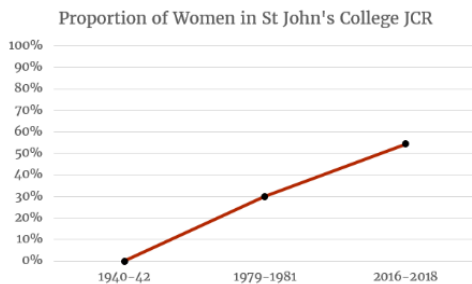


From the JCR

Issy Stephens, a Chemistry student in her third year at St John's and a member of the Steering Group, gives an update on how the JCR has been championing women's issues



40 years ago the first handful of women joined the Junior Common Room of St John's College. Following those trailblazers that entered a man's world, a lot has changed for the life of women in the JCR.

We now have a designated Women's Officer who makes sure that life is no more expensive for women at St John's than it is for men. This includes providing free monthly bags of

sanitary products and reimbursements for pregnancy tests. Environmental issues are important to the student body of St John's, so all sanitary products are organic. The Women's Officer also organises fortnightly women's lunches, and a recent JCR motion has made all free lunches in college vegetarian to minimise our impact on the planet. The catering team have really responded to this and the variety of vegan and vegetarian meals has increased exponentially. There are, of course, men's lunches too!



On 21st February many members of the JCR attended the annual Women's Dinner, which celebrates all the women of St John's. It was a special event with an incredible atmosphere with different women from all walks of life coming together.



In sport, our women's teams have gone from strength to strength. The last time St John's women's football team was seen in the Cuppers final was 2008. This year, the trophy was lifted by our joint team with St Anne's, in an incredible match that ended 4-0 against St Catz.

The Saints Rugby team also continues to grow, and even went on tour to Paris, extending the annual men's old boys game to include the women's

side. Unfortunately, the wet weather has been less than ideal for the pitches and match play, but we have high hopes for any future Cuppers matches. St John's continues to send a strong female contingent to the University's rugby club, following in the footsteps of our blues player at Twickenham in 2018.



Netball continues to win many matches and has multiple teams, and the variety of blues sports played by women across the JCR ranges through water polo, trampolining, football and cross country.

It's strange to think that just 40 years ago our presence would not have been allowed at St John's, and now we have a female president and a wealth of women to guide us. I look forward to what the next 40 years brings for the JCR here!