

Dear Alumni,

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All of us at University College would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

2017 has flown by: it has been a busy year with many changes.

First of all, I would like to say farewell and offer my greatest thanks to Lynne Carrick. Lynne, after 49 years at the University, and after 28 years at Castle, is retiring this Christmas. Many alumni will, no doubt, have met and will remember Lynne as a constant figure within the College. She has been instrumental in the running of this College, a positive and reassuring person to have around and an excellent friend to us all. It will be difficult and an odd feeling to no longer have Lynne with us on a day-to-day basis.

This year we have welcomed a Revd R. P. (Ric) Whaite to the role of Chaplain and Solway Fellow. Ric has energetically taken on the position, and it is great having him in the College community. If you ever get the chance to be in Durham on a Thursday or Sunday, please do take the opportunity to join us at Evensong or Morning Prayer. Our Chapel Choir and organ scholars are superb!

Our JCR and MCR are ever busy with studies and a lively social calendar. We have already had Ladies Night: the MCR are preparing for the Castle Charity Ball on the 27th January. Castle Community Action is ever busy with their outreach work. It is encouraging to see so many of our students volunteering and taking part in the broader community.



We hope to see you in 2018 and please keep up-to-date with our events:

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- \* SCR & Alumni Carols Reception on the 9th December
- London Reception Friday 23rd of February from 7.00pm to 11.00pm, Champagne Charlies
- \* MCR Castle Charity Ball 27th January

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- Castle Community Action & June Ball Auction (Bids close 15th December)
- \* Curators Choice Talk— 20th February 2018

I very much hope that you will consider attending and please check our alumni website, <u>www.castlealumni.uk</u> for more details, or contact our Alumni Relations Officer at <u>castle.alumni@durham.ac.uk</u>.

If you are planning on visiting Durham, please let us know. We always enjoy welcoming returning alumni to Castle.

Once again, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year.

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David Held Master of University College







## www.castlealumni.uk

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