



castellum

THE MAGAZINE OF THE DURHAM CASTLEMEN'S SOCIETY

No. 27 1974

DURHAM CASTLEMEN'S SOCIETY

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THE MASTER OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

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*J. SPEDDING, D.S.O., D.F.C., B.A.
103 Newbiggin Road, Ashington, Northumberland

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K. ORRELL

Editor of Castellum :
D. HOLBROOK
95 Belmont Hill, London, SE13 5DY

* Communications for the Secretary/Treasurer which are not private should be sent to him c/o the College Office, University College, Durham Castle, where formal matters receive attention.

EDITORIAL

This edition of *Castellum* comes in economy form and with some familiar items missing. Even worse, it could be the last edition in this form at all. The Society is in the grip of inflation, and the basis of its financing provides little scope for counter measures. Obviously the Committee and the Annual General Meeting will be discussing the problem in April, and we will do everything we can to keep up some form of magazine. I would ask therefore that members keep up their supply of news items and we may be able to find a way of reproducing them and sending them round, together with some minimum amount of College news.

A glance at the balance sheet, in this issue makes the position fairly clear. *Castellum* is much the biggest item of cost, and because of all the problems of postage and communication is the most difficult to put on a pay as you go basis. Ideas, and of course voluntary extra subscriptions, would all be welcome. However one hesitates to suggest that readers should send extra subscriptions at this stage, because only if there were a very wide-spread response could that make a great deal of difference.

D. H.

THE MASTER'S LETTER

Anyone who comes to Durham as Master of University College is indeed fortunate, because he becomes responsible for such a venerable and distinguished College in a quite incomparable situation, rightly described as one of the finest groupings of mediaeval buildings in Northern Europe. My family and I have thoroughly enjoyed our first year in Durham and it has indeed been a great pleasure to meet such a large number of Castlemen during this period.

The College continues to flourish and is in excellent spirits. The Sutton Site building project to provide additional residential accommodation below the Keep and behind Saddler Street is now firmly placed in the U.G.C. Programme of residential projects allowed to start in 1974/75 and will receive 50% U.G.C. subsidy in addition to the grants from the Department of the Environment, the Wolfson Foundation and the most welcome and generous contribution from the Castlemen's Society Appeal. A satisfactory tender has been received and, subject to the completion of the negotiations with the S.P.C.K. Bookshop and the Brewery, who are partners with the University in the development, work should start this autumn and the additional places should be available to the College by the end of 1976. This project forms an important part in the longer term strategy of the University to improve the financial position of both University and Hatfield Colleges by making them a more viable size. It has the great advantage that it will replace the rooms that we now borrow for our students at Parson's Field House with accommodation that is more conveniently located in relation to the Castle, where we have our dining and common room facilities. It is very encouraging that we are able to implement this, in spite of the worsening financial climate for universities generally and in spite of the severe cuts in the U.G.C. building programme.

During the autumn, the repairs to the stonework of the Clock Tower and the south wall of the Tunstal Chapel were completed; and with the removal of the temporary contractor's huts from the Barbican, the lawn there has been re-sown. The only other building work during the year has been the re-roofing and modifications to the Master's House. The stone tiles have been carefully replaced on new timbers. Internally the house has been reduced in size by the creation of a completely separate unit of accommodation at the back, which now becomes 9 Owengate. Initially this will be used to rehouse a

tenant displaced from Saddler Street by the Sutton Site residential project for the College. In the longer term it should provide useful accommodation for a married don.

There has been further delay in starting the projects to replace the stone flags at the bottom of the Black Staircase and to refurbish the Lower Tunstal Gallery, because the cost of the Architect's latest proposals considerably exceeded the resources available to the College. There have been further discussions with Mr. Pace and these have resulted in a much simpler scheme that can be carried out within the sum left to the College as a bequest by an Old Castleman. It now looks as if a start may be made during the winter on this work of improvement which has been under discussion since 1966. When it is completed the Lower Tunstal Gallery will be an attractive amenity area during term and will be useful as a conference reception area during vacations.

The College Accounts for 1973/74 show a deficit of more than £10,000 on the year's workings, i.e. some £40 per student for the year, increasing once again the accumulated deficit to be carried forward. This is after account has been taken of the sums credited to Castle from other Colleges under Council's Equalization Scheme; and the Colleges contributing to the equalization funds are themselves now falling into deficit. Unless this is cured, we cannot hope to survive. All Durham Colleges have suffered from the serious national inflation of costs and the disproportionate increase in labour charges which have not been fully matched by increases in maintenance fee income. University College has suffered much more than other colleges from its high unit costs per student because of its relatively small student numbers, heavy labour charges due to its pattern of service and the large area per student to be maintained and serviced in the older buildings. With existing methods of operating, the increased costs from wage increases and the equal pay awards would have added some £9,000 per year to the wage bill alone. Like all other colleges in Durham we have therefore been obliged to consider very hard the various ways in which costs may be reduced and income increased; and there have been extensive discussions both in the Governing Body and with the J.C.R. As opportunity occurs the level of room service in College is being reduced; an architect has been appointed to make detailed proposals about the introduction of cafeteria meal service for breakfast, lunch and weekend meals; and plans are being formulated to create some extra student places within the existing areas of the Castle and Owengate buildings. With the completion of

the Sutton Site project, the College will have some 325 residential places by 1976/77, and should be able to reduce its unit costs for supervision, catering and residence, bringing them more into line with those at other Durham Colleges, and more within the maximum maintenance and supervision fees that the College is allowed to charge its students.

While these measures will inevitably involve some change, they should still enable us to maintain the particular kind of environment and study which is the integral feature of the collegiate system. This is essential if we are to maintain the quality of life in the University and the quality of entrants who clearly choose Durham as their University and University College in particular, because of the advantages afforded by the college system. It is in fact by only careful change to meet changed circumstances that we can hope to maintain our heritage in times of financial stringency and the relentless pressures of inflation. Sometime the changes can even bring new life. In the last two years an increasing number of our young dons have concluded that they cannot afford to be left outside the housing market, and while remaining bachelors have bought their own houses in Durham. But this has not had the effect that one might have feared—a dilution of life in the S.C.R. On the contrary it has increased the number of non-residents who regularly eat in college.

During the past year, there have been a number of changes in the University. The Theology Department has now moved into its new quarters in the remodelled Abbey House; and a start has been made on the reconstruction of the premises they vacated in Saddler Street for use by the Department of Archaeology. This Department has long since outgrown its accommodation in the Fulling Mill and is embarking on its first full undergraduate course in Archaeology during 1974. In the last few years it has been using some of the premises between Saddler Street and the mound of the Keep, but these are to be converted into student rooms for University College as part of the Sutton Site project. So there is some justice in that the chain of moves, by which we have lost the use of Abbey House for College accommodation, but which will make available to us more extensive college facilities behind Saddler Street. The new buildings of Collingwood College have now been fully occupied and the quality of the design has been recognised by the Royal Institute of British Architects which has given an award to the Architects, Robert Shepherd and Partners, the University and College. It is indeed impressive to see the way in which the design is tailored to the rising ground and has

retained so many of the mature trees which make this part of the City so attractive.

In the City, work has continued throughout the year on the new multi-storey car park behind Deggarts and, all too slowly, on the new bridge over the Wear which will give full vehicle access from the new Leazes Road to New Elvet. When this is completed through traffic for the A177 to Shincliffe and beyond will no longer have to pass through the Market Place; and Silver Street and Elvet Bridge will be closed to vehicles and become a pedestrian precinct. The time is approaching when Durham will no longer need its television control of traffic from the Market Place and the circuitous route of traffic round the police-box to reach Saddler Street and Palace Green. Work is also progressing well on the Shopping Centre at Milburngate. Some of course will regret these changes but they should considerably improve the environment of Durham and help to preserve its character which has been increasingly threatened by traffic congestion in the centre of the old city.

With the fuel economy regulations at the end of November last year, both the Castle and Cathedral floodlighting had to be switched off. For several months Palace Green was lit merely by four or so gas lamps. Some of us found it very attractive, recalling the atmosphere of Durham that I for one remember so well from years after 1945 and which can nowadays be recaptured only by those who are out after midnight. But it did also make us appreciate the beauty of the floodlighting when the economy regulations were relaxed just before Easter. Some of us wondered whether this did not really reflect the two strands of interest in Palace Green—the academic life of the University during the winter and the tourists who now come in increasing numbers during the summer months to admire its monuments and perhaps to visit the only university college in Britain that enjoys the setting of a Norman Castle.

Sarah Macfarlane-Grieve

Many Castlemen will be sorry to hear of the death on 6th April 1974 of Mrs. Macfarlane-Grieve, widow of the former Master of University College who was the founder of The Durham Castlemen's Society.

Between 1939 and 1953 she must have entertained in the Master's House innumerable members of the College—and indeed many others connected with the Federal University of Durham of that time. Always supporting her husband in his major interests in the Castle—rowing, Durham University Athletic Union and the O.T.C.—through difficult war-time conditions and for some seven years afterwards, she provided a stable domestic background upon which her husband's interests and activities were based.

Sarah Margoliouth was for some years Lecturer in Art at St. Hild's College before marrying Angus Macfarlane-Grieve. They had two adopted sons, Michael and Sandy, both of whom became farmers in Scotland when their father retired from the Mastership in 1953. A gifted painter, Sarah Macfarlane-Grieve took special pleasure as an artist in the landscaping of the Castle and its surroundings which she often painted. It may not be generally known but following on the death of Mrs. Macfarlane-Grieve and according to the wishes of her former husband, a generous legacy reverted to the College recently.

Another link with the history of the Castle and the Society has been severed by her death and many will give blessing and benison to Sarah Macfarlane-Grieve, thankful to have known her during their association with the University, College and Castle.

L. SLATER.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 28th A.G.M. of the Durham Castlemen's Society was held in the Undercroft at 5.30 p.m. on Saturday, April 20th 1974.

The Master, Dr. D. W. MacDowall presided.

70 Members were present.

The Minutes of the last A.G.M. were read and confirmed.

The Treasurer presented his report.

Recommendations from the Committee:—

1. Len Slater to be made Vice-President. Carried with acclamation.
2. Reunion Charges. £6 for the whole Reunion, £2.50 for Dinner only. Students in residence to pay the rate decided by the Bursar.
3. 10% gratuity to be given to staff.
4. Membership of the Society. Only 4 students in residence had joined the Society in 1973/74. It was decided to try to improve communication between members and the J.C.R. Members were urged to attend J.C.R. events.

At the end of the third year, each student should receive a Society circular together with a letter from the Master pointing out the advantages of joining the Society.

5. It was agreed to ask the Committee of Captains to compose a shorter sports report for *Castellum*.
6. It was agreed to discontinue printing the Address List.

Election of Officers:—

- (a) Secretary-Treasurer re-elected.
- (b) Derek Holbrook re-appointed Editor of *Castellum*.
- (c) Mr. Keith Orrell re-appointed member on the Governing Body.
- (d) Mr. Coats and Mr. Wilkins were elected to the Committee.

The 1975 Reunion would be from Friday, 18th April to Sunday, 20th April. Reunion Dinner—Saturday, 19th April.

A.O.B. No action was taken on Mr. Bakalarski's suggestion that the Society should organise lunch at Lumley Castle on Saturday, April 19th 1975.

The Senior Man offered the J.C.R. hospitality to members on Friday evening, April 18th.

Vic Hill and the Reverend Goodwins offered to have the Hall clock repaired.

Vic Hill congratulated the Master on a very successful first A.G.M.

There being no further business the Meeting adjourned at 6.20 p.m.

J.C.R.

What will the year October 1973 to June 1974 be remembered for? Is there anything tangible to show for the passage of that year? Is the College any different having experienced it?

I can write only about what has left an impression on me; others may see things differently.

It was the year of a new Master, Dr. MacDowall, which set a distinct atmosphere. It was a year of necessary financial reforms. It was the year of a new caterer and standards remained high; a year of three good college dinners (Freshers, College and the new Going Down Dinner). At the first, the Master's call for "More vino" will always be fondly remembered; at the second, we were alleged to be having a "Sextravaganza in 900 year old Castle" (*Northern Echo*) and at the third we at last all knew the words to the college song. It was the year of the best three dances I have known; all sold out and all made money—the last dance probably being the best in Durham so far. It was a year of six well attended J.C.R. meetings; sometimes entertaining, rarely heated, and never really important; a year in which support for and achievements in college sport improved substantially; the year when the flag was stolen six times and retrieved almost as often from Hatfield; a year revising college regulations but not quite managing it, involving a questionnaire to which less than half answered. It was the year we bought a new carpet for the Undercroft, a new till for the bar and a typewriter and the year we were given a fridge and a duplicator. It was the year we instituted a new executive office, the Chairman of the Social Committee; a year of another healthy bar profit thanks to a very tight control. It was a year in which members of Castle figured prominently in University affairs (D.S.U. Sec., D.S.U. Treasurer, D.U.A.U. Vice-President and Sec., DULOG Pres.) It was the year we had close elections for all next year's posts which included five candidates for Senior Man. I shall remember it as the best year of my life so far.

Of a more tangible nature, the year did achieve some advances. Dances are now self-financing and as a result must be more attractive and better organised. This we achieved—producing the best dance each term. It is a pity that we had to rely so heavily on outside sales. The new Social Chairman will take the burden of organising dances from the Senior Man whose work load is large and ever-growing. This is an important move as the trend seems to be for Senior Men and Women to be undergraduates. The Chairman will look after the dance accounts and as a result the JCR Treasurer will be able to take

on the Composition Fee account previously looked after by the Senior Treasurer.

The Joint Exec. meetings were conducted on pleasantly informal terms but it is a pity that almost all the discussion topics came from the JCR except for the perennial question why don't more members of JCR wear gowns? Gown wearing has declined to an extent that makes it a divisive issue rather than a symbol of unity. College spirit is better shown in other ways, for example, in the increased support for and participation in sport, in the spirit shown at college dinners, in JCR attendance and in members generally wanting to identify with the college. College spirit is not disappearing, it is being manifested in other and to my mind better ways. There was no college general meeting this year as there was nothing put forward by either JCR or SCR to discuss. It seemed absurd to scrape questions together for the sake of it.

If the purpose of the administrative side of the exec's job is to make sure that every member of the JCR gets the maximum out of college life and facilities, then it was a good year. Nothing went seriously wrong. It all ran smoothly. The duplicator was useful in this context especially in the production of termly JCR events sheets and JCR sport fixtures.

Of course, there is a lot more to life than administration. Throughout this year we have made every effort to make Castle just that important bit more than a hall of residence. I'd like to think we succeeded but would add that it wouldn't take much to fail. The survival of the collegiate system depends on a lot of effort by a lot of people every year.

A lot of people did make an effort this year. I'd like to thank Mike Osbaldeston for his hard work as JCR Secretary, Tim Sugden for outstanding efforts as JCR Treasurer, Captain of Soccer and consistently good opening batsman, Ihor Kruk as Bar Chairman and Bob Ryder for courage and patience as Bar Vice-Chairman. I'd like to thank the rest of the exec and the social committee for making that important effort. I am forever grateful to Mrs. Vine, Dave Watson, John, Mr. Solan, Cicely, Robin Mills, Jean Oliver, and Duncan Bythell. A special thanks to John Lumsden for work as Senior Treasurer.

Finally, I should like to wish Steve Whittle all the best as next year's Senior Man. I hope he enjoys it as much as I did.

ED. MITCHELL

Senior Man.

THE READ AND WEED CLUB

After its revival last year, the Club increased in size with the inclusion of a greater number of undergraduates. A larger number of meetings was held, on a wide variety of subjects given by Club members. The Master was the Guest Speaker at the Annual Dinner held in February, and gave an entertaining paper on Afghanistan. In a less serious vein the Club participated in a yard-of-ale competition, the results of which defy description.

J. S. SCHROETER.

THE CHAPEL CHOIR

The Chapel Choir has had a very eventful year and has sung in York Minster, Wells and Durham Cathedrals as well as performing in a choral and orchestral concert in the Grêat Hall of Durham Castle in December. However, the greatest part of the Choir's work has been the regular Thursday Evensong and this year has seen a great variety in the styles and periods of the music sung in this essentially Cathedral type service.

As in previous years, the Choir were to meet again during the summer vacation to sing cathedral services for a week, and this year Wells Cathedral was the venue. 27 people eventually were comfortably accommodated in the Cathedral School during the last week in August, and the daily Evensongs and Sunday morning services over the Bank Holiday weekend were sung to large congregations. Despite the enormous number of tourists, and the famous Wells clock causing practices to stop on the hour every hour, the choir sang very well and the varied and difficult music was performed with great authority. There was also some opportunity to explore the Somerset countryside with the result that by the end of the week, the sounds of Castle Choir had been heard coming from the top of Glastonbury Tor and from a refectory of a ruined abbey, as well as in numerous pubs and cream tea shops in Wells! We certainly made our mark!

Finally, I should like to thank sincerely everyone who has sung in the Chapel Choir this year for their help and co-operation, and the organists who accompanied the services so capably both in Durham and elsewhere: Michael Tavinor (Assistant Organist), Nicholas Stuart, Michael Hodges and others.

STEPHEN SHIPLEY

Organ Scholar.

COLLEGE SPORT

Considering the size of Castle's membership and the fact that its annual intake very rarely includes individuals of outstanding sporting ability, the college made a remarkable impact on University sport (and elsewhere) this year. As a college it is increasingly recognised as ranking close behind Bede and Hatfield in overall sporting strength. Particularly encouraging this year was support at matches from JCR and SCR. In this respect Castle is second to none.

1973/74 was a successful season for the rugby team, ending on a high note with an excellent performance against Hatfield in the Trophy final.

The number of rugby playing freshmen to Castle was low but those that did play were of a good standard. The problems of fitting these players into positions that would make a workable team were eventually sorted out in the match against Sunderland Poly when a superb team display beat the Poly side 15-7.

The next two matches were cancelled due to weather conditions and this lack of match practice and the fact that most people were thinking about the second round Trophy match with Cuths, produced a game lacking effort and spirit against a mediocre Henderson Hall side who won 9-6.

The term finished under terrible weather conditions (4 in. of snow) but Castle nevertheless trounced Cuths 50-0 much to the glee of the team and its handful of hardy supporters.

The next term was the long run up to the Trophy final which, after losing to Newcastle Poly 1sts, included a great sequence of five consecutive victories. Castle thoroughly outclassed Chads in the semi-final of the Trophy and the 43-0 result was no flattery.

The team increased in confidence and spirit as the season went on. It would be unfair to single out players but Dick Holmes at full back and often scrum half must be mentioned as the top scorer, with over a 100 points to his credit. Rob Moverley proved not only to be a good full-back when playing, but also a marvellous club man when supporting or running touch. Graham Longton in the second row got through a lot of work with little glory and next season will prove a great asset to the team which again will probably lack any "big guns". Mike "Peardrop" Hamlin was invaluable not only as a 1st class hooker (despite his stumpy legs) but also as a tactical advisor.

Final Record: Plyd. 13, Won 9, L4, Pts for 368. Pts against 93.

The **Soccer** side had a mixed season, turning in some good performances in reaching the Trophy final but disappointing in the league. In the latter we ended up 10th, never quite playing at our potential best which was only reached on tour in Oxford and in the Trophy.

After comfortable victories over Johns (3-0) and Collingwood (5-0) we played Mildert in the semi-final of the Trophy—the same team having beaten us 5-0 in the league just a week previously were not well keyed up for the game and Castle, playing with tremendous spirit, always had the edge in a tight match. However, it was not until the last minute that substitute Mike Carr slid home the only goal to the delight of players and supporters alike. In the final we played the strong Bede side and in fact scored first through Neil Darbyshire. Eventually Bede's superior skill was too much for us and they ran out 6-2 winners though the score-line flattered them and disguised some tremendous efforts by Castle.

Of the newcomers to the side Dave Sim, Neil Darbyshire, Tim Laurence, Mike Williams all played their part well especially Tim Laurence who regularly turned in brilliant performances. Tim Gatenby never really reached his potential although he was leading goal scorer for the third year running and scored six goals on tour in Oxford when we beat Pembroke 6-2 and Trinity 4-2. Doug Wordsworth was a useful target man and his effervescent character will be sorely missed next year, while Andy Lindley played well in mid-field and will be able to help Pete Naylor set up a very useful side next year. (I'd like to add that Tim Sugden was a very good Captain. Ed.)

Castle won the **Water Polo** Trophy final against Bede 14-4 in what was for me, the most satisfying and exciting match I have ever seen. The whole side deserves credit, but the professional and mature performances of Rich Mole and Pete Gibson require special mention. It once again highlights the ascendancy of brain over brawn.

The **Cricket** team should have been in the Trophy final. Castle scored a solid, convincing win over Collingwood who batted well but had no bowling power. Man of the match in my view was Dick Holmes. In the semi-final Castle met Johns and bowled them out for a very low score (78, I think), but somehow managed to be bowled out for less, Andy Stott giving some very brave LBW decisions (if dubious!).

College **Table Tennis** did particularly well. Being the first season in the league, the team started in Div 4 but immediately gained promotion to Div 3. Castle also managed to get through to the Trophy final against Bede but this match was never played as Bede failed to arrange its qualifying match with Gradsoc.

Rowing for a College of this size is still sadly understrength. The major achievements of 1974 being the attraction of a number of keen first-years to the sport, and the very near miss of the Novice Four (Fielden, O'Riordan, Whittle, Cheslett, Stagg (Cox)) at Durham Regatta.

With this behind us and with our equipment in a healthy state, Castle Boat Club looks set to break its duck of several years standing.

ED MITCHELL

Senior Man.

DATES OF 1976 REUNION

Friday, 16th April to Sunday, 18th April 1976, the
Reunion Dinner being on Saturday, 17th April, 1976.

DURHAM CASTLEMEN'S SOCIETY

Receipts and Payments Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1974.

RECEIPTS		£	PAYMENTS		£
April 1st	To Balance brought forward ..	297.91	March 31st	By Printing: <i>Castellum</i> ..	303.00
March 31st	" Reunion Income, 1973 ..	300.00		Envelopes, etc. ..	23.73
	" Subscriptions:				
	Students 80 at £1.50 ..	120.00		" Reunion Expenses, 1973 ..	326.73
	" Contributions towards			" Donation—Mr. Slater's	279.08
	<i>Castellum</i> :			Portrait ..	50.00
	294 at £0.50 ..	147.00		" Postages ..	46.85
	8 at £1.00 ..	8.00		" Balance carried forward ..	199.25
	3 at £2.00 ..	6.00			
	1 at £3.00 ..	3.00			
	4 at £5.00 ..	20.00			
		184.00			
		£901.91			£901.91

The amount invested in the Northern Rock Building Society at 31st March, 1974 is £170.74.

Signed on behalf of J. Spedding, Treasurer.
T. E. BELL
20th April, 1974.

COLLEGE OFFICERS, 1974-75

Master	DR. D. W. MACDOWALL, M.A., D.Phil., F.S.A.
Vice-Master and Senior Tutor ..	MR. S. G. RAMSAY, B.Sc.
Bursar	MR. H. C. PRICE
Chaplain	THE REV. A. H. NUGENT, B.A.
Lowe Librarian	DR. D. BYTHELL, M.A., D.Phil.
Resident Tutor in charge of Parsons Field House	DR. A. I. DOYLE, M.A., Ph.D.

COLLEGE TUTORS, 1974-75

DR. F. ASHTON, B.Sc., Ph.D.
DR. P. BEAUMONT, B.A., Ph.D.
DR. G. M. BROOKE, B.Sc., D.Phil.
DR. D. BYTHELL, M.A., D.Phil.
DR. P. D. B. COLLINS, B.Sc., Ph.D.
MR. D. E. L. CRANE, M.A., B.Litt.
DR. D. M. KNIGHT, M.A., D.Phil.
MR. J. C. LUMSDEN, B.Sc.(Econ.), A.L.A.
DR. D. J. A. MATTHEW, M.A., D.Phil.
MR. N. F. PALMER, M.A.
DR. C. PREECE, B.Sc., Ph.D.
DR. A. C. PUGH, B.A., Ph.D.
DR. E. G. P. ROWE, M.Sc., Ph.D.
MR. B. SMYTHE, LL.B.
DR. J. H. STEVENS, B.Sc., Ph.D.