DU Fortean Society Activity Report 2025-2026

This Activity Report covers the activities and organisation of the Society during the 2025/2026 academic year.

Membership

The membership of the Society as of the 31st of March 2026 was 217.

Committee

At the beginning of the academic year 2025/2026 the membership of the committee was as follows:

Chairperson: Éanna Drury

Secretary: Andrew Burrows

Treasurer: Caitriona Sheil

PRO: Grace Nuttall

Ordinary Committee Members:

Emma Matthews

Noelle Joyce

Ronan Hodson

On November 8th 2025, an EGM took place following the resignation of Grace Nuttall and Paul Behan was elected to the position of PRO. On January 27th 2026, Joe O'Gorman was co-opted onto the committee.

Events

Michaelmas Term

Freshers' Week: Welcome reception held in the Eliz room for new members on September 20th at 8pm. This event had approximately 30 in attendance.

Week 2: Film Screening on October 4th at 7:30 pm in the Synge Theatre. This event had approximately 10 in attendance.

Week 5: John Granger spoke to the society on November 1st at 8pm in the Synge Theatre on the life and times of Charles Fort. This event had approximately 50 in attendance.

Week 6: EGM held to elect a new PRO on November 8th at 7:30pm in the Eliz Room. This event had approximately 30 in attendance.

Week 7: Society trip to Galway. Report of this trip has been previously submitted to the CSC. There were 25 society members on this trip.

Week 11: Christmas party on the 10th of December at 7pm in the GSU Common room. There were approximately 45 in attendance.

Hilary Term

Week 3: Paper reading by Sylvia Beech on February 15th at 7pm in the GSU Common Room. Sylvia Beech is an accomplished scholar of Fortean philosophy. This event was held in conjunction with the Literary Society. There were approximately 60 in attendance.

Week 5: Film Screening of "The Whisperer in Darkness" in the Synge Theatre on March 24th at 6pm. There were approximately 15 in attendance.

Week 8: Debate on the motion "This house believes the study of unexplained phenomena to be scientifically relevant" on March 22nd at 7pm in the Burke Theatre. The speakers were John Grant (Scientist), Nell Keane (Spiritualist/Medium) and Tom Breen (Sociologist). There were approximately 40 in attendance.

Week 10: The AGM was held to elect the new committee on April 9th at 8pm in the GSU Common Room. Report below. There were approximately 50 in attendance.

AGM

Election

The AGM on April 9th 2016 elected the following committee:

Chairperson: Andrew Burrows

Secretary: Caitriona Sheil

Treasurer: Lucy O'Connell

PRO: Emma Matthews

Ordinary Committee Members:

Grace Nuttall

Éanna Drury

Ronan Hodson

Constitutional Changes

Article 4.1 regarding the removal of a committee member who has failed to attend 3 consecutive committee meetings was passed. This change was submitted to the CSC Exec on February 5th and ratified by the CSC Exec on February 10th.

Committee Meetings

September 2025	12, 20, 27
October 2025	4, 11, 18, 25
November 2025	6, 14
December 2025	5, 19
January 2026	14, 20, 27
February 2026	1, 11, 19
March 2026	15, 22, 26
April 2026	3, 11

Society Room

The society room was used primarily for storage by the society although there were coffee mornings held by the society in the room on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month.