



St Anne's College
Middle Common Room

2023–2024

MCR Handbook

**A guide on what to do upon arriving in Oxford and your time as a member of
the Middle Common Room (MCR) and St Anne's College**



Trinity Term Garden Party 2023

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Welcome to the MCR!

Here, you will find the most pertinent and interesting information you will need upon arriving in Oxford, and learn what it's like to be a member of the Middle Common Room (MCR) and St Anne's College.



Meet your MCR Committee

Your MCR Committee runs the daily and termly affairs of the MCR 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: **Ryan Gidda** is a fourth-year graduate entry medical student. He enjoys producing music, running and sitting in his favourite coffee spots around Oxford. You can find him playing at a pub or college music night with his band.

Vice-President: **Katja Michlbauer** is a second-year economics MPhil student studying lying and altruistic decision-making.

She loves rowing, going to the gym, and long walks with friends. Anne's study room has a special place in her heart since she practically lived there in her first year.



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

Secretary: **Yayun Chen** is a second-year MPhil student in Economics. If you want to catch her, the chances are she's in Iffley or Cowley doing her volleyball trainings. Otherwise, you could always try to stop her on the road when she's cycling across Oxford for concerts.



Social Secretary: **Jess Ramalhete** is an associate MCR member. With an MBA from Said Business School, she is eager to put her operational skills to work on behalf of Stanners. She's super friendly!

Social Secretary: **James S** graduated from St Anne's in 2020 and couldn't bear saying goodbye to Anne's so he became an associate MCR member. James likes to climb. James likes to play chess. James likes to run. James likes to skate. James likes to Super Smash Bros. Melee.



Social Secretary: **Angela Zha** is a second-year MPhil student in Economics. She enjoys drawing, reading, novels and dancing. Despite coming from the very warm continent of Australia, she loves the very icy sport of figure skating!

Women's Officer: **Laura Smith** is a third-year DPhil student in History. As a neurodiverse woman, she loves animal interactions, is a proud dog mum, and has daily video calls with her fur baby back home.



Welfare Officer and Peer Supporter: **Riddhi Jain Pitliya** is a fourth-year DPhil student in Experimental Psychology, studying Computational Psychopathology. You can find her running, doing yoga, climbing, or walking around Port Meadow in search of horses.

Academic Affairs Officer: **Dragos Gorduza** is a third-year PhD student in Engineering at the Oxford Man Institute of Quantitative Finance. He loves meeting new people over a cup of coffee and discussing esoteric subjects over a glass of wine. In his time off he caricaturally codes, reads sci-fi and paints miniatures.



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

Oxford Student Union Rep: Vedang Narain is a third-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, small-bore rifle, and music.



International Students Rep: Jianou Jiang is a second-year DPhil student in Engineering Science. He enjoys playing badminton and punting. He believes Oxford has a better bridge of sighs than Cambridge.

EPH Rep and Welfare Officer: Laura Lain Rodriguez is a second-year DPhil student in materials. Outside of her DPhil she likes latin dancing, playing musical instruments and beating other students at foosball in the MCR (when she's not losing!).



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.

Due to our committee having a high proportion of 1-year Master's students last year who finished their time at Anne's this summer, we now excitingly have a number of interim positions available from the start of term until the elections in December. This could be a great way for you to trial a role before committing fully at the December elections! The current interim vacancies are:

- (1) x1 Social Secretary
- (2) x2 Welfare Officers
- (3) x1 Equalities Officer
- (4) x1 Academic Affairs Officer
- (5) x1 RSH Representative (if you will be living in RSH)

If you are interested in joining the MCR committee in any of these interim roles, please reach out to Ryan or any one of the current committee members about getting involved! See the next page for information about what each position entails.

About the Positions

President: manages the MCR committee, represents the MCR on College committees; leads MCR meetings; and coordinates Freshers' Week.

Vice-President: assists the President; is acting-President in the absence of the President; and is in charge of the MCR Constitution.

Treasurer: keeps the MCR accounts; writes a termly budget for MCR expenses; and works with the College Treasurer.

Secretary: convenes MCR meetings and publishes the MCR newsletter.

Social Secretaries: organise social functions in the MCR and maintain the MCR social media pages.

Academic Affairs Officers: facilitate MCR academic events; support the St Anne's Academic Review; and head the MCR travel grants committee.

Welfare Officers: available to graduate students for signposting and consultation on their emotional and physical well-being.

Environment Officer: designs and implements sustainability efforts for the MCR and College.

IT Officer: maintains the MCR website and mailing lists.

International Students Officer: coordinates events geared towards

international students in the MCR.

Sports Representative: organises sports events for MCR members and helps oversee the College gym.

Equality Officer: ensures that all students are treated equally by the College and MCR regardless of their background.

Women's Officer: offers consultation on sexual health, harassment prevention, and night safety as needed.

LGBTQ+ Representative: fosters an inclusive environment in the MCR for LGBTQ+ students.

Ethnic Minorities Representative: ensures an inclusive environment for ethnic minorities in the MCR.

Disabilities Officer: works to create a disability-friendly environment in College and the MCR.

OUSU Representative: attends Student Council and votes in accordance with MCR policy.

RSH Representative: represents residents of RSH at Domestic and Estates Committee meetings.

EPH Representative: represents residents of EPH during discussions of the operation of MCR facilities and helps maintain EPH living spaces.

Welcome Message from your Graduate President

Dearest Stanners (a term we use to address members of St Anne's College),



On behalf of the Middle Common Room (MCR) Committee, I warmly welcome you to the St Anne's College MCR. The MCR comprises all of St Anne's postgraduate students, and will act as your second family whilst in Oxford. The aim is for your MCR to be a place of support, community and friendship. All whilst helping you to create memories as a graduate student at Oxford that will last for a lifetime!

I was born and raised in the Midlands, studied my undergraduate in Natural Sciences at 'the other place' and finally came to Oxford in 2020 to start my Graduate-Entry medical degree. The first few terms I was here were filled with pandemic-related restrictions and lockdowns, during which St Anne's and the MCR offered an unforgettable amount of support. St Anne's was one of the few colleges that still allowed its students to use college facilities, abiding by government-recommended restrictions. One of the best decisions I made in my first year was to join the MCR as a social secretary. I met some amazing people (now some of my closest friends) and we worked alongside college staff to safely host some of Oxford's first in-person and hybrid events to ensure freshers would be welcomed and enjoy college life as much as possible. This provided the freshers with opportunities to meet new people and engage with our MCR community in an otherwise difficult time to do so.

In the MCR, you will meet people from all over the world, with different backgrounds. You will be impressed by just how smart, passionate, and kind people around you are. The open and friendly atmosphere in the MCR fosters long-lasting friendships. Being in Oxford, you will recognise that people work hard and play hard, and this work-life balance is possible due to the level of support around you at St Anne's. The MCR committee organises social, welfare, and academic events. The MCR committee has a good relationship with senior college officers, who are always supportive whether you are facing problems related to your accommodation, finances, academics, or personal life. Uniquely, we have some MCR committee positions that are open at the start of this academic year due to the previous officers being 1-year masters students who finished their studies over summer. If you have any preliminary interest to get

involved as an interim committee member in these roles during Michaelmas Term, please feel free to reach out!

Things may get overwhelming in Oxford, and you may not know how to begin. This is why we, the MCR committee, have put together this MCR Handbook, to 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 college staff with any questions that may arise.

This is going to be one of the best times of your life. With Oxford being one of the best universities in the world, the knowledge you gain here will equip you to flourish in your life, the friends you make here will be with you through the inevitable ups and downs of your future, and your experience here will be unforgettable. I hope you enjoy Oxford to the fullest extent possible! The MCR committee is looking forward to meeting you this term!

Warm regards,

Ryan Gidda

MCR President

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 doing 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 EM Rep, LGBTQ+ Rep, Women's Rep, Equalities Rep, 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 currently have vacancies in the equalities team and hope to be recruiting for the full time positions in the December MCR elections. Together we can continue to make St Anne's a home where all students feel welcomed.

Freshers' Week Schedule



St Anne's College
Middle Common Room (MCR; postgraduates)

FRESHER'S WEEK!



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1ST: Your first opportunity to **MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURS** and other freshers... come to the MCR at 6pm for **WINE AND CHEESE!**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2ND: Booze optional **PUB QUIZ** at Common Ground cafe at 8pm, just a stone's throw from college campus.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3RD: Come have tea and biscuits with us at 3pm in the MCR! Followed by an **ACTIVITY** in the evening at 6pm.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4TH: Get competitive or collaborative at our **ROTATING BOARD GAMES NIGHT** in the MCR at 8pm.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5TH: Join us for the **ST ANNE'S FRESHERS BAR CRAWL** starting at the St Anne's Bar at 8pm. Stay for as many Jericho and local historic pubs as you like - some local college bars may even feature on the menu!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6TH: A sensible **MOVIE NIGHT** begins at 8pm in the MCR to round out your freshers week. Snacks and soft drinks will be provided.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7TH: We wrap up the week with the first **BOP** of the year: The Barbenheimer-renaissance-era-little-mermaid BOP of all time! Put on your dancing fins and brightest pink outfits for a summer pop culture extravaganza! MCR at 8pm..

ALL WEEK: We will have **COLLEGE TOURS** hosted by some Stanners every day. Details will be provided soon. You can also go **PUNTING** – form a group of 6 people and sign up using the QR code. We recommend you bring Pimms to follow tradition.



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11TH: We will host the **SECOND DESSERTS / AFTER PARTY** after the **FRESHERS' FORMAL DINNER** in the MCR. We will serve port and a cheese platter. Head to the **COLLEGE BAR** in between the formal and MCR to give us time to set up!

This schedule is subject to change. To keep yourself updated, please join the WhatsApp and Facebook groups.

Any queries? Email committee@st-annes-mcr.org.uk

What to do upon Arriving in Oxford?

1. **Pick up your Bod Cards** from the Academic Office at the main College site.
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.
3. **Introduce yourself to your flatmates.** Arrange a time for a communal meal so that you can get to know one another.
4. **Check out the MCR Freshers’ Week timetable** on the page before, or 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 about the registration process will be sent by College
7. **Visit the Freshers’ Fair**—a great opportunity to meet all the student clubs and societies. This year, the Fair will take place at the Examination Schools on the 4th and 5th of October as well as online beyond these dates <https://www.oxfordsu.org/freshers/>.
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.
9. **Add yourself to the group chats** to keep yourself updated (see next page).

Stay Connected: Join our Group Chats

The mailing list will be the official method of communication from the MCR committee. The group chats are set up for more informal communication, where the committee will advertise and send updates about events taking place in College and Oxford, and people can ask random questions to the general MCR.

- ❖ **Mailing list:** The MCR runs a mailing list separate from the one that the College uses. We send out details about social, academic, sports, and welfare events and support from MCR Committee members. If we already have your St Anne's email address, you will automatically be subscribed. If you aren't receiving emails, you could use the following steps to sign yourself up to the mailing list:
 - Send an e-mail to 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 (recommended):**
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/K9GlKVnj6hW1wVTmTBLrtz>
- ❖ **MCR Events WhatsApp group** (only receive messages related to events - i.e., only committee members can send messages here):
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/GRmsCgeByfD7X9krSsyYEEY>
- ❖ **MCR Facebook group:**
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/5062433175>
- ❖ **MCR website:** <https://st-annes-mcr.org.uk>
- ❖ There are usually separate group chats created for those who live in EPH and RSH, so keep an eye out for those!

Around and About St Anne's College

St Anne's is a beautiful, 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
- 🚒 - Fire Assembly Point
- ♻️ - Recycling Point
- 🚬 - Smoking Area



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

The Things You Will Need at St Anne's

1. **Your Bod Card.** 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. This will allow you to make purchases in the Dining Hall, STACS, and the College Bar. Remember to top up online (<https://www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/current-students/dining/>) - 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.
2. **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**, 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 Study 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, who are reachable via 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.

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 Bod Card 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, and formal hall dinner.

The bar has a jukebox filled with 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. Upon request, the MCR can host

open mic events, improv comedy nights, jam sessions, and karaoke.



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, offers 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 and Sunday roasts at weekends. You can only pay for your meals using your Bod card, which you top-up online (meals.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/meals/Main.aspx).



Dining in College

For each meal, there is usually a choice of a main and up to three side dishes, including excellent vegetarian and vegan options. Each main course costs £2.70 and £0.90 per side; soups, salads, and sandwiches are also available. Any special dietary requirements or allergies can be specified online via meals.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/meals/Main.aspx or by asking any of the catering staff in person or via catering@st-annes.ox.ac.uk.

Meals + Times

During term time (Week 0-9), 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

meals.stannes.ox.ac.uk/meals/Main.aspx (specify dietary requirements when booking). It costs £15.00 for dinner or £18.00 for dinner with wine. It is usually a 3-course dinner. You may purchase up to three guest tickets per formal hall. Don't forget to bring your bodcard with you.

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 dinners 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 the "high table." Tickets can be purchased online via



Exchange Dinners

Each term the MCR organises exchange dinners where we invite another college's 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. 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. Demand for these exchange dinners is high!

MCR Dinners

These dinners are a luxurious affair. About 25 students gather to dine in the Upper Common Room (UCR) with tickets costing £23.00. 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.



Christmas Murder Mystery

Other Special Dinners

Each term, we host a **Murder Mystery Dinner**, which involves 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.

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 the only dinner at St Anne's that requires wearing your gown! Last year, we had the current and first female chief executive of the NHS, Amanda Pritchard as a special guest at the Founders' Dinner.



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.



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.



Afternoon Teas in EPH, where one can relax, catch up, and, of course, have some tea!

MCR Parties in the common room of either EPH or RSH, when everyone gets together for drinks, music, and a good time!

Movie Nights, always followed by in-depth thoughts and discussions.

Murder Mystery Dinners trying to find out who's the murderer over a three-course formal dinner.



Artsy Nights where we paint pottery or canvases

Exchange Dinners with other MCRs: a great 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.



Welfare Team

All information about who you can talk to and where you can go to seek welfare support can be found here: st-annes.ox.ac.uk/current-students/welfare-access/



Meet Your MCR Welfare Team!

Riddhi Jain Pitliya, Lise Cazzoli and Laura Lain Rodriguez are your **MCR Welfare Officers**. They're here to help you with any problems or questions that you may have. They also organise welfare-focused events ranging from weekly welfare teas to yoga and movie nights.

Peer Supporters are MCR students who have been professionally trained to be your first point of contact for any problems. The peer supporter available to you is **Riddhi Jain Pitliya**. Peer supporters provide a confidential listening and support service. Peer Supporters are trained by the Oxford University Counselling Services and are part of a university-wide network.



WELFARE OFFICERS



PEER SUPPORTER

All matters discussed with her are strictly confidential.

Mrs Rachel Busby is the current Dean for Welfare. She is here to help you with all nonacademic welfare issues, and is 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.

The College Nurse, Julie Osborne (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.

Your College Welfare Team

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.

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, Prof. Freya Johnston**, 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.

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. Emailing is best, as they will send you a questionnaire first (counselling@admin.ox.ac.uk; 01865 270300; 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 (01865 270270; oxfordnightline.org/). The Samaritans

(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/; 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:

stannes-mcr.org.uk/support/welfare/

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.

1. We host **Tipsy Show & Tell**, where MCR students get together and share their past and current research or hobbies. This is a very informal event, where the presentations are fun whilst being informative. We have had students share fun facts about wildlife photography, financial systems, Japanese shrines, amongst other topics. A student even made an argument for how dogs can see dark matter!



2. We host **Academix**, which is an inter-collegiate event where students share their past and current research in a slightly more formal setting than the event described above.



3. Bring your work to the **Shut Up and Write** sessions, where we have a co-working session with fueling food, drinks and cheerleading!
4. **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. It has been featured in the Bodleian Library Catalogue! Contact our editor Brittany Hause (staar@st-annes-mcr.org.uk) if you want to submit a paper. A copy of

the latest STAAR edition can be found in the MCR in EPH.

5. **The college libraries.** 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 postgraduate students.



6. **Meet your College Adviser:** you will be assigned an adviser from among the College fellows when you arrive in Oxford. Advisers can be a great resource for career or extra-departmental advice.
7. **Get in touch with your MCR mentors,** who have an informed perspective on what it's like to be a postgrad in Oxford. They know both sides, the St Anne's and the departmental point of view. You can approach them informally and confidentially.

8. **Talk to your MCR Academic Affairs Officer Dragos Gorduza.** 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.



Sports and Fitness



St Anne's College has **Fitness Rooms** in Trenaman House (58 Woodstock, near STACS), which are, in normal circumstances, open from 08:00 until 22.00 daily. To use the Fitness Rooms you must first be inducted by a qualified member of the college, and you will be charged £24 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** to start rowing. Contact the **rowing club treasurer, Katja Michlbauer**, or **secretary, Camila Ramos**, with any queries.

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). 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).

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

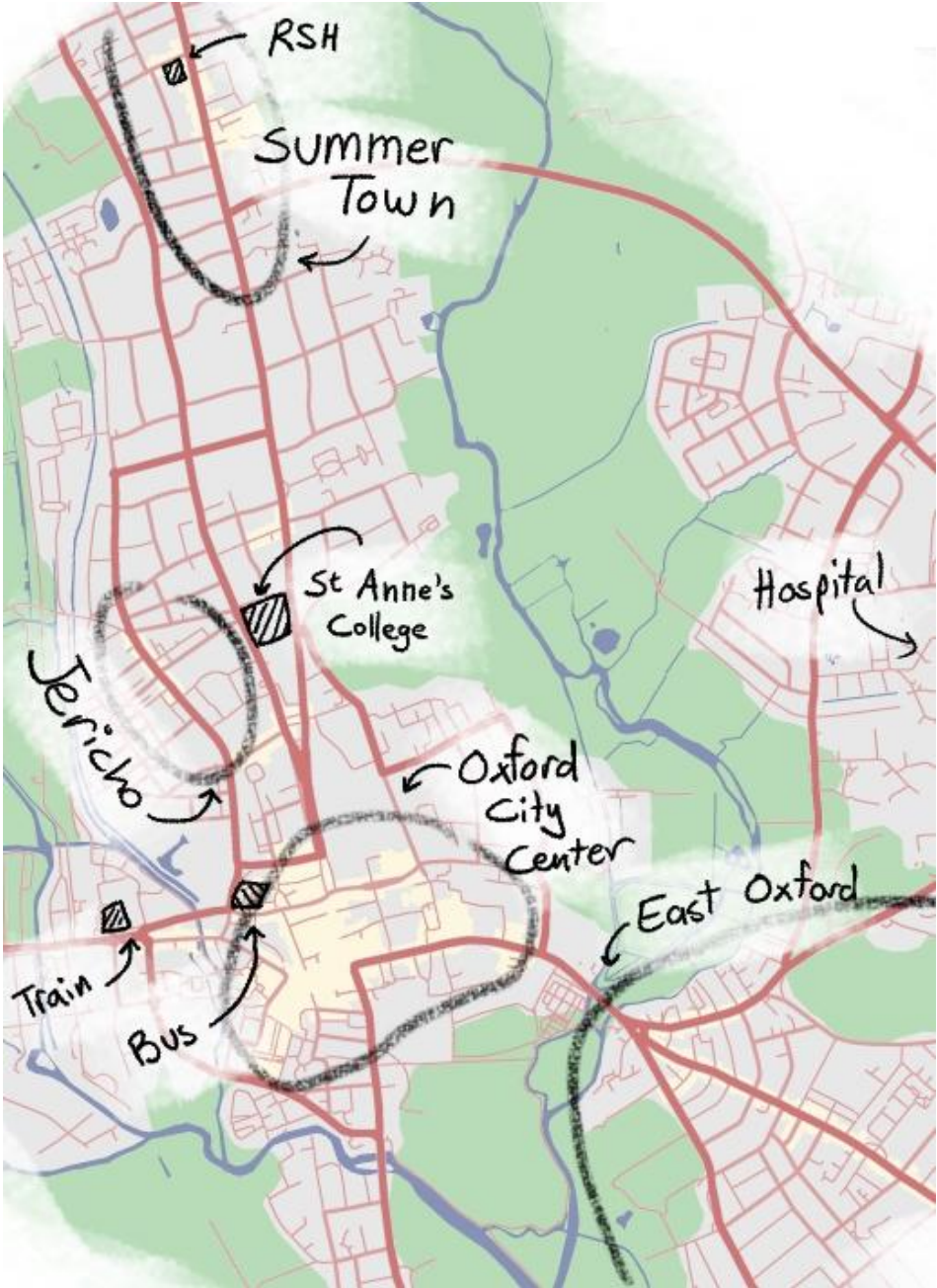
Rowing: **St Anne's Boat Club** attracts many students of both the JCR and MCR, for most of whom this is their first time rowing.

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/

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) 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.

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

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.

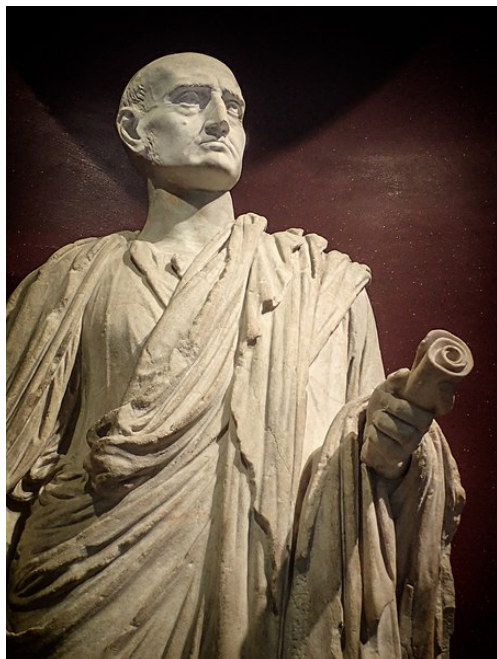
Adjacent to the Museum of Natural History and accessible through an archway at its far end, the **Pitt Rivers Museum** is a perfect

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 unrivalled 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

artefacts, 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

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 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) 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 UKs 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.

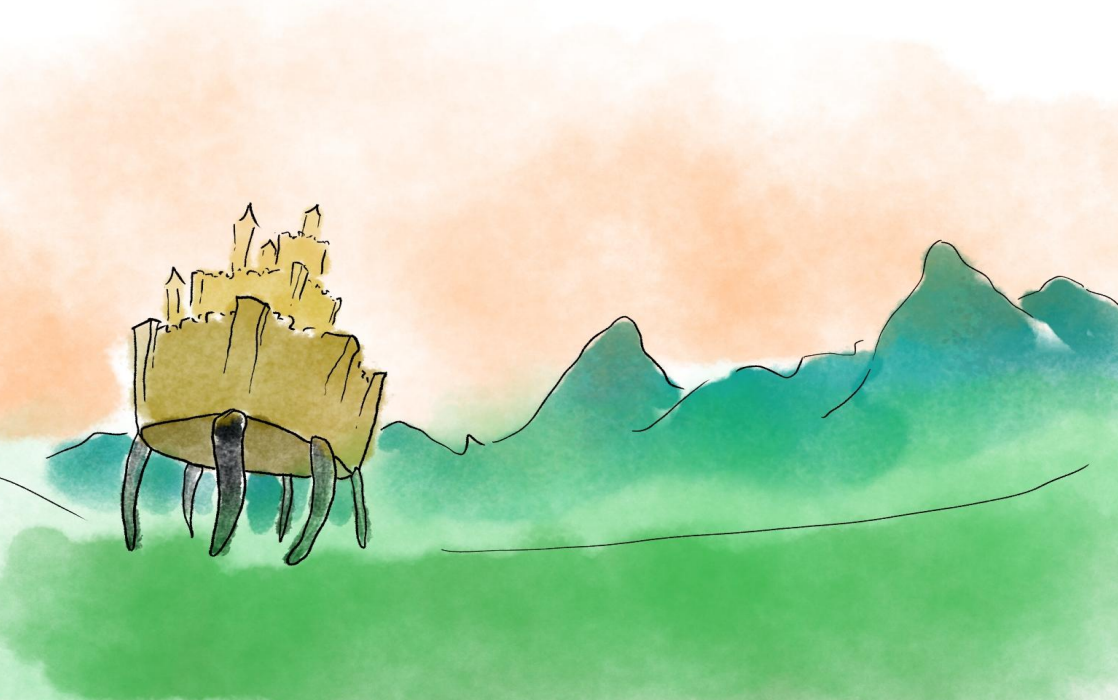
The writing group **The Inklings**, of which the most famous members were **JRR Tolkien** (*The Hobbit*, *The Lord of the Rings*) and **C.S. Lewis** (*The Chronicles of Narnia*), met every week at the Eagle and Child pub on St Giles. Tolkien and Lewis were both lecturers at the English Faculty.

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 Centre**, 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. **Opera Cafe** has great wraps and cakes. 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.

The **Royal Oak**, located two minutes away on Woodstock Road, is

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. It's a local brand opened by two postgrads!

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

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 and a **Sainsbury's** 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 **Hong 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 Oxford 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 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. 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.



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