



The Guide to Peterhouse Clubs, Sports and Societies

Amals Committee

September 2023

Preface

Amals

Amals (“Amalgamated Clubs”) is the college organisation responsible for the “advancement, support and management of all college sports and societies.” In practice, this means they are responsible for funding, dispute resolution, organising the freshers’ squash, organising society photos, etc.. Amals is run by a committee of three students (President, Secretary & Treasurer, elected in Lent term) and who are the point of contact when organising a club, sport or society. They are also the group who produce and maintain this guide.

Amals Committee 2023-24: Thomas Buckley, Chloe Kwan, Oliver Richards

Goals of the Guide

It is intended that this guide detail everything the average student will need to engage with the Peterhouse extra-curricular system, including reasonable details of current clubs, sports and societies (Sections I & II), all the necessary details for forming your own club or society (Section IV) and details on where rooms are, which rooms have particular access requirements, etc. (Section III).

Acknowledgements

Many dozens of people have helped contribute to this guide in some capacity or another. An attempt shall be made here to list the most notable. We are especially grateful to the room points president for providing the first partial list of clubs, sports and societies; to assorted individuals who provided descriptions and details for their various groups, inc. J. Nicholson, A. Lawrence, C. Carr, T. Pavlov, T. Sutton, E. Sheekey, T. Briggs, G. Beazley, J. Burrell, L. Schellenberg, M. Boyle, N. Mohindra, A. Malekshahian, N. M. A. Samra, S. Connellan, W. Maclean, N. Holmes, N. Ticehurst, Z. Harper, A. Walker, E. Cortissoz, A. Shetty, E. Sefcikova, J. Winterburn, R. Poon, A. Syed, L. McNally, J. Parker, T. Smithers, B. Roeselová, S. Jackson, L. Hart, L. Forde, L. Zhou, A. Gan, and A. Günter; to Henry Bowler, for a thorough rundown of music at Peterhouse; to Georgia Baker & Andreas Hogstrand, who helped kickstart the guide and have been generally supportive of efforts to reform the societies system; and to Sonja Klisch, for their constant support.

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Clubs and Societies

“Clubs and Societies” generally describes any organised social group within the college that meets for extra-curricular reasons, excluding sports groups. There’s currently no standardised difference between a club and a society - broadly, you might expect a club to be a smaller group of people, but often groups will retain their name despite vastly changing in size over the years, so this isn’t a hard rule.

Beard Society

Beard soc. is the Peterhouse feminist society. Traditionally hosting events and notable speakers, recent collaborations with the women’s and marginalised gender’s rep have expanded the activities of the society to wider feminist activism, including expanding the library’s collection of feminist literature & exploring female & non-binary portraiture in the college.

Frequency: Three times termly

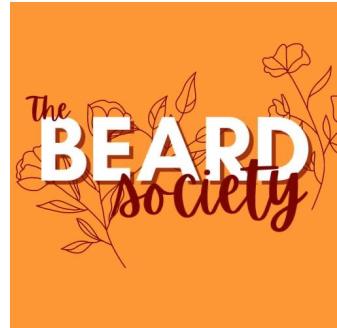
Time: Subject to college decision, announced on a termly basis

Location:

Additional Details: -

Contact: Ritika Singhal; Reem Alhassan

Contact Details: Email at thebeardsociety@cusu.cam.ac.uk, Ritika at rs2236@cam.ac.uk, or Reem at ra653@cam.ac.uk



Board Games Society

The board and card games society runs a large number of games every week, from large ‘campaign’ games like “Settlers of Catan” or “Diplomacy”, to shorter games such as “Avalon” or “Jungle speed”. It’s very relaxed and you don’t need to have played any of the games before. It’s also flexible and the people attending every week change.

Frequency: Weekly

Time: Fridays, 7PM-10PM

Location: Friends of Peterhouse Seminar Room

Additional Details: Join the society facebook group to get updates and reminders <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1062711337877291>

Contact: Chloe Kwan

Contact Details: Email at wlc2@cam.ac.uk



Caseus Club

The Caseus Club meets up semi-regularly to eat cheese and drink wine. Run jointly by a student committee and the Assistant Chaplain, information about each cheese is presented individually before the cheese is eaten. Meetings have a semi formal atmosphere.

Frequency: Twice termly

Time: Variable

Location: Normally upper hall

Additional Details: Be prepared for the college grace and toasting St. Uguzon

Contact: Davit Minasyan (President)

Contact Details: Email Davit at dm936@cam.ac.uk



Chapel Choir

Peterhouse Chapel Choir is more friendly and relaxed than the average Cambridge choir. The quality of singing is high, and the choir is auditioned, but the commitment is relatively low: evensong twice a week plus one rehearsal. All members of the choir are offered formal hall after each of these commitments for free. The choir also sings at feasts, about one each term –again with a free dinner afterwards. All members are entitled to free singing lessons every two weeks, and a heavily subsidised tour each year. There are a few choral scholars each year, but those without choral scholarships can audition for the choir at the beginning of the year and the choir would encourage anyone interested to audition.



Frequency: Three times per week

Time: Evensong on Wednesdays & Sundays, rehearsal on Thursdays

Location: Chapel

Additional Details: Instagram: @peterhousechoir

Contact: Simon Jackson (Director of Music) or Shawn Li (Senior Organ Scholar)

Contact Details: Email Simon at simon.jackson@pet.cam.ac.uk or Shawn at syl53@cam.ac.uk

Christian Union

All welcome! Two weekly meetings- a morning prayer with breakfast (currently held at 8am on Fridays) and an evening bible study (currently held at 8pm on Mondays)



Frequency: Twice per week

Time: Fridays and Mondays (although may vary)

Location:

Additional Details: Join the facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/463362717200761/>

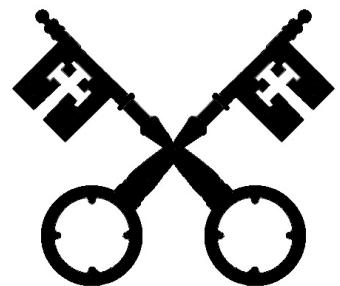
Contact: James Rudge; Eleanor Carmel

Contact Details: Email James at jr926@cam.ac.uk or Eleanor at ec845@cam.ac.uk.

Alternatively, message on facebook

Peterhouse Cross-Keys Society

The Cross Keys is the college's sports society. Anyone who plays a sport at university level, or who competes for Peterhouse in cuppers, is eligible to join. Events take place throughout the year, including guest speakers, socials with other sports groups, and a dinner for those exceptional athletes who have achieved a Blue, Half-Blue, or Second Team Colours.



Frequency: -

Time: -

Location: -

Additional Details: -

Contact: Adrian Biddle (President)

Contact Details: Email Adrian at ajb366@cam.ac.uk

Film Society

The Film Society organises film nights featuring a variety of movies. Past examples include Parasite, Forrest Gump, Spirited Away etc. Alcohol / soft drinks provided - bring cup and friends!



Frequency: -

Time: -

Location: Theatre / JCR

Additional Details: -

Contact: Davit Minasyan

Contact Details: Email Davit at dm93632@cam.ac.uk

Heywood Society

The Heywood society is the college dramatic society. They organise plays in the Deer Park and in the theatre, as well as supporting other plays around Cambridge. They sometimes host events; last year they had Sam Mendes to speak at the college.

Frequency: Termly

Time: -

Location: Deer Park & Theatre

Additional Details: -

Contact: Jacob Gaskell

Contact Details: Email Jacob at jg989@cam.ac.uk



History Society

The History society holds three meetings each in Michaelmas and Lent terms, in which Historians from across the country whom you might not usually be able to hear from in Cambridge are invited to share their research in fascinating talks, each followed by a Q&A. History students and history enthusiasts of the college are invited to enjoy and be enlightened by the discussion with drinks from the comfort of the parlour's armchairs! Please check each event's publicity as precise timing and location can sometimes vary, but meetings are usually on Tuesdays, with a drinks reception with the speaker in attendance from 7:00pm in the Parlour, and the talk beginning after formal between 8:30 and 9:00.

Frequency: 3 times termly in Michaelmas and Lent

Time: After formal

Location: The Parlour, unless otherwise advertised.

Additional Details: Drinks provided.

Contact: Jack Bowen

Contact Details: Email Jack at jb2481@cam.ac.uk



The Kelvin Club

The Kelvin Club is the scientific society of Peterhouse. Each term there are three talks (usually on a Tuesday) given by a diverse selection of speakers from Biology, Chemistry, Medicine, Engineering and Physics. You do not need to be a scientist to get involved - all talks are accessible to everyone! The Kelvin Club committee hopes to see many of you at their talks throughout the year, and extends a warm welcome.

Frequency: 3 times termly

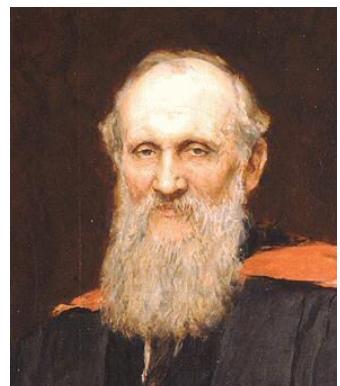
Time: 8:30 PM

Location: Theatre

Additional Details: Refreshments usually provided

Contact: Margaret Johncock

Contact Details: Email at petkelvin-committee@srfc.ucam.org or Margaret at mllyj2@cam.ac.uk



Languages Society

We organise events aimed at both native speakers and learners of Spanish, German and French. These languages have been chosen based on the interest displayed around college and would be expanded if people registered interest for other languages too. The socials would alter between casual language exchanges, film nights and swaps with other colleges.



Frequency: Every second Tuesday starting on the 10th October

Time: 6 PM

Location: Theatre / Lubbock Room

Additional Details: Refreshments usually provided

Contact: Sophie Hetherington

Contact Details: Email at Sophie at sh2220@cam.ac.uk

The Law Society

Peterhouse Law Society is open to students of all subjects interested in pursuing a legal career (or perhaps still exploring their options). Making use of links with top solicitors' firms and barristers' chambers, the society organises professional networking events throughout the year. These generally consist of generous provisions of food and drink alongside skills sessions, informative talks, and opportunities to get to know lawyers in all fields of practice.



Frequency: Several events termly

Time: Variable

Location: Eateries across Cambridge, or the hall/combination room

Additional Details: Please join the Facebook group or else provide the President with your email address to receive announcements of upcoming events and the weekly digest during term. All welcome.

Contact: Grace White (President)

Contact Details: Email Grace at gwc40@cam.ac.uk

Peterhouse Music Society

Peterhouse Music Society arranges relaxed, informal evening recitals every two weeks, and a more formal concert at the end of each term. The recitals are a great way to unwind after dinner with cake and wine, and are an excellent opportunity for student musicians to perform in a low-pressure setting. Our end-of-term concerts showcase some of the best student musicianship in Cambridge in the brilliant chamber music space of our Theatre.

All performers are students. Email musicsociety@pet.cam.ac.uk if you are interested in performing. And look out for our term card in your pigeon-holes at the start of term!



Frequency: Recital every two weeks

Time: 6.30pm-7pm on Mondays

Location: Lubbock Room

Additional Details: Full concert at the end of each term, in the college theatre, 7.30-9.30pm.

Contact: Shawn Li (Senior Organ Scholar)

Contact Details: Email at musicsociety@pet.cam.ac.uk

November 11th Society

This is a Peterhouse maths dining society, meeting once every year on or around November 11th, with students seated among professors and supervisors over a fancy “superformal” dinner.

Frequency: Once per year

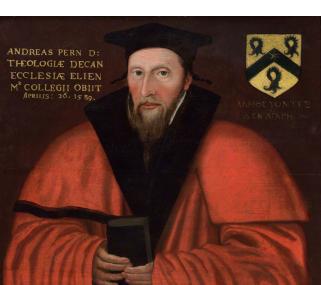
Time: Nov. 11th

Location: Upper hall

Additional Details: Membership open only to, and granted automatically to, mathematicians

Contact: Azim Patel

Contact Details: Email Azim at majp4@cam.ac.uk



The Perne Club

The Perne Club is Peterhouse's Humanities society. During meetings, undergraduates, graduates, and fellows gather to listen to a speaker on diverse topics ranging from linguistics to theology.

Frequency: Three times termly

Time: 6-7:30pm on Thursdays

Location: Variable

Additional Details: Drinks usually provided

Contact: Dr Laura Slater

Contact Details: Email at Dr Slater at lss33@cam.ac.uk

Peterhouse Politics Society

Peterhouse Politics Society exists as a forum for discussion between students and high-profile speakers from politics, journalism and academia . Talks are held three times a term, on Thursdays in the Parlour. There is a drinks reception at 7pm with the speaker, the committee and lots of champagne. The talk itself begins at 8.30pm. Scintillating discussion unfailingly follows the talk, and the events often go on into the night. Politics Society is a really great way to get involved in college life: anyone can attend and the speakers are often highly renowned. If nothing else, let the prospect of seemingly never-ending wine (and elderflower of course) tempt you to come. Look out for our term card in your pigeon-holes at the start of term! Note: The society won't be hosting any in person events during Michaelmas 2020 but online talks will be announced on Facebook/over email.



Frequency: Three events each term

Time: drinks with the speaker 7-7.30pm; talk begins 8.30pm

Location: The Parlour

Additional Details: Dress code - lounge suits preferred. <https://www.facebook.com/peterhousepoliticssociety>

Contact: Jonty Nottingham; Ellie Breeze

Contact Details: Email Jonty at jdcn2@cam.ac.uk or Ellie at eb869@cam.ac.uk

Plant Society

We are setting up a communal garden for students to plant whatever they would like, build their own planters, and provide an opportunity to get hands on with nature. We are a very new society, so we want to get a good idea of numbers before we start ordering seeds and planters and also get a good idea of what people want to plant! Please join the Facebook group if you think you would be interested in setting up, maintaining, and eventually harvesting the plants.



Frequency: -

Time: -

Location: -

Additional Details: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1069136143745181>

Contact: Sara Alef

Contact Details: Email Sara at sa2023@cam.ac.uk

Trumpington Street Orchestra

The Trumpington Street Orchestra is a student run orchestra, combining players from Pembroke, Peterhouse, Downing and St. Catharine's colleges. They typically have weekly rehearsals and termly concerts, and instrumentalists of any and all standards are accepted, with no auditions required.

More info at: <https://trumpingtonstreetorchestra.wordpress.com/rehearsals/>.



Frequency: Weekly practise with a termly concert

Time: Tuesdays 7:30-9:30PM

Location: Various local churches

Additional Details: Biscuits/drinks provided in break!

Contact: Marilyn Gomes (Peterhouse Representative)

Contact Details: Email Marilyn at mg2040@cam.ac.uk

Wine Tasting Society

The Wine Tasting Society meets two or three times a term. Six or seven different wines are tasted over the course of the session, and each wine is prefaced with a discussion of its characteristics, as well as tasting advice. Meetings have a semi-formal atmosphere, and aim to help attendees understand the basics of wine tasting, as well as offering a variety of enjoyable and interesting wines, including those which would typically be outside the access of students.



Frequency: Two or three times per Term

Time: Typically 7:45

Location: Upper Hall

Additional Details: -

Contact: Clemmie Lawlor; Alexander Roberts

Contact Details: Email Clemmie at cl934@cam.ac.uk or Alexander at ar2181@cam.ac.uk

Sports

“Sports groups” generally describes any group meeting for physical competition, though debating and moots are both considered sports by the college, and with the rise of digital sports, it’s likely this categorisation will become rapidly more nebulous going into the future. If the distinction is necessary to you for any reason, I would recommend contacting Amals for further guidance.

Badminton Club

Badminton can be a good way to destress and just do a bit of exercise with some friends once a week. There are weekly training courts booked, which anyone and everyone is welcome to turn up to, and all equipment is provided. There are also weekly matches for the Open and Ladies’ leagues, with teams decided by the captains, but there is no obligation to play a match if you come along to the open session.



Frequency: Weekly matches and weekly open sessions

Time: Varied

Location: Training usually at the Leys or Kelsey Kerridge. Matches can change depending on opposition

Additional Details: Racquets and shuttles provided, but you’re welcome to bring your own. Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1619314268331972/?ref=share>

Contact: Jakub Nowrotek

Contact Details: Email Jakub at jn460@cam.ac.uk

Men’s Basketball

Men’s Basketball Team has weekly matches against other colleges on the weekends at Kelsey Kerridge. The team runs weekly training sessions at the University Sports Centre. It is open to people of ALL abilities, low-commitment and is a great atmosphere for beginners to pros.



Frequency: Weekly matches and weekly open sessions

Time: Games on Weekends. Training Variable

Location: University Sports Centre/Kelsey Kerridge

Additional Details: Emails

Contact: Teodor Maslyankov

Contact Details: Email Teodor at tm747@cam.ac.uk. Alternatively, contact on facebook

The Boat Club

The Peterhouse Boat Club is the college rowing & coxing society. Rowing or coxing in Cambridge is unique from rowing anywhere else; it’s an excellent way to get away from your work. Peterhouse Boat Club has some amazing facilities and incredible people - you’ll make friends with people from across the entire college, and they have plenty of socials to enjoy together. The boat club encourages anybody to give rowing and/or coxing a go; you may fall in love with it. If you continue to row for one of the crews, competing in the Bumps is an unforgettable experience.



Frequency: Regular training, varying with level of commitment

Time: -

Location: Boat House

Additional Details: Website - <http://peterhousebc.org/> (It's not used much though); Facebook messenger group

Contact: Jonty Nottingham; Tom Nuttall; Clara Dumbavin

Contact Details: Email at captain@peterhousebc.org

Men's Cricket

Nets throughout the year and matches in summer term. Contact James for more information.

Frequency: -

Time: -

Location: -

Additional Details: -

Contact: Ted Smethurst; Rhys Davies

Contact Details: Email Ted at es983@cam.ac.uk or Rhys at rd553@cam.ac.uk



Cycling Club

We will be organising informal cafe rides to explore the surrounding area, competing in races and also hope to offer a few sessions on bicycle repair as well so there should be something for everyone. We also hope to get a good set of college tools that anyone can access.

Frequency: Weekly

Time: See the group chat

Location: Meet at Porters' Lodge

Additional Details: -

Contact: Ben Proctor

Contact Details: Email Ben at bhp27@cam.ac.uk



Women's Football Team

The Peterhouse Women's Football Team is teamed with Clare College. We participate in weekly matches held on either a Saturday or Sunday, and host occasional training sessions too. The team is open to people of all abilities (even complete beginners!), and boasts a friendly and welcoming atmosphere and team.

Frequency: Weekly

Time: Saturdays/Sundays, time variable

Location: Variable

Additional Details: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/439642466616079/about>

Contact: Natalia Wcislo (Captain)

Contact Details: Email at nkw27@cam.ac.uk



Men's Football Team

The Peterhouse Men's Football Team has weekly matches against other colleges, and runs training sessions for players, subject to attendance. The team is open to people of all abilities, and boasts a friendly atmosphere and group. Matches run in the first two terms, and the Peterhouse team plays in division four out of six.

Frequency: Weekly

Time: Sundays, time variable

Location: Variable, details available via facebook

Additional Details: Instagram: @peterhouseafc

Contact: Kieren Smith

Contact Details: Email Kieren at ks2028@cam.ac.uk



Golf Club

The Golf Club will be organising trips to play golf. Anyone who comes is free to do whatever they want when they get there.

Frequency: -

Time: -

Location: -

Additional Details: -

Contact: Davit Minasyan

Contact Details: Email Davit at dm936@cam.ac.uk



Peterhouse Lax

Peterhouse has teamed up with Fitzwilliam and Murray Edwards colleges to form House Hall Fitz mixed lacrosse team - a great opportunity to try a new sport with no commitment and lots of fun. With around 90% of players being beginners, college lacrosse is a great way to earn points, new friends and new skills. Being “unsporty” and totally unaware of the rules is not only accepted but the norm in college teams, making this a wonderfully fun college sport. If you happen to have ever played the sport, it's also a great opportunity to practice the skills you've been too frightened to try out seriously before. No need for anything but yourself and preferably a mouthguard - anyone and everyone allowed.



Frequency: Weekly

Time: Sundays, 1hr duration

Location: Various hockey pitches around Cambridge

Additional Details: Food often brought to matches

Contact: Fraser Cory (Fitzwilliam College)

Contact Details: Email Fraser at fc524@cam.ac.uk

Mixed Netball Club

The Mixed Netball Club is a very informal group who meet once a week to play a game of netball against another college. Being in bottom league, both teams are very relaxed and require no training outside of showing up for matches. Information is usually put on facebook or emailed out and anyone who is available is free to turn up each week, as there is no regular team.



Frequency: Weekly

Time: Saturday/Sunday mornings

Location: Pembroke Sports Ground; elsewhere depending on opposition

Additional Details: Instagram @peterhousemixednetball

Contact: Clemmie Lawlor; Sam Stuart

Contact Details: Email Clemmie at cl934@cam.ac.uk or Sam at ss2969@cam.ac.uk

PetRock

The Peterhouse Rock Climbing Society is a group of students from Peterhouse that go rock climbing, specifically bouldering, every Saturday. These sessions are cheaper than regular bouldering and no special equipment is required (climbing shoes are optional and shared liquid chalk is provided). We also arrange walks from the plodge to Kelsey Kerridge just before climbing, to show people the way if necessary.

Frequency: Weekly

Time: Saturday, 20:20 start

Location: Kelsey Kerridge

Additional Details: Payment and start time are confirmed each week on our Facebook page

Contact: Emma Keerberg

Contact Details: Email Emma at ekbk2@cam.ac.uk



Pool Club

The pool club operates 3 teams, which all participate in the intercollegiate tournament and Cuppers. In the last few years, they have enjoyed great success, with two teams in the 1st division for most seasons. The 3rd team is a casual team, open to all. There is a relaxed try-outs competition for freshers at the start of each year.

Frequency: Irregular

Time: Varies - matches organised based on availability of players

Location: Peterhouse JCR, or equivalent room in another college.

Additional Details: No equipment required - college provides cues, chalk etc.

Contact: George Penrose

Contact Details: Email George at gp512@cam.ac.uk



PEST Rugby Club

For college level rugby Peterhouse play in a joint team with Selwyn, Emma and Trinity Hall during the Michaelmas and Lent terms and compete in mini leagues with other colleges. The standard is relaxed and the commitment level is low (college rugby is a good way to learn the sport for beginners - and is much more chilled than the university rugby teams). It is also a good way to socialise with people from other colleges.

Frequency: League matches weekly

Time: Saturdays

Location: Barton road (home pitch); various other college grounds

Additional Details: -

Contact: Olly Parker (Emmanuel College)

Contact Details: Email Olly at op301@cam.ac.uk



Running Club

We are a super inclusive, super chilled social running club - running as slow as the slowest person. We organise runs based on who is around and wants to take part. Message the captain to join the group chat!

Frequency: Several times a week

Time: See the group chat

Location: Plodge

Additional Details: -

Contact: Margaret Johncock

Contact Details: Email Margaret at mllyj2@cam.ac.uk



Squash Club

Squash is a racquet sport which is known for offering a great work out and being very accessible to beginners. Best of all, there's a court located in Peterhouse! When you join the team there are matches every week against members of other colleges who are at a similar level to you. Don't worry about bringing a racquet as all the equipment is provided.



Frequency: Once weekly

Time: -

Location: Peterhouse Squash Courts

Additional Details: -

Contact: Keiren Smith (Captain)

Contact Details: Email Kieren at ks2028@cam.ac.uk

Tennis Club

The Tennis Club represents the college in the College League over Michaelmas Term, and Cuppers in Lent Term. Players of all levels, from national to recreational, are very welcome to participate. The club usually plays one match per week in Michaelmas and Lent Terms, but players will be rotated as far as possible. Facilities and equipment, including racquets, can be arranged for.



Frequency: Twice weekly (Training and Match)

Time: -

Location: Training at Pembroke sports grounds. Match locations variable

Additional Details: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2984922634951341>

Contact: Anirudh Bhalekar

Contact Details: Email Ani at ab2810@cam.ac.uk

Volleyball Club

The Volleyball Team plays against other colleges once a week during Easter term, and has social games against other colleges every few weeks the rest of the year. It's open to players of all abilities. Training will run once every two weeks except in Easter where it will be once a week.



Frequency: Weekly

Time: Saturdays

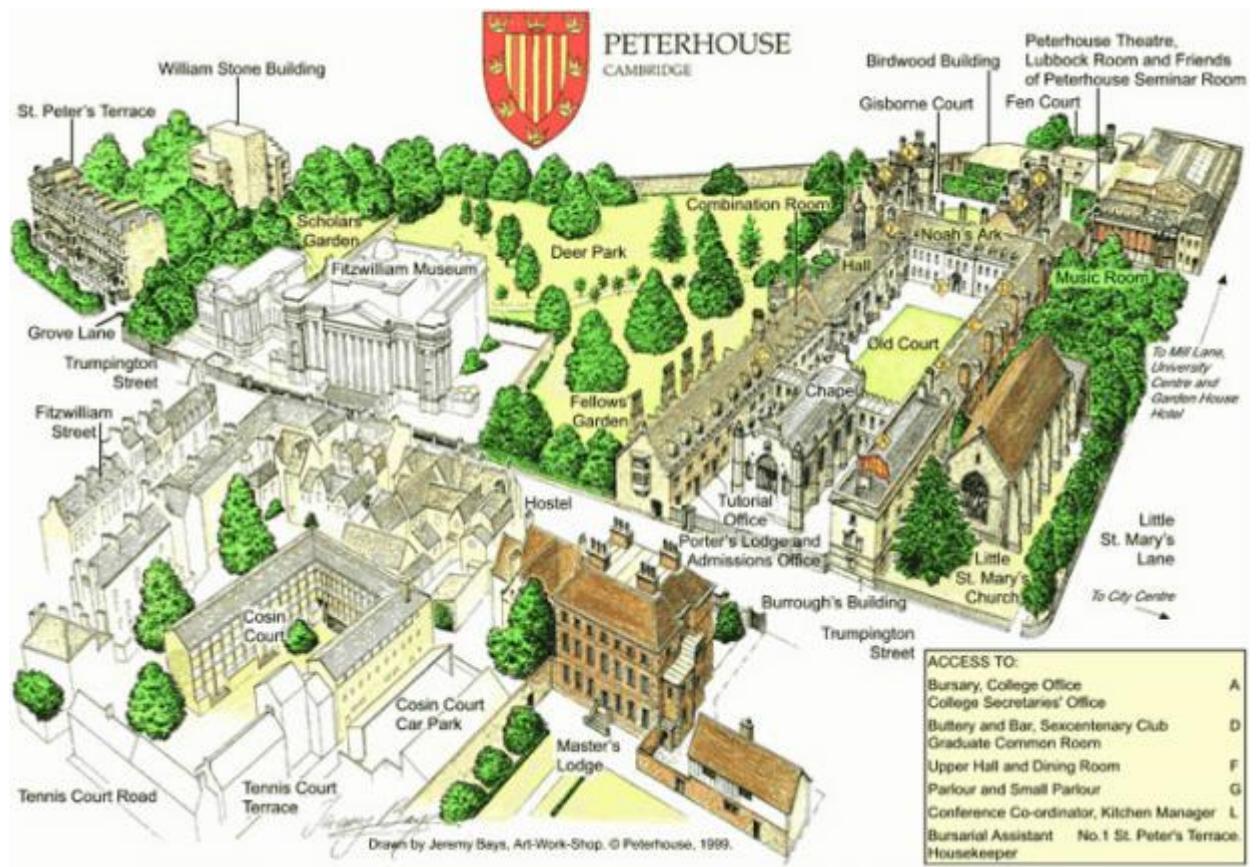
Location: University Sports Centre/Kelsey Kerridge

Additional Details: -

Contact: Ksenija Belada

Contact Details: Email Ksenija at kb750@cam.ac.uk

Rooms and Room Locations



The map above was made many years ago, and contains a few minor inaccuracies. None of these have any major impact on the map's utility. Specific details of room locations are given below, with reference to this map. If for any reason you're unable to use this map, please get in contact and an alternative will be sourced. Provided below are locations and descriptions of rooms used by societies included in this guide; if you intended to book a room, contact Anne Gifford.

The Chapel

A spacious and beautifully designed chapel, marked on the map. The main space features tiered pew seating, with natural light entering through large stained-glass windows, and a historic organ. The chapel has step-free access.

F4 Seminar Room

This is a small room located above the servery, in the corner of "old court", between "hall" and "Noah's Ark" on the map. This room is above hall, and the servery staff are often willing to provide cups & water for events and meetings. This location does not have step-free access, though gender-neutral toilets are available on the floor below.

The Friends of Peterhouse Seminar Room

This is a small room located above the servery, near the F4 Seminar Room (above). This room is above hall, and the servery staff are often willing to provide cups & water for events and meetings. This location does not provide step-free access, though gender-neutral toilets are available on the floor below.

Junior Common Room (JCR)/Nightingale Room

This is a large room located in the basement level of the Whittle building, accessible step-free via a lift. The location serves as a casual social space for the undergraduate body of the college, and is opposite the bar. Events here will often be accompanied by other, unrelated activities, such as film watching, pool playing, and perhaps some spillover from the bar, which can be quite loud and disruptive in the evening. It tends to be fairly quiet during the day however, and people tend to be happy to move or be quieter if you have a formal event planned. Being underground the room lacks windows, but the lighting has a pleasantly subdued and atmospheric effect. There are several soft armchairs/sofas and tables, as well as a TV, HDMI cable and games consoles. Toilets, including a disabled/non-binary toilet, are easily accessible just around the corner.

Davidson Room

This is a quite large meeting/function/event room located in the Whittle Building, with step-free access up a shallow ramp from Gisbourne court. The room is well equipped for meetings and other events with numerous tables and chairs which can be configured as required, as well as an overhead projector facing towards a large wall screen. The room has a nice view and lots of natural light through tall windows facing towards that court, and although room ordinarily has an echo, this is reduced if doors and windows are opened. Toilets, including a disabled/non-binary toilet, are located downstairs by the bar and JCR, and are accessible by lift.

The Parlour

This is a medium-sized room located on the first floor of G staircase, which can be found adjacent to the combination room on the map. Large numbers of comfortable armchairs are provided, though no toilets are nearby and there is no step-free access.

Squash Courts

A large building containing an enclosed squash court, located between the William Stone Building and St. Peter's Terrace. A small balcony provides a beautiful viewing spot for games.

Theatre

A large, two-tiered theatre located near the college Ward library, equipped for chamber music performances, stage plays and presentations. Please contact the IT department for a quick guide before using the stage lights. The main entrance of the building provides step-free access; the entrance to the theatre itself involves steps, but wheelchair users can be accommodated - please contact the event organiser if this is relevant.

Upper Hall

A spacious room located directly above the servery, downstairs from the F4 Seminar Room; large windows provide lots of natural light, and vibrant decorations and tapestries adorn the walls. An adjacent lift provides step-free access, and gender-neutral toilets are available down the corridor. A cloakroom is also present on this floor.

Starting or Running a Club or Society

This section of the guide is intended to walk you through the process of setting up, running, and funding a peterhouse-based society. Obviously the fine details will depend on the purpose of and general interest in your society, but the broad themes will hopefully be the same.

Setting up a Club or Society

The first step in setting up a club or society must be to have at least a broad idea of the purpose. It's not necessary to have every detail fleshed out from the get-go, but having a purpose nailed down is a strong springboard to launch your society. Will you be birdwatching? Appreciating fine art? Ransacking rival colleges? All acceptable, all good ideas for societies you should definitely make. Once the purpose has been decided, you need to start assessing interest. You can informally ask a few friends, make a post on the college facebook group ("Would anybody be interested in a society for stealing art pieces from the fitz museum? Message me j3"), ask the Sexcentenary club or Amals to send out an email for you, or otherwise just generally gauge the desire for the kind of society you want to make. Wait a few days/weeks for responses, and depending on the engagement, you have a few different options. If lots of people express enthusiasm for your idea, congrats, skip ahead a bit! Otherwise, if very few people (around 2-3) are interested, you may want to look at forming a uni-wide society, in order to expand the pool of potential members. CUSU has lots of information about how to do this, but it is unfortunately beyond the scope of this guide.

Reviving an inactive club or society

Often, as a result of waning interest, or improper management, or a host of other reasons, societies will cease to function. Often, they will quietly fade from existence, but sometimes they will still be vaguely present within the college, merely non-functional. Reviving a society, as opposed to starting a new one, has several benefits: often, interest will be higher (for strange psychological reasons), there will still be remnants in place you can use to reduce the workload, and you can nod knowingly at new members and say "yes, this is a very old and storied society wink wink". Great fun. If you want to bring back a society, the steps are generally similar to starting afresh, with the added benefit of being able to lean on the resources and branding of the old group. As a first step, it's sensible to get in contact with the person most recently in charge of the defunct society, and ask for their permission to revive it, and support in doing so - they will likely have documentation and ideas that can be hugely useful in kickstarting the revival. Beyond that, follow the same steps as you would if you were starting from scratch, using the structures already in place to accelerate the process.

Forming a committee

Committees aren't always necessary - if the activities of a society are minimal, and the society is small, you can often get away with simply operating it as a one-person team. However, it's often much more fun, and far easier, to have a few people to work with. An "executive committee" will be responsible for running the society, reaching out to new members, keeping in contact with the Sexcentenary committee and Amals, applying for funding, and generally organising the day-to-day affairs of the society. There are two main ways employed in peterhouse to elect people to a committee: democratic elections, and co-opting. Elections are typically held at an Annual General Meeting, or AGM, and involve "hustings" (a short speech or presentation by candidates on why they would be suitable for the role, and what they would bring to it) and the actual voting itself. Co-opting involves candidates submitting an application, to be reviewed by the current exec committee. The exec committee can then select the most suitable candidate(s), without the need for a majority vote. Below are described a few of the common roles on a society committee, along with their typical responsibilities. Often these roles will be found under different names, though will be functionally the same (e.g. "bard" or "scribe" in place of "secretary"; "geldjarl" or "dragon" in place of "treasurer").

- President/Chair: This is typically a glorified management role. The chair is responsible for ensuring everyone is fulfilling their role, assigning duties, and generally making sure the society is functioning smoothly. Any duties that don't fall neatly into another role on the committee will be the domain of the chair, either to reassign or carry out themselves.
- Vice president/Vice chair: This role is only typical in very large societies. The vice chair will usually take over the duties of the chair in the case they are unable to fulfill them, will ensure the committee is happy

& able to carry out their roles, and provide advice and support to the chair.

- Secretary: This role will be responsible for communications - taking minutes at meetings, sending out emails, making facebook posts, and acting as the first point of contact for people looking to engage the society. Will not bring you coffee, and you shouldn't have asked.
- Treasurer: The treasurer will be in charge of all financial matters, which generally means applying for Amals funding, submitting reimbursement requests, and planning the budget at the start of the year.
- Webmaster: The webmaster will be responsible for the online presence of the society. They will be responsible for maintaining any facebook groups or mailing lists, digital storage of all important documents (e.g. constitution & standing orders, minutes, budget breakdown), and for making vague, nonsensical facebook posts about the role of icelandic myths in modern conflict resolution.

Things to Consider Before Setting Up Your Society

How you see the society running? When will meetings/events/matches take place? What will be the structure of these? Where will these take place? How can people get involved?

Interest- gauge interest around college. How many people are interested?

Budget- firstly, do you need funding at all? Plenty of societies run perfectly well without budgets. If you decide you do need funding, consider what you need it for and how much this would be roughly.

Side notes- we're not going to allow any gambling societies (or ones that are based heavily around gambling e.g. Poker). We are also hesitant to fund food or drink (unless this is what the society is based around e.g. Caseus Cheese Club), but we would be happy to work with you on a socials budget which could include this.

We don't expect you to have all the answers! They're just some things to think about before starting a new society to help us make the process quicker and easier and prevent the inevitable back and forth that occurs when these things haven't been considered.

Formalising and publicising your society

Once you have the groundwork for your society laid out, you should think about affiliating it with Amals. In practice, this will just involve messaging the current Amals president to say "I've formed a society, this is the purpose, we have however many people already interested, and have put on these events/plan to put on these events". This is the only necessary step to become a "recognised society"; this is probably also the time to create the constitution and standing orders (next section) if you intend to. Once you're affiliated, you can apply for funding from Amals (this is possible once per year, usually near the beginning of Michaelmas - last year, the deadline was 30th september), and are entitled to present your society at the "fresher's squash", shortly after freshers week in Michaelmas term. This is a great opportunity to recruit new members to your society, but it isn't the only one. You can post on the college facebook group, tuck flyers for your society in people's pigeonholes, put up posters in the JCR, and submit a description of your society to this very guide, among other things, to increase the profile of your society, and gather up everyone who might be interested.

Constitution and Standing Orders

It's not always necessary to have a constitution or standing orders, especially for small & informal societies. Often, when implemented, these documents will have little impact on the day-to-day running of the club or society, usually with the exception of committee elections, etc.

A point of concern is often what needs to be in either document. Unfortunately, there is no standard for what should go where. Broadly speaking, the constitution covers everything that needs to be formal (so the roles of the committee, how open meetings run), while standing orders cover additional minutiae (e.g. if there's any specific events that need to be regulated, if there's a specific way you want communications to go out) and everything else doesn't need to be formalised.

Handover

Eventually, your term in office will come to an end, and you will need to hand the reins to other students. Often, this is the point where projects will be abandoned, and traditions and information will be lost. One way of preventing this is having handover documents and discussions. Again, there's no standard guide for what to

include in a handover, beyond “things that are important to the role”. Included here are a few ideas for things to include in a handover, but these shouldn’t be construed as comprehensive, or even representative. If the role involves running or planning events, it’s generally a good idea to include details of which locations worked best for you and why, what times you found had the most engagement, and any particular things you’ve tried that worked well or didn’t work well. If you were working on any long-term projects in the role (for example, working to increase the diversity of speakers invited to specific talks), the handover should include details of the project, what steps you’ve taken so far, and roughly what you would intend to do next were you to continue the role. Generally, the handover should contain a full description of the role, and the various duties that have fallen under it. Often, it’s a good plan to include suggestions for what to do in the role moving forward. **At this point in time, you should contact Amals again to let them know the new leadership & treasurer.**

Submitting a budget for AMALS funding

Applying for funding from AMALS is straightforward, although people seem to often be concerned that they will either not apply for enough or will apply for too much.

A good starting point is to speak to the previous captain or head of your club or society, as they can advise you of the usual annual costs and share their experience with you – maybe they will suggest things that the club or society may benefit from having next year. Consider what you might want to purchase to improve the club or society and then estimate the total funding required for the year.

You may want to add on a moderate amount in case certain things end up costing more than expected. Historically, people have often applied for much more than they will need; AMALS would prefer that a more realistic amount is applied for so that, if a society were to exhaust their budget, it would be easier to give them extra funding as the total AMALS budget for the year would be lower.

Example budget submission:

I'm captaining the Men's Football this year. I would like to claim £500 for the year - £165 of which as expenses from last year.

The league fees come to around £100 in total and I intend to purchase spare kit like football boots, shin pads, goalkeeper gloves etc. The reason for that is if people want to try out College football I don't want their lack of kit to stop them from trying it, however after that they would have to buy their own kit if they were continuing to play.

Also, we should have enough players this year to run training sessions and so I'd like to buy cones and speed ladders for training drills. I will be purchasing some more footballs too so we have enough for the trainings.

I am aware I am claiming more than last year and the reason for that is from conversations with last year's captain he explained he underbudgeted and didn't request enough funding to cover all the costs.

The above example submission is good in that it describes how the money will be used and explains why the budget applied for is higher than last year. However, it would be much better if it had estimated costs for all things referenced and was more succinct:

I'm captaining the Men's Football this year. I would like to claim £500 for the year, broken down as follows:

- League fees - around £100 total
- Spare kit (football boots, shin pads, goalkeeper gloves etc.) – estimated £100
[if people want to try out College football I don't want their lack of kit to stop them from trying it, however after that they would have to buy their own kit if they were continuing to play]
- 2 Footballs - £30
- Expenses from last year - £165

I am aware I am claiming more than last year and the reason for that is from conversations with last year's captain he explained he underbudgeted and didn't request enough funding to cover all the costs.

This example still has all the detail needed including specific equipment, which you don’t need to include but please do if you would like! A quick look online at how much certain things are likely to cost is enough to estimate costs of most things and in this example, based on the estimated costs, there should be £85 of the budget left after all these expenses which is a reasonable excess. Applying for £600 would leave nearly a third of the budget as excess which is unnecessary.

The budget process really isn't very complicated or difficult and doesn't need as long, detailed or boring an explanation as the one above! This was just trying to help clarify things that people often get concerned about.

The bottom line is if you need AMALS' help, we will be there and please don't be afraid to get in touch with questions.

Misc.

If you've read this far, you should be firmly on track to having a well-functioning club or society. If there's anything you want clarification on, or anything you feel is missing from this section of the guide, please get in contact by emailing the Amals committee!