The Darwin College Students' Association Welcome Guide 2021

linktr.ee/dcsa.cam
1) Main College Buildings  
   (Rayne Building, Newnham Grange, Old Granary)
2) Newnham Terrace
3) Frank Young House
4) 5 Wordsworth Grove
5) 2 Summerfield
6) The Malting House
7) 45a, 49a, & 51 Newnham Road
8) Gwen Raverat House
9) Kings Road Flats & Town Houses
10) Ashworth Park Flats
11) Croft Lodge Flat
12) 10 Barton Road
13) 56-57 Eltisley Avenue Flats
14) 62-63 Eltisley Avenue Flats
15) Hardwick House
16) Mount Pleasant Halls (off-map)

Cover Photo by Andrzej Bugajski
Instagram @bandriu01
Welcome to Darwin College

Dear New Darwinians,

First, congratulations on securing a place at the University of Cambridge! You sure have worked hard to get here, and you deserve it! This past year has been an unusual and challenging time for all of us, but now the future is looking more promising. With that in mind, it is my pleasure to welcome you to our beloved Darwin College.

My name is Daniel, and I am this year's president of the Darwin College Students' Association - or DCSA for short - which you automatically become a member of upon joining Darwin.

Three years ago I was in the exact same position as you, having just arrived in Cambridge and Darwin College, slightly overwhelmed by the situation I found myself in and a bit anxious but excited about what was to come next. Cambridge truly is a place like no other, both academically and socially. Though demanding at times, you will encounter many opportunities during your time here and I would highly recommend fully immersing yourself in this experience.

To make the start of this new chapter of your life easier, we have put together a guide which should help you settle in and make you feel at home. For the next two weeks we have also organised a variety of events to give you a taste of what Darwin College has to offer.

When I say "we", I am speaking on behalf of the DCSA Executive Committee (EC), a team of 20 passionate Darwin students who were elected by all current Darwinians as their representatives, fulfilling different roles. Amongst a lot of other information, you can read more about the EC in this booklet, and you will surely see us around during Freshers' Fortnight.

But that is enough from me for now. If you have any question, please reach out to me or any of the DCSA officers. We are always happy to hear from you or have a chat.

I am genuinely excited about the coming year and look forward to meeting you in person!

Best wishes,
Daniel Buhl
DCSA President 2021 - 2022
COVID-19

Last year the coronavirus outbreak brought significant limitations to the way students were able to experience Darwin College. The DCSA and College worked very hard to welcome students in a safe and homely environment and, while this year is looking a lot more promising, we would still like to draw your attention to a couple of key points.

We ask all Darwinians to stay actively aware of the recent government guidelines (www.gov.uk/coronavirus). The Deanery and the DCSA will continue to send regular emails outlining any government, University and college updates. Your Department and Faculty guidelines might be different so please check them separately. Below are the measures currently in place within Darwin:

- Masks should be worn inside the college, unless you are exempt, seated or physically exercising
- Hand sanitisers are available around college (Porters’ Lodge, Dining Hall, Water Fountain, Study Centre, gym)
- The study centre has marked desk spaces which you need to book (https://booking.dar.cam.ac.uk/). Sanitising stations are in place for you to clean your desk before and after use

Further information can be found in ‘The Deanery: student support’ section on the College website: www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/info-book. These measures are subject to change in line with higher-level advice. For University-wide information and guidance on testing, vaccination and other measures check out the ‘Stay Safe Cambridge Uni website: www.cam.ac.uk/coronavirus/stay-safe-cambridge-uni.


We are aware that this can be very unsettling. If you find yourself in this situation you must call the Porters’ Lodge immediately, whether you live in College or private accommodation, so they can help you with further advice and activate support structures through the Deanery and Catering Service. **Do not go to the Porters’ Lodge in person!**

The DCSA is committed to offering all new Darwinians a memorable Freshers’ Fortnight. These remain uncertain and difficult times, and all events presented in the calendar and advertised online will depend on the situation and the regulations at that time. Check your emails and the Darwin College Students Facebook group (see ‘Getting Connected’ section) for any updates on our events!
Survival Guide

Porter’s Lodge and Mail
The Porters' Lodge is the first point of call for general enquiries. It is where you’ll find your pigeonholes. We recommend you use your college address whenever possible:

Darwin College
Silver St
Cambridge
CB3 9EU

A porter is on duty 24 hours every day. To contact them, you can either call +44 1223 335660 or write to porters@darwin.cam.ac.uk.

Day to Day
If something is wrong with your room, there are maintenance forms at the Porters’ Lodge. Alternatively, you can send an email to: maintenance@darwin.cam.ac.uk. There are washers and dryers on the ground floor of the college main site, at Frank Young and Gwen Raverat House, and in many of the other accommodations. These laundry machines are operated by cards you can get and top up at the Porters’ Lodge.

Bikes
Most people travel around Cambridge by bike. Don’t over-invest though, as Cambridge is notorious for bike thefts, so be sure to get a good lock. Bike shops are marked on the map on the back cover. You will need a Darwin bike tag to keep your bike on Darwin premises – you can get one at the welcome desk, but if not ask the porters.

Phone/Data
If you’ve brought your own mobile/cell phone, you can get a new SIM card from most networks. Alternatively, you can get a new phone with a contract. It is worth asking around which provider has good coverage where you live. Some providers will also offer cheap monthly options for international calls.

Doctors
You need to register with a local doctor (GP) as soon as possible, and the closest to Darwin is Newnham Walk Surgery. For emergencies, dial 999.

Counseling Services
For free and confidential counselling, contact Deb Powter (deb.powter@admin.cam.ac.uk or +44 1223 332865). More information, and an online application form, can be found at: www.counselling.cam.ac.uk/cbccouns/darwin. Cambridge Samaritans also offers free confidential support by calling 116 123.
Survival Guide

Getting Connected

Spirituality

While we don't have a chapel, Darwin students are welcome at Queens' College chapel. For chaplaincy support, contact Reverend Max Bayliss (mtb52@cam.ac.uk).

Graduate Tutor

Your Graduate Tutor is a College Fellow that can offer confidential advice and support on non-academic problems. They can also provide careers advice and write tutorial references for you. If your work is disrupted and you need to take time off, your Tutor will help you ensure that your application is presented properly to the relevant university bodies. You can find out who your Graduate Tutor is on the ‘Academic’ section here: www.camsis.cam.ac.uk

Mental Health Support

Student Minds Cambridge is the Cambridge branch of Student Minds, the UK's student mental health charity. You can find a lot of useful information about their events and mental health support in the university or Cambridge here: www.studentmindscambridge.wordpress.com

Menstrual Products and Contraception

The DCSA Welfare Team provides access to free menstrual products on behalf of the DCSA in the study centre and main building bathrooms for emergency use. You can also find free emergency pregnancy tests and condoms in the main building bathrooms.

Sexual Health Support and STI Testing

The NHS offers a sexual health service called iCaSH in Cambridgeshire. You can order a free, confidential and discreet routine STI testing kit through them. They also offer advice and material on contraception, treatment for sexually transmitted infections, as well as HIV care and treatment. Visit icash.nhs.uk for more information.

WhatsUp Email Newsletter

Every week, the DCSA Communications Officer sends emails providing information on both Darwin and University-wide events. We use the newsletter to announce college and social events, as well as official announcements from the DCSA. We strongly encourage all new students to sign up as soon as they have received their CRSid@cam.ac.uk email address. We will also communicate info and updates on Freshers' events through this channel. There are usually about 1-2 emails per week.

Because of privacy regulations, you need to manually sign up with your CRSid@cam.ac.uk email address using the link
Getting Connected

or QR code below: http://mail.dar.cam.ac.uk/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/whatsup

If you would like to communicate something through the newsletter, or if you have questions or problems with signing up, please email the DCSA Communications Officer at dcsa_coms@darwin.cam.ac.uk.

DCSA Website

Another great source of information for students, new and old, is the DCSA website dcsa.dar.cam.ac.uk. New students should check out the appropriately named “New Students” page. There is information about the members of the DCSA executive committee and governance, on the corresponding pages. For information on all of the facilities available at Darwin check out the facilities page. The welfare page contains a wealth of useful information to keep us all mentally and physically healthy. Finally, there is a calendar, with important upcoming events, on the events page.

Facebook Groups

We also run several groups which are only open to Darwin students. For general information or to ask questions to your fellow Darwinians, go to fb.com/groups/DarwinStudents/. For buying or selling, or for accommodation, check out the Darwin Marketplace at fb.com/groups/DarwinMarket/. In order to keep it just for us students, we require that you include your CRSid (the letters/numbers at the beginning of your @ cam email address) when requesting to join. For those living in Mount Pleasant Halls, you can join fb.com/groups/MPHDarwinians/ to connect with your neighbours.

Facilities

Darwin has a range of facilities, including the arts equipment, meeting rooms, fitness room, and sports equipment (full list available at www.dcsa.darwin.cam.ac.uk/facilities/). Due to COVID, the booking and access rules are susceptible to change any time, so stay on the lookout for more information.
Darwin Kitchens

Darwin College is one of the most affordable and best-loved catering options in the University. We're also sustainably committed (winning a Gold, Best Community Action Award and Ivan Higney, our Catering Manager was highly commended in the Sustainable Hero awards at the Green Impact ceremonies this year), and high-quality, with our chefs and front of house team winning many medals for their cooking and service achievements.

Normal service will resume from Monday 13th September 2021.

**Main Servery opening hours:**

**Lunch**
12:00 noon – 2:00 pm (Mon – Fri)

**Dinner**
6:00 pm – 8:30 pm (Mon – Sun)
5.30 pm – 7:00 pm (Fri - due to Formal Hall)

**Brunch**
9.00 am – 2:00 pm (Sat & Sun)

The weekly menu can be found online on the college website along with allergen information. Vegetarian/vegan options are always available.

You can pay with your college card and the charge should go onto your monthly bill. Guests can pay using their debit cards.

Look out for the Kitchens Facebook page (fb.com/DarwinKitchenUK/), Twitter (@Darwinkitchens) and Instagram (@darwincollegekitchens).

**Cafe**

Darwin Kitchens also offer a cafe service in the Common Room. A selection of salads, sandwiches, wraps, baguettes, cakes, pastries and other goodies will be available in addition to barista coffee. Seating is available in the Common Room, and the bar area and in warmer months, on the main lawn. Please do not consume food in the parlour.

**Cafe opening hours:**

8:30 am – 8:30pm (Mon – Sun)

Any questions or enquiries that you may have please email events@darwin.cam.ac.uk.

**Formal Halls**

Formal Halls are four-course dinners usually held on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Please sign up to Upay, our desktop or phone app for account statements, promotions and loyalty schemes. Guidelines on how to register can be found on the college website (www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/formal-halls-information). You will need to be registered for UpayChilli (upay.co.uk/app) to book your meal tickets and your drinks options. You will be able to book a
place for yourself and up to three guests, and the charge goes on your monthly bill.

There is a dress code (www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/info-book/formal-hall-dress-code) at all formal dinners defined without reference to gender identity or expression. At Formal Halls and Supervisors’ Evenings this is a lounge suit/jacket with a tie or appropriate equivalent attire. College members, and guests who are members of the university, are encouraged to wear gowns. Persons wearing a shirt without a jacket and tie, or appearing in jeans, training shoes, beach footwear, and/or hats or caps, will be refused entry. If you are unsure of the requirements please consult the Butler (qs384@cam.ac.uk) before the event.

Private Dining

Under ‘normal’ circumstances, Darwin members are allowed to book events at Darwin College through the Catering Department. We can host birthday celebrations, weddings, garden parties, departmental dinners, and more for you and your guests.

Sustainability & Ethical Policy

We pride ourselves @Darwinkitchens in ensuring that the food you eat is well sourced and minimises negative environmental impacts whilst providing a choice for our diverse community.

Please see our website (https://www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/catering) for further details. Please note ALL packaging that we use is compostable, please ensure it goes into the Food Waste bins so that it may be processed correctly. We have several coffee machines and water fountains located throughout the college. Please use a reusable vessel for these machines. Both Darwin Keepcups and Darwin water bottles are available to purchase for a subsidised price at the Servery or Cafe till.

Cooking in Accommodation

All college accommodation comes with access to a small kitchen with a hob, oven, microwave, toaster, kettle, and fridge/freezer space. The first island in the Darwin gardens is bookable for BBQs (www.dcsa.darwin.cam.ac.uk/facilities/).

Local Food Options

In the good old days, whenever Darwin’s dining hall was closed, other colleges such as Queens’, Pembroke, or St. Catharine’s were good alternatives. Another popular, close-by option is the 60s-style University Centre (‘Grad Pad’). It has a bar, a coffee shop (the Grad Café) with a nice view over Darwin College, and a fairly cheap cafeteria. There are some restaurants right on your doorstep such as Millworks, Sala Thong and Rice Boat at the corner of Newnham road. Darwin’s closest pubs are the Granta, the Anchor, and the Mill.
Food & Drink

For late night cravings, Tek's Grill is a kebab truck that parks near Lammas Land, open every night except Monday from 5pm - midnight. You'll also find more options in the city center, like Gardenia, Trailer of Life, McDonald’s, and City Kebab.

Food Stores

The closest store selling basic groceries and alcohol is the Co-operative shop in Newnham village. It is open until 10pm every day. For larger stores, there is a Marks & Spencer on Market Square and a Sainsbury’s on Sidney Street across from Sidney Sussex College. The food stalls at Market Square are an excellent place to shop for local produce and international meals. Some stores/shops/food stalls offer a student discount. The nearest cash-point is at the Shell petrol station on Newnham Road, just south of Darwin. There is another cash point at the local Marks & Spencers. Money can also be withdrawn directly from your local bank.

Food Delivery

Some of the larger grocery stores such as Sainsbury’s and Asda offer a delivery service for groceries on their websites. The process is fairly simple. You will need to register, select your items, choose a delivery slot for a fee and then be available for the selected time to pick up your delivery at the entered address. Delivery takeaway meals can be ordered on various platforms including Deliveroo, Uber Eats and Just Eat. Some of these delivery services will also have a selected range of groceries through smaller stores with faster delivery times. If you would rather order from local businesses check out www.clickitlocal.co.uk.

Government

Deliveroo, Uber Eats and Just Eat. Some of these delivery services will also have a selected range of groceries through smaller stores with faster delivery times. If you would rather order from local businesses check out www.clickitlocal.co.uk.

Voter Registration

Any citizen of the UK or Ireland as well as most Commonwealth citizens resident in the UK can register to vote in UK Parliament elections. EU citizens living in the UK are also allowed to vote in certain elections. Visit www.gov.uk/register-to-vote to check your eligibility and register.

Local Government

Cambridge is governed locally by the Cambridge City Council. Darwin (and most College accommodation) is part of the Newnham Ward, which is represented by three councillors. For any questions, email Josh Matthews (josh.matthews@cambridge.gov.uk). Newnham is also represented on the Cambridgeshire County Council by Lucy Nethsingha (lucynethsingha@icloud.com).

National Government

The current Member of Parliament (MP) for Cambridge is Daniel Zeichner of the Labour Party. You can contact his office by emailing daniel@danielzeichner.co.uk or by telephone at +44 20 7219 8462.
Meet the DCSA Executive Committee

President  dcsa_president@darwin.cam.ac.uk
Hello again! I am a final year PhD student in Biological Sciences at the Department for Veterinary Medicine developing methods for the detection of bacteria in clinical samples.
The President is the representative of the DCSA to College, voicing the opinions of the students to all College members. They coordinate the committee by chairing DCSA Regular Meetings and General Meetings. The President works with the rest of the committee to ensure work is completed. The President sits on the College Council as a student representative and attends fortnightly Cambridge Students' Union meetings.

Secretary  dcsa_secretary@darwin.cam.ac.uk
Hi, I am Vivien, a fourth-year PhD student at the Department of Chemistry, working on the development of DNA bioconjugation methods in the context of epigenetic sequencing.
The Secretary is the administrator of the committee and the Vice President (chair meetings and run the committee in the absence of the President). They run DCSA elections, take meeting minutes, and ensure that up-to-date records of the DCSA's affairs are maintained, including policy documents and the DCSA Constitution, Schedule, & Regulations.

Treasurer  dcsa_treasurer@darwin.cam.ac.uk
Hello, I am Jonathan and I am studying for a PhD in Biochemistry, researching MYC dependent signalling in Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma. When not working on my PhD or training with the University of Cambridge Ice Hockey Club Men’s Blues, I can be found enjoying DarBar’s extensive whisky collection.
The Treasurer is responsible for managing the finances of the DCSA, including drafting the budget, publishing reports, and assessing the financial feasibility of projects. They are responsible for ensuring timely reimbursements and payments of invoices and for maintaining accurate financial records.
Meet the DCSA Executive Committee

Elena Gomez Garcia

Hey, I am Elena, a first year PhD student in Biology, studying Embryonic Development. I enjoy singing, being under the sun and looking at fish in the sea. I am passionate about the importance of normalizing Mental Health issues, so feel free to ask me about my recovery from an eating disorder and share (or not, that’s also fine!) your own struggles.

Hey! I am Akash, a 3rd year PhD student working on the development of low cost viral diagnostics as part of the Sensor CDT program. When not working, I spend far too much time watching anime and playing video games.

The Welfare Officers are the student contact for students who are in need of help or advice. The two can advise you how to deal with any issues you face and who you should contact to get the help you need. Together, they organise welfare events throughout the year, such as Welfare Teas and Welfare Walks. Drop us an email or come find us on Facebook or College, if you need anything or just want to have a chat!

Welfare Officers dcsa_welfare@darwin.cam.ac.uk

Anna Parker

Hi, I am Anna, an MPhil student in Education. I am particularly interested in intergenerational healing promoted by post-war multilateral youth peace education programs, and gender equality in the Japanese context.

The Women's Officer is responsible for representing and furthering the needs of students who identify as women/non-binary. The Women's Officer ensures that students' bodily autonomy is respected in all areas relevant to their sexual and reproductive health, tackling sexual violence and harassment in education. The Women's Officer ensures that Darwin represents the community within the University.

Women's Officer dcsa_women@darwin.cam.ac.uk
Meet the DCSA Executive Committee

**Q+ Officer**  
dcsa_lgbtq@darwin.cam.ac.uk

Hi, I am Sarah and I am a PhD student at the Institute of Criminology, where I study Queer Intimate Partner Violence, specifically the role of morality within decision making. Outside of my studies, my favorite activity is playing video games and I am often found with a pint in hand at the pub.

The role of the Q+ Officer is to act as a representative for the interests of LGBTQ+ students at the college level, as well as to organise social events, mixers and workshops. Should any student have the slightest concern about their ability to express their gender or sexual identity in college, the Q+ Officer is always there to chat, advise and help out where possible.

**Admiral of the Punts**  
dcsa_punts@darwin.cam.ac.uk

Hello, I am Michael. I am a third year PhD student in Medical Genomics using computational and statistical tools to identify the processes that drive cancer development.

The Admiral of the Punts is responsible for all the vessels the punt club owns, including the punts, kayaks, canoe, paddle boards, and associated equipment. They manage Punt Club membership, finances, and administration, and they work with several trusted Captains to ensure the vessels are maintained and to organize social events throughout the year. Have a look at our website if you’d like to learn more about the Darwin Punt Club.

**BAME Officer**  
dcsa_bame@darwin.cam.ac.uk

Hi! My name is Tanya. I am a final year PhD student in Engineering working on 3D printing brain-like devices. Outside my studies, I enjoy chilling with my friends with a glass or two of wine. I will be here to share some of the resources that have helped throughout my stay in Cambridge. Don’t hesitate to get in touch.

The Black Asian Minority Ethnic Officer works with college to further the needs of ‘Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour’ (BIPOC) students. They aim to create a space that allows BIPOC students to reach their full potential, and better the everyday experience of life in Cambridge. The BAME Officer tries to tackle structural racism and increasing access.
Meet the DCSA Executive Committee

Hilde Schneemann

Communications Officer  dcsa_coms@darwin.cam.ac.uk
Hi! I am Hilde, a PhD student in the genetics department. For my PhD I am modelling hybrid fitness, thinking about the origin of species, and counting flowers at the botanical gardens. Outside of work, I can often be found on the river or the rugby pitch.

The Comms Officer is responsible for sending out the WhatsUp email blasts, maintaining the website, and otherwise attending to DCSA communication needs such as sitting on the college Information Services Committee. Please get in touch if you’d like to share something in WhatsUp or for any other communication-related needs. Speaking of which, don’t forget to sign up for the mailing list!

Jordan Lee

Entertainment Officers  dcsa_ents@darwin.cam.ac.uk

Hi, I am Jordan. I am a first year PhD student at the Department of Medicine researching heart attack and stroke.

Hey! I am Melanie, an MBA at the Judge Business School. I come from a Media and Entertainment background, making films and TV series. I love wine and cheese tasting and will talk to anyone about it at length!

The Ents Officers coordinate, organise, and promote the Darwin BOPs. They are responsible for the music, decorations, security, and finances. Darwin BOPs are known for their vibrant atmosphere and original themes and they have the most popular Cambridge bands performing. Think live music, themes, drinks, djs, raffles, good vibes and dancing until the early morning...

The Ents Officers also work with the Events Officer to host other events throughout the year. Reach out to them if you have any ideas! One officer is elected in November, and the other is elected in May.

Melanie O'Sullivan
Meet the DCSA Executive Committee

EEA Officer  dcsa_green@darwin.cam.ac.uk
Hi! I am Meg and I am in my first year of a PhD in Physics, investigating chemical sensing techniques using optical fibres. I am passionate about climate and environmental justice and ending fast fashion. You’ll often find me enjoying a coffee in the Darwin garden.

The Environmental & Ethical Affairs Officer is responsible for the coordination of measures to address environmental and ethical issues, and organises events promoting awareness of these issues. Please get in touch and share an issue that you feel passionate about, so we can support you in sharing it with the Darwin community. They also oversee the Gardening Society.

Events Officer  dcsa_events@darwin.cam.ac.uk
Hello, I am Chanon and I am studying for a PhD in Chemistry.

The Events Officer coordinates, organises, and promotes social and entertainment activities in college, including the May Week Garden Party, summer BBQ, and other smaller events throughout the year. They also administer the DCSA’s College Calendar.

External Officer  dcsa_external@darwin.cam.ac.uk
Hi, I am Chris, a PhD student in the Department of Plant Sciences, researching the conservation and evolutionary genetics of an endangered species of flower growing on the mountaintops of Armenia.

The External Officer is responsible for organising formal swaps with other Colleges, and for hosting other Colleges when they visit Darwin for formal swaps. They also represent the DCSA at Cambridge Students’ Union meetings.
Meet the DCSA Executive Committee

Maya Patel

**International Officer**  [dcsa_international@darwin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:dcsa_international@darwin.cam.ac.uk)

Hi! I am Maya, an alumna, who was most recently an MPhil student at the Faculty of Education studying the impacts of bilingualism on executive functioning. I am an extremely outgoing person and love meeting people from around the world.

The International Officer is responsible for representing the needs of international students, providing welfare support and organising events for fellow Darwinians which highlight cultural diversity. They also serve as a chair on the international crisis committee wherein international students speak about pertinent world affairs (e.g. political conflicts within their home countries).

Asmaysinh Gharia

**Sports and Societies Officers**  [dcsa_sports@darwin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:dcsa_sports@darwin.cam.ac.uk)

Hello, I am Asmay and I am a first-year PhD student in bioelectronics, developing a micro-electromechanical systems platform to efficiently generate cellular immunotherapies.

Hi, I am Poppy, a first-year PhD student in bioelectronics, developing flexible microelectrode arrays for brain stimulation.

Aside from academics, I enjoy running, cooking, and reading. If you have any questions, I am always up for a chat/run/coffee break and can often be found in the Darwin gym or gardens.

The Sports and Societies Officers are responsible for maintaining the gym and for overseeing Darwin’s sports and societies. They are also responsible for organising the Darwin-Wolfson Sports Day, a day of friendly competition against our sister college at Oxford, held every March. One officer is elected in November, and the other is elected in May.
Meet the DCSA Executive Committee

Bar Committee Chair  
dcsa_bar@darwin.cam.ac.uk  
Zoë Audra

Hey, I am Zoë, a third-year PhD in classics. I am researching the role of knowledge in theories of action in early Greek philosophy and science. When I am not at the bar, I can be found climbing or discussing philosophy and/or politics over a coffee.

Darbar is the college bar and is run and staffed by Darwin students. The Bar Chair presides over the Bar Committee and the large group of bartenders, and makes sure everyone can enjoy the bar. If you have any questions or ideas for making Darbar even better please get in contact with the email above. The Bar Chair is elected by the Bar Committee rather than being elected by all students.

Families Officer  
dcsa_families@darwin.cam.ac.uk

This position is currently vacant. If you are interested, please get in touch with a member of the DCSA EC.

The President of the Families Society is responsible for representing and furthering the needs of students with families - those with partners and/or children of all ages. They work to involve students with families in college events and organise events aimed at these students through the families society. See the families guide for lots of useful information (www.dcsa.darwin.cam.ac.uk//documents/booklet_families.pdf).
Meet the DCSA Executive Committee

Iván Shlamovitz

Hi! I am Iván, a first-year PhD student in Molecular Biology at the LMB, studying transcription. I have a deep addiction to mate, science policy, dipping in the Cam and all things Boca Juniors.

Hello, I am Jacob. I am a first year PhD student at the Computer Lab where I researche machine learning applied to pharmacological problems.

The College Council Reps are elected by the students to represent them in College Council meetings and other college committees. They also report the business of College Council to the DCSA, and provide feedback to college on student interests. One rep is elected in November, and the other is elected in May.

College Council Reps  dcsa_council_reps@darwin.cam.ac.uk

Join the DCSA Executive Committee

The DCSA elects half of its Executive Committee (EC) in Michaelmas and half in Easter. If you are interested in joining the EC, there will be at least ten positions available this term: Black Asian Minority Ethnic Officer, Events Officer, one Entertainments Officer, one Sports & Societies Officer, International Officer, External Officer, one College Council Rep, Q+ Officer, one Welfare Officer, and Womens' Officer.

More information on how to apply for these positions will be circulated in mid October, with elections running online in early November. In the meantime, if you want to hear more about any of the positions, email the current postholder or Daniel at dcsa_president@darwin.cam.ac.uk.
Darwin Bar

Without doubt the best college bar in Cambridge, the student-run and operated DarBar offers a space every night to unwind after a busy day or to celebrate the end of the week. It offers a wide selection of drinks, catering for every taste, as well as a range of non-alcoholic beverages, and a pool table and foosball table you can use any time of day.

Keeping prices low is the priority for the DarBar team, and regular promotions operate throughout the year. Secession Session runs every Monday and offers deals even when the UK parliament refuses to do so. Also popular are the regular themed whisky tastings, where DarBar invites an expert to guide us through the quagmire that is whisky. Also watch out for other tastings such as mezcal or wine, and special occasions such as Oktoberfest (complete with Oktoberfest beers, food and music!)

During Freshers’ Fortnight the bar will be hosting special events, including a Gin Night, International Beer Night and more!

The bar relies on the student body to open every night. If you would like to be part of helping run one of the best parts of Darwin College student life, please email our efficient Bar Secretary, Eliska Zlamalova (ez256@cam.ac.uk).

If you have any questions about the bar, please email the Bar Chair, Zoë Audra (za274@cam.ac.uk). Make sure you stay in the loop with the latest updates by following us on fb.com/darwincollegebar and ig: darwincollegebar!
Darwin Bar

Additional DarBar Information
DarBar operates a number of policies which are important for making it a comfortable and welcoming space for everyone:

- Glasses are not to be taken from the bar area (including the Common Room). You are provided with plastic glasses to drink in the garden, please pick up your litter.

- DarBar runs as a members club for Darwin College students, but College member can bring three guests, who you need to sign-in at the bar. So you can share the bar with your friends beyond the Darwin community.

- The bar has a zero-tolerance policy towards harassment of any kind. If you feel uncomfortable at any point, speak to the bar staff or porters. You are entirely responsible for anyone you sign-in.

- Bar work is paid, and the bar is always looking for staff!

- Darbar is open every evening, 9-12pm

For the academic year 2021/22, the bar will be strictly adhering to coronavirus guidance and regulations as set out by College (www.darwin.cam.ac.uk) and government (www.gov.uk/coronavirus).
Environmental Sustainability

The DCSA acknowledges the impact of its activities on the environment, is committed to developing best environmental practices, and encourages all students to integrate these into their day to day lives, both in college and thereafter.

Darwin was awarded Gold in the 2020/21 Green Impact awards, a University-wide environmental accreditation scheme, including a special community award and a commendation for our Catering Manager, Ivan Higney. We are aiming for another strong performance in 2021/22, so get in touch with our Environmental and Ethical Affairs Officer if you have a project in mind or would like to volunteer.

Last year, the college hosted the first Darwin College Sustainability Challenges Workshop, bringing together students, fellows and staff to work collaboratively on ideas for how the College can do more to achieve sustainability through developing new ideas and knowledge, raising awareness, facilitating action and leading by example. See the Darwin College website (https://www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/environmental-and-sustainability) for how it and the DCSA are working towards a more sustainable community. Last year we also hosted a Darwin College Green Week; you can watch talks from our Green Week Talk Series (https://sms.cam.ac.uk/collection/3519127), including from the Darwin College Master, Dr. Mike Rands.

Get Involved

The University’s own Environmental Sustainability, Vision, and Strategy can be found here: www.environment.admin.cam.ac.uk/policy, and if you want to get involved with student campaigns in the wider university you can get involved in the Cambridge University Student Union’s Ethical Affairs campaign: www.cambridgesu.co.uk/organisation/6076.

At Darwin, you can join many societies including vegetable gardening, bee keeping, or the new Green Hub. The Green Hub aims to empower and connect Darwinians interested in environmental and ethical issues. We are also looking for volunteers to support our Green Impact Award campaign, Project Second Life and our Darwin Community Fridge project, ask your EEA Officer for more details (dcsa_green@darwin.cam.ac.uk).
Environmental Sustainability

Food & Drink
Darwin Kitchens use well-sourced ingredients minimising environmental impact, and offer delicious gluten-free, vegetarian, and vegan options. Speak to the servers about specific allergies – they will be happy to help. As well as Fairtrade drinks and snacks, Darwin Kitchens also offers Reforest Tea. We also launched the Darwin Community Fridge during Green Week 2021, where leftover food from the servery is diverted from landfill and free to Darwin Students from the community fridge, ask our Catering Manager or EEA Officer for more details. Free drinking water stations are also located throughout college. Seasonal vegetables, fruits and herbs are also available from the student garden, found at the end of the Newnham Terraces.

The historic market square in the city centre is a great spot for plastic-free fruit and vegetables, local farm produce, on the-go international food, and a huge range of other products. More info here: cambridge.gov.uk/markets. Local shops stocking ethical and zero waste items include Full Circle and Arjuna Wholefoods.

Recycle
Darwin recycles traditional clean and dry mixed materials and organic waste in student kitchens, as well as hosting several large bins under the dining hall for recycling old batteries, clothes and household items (via the British Heart Foundation’s Pack for Good Campaign). Visit recyclenow.com for more information on what can be recycled in Cambridge, and where to recycle items that aren’t taken in standard collections such as makeup containers. Making sure your recycling is not contaminated with food, liquids or non-recyclable items has a significant impact on the success of recycling.

All of Darwin Kitchens’ disposable packaging (Vegware) can be put in the compostable packaging waste bins.

Darwin also has an opt-in organic waste bin scheme for all student kitchens. You
Environmental Sustainability

can send a request for a compost caddy in your kitchen to the Housekeeping team at housekeeping@darwin.cam.ac.uk. The students of each participating kitchen are responsible for taking the caddy liners to the food recycling bin nearest their residence (for the main college site, this is located below the dining hall). Please note that there are separate bins for food waste and compostable packaging. The responsible person is to make sure that it is used correctly and emptied frequently. Extra liners can be requested from the porters. Feel free to ask your EEA Officer if you have any questions about recycling or composting at Darwin!

Reuse & Rehome

Darwin College offers subsidised Keepcups and BlueTap water bottles to members of Darwin College.

Last year, disposable hot food takeaway containers were removed from Darwin Kitchens, instead replaced by our Reuse2Go reusable boxes. You pay a deposit for each box that you borrow, and are reimbursed upon its return to the servery, rinsed out.

One way to avoid supporting unnecessary product production (and to grab yourself a bargain) is by supporting the huge number of truly fantastic charity shops in Cambridge. There are lots, including a BHF furniture shop, near The Grafton shopping centre. Looking to buy or sell second-hand items even closer to home? Look no further than the “Darwin College Marketplace” Facebook group at fb.com/groups/DarwinMarket.

There will also be a Project Second Life Trash to Treasure event: Darwinians have donated household items that they no longer wanted or could not take with them when leaving Cambridge during summer 2021, and these items are now looking for a new home.
Environmental Sustainability

at Darwin! Items will include home furnishings, blankets, art supplies and kitchen utensils- don’t miss out!

Transport

Cycling is both the most practical and environmentally-friendly way to get around in Cambridge, and Darwin offers several facilities for cyclists. Secure bicycle racks are available at off-site student accommodation and on the main college site, including under the dining hall, behind the Rayne Building, and under the Old Granary. There is a bike repair station available for use behind 2/3 Newnham Terrace, and the Darwin College Bicycle Repair Society has a tool box available for use.

More information on transport in Cambridge (such as bikes, repair stations, buses - including the subsidised £1 ‘Universal’ bus - and trains) and COVID 19-related changes to services can be found here: www.environment.admin.cam.ac.uk/travel.

Country-wide coach information (including airport transfers) can be found here: www.nationalexpress.com.

Energy

The University spends £16 million on energy each year! It has also adopted a Science-Based Target to reduce its energy-related (scope 1 and 2) carbon emissions to absolute zero by 2048.

Darwin College created the Environmental Infrastructure Working Group to help analyse the different challenges of removing carbon emissions at a building-by-building level, to help set its own science-based target for zero carbon emissions on Scope 1 & 2.

We can all contribute to meeting this target through simple steps such as switching off lights and turning down radiators upon leaving our rooms, and by unplugging electrical equipment when it is not in use. From October till November, students living in college accommodation will be part of an energy saving competition. The households who save the most gas and electricity, compared to the amount used in October and November 2019, will win a prize! Contact your EEA Officer for more details.
Biodiversity & Green Spaces

We are very lucky to have beautiful and accessible gardens for all Darwin members to enjoy. The gardens are densely packed with a variety of interesting plants, with the colours and smells evolving each week. The gardens are looked after by our Head Gardener, Rhod, and Garden Fellow, Torsten- don’t miss the Garden Fellow’s Tour for the hidden treasures of Darwin. The garden is often visited by kingfishers, herons, water voles and bats; the second island is also home to our Darwin honey bees!

The last of the Newnham Terrace gardens is home to the Student Garden, previous years have enjoyed gooseberries, sunflowers, nasturtiums, rhubarb, beans and courgettes. Volunteers are always needed, so please get in touch!

There are also lots of nature reserves in the surrounding area. Sheep's Green, Coe Fen and Paradise LNR are just a short walk away from Darwin. The full list of Council-run Local Nature Reserves can be found here:  lnrcambridge.gov.uk/visit-the-cambridge-nature-reserves/.

The Wildlife Trust also has a few reserves within cycling distance such as the Cherry Hinton Chalk Pits or Fulbourn Fen.

Another beautiful outdoor space for you to enjoy is the Cambridge University Botanic Garden. Located halfway between Darwin and the Train Station, the Botanic Gardens offer a variety of different gardens and an impressive greenhouse. As a student you get FREE ENTRY - just take your student card!
Badminton

Darwin College Badminton Club welcomes players of all standards, from complete beginners to experienced. We hold sessions for at least two hours every weekend, usually at Leys Leisure, 10-15 minutes walk from Darwin. All our sessions are completely free, there are no membership fees, and shuttles and racquets are provided. We are a friendly and active bunch so come say hi at the freshers’ clubs and societies fair. Please join our Facebook group (“Darwin College Badminton Club”) and mailing list to get weekly event update.

Facebook:  www.facebook.com/groups/dcbadmintonclub

Contact: Bernard (phc37)

Basketball (Mens)

Basketball has a long and successful tradition at Darwin. We participate every year in two Cambridge University intercollegial competitions: Division 1 of the college league (Michaelmas and Lent terms) and the Cuppers (Easter term), of which we are the defending champions since 2019! The season kicks off late September and ends around April, but we continue to practice throughout the summer months. We are a friendly and active bunch and always welcome new players at varying skill levels in our teams.

Contact: Jun Ma (jm2221)

Facebook: fb.com/groups/darwinbb

Basketball (Womens)

The Darwin Women’s Basketball Club is the college’s most successful sports team having won the college league most years since its formation in May 2000. As well as the college league, the team competes in, and usually wins, the university-wide knock out 'Cuppers' tournament in Lent term. We are fortunate enough to have a dedicated basketball coach who runs our training from early October so we are ready for competitive matches throughout the year. Over the summer we practice with friendly games every week, often joined by members of the university 1st and 2nd teams!
**Sports & Societies**

For more information get in touch: Helen Liao (hzl20)

Facebook: fb.com/groups/darwinbb

Website: darwinbasketball.wordpress.com/about

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**Beekeeping**

Having BEEN lured in by the sweet idea of collecting our very own honey, the Darwin College Beekeeping Association started our very own DarHives in the Darwin Garden. We learn about and discuss all aspects of beekeeping, but promise not to drone on about it, and welcome new members at any experience level as long as you have a high threshold for bee puns. So, if you are an eco-warrior keen to join the fight against our declining pollinators or just looking for an exciting new hobby, email or join us on a hive visit to find out what all the buzz is about!

Contact: Michael Schneider (ms2556)

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**Boat Club**

Darwin College Boat Club (DCBC) is the largest society in Darwin, dedicated to all things rowing! We are one of the most successful graduate boat clubs in Cambridge - just check out the blades in the bar for our previous accomplishments! We are, above all, a friendly, social, and welcoming family. Rowing is a Cambridge tradition, and it is almost impossible to avoid at least one conversation about it during your time here. At DCBC, we believe that everyone should have a go, and encourage anyone to come try out, at least so you can decipher the jargon of the sport!

We train year-round (winter and summer) and participate in numerous races both in Cambridge and outside of Cambridge. The main events in our calendar include Lent (in March) and May (in June - don't ask) Bumps. May Bumps is one of the highest-profile events in the Cambridge calendar, with thousands of people lining the banks over 4 afternoons to watch boats speed down the Cam, attempting to physically crash into one another.
(a Bump), while avoiding being hit by the crew behind (getting bumped). If you’re not in a boat, you can get the second most enjoyment out of the days by sitting on the banks with your refreshments of choice, and cheering Darwin to victory! We are fortunate enough to enter multiple boats into each Bumps race, so join up to experience the carnage first-hand!

We welcome all levels of rowing - from those who don’t know what a boat looks like or have never used a rowing machine (erg), to future Olympic hopefuls, and anything in between. We hold taster sessions for both rowers and coxes (person in the front of the boat making the rowing calls and steering the boat). Whichever you feel suits you, you’ll get full coaching and training by our senior club members and experienced coaches.

Try a few water sessions (outings) at the beginning of Michaelmas, and with the other novice rowers, you’ll slowly become unstoppable forces of nature, ready to slay the competition out on the river. There are plenty of opportunities for novices to take part in racing in Michaelmas term where you will have the chance to dress-up and race against other colleges. Novice races are fun and light-hearted, culminating the term with the not-to-be-missed Boat Club Dinner, a chance to regale the Club with your war stories from the term, and just blow off some steam.

The DCBC Committee is working tirelessly to ensure that we will be able to continue with rowing given the current COVID-19 situation. If you have any concerns, we are happy to discuss our process and commitments to safety with you.

Rowing is teamwork at its peak. From our strong tan lines in the summer, our matching kit (free speed), the laughs, the sweat, and the shared exquisite pain, you will come away with some of the closest Darwin friendships and bonds that will be everlasting. Come and chat to us to find out more at the Fresher’s Sports and Societies Fair, and even get started and have a go on the erg!
Sports & Societies

Contact: Darcy Unson: darwin.captain@cucbc.org, Tiana Behr: darwin.women@cucbc.org, Daniel Hugenroth: darwin.men@cucbc.org, or connect with us at: fb.com/DarwinCollegeBoatClub

Cheese & Wine Society
Care to know your Camembert from your Castigliano? Your Burgundy from your Beaujolais? Fancy yourself as an Oenologist, a Sommelier or cheese fancier? The DCCWS is here to introduce your taste buds to a world of winery and creamery delights. There will be tasting events throughout the year.

Join the Facebook page (Darwin College Cheese and Wine Society) for updates.

Contact: Robert Pinsler (rp586)

Climbing
We are a group of climbers that simply just want to go climbing. Since there aren’t many rocks around we usually meet for an indoor bouldering session at one of the two gyms in town - Rainbow Rocket (RR) or Kelsey Kerridge (KK). We also make the occasional outdoor trip further north or abroad when the weather/season permits. We organise everything over Whatsapp or over a pint at DarBar or check out what we are up to on Facebook “Darwin Climbing Club”. We have bouldering mats, a trad rack, lots of quickdraws, a few spare harnesses, ropes, and belay devices which you can borrow for trips (indoor or outdoor).

Contact: Zoë Audra (za274) & Barney Salsby (bs640)

Cricket Club
Darwin College Cricket Club is a friendly club with a record of success, as we are defending champions of the MCR Cricket League, having been runners up the year before. We welcome plays of all abilities, from absolute novices to seasoned veterans, both guys and girls are welcome. All kit and equipment is provided, with winter net sessions taking place once a week starting in the new year. Matches are played in the summer months (May-July).

For more information, contact Matt Brady (mpb68)

Cuban Salsa
Hello Darwinians!

We are the Cuban Salsa Society and we meet once per week to practice, socialise, meet new people and have fun! Our class is adapted to suit
all levels – from complete beginners to advanced dancers, so don’t hesitate to join us, even if you have never tried dancing before! We promise to make you fall in love with Cuban Salsa!

Fee: Darwinians £1, Non-Darwinians £3. For any queries, reach out to Aristi Damaskou (ad971). Also, make sure to follow us on Facebook for more info about the classes: facebook.com/groups/866672656814002.

We can’t wait to see you on board!

Lots of love,
Your Darwin Cuban Salsa Society

Cycling Club

We are the DCCC; an inclusive and Darwin (and Friends) cycling community!!! We run a bunch of different activities from group rides to cycle socials! As part of the DCCC, you’ll have the opportunity to:

1. explore Cambridgeshire together in a social and safe environment (regular within-week rides and joint weekend trips)

2. compete within (fun competitions, leaderboards etc.) and outside of Darwin College (e.g., with other colleges)

3. learn how to ride safely and to make sure you bike is properly maintained (e.g., bike maintenance workshops, routes, general training advice etc.)

4. get together with fellow cyclists for a coffee or drink and enjoy being part of a community of like-minded people!

Contact: James Kinch (jik30)

Dipping Club

Fancy some hummus? Do you have peculiar swimming habits? Are you obsessed with barnacles? Then the Darwin College Dipping Club (DCDC) is the cult for you.

Come and be enthralled by your freed water animal spirit plunging in the delicious Cam, all the while stimulating your palate with exotic hors d’ouvre. Foster the art of gourmet bathing, and dive into arcane wet truths that lie deep into every human being. Know your spirit, to exalt the species and metaphysically comprehend the inexorable fate of our existence. We foster a sense of community and camaraderie amongst dippers, with our values centered around dirty water and baba ganoush. We also have a brand new first aid kit. Cool.

You can find out more by joining our
Facebook group “Darwin College Dipping Club” for irregular updates or get in touch with Iván (is504) or Alasdair (at929).

Drink and Draw

Drink and Draw is a casual arts and crafts society. We host a regular meetup in DarBar on Wednesday nights to doodle and gossip together, but we also organise occasional daytime workshops. Everyone is welcome irrespective of artistic talent. The point is to enjoy the process and do something with our hands after stressful days at labs/libraries/behind monitors. Each week we pick a new theme or style to try, such as still life, mask painting, clay sculpting, marbling and many more. Follow our Facebook page for updates (“DarwinDrinkAndDraw”).

Contact: Melanie Whitfield (mjw218) & James Luis (jjdl13)

Entrepreneurs Club

The Darwin Entrepreneurs Club is Darwin’s inaugural gathering point for current and aspiring entrepreneurs of all types. We strive to be a facilitator for sharing ideas, exchanging knowledge on how start-ups form and evolve through stages of development/funding. Since our launch earlier this year, we have attracted high interest within the Darwin community. We have organised virtual monthly speaker events with active participation from current members and alumni.

Going forward we plan to continue our speaker series, establish mentoring programs, organise thought sharing matching, participate/run competitions and be a conduit for the broader Cambridge community of entrepreneurship clubs/societies within other colleges and departments. We will also be seeking active members to help structure and direct the club as it continues to grow. Please join or register your interest regardless of your entrepreneurship background as all ideas are welcomed here!

Contact: James Kinch (jik30)
Sports & Societies

Football (Mens)
Welcome to Darwin College Men’s FC, your new home of football! The college has one men’s team, playing in the Cambridge University JCR league, and we also enter into one of the world’s oldest cup competitions. Unfortunately, the pandemic has limited the last two seasons, but we still managed to get to the semi-final of the Cuppers Plate competition last season.

We welcome everyone regardless of playing ability; whether you are a seasoned veteran, an occasional player looking to rekindle your career, or a total rookie, Darwin College FC is the place for you! Sign up at the freshers’ fair or get in touch via Facebook or email, and be on the lookout for details of training, matches and most importantly, socials, starting in October.

Contact: Christopher Bower (cab237) & Ian Selby (ias49)

Football (Womens)
Whether you’ve never seen a football before, haven’t put on boots since you were a child, or you turned down a semi-professional career to come to Cambridge, Darwin-Wolfson women’s football would love to have you on our team!

As Darwin bands together with Wolfson, a mature students’ college, to make a team, you’ll meet some excellent people from outside Darwin. We train twice a week, play games once a week, and organise socials whenever we can! We play against other colleges both in a league and in an intra-mural cup competition. The environment is VERY relaxed, and almost weirdly supportive and welcoming; we like to win (and often do), but the priority is always that everyone has fun.

So, if you fancy playing some football and running around in a park with this loveable rag-tag group, please come and find us at the Freshers’ Fair so we can invite you to our freshers’ taster events

Contact: Lin (bcj25)

Gardening Society
Darwin college members, usually meeting every Sunday at 4pm. Whether you’re a seasoned gardener or a complete beginner, you’re welcome to join us in cultivating flowers, vegetables, herbs, and fruit! But DarGar is not just about growing - it’s about eating too! In the summer months, you’ll be able to pick your favourites or try new fruit / veg. In
October we collect the apples and pears from the Darwin trees to make juices and chutneys. Over the winter we still meet up, often to make delicious dishes from food bought at the local farmers' market. If you're interested in getting involved then head along to our WhatsApp Group: [https://chat.whatsapp.com/Dq4pkQ8w9NW9ku1DhFIE7H](https://chat.whatsapp.com/Dq4pkQ8w9NW9ku1DhFIE7H)

**Green Hub**

Got an environmental or ethical issue close to your heart? Want to make college and the University a more sustainable place? Or just want some buddies to go protesting with? If so, the Green Hub might be right for you! The Green Hub supports the DCSA's Environmental and Ethical Affairs Officer in their mission to build a more ethical, environmentally friendly, and sustainable college community, and allows you to get involved in a wide variety of sustainability work and outreach activities. The hub aims to connect and empower Darwinians to make change at a range of levels, whether that's personal, collegiate, university or wider! Interested? Then get in touch with the Environmental and Ethical Affairs Officer at [dcsa_green@darwin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:dcsa_green@darwin.cam.ac.uk) and see if the Green Hub is right for you!

**LGBTQ+**

Darwin's LGBTQ+ community has regular meet-ups where we do an assortment of activities like arts & crafts, but most often just a simple chat with your friends with drinks and snacks provided. The 'Darwin community only' events are intercalated with social swaps with communities from nearby colleges (bar nights, BBQs). February is LGBTQ+ history month, with plenty of talks and events (like formal halls, bar crawls and club nights) organised by the Cambridge University Students' Union (join their mailing list on [https://lists.cam.ac.uk/mailman/listinfo/cusu-lgbt-listings](https://lists.cam.ac.uk/mailman/listinfo/cusu-lgbt-listings) or the communities from various colleges.

For more information, get in touch with the DCSA's LGBTQ+ Officer, Sarah, at [dcsa_lgbtq@darwin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:dcsa_lgbtq@darwin.cam.ac.uk) or ask Sarah to add you to the private WhatsApp group to get more notifications about upcoming events.

**Minecraft**

The Darwin College Minecraft Club (DCMC) is the college's only fully online society. At present we have a super relaxed vanilla server online 24/7.
Sports & Societies

Please come and join and build your own virtual home. We allow each Darwin member up to 3 non-Darwin guests. To get access, activate your account at: https://dcmc.dar.cam.ac.uk/, and enter your CRSID and access code: Mine, Craft, Goats. Then follow instructions in your email to join our discord.

Contact: Hugh Ramsden (hor20)

Music

The Darwin College Music Society (DCMS) is here to help make your college life musical. We host events throughout the year and provide facilities and support for music making and performance.

Every Thursday we usually host casual Jam Sessions in the common room. We also host Open Mics in College throughout the year to give you a chance to share your talent in front of a crowd of friendly faces.

To help you make music we can also give you access to the treasure trove that is the Darwin College Bar Cellar. In there we have a drum kit, PA system, amps, music stands - all sorts of goodies that we want you to make use of, and if something's not there, we have money to buy stuff too! The college also has the common room for use as a rehearsal space, and various pianos dotted around, all to be taken advantage of.

Keep up to date by joining our email list. Any questions whatsoever just contact Hugh Ramsden (hor20), Robin Croft (rc634) or Nikos Patikas (np504) – if you want to do something musical here, we want you to too!
Pool Table Society

Members of the society will have access to the pool table and other items related to the game. Training sessions will be provided weekly and tournaments will be organised whenever we have enough interests.

Contact: Rebwar Salih (rrs38)

Punt Club

Punting has a long tradition in Cambridge and is one of the highlights of what the town has to offer. As a member of the Punt Club, you have unlimited access to all of the club’s punts, kayaks, paddle boards and the canoe for a year at roughly the price of a single trip with one of the commercial punting companies. In addition to being able to take your friends and family out when they visit, membership also gives you the opportunity to sign up to special events such as the annual Punt Race, the outings to the Trinity and St John’s May Ball fireworks at night, and to see the King’s choir’s singing on the river. We will also chauffeur you to some fancy formals, teach you about bats that live in the area around Grantchester or just have an enjoyable time in summer on a trip to the Grantchester orchard. If you are interested, want to join or just want to see pictures of some old events before you commit, have a look at www.dcsa.darwin.cam.ac.uk/punts.

Contact: Michael Schneider (dcsa_punts@darwin.cam.ac.uk)

Robotics and Raspberry Pi

Hiya! We are the Darwin College Robotics and Raspberry Pi Society - AKA DarBerry. We founded this society in 2019 to create a space for makers and wanna-be-makers to share, discuss and build things together! We organise workshops for people of all levels to learn from each other, as well as movie nights on the theme of AI. We are looking for two people (one president and one treasurer) to take over the society as we move on with our lives away from Cambridge (sad times). Please contact us if you are interested!

Contact: Charlotte Tumescheit (ch.tumescheit@gmail.com)

FB group: DarBerry Jam (fb.com/groups/2698375053588790/)

Rugby

Calling current and former rugby players, rugby enthusiasts and curious sportspeople! The mature and graduate college rugby team (the All Greys)
Sports & Societies

is recruiting for next season. Whether you are new to the game or have been playing for years, there is no better time to pick up a pair of rugby boots than now! With regular games, socials throughout the year and a strong rugby tradition in the uni, do your Cambridge year right and chase an egg shaped ball with us. (No membership fee required)

Contact: Stefan Nixon (ssn34)

Running Club
Darwin College Running Club (DCRC) is the perfect club to join whether you are training for a race, or you just want to go for occasional runs. We will meet three times per week (Tuesdays and Thursdays 19.00, and Sundays 9.30 am) and go for short (5k) or longer runs (7k - 10k) depending on the day.

Contact: Dafydd Ravenscroft (dr484)
Facebook: fb.com/groups/DCRC2018/

Swimming Club
Now in our second year, the Darwin College Swimming Club (DCSC) was founded to bring Darwinians together who enjoy swimming! We organise regular group swimming sessions and also support you if you prefer swimming on your own. All levels welcome, you just need to know how to swim. We provide you with some basic equipment (kickboards, pull buoys) and sets at different levels you can follow.

Join our Facebook group to see how it works and when taster sessions are happening: www.facebook.com/groups/darwinswimming

Contact: Amelia Urry (au255)

Tennis
Darwin College Tennis Club welcomes both complete beginners and advanced players! We play once a week (indoors!) at the nearby Hills Road Tennis Centre. Come along for a friendly hit, to meet some other Darwin members and dust off the cobwebs if you haven’t played in a few years. Find us at the Darwin Freshers Societies Fair for more information, we look forward to meeting you!

Contact: Mia Kapun (mk2071)

Ultimate Frisbee
Penguins is a mixed-college Ultimate Frisbee team welcoming players of all standards - whether you have played before, just thrown a Frisbee in the park, or never touched one in your life! Ultimate is a wonderful sport for beginners as most people haven't played before uni, and we are a very friendly bunch! Plus, getting involved with Penguins is a great way to socialise with people from other colleges and give yourself a break from work. We play matches once a week, usually on Sunday afternoons.

Contact: Kazimir (kiu20)
Waterpolo

We play waterpolo jointly with Queens, training once a week and playing (winning) college league once a term. All abilities and genders are welcome. PS: there are no horses involved…

Contact: Sian Stockton (ss2459) & BingTao Lee (btl30)

Yoga

Darwin does Yoga!

We offer Iyengar yoga classes twice a week with one of Cambridge's most sought-after teachers, Shaili Shafai. All levels are welcome! We run classes twice a week during the whole year: Wednesdays 6-7:15pm and Saturdays 2:30-3:30pm. Given the pandemic restrictions, Wednesday classes will be hosted online and Saturday classes in-person in the beautiful Bradfield Court in Darwin College. You can join our online classes by subscribing to our "Darwin College Yoga" mailing list to receive the class access details.

We offer all the equipment needed, so if you would like to access some of it to join our online yoga classes, get in touch. We also offer more advanced workshops and social events once a term!

Contact: Find us on Facebook for more information.

Zumba

We run one Zumba class per week at Darwin, rotating every other week between traditional Zumba and STRONG. The former is a fitness program that combines Latin and international music with dance moves. Zumba routines incorporate interval training and resistance training. STRONG classes combine a killer bodyweight bootcamp workout with party vibes and pumped-up music. It is a High Intensity Interval Training class using more traditional fitness moves for a more athletic workout. You use your own body weight as resistance to achieve muscle definition. The songs match every move, driving the intensity in a challenging progression that provides a total body workout.

Contact: Chiara Toschi (ct452)
Get involved

If there’s a club/society not listed here, not to worry - you can start it! To found a new club/society you need to have a President and a Treasurer, and 15 Darwin students need to sign up. Then, you can apply for funding from the DCSA Treasurer.

Some clubs we have previously offered are also looking for volunteers to help lead them this year, they are listed below. If you’re interested in getting involved with one of these clubs or starting a new one, come to the Sports & Societies Fair to pick up the necessary paperwork or email Jonathan (dcsa_treasurer@darwin.cam.ac.uk) or Poppy and Asmay (dcsa_sports@darwin.cam.ac.uk)

### Aerial Arts

Darwin College Aerial Arts is aiming to establish a variety of increasingly popular sports at Darwin. We currently have the equipment to run beginners pole classes in college. With the purchase of our new trapeze, we are also planning to offer static trapeze classes this year.

Aerial Arts are a great way to improve strength, flexibility and overall fitness and the club is open to all students regardless of their age and experience/level. Whether you have previous experience or are just curious about it - please drop by at our sessions and give it a go! You can find out more by joining our Facebook group “Darwin College Aerial Arts” for regular updates.

Facebook: [fb.com/groups/DCAerialArts](https://fb.com/groups/DCAerialArts)

### Lawn Games Society

Welcome to the Darwin College Lawn Games Society, where we are dedicated to the games which enhance the enjoyment of a warm sun and cold drinks. We currently boast an inventory of croquet, cornhole, ladder golf, quoits, and bocce ball, all of which are available to Darwin students to borrow and play. We also organise teams for croquet Cuppers each spring, where we compete against the rest of the colleges in the University. We have consistently performed well, this year making it to the semifinals from a field of nearly 50 teams.

### Board Game Society

Hello Darwinians! Do you enjoy games of skill, deception, luck, or dexterity? Join the Darwin College Board Game Society! We at DCBGS have a range of games in
college that are normally available 24/7, as well as hosting weekly board game nights, often supplemented with games from our own collections.

**College Choir**

Darwin college choir is a non-auditioned SATB choir made up of graduate students that meets once a week to rehearse a range of choral pieces from classical to jazz. The choir performs in college for events at Christmas and throughout the year, including formal dinners and 34 garden parties, as well as externally for collaborative concerts with other college choirs. We are fairly relaxed and everyone is welcome!

**Film Club**

The Darwin College Film Club welcomes all cinema fans for a few hours of relaxation, entertainment and reflection. We are lucky to have a well-equipped and continuously upgraded TV-Room in the main building where any Darwinians can come and watch movies. All styles of films are showcased - from old time black and white classics, summer blockbusters, international art films, documentaries, and so forth. Feel free to share with us your personal preferences, as the club has a budget to order movies, which are not available in the DVD-library. We aim to organise several thematic events over the year including themed nights, film marathons, outdoor screenings and joint screenings with other Darwin College Societies. Join the Facebook group “Darwin College Film Club” and the mailing list to receive updates on our screenings. We welcome everyone to join, sit back and relax while watching awesome movies.

**Mind Matters Darwin**

Mind Matters Darwin wants to raise awareness around mental health, end the stigma and promote wellbeing. We organize recreational activities fostering connections and wellbeing: movie screenings broadly related to mental health and get-togethers. We organise free-of-charge Meditation and Positive Psychology courses (in collaboration with Inner Space Cambridge), in order to improve resilience and alleviate psychological sufferance. We also organise a Mindfulness in Nature course with Claire Thompson, usually in the fall or in the spring, to connect with nature and enjoy the beauty of Darwin Garden and meditation practices. We run a Relationship Anarchy Support Circle once a month to provide a safe space to talk about alternative forms of relationships and ask for support.
We want Darwinians to feel safe and part of a community: it’s time to consider the students’ mental health and wellbeing as a priority. We want to improve communication and provide information about the many available resources in Cambridge for mental health support: everyone who is in need should feel free to ask for help and receive the necessary support.

We all have a mental health to take care of! Darwinians do care about mental health!

**Open Club for Debate**

The idea is pretty simple: a room, some wine and a topic no one can agree on. The Darwin Open Club for Debate is an informal non-stuffy club, where Darwinians and other students from the University of Cambridge debate about controversial topics in an open setting with minimal intervention from a moderator. We usually meet once a week, and try to schedule debates relevant to latest news.

Facebook: [fb.com/groups/146008729360024/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/146008729360024/)

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**Photo Society**

Darwin Photo Society exists to promote digital and film photography. We have an active programme of visiting speakers, internal and external competitions and members’ nights. Examples of activities include themed photographic outings, talks and workshops, LinkedIn photo sessions, dark room training, setting up photo booths for Darwin students and many more. For those of you nostalgic of film photography, we also have access to King’s dark rooms!

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**Science Society**

Interested in Science? The Darwin College Science Society (DCSS) aims to connect scientists at Darwin, both through general social events and research-related activities. Whether you live in the lab or just fancy yourself as a bit of a science fanatic, we hope you will find enjoyment in our events, from science pub quizzes, lively debates to movie nights and much more... Non-science students are also welcome!

Facebook: [darscisoc@facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/darscisoc)

Mailing list: [mail.dar.cam.ac.uk/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/dcss-members](mailto:mail.dar.cam.ac.uk/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/dcss-members)
When you join Darwin as a student, you are not just becoming a member of the College for the time you are present in Cambridge. You remain a member of Darwin College for life, and when you complete your studies here, you join a community of around 9,000 alumni spread around most countries in the world.

The Alumni & Development Office in College keeps alumni in touch with the College, organises events, and runs communications channels (website, social media, and our publication, the Darwinian) – as well as fundraising for philanthropic support for the College. We hold events for Darwin alumni in College, elsewhere in the UK, and internationally (in recent years including New York, Toronto, San Francisco, Washington DC, Düsseldorf, Beijing, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur and Tokyo). Since 2020, we are now making ever-increasing use of Zoom to bring alumni together virtually as well. We are also responsible for fundraising to support the College; particularly raising substantial amounts of money for scholarships and studentships.

The Darwin College Society (the official association of Darwin alumni) works closely with the Alumni & Development Office, and organises social events around Cambridge – often with a local heritage theme. One event held in the spring of each year is the Career Network event, which enables current students to connect with alumni, and find out about their careers and career paths.

For further information on alumni relations and development, please contact alumni@darwin.cam.ac.uk, or call into the Alumni & Development Office (Ground floor of 1 Newnham Terrace).
BOP ON at Darwin!

A "BOP" is a Big Organised Party which is organised by the DCSA’s Entertainments Officers. As the name suggests, it’s a BIG PARTY which usually involves live bands, DJs, and generally great and memorable times. Sometimes we’ll even have extra entertainment like ceilidhs and karaoke. Highlights of the BOP calendar include:

- The Fresher’s BOP, where we welcome all of the new Darwinians at the start of the year.
- The themed BOPs, namely Halloween and Christmas, where everyone is encouraged to costume up and enjoy some traditional activities such as carving a pumpkin or kissing under the mistletoe.
- The May Ball launch BOP, where we reveal the May Ball theme for the year. This is considered to be the biggest BOP of the year, involves lots of decorations, a wide range of drinks and a ton of great music entertainment.

There are a limited number of tickets available and each college member can only bring a restricted number of guests. These events will be organised in line with the COVID regulations at the time.

Formal Swaps

Do you fancy going for a nice formal dinner in another College in Cambridge? Have you ever wondered what the inside of King’s, Trinity or St John’s dining hall looks like and how their food compares to Darwin? Then stay on the lookout for Formal Swap sign-ups!

Organised by the DCSA’s External Officer and advertised via the DCSA’s WhatsUp newsletter, these are Formal Halls at other Colleges which your students’ association managed to get a limited number of tickets to.

The dress code is normally similar to Darwin College’s (see page 7 of this booklet) but will depend on the college you are visiting. Sometimes these formal will also have a special theme.
**Events**

**Darwin x Wolfson (Oxford) Sports & Societies Day**

Every year we have a fun and friendly swap with our sister college Wolfson College, Oxford. The day is filled with sports, sightseeing and social events and ends with a formal dinner and a special BOP. We will keep you updated when this event is brought back to life.

**Lunchtime Seminars**

All members of Darwin are encouraged to present their research at informal seminars held on Tuesdays (Natural Sciences) and Thursdays (Humanities). Everyone is welcome, whatever your degree or discipline. Normally, lunch can be picked up from 12:00 and taken to the Richard King Room (on the left at the top of the stairs leading to the dining hall) or 1 Newnham Terrace (straight through at the far end of the dining hall). Wine is served. Non-Darwin members are welcome to attend, although lunch is only available to guests of members.

The talk usually begins at 13:10 and lasts for about 20 minutes. It is followed by a discussion over coffee. The seminar finishes around 14:00 at the latest.

**Darwin Green Week**

The first college-wide Green Week occurred last spring, and is now a permanent feature of the college calendar! It brought together all members of college, staff, Fellows and students. Last year, events included a selection of sustainable beers at Darbar, free sustainable tea and plant-based coffees, a locally sourced menu in Darwin Kitchens, a houseplant swap, launching the community fridge and the removal of disposable takeaway boxes from the servery. Green Week is collectively organised by the Darwin community, so if you have an idea for an event, you can make it happen!

With all these amazing events and more, make sure you are registered for the Darwin WhatsUp Newsletter to keep up-to-date with what’s happening in Darwin! Oh, and join our Facebook group too!
Cambridge's famous 'May Week' is a week-long series of events (counterintuitively) held in mid June, celebrating the end of the academic year. Most colleges organise some form of event, from garden parties and 'June Events' to the larger 'May Balls'. Darwin’s May Ball runs from the evening to the early hours of the morning, offering a variety of food, drink and entertainment, usually according to a central theme, with guests typically dressing in black tie.

Darwin May Ball transforms our beautiful college grounds, and is open to past and present Darwin members, their guests and other University members. May Week was cancelled in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and in 2021, we managed to host a series of scaled-down outdoors events.

This coming year, we are planning on running Darwin May Ball again in its full glory, but first need to assemble a committee. For students looking for something quieter and a little more affordable, there are other like neighbouring May Week events such as Newnham College's MCR Garden Party offer other alternatives.

Join the 2022 Darwin May Ball Committee!

Interested in helping organise Darwin May Ball, in exchange for a free ticket and numerous other perks? There are a variety of roles available on the committee, from decor and food to treasurer and even president! The committee is formed in October, so look out soon for more information on how to apply on the Darwin College Students Facebook page and in the Darwin WhatsUp email. Expressions of interest and any queries can be directed towards mayball-president@darwin.cam.ac.uk or towards our Facebook (www.facebook.com/DarwinMayBall/) or Instagram page (www.instagram.com/darwinmayball2021/).
In the second term of every academic year since 1986 Darwin College has organised a series of eight public lectures. Each series has been built around a single theme, approached in a multi-disciplinary way, and with each talk prepared for a general audience by a leading authority in their subject.

Last year, the lecture series focused on the topic of “Blood”. This year, the lecture series will be on the topic of “Food”. Some of the lectures will be:

- Food and Climate Change (Sarah Bridle, Manchester)
- Should cats and dogs go vegan? (Andrew Knight, Winchester)
- Food, Power and Society (Sarah Mukherjee, Journalist)
- X-ray Inspection of Food (Richard Parmee, Cambridge)
- Archaeology and history of food (Martin Jones, Cambridge)
- The Political Economy of Conservation and Food (Bhaskar Vira, Cambridge)

The Darwin College Lectures are very popular, each attended by around 600 people, so -covid permitting- you must arrive early to ensure a place.

The lectures from last year took place online and are available on YouTube. Previous lectures are available on iTunes and are published by Cambridge University Press.
Freshers' Event Descriptions

**BOP**
This is the biggest event of Freshers’ Fortnight! See page 40 for more details. Information on how to buy your ticket will be released soon.

**College History Tour**
Learn all about the history of Darwin College from our Dean, Duncan Needham. Join him on a tour through our college.

**Derek Scott Bar Games Tournament**
Named after our Head Porter, form teams and compete in table tennis, table football, and pool in order to win a prize.

**Families Meet & Greet**
Welcome event for students with spouses/children, come and meet other Darwin families! Please bring your children and partner. Snacks and toys provided.

**Feast of Strangers**
Go beyond the usual Freshers week chat! You will be partnered up randomly and provided with a conversation menu of questions. May the conversation begin over some snacks!

**Garden Tour**
Led by the Garden Fellow, Torsten, you’ll learn all about what grows and lives in our beautiful Darwin garden.

**Green Hub x Cambridge Carbon Literacy Project Workshop**
Join your EEA officer and the Cambridge Carbon Literacy Project for an interactive workshop on the climate crisis and how you can get involved here at Darwin College and Cambridge. Open to the climate crisis curious, and those looking to meet like-minded people and participate in changemaking!

**Kayak Outing**
Enjoy the quiet mornings on the Cam with our kayaks. Space limited, so sign up quickly!

**Lawn Game Event**
A Cambridge classic - learn how to play croquet and other lawn games in the beautiful Darwin garden.

**LGBTQ+ Social**
For students identifying as LGBTQ+, come and meet your new LGBTQ+ community!

**Meet the DCSA EC**
Casual meet and greet with all your favourite DCSA EC officers in DarBar. Come along and have a chat with us over some drinks and snacks.

**Night Punting**
Come along for a night time punt down the river. Sign up online to secure a place.

**PhD Buddies Mixer**
This is where PhD students meet their assigned buddy. You should have received an email telling you which event to come to, or email dcsa_welfare@darwin.cam.ac.uk

**Punt Lessons**
Assisted punting lessons for beginners. You can’t leave Cambridge before trying it.

**Secession Session**
A weekly Darbar tradition, we make up for the falling value of the £GBP by slashing drink prices every Monday night.

**Sports & Societies Fair**
Various college and University organizations will have booths for you to explore. Find yourself a hobby for the next year!

**Stargazing Walk**
Prof. Andy Fabian, OBE, FRS, ex-Vice Master of Darwin College and ex-President of the Royal Astronomical Society will be leading walks into Grantchester Meadows to watch the sky.

Check the online calendar for more information and updates on all events!
Useful Links

We have combined all links to the DCSA Website, Events Calendar, Signup, Facebook Groups, WhatsUp Newsletter and more, in one place.

Just follow the link below or scan the QR code.

linktr.ee/dcsa.cam

Please contact us if you have any questions!
Finding your way around

1) Co-operative shop  
2) Shell (closest ATM)  
3) Sala Thong  
4) Rice Boat  
5) Granta Pub  
6) DoubleTree Hotel  
7) Grad Pad (Uni Centre)  
8) Mill Lane Admin Site  
9) Students' Union  
10) Bike shop (Botolph Ln)  
11) HSBC & Barclays Banks  
12) Marks & Spencer food shop  
13) Market  
14) Sainsbury's supermarket  
15) Bike shop (King St)  
16) Bus Station (2 parts)  
17) Police & Fire Stations  
18) Parkside Pool  
19) Spice Gate Middle Eastern food shop  
20) Asian supermarket  
21) Addenbrookes Hospital