

MCR Handbook





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**“It is never too late to be what
you might have been.”**

– George Eliot

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Welcome to the Middle Common Room (MCR)

Within these pages you will find the most pertinent and interesting information you will need upon arriving in Oxford. *Please read on* to learn what it is like to be a member of the MCR and of St Anne's College.

"Dreaming, after all, is a form of planning"

– Gloria Steinem



A FEW THINGS TO DO UPON ARRIVING IN OXFORD

1. **Pick up your electronic fob** from either Porter's Lodge at the main College site (if you are living in EPH or off-site) or the Warden's Office in RSH.
2. **Check your pigeonhole** (a.k.a., 'pidge') in EPH and/or RSH to see if you have any messages relating to your arrival or Freshers' Week. Some of you may have a shared pidge.
3. **Introduce yourself to your flatmates.** Arrange time for a communal meal so that you can get to know one another.
4. **Check out the MCR Freshers' Week timetable** & sign up for events online: st-annes-mcr.org.uk/events/.
5. **Jot down the dates, times, and locations** of your departmental and college induction sessions.
6. **Pick up your student card** (a.k.a., 'Bod Card') during Registration on 18 September (early arrivals), or on 1 October. Remember to bring your identity document with you. You will be required for only a few minutes, but you **MUST** attend.
7. **Visit the freshers fair** - a great opportunity to meet all the student clubs and societies. In 2017, the Fair will take place between 4-5th October 2017 at Oxford University Exam Schools (ousu.org/freshersfair).
8. **Find a bike** - the easiest way to get around Oxford. Second-hand bikes are in high demand at the beginning of the year, so act quickly if you want to find a bargain.

St Anne's distinguishes itself as a down-to-earth, friendly and independent-minded place that takes people for what they are and enjoys the range of backgrounds and experience of its students.

A Welcome from your Graduate President





**Mauris pretium aliquet,
lectus eget tincidunt.
Porttitor mollis et
imperdiet libero
senectus pulvinar.
Etiam molestie mauris.**



Welcome to St Anne's!

On behalf of the Middle Common Room Committee, let me welcome you to the postgraduate community at St Anne's College. Whether you are arriving to the UK from another part of the world, moving to Oxford from elsewhere in the country, or just switching Colleges, this new step in your life is both an exciting and challenging prospect. The wonderful thing about St Anne's is that within a few days you will find yourself a part of its vibrant and diverse community, one which will prove to be a very valuable balance to your working life in the library or laboratory.

This MCR Handbook—produced by the MCR Committee—will help you find your way around the College and Oxford as you get used to its unique, if idiosyncratic, ways. You will soon find that there is more to know about St Anne's and Oxford as a whole than any single book could contain, so feel free to approach the MCR Committee or the staff from the Academic Office with any questions that may arise.

The postgraduate community at St Anne's is impressively diverse: whereas some of you will arrive fresh out of your undergraduate or Master's degrees, others will already have a family and a career of their own. The MCR is comprised of students from all over the world studying many different subjects and coming from different cultural and educational backgrounds with very distinct social and professional attitudes. I find that this diversity is one of the most valuable experiences you will have at St. Anne's.

I strongly encourage you to get involved in College life, starting with the events we have planned for you in Freshers' Week. It's a great opportunity to meet your fellow graduates, some of which will stay connected with you for a lifetime. I am looking forward to meeting you this term!

Very special thanks go to Laura Ludtke, MCR President 2013-2014, who designed this handbook and created most of its content.

Best wishes,

Lukas Beck

MCR President

Meet Your MCR Committee



Left to Right: Lukas Beck, Rebeca Kearney, Nesrine Ramadan, Stefania Gargioni, Ben Kett, Lisa Rodermund, Anna Bru Revert, Gabriel Pérez Callejo, Alison Walsh, Valeria Taddei Karel Lenc, Kal Leung, Johanna Ernst, Irene Petraroli, Naomi Lester, Nick Dodds, Nicole Eichert, Mimi Lu, Ross Gales

Your MCR Committee runs the daily and termly affairs of the Middle Common Room and its members. We have created an incredibly welcoming, dynamic, and diverse community that reflects not only the college and its history but also, and most importantly, its post-graduate members.

This year it could and *should* include you!

Elections take place in Week 6 of Michaelmas

Term, and elected officers hold their positions for one year or, in the case of most master's students, until the end of their course. This means that there are several positions requiring interim officers during Michaelmas 2017 term. If you are interested, ask one of the current Committee members about getting involved!

MCR Committee 2016-2017

- *President:* **Lukas Beck** is a first year DPhil student in Music (having completed a MSt at Anne's last year with questionable success). However, he tends to spend more time in the boat than practicing the piano.
- *Vice-President:* **Rebecca Kearney** is a second year DPhil student in Environmental Science looking at past climate. She is usually known as the happy, smiley person.
- *Interim Treasurer:* **Nesrine Ramadan** is a DPhil candidate in Biomedical Sciences. Outside of her research, she is interested in art, civil rights and entrepreneurship.
- *Interim Secretary:* **Stefania Gargioni** is a DPhil student in History Education.
- *Social Secretaries:* As a second year DPhil student in Biochemistry **Lisa Rodermund** spends most of her time creating mutant stem cells (don't worry, none of them have ever escaped the lab yet!). When she's not in the laboratory, she enjoys running with Ben and baking gluten free cakes. **Gabriel Pérez-Callejo** is a second year DPhil student in Atomic and Laser Physics trying to achieve nuclear fusion as soon as possible. He likes music and rowing in the early mornings. Some people say that under his hat there is another hat which has never been touched by the sun. **Ben Kett** is a second year DPhil student in Economics who enjoying travelling and living in different countries **Anna Bru Revert**. is a DPhil student from the CDT in Gas Turbine Aerodynamics and a very keen enthusiast of aeronautics. She is also into sports, rowing for St Anne's and playing (or at least trying to) for the University Handball team.
- *Welfare Officers:* **Ross Gales** came to Oxford to do research in Crisis Management after fighting fires in the Australian outback. He plays squash poorly and takes photos of people in other countries to support his study. **Mimi Lu** is in her second year of a DPhil in English Literature. When she is not tackling poetry, she enjoys being dilettantish, swing dancing, and taking the scenic route.
- *International Officer:* **Kal Leung** is a Canadian who recently completed his MSc in Law & Finance. He thinks he can speak four languages but sometimes he struggles with just one.
- *IT officer:* **Karel Lenc** is a 3rd year DPhil student in Engineering Science. He is a sport and music lover and bit of a geek.
- *Women's Officer:* **Nicole Eichert** is doing a PhD in Neuroscience and studying the brain mechanisms and evolutionary origins of speech ... and yes, this is just as cool as it sounds!
- *LGBTQ Rep:* **Alison Walsh** is a first year DPhil student in Politics.
- *Academic Affairs Officer:* **Valeria Taddei** is an arts' lover and a champion of creative procrastination. In her spare time, she does a DPhil in Italian and English literature.
- *OUSU Rep:* **Johanna Ernst** is in the final year of her DPhil in Biomedical Engineering. She loves a good round of squash on the Iffley courts.
- *Interim Equalities Officer:* **Irene Petraroli** is a second year MPhil in Development Studies focusing on migration. She enjoys food and good stories.
- *RSH Rep:* **Naomi Lester** is an MPhil student in Modern Middle Eastern Studies, learning Arabic. She loves cycling, bike-building and reading feminist literature.

- *Interim Sports Rep: Nick Dodds* is currently in the second year of a DPhil in Earth Sciences (NERC DTP in Environmental Research). He's playing in the rugby league for OURLFC and escaping away to surf whenever he can!
- **NEEDED:** *Interim Charities Officer, Interim Environment Officer.*

About the positions

President: attends College committee meetings on behalf of MCR members; calls and conducts committee and general meetings; meets regularly with the Principal, the Bursary, and the Tutor for Graduates; and coordinates the MCR Freshers' Week.

Vice-President: assists the President in their duties; liaises between the MCR and JCR; is in charge of constitutional amendments; attends Estates Committee; fills in for any other MCR officer if needed; and coordinates the MCR group photograph and the locker ballot.

Treasurer: keeps the MCR accounts; writes a termly budget for MCR expenses; works closely with the College Treasurer; collects and pays all MCR bills; attends Council & Finance Committee; and collects all payments due to the MCR.

Secretary: convenes general and committee meetings; takes minutes at all MCR meetings; keeps MCR records in order; and sends weekly e-mails during term with Common Rom notices to MCR members.

Social Secretaries: plan and organise social functions in the MCR; publish term cards to

MCR; inform College (ahead of each term) and MCR members (by weekly e-mails) about College and MCR social functions.

Academic Affairs Officer: attends college Academic Committee meetings; liaises with the college's Academic Office and the JCR Academic Affairs Officer; facilitates College and MCR academic events; organises and promotes Interdisciplinary Discussion Groups; oversees to the yearly publication of St Anne's Academic Review; and is in charge of the MCR travel grants committee.

Welfare Officer(s): available to graduate students for consultation on finances, health, safety, stress, legal, and disciplinary related matters; work in concert with Peer Supporters to plan welfare events for MCR members; attend Welfare Committee meetings; and inform MCR members about University and College welfare related initiatives and services.

IT Officer: attends the Computing sub-committee; maintains the MCR website and online bookings site; moderates the MCR mailing list; uploads committee meeting minutes to the website.

RSH Representative: convenes RSH Residents' Committee meetings; plans and organises RSH social events with RSH Residents' Committee; represents Residents of RSH at Domestic and Estates Committee meetings.

Women's Officer: provides information about women's groups and facilities in Oxford, the University, and College; provides information about sexual health, harassment, and night safety as needed; liaises with OUSU's Women's Campaign and attends WomCam meetings; coordinates with Equalities and Welfare

Officers to host joint events; and attends Equal Opportunities Committee meetings.

Equalities Officer: defends and maintains St Anne's reputation as an open-minded and egalitarian College, ensuring that all students are treated equally within the College regardless of background; offers information about demographic or minority-specific groups and facilities to MCR members; ensures that students are not discriminated against in MCR activities; is aware of issues pertaining to access and equality in College, at the University, and internationally; attends Equal Opportunities Committee meetings; appoints an LGBTQ Representative.

International Students Officer: coordinates events geared towards international students; liaises with international MCR members; informs MCR members about international events and initiatives in the MCR, College, and University.

OUSU Representative: liaises with OUSU (Oxford University Students' Union); attends OUSU Post-graduate Assembly and votes there in accordance with MCR policy; attends relevant OUSU meetings; distributes OUSU publications to MCR members.

Sports Representative: informs the MCR of College sport initiatives (clubs or events) that they may join; plans, suggests, and organises sports events for MCR members; attends and takes minutes at the Amalgamated Sports Club; and organises inductions to the College Fitness Rooms.

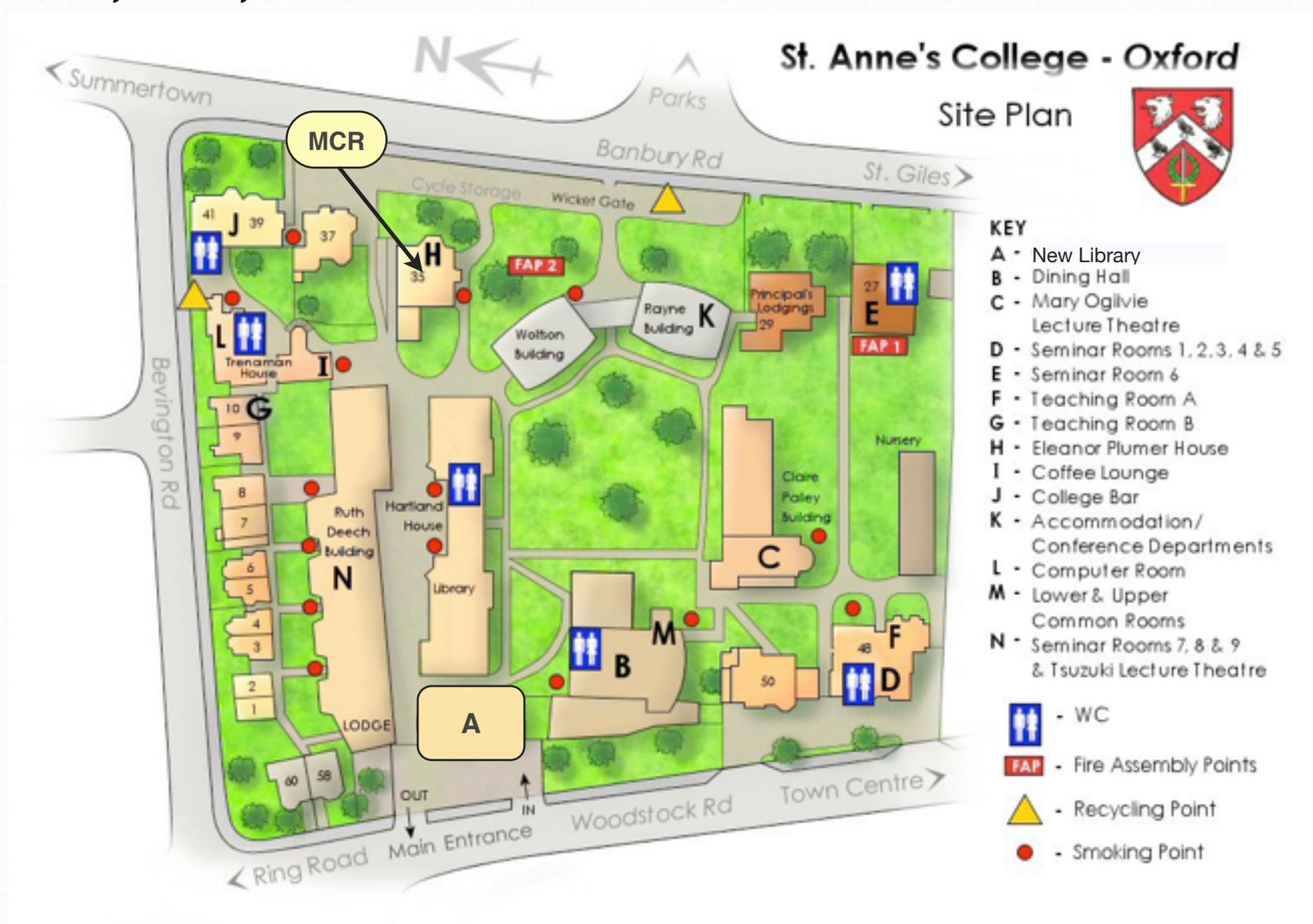
Environmental Officer: raises awareness and implements recycling schemes; attends Domestic Forum meetings; organises the annual St Anne's Bicycle Scheme.

LGBTQ Representative: is a point of contact for LGBTQ members of the MCR and is responsible for organising LGBTQ specific events each term.

Charities Officer: organises events for the MCR to raise funds for charity, makes a shortlist of causes to which the MCR should donate their annual charity levy, and raises awareness of fundraising events in Oxford.

Around and About St Anne's College

St Anne's is a small, beautiful, if somewhat eclectic, college. Though many MCR members take seminars and do their research off-site, there are many on-site facilities you will find useful.



Three Things You Will Need at St Anne's

1. **Your electronic key fob.** This will give you access to the MCR facilities (including Eleanor Plumer House) and RSH (if you are a resident) as well as the library, the coffee shop, and the back gate.
2. **Your Bod Card.** This will allow you to make purchases in the Dining Hall, STACS, and the College Bar. Remember to top up online through Weblearn - either for the Hall and STACS or for the bar account. You can use it to print & copy in the library. Finally, you can check out books from the College library with it.
3. **A bike, an umbrella, good waterproof walking shoes, a camera: you choose!** Everything depends on the weather and your mood.



The Library

The library at St Anne's is split between two buildings - Hartland House and the New Library. The former was designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, the same architect who designed the Weston Library, and was built between 1937 and 1938. The new library building, opened in early 2017, has doubled the library space available to students.

Our library is one of the largest college libraries in Oxford, with over 110,000 volumes. While it is open 24 hours a day (with fob access), during term, the



library is staffed from 9.00 to 21.00 on Monday to Wednesday, and from 9.00 to 18.00 on Thursdays and Fridays.

Along with the MCR computer work room in EPH, the library is a great place to read, revise, and write. There are a number of smaller subject-specific study rooms in addition to the upper and lower gallery rooms in Hartland House. Study rooms in the new library can also be booked through the librarians.

While at St Anne's, you are welcome to request that material be purchased and added to the library's collections. Just fill out a request form at the main desk or e-mail the head librarian for more information. Don't forget to check out the excellent DVD collection. Clare White, the Head Librarian, and Sally Speirs, Deputy Librarian, are always happy to help with any enquiries. You can reach them at library@st-annes.ox.ac.uk.



The College Bar

Most colleges at Oxford have one or two bars hidden away in their bowels. At St Anne's, it can be found down the steps behind EPH and alongside the coffee shop (see below). The bar is accessible with your key fob and is open between 19.00 and 23.00 during term time. The bar is often full of a mixture of JCR and MCR members; it's the best and most social place to be after dinner, especially formal hall.



The bar has a jukebox filled with decent/nostalgic tunes, darts, a pool table, and table football – should such things interest you. Drinks are moderately priced at what is probably the best price in town. Pub quizzes are held every other week during term time. One time there was nearly £150 in the prize pot. The JCR regularly organise open mic events, improv comedy

nights, and jam sessions. The MCR has a karaoke machine.



STACS

Open 7 days a week from 9.30 to 18.00 during term (Weeks 1-8), **The St Anne's Coffee Shop** is located behind EPH and somewhat adjacent to RDB on the main college site. In addition to an excellent menu of coffees, muffins, sandwiches, and, smoothies, STACS is a great place to relax, study, or socialise.



The upstairs features comfortable seating, Wi-Fi access and has been refurnished in 2017. The downstairs is more like a bar, but with more caffeine.

Music Practice Rooms

St. Anne's has 4 music practice rooms in the basement of 50 Woodstock Road which is accessible with your fob. The Annie Barnes Music Room is reserved for those enrolled in a music degree or those who receive a music scholarship at the music competition (in Michaelmas term). The other three rooms are open to all and have upright pianos.



The Dining Hall

Eating in college is a wonderful social experience and a great time-saver. The Dining Hall is open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner during the week and for brunch at weekends. You can only pay for your meals using your Bod card, which you top-up online (via meals.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/meals/mealbooking.php).



Dining in College



At each meal, there is usually a choice of three or four dishes, including excellent vegetarian options. Each main course costs between £2.50 and £3.50, depending on how much you eat, of course. Catering at St Anne's is very amenable to your dietary needs, so if you have any dietary requirements or allergies, please contact Catering at catering@st-annes.ox.ac.uk.

Meals + Times

During term (usually between 0th and 9th Week), meals run as follows:

Monday through Friday:

Breakfast: 8.00-9.30

Lunch: 12.15-13.45

Dinner: 18.15-19.30

Saturday and Sunday:

Brunch: 11.00-13.00



Formal Dinners

Formal Dinners are a popular part of life in Oxford. These are dinners put on by college for undergraduates, postgraduates and fellows. At St. Anne's the dress code is smart or formal but, unlike many other colleges, we don't wear academic gowns. Please find below the various different types of formal dinner and a few special dinners to which you will be invited.



Formal Halls

Formal halls take place on Thursdays of Weeks 4 and 8 and Fridays of Weeks 2 and 6 of each term. They are for undergraduates and postgraduates; fellows sit at "high table." Tickets can be purchased online via (meals.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/meals/mealbooking.php; specify dietary requirements when booking) and cost £12.50 for dinner or £14.50 for dinner with wine. It is usually a 3-course dinner. You may purchase up to three guest tickets per formal hall. These guests can be friends from other colleges or from home, supervisors, parents, or



anyone else you fancy! Don't forget to bring your bodcard with you.

Exchange Dinners

Over the course of each term, the MCR organises three exchange dinners where we invite another MCR to a formal hall

at St. Anne's and we visit their college for one of their formal dinners. We serve sparkling wine in the EPH common room prior to going to dinner and retire there for port after dinner. There are usually 10-15 places for MCR members at these dinners and guests are unfortunately not permitted. Details about signing up and paying will be sent out by the social secretaries well in advance of each event. Though demand for these exchange dinners is strong, everyone who wishes to should be able to go on at least one exchange.



MCR Dinners

These dinners are a luxurious affair. About 25 students gather to dine in the Upper Common Room (UCR) with tickets costing £20.00 apiece. Dinner involves pre-dinner sparkling wine or orange juice in the Lower Common Room (LCR), a 3-course meal with a

different wine for each course, and port, chocolates, and coffee after dinner..

Special Dinners

Each term, there is one special MCR Dinner: the **Murder Mystery Dinner**. A whole evening, including a 3-course meal and various drinks, dedicated to one question: who's the murderer?! You'll be assigned a role beforehand, you will dress up accordingly, act as your character and receive new hints throughout the evening. At the end, you must decide who the murderer is. This decision is usually discussed extensively afterwards in the college bar.



Another memorable event will be the annual **Supervisors' Dinner**, also gratis to students. At the Supervisors' Dinner, you have the opportunity to invite your supervisor(s) to college for a formal dinner. Hopefully you will be able to get to know your supervisor in a more informal setting and to show off St Anne's wonderful food. Seating is arranged by subject, making it a nice occasion for colleagues who were in the same or similar departments to see and keep up with each other.



The **Founders' Dinner** is a St. Anne's tradition. The event began with the visit of Chancellor Macmillan in 1979, the year the College became coeducational. It is an occasion to remind junior members that we were once a women's college and pioneers in the establishment of women's education in Oxford - and the only dinner at St Anne's that requires wearing your gown!

MCR Social Events



Coming to Oxford, you will find that the College can quickly become the centre of your social life, especially if you are new to living in the UK. This section will provide you with a preview of the variety of social events the MCR hosts.

All events are advertised on our mailing list, website, and Facebook account. Check the term card to see what's on!!!

A Rough Guide to Socials

While we are still crafting the term card for Michaelmas, here are some of the recurring activities our MCR organises and enjoys:

- **Board Game Nights** - pit your wits against your fellow students to see who comes out top!
- **Film Nights** or trips to the cinema.
- **Pub Crawls and College Bar Crawls** to visit several pubs or colleges in Oxford in one evening, staying about an hour at each one before moving on to the next. It is a great way to get to know the city and your new friends.
- **Ice Skating** and other sporting activities!
- **Day Trips** to notable places or towns outside of Oxford (e.g. Cambridge or London), usually by bus.

- **Welfare Teas** on Sunday afternoons in EPH or RSH, where one can relax, catch up, and, of course, have some tea!
- **Picnics and Punting** down the river in the summer.
- **MCR Parties** in the common room of either EPH or RSH, when everyone gets together for drinks, music, and a good time!



- **Murder Mystery Dinners** trying to find out who's the murderer over a three-course formal dinner.
- **Wine Tastings**, Polish vodka tastings, Sake tastings, Whisky tastings, etc.
- **Exchange Dinners with other MCRs**: a great (and cost effective) way to spend an evening meeting other students over a nice dinner and seeing what other colleges are like.

- **Bops** – an affectionate term for themed parties with cheap drinks hosted by various colleges.



- **College-run Events** such as MCR formal dinners (more formal than Formal Hall), Subject Family Events, and Wine & Cheese nights.

In addition to these many MCR and College social events, many more are held around Oxford by other colleges, student societies, or establishments. There is never a shortage of things to do or places to go!



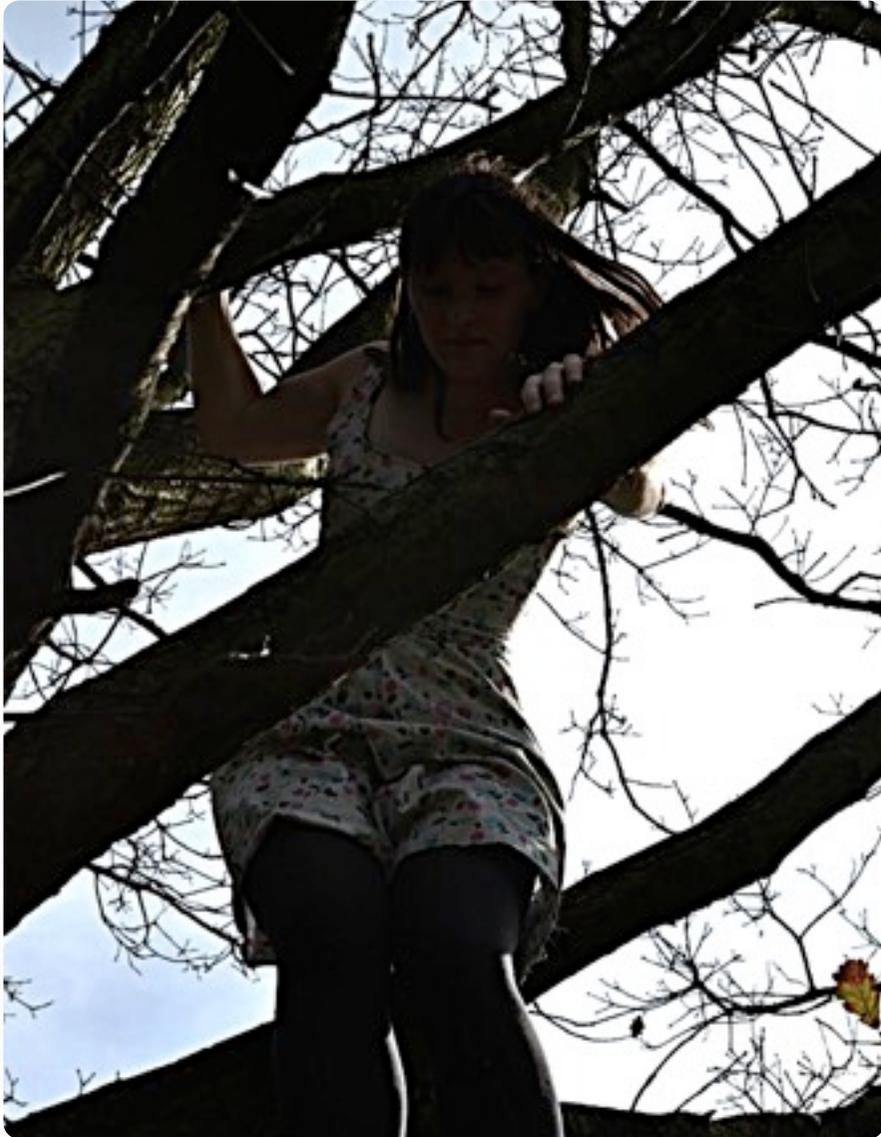


When in Oxford, Expect to have a Ball!

1. 'Ball': from the Latin, *ballare*, 'to dance.'
2. A 'ball' in Oxford does not necessarily include ballroom dancing - it is basically a huge party, often with a ferris wheel and unlimited food and drinks.
3. Traditionally, guests wear either *black tie* or *white tie* (as specified). If you don't own a tuxedo or a proper frock, there are places in town from which you can purchase or rent one.
4. Balls in Oxford are typically themed, ranging from Masquerades and Carnivals, to Winter Wonderlands and the Narnian or Potter-esque.

MCR Welfare at St Anne's College

What you need to know about, who to talk to, and where to go.



In addition to the College Nurse, there are many people you can consult for advice about any problems, depending on the circumstances at the time. We are wholly committed to your welfare and want you to get the very best from your time at St Anne's. Do seek out help and support at the earliest opportunity.



Meet Your MCR Welfare Team

Ross Gales and **Mimi Lu** are your MCR Welfare Officers. They are here for any problems or just questions that you may have (welfare@st-annes-mcr.org.uk). They organise welfare-focused events ranging from weekly welfare teas to yoga and movie nights.



Peer Supporters can be the first point of contact for problems ranging from academic issues to feeling homesick. They can also provide additional welfare information if you want it. Even if everything is okay, Peer Supporters are available if you just fancy a chat.

Peer Support is a confidential listening and support service provided to you by JCR and MCR members. Peer Supporters are trained by the Oxford University Counselling Services and are part of a university-wide network. Your welfare officers **Ross and Mimi** (pictured below), are designated MCR Peer Supporters; in addition, all of the JCR Peer Supporters are also available to MCR members. Check out the Peer Support posters around college (and on the website) for their contact details.



The **MCR Women's Officer Nicole Eichert** and the **Equalities Officer Irene Petraroli** are also a part of the MCR Welfare Team and are responsible for representing and supporting any minority groups, as is the **LGBTQ+ Representative, Alison Walsh** (lgbt@st-annes-mcr.org.uk) who is here as a point of contact for LGBTQ members of the MCR as well as responsible for organising LGBTQ specific events each term.

College Support

St Anne's has three **Assistant Deans** living in College. **Robert Stagg, Friederike Haberstroh, and Jennifer Cassidy**. They are in charge of discipline in College and are also concerned with your welfare.

Assistant Deans can help you with any concerns you may have, personal or academic. They are post-graduate students selected for their understanding of and empathy for your needs. They take turns being on call at night in case of emergency and can be contacted via the Lodge. They liaise with the **Dean, Don Porcelli**, on matters of discipline.

Dr. Shannon McKellar Stephen, the **Tutor for Graduates** (shannon.mckellarstephen@st-annes.ox.ac.uk), is responsible for academic welfare. If there is any matter relating to your tuition and academic enjoyment of your course, please talk to her. She also liaises regularly with the MCR Academic Affairs and Welfare Representatives. All matters discussed with her are strictly confidential.

Dr Judy Bogdanor is the **Dean for Welfare**. She was previously the senior partner at one of the doctors' practices in the Jericho Health Centre. She can help

you with all non-academic welfare issues.

If you have a problem you would prefer not to discuss with your College Advisor and wish to seek out independent academic advice, you can get in touch with one of the **MCR Advisors: Dr Terry O'Shaughnessy**, and **Dr Kate Watkins**. or the **Harassment Advisor, Judy Bogdanor**. The College has robust regulations regarding harassment and takes complaints seriously. If you feel you are experiencing any form of harassment, the harassment officer can give you advice on how to proceed. **Sheila Smith** is the **Disability Coordinator**. She works with students and the University Disability Office to support those with declared disabilities and liaises with the Academic Registrar on examination requirements.

The **College Nurse, Wendy Cubiss** (nurse@st-annes.ox.ac.uk) is in College every weekday morning during term time (Weeks 0-9). She can advise on medical-related issues as well as any other personal, emotional problems. The doctors affiliated with our College are located at the **Jericho Health Centre**, a 5 minutes walk from the main college site, and there will be an opportunity to



register with them during fresher's week. Tel. 01865 311234 (this is also the out of hours contact number).

University Support

If you require additional support, the University also offers a counselling service (details below, there is also information on the MCR website st-annes-mcr.org.uk/support/welfare/) as well as the student run Nightline listening service. Contact a MCR Welfare Officer, college nurse, or a peer supporter if you are unsure of what kind of assistance you might need.

The **Student Advice Service** is a confidential listening, information, and advocacy service (welfare@ousu.org; 01865 288461). The **University**

Counselling Service is available throughout the year, including outside of term-time. E-mailing is best, as they will send you a questionnaire first (counselling@admin.ox.ac.uk; **01865 270300**; ox.ac.uk/students/shw/counselling/). **Nightline** is a student-run, confidential service that runs 20.00 to 8.00, 0th to 9th Week (01865 270270; users.ox.ac.uk/~nightln/). **The Samaritans** (08457 909090 or 01865 722122). **Police** (for emergencies, dial **999**

or the main police switchboard 01865 266000). All services at the **Family Planning Clinic** (The Old House Centre, Blackbird Leys) are free and you can drop in or make an appointment first (01865 456666). The **GUM Clinic** at Churchill Hospital, in Headington is more than just a sexual health clinic (wellsafe.org; 01865 231231). **Family Protection Unit**, for calls concerning sexual assault (01865 266190). **Rape Crisis Centre** (01865 726295). **Oxford Homophobia Awareness Liaison Team** (halt.oxford@hotmail.co.uk or 01865 243389).

If it is not an emergency but you need to see a doctor urgently or out of working hours, you should ring the GP surgery for the Out of Hours service number. A local GP will phone you back (usually within half an hour). The Assistant Dean on duty will also be available to help – via the Lodge. Don't deal with anything on your own. There will always be someone to help you. The nearest hospital is the **John Radcliffe Hospital** in Headington (01865 220208 or 01865 220209). **For more info:** st-annes-mcr.org.uk/support/welfare/

Eight Life Hacking Tips For Post-Graduates In Oxford

1. **Exercise for an extra 7 minutes a day:** Post-graduates are busy, but just 7 extra minutes of exercise a day can help you to relax, increase your brain power (!!), and improve your body image.
2. **Use your Bod Card to see special exhibits at the Ashmolean:** present your card at the exhibition tickets counter and receive free entry to all special exhibits at the Ashmolean museum. Exhibits change 2-3 times a year.
3. **Apply for a discount Rail Card:** it will save you 1/3 on all rail travel in the UK. If you are either 16-25, or over 25 and a full-time student, you can apply for the '16-25 Rail Card'. Take the form to the College Academic Registrar for proof of enrollment. All you need is a valid passport or UK driving license.
4. **Follow the St Anne's Library on Twitter:** the Library Twitter feed (@StAnnesLibrary) posts updates about Oxford-wide service and new acquisitions.
5. **Mobile Oxford:** whether you need maps, library book, the next bus, or even collection times at the nearest postbox, Mobile Oxford is here to help (m.ox.ac.uk).
6. **Want a free lunch & great discussion?** attend the Interdisciplinary Discussion Groups that run over lunchtime during term on Wednesdays. Free lunch, coffee, and orange juice are provided.
7. **Have a problem? Get in touch with the Student Advice Service:** the SAS is a free, independent, safe, and confidential support service available to all Oxford University students. They are independent from colleges and the University, and are here to give information to & support students who are facing difficult situations.
8. **Order your groceries online to save time:** many of the main grocery stores (Sainsbury's, Tesco's, Marks & Spencer, Waitrose) have great online shopping and delivery services. Not only can you save money by having a standing order, but it will save you having to carry heavy groceries back to your room.

Sports & Fitness at St Anne's



In September 2012, St Anne's College re-opened its recently renovated **Fitness Rooms** in Trenaman House (58 Woodstock, near STACS), the refurbishment of which was partially funded by the JCR and MCR. Open until 23.00 daily, to use the Fitness Rooms you must first be inducted by a qualified member of the college. To use the gym, you will be charged £17 a year on your battels statement.

Members of the MCR also have access to the joint **St Anne's/St John's Playing Field**, located just off Woodstock Road (a

five-minute bike ride north of the main college site), which has three hard tennis courts (and three grass courts for use in Trinity term), as well as pitches for football, rugby and field hockey.

You can also join the **St Anne's Boat Club** (stannesboatclub.weebly.com), either to start rowing, or to join the weekly circuits trainings in the gym.

MCR members are also encouraged to use University Sports facilities, including the **University Sports Centre** on Iffley Road or the **University Club**

Sports Centre: Membership for the USC on Iffley Road starts at £88 a year (for swimming only) and for £150, you can have access to the pool, pulse, and powerlifting facilities. However, this university facility (mainly the gyms) tends to be quite busy. For more information on membership, location, and services offered, visit their website (sport.ox.ac.uk/facilities/iffley-road/). The University Club also has a small sports centre on Mansfield Road for graduates and university staff. The complex also comprises a small canteen, bar, and shower facilities. It's free to join, but you will need to register online to gain access to the building. They also charge a yearly membership to use the gym. Details of how to register, what's on offer, and a map to the club can all be found at the University Club website (www.club.ox.ac.uk).

There are a number of private fitness and leisure centres in Oxford and, if you live in Summertown and want something closer to home, it is worth checking out the **Ferry Leisure Centre** which updated all the gym equipment very recently. They offer two types of memberships: pay-as-you-go and monthly. You qualify for the discounted

"student slice" price by showing your Bod Card when registering. You can also hire badminton courts as well as a basketball court, and the centre has a decent swimming pool. If you crave swimming outdoors, pay a visit to the **Hinksey Heated Outdoor Pool**, run by the Oxford City Council. Open from May-September.

How to Use the College

Fitness Rooms

1. Visit the lodge to fill in the application form and register for the gym induction slot.
2. If you are advised to seek medical approval before using the fitness rooms, make sure you do so before your induction.
3. After the induction, pick up your membership card from the lodge, you will be billed £17 for using the gym per academic year. All funds go directly to the maintenance of the fitness rooms & their equipment.

The fitness rooms are outfitted with free weights, a bench press, and a variety of cardio machines. A number of rowing machines are available on the main site

in the Erg Room, which is located in Room 2 of 6 Bevington Road; to gain access, you will need to get the door code from the Lodge or contact the boat club captain.

St Anne's Boat Club:



Rowing is the sport everyone should try at least once while they're at Oxford. You don't need any previous experience to row at St Anne's, and every year the large majority of people who sign up have never been in a rowing boat before.

Being the probably most traditional sport in Oxford, there are a lot of events about rowing going on during the year. For newcomers, Christ Church Regatta at the end of Michaelmas term provides a great opportunity to gain racing experience early on. The two bumping

races, Torpids in Hilary term and Summer Eights in Trinity term, are very popular - not only for rowers as the main goal to work for during term time, but also for other college members to come down to the river and cheer for their college boat clubs. Besides the sportive aspect, the Boat Club organises social events throughout the year.

The boat club runs a taster session at the beginning of the Michaelmas term, so keep checking your email for a message from your sports secretary.

Academic Life

Life in College is about more than just parties and socials. As a college, St Anne's provides many opportunities for academic engagement and advancement.

Get the most out of your academic life in College



1. **Use the college library:** whether it is to borrow books, study for final exams, research for your dissertation, or prepare for teaching, the St Anne's Library is a great place for post-graduate students.
2. **Meet your College Adviser:** you will be assigned an adviser from among the College fellows when you arrive in Oxford and will meet with them during Freshers' Week. Advisers can

be a great resource for career or extra-departmental advice.

3. **Talk to your MCR Academic Affairs Officer, Valeria Taddei:** as a member of the MCR Committee, Val, your AAO, has an informed perspective on what it's like to be a post-grad in Oxford. She sits on the college Academic Committee and can raise post-graduate issues to the attention of the college.
4. **Feed your mind and feed yourself at the Interdisciplinary Discussion Groups:** every Wednesday of term, post-graduates are invited to gather for an informal *lunchtime* seminar on a variety of specialty and multi-disciplinary topics. Sandwiches, coffee, and orange juice are provided.
5. **Submit to the St Anne's Academic Review:** STAAR publishes research from members of the College in an interdisciplinary journal. It fosters academic discourse among the SCR, MCR and JCR, helping you develop



your research profile and share the insights of your work.

6. Attend a Subject Family Event:

created to bring together everyone at the different levels of their academic careers—from undergraduate to professorial Fellow—SFEs occur twice a term and begin with three presentations from members of College, followed by Q&A and a buffet dinner in Hall.

3 

Oxford, the City

“And that sweet city with her
dreaming spires,
She needs not June for
beauty's heightening”
– Matthew Arnold, “Thyrsis”



Cycling in Oxford



'It's better on a bicycle.'

Cycling is one of the most popular and beloved ways to get around Oxford. If you don't already have a bike when you arrive, it is fairly simple to acquire one new or second hand.

Stuart's Bikes (oxfordbicycle.co.uk, 07889050494) supply a great choice of affordable second-hand bikes sourced from the Oxfordshire area. Check out the website and give Stuart a call to see when he is next in Oxford with his latest selection of bikes! Equally, if you are

looking to sell your bike at the end of your studies, Stuart's Bikes will give you a fair price.

In Summertown, **Summertown Cycles** has student deals where you can purchase a bike and sell it back at the end of your course (ideal for one-year students). If you are closer to the city centre, try **Bike Zone** (bike-zone.co.uk/) on St Michael's Street (they also have a great coffee shop). Second hand bikes can be purchased online through sites like *Daily Info* and *Gumtree*. Make sure you see the bike (and test it, if possible) before you purchase it.

If you prefer cheaper new bikes, you can try Decathlon in Botley Road Retail Park, though it is rather far away from the city centre.

If you need your bicycle fixed while you're here, why not try the **Broken Spoke Bicycle Co-op** (bsbcoop.org/), a DIY (do-it-yourself) bicycle workshop that teaches people of all ages and backgrounds how to ride and repair bicycles. Their workshop at The Gates, 42 Pembroke Street (behind the G&D's Ice Cream on St Aldate's Street) have a

fully stocked community tool chest (so you don't have to spend a fortune on a tool you'll use twice), lots of lovely bike stands, and friendly mechanics to give you a hand. Using the workshop costs **£5 (students)**. It is usually open at the end of the week.

Alternatively, the university Bike Doctor works on Wednesdays in the car park of the University Club, Mansfield road.

Arrive before 0900 to make sure you can get an appointment; he is subsidised by the university and provides a very popular low cost, high quality repair service.

FYI: cyclists are required to have front and back lights when cycling at night. Apart from the danger of not being seen at night, £30 fines are regularly issued to cyclists found cycling without lights. Also remember to detach them from your bike when you are leaving it unattended. Otherwise, you'll find they quickly disappear, especially if you keep your bike in the city centre. You can purchase bike lights for the unbeatable price of £2.50 from the Oxford Security Service.

Though St Anne's is a safe place, we recommend purchasing a sturdy **D-Lock**

to secure your bike at all times. These can be purchased half price (£15) from OUSU. Cheaper cable locks tend to be quite useless in Oxford. Cycle packs to register your bike are also available, free of charge, from OUSU and the St Anne's lodge. With them you can register your bike with the Oxford security services and the Oxford police. There is cycle parking at both the main college site and in RSH.

4 Museums, 1 City

The city itself offers many treasures for you to explore, in particular four excellent museums. All are free of admission charges, though they encourage donations.



‘Living in Oxford is like living in history.’

To start with, visit the **Oxford Museum of Natural History**, on Parks Road. You’ll notice a spectacular neo-Gothic building, meant to resemble a cathedral, though in this building, we worship science. The Museum of Natural History houses the University's scientific collections of zoological, entomological and geological specimens. Check out the stuffed Dodo that inspired Charles Dodson (better known as Lewis Carroll) to create the fantastical Alice adventures as well as many of the first and most impressive dinosaur remains unearthed in the early years of palaeontology.

Adjacent to the Museum of Natural History and accessible through an archway at its far end, the **Pitt Rivers Museum** is a perfect example of a late-Victorian museum. Displaying archaeological and ethnographic objects from all parts of the world, the Pitt Rivers Museum was founded in 1884 when General Pitt Rivers gave his collection of over 18,000 objects to the University. Today there are more than half a million objects. Check out its collection of shrunken heads, weapons





from around the world, or inimitable collection of depictions of animals in art.

A hidden gem, tucked in beside the Sheldonian Theatre and the back of



Exeter College, the **Museum of the History of Science** houses an unrivaled collection of early scientific instruments in the world's oldest surviving purpose-built museum building, the Old Ashmolean (accessible from Broad Street). The museum offers free guided tours every Thursday afternoon.

Finally, the **Ashmolean Museum**, accessible from Beaumont Street, off of St Giles and founded in 1683 is Britain's first public museum and home to the University of Oxford's world-class collections of art and archaeology. Highlights of the collection include an Egyptian altar, Uccello's 15th century painting, *Hunt in the Forest*, forgeries of the treasures of Troy, early Anglo-Saxon artifacts, and extensive collections of Japanese and Chinese art. Twice a term, the Ashmolean hosts a **Live Friday** event, where the museum comes to life with music, food, and performances.

Culture

Theatres

Oxford has a vibrant student theatre scene, ranging from small plays put on by friends to much larger semi-professional efforts. Any budding writers, actors, producers or directors should check out the **Oxford University Drama Society (OUDS)** at the Fresher's Fair, as that's the best way to find out how to get involved in some of the bigger plays, and a great source of advice about funding, licenses and so on for those looking to get their own smaller ventures off the ground.



The biggest productions are at the **Oxford Playhouse** on Beaumont Street (from St Anne's, head towards town and take a right), but venues like the **Burton Taylor** (behind the Playhouse) or the **O'Reilly** (in Keble College) are cheaper and feature more student writing as well as frequently more adventurous productions.

Cinemas

If you'd prefer a movie, St Anne's local cinema is the **Phoenix Picturehouse** in Jericho which is 5 minutes from college. They have extremely comfortable seats, a bar upstairs and tend to show a good range of indie films. For those wanting a blockbuster, there are two **Odeons** near the city centre (one on George Street and one Magdalen Street). Other options are the **Ultimate Picture Palace** in Cowley, which is one of the UK's last properly independent cinemas, and the **Magdalen Film Society** which regularly shows a



In terms of just watching plays, theatre fans have a wealth of options. *Daily Info* (dailyinfo.co.uk) has a list of what's on, and the *Cherwell* and *Oxford Student* newspapers have pretty reliable reviews.

great range of films, with free wine after each showing.

Literature

Many famous authors lived and studied in Oxford, and the city is often reflected in their work. Whereas leisure reading may be something you wish you had more time for anyway, you might want to push the following books a bit higher up your to-read list while you are here.

St Anne's has a few famous writers among its own alumnae: **Diana Wynne Jones** (*Howl's Moving Castle*) and **Helen Fielding** (*Bridget Jones's Diary* and its sequels) both studied English at St Anne's, as did **Samantha Shannon** (*The Bone Season*, *The Mime Order* and five upcoming sequels in this series). In her magical dystopia, Samantha Shannon turns Oxford into a penal colony for people with supernatural powers.

Philip Pullman perhaps wrote the best series about Oxford: the trilogy *His Dark Materials* (*Northern Lights*, *The Subtle Knife* and *The Amber Spyglass*). He also wrote a smaller spinoff work of this majestic series, *Lyra's Oxford*, which includes a map of the alternative-universe Oxford he presented in these books.

The writing group **The Inklings**, of which the most famous members were **JRR Tolkien** (*The Hobbit*, *The Lord of the Rings*) and **C.S. Lewis** (*The Chronicles of Narnia*), met every week at the Eagle and Child pub on St Giles. Tolkien and Lewis were both lecturers at the English Faculty.

Visually, Oxford is most famous worldwide through its depiction in the Inspector Morse, Lewis, and Endeavour TV series, based on the books by **Colin Dexter**. The latter two series are filmed regularly in Oxford, and especially mathematicians may run into film crews more often than they like.

Mathematician and author **Lewis Carroll**, whose real name was Charles Dodgson, lectured at Christ Church and wrote *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking-Glass* here.

For more general information about Oxford, *The Horrible Histories Guide to Oxford* may be of interest.

A Hungry Guide to Oxford

The city can be divided into four quarters: Jericho, City Centre, Summertown, and East Oxford.



Jericho

Closest to St Anne's is **Jericho**, which is known for its bohemian boutiques and cocktail bars. There are a bunch of great restaurants, pubs, and shops. Check out **Manos**, a Greek café serving Mediterranean style wraps, salads and

dips. If you're in the mood for Lebanese, stop by at **Al-Shami**—they offer a wide variety of authentic Lebanese food. Make sure to try the Lebanese wine.

Veggie burgers tend to get a bad rep, but the **Gardener's Arms** will change your mind. A cozy pub located five minutes

from St-Anne's, the GA exclusively serves vegetarian food. They put a lot of effort into making their menu appealing to non-vegetarians and vegetarians alike—the food is hearty and tends to be appreciated by all, judging from the small, non-representative sample. **The Royal Oak**, located two minutes away on Woodstock Road, is also a decent option if you're looking for tasty pub fare. For those with a sweet tooth, **G&D's** on Little Clarendon serves ice-cream, waffles and other tasty treats. In terms of pubs and bars, check out **The**



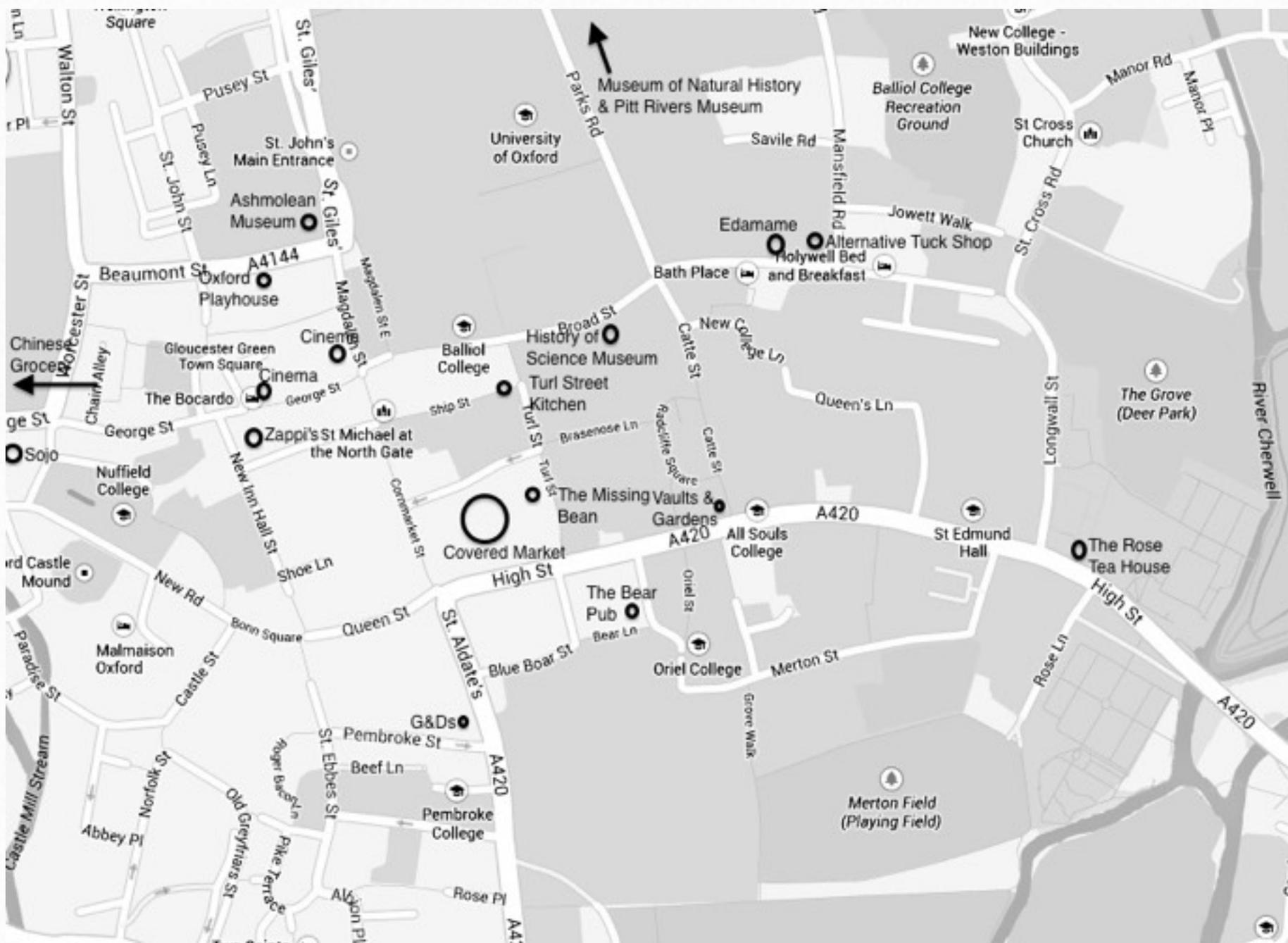
Rickety Press just off Walton, on Cranham Street. Its warm and cozy atmosphere is perfect for chilly Oxford evenings. **The Jericho Tavern** attracts a lot of great bands, so keep its schedule on your radar if you're into music. **The Rose & Crown**, just a five-minute walk from St. Anne's, has a beautiful patio and a very friendly owner. **Jude the Obscure** and **The Old Bookbinders Ale**

House are also nice pubs to visit. If you care for cocktails, **The Duke of Cambridge** and **Raoul's** will do the trick. If you are looking for a good cup of coffee, you can try the **Barefoot coffee** on Walton street or **Brew coffee**, which is two blocks from the college on North Parade.

City Centre

Like any city centre, Oxford is home to the usual mediocre, characterless restaurants that one expects. However, there are a few gems that stand out. **Edamame** is a small Japanese restaurant, where you'll surely make some great culinary discoveries. If you're a sushi lover, keep in mind that you'll be out of luck unless you go on Thursday night, sushi night. If you're in the mood for Chinese food, head over to **Sojo** for some dim sum. In fact, there are a number of other Chinese restaurants, and even a Chinese grocery store all located on the same street, Hythe Bridge Street.

It can be a bit of a challenge to find a good cup of coffee in Oxford. Thankfully, **The Missing Bean** exists. The cafe tends to get quite packed at some stages of the day, so prepare to get



your coffee to go during peak hours. If you are in a hurry, you can get a great take-away coffee in a **coffee van** parked on the St Giles, near the Ashmolean museum. **Turl Street Kitchen**, just up the street, is a popular café with a great menu and a spacious and aesthetically pleasing study space upstairs. Check out the **Vaults & Gardens Café** too for lunch – they offer delicious daily specials for vegetarians and non vegetarians. Both the Turl Street Kitchen and Vaults & Gardens offer student discounts on food.

East Oxford

Over the Magdalen Bridge and beyond The Plain lies East Oxford, heading south in the directions of St Clement and the Cowley and Iffley Roads. The Cowley Road has a plentitude of restaurants, cafes, and pubs, but where to start? For a foodie experience, try **Door 74** which uses locally sourced and seasonal produce. If cheap and cheerful pizza is your thing, order from **Pizzeria Trattoria Mario's** where you can take

away as well as eat-in. The **Cous Cous Café** on St Clements offers authentic Moroccan cuisine and a relaxed atmosphere. For a unique dining experience, try **Moya**, the Slovakian restaurant and cocktail bar on St Clement's. They serve a range of authentic, rustic dishes, including knedla dumplings, goulash, and delicious halusky.

If you feel like straying further down the garden path, try **Everest**, a Nepalese restaurant and bar on Howard Street (near the Donnington Arms). Equally, the **Magdalen Arms**, on Iffley Road, offers good food and friendly drinks if you don't mind being surrounded by an 'in-crowd.' There are a number of Thai places on Cowley Road and St Clements, but for a simple, peaceful meal, try **Oxford Thai** on Cowley. Finally, **The**



Library Pub is the only proper bar in Oxford. They have a very reasonably priced and extensive range of drinks, friendly staff and DJs spinning every weekend.

Summertown

While Summertown is mainly a residential area, there are some excellent restaurants in walking distance from RSH. If you are feeling more adventurous, there are plenty of starters to share. **Gatineau** is an excellent

traditional patisserie that serves a great cup of coffee. If you are looking for authentic Lebanese cuisine, try **LB's**, which always has a tasty lunch deal on offer. The always popular **Oxford Wine Café** is just down the road from RSH and offers wine at a range of prices, as well as cheese boards, coffees, &, surprisingly, cigars.



4

A Glossary of Terms

Arriving at Oxford, you will likely find yourself immersed in an entirely unique and remote culture that has acquired its own vocabulary over a very long period of time (more than eight hundred years, in fact). As this shibboleth system and preference for acronyms can prove somewhat alienating or daunting at first, we aim to provide some of the keys to your linguistic success. Here are some words you can get to know before you arrive. You will soon become accustomed to using them before you even notice it (much to the chagrin of folks back home).



Adviser (n): a Senior Member of the college assigned to you by the college. Your College Advisor is responsible for your pastoral care whilst at St Anne's and is generally in your field of study. Advisors/advisees typically meet once per term to discuss academic progress and non-academic issues. In addition to the Tutor for

Graduates, your advisor is one of the first people you should talk to about any difficulties you may be experiencing.

Battels (n): your termly bill from college, including fees for tuition, accommodation (if you live in RSH, EPH or Walton Street), MCR levies (such as punting fees), and any other charges you might incur (this includes printing from the Library as well as the EPH and RSH computer rooms). Battels are payable online via Weblearn or in the Accounts Office, located on the ground floor of Hartland House.

Blue (n): Award given to sporty types who've represented the University in a Varsity match. "The Blues" is used for university-wide teams.

The Bod (n): short for the Bodleian library, which refers both to the building erected in 1602 by Sir Thomas Bodley (a fellow of Merton College and diplomat to Queen Elizabeth) in 1602 to house the books donated by Humfrey, Duke of Gloucester, in the mid-1400s, and to many library sites that have been erected since then. The Bod is a copyright deposit library (which means you cannot borrow books) and its collections are used by scholars from around the world. Its resources may be precisely what brought you here in the first place. While the central library, the Old Bod, is located at the east end of Broad Street, the New Bod (also called the Weston Library) is across the street. There is an

underground passageway from the Old Bod to the photogenic round building called the Radcliffe Camera.

Bod Card (n): a commonly used synonym for your university student card. Your Bod Card gets you access to the Bodleian Libraries, can be used as a photocopy card, gets you discounts around town, and is used to purchase meals in the dining hall or in STACS.

Bop (n): A themed party at a College. Abbreviation of a Big Organised Party, legends say.

Collections (n): An examination taken at the beginning of term usually by undergraduates, testing the work done in the previous term, and often based on past paper questions

Confirmation (v): Similar to Transfer, another bout of writing with a *viva* at the end. Happens towards the end of a DPhil, usually at the end of second year or beginning of third.

Dean (n): A College Fellow responsible for supervising the conduct and discipline of the Junior Members (i.e. undergraduate and graduate students) of the College.

DPhil (n): Doctor of Philosophy degree. Outside of Oxford and St Andrew's, it's called a PhD.

EPH (n): Eleanor Plumer House, the site of the MCR common room, computer room, kitchen, and some graduate accommodation. Named after Eleanor Plumer, the Principal of the Society of Oxford Home Students (now St Anne's) from 1940 to 1953. By her gracious permission, we have the Plumer family's shield as our college's coat of arms.

Fellows (n): the college's trustees. They are the Governing Body of the college and manage and plan the college's activities. They may be academics or non-academic officers of the College.

Formal Hall (n): A formal meal held in the College Dining Hall four times a term. Tickets can be purchased online through the St Anne's Weblearn portal. These dinners are open to both undergraduates and graduates. If you haven't already, read up on how to dress for special occasions at St Anne's above.

Fresher (n): a first year (graduate or undergraduate) student of the college.

Hilary (n): is the second academic term. It runs from January to March and is so named because the feast day of St Hilary of Poitiers, 14 January, falls near the start this term.

JCR (n): the Junior Common Room – its body of undergraduates and a room for their use in Hartland House.

Junior / Assistant Dean (n): usually a DPhil student responsible for maintaining discipline and providing welfare support.

Lodge (n): the building on Woodstock Road (main college entrance) where the porters work and where mail and visitors arrive. If you are having guests, it's a good idea to have them meet you here.

Matriculation (n): a formal ceremony held a couple weeks after coming up (regardless of geography, you always 'come up' to Oxford) for the first time, admitting freshers as students of the University. Gown and *sub fusc* is required (see "What to Wear" section for more). This is the official moment of induction to the University.

Magdalen College (n): we draw this to your attention because of its unique pronunciation: try "maud-lin" or "mawd-len" instead of "mag-dalen."

Michaelmas (n): the first term of the academic year. This term derives its name from the Feast of St Michael and All Angels, which falls on 29 September. The term runs from September or October to Christmas.

MOLT (n): Mary Ogilvie Lecture Theatre, were many of your induction events will be held. Also the location of film nights, special lectures, and termly music recitals. Lady Mary Ogilvie was the Principal of St Anne's from 1954-1966 and, in addition to Oxford's first ever nursery for the children of staff, she also secured the funding to build our Dining Hall (recently renovated in 2012).

OUSU (n): Oxford University Students' Union, or OUSU (pronounced 'Ow-zoo'), is Oxford's central student union. It represents the students of the University on University committees, and provides a number of services to students. MCR members are automatically members of OUSU. See www.ousu.org for more information.

Oxford Union (n): The Oxford Union is a private members' club founded in 1823 as a debating society. Past speakers have included Ronald Reagan to Her Majesty the Queen, from Michael Jackson to Johnny Depp, from Imran Khan to Sir Steve Redgrave and from the Dalai Lama to Desmond Tutu. While the membership fee can seem a bit steep at first, the Union explains that, "it works out at just over £1 a week throughout your time at Oxford, and crucially it is a life-long membership." See www.oxford-union.org for more information.

Pigeon Hole (Pidge) (n): your college mailbox. You can find yours in EPH and/or RSH. Pigeon-post is an inter-/intra-college mail delivery scheme. You can pigeon-post items at the lodge and expect the items to arrive by the next day (or so).

Porter (n): those lovely individuals who work at the Porters' Lodge, direct visitors, sort mail, answer questions, and give out keys and codes for college rooms. Make sure you mention you are a member of the MCR when asking for room codes.

Proctor (n): two fellows appointed yearly to oversee student discipline and welfare across the whole University.

RDB (n): the Ruth Deech Building, which houses extensive conference facilities (a lecture theatre, seminar rooms, and dining facilities) on the lower ground floor, in addition to the new College Lodge on the upper ground floor, and 113 en-suite student rooms. Erected in 2005, it won an award for environmental sustainability. This is where the MCR wine tastings take place. Baroness Ruth Deech was Principal of St Anne's from 1991-2004. When asked, at the 2012 Royal Charter Event, how she felt about the Facebook group called "I want to live in Ruth Deech," she famously said, "Oh, well, I hope they realise the irony."

RSH (n): Robert Saunders House, the principle graduate accommodation site. RSH provides 80 rooms for post-graduate students in Summertown. It was named after a former bursar of the college, who did much to strengthen its finances.

Rusticated/Sent down (n): being made to leave the University as a punishment. Rustication is a suspension; being sent down means expulsion.

Scouts (n): those employed by the college to clean its buildings. They generally operate from 6am to noon. Scouts clean your room in college every week, emptying your rubbish bin and providing you with clean bed linen (if you use the linen provided by the college). Scouts do not do the washing up, nor will they tidy students' rooms.

SCR (n): the Senior Common Room, the body for St. Anne's fellows and lecturers.

Shibboleth (n): in common parlance, the term is a Biblical reference that refers to features of language, and particularly to a word whose pronunciation identifies its speaker as being a

member or not a member of a particular group. At Oxford, the Shibboleth system is the cross-domain username and password that allows you access to your e-mail, your library account, Weblearn and other integrated resources.

Sub fusc (n): the formal academic dress of the university. Undergraduate and graduate students alike are required to wear it for University exams, matriculation, and graduation.

STACS (n): St Anne's coffee shop.

Submission (n): For DPhils, the final bit of writing and a chat. The writing has to be 100,000 words this time, and the *viva* is in *sub fusc* and open to the public

Supervisor (n): the academic assigned to you by the University or by your department who is responsible for planning with you your course of study and for keeping an eye on your overall progress, as well as for giving supervision on different aspects of the course.

Term Card (n): the list of events that the MCR puts on during term. You will be e-mailed the term card in the weeks before each term. Term cards are also available on the MCR website.

Transfer (v): The process DPhil students have to go through in order to become proper DPhil students. Usually happens at the end of first year and involves writing a report and a *viva*. You don't have to do it if you've done an MPhil!

Trashing (v): a term used to describe the chaotic practice of students when contemporaries complete their exams. This involves throwing items such as confetti, champagne, colour run powder, eggs, shaving foam, "silly string," raw meat and sea creatures at those emerging from the exam schools. This is a relatively recently adopted tradition originating in the 1990s and proctors invigilating exams will fine students from inappropriate "trashings." In a 2012

Message from the Proctors, they advise that "safety and public order are our core concerns" and indicate that while "closed champagne bottles, flowers and balloons are all fine," there should be "NO FOOD ITEMS or GLITTER or SILLY STRING!"

Trinity (n): is the name of the third and final term of the academic year. It runs from about mid-April to about the end of June and is named after Trinity Sunday, which falls eight weeks after Easter, in May or June.

Tute/Tutor (n): the term "tute" is short for a tutorial, which is the period of instruction given to you by your college tutor as either an individual or in a very small group. Tutorials are typically held once a week or every second week during term. In tutorials, you are likely read and discuss a paper you have previously prepared and submitted to your tutor. While this is primarily an undergraduate phenomenon, some taught masters programs employ this system. If this is the case, you will be assigned a tutor in college (or at another college, in exceptional cases).

Viva (n): an oral exam or interview sat by DPhil students after the submission of their Transfer paper (beginning-ish), their Confirmation paper (middle-ish), and their Dissertation (end).

Week n (n): At Oxford, terms (Michaelmas, Hilary and Trinity) are divided into eight weeks, referred to as first week through eighth week. The weeks preceding and succeeding terms are 0th week ("noughth week" or "week zero") and 9th week, respectively. In this system -1st week and 10th week also exist.



 St. Anne's College
Middle Common Room



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