend! **Global Pride will take place on the 27th of June**, focusing on Black

Lives Matter too, as a stream on the Global Pride website. Many celebrities from around the world will take part, from musicians to activists.

If you're interested in the artsier side of Pride, there are many digital exhibitions featuring work by LGBT+ artists, with a lot of exhibits showcasing the struggle of gay rights through art. [The GLBT Historical Society](#) Museum's online exhibition is one example of this, featuring galleries which display art based on the history of the Gay Rights movement and the LGBT+ experience.

History

Although protests for LGBT+ rights have taken place since time immemorial, the modern Pride developed out of **the gay rights movement in the 70s**, which was triggered by the **Stonewall riots**, in which the LGBT+ community in New York rioted following a police raid on the Stonewall Inn. This led to an increase of pro-LGBT+ parades, marches and riots, spreading around the major cities of the USA. Nowadays pride month is **globally celebrated**, and it falls in

June to commemorate the Stonewall riots, which started on the 28th of June, 1969. **Pride means a lot of different things to different people**, for some it's a protest which campaigns against homophobia and promotes LGBT+ rights worldwide, especially in areas of the world where progress in these areas has lagged. For others it's also a celebration of the achievements and contributions that people of LGBT+ background have given to society, as well as a celebration of the freedom to express people's sexual and gender identity.



All in all, it's a vibrant, loud, fun celebration for all involved, and it helps raise awareness for an important cause. **This year, don't let the social distancing or the lockdown stop you from celebrating Pride properly!**

GLOBAL PRIDE 2020

EXIST. PERSIST. RESIST.

Book Review:

The Miseducation of Cameron Post

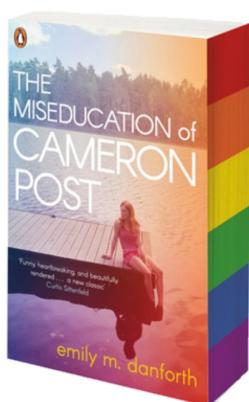


By Aisling O'Toole

Lately, as mentioned in the other book review I did this term, I have been trying to broaden my literary horizons beyond Austen, Shakespeare and basically **anything else the English department say** would be useful towards my degree. Reluctantly this took me to a low point from which there is no return: **I accepted one of my sister's recommendations.** The only other book recommendation I've had from her was *black beauty*: big horse girl energy.

HOWEVER, I have to say *The miseducation of Cameron Post* defied my expectations and is honestly was one of the most **eye-opening and refreshing books** I have read in a LONG time. To put it into context I read all **470 pages in two days** and my screen time shot down by four hours a day because I finally found something more woke than tik tok.

Frankly this book review has to be very short as Saoirse only allocated me one a5 page (certainly not enough to do the 470 slithers of gold justice). Equally, I don't want to give away



any spoilers because I think for the elite experience it needs to be read with tunnel vision. In line with this I thoroughly recommend you don't read the blurb as certain editions reveal a pivotal moment of revelation. Whatever you do, **do not watch the movie** (available on Netflix and Prime) until after **as it opens** from the central point of the novel, although I do recommend you watch it after as it offers an interesting interpretation.



I appreciate this doesn't offer much of an insight into the contents of the novel but I will say it concerns **issues of sexual identity** and how religion's relationship with this can distort filial bonds and self-awareness. Personally the book awakened me to LGBT+ struggles and demystified a lot of stigmas **surrounding female sexuality that I was not even aware existed.**

Therefore I thoroughly recommend this enlightening read; it impressed me so much **I may even be inclined to give black beauty another go!**

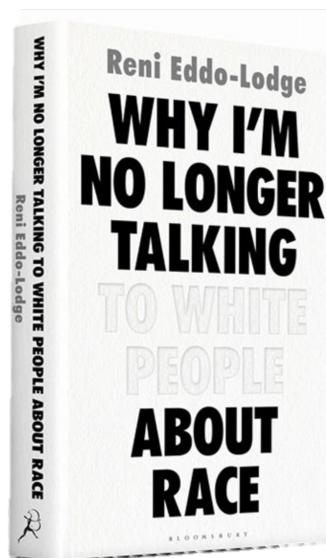
Book review- Why I am no longer talking to white people about race

In light of the recent death of **George Floyd** and **Black Lives Matter movement**, Reni Eddo-Lodge's *Why I am no longer talking to white people about race* has taken on new levels of meaning. The book's message has always been one of paramount importance but now there is increased demand for education surrounding black people's experience and Eddo-Lodge offers ample opportunity for this.

As a white person who has the privilege of being able to learn and not compelled to experience racism I found the book accessible yet startling. The book has an understandably and necessary angry tone whilst maintaining eloquence and logic. Tropes such as the angry, unsafe black person are thus refuted as the author simply relates her experience and facts, simultaneously making knowledge of the black experience desirable as she simply and agreeably threatens to disengage from conversations with white people. Consequently Eddo-Lodge constructs a novel in which the **arguments are impossible to dispute**, especially for defensive, defiant white people who refuse to accept their privilege.

The inextricable links between gender, class and race are explored as well as **injustices** within institutions such as **education, criminal justice and employment**.

Eddo-Lodge notes the moment she lost faith in the very people who are meant to protect society as a black boy was reported to be stabbed in a vicious racist attack yet his killers faced no consequence. She also mentions cases such as that of Stephen Lawrence who was only 18



when he was stabbed to death on the way home from his Uncle's house. Once again, his murderer's charges were dropped until 19 years after his death when two out of the five countable were finally convicted. Unlike Stephen Lawrence they were allowed to live to 30 un hindered, **shielded by the colour of their skin**.

The book also stresses that of course **not all racism is so extremist or explicit** yet its need to be addressed is tantamount. The author clarifies that there are endless examples of discrimination in today's society across the spectrum. **The whitewashing of the curriculum, children's toys and the media** contribute to the exclusionary discourse that perpetuates the injustices characterising the western world. A **black boy is three times more likely to be excluded from school**, continuing the vicious cycle that limits black people from higher education and high-paid jobs. Even those who are not excluded face judgement from white men in order to be accepted into such institutions. The British Social attitudes survey recorded a significant increase in the number of these highly-educated, rich men who are **unashamed in admitting their racism**. Clearly these men do not even fear the consequence of identifying as racist, they are confident in their ability to avoid retribution.

It goes without saying that reading Eddo-Lodge's book does not render me sufficiently informed on the issue **nor does it entitle me to ease my white conscience in being complicit in ignorance for so long**. Personally I am going to devote a significant

J C R

~~BBC~~

SPORT

SPORTS

THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2012

This year's sports and society awards were given out during the virtual summer-fest, so if you missed that then here's the list! Along with each of the tokens of appreciation you also win 'eternal pride' according to tom cox.

Half Colours

Zachary Persky
Dhillon Dodhia
Seb Blake
Zoe XiaochunChi
Chloe Thomas
Humera Taj
Izzy Abraham
Chloe Buckley
Alex Hartley
Aarushi Madan
Sam Pearce
Elke Rottier
Georgy Ivakhnenko
Lewis Low
Joe Higgins
Cameorn Sykes

Ed Cahmbers
Charlotte Elliot
Milly Overton
Tim Zhang
Thomas Toland
Robin Prasad
Matt Harrison
Hermione Menges
Henry Kilding
Will Dodds
Jordan Collingwood
Ianthe Doumas-Calder
Jasmine Shankster
Anona Galbraith
Amy Cooper

Full Colours

Tilly Heaney
Alex Bruce
Alex Lazenby
Josh Geare
Valeria Garau
Elisa Andrews
Ammiya Chugh
Laura Coe
Rahul Wijawardane
Peter Spriggs
Flo Pulfer
Dan O'Leary
Isaac Medhurst
Jake Guest

New society of the year

Classic film society

Society of the year

Physics society

Sports team of the year

Men's football A-team squad

Caswell cup

Alex combe

James Murrel
Mikey Godsmark
Sam Telling
Ciaran Adamson
James Sloan
Megan Greenhalgh
Phoebe Aldridge
Amber Vernon-Powell
Jasper Meyer
Fergus Wood
Will Wright
Kimberly Carsens
Gabriel Furse
Louise Smith
Madelina Cappelletti
Alex Combe
Tom Eaton
Sara Phillips

SPORTS

Tom Cox: A Chad UPDATE

Every year at the sports and societies formal, which is traditionally held at the start of third term, the JCR gives out half colours, colours and the Caswell Cup

Half colours are awarded to students in any year who have made an exceptional contribution to sports in Aidans, and full colours to the 30 finalists who have made the greatest contribution.

The physical award is a half or full pint glass; the true award is the eternal glory that this glass confers upon you.

Furthermore the Caswell Cup (I have no idea who Caswell is) is awarded to the individual who has made an unrivalled commitment, to Sports in Aidans throughout their time here. This year it was awarded to Alex Combe. Alex is an exceptional sportsman who played Football, Rugby, and Cricket at A-team standard which is an enormous achievement in and of itself; he also had DU commitments including the snow sports captain.

COUCH TO 5K

By Aisling O'Toole

At the start of lockdown I decided to start couch to 5k and today I finally finished it, running **5.5km in 30 minutes**. Whilst I know others can certainly run this faster, few have consumed as much **college food and Amstel** as I have this year. Alongside running I started Chloe Ting's two week shred. Personally I found the two week shred **too intense alongside running couch to 5k** so decided to cut down and simply do a few of her videos as and when I feel like it. Generally I feel so much better physically and mentally. In lockdown I think it's super helpful to have **achievable and measurable goals** to add structure to the day and offer a sense of completion which **six consecutive hours of tik tok often does not**.

Tips

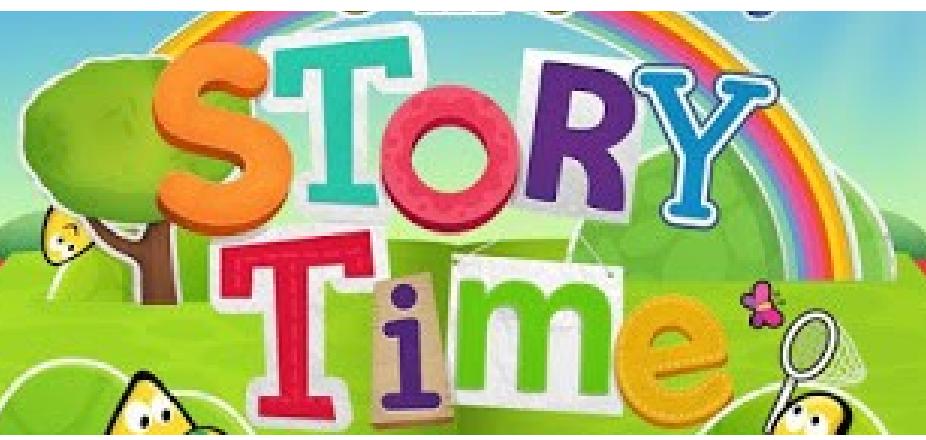
- One of the greatest motivators for me was **buying gym clothes**; I would recommend gym shark leggings for girls as they're super flattering and supportive. I got mine off **depop!**
- I wish I had taken **progress pictures or kept a record** of how I felt after each workout so I could track my progress and general fitness improving.
- I didn't realise the **importance of**

warming up and down until I skipped the warm up and got a stitch, equally when I stopped running immediately (with no walk after) I could hardly move the next day.

Some lessons I have learned:

- **Know your body and take rest days** when you need it. I personally never work out on Sundays and days when I knew I wasn't just being lazy and genuinely didn't want to do it. So I didn't: I ordered pizza and watched TV all day instead.
- **Don't compare yourself to other people.** I started using strava but stopped making my runs public as it made me feel disheartened when I finished and it wasn't as fast as somebody else. Then I realised it doesn't matter at all and I was going infinitely faster than my sister at home on the sofa eating her body weight in pringles.

I 100% recommend Chloe Ting's workouts and couch to 5k if you're looking to mix up your workout routine or simply need some structure in your days now exams are over. **Equally, I recommend the "doughy bites with cheese and garlic" crust from Pizza Hut xxx**



Once again we'll be ending this Badger with a bedtime story: one of **betrayal**, **love** and **passion**: just like the Bible. Tuck up with your hot cocoa, live vicariously through this anonymous protagonist and **be thankful it's not new years eve**. As always, send your submissions so everyone can unite and find comfort in the fact that **it doesn't happen to everyone but it certainly is funny**.

The Gazebo Story

Once upon a time in a place far, far away (**or very much in Britain, depending on your beliefs**) a vibe was unfolding; it was new year's eve. As per usual, it was cold and dark. Amidst the darkness there was a **spark**: a small one had been ignited between our protagonist and a boy (let's call him **John**, a **biblical name**, one of Jesus' disciples). The humble connection was being fostered underneath the faded musky green of a gazebo to the tune of the new year's countdown ticking.

Contrary to the weather and ensemble of people, the beverage of choice being consumed was markedly different to normal. Our protagonist is a creature of habit and normally **guzzled copious amounts of squashka**. However her taste buds could always be suppressed by her frivolous tendencies. On this occasion, the unusual yet exotic combination of Southern comfort and Fanta fruit twist has been sponsored by **Neil**. He would get his payment later....

Whilst many use the new year period to reflect upon the time that has passed, our protagonist seizes the opportunity to seal that Hollywoodesque midnight tonsil tennis match. In a last minute turn of events John has, however, been subbed off for Neil in tonight's game. Ironically John's score in tennis terms is 'love', **but there was no love left for him that night**. Although I doubt what attracted our protagonist to Neil can be classed as love: it was more likely to be a combination of **daddy issues and the mystical powers**

of fanta fruit twist as a mixer. To be fair any boy who shares his fanta fruit twist deserves a bit of midnight magic.

Tik tok; drink dronk; boom clap pussy flap.

Of course the protagonist wishes to maintain a certain degree of self-respect (as hard as that is to believe) so this narrative space and time signifies the time she spent getting to know Neil. Of course vivid imagery holds a space in this novella but as do philosophical questions such as the difference between a marquee, gazebo and tent. Here is a moment to consider such conundrums, find refuge in the beauty of writing whilst simultaneously escaping the intensity of such a fast-paced narrative. This distance echoes the gap in the protagonist's memory as the combined euphoria of Southern comfort and mediocre-looking, dad-bodied boys overwhelms her.

Reality hit her harder than Adelle's divorce. Suddenly and all at once she realized it was only herself and Neil left occupying the gazebo/ tent/ marquee hybrid. Most would use said extra space to do cartwheels, have a boogie or even follow the natural diffusion gradient and leave to the garden where it was clearly popping off like my trouser buttons after a Chinese buffet. Not our protagonist and Neil though. What did they do? "Well guys there's no easy way to say this: I got fingered in a gazebo."

Unfortunately, this, like some of Shakespeare's greatest works, cannot remain a member of the comedy genre. What happens next shifts us into tragicomedy area.

Poor John, one of the first disciples called upon by Jesus, sees such an event unfold and, consequently, denies our protagonist the everlasting privilege of his wise and insightful words to this very day. Don't feel too sympathetic for John though because on the whole the name can be seen to symbolise the suffocating patriarchy that pervades our society for there are more statues in London of men called John than there are statues of all women throughout the country. So, actually, John deserves to feel cheated by the wrath of female desire and raw sexuality.

Here our story ends here but the scars will remain fresh for eons (namely because the protagonist is low in red blood cells which clot at the wound and allow healing.)



Written by Aidan's Journalism committee.

*If you would like to submit anything at all to the magazine please message
the journocomm facebook page/ JCR Secretary email (secretary@st-aidans.com)*