



St Anne's College  
Middle Common Room

2021–2022

# MCR

# Handbook



# Table of Contents

Welcome to the MCR!

A few things to do upon arriving at Oxford!

A welcome from your Graduate President!

Freshers' week schedule!

Join the groups!

A message from your Equalities Team!

Meet your MCR committee!

Around and About St Anne's College

The Library

The College Bar

STACS

The Dining Hall

Dining in College

MCR Social Events

MCR Welfare—*with lots of contacts!*

Academic Life

Sports and Fitness

Oxford, the City

Cycling in Oxford

Culture

Museums

Theaters

Cinemas

Literature

A Hungry Guide to Oxford—*now with cool maps!*

A Glossary of Terms—*a guide to Oxford's idiosyncratic terminology!*

# Welcome to the 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 Middle Common Room (MCR) and of St Anne's College.



# A FEW THINGS TO DO UPON ARRIVING AT 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 Hartland House 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** on the MCR website <https://st-annes-mcr.org.uk>.
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, which is used to enter most University buildings. Details on Registration will be sent by College closer to the start of term.
7. **Visit the Freshers' Fair**—a great opportunity to meet all the student clubs and societies. In 2021, the Fair will take place at University Parks on the 6th and 7th of October as well as online beyond these dates <https://www.oxfordsu.org/freshers-fair/>.
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!



Dear all,

On behalf of the Middle Common Room (MCR) Committee, I wished to extend you a warm welcome to St Anne's and congratulate you on joining the University of Oxford. The MCR comprises all of St Anne's postgraduate students, and will act as your second family whilst in Oxford.

I first came to Oxford in 2012, when I was 17, interviewing for an undergraduate place. For the last 8 years, Oxford has given me more than I could have imagined, and I am sure you will feel the same after your time here.

Starting from Freshers' week, you will meet people from all over the world and all different backgrounds. You will be impressed by how smart, passionate, and kind people around you are, and the gentle, lovely, and intellectual atmosphere. As the term goes on, you will be making friends with them, you will experience the dreaming spires together, and go to the clubs together. While having fun, you might be surprised to learn how intense Oxford could be, but you will also be surprised by the level of support around you. The MCR committee organizes social, welfare and academic events weekly, with four fully trained peer-supporters that you can always talk to in a confidential way. The college officers are always supportive, whether you are facing an accommodation problem, financial problem, academic problem or just generally having difficulties in your life.

Many of you will be arriving from outside the UK or under-represented backgrounds, and perhaps life in Oxford will sometimes feel overwhelming; I wanted to let you know that we take diversity and student welfare

very seriously and many of us went through the same journey you're about to embark on. We want to make sure that everyone feels at home at St Anne's and have spent a considerable amount of effort over the course of the past year to make sure everyone will receive appropriate support to face the pandemic.

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 not 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.

Oxford could seem overwhelming, moving to a new country could seem overwhelming, starting a new life could seem overwhelming. But fear not. Experiencing the experience is enough. After all, this is one of the best times of our lives, and Oxford is one of the best universities in the world. The knowledge you gained here will guide you throughout your life, the friends you make here will be with you through the ups and downs of the future, and the experience you will have here, will be one of the solid foundations of your life.

I hope you enjoy Oxford to the fullest extent possible! The MCR committee is looking forward to meeting you this term!

Best wishes,  
Zhen Shao  
*MCR President*

# Freshers' week schedule!

Sign up form for the freshers: <https://forms.gle/DAe1pfDKZmFHfCqD8>

For any questions please contact the social secs on [social@st-annes-mcr.org.uk](mailto:social@st-annes-mcr.org.uk) or the whatsapp/facebook group!

## Week long events:

### St Anne's College Tour.

Get a tour of our beautiful college with some of our MCR members who have fun facts about St Anne's up their sleeves. We will send you further details later, including the available time slots. Time slots will be distributed across the week, with at least one time slot per day.

### Online events.

We will have online games set up for those in quarantine or not in Oxford.

### Matched.

We will match you with a group of 3-4 people so you can organise activities amongst yourselves like going to the museum, parks or parties together. We can advise you where to go.

### Punting.

Punt with a group of 6 people at max around the serene canals and rivers of Oxford with some ducks and see the backs of some colleges. We will send you further details later, including the available time slots. Time slots will be distributed across the week, with at least one time slot per day.

### Tea at the MCR.

There will be tea, coffee and snacks set up in the MCR everyday between 11am-5pm for a casual gathering. Subject to change – will be updated on WhatsApp accordingly

## Specific events:

### Meet your neighbours.

Get to know your neighbours in EPH and RSH or simply come along to meet some other freshers!

*Saturday 2nd Oct. 7pm at the MCR.*

### Boardgames night.

Have a chill evening with some snacks and soft drinks or tea and get to know your peers whilst playing some board games.

*Sunday 3rd Oct. 6pm at EPH.*

**Bar night.**

Have a night out with your peers!

*Sunday 3rd Oct. 9pm at College Bar.*

**MCR Quiz.**

Test yourself (or guess) on some fun facts about Oxford and St Anne's!

*Monday 4th Oct. 8pm at College Quad.*

**Bar Exchange with Other Colleges.**

Meet other freshers from other colleges and also explore their college and bar.

*Tuesday 5th Oct. 8pm at College Bar.*

**Fresher's Formal and Second Desserts.**

Come and join us for a lovely, formal dinner and drinks with your peers and some MCR members.

*Friday 8th Oct. 7pm at College Dining Hall.*

**EquaLITies night.**

We will be kicking off with a listening party - in all senses of the meaning! To start, please bring a song that you feel helps communicate part of your experience. To close, after listening to each other's songs, we'll discuss what kind of events we want to see this Michaelmas term. All are welcome!

*Wednesday 6th Oct. 7pm at MCR.*

**Scavenger Hunt.**

We will put you into groups and give you a list of fun tasks to do around Oxford. It's a great way to get to know Oxford and also to know some fun facts about it!

*Thursday 7th Oct. 7pm at College Quad.*

**Rowing.**

The St Anne's boat club has organised a session for you to try rowing in Oxford.

*Saturday 9th Oct. 12pm; location TBD*

**Chill Bar Night.**

After an exhausting week, come chill with us in the bar. We will watch some sports, play some foosball and just hang around chatting.

*Saturday 9th Oct. 8pm at College Bar.*

**Bake n Share.**

We'll close the week with a picnic on the quad (weather obliging ☔).

Please bake/bring your favorite treats to share with your fellow Stanners!

*Sunday 10th Oct. 8pm at College Quad.*

## Join the groups!

The mailing list will be the official method of communications from the MCR committee, others are for you to connect with each other/send random things.

- ❖ **Mailing list:** The MCR runs a mailing list separate from the one that the College uses. We send out all things social, academic, sports, and welfare from MCR Committee members. If we already have your St Anne's email address, you will automatically be subscribed. Otherwise you could use the following steps:
  - Send an e-mail to [annes-mcr-l-subscribe@maillist.ox.ac.uk](mailto:annes-mcr-l-subscribe@maillist.ox.ac.uk)
  - Send a blank reply to the automated e-mail response from the list manager to confirm your subscription
- ❖ **MCR WhatsApp group,**  
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/BqUvkk0Y4Tl6xmrd9pATDZ>
- ❖ **MCR Facebook group,**  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/5062433175/>
- ❖ **MCR website,** <http://st-annes-mcr.org.uk>
- ❖ **RSH WhatsApp group (for people living in RSH),**  
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/KrXAkdg2u3PBiwtuQ7EkgO>

# A message from your Equalities Team!

As one of the first places to provide access to an Oxford education to women and international students, St Anne's college has treasured the diversity of its students from the very beginning, and has let it be known that they have a place in here. St Anne's MCR holds with these values of inclusion and diversity, and is firmly dedicated to advocating and supporting students from all backgrounds and identities.

We recognize that Oxford still has a great deal of work to do to dismantle pervasive institutional prejudices such as racism, classism, and the stigmatisation of mental health issues and physical disabilities. Our MCR is committed to do its part in the fight to dismantle all systems of oppression, within the college, the University and the larger community of Oxford. We stress that prejudice and discrimination are not tolerated by either the MCR Committee or the thoughtful, passionate students that make up the MCR as a whole.

We strive to create a safe and fully respectful space for BAME/BIPOC students, LGBTQ+ students, students of different socio-economic and educational backgrounds, students with long-term physical or mental health conditions and learning or social difficulties, international students, and all students who feel that they may not fit the "traditional Oxford" mould. We continue to work tirelessly to provide the resources, support, and platforms our students need to feel heard, valued and included for as long as they are part of this community. We recognise that as part of the institution of the University of Oxford, it is our responsibility and privilege to openly and loudly fight for a more equal and equitable world, and this starts with respecting, celebrating and defending the diversity of our fellow students.

We wholeheartedly encourage you to reach out to your BAME Rep, LGBTQ+ Rep, Women's Rep, Equalities Rep (meet them in [MCR Welfare!](#)), and indeed any member of the Committee whenever you have questions or concerns about the environment as a St Anne's graduate student; we wish to make your experience at St Anne's as inclusive and diverse as you deserve it to be. We also encourage anyone who wishes to join the MCR Committee team to get in touch and volunteer! We are committed to creating a more inclusive and diverse community at St Anne's, but we can only do so with the help of our fellow students. Together we can continue to make St Anne's a home where all students feel welcomed.

# Meet your MCR committee!

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.



**President: Zhen Shao** is a fifth year DPhil student in mathematics. Originally from Hangzhou in China, he has been stuck in Oxford for eight years, did undergraduate, master and now finishing DPhil. He loves meeting people, music, reading, travelling and chocolate!

**Vice-President: Lise Cazzoli** is a fourth year DPhil student in International Development. When she is not out there saving the world in some Amazonian rainforest, she can be found procrastinating at Gail's with the excuse of "writing poetry".



**Treasurer & RSH Rep: Yin-Cong Zhi** is a fourth year DPhil student in Machine Learning at the Oxford Man Institute. He codes and does long mathematics all day, but always finds time for cooking and making dumplings! He is also an origami enthusiast for anyone who enjoys some arts & crafts.

**Secretary: Assad Asil Companioni**



**Welfare Officer, Peer Supporter & Social Sec: Riddhi Pitliya Jain** is a second year DPhil student in Experimental Psychology, specifically studying Computational Psychiatry. When not talking about science or AI, you can find her falling down and waddling on in-line skates around Blavatnik or walking around in Port Meadow in search for horsies.



**Welfare Officer & Peer Supporter:** Mirela Zaneva is a third year DPhil student in Experimental Psychology. When she's not in the psychology labs, Mirela can usually be found exploring the many beautiful Oxford parks, fleeing from menacing geese, needlessly philosophising about the oeuvre of Doja Cat, and reevaluating her list of best bubble tea spots around town. She's always happy to go for a walk and a chat - do reach out!

**Social Sec:** Daniel Hortelano Roig is a third year Materials DPhil student studying the deformation of neutron-irradiated zirconium alloys. On his time off, he enjoys hanging around in Common Ground and attempting mildly creative ventures.



**Academic Affairs Officer:** Eva Daliétou is a second year DPhil student in Interdisciplinary Bioscience. Her research interests lie in structural and chemical biology; she explores how molecular structure confers activity and function and how this relationship is perturbed in health and disease. She is interested in playwriting and acting, and has recently picked up the electric guitar.



**Social Sec:** May Ke is a second year DPhil student in Oncology. She likes to take cheap £5 overnight bus trips outside of Oxford. Feel free to join her on an adventure!



**Social Sec:** Ryan Gidda is a second year Graduate-Entry Medical Student. Outside of the hospital he writes and records his own music, enjoys trying to find Oxford's best coffee spots and is undecided on how he feels about Anne's (very nice) New Lib turning into his second home last year.



**Social Sec: Merve Bilici** is a first-year DPhil student in Surgical Science, studying transplantation immunology. She is a coffee lover and enjoys spending her free time in nature discoveries or any activities regarding classical music. Also, playing the violin is one of the things she is passionate about.



**Social Sec: Peter Strain** is a fifth year DPhil in Clinical Medicine. In his free time he is generally rowing, playing rugby or trying to find someone to go to the pub with.

**International Rep & Social Sec: Elif Coker** is a second year DPhil student in Health Behaviours. “I use social psychology theory to understand how we can motivate individuals to have more plant-based and sustainable diets. I am originally from Turkey and have lived and studied in France and the USA before coming to the UK so I know the challenges of moving to a new country, getting through all the paperwork and official business, understanding and embracing the new cultures and traditions really well. I really hope to be a helping hand to new and existing international students at St Anne’s and elsewhere and make their Oxford experience as smooth and enjoyable as possible!”



**Women’s Rep: Georgia Brennan** is a third year maths DPhil on the Industrially Focused Mathematical Modelling CDT. When she's not working on her brain network models, she enjoys nature and sports.

**Equality Rep & Social Sec: Jess** is an Associate MCR member, serving this Michaelmas term as Equalities Officer and a Social Secretary. An MBA from Said Business School, she is eager to put her operational skills to work on behalf of Stanners





*Peer Supporter: Nicole Dvorak*

*Peer Supporter: Julian Kaptanian*



*IT Officer: Esteban Gomezllata Marmolejo* is a Maths DPhil student who can most easily be found late in the dining hall with a couple of jugs of water.

*Sports Rep: Michael Giegrich* is a second year DPhil on the Mathematics of Random Systems CDT. When he is not locked up at the math department, he enjoys doing all kinds of sports. Especially, if it involves putting vertical distance between him and the ground, be it with bouldering, climbing or mountaineering. Due to the flatness of Oxford, he is now mainly focusing on pub outings and reducing his erging splits.



*OUSU Rep: Vedang Narain* is a second year DPhil student in Cancer Science. When not studying abnormally high tissue growth, he exhibits abnormally low growth in his many hobbies, including wildlife photography, writing, Muay Thai, and music.

This year the MCR committee 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 2021 term. If you are interested, ask one of the current Committee members about getting involved

## 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 7 Academic Review; and is in charge of the MCR travel grants committee.

**Welfare Officers:** 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 subcommittee; 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.

**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.

**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.

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

**BAME Representative:** A friend, ally and resource for all St. Anners who identify as BAME. The BAME rep is here to support students with anything that pertains to their experience as BAME in Oxford. This includes fostering and strengthening the BAME community at St. Anne's by organising activities and events for BAME students. The BAME rep is the advocate of BAME students within the

MCR Committee and in the college at large and is here to ensure that the MCR remains an environment where BAME students feel valued, included and respected.

**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 the Oxford University Students' Union; attends SU Post-graduate Assembly and votes there in accordance with MCR policy; attends relevant SU meetings; distributes SU 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.

# 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.*



## KEY

- A - Seminar Rooms 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5
- B - Conference & Events Office
- C - Seminar Room 6
- D - Mary Ogilvie Lecture Theatre
- E - Lower & Upper Common Rooms
- F - Seminar Rooms 7, 8 & 9, & Tsuzuki Lecture Theatre
- G - Seminar Rooms 10 & 11
- H - STACS
- J - College Bar
- K - Accommodation Office & Domestic Bursar
- L - Welfare Room
- WC - WC
- Fire Assembly Point - Fire Assembly Point
- Recycling Point - Recycling Point
- Smoking Area - Smoking Area



You can also see the map at [st-annes-mcr.org.uk/college/locations-and-maps/](http://st-annes-mcr.org.uk/college/locations-and-maps/)  
or [www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/current-students/map/](http://www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/current-students/map/)

## 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 libraries, 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 - 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 [teaching.rooms@st-annes.ox.ac.uk](mailto:teaching.rooms@st-annes.ox.ac.uk).

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 email 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@stannes.ox.ac.uk](mailto:library@stannes.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 frequently 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 18.30 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 refurbished in 2017. The downstairs is more like a bar, but with more caffeine.



## 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/Main.aspx](https://meals.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/meals/Main.aspx)).



MORE VIDEOS

# 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 £4.50, 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](mailto: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.stannes.ox.ac.uk/meals/Main.aspx](https://meals.stannes.ox.ac.uk/meals/Main.aspx) (specify dietary requirements when booking) and cost £12.00 for dinner or £15.00 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

Usually, 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!!!



**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!



## A Rough Guide to Socials

While we are still crafting the term card for Michaelmas Term, 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!

**Wine and Cheese Nights** are a great opportunity to experience a proper Oxford style evening.

**Pub Crawls and College Bar Crawls** to visit several pubs or colleges in Oxford in one evening.





# MCR Welfare

What you need to know about, who to talk to, and where to go  
College page: [st-annes.ox.ac.uk/current-students/welfare-access/](http://st-annes.ox.ac.uk/current-students/welfare-access/)



*Riddhi Jain, MCR Welfare Officer*  
[welfare@st-annes-mcr.org.uk](mailto:welfare@st-annes-mcr.org.uk)

In addition to the College Nurse, Julie Osborne, 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—in particular in these unusual times. Do seek out help and support at the earliest opportunity.



*Mirela Zaneva, MCR Welfare Officer*  
[welfare@st-annes-mcr.org.uk](mailto:welfare@st-annes-mcr.org.uk)



*Daniel Hortelano, MCR Welfare Officer*  
[welfare@st-annes-mcr.org.uk](mailto:welfare@st-annes-mcr.org.uk)

## Meet Your MCR Welfare Team!

**Riddhi Jain, Mirela Zaneva and Daniel Hortelano** are your **MCR Welfare Officers**. They're here for any problems or questions that you may have, and 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. All of the JCR Peer Supporters are available to

MCR members. Check out the Peer Support posters around college (and on the website) for their contact details.

There are more members in the MCR Welfare Team, responsible for representing and supporting any minority groups. This includes the **MCR Equalities Officer, Jess Ramlethe**—who strives for students to be treated equally regardless of background—as well as the **MCR Women's Officer, Georgia Brennan**, the **MCR BAME Representative**, and the **MCR LGBTQ+ Representative**, who are points of contact and information.



*Ben Verboom, Rob Stagg & Jennifer Cassidy, Assistant Deans*

## College Support

St Anne's has three **Assistant Deans** living in College. **Robert Stagg, Ben Verboom, 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 postgraduate 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, the Tutor for Graduates**, 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.



*Mrs Rachel Busby*  
*Dean for Welfare & Harassment Advisor*  
[dean.welfare@stannes.ox.ac.uk](mailto:dean.welfare@stannes.ox.ac.uk)

Mrs Rachel Busby is the current Deans for Welfare. They are here to help you with all nonacademic welfare issues, and are available by email.

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 Graham Nelson and Dr Siân Grønlie; or the Harassment

Advisor, Mrs Rachel Busby. 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.



*Shannon McKellar, Tutor for Grads*  
[shannon.mckellarstephen@stannes.ox.ac.uk](mailto:shannon.mckellarstephen@stannes.ox.ac.uk)

The College Nurse, Julie Osborne ([nurse@st-annes.ox.ac.uk](mailto:nurse@st-annes.ox.ac.uk)) can be found at the college site during term time (Weeks 0-9, please see Anne's website for hours). 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 Freshers' 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/](http://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](mailto:welfare@ousu.org); 01865 288461).

The University Counselling Service is available throughout the year, including outside of term-time. Emailing is best, as they will send you a questionnaire first ([counselling@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:counselling@admin.ox.ac.uk); 01865 270300; [ox.ac.uk/students/welfare/counselling](http://ox.ac.uk/students/welfare/counselling)). This website also features mental health resources, such as podcasts, for specific issues.

Nightline is a student-run, confidential service that runs 8pm to 8am, 0th to 9th Week ([oxfordnightline.org/](http://oxfordnightline.org/)). The Samaritans ([www.samaritans.org/branches/oxford/](http://www.samaritans.org/branches/oxford/); 116 123). 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 ([sexualhealthoxfordshire.nhs.uk/visiting/opening-times-and-how-to-find-us/oxford/](http://sexualhealthoxfordshire.nhs.uk/visiting/opening-times-and-how-to-find-us/oxford/); 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](mailto: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: [stannes-mcr.org.uk/support/welfare/](http://stannes-mcr.org.uk/support/welfare/)



*Welfare dog petting event!*



# St Anne's Welfare

## Peer Supporters

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!



Riddhi Jain  
[riddhi.jain@st-annes.ox.ac.uk](mailto:riddhi.jain@st-annes.ox.ac.uk)



Mirela Zaneva  
[mirela.zaneva@psy.ox.ac.uk](mailto:mirela.zaneva@psy.ox.ac.uk)



Nicole Dvorak  
[nicole.dvorak@ndorms.ox.ac.uk](mailto:nicole.dvorak@ndorms.ox.ac.uk)



Julian Kaptanian  
[Julian.kaptanian@st-annes.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Julian.kaptanian@st-annes.ox.ac.uk)





and begin with three presentations from members of College, followed by Q&A and a buffet dinner in Hall.



6. **Bring your work to the Shut Up and Write/W(h)ine sessions** for some fueling food and drink and mutual encouragement!

9. **Talk to your MCR Academic Affairs Officer, Daniel Worthing:** as members of the MCR Committee, your AAOs sit on the college Academic Committee and can raise postgraduate issues to the attention of the college.

7. **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. And since the last volume, it is featured in the Bodleian Library Catalogue! Contact our editor Alexander Kither ([staar@st-annes-mcr.org.uk](mailto:staar@st-annes-mcr.org.uk)) if you're thinking about submitting a paper.



8. **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

# Sports and Fitness



St Anne's College has **Fitness Rooms** in Trenaman House (58 Woodstock, near STACS), which are, in normal circumstances, open until 23.00 daily. To use the Fitness Rooms you must first be inducted by a qualified member of the college, and you will be charged £17 a year on your battels statement if you decide to use them.

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**, either to start rowing, or to join the weekly circuits trainings in

the gym

([stannesboatclub.weebly.com](http://stannesboatclub.weebly.com))

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, COVID-19 updates and services offered, visit their website ([sport.ox.ac.uk](http://sport.ox.ac.uk)). 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, COVID-19 updates, and a map to the club can all be found at the University Club website ([www.club.ox.ac.uk](http://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.

## College Fitness Rooms

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 Erging 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.

## College Sports

*Rowing:* **St Anne's Boat Club** attracts many students of both the JCR and MCR, for many of whom this is their first time rowing. Check their site:

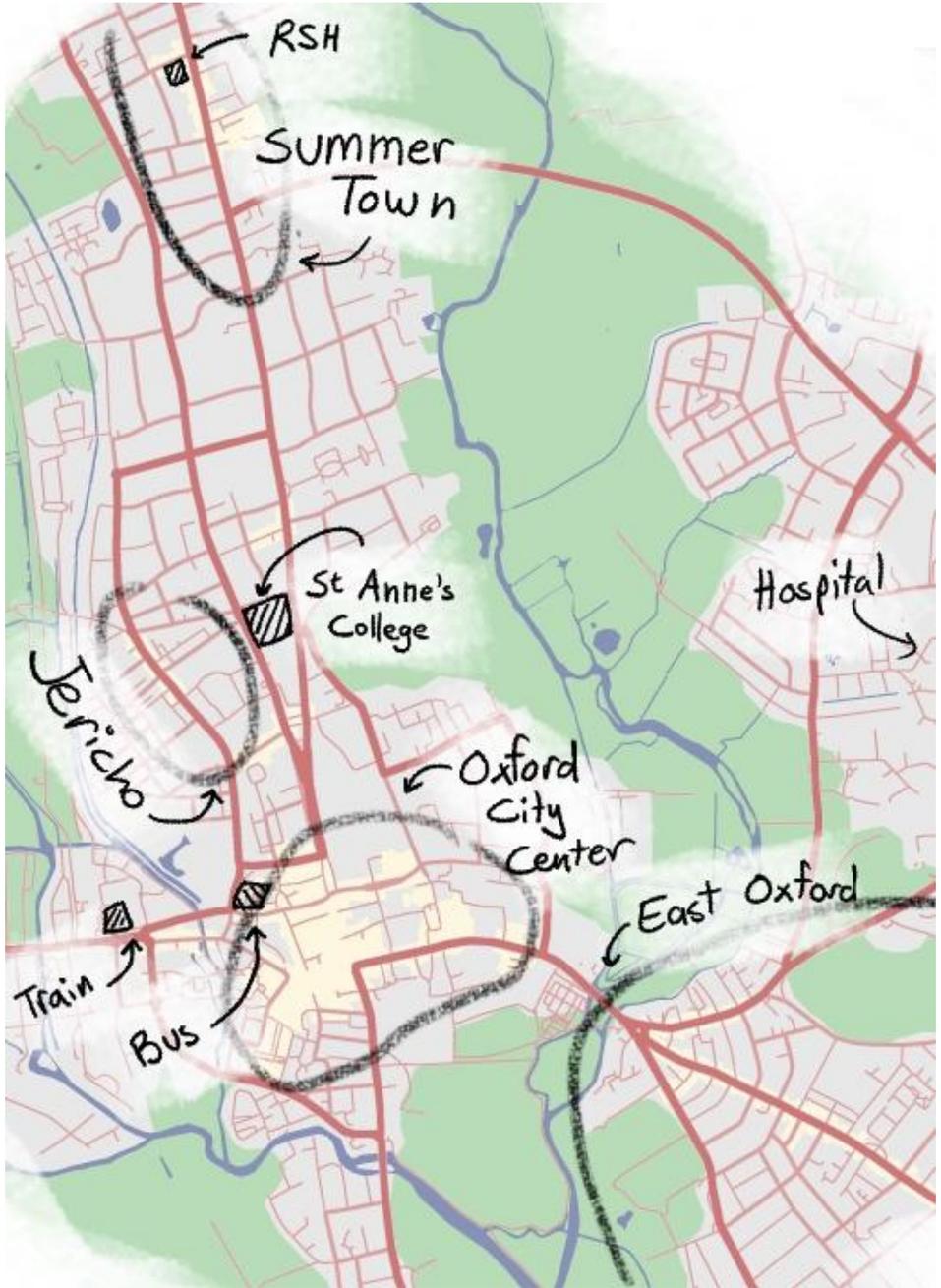
([stannesboatclub.weebly.com](http://stannesboatclub.weebly.com))

*Football:* St Anne's has three men's teams known as **the Mint Green Army** as well as a joint women's team with St John's, **the Saints**.

*Rugby:* There's a joint St Anne's/St John's team known as **the Saints**.

There's also Badminton, Cricket, Rounders, Hockey, Netball and Tennis. All of these welcome people of all levels of skill. For more information, check [www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/life-here/music-sports-societies/](http://www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/life-here/music-sports-societies/)

# Oxford, the City



# 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** (07889050494, [oxfordbicycles.co.uk](http://oxfordbicycles.co.uk)) 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](http://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](http://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.

**For your information:** 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.



*Bikes at St Anne's College, Tripadvisor*

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 (Oxford University Student Union). 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.

# Culture



*Pitt Rivers Museum, © Jorge Royan / www.royan.com.ar / CC BY-SA 3.0*

## Four Museums, One 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.

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.

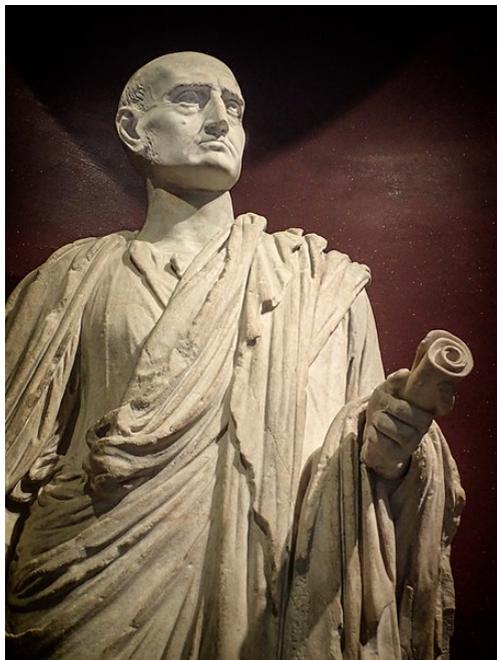
Adjacent to the Museum of Natural History and accessible through an archway at its far end, the **Pitt Rivers Museum** is a perfect

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.



*So-called Cicero excavated by the Earl of Arundel in Rome between 1613 and 1614, Ashmolean Museum*

## Theaters

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 Freshers' 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.

In terms of just watching plays, theatre fans have a wealth of options.

*Daily Info* ([dailyinfo.co.uk](http://dailyinfo.co.uk)) has a list of what's on, and the *Cherwell* and *Oxford Student* newspapers have pretty reliable reviews.

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 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.

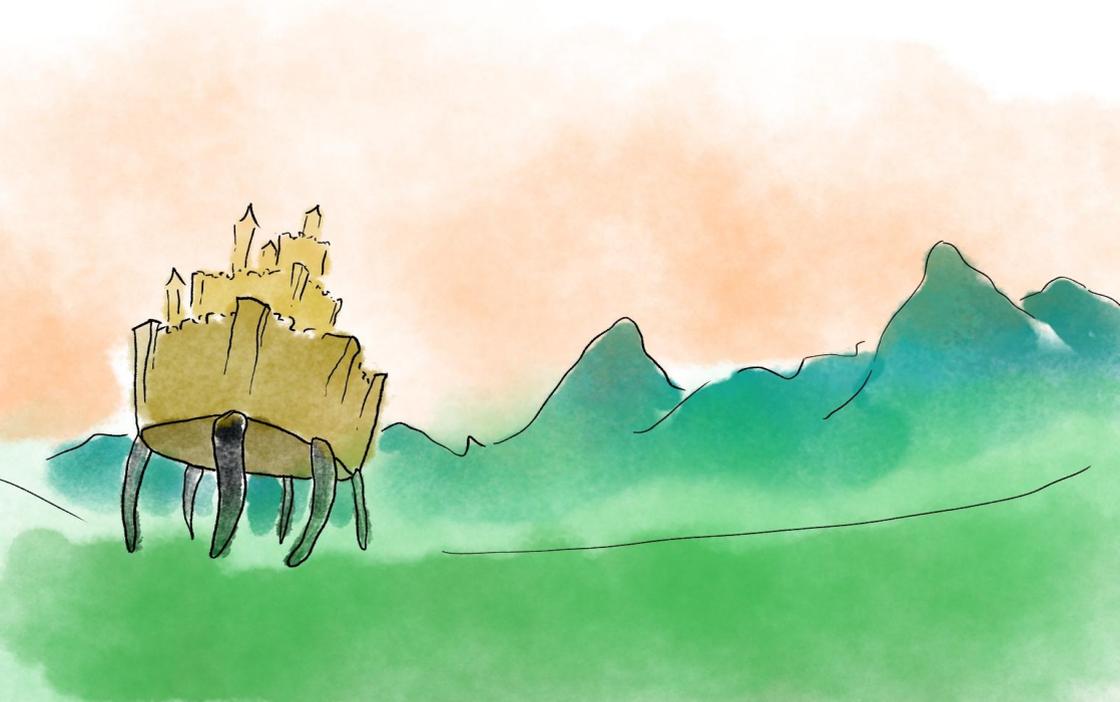
The writing group **The Inklings**, of which the most famous members were **JRR Tolkien** (*The Hobbit*, *The Lord of the Rings*) and **C.S. Lewis** (*The Chronicles of Narnia*), met every week at the Eagle and Child pub on St Giles. Tolkien and Lewis were both lecturers at the English Faculty.

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

We can roughly split Oxford into **Jericho**, closest to St Anne's; the **City Center**, with markets and malls; **East Oxford**, mainly "Cowley Road"; and **Summertown**, where Robert Saunders House is located.



## 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 icecream, 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. 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. 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 within 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.

## Alternative Options

Most of these places are open and those which are follow social distancing rules, however it is probably a good time to mention other food alternatives.

*Take-away near St Anne's:* While many restaurants offer take-away and delivery services, **Zheng's** Chinese-Malaysian stands out (both in-restaurant and taken home), and is quite close by taking St Bernard's Rd. **Taylor's** (Sandwich & Deli) is also a popular choice, right in the corner where Woodstock Rd meets Little Clarendon St. Next door **Will's Deli** is another great option for a healthy lunch. And we can't leave out **Ali's Kebabs**, whose van is very close to St Anne's college, and has such an impact on the students that he's a honorary member of the JCR.

*Convenience Stores near St Anne's:* The **East West Provisions** is right in front of the lodge, though it is not as large as the other options. There's a couple of **Co-op Food** convenience

stores in Walton Street (Jericho), and many go to the **Tesco** that's right at the entrance to the City Center.

*Outdoor eating:* If you'd prefer to stay away from indoor restaurants, some restaurants and pubs have outdoor tables in Jericho, parts of the city center (George Street & Broad Street), and at the **Westgate Shopping Center**. **Gloucester Green** also has a few places where you can grab something to eat on a bench in the square; and plenty of more options when the **Gloucester Green Market** takes place (Wednesday to Saturday).

*Food options near RSH:* Right next door to RSH is **Honk Kong House**, which has some nice take-away, and there's a **Sainsbury's** and **Tesco Express** just a few steps after that. Further down in Summertown there's a **Taylor's** (sandwich, deli) and a **Marks & Spencer Foodhall**. As for outdoor eating, a couple of places right next to RSH have outdoor tables; **Mamma Mia** and **Thirty Eight**.

*For more information on local restaurants—and other businesses—check [oxford.gov.uk/businessesopenonline](https://www.oxford.gov.uk/businessesopenonline)*

# 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 nonacademic 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 match against Cambridge (known as Varsity). "The Blues" is used for some first university-wide teams, others are called "Half-Blues" or something similar.

**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 between the Transfer of Status and the final submission thesis, the exact time depending on your course and department.

**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, where 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](http://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](http://www.oxford-union.org) for more information.

**Pigeon Hole** (Pidge) (n): your college mailbox. You can find yours in EPH and/or RSH. Pigeonpost 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 principal 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 crossdomain username and password that allows you access to your email, 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 to 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 MCR 2021

The St Anne's MCR would like to thank Esteban Gomezllata Marmolejo for his assistance compiling this material.