

# USTINOV COLLEGE GRADUATE COMMON ROOM

England & Wales · Charity number 1164865

## Details

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**Other names** USTINOV GCR

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 2015-12-15

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** Ustinov College  
Sheraton House  
Sheraton Park  
Durham  
DH1 4FL

**Phone** 0191 334 5470

**Email** [ustinovcollege@gmail.com](mailto:ustinovcollege@gmail.com)

**Website** <http://ustinovgcr.com/>

## Activities

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**Objects:** 3.THE GCR'S OBJECTS ARE THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION OF STUDENTS AT USTINOV COLLEGE FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY:3.1 PROMOTING THE INTERESTS AND WELFARE OF STUDENTS AT USTINOV COLLEGE DURING THEIR COURSE OF STUDY AND REPRESENTING, SUPPORTING AND ADVISING STUDENTS;3.2 BEING THE RECOGNISED REPRESENTATIVE CHANNEL BETWEEN STUDENTS AND USTINOV COLLEGE AND ANY OTHER EXTERNAL BODIES, INCLUDING THE DSU AND TEAM DURHAM;3.3 PROVIDING SOCIAL, CULTURAL, SPORTING AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND FORUMS FOR DISCUSSIONS AND DEBATE FOR THE PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT OF ITS STUDENTS;3.4 PROMOTING INTERCULTURAL UNDERSTANDING AMONG STUDENTS, INFORMED BY THE COLLEGE MOTTO DIVERSITATE VALEMUS; AND3.5 PROMOTING ECOLOGICAL AWARENESS AMONG STUDENTS, AND ENCOURAGING SUSTAINABLE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY BEHAVIOUR, WITH THE AIM OF IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH STUDENTS LIVE, BOTH LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY.

**Activities:** In the last year, the Graduate Common Room has run its regular events including formal dinners, family parties and local trips. After Ustinov College's relocation to Sheraton Park, the charity has been

working on a strategy that incorporates the community and enhances the student experience at the new site.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Amateur Sport, Recreation
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

## Geography

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- Durham

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-08-31	£62,399	£61,749	-	-
2023-08-31	£33,024	£61,994	-	-
2022-08-31	£46,326	£34,902	-	-
2021-08-31	£30,965	£18,665	-	-
2020-08-31	£60,702	£37,911	-	-

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Dr Charles Thom Bernard Alexander Addinall-Biddulph</b>	Chair	2023-10-08
Ahmed Shafquat Hassan		2024-07-01
Evangelos Vagenas-Nanos		2023-10-08
Ian Macdonald		2023-10-08
Rachel Barclay		2023-10-08
Ray Mumford		2020-03-22

**USTINOV COLLEGE GRADUATE COMMON ROOM**

England & Wales - Charity number 1164865

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# Accounts

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# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

		Period start date			Period end date		
<b>From</b>	01	09	2023	<b>To</b>	31	08	2024

## Section A Reference and administration details

**Charity name**

Ustinov College Graduate Common Room

**Other names charity is known by**

Ustinov GCR

**Registered charity number (if any)**

1164865

**Charity's principal address**

Ustinov GCR, Ustinov College, Sheraton House,

Sheraton Park,

Durham

**Postcode**

**DH1 4FL**

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Anthony Jones	GCR President 2023-2024	September 2023-July 2024	Student Body
2	Ammar Alahmadi	GCR Treasurer 2023-2024	September 2023-July 2024	Student Body
3	Aparna Dinesh-Shanoy	GCR Chairperson 2023-2024	September 2023-July 2024	Student Body
4	Jamie Hunter	GCR Vice-President 2023-2024	September 2023-July 2024	Student Body
5	Cory Winter	GCR Welfare Officer 2023-2024	September 2023-July 2024	Student Body
6	Katherine Schofield	Student Trustee	September 2023-July 2024	Student Body
7	Adam Fletcher	Student Trustee	September 2023-July 2024	Student Body
8	Thom Addinall-Biddulph	Chair of Trustees		Appointments Committee
9	Ian MacDonald	External Trustee		Appointments Committee
10	Ray Mumford	External Trustee		Appointments Committee
11	Rachel Barclay	External Trustee		Appointments Committee
12	Evangelos Vagenas-Nanos	Alumni Trustee		Appointments Committee
13	Ahmed Shafquat Hassan	GCR President 2024-2025	July 2024-August 2024	Student Body
14	Artie Graham	GCR Vice-President 2024-2025	July 2024-August 2024	Student Body
15	Chris Johnson	GCR Welfare Officer 2024-2025	July 2024-August 2024	Student Body

**Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)**

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Accountant	B.H. Accountancy Ltd	363 West Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 7NL

**Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)**

Anthony Jones (GCR President 2023-2024)

**Section B Structure, governance and management**

**Description of the charity’s trusts**

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution and Standing Orders
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Unincorporated Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Student Trustees and the GCR officers are elected at the Annual General Meeting at the beginning of summer by the wider membership in an election process. The alumni and external trustees are both appointed by a simple majority vote of the Appointments Committee provided that the appointment of each Alumni Trustee is ratified by a two-thirds majority vote of a general meeting.

**Additional governance issues (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity’s organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees’ consideration of major risks and the system

The current trustee board comprises five officer roles (President, Vice President, Chair, Welfare Officer, and Treasurer). Along with being members of the Trustee board, these officers also sit on the executive committee and head the general GCR committee, which governs the day-to-day activities of the GCR.

The Trustee board also has space for up to three alumni trustees, of which two positions are currently filled. There is space for up to three external trustees, of which we currently have three. The Trustee board also has space for two student trustees, of which two positions were filled until July 2024 and are now open for election in the new academic year 2024-25.

The trustee board meets as needed or at least once per term. The trustee board also meets before the AGM of the GCR each year to approve the accounts before they are presented to the GCR body and ratified by a two-thirds majority. Trustees were recruited based on their knowledge and experience with Ustinov and/or Durham University.

and procedures to manage them.

The Trustee Board's main objective is to ensure compliance with standing orders and the constitution. Both documents prioritise welfare support and enhance the overall student experience at Ustinov College.

During the last year, Thom Addinall-Biddulph, alumni trustee, acted as the Chair of the Trustee Board.

## Section C

## Objectives and activities

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The GCR's objectives are outlined as followed by the constitution:

"3. The GCR's objects are the advancement of the education of Students at Ustinov College for the public benefit by:

3.1 promoting the interests and welfare of Students at Ustinov College during their course of study and representing, supporting and advising Students;

3.2 being the recognised representative channel between Students and Ustinov College and any other external bodies, including the DSU and Team Durham;

3.3 providing social, cultural, sporting and recreational activities and forums for discussions and debate for the personal development of its Students;

3.4 promoting intercultural understanding among Students, informed by the College motto *Diversitate Valemus*;

and 3.5 promoting ecological awareness among Students, and encouraging sustainable and environmentally-friendly behaviour, with the aim of improving the environment in which Students live, both locally and globally."

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

The GCR has been an inclusive hub of support and enrichment for postgraduate students, fostering fulfilling experiences throughout the academic journey. Among our most important activities are:

**Welfare Campaigns:** The GCR has consistently championed the well-being of postgraduate students through targeted welfare campaigns.

**Social Engagement:** Our GCR has orchestrated various engaging and inclusive social events, creating opportunities for meaningful interactions among postgraduate students. From themed parties to our weekly pub quiz, these events are aimed to foster connections and forge lasting friendships with the students.

**Cultural Enrichment:** The GCR has facilitated enriching cultural experiences through events and external excursions. These endeavours have allowed postgraduate students to explore local landmarks, historical sites, and diverse cultural offerings.

**Supportive Community:** The GCR has created a welcoming and inclusive community beyond academic pursuits. By organising support groups and informal gatherings, postgraduate students have found a network that encourages personal development, shared learning, and mutual encouragement.

**Advocacy and Representation:** The GCR has actively advocated for the needs and concerns of postgraduate students, acting as a voice to ensure their perspectives are heard and their interests are addressed within the broader university context.

In summary, the GCR's initiatives encompass comprehensive activities to support postgraduate students' well-being, social connections, cultural enrichment, and professional growth. By fostering a supportive and inclusive environment and facilitating diverse experiences, the GCR plays a vital role in enhancing the overall student experience

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

In August/September 2023, we invested in the social space in the college, renamed 'The Paddle' as part of our activities to invest in the best facilities for our members and college more widely – these furnishing improvements have been retained on our asset list.

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

**Section D**                      **Achievements and performance**

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

This past year the GCR continued to commit to delivering events for our community. Redevelopment of the common room was undertaken in September 2023, project managed by the President for 2023-2024 Anthony Jones.

The revamp signalled a renewal and commitment to delivering a first-class environment and experience for all Ustinovians. Other significant milestones across various domains included:

**Postgraduate Engagement:** Our charity has successfully cultivated a vibrant and engaged postgraduate community, fostering intellectual and social interaction among scholars from diverse backgrounds and nationalities (Ustinov College is the largest and most diverse from Durham University). Our events, discussions, and collaborative initiatives have led to a thriving network that has been praised by both students and staff.

**Biggest GCR membership:** With well over 200 students now members, this year has been one of impactful and sustained work across many areas. The most important area is community. We continue to work hard as volunteers to bring together everyone studying at Ustinov.

**Cultural Enrichment:** The GCR organized external trips to notable destinations. These excursions provided opportunities for cultural exploration, learning, and fostering bonds among students.

**Events:** We are holding more events than ever and the Halloween Party, Summer Ball and Ustinov Day remain highlights, bringing together a record number of our students.

**Continued support for Clubs and Societies:** We are proud to be home to a wide range of clubs and societies, both sporting and personal interests. We are now one of few colleges who do not require membership to participate in college sport, providing benefit to all of our members and the wider college.

**Formal dinners:** We are hosting formals at various colleges around the University again. We hosted the first ever Cathedral formal in January 2024 – a first in Durham and a fantastic evening was had by all our members who attended.

**Impactful Welfare Campaigns:** Our welfare team, led by our welfare officer, has continued to run events centred on wellness and wellbeing. We have a weekly tea and biscuits event that provides a space for students to talk in a supportive environment.

In summary, the GCR's achievements continue to reflect a deep commitment to fostering a dynamic and inclusive community, promoting excellence in sports and academics, and actively contributing to positive change through impactful initiatives and events. We remain dedicated to furthering our mission and creating a lasting impact for years to come.

After the conclusion of the college day, the team running the GCR changes to the next group for the academic year. The transition this year has been very successful and the team of Shaf, Artie and Chris will now work to delivering freshers week in the new academic year.

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The charity's reserves are maintained such that any complication with the GCR's relationship with the university would not result in a deficit in the GCR's accounts. This effectively results in a reserve of £70,000, assuming that any dispute would be quickly resolved. Similarly, this would allow the GCR to continue functioning were our income to substantially change within the period of one year. Reserves stand at £70,000, which is currently the required amount.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable.

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

## Section F



## Other optional information

## Section G

## Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	 ONES	
Full name(s)	Anthony David Jones	Thomas Addinall-Biddulph
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	President 2023-2024	Chair of Trustees
Date	3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2024	



## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01/09/2023	To	Period end date 31/08/2024
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
UNIVERSITY GRANT	13,083	-	-	13,083	12,885
INTEREST EARNED	-	-	-	-	-
GCR LEVIES	-	22,588	-	22,588	11,505
RECEIPTS FROM ACTIVITIES	-	26,728	-	26,728	8,634
TRANSITIONAL FUND	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER INCOME	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>13,083</b>	<b>49,316</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>62,399</b>	<b>33,024</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>13,083</b>	<b>49,316</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>62,399</b>	<b>33,024</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
CLUBS AND SOCIETIES	17,204	-	-	17,204	3,402
COMMON ROOM	-	-	-	-	17,754
ADMIN AND WELFARE	2,165	-	-	2,165	1,029
TV AND RADIO	-	-	-	-	-
LICENSING AND INSURANCE	2,375	-	-	2,375	2,389
ACTIVITIES	-	40,005	-	40,005	37,420
MERCHANDISE	-	-	-	-	-
TRAVEL COSTS	-	-	-	-	-
ACCOUNTANCY	-	-	-	-	-
DONATIONS	-	-	-	-	-
BANK CHARGES	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER EXPENSES	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>21,744</b>	<b>40,005</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>61,749</b>	<b>61,994</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>21,744</b>	<b>40,005</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>61,749</b>	<b>61,994</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 8,661</b>	<b>9,311</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>- 28,970</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>40,211</b>	<b>39,291</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>79,502</b>	<b>108,472</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>31,550</b>	<b>48,602</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>80,152</b>	<b>79,502</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	CURRENT ACCOUNT	31,551	48,602	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>31,551</b>	<b>48,602</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK

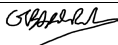

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>			-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	LOAN TO UNIVERSITY		1,500	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Thomas Addinall-Biddulph	03/09/2024
	Anthony Jones	03/09/2024



# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

## Section A

## Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name

USTINOV COLLEGE GRADUATE COMMON ROOM

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2024

Charity no  
(if any)

1164865

Set out on pages

Respective  
responsibilities of  
trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent  
examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view, and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent  
examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

26/06/2025

Name:

B.H. ACCOUNTANCY LTD

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body:

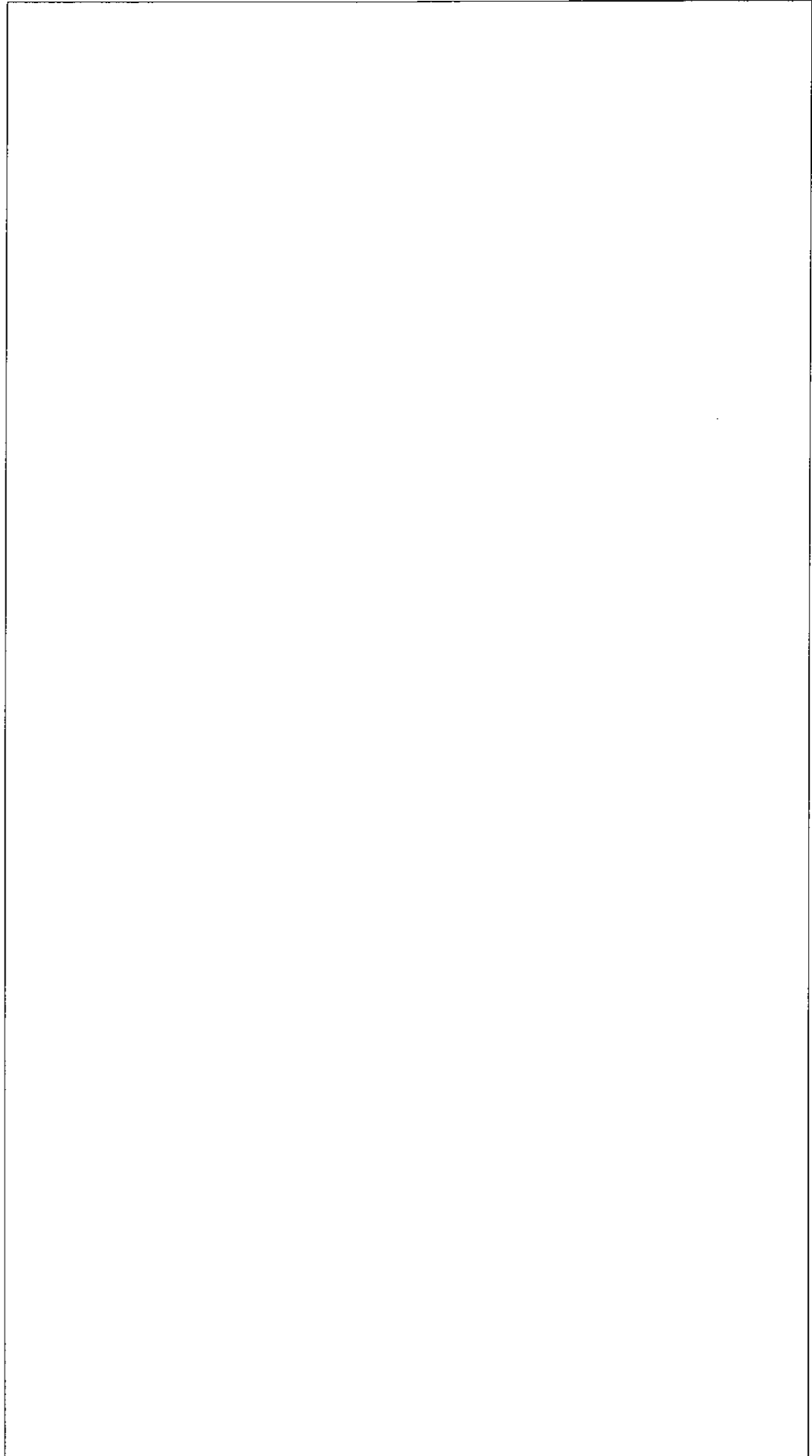
THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Address:

363 WEST ROAD, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, TYNE AND WEAR, NE15 7NL

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.



**USTINOV COLLEGE GRADUATE COMMON ROOM**

England & Wales - Charity number 1164865

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# Accounts

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**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Accountant	Bryan Howarth	Design Works, William Street, Felling, Tyne and Wear, NE10 0JP

**Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)**

Anthony (GCR President)

**Section B Structure, governance and management**

**Description of the charity’s trusts**

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution and Standing Orders
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Unincorporated Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Student Trustees and the GCR officers are elected at the Annual General Meeting at the beginning of summer by the wider membership in an election process. The alumni and external trustees are both appointed by a simple majority vote of the Appointments Committee provided that the appointment of each Alumni Trustee is ratified by a two-thirds majority vote of a general meeting.

**Additional governance issues (Optional information)**

<p>You <b>may choose</b> to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;</li> <li>• the charity’s organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;</li> <li>• relationship with any related parties;</li> <li>• trustees’ consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.</li> </ul>	<p>The current trustee board comprises five officer roles (President, Vice President, Chair, Welfare Officer, and Treasurer). Along with being members of the Trustee board, these officers also sit on the executive committee and head the general GCR committee, which governs the day-to-day activities of the GCR.</p> <p>The Trustee board also has space for up to three alumni trustees, of which two positions are filled. There is space for up to three external trustees, of which we currently have three. The Trustee board also has space for two student trustees, of which two positions are filled.</p> <p>The trustee board meets as needed or at least once per term. The trustee board also meets before the AGM of the GCR each year to approve the accounts before they are presented to the GCR body and ratified by a two-thirds majority. Trustees were recruited based on their knowledge and experience with Ustinov and/or Durham University.</p> <p>The Trustee Board's main objective is to ensure compliance with standing orders and the constitution. Both documents prioritise welfare support and enhance the overall student experience at Ustinov College.</p> <p>During the last year, Thom Addinall-Biddulph, external trustee, acted as the Chair of the Trustee Board.</p>
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**Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document**

The GCR's objectives are outlined as followed by the constitution:

"3. The GCR's objects are the advancement of the education of Students at Ustinov College for the public benefit by:

3.1 promoting the interests and welfare of Students at Ustinov College during their course of study and representing, supporting and advising Students;

3.2 being the recognised representative channel between Students and Ustinov College and any other external bodies, including the DSU and Team Durham;

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3.4 promoting intercultural understanding among Students, informed by the College motto Diversitate Valemus;

and 3.5 promoting ecological awareness among Students, and encouraging sustainable and environmentally-friendly behaviour, with the aim of improving the environment in which Students live, both locally and globally."

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

The GCR has been an inclusive hub of support and enrichment for postgraduate students, fostering fulfilling experiences throughout the academic journey. Among our most important activities are:

**Welfare Campaigns:** The GCR has consistently championed the well-being of postgraduate students through targeted welfare campaigns.

**Social Engagement:** Our GCR has orchestrated various engaging and inclusive social events, creating opportunities for meaningful interactions among postgraduate students. From themed parties to our weekly pub quiz, these events are aimed to foster connections and forge lasting friendships with the students.

**Cultural Enrichment:** The GCR has facilitated enriching cultural experiences through events and external excursions. These endeavours have allowed postgraduate students to explore local landmarks, historical sites, and diverse cultural offerings.

**Supportive Community:** The GCR has created a welcoming and inclusive community beyond academic pursuits. By organising support groups and informal gatherings, postgraduate students have found a network that encourages personal development, shared learning, and mutual encouragement.

**Advocacy and Representation:** The GCR has actively advocated for the needs and concerns of postgraduate students, acting as a voice to ensure their perspectives are heard and their interests are addressed within the broader university context.

In summary, the GCR's initiatives encompass comprehensive activities to support postgraduate students' well-being, social connections, cultural enrichment, and professional growth. By fostering a supportive and inclusive environment and facilitating diverse experiences, the GCR plays a vital role in enhancing the overall student experience.

## Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

In August/September 2023, we invested in the social space in the college, renamed 'The Paddle' as part of our activities to invest in the best facilities for our members and college more widely – these furnishing improvements have been retained on our asset list.

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

This past year the GCR continued to commit to delivering events for our community. Redevelopment of the common room was undertaken in September 2023, project managed by the President. The revamp signalled a renewal and commitment to delivering a first-class environment and experience for all Ustinovians. Other significant milestones across various domains included:

**Exceptional Postgraduate Engagement:** Our charity has successfully cultivated a vibrant and engaged postgraduate community, fostering intellectual and social interaction among scholars from diverse backgrounds and nationalities (Ustinov College is the largest and most diverse from Durham University). Our events, discussions, and collaborative initiatives have led to a thriving network that has been praised by both students and staff.

**Biggest GCR membership:** With well over 200 students now members (as of March 2024), this year has been one of impactful and sustained work across many areas. The most important area is community. We continue to work hard as volunteers to bring together everyone studying at Ustinov.

**Cultural Enrichment:** The GCR organized external trips to notable destinations. These excursions provided opportunities for cultural exploration, learning, and fostering bonds among students.

**Events:** We are holding more events than ever and the Halloween Party, Summer Ball and Ustinov Day remain highlights, bringing together a record number of our students.

**Continued support for Clubs and Societies:** We are proud to be home to a wide range of clubs and societies, both sporting and personal interests. The GCR's commitment to teamwork and dedication paid off again as we secured the first-place position in the Premiership Volleyball League.

**Formal dinners:** We are hosting formals at various colleges around the University again. We hosted the first ever Cathedral formal in January 2024 – a first in Durham and a fantastic evening was had by all our members who attended.

**Impactful Welfare Campaigns:** Our welfare team, led by our welfare officer, has continued to run events centred on wellness and wellbeing. We have a weekly tea and biscuits event that provides a space for students to talk in a supportive environment.

In summary, the GCR's achievements continue to reflect a deep commitment to fostering a dynamic and inclusive community, promoting excellence in sports and academics, and actively contributing to positive change through impactful initiatives and events. We remain dedicated to furthering our mission and creating a lasting impact for years to come.

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The charity's reserves are maintained such that any complication with the GCR's relationship with the university would not result in a deficit in the GCR's accounts. This effectively results in a reserve of £70,000, assuming that any dispute would be quickly resolved. Similarly, this would allow the GCR to continue functioning were our income to substantially change within the period of one year. Reserves stand at £70,000, which is currently the required amount.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable.

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

## Section F

## Other optional information

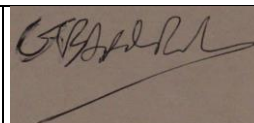
## Section G

## Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.  
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

 JONES



Full name(s)

Anthony David Jones

Thom Addinall-Biddulph

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

President

Chair of Trustees

Date

24<sup>th</sup> April 2024



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

USTINOV COLLEGE GRADUATE COMMON ROOM	No (if any)
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## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 1/9/2022	To	Period end date 31/7/2023
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted to the nearest £	Restricted to the nearest £	Endowment to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
UNIVERSITY GRANT	12,885	-	-	12,885	14,220
INTEREST EARNED	-	-	-	-	-
GCR LEVIES	-	11,505	-	11,505	14,362
RECEIPTS FROM ACTIVITIES	-	8,634	-	8,634	17,309
TRANSITIONAL FUND	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER INCOME	-	-	-	-	435
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>12,885</b>	<b>20,139</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>33,024</b>	<b>46,326</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales,</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>12,885</b>	<b>20,139</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>33,024</b>	<b>46,326</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
CLUBS AND SOCIETIES	3,402	-	-	3,402	904
COMMON ROOM	17,754	-	-	17,754	2,563
ADMIN AND WELFARE	1,029	-	-	1,029	-
TV AND RADIO	-	-	-	-	-
LICENSING AND INSURANCE	2,389	-	-	2,389	2,175
ACTIVITIES	-	37,420	-	37,420	-
MERCHANDISE	-	-	-	-	23,682
TRAVEL COSTS	-	-	-	-	-
ACCOUNTANCY	-	-	-	-	-
DONATIONS	-	-	-	-	-
BANK CHARGES	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER EXPENSES	-	-	-	-	5,578
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>24,573</b>	<b>37,420</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>61,994</b>	<b>34,902</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>24,573</b>	<b>37,420</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>61,994</b>	<b>34,902</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 11,688</b>	<b>- 17,281</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 28,970</b>	<b>11,424</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>51,900</b>	<b>56,572</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>108,472</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>40,212</b>	<b>39,291</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>79,502</b>	<b>11,424</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	CURRENT ACCOUNT	40,212	39,291	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>40,212</b>	<b>39,291</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	LOAN TO UNIVERSITY		1,500	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which	Amount due	When due
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf

Signature	Print Name	Date of
ONES	Anthony Jones	24/04/2024
	Thom Addinall-Biddulph	<b>24/04/2024</b>



# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

## Section A

## Independent Examiner's Report

<b>Report to the trustees/ members of</b>	Charity Name USTINOV COLLEGE GRADUATE COMMON ROOM		
<b>On accounts for the year ended</b>	31 <sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2023	<b>Charity no (if any)</b>	1164865
<b>Set out on pages</b>			
<b>Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner</b>	<p>The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.</p> <p>It is my responsibility to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,</li> <li>• to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and</li> <li>• to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.</li> </ul>		
<b>Basis of independent examiner's statement</b>	<p>My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.</p>		
<b>Independent examiner's statement</b>	<p>In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and</li> <li>• to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act</li> </ul> <p>have not been met; or</p> </li> <li>2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.</li> </ol>		
<b>Signed:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	24/04/2024
<b>Name:</b>	B.H. ACCOUNTANCY LTD		
<b>Relevant professional qualification(s) or body:</b>	THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IN ENGLAND AND WALES		
<b>Address:</b>	363 WEST ROAD, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, TYNE AND WEAR, NE15 7NL		

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

[Empty rectangular box for disclosure details]

**USTINOV COLLEGE GRADUATE COMMON ROOM**

England & Wales - Charity number 1164865

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# Accounts

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# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

<b>From</b>	Period start date			<b>To</b>	Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year

## Section A Reference and administration details

**Charity name**

Ustinov College Graduate Common Room

**Other names charity is known by**

Ustinov GCR

**Registered charity number (if any)**

1164865

**Charity's principal address**

Ustinov GCR, Ustinov College, Sheraton House,  
 Sheraton Park,  
 Durham  
**Postcode** DH1 4FL

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Joel Lozano	GCR President		Student Body
2	Artem Chuiko	GCR Treasurer		Student Body
3	Oleksandra Mazurkevych	GCR Chairperson		Student Body
4	Anthony Jones	GCR Vice-President		Student Body
5	Mathilda Butler	GCR Welfare Officer	From February, 2023	Student Body
6	Abhinandya Sengupta	GCR International Students Office	Until April, 2023	Student Body
7	Adam Fletcher	Student Trustee	From February, 2023	Student Body
8	Katherine Schofield	Student Trustee	From February, 2023	Student Body
9	Tom Briton	External Trustee	Until January, 2023	Appointments Committee
10	Ray Mumford	External Trustee		Appointments Committee
11	Thom Addinall-Biddulph	Alumni Trustee		Appointments Committee
12	Nicholas Cresswell	Alumni Trustee		Appointments Committee
13				
14				
15				

### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Accountant	Bryan Howarth	Design Works, William Street, Felling, Tyne and Wear, NE10 0JP

### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Joel Lozano (GCR President)

## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution and Standing Orders
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Unincorporated Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Student Trustees and the GCR officers are elected at the Annual General Meeting at the beginning of summer by the wider membership in an election process. The alumni and external trustees are both appointed by a simple majority vote of the Appointments Committee provided that the appointment of each Alumni Trustee is ratified by a two-thirds majority vote of a general meeting.

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The current trustee board comprises five officer roles (President, Vice President, Chair, Welfare Officer, and Treasurer). Along with being members of the Trustee board, these officers also sit on the executive committee and head the general GCR committee, which governs the day-to-day activities of the GCR.

The Trustee board also has space for up to three alumni trustees, of which two positions are filled. There is space for up to three external trustees, of which we currently have one. The trustee board meets as needed or at least once per term. The trustee board also meets before the AGM of the GCR each year to approve the accounts before they are presented to the GCR body and ratified by a two-thirds majority. Trustees are recruited through the election or through being previously involved, in some way, with GCR activities. Alumni trustees were typically heavily involved in the GCR activities at Ustinov. Usually, alumni trustees and external trustees are sought out by the trustee board.

The Trustee Board's main objective is to ensure compliance with standing orders and the constitution. Both documents prioritise welfare support and enhance the overall student experience at Ustinov College.

During the last year, Thom Addinall-Biddulph, external trustee, acted as the Chair of the Trustee Board.

**Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document**

The GCR's objectives are outlined as followed by the constitution:

"3. The GCR's objects are the advancement of the education of Students at Ustinov College for the public benefit by:

3.1 promoting the interests and welfare of Students at Ustinov College during their course of study and representing, supporting and advising Students;

3.2 being the recognised representative channel between Students and Ustinov College and any other external bodies, including the DSU and Team Durham;

3.3 providing social, cultural, sporting and recreational activities and forums for discussions and debate for the personal development of its Students;

3.4 promoting intercultural understanding among Students, informed by the College motto *Diversitate Valemus*;

and 3.5 promoting ecological awareness among Students, and encouraging sustainable and environmentally-friendly behaviour, with the aim of improving the environment in which Students live, both locally and globally."

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

The GCR has been an inclusive hub of support and enrichment for postgraduate students, fostering fulfilling experiences throughout the academic journey. Among our most important activities are:

**Welfare Campaigns:** The GCR has consistently championed the well-being of postgraduate students through targeted welfare campaigns.

**Social Engagement:** Our GCR has orchestrated various engaging and inclusive social events, creating opportunities for meaningful interactions among postgraduate students. From themed parties to our weekly pub quiz, these events are aimed to foster connections and forge lasting friendships with the students.

**Cultural Enrichment:** The GCR has facilitated enriching cultural experiences through events and external excursions. These endeavours have allowed postgraduate students to explore local landmarks, historical sites, and diverse cultural offerings.

**Supportive Community:** The GCR has created a welcoming and inclusive community beyond academic pursuits. By organising support groups and informal gatherings, postgraduate students have found a network that encourages personal development, shared learning, and mutual encouragement.

**Advocacy and Representation:** The GCR has actively advocated for the needs and concerns of postgraduate students, acting as a voice to ensure their perspectives are heard and their interests are addressed within the broader university context.

In summary, the GCR's initiatives encompass comprehensive activities to support postgraduate students' well-being, social connections, cultural enrichment, and professional growth. By fostering a supportive and inclusive environment and facilitating diverse experiences, the GCR plays a vital role in enhancing the overall student experience.

## Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

After two years of lockdowns due to the COVID pandemic, this year the GCR, committed to fostering community, inclusivity, and social impact, has achieved significant milestones across various domains, demonstrating our dedication to inclusivity, engagement, and positive change:

**Exceptional Postgraduate Engagement:** Our charity has successfully cultivated a vibrant and engaged postgraduate community, fostering intellectual and social interaction among scholars from diverse backgrounds and nationalities (Ustinov College is the largest and most diverse from Durham University). Our events, discussions, and collaborative initiatives have led to a thriving network that has been praised from students and staff.

**New Clubs and Societies:** We are proud to have introduced a range of new clubs and societies that provide a wide array of interests. These include the Knitting and Crochet Society, providing a creative outlet for members, and the Pool Society, promoting friendly competition and networking through the game of pool.

**Volleyball Triumph:** The GCR's commitment to teamwork and dedication paid off as we secured the first-place position in the prestigious Premiership Volleyball League. Our volleyball team's outstanding performance not only exemplifies athletic excellence but also showcases our commitment to inclusivity and teamwork.

**Women's Football Team:** The women's football team showcased their outstanding skills and determination by clinching victory in the Floodlit Cup. This achievement not only celebrates their athletic prowess (now for the second year in a row) but also highlights the power of teamwork and dedication.

**Largest GCR Committee in Years:** With an impressive 22 active members, our GCR committee has demonstrated an exceptional level of dedication and commitment. Their hard work has been instrumental in organizing events, fostering connections, and ensuring the well-being of our postgraduate community.

**Impactful Welfare Campaigns:** Our welfare team, led by the general welfare officer and comprising by women, men, BAME, and LGBTQ+ officers, has successfully executed a series of impactful welfare campaigns throughout the year. These campaigns have addressed critical issues, promoted awareness, and provided valuable support to members of Ustinov students.

**Social Events:** We shattered previous records by hosting the largest social events ever recorded within our community. The Halloween Party, Summer Ball and Ustinov Day (formerly known as Ustinov's BBQ) brought together a record number of students for memorable evenings of festivities and fun.

**Exploration and Cultural Enrichment:** The GCR organized external trips to notable destinations, including Raby Castle, High Force Waterfall, and Lindisfarne Island. These excursions provided opportunities for cultural exploration, learning, and fostering bonds among students.

In summary, the GCR's achievements reflect a deep commitment to fostering a dynamic and inclusive community, promoting excellence in sports and academics, and actively contributing to positive change

through impactful initiatives and events. We remain dedicated to furthering our mission and creating a lasting impact for years to come.

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The charity's reserves are maintained such that any complication with the GCR's relationship with the university would not result in a deficit in the GCR's accounts. This effectively results in a reserve of £70,000, assuming that any dispute would be quickly resolved. Similarly, this would allow the GCR to continue functioning were our income to substantially change within the period of one year. Reserves stand at £70,000, which is currently the required amount.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable.

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

## Section F

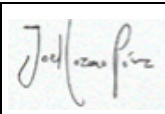
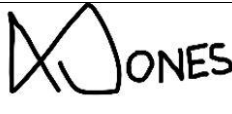
## Other optional information

## Section G

## Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Joel Eduardo Lozano Perez	Anthony David Jones
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	President	Vice-President
Date	August 15 <sup>th</sup> 2023	





CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

USTINOV COLLEGE GRADUATE COMMON ROOM

1164865

CC16a

## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/09/2021	To	31/08/2022
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
UNIVERSITY GRANT	14,220	-	-	14,220	13,793
INTEREST EARNED	-	-	-	-	5
GCR LEVIES	-	14,362	-	14,362	494
RECEIPTS FROM ACTIVITIES	-	17,309	-	17,309	5,247
TRANSITIONAL FUND	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER INCOME	-	435	-	435	11,426
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>14,220</b>	<b>32,106</b>		<b>46,326</b>	<b>30,965</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>14,220</b>	<b>32,106</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>46,326</b>	<b>30,965</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
CLUBS AND SOCIETIES	904	-	-	904	1,341
COMMON ROOM	-	-	-	-	-
ADMIN AND WELFARE	2,563	-	-	2,563	355
INDUCTION WEEK	-	-	-	-	-
TV AND RADIO	-	-	-	-	456
LICENSING AND INSURANCE	2,175	-	-	2,175	3,332
ACTIVITIES	-	23,682	-	23,682	12,104
MERCHANDISE	-	-	-	-	-
EQUIPMENT	-	-	-	-	369
TRAVEL COSTS	-	-	-	-	-
ACCOUNTANCY	-	-	-	-	708
DONATIONS	-	-	-	-	-
BANK CHARGES	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER EXPENSES	5,578	-	-	5,578	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>11,220</b>	<b>23,682</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>34,902</b>	<b>18,665</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>11,220</b>	<b>23,682</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>34,902</b>	<b>18,665</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>8,424</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,424</b>	<b>12,300</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>48,900</b>	<b>48,148</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>97,048</b>	<b>84,748</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>51,900</b>	<b>56,572</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>108,472</b>	<b>97,048</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	CURRENT ACCOUNT	51,900	56,572	-
	SAVINGS ACCOUNT	-	-	-
	CASH IN HAND	-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>51,900</b>	<b>56,572</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK



Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			
LOAN TO UNIVERSITY	UNRESTRICTED	1,500	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Thomas Addinall-Biddulph	08/09/2023
	Anthony Jones	08/09/2023



# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

## Section A

## Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name  
USTINOV COLLEGE GRADUATE COMMON ROOM

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2022

Charity no  
(if any)

1164865

Set out on pages

Respective  
responsibilities of  
trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent  
examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent  
examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

08/09/2023

Name:

B.H. ACCOUNTANCY LTD

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body:

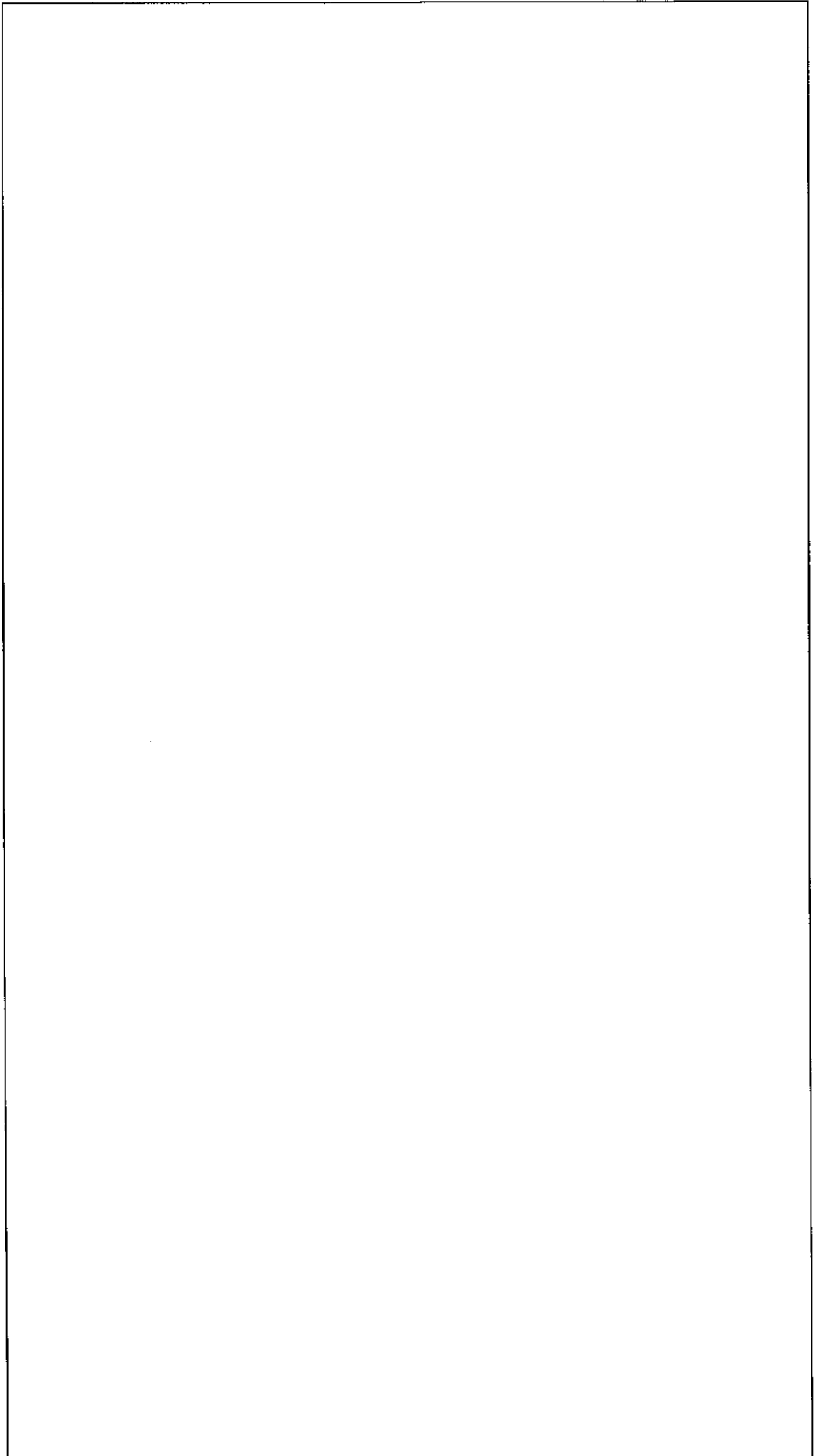
THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Address:

363 WEST ROAD, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, TYNE AND WEAR, NE15 7NL

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**



**USTINOV COLLEGE GRADUATE COMMON ROOM**

England & Wales - Charity number 1164865

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# Accounts

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## **Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

**From 01 Sep 2019** Period start date **To 31 Aug 2020** Period end date

**Charity name: Ustinov College Graduate Common Room**

**Charity registration number: 1164865**

### **Objectives and Activities**

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p><b>The GCR's objectives are outlined as followed by the constitution:</b></p> <p><b>"3. The GCR's objects are the advancement of education of Students at Ustinov College for the public benefit by:</b></p> <p><b>3.1 promoting the interests and welfare of Students at Ustinov College during their course of study and representing, supporting and advising Students;</b></p> <p><b>3.2 being the recognised representative channel between Students and Ustinov College and any other external bodies, including the DSU and Team Durham;</b></p> <p><b>3.3 providing social, cultural, sporting and recreational activities and forums for discussions and debate for the personal development of its Students;</b></p> <p><b>3.4 promoting intercultural understanding among Students, informed by the College motto Diversitate Valemus;</b></p> <p><b>and 3.5 promoting ecological awareness among Students, and encouraging</b></p> <p><b>sustainable and environmentally-friendly behaviour, with the aim of</b></p> <p><b>improving the environment in which Students live, both locally and globally."</b></p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p><b>This year's objectives and activities have primarily revolved around</b></p> <p><b>For this academic year, Ustinov has been functioning as a college with 2 sites: Sheraton Park and Dryburn Court, however at the beginning of the academic year 2019/20 another building at Dryburn Court was added, having 34 students extra. This raised some issues concerning the support students get</b></p>

		<p>from College and University which the GCR has been engaged in helping to solve. Another issue was the relationship with the local community at Sheraton Park, which has increased over the academic year, ensuring that student experience and safety is considered.</p> <p>Activities to keep students informed about issues that will affect them have continued by participating in different subcommittees from the university. The GCR has furthermore provided representation for students at university executive level, sitting on several committees regarding the Business Process Review version 2, wider student experience, and international and student welfare with regards to the process for incoming students during the COVID-19 situation, these in order to ensure that the views of our students are taken into account.</p> <p>In addition to formal events such as general meetings, social events have also been the focus of the GCR. Weekly pub quizzes, film nights and welfare drop-in sessions occur throughout the year for the benefit of our community. In addition, the GCR runs regular office hours for two hours every day (except Fridays) in the evening. Social events have also included formal dinners, parties, open-mic nights, music nights, and online activities during the lockdown.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	

Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p><b>Engagement with the GCR has been increased compared with last year, while trying to give support and activities for those students in the new building at Dryburn Court, ensuring to deliver proper student experience over the two sites.</b></p> <p><b>Attendance at GCR social events has been well attended despite restricted access to only 200 of our members. In general, this is a sign of strong engagement and successful event-running on behalf of the GCR.</b></p> <p><b>The GCR, represented by two ex-officio representatives, the GCR President and the Vice-President, have ensured to smooth the relationship and views from the neighbours at Sheraton park, by participating continually on events and activities with the Sheraton Park Resident Association executive committee, who can liaise with residents and forward issues on to the responsible party within College or within the GCR. In addition, the GCR has engaged with the wider local community within the Neville's Cross Area.</b></p> <p><b>This has resulted in several joint events with local residents and helped to engage Ustinov students with local residents through events such as our Children's Halloween party, combining our students with families living at Dryburn Court with the Sheraton Park community. Dog Day where we invited the Wag N Wheel Newfoundlands Working and Fundraising Group to come to Sheraton Park so our community and local residents enjoy a stress free day. The GCR hosted an afternoon tea party at the beginning of</b></p>

		<p>the academic year in order to introduce local residents and students from Ustinov College.</p> <p>A new campaign was promoted as part of the Road Safety Week 2019 organised by Brake the road safety charity, with the objective to increase the awareness of road safety.</p> <p>The number of trips within the UK which have the objective to introduce students to UK culture and heritage were affected by the COVID-19, which resulted in some disappointment from our members. Further local events to bonfire night celebrations, pancake day, Chinese New Year decorations, and Diwali celebrations have all taken place to promote intercultural understanding and not only celebrate British culture.</p> <p>Further large scale events such as induction week (two-weeks of daily daytime and night-time events) and our first Virtual College Day (replacing the Ustinov Summer BBQ due to restrictions on gatherings) have been planned. Those that have taken place were well attendant with high engagement.</p>
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**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The charity managed to make a £22,791 surplus, which was designated by the Treasurer of 19-20 to help the Executive committee during the unprecedented times of the COVID-19 pandemic, due to planned reduction of composition fee receipts and unpredictability of membership receipts. The financial situation of the charity, therefore, remains stable.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The charity's reserves are maintained such that any complication with the GCR's relationship with the university would not result in deficit of the GCR's accounts. This effectively results in a reserve of one year's income, assuming that any dispute would be quickly resolved. Similarly, this would allow the GCR to continue functioning were our receipts to substantially change within the period of one year. Reserves stand at £84,748, with an annual receipts of £70,000, and is currently at the required level.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<b>£84,748</b>
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	<b>Not applicable.</b>
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	<b>Not applicable.</b>
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	<b>Not applicable.</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Principal sources of funding include the yearly composition fee granted by the University and levies paid by the charity's members.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

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## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	<b>Constitution and Standing Orders</b>
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	<b>Unincorporated Association</b>
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<b>Student Trustees and the GCR officers are elected at the Annual General Meeting in the beginning of summer by the wider membership in an election process. The alumni and external trustees are both appointed by a simple majority vote of Board of Trustees provided that the appointment of each Alumni Trustee is ratified by a two thirds majority vote of a general meeting.</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	<b>New trustees receive training from the elected chair of the trustee board.</b>
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	<b>The trustee board is currently comprised of five officer roles (President, Vice President, Chair, Welfare Officer, and Treasurer). Along with being members of the Trustee board, these officers also sit on the executive committee and head the general GCR committee which governs the day-to-day activities of the GCR.</b>  <b>The Trustee board also has space for up to three alumni trustees of which two positions are filled. There is space for up to three external trustees of which we also have two. There are also positions for up to two student of which we have 0. The trustee board meets as needed or at least once per term.</b>
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	<b>The trustee board also meets before the AGM of the GCR each year to approve the accounts before they are presented to the GCR body and ratified by a two thirds majority. Trustees are recruited through the election or through being previously involved, in some way, with GCR activities. Alumni trustees were typically heavily involved in the GCR activities during their time at Ustinov.</b>

		Usually alumni trustees and external trustees are sought out by the trustee board.
Other		The major challenge facing the trustees this year has been managing the impact on the GCRs finances from the reduced number of student memberships this year. This is a consequence of a reduced number of students living within the College this year compared to last year, and a change in the levy collection system imposed by the university.

### Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Ustinov College Graduate Common Room
Other name the charity uses	Ustinov College GCR
Registered charity number	1164865
Charity's principal address	Ustinov College GCR Ustinov College Sheraton Park Durham DH1 4FL

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Diana Martinez	President	From beginning to end	Student Body
Alex Hampton	Chair	Beginning – 6/20	Student Body
Connor Armstrong	Vice-President	Beginning – 6/20	Student Body
Connor Armstrong	Chair	6/20 - End	Student Body
Treasurer	Vera Bieber	Beginning – 6/20	Student Body
Bryony Rogers	Welfare Officer	Beginning – 6/20	Student Body
Jake Brooker	Welfare Officer	7/20 – End	Student Body
Nicholas Cresswell	Alumni Trustee	Beginning – End	Board of Trustees
Tom Briton	External Trustee	Beginning – End	Board of Trustees
Ray Mumford	External Trustee	Beginning – End	Board of Trustees
Thom Addinall-Biddulph	Alumni Trustee	Beginning – End	Board of Trustees

**Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved**

Director name		

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity**

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

**Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others**

Description of the assets held in this capacity	Not applicable.
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	Not applicable.
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	Not applicable.

**Additional information (optional)**

**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

**Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)**

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**Exemptions from disclosure**

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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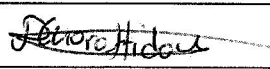
**Other optional information**

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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Diana Clivia Martinez-Trejo	Dafni Maria Chronidou
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	President	Vice-President
Date	29/June/2021	





CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

USTINOV COLLEGE GRADUATE COMMON ROOM

1164865

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

01/09/2019

To

31/08/2020

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
UNIVERSITY GRANT	14,927	-	-	14,927	14,112
INTEREST EARNED	78	-	-	78	93
GCR LEVIES	-	10,320	-	10,320	13,332
RECEIPTS FROM ACTIVITIES	-	18,456	-	18,456	41,228
TRANSITIONAL FUND	-	13,617	-	13,617	-
OTHER INCOME	-	3,304	-	3,304	2,000
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>15,005</b>	<b>45,697</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>60,702</b>	<b>70,765</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>15,005</b>	<b>45,697</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>60,702</b>	<b>70,765</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
CLUBS AND SOCIETIES	3,068	-	-	3,068	3,077
COMMON ROOM	2,315	-	-	2,315	4,337
ADMIN AND WELFARE	326	-	-	326	1,225
INDUCTION WEEK	3,067	-	-	3,067	3,847
TV AND RADIO	2,979	-	-	2,979	4,378
LICENSING AND INSURANCE	2,632	-	-	2,632	1,828
ACTIVITIES	-	23,272	-	23,272	52,838
MERCHANDISE	-	252	-	252	1,415
EQUIPMENT	-	-	-	-	239
TRAVEL COSTS	-	-	-	-	-
ACCOUNTANCY	-	-	-	-	354
DONATIONS	-	-	-	-	-
BANK CHARGES	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>14,387</b>	<b>23,524</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>37,911</b>	<b>73,538</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>14,387</b>	<b>23,524</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>37,911</b>	<b>73,538</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>22,173</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,791</b>	<b>(2,773)</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>39,968</b>	<b>21,989</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>61,957</b>	<b>64,730</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>40,586</b>	<b>44,162</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>84,748</b>	<b>61,957</b>





# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

## Section A

## Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name  
USTINOV COLLEGE GRADUATE COMMON ROOM

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2020

Charity no  
(if any)

1164865

Set out on pages

Respective  
responsibilities of  
trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent  
examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent  
examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

25/06/2021

Name:

B.H. ACCOUNTANCY LTD

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body:

THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Address:

DESIGN WORKS, WILLIAM STREET, FELLING, TYNE & WEAR, NE10 0JP

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

