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This report serves as an update of the activities of SRC officers in Michaelmas Term 2021. The COVID-19 pandemic continued to affect SRC events and provisions, but fortunately many things were able to go ahead as planned.

One of the main challenges of Michaelmas Term was the planning and execution of Freshers’ Week, with a team led by Lauren Brewer and Chloe Elliott (Head and Deputy Head Frep), Becca Jackson (SRC President) and Courtney Power (Vice President). After a week’s dedicated preparation, the Frepexec ran a week of activities and evening events, including 4 club nights in Durham City. Many of the on-site evening events had to run on a rotation, due to capacity issues in Caedmon Hall and the Vern. The SRC also received a marquee, provided by Experience Durham, to help alleviate said capacity problems.

The Winter Ball was arguably the highlight of the SRC social calendar, attended by a large number of students from all years – capacity did not pose the same problems it did in the 2020/21 academic year. However, much careful planning and risk assessment was still required to make sure the event ran successfully and safely; this effort was led by Georgia Allison (Ball Officer) and Becca, ably assisted by members of Ball Committee, SRC Executive Officers, and college staff.

Sadly, college formals were not able to take place for much of the term due to university-wide staffing issues. It was possible, however, to host Hild Bede’s first ever social event held at an external venue; students attended the St Hild’s Banquet, in honour both of Hild and women who have attended both St Hild’s College and the unified Hild Bede. The planning and execution of this event was led by Courtney with help from Becca and other members of the Exec.

Fortunately, two festive formals were able to take place in the last week of term, planned by Courtney and Becca, with post-formal entertainments organised and run by Hugo Bush (Social Secretary) and Angus Webb-Hammond (Technical Officer). A new termly Unsung Hero Award was also awarded at this formal for the first time; this was awarded to students by a panel of Becca, Principal Simon Forrest and Ciaran Duggan (SRC Chairperson) based on nominations from their peers.

A selection of smaller events also took place during the term, including a Halloween Bop with funfair-style activities and games, weekly Vern Bar Quizzes with a £20 bar tab available for the winners, and several open-mic and karaoke nights in the Vern. These were mainly organised by Hugo Bush, with help from members of the Entertainments Committee and the SRC Exec.

Other developments include:

* The ratification of Hild Bede Futsal Club, Hild Bede Mafia Society, Hild Bede F1 Society, and Hild Bede Yoga Society, by quorate votes of the SRC.
* The addition to the Standing Orders of a College Day Committee, which will be recruited in the upcoming term.
* The change in name of the roles of Male and Female Welfare Officers to ‘Senior Welfare Officers’
* Regular office hours, which were a chance to collect stash, matriculation photographs, and to raise any queries with SRC President Becca.
* Several Hild Bede Welfare events, including a Christmas Party, as well as regular drop-ins, run by Senior Welfare Officers Martha Kean and Jared Firth.
* First-year students were allocated College Parents in an event at the Vern, mainly organised by Sam Wildish (Communities and Liberations Officer).
* The Hild Bede Living Room, an inclusive and relaxed space for students to study and chat, hosted by Becca and Hugo in the Senior Common Room (with input from College Chaplain Tim Ferguson).
* The meeting of SRC Grants Committee, which awarded £2000 of SRC funds to various clubs and societies.