

Rona Anderson-Witty – Manifesto for Welfare Officer

Pembroke is beautiful. Just take a look around. The wonderful grounds, eclectic buildings and, of course, brunch, all add to Pembroke's aura of brilliance. But really it's the students, you and I, that makes this place what it is. As welfare officer I will act to maintain, if not elevate, the happy, friendly, community quality that Pembroke emanates.

Now that I am a wizened old second year, I feel I have the experience and organisational powers to continue to improve the great work of the welfare team. I am open, honest and passionate about keeping people happy and healthy. If elected, I will endeavour to make the JPC a more open and usable tool for the student body; I feel that greater interaction is required between the students, the JPC and the college and that I can be a part of making that happen.

In a more immediate sense, exam term is looming for us all, there's no getting away from it. However there are ways to cope with it. As welfare officer I will strive to help students cope with the stresses of this hectic term through a variety of means:

- The Welfare Picnic – a fond favourite of exam term and as they say; 'If it aint broke don't fix it.' But maybe add to it? How about some friendly/fiercely competitive rounders matches to follow up the feasting?
- After the rip-roaring success of film nights last year, I intend to have a film night once a week. A chance to take the night off, chill out and relax.
- Exam term Yoga was also a fantastic release for both body and mind. However, despite a few brave souls, the boys were largely absent – perhaps not their cup of Char...
- ... So how about a games tournament? We're talking a projector/widescreen TV, an Xbox a first person shooter night, a football night and a racing night. With all the high-definition mindless violence, camaraderie and competition who could fail to forget their exam woes? And of course the girls are more than welcome.

But thankfully, exams only come once a year. As welfare officer it will be my job to allocate all of next years fresh faced fresher's to loving and supportive families and ease them into the first few weeks at university with as much fun and foolery as ever. As we all know, after the initial excitement of fresher's week and post summer reunion, towards the end of Michaelmas everything can begin to drag. You get ill, you get tired and home cooked meals look more appealing than ever before. Thus I propose a Welfare Winter Warmer to rejuvenate the body and soul. This would include a fine selection of mince pies, rich-chocolate-cakey-goodness, a cup or two of steaming hot chocolate and perhaps a kitschy Christmas film to begin the Christmas vacation?

Essentially, having spent over a year and half benefitting from all that college has to offer in terms of student support, care and entertainment I feel its time I gave something back.