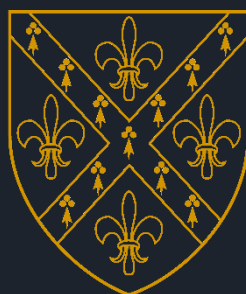
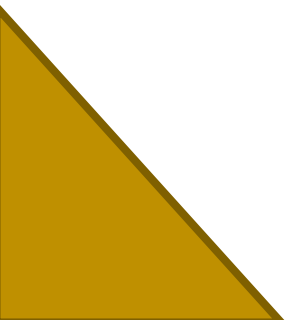
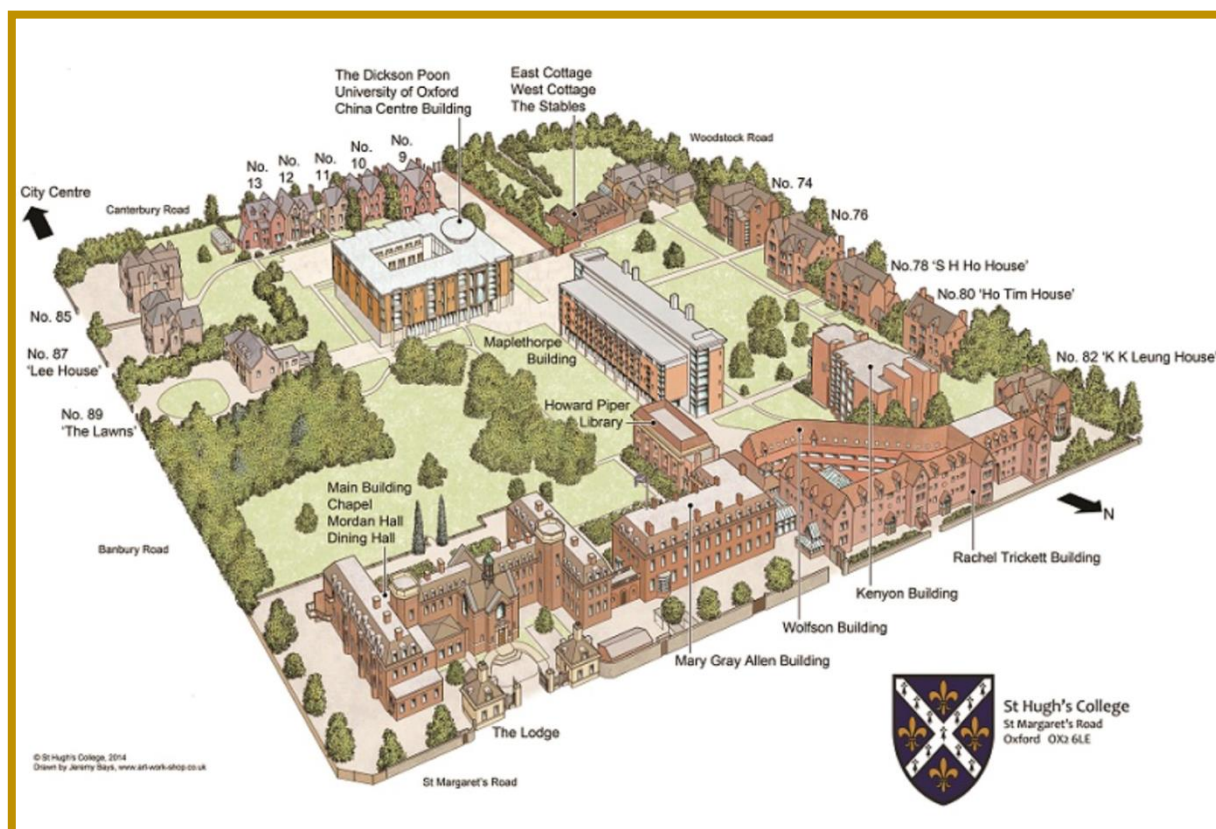


St Hugh's College
Freshers' Guide
2020





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Editors' Welcome

As the title suggests, this article is here to welcome you to St Hugh's in general, and (more importantly) to the freshers' guide! So, welcome! Congratulations on getting into Oxford, and (again more importantly) St Hugh's!

After many years, months, or, depending on how prepared you were, hours of hard work to get here, we want to stress that this guide is not part of your reading list. It's here simply to help you out; to give an insightful and hopefully enjoyable summary of Hugh's from one set of students to another. As your future college parents, we want to make sure you are as happy and comfortable in your transition to university life as possible – so keep this guide close and you won't go far wrong.

This guide is structured as a tour, where you move from one part of Hugh's to another – and with fourteen and a half acres of land there's plenty to see. So, what better way to end this article than with a disgusting cliché: sit back, relax, and enjoy the ride.

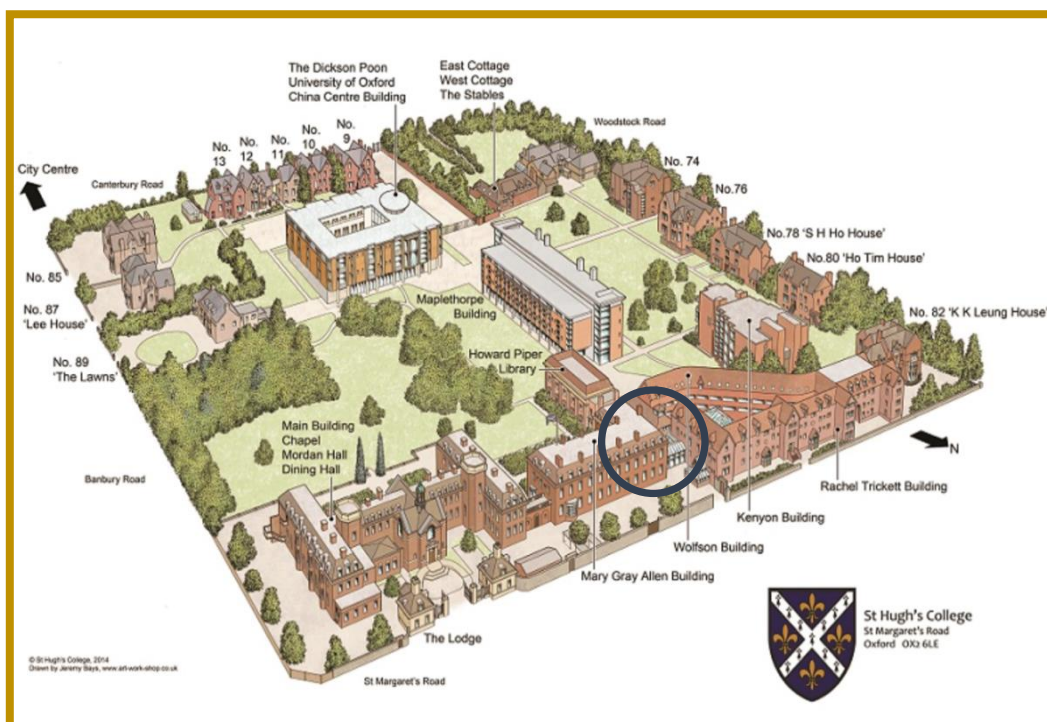
Also, fair warning: each article is by a student who may be a little bit biased on their topic - so if you're finding it all too sugary sweet, remember there will always be someone who hates bikes and isn't a member of SHFC (hint, it's Martha).

Martha Wilson (she/her), 2nd Year English; Sasha Mills (she/her), 2nd Year English; Issy Collins (she/her), 2nd Year German





Junior Common Room



JCR President

Congratulations on getting into St Hugh's!

I'm Gerry, your JCR President for 2020. I'm studying PPE and am from just outside Glasgow in Scotland.

When I'm not busy reinforcing the stereotype that PPEists are all wannabe politicians, you'll find me bench warming for St Hugh's FC or pretending to work in the library.



The purpose of the JCR is to represent the interests of the undergraduates at St Hugh's. This hopefully creates a more rewarding university experience. As President, my job is to help the committee realise their projects and maintain a good working relationship with College. If you ever have any questions or ideas, you can get in touch with me or any other member of the JCR Committee and we'll do our best to help.

You'll receive an email from me every Sunday during term (lucky you!) where I let you know what's going on around College and in Oxford more generally. The standard of the humour in the email is incredibly low, but the information tends to be really useful so it's worth resisting the urge to delete them as soon as they arrive.

I also chair weekly meetings of the JCR committee, where we discuss the issues facing our common room and report on the various initiatives that each representative is working on. This helps us prepare for the fortnightly JCR meetings, which you guys can attend.

We have a great group of students here, and I'm sure you will enjoy life at Hugh's. I look forward to representing all of you!

Gerard O'Hanlon (he/him), 3rd Year PPE

Vice President



Hi, I'm Ruby, an Historian, co-captain of the Women's Football Team and the JCR Vice-President for 2020.

My job is basically to sort food and accommodation. You'll receive far too many emails from me about Formal menus, and when it comes to the room ballot (deciding where you live in second year) the Vice-President is there to help out and organise it.



If you ever have any issues with your room, you can fill out a maintenance request form on the Hugh's website (very easy and College are always quick to respond). Or you can message me, and we can work with College to find a solution.

I hope you're excited to start at Hugh's; I promise you're going to love it! If you have any questions/concerns just send me a message or find me in the library. I'm always happy to help xo.

Ruby Potts (she/her), 3rd Year History

Charities & Communities

Hey, I'm Tom, a Human Scientist from Bath. As Charities and Communities rep, my job is to help anyone in College who is looking to organise any fundraising events, as well as raising awareness for opportunities that exist within college and around Oxford. Over the course of this year I hope to raise money for some great causes through a range of fundraising initiatives. These include selling college stash and organising the termly charity formal. Charity elections run once a term, and these are used to decide which charities we will support for the term and year. It's a great way to have a positive impact on something you're passionate about!



Tom Parsons (he/him), 3rd Year Human Sciences

Treasurer



Hey! I'm Richard, the current Treasurer of the St Hugh's JCR. As Treasurer, my job is to create and manage termly budgets, execute all JCR-related payments and facilitate everything from amalgamated funding to blues funds to travel grants. I also play an active role in rent negotiations with College. Feel free to reach out to me if you have questions regarding any of the above!

Richard Schutte (he/him), 3rd Year E&M

Sports & Societies



Hello, I'm Peter, a Human Scientist and your Sports and Socs Rep. My role in the JCR committee is first and foremost to make sure all the current student societies run smoothly. I help the treasurer in allocating amalgamated funding and organise our annual varsity sports day with our sister college in Cambridge. Furthermore, I am there to help if anyone wants to start a new society, and in Trinity Term I sort punting sign up slips so that everyone can enjoy the punts we hire as a college.



Peter Tompkins (he/him), 3rd Year Human Sciences

Environment & Ethics

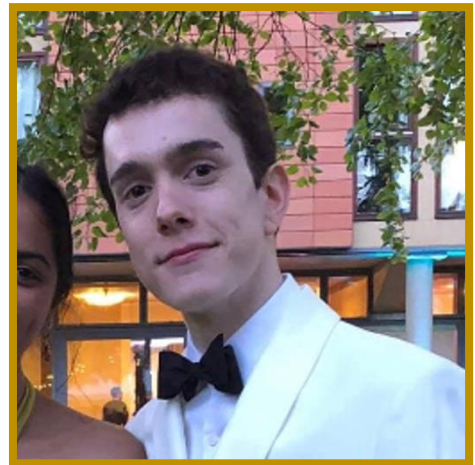


Hi, congrats on getting into Oxford! My name is Laetitia, I'm a 3rd year Biochemist and I'm your Environment and Ethics (EnE) rep. If you have any environment-related issues or have any ideas on how you want to make college more eco-friendly, I'm your first point of contact! Currently, I'm working with College to get food waste bins, to stop investing in fossil fuels as well as setting up a society for all things to do with the environment and organising a garden party. Anyone can get involved with EnE, drop me a message on Facebook if you have any questions!

Laetita Devarwin (she/her), 3rd Year
Biochemistry

LGBTQ+

Hey, I'm Max, your LGBTQ+ Rep! My role is to support the welfare of LGBTQ+ members of the JCR and to promote awareness of LGBTQ+ issues in College. I regularly organise a wide range of events, from socials to film nights! I'll also be attending uni-wide events such as the weekly Tuesday drinks by LGBTQoSoc, which are a great way to meet people in the wider uni community! Feel free to tag along with me xx



Max Gregory (he/him), 3rd Year Biochemistry

International



Hi, I'm Raluca, your International Rep! My role is to support the welfare of International Students and solve any issues regarding storage facilities or other problems which affect specifically overseas members of the JCR. I regularly organise events for different holidays (e.g. Lunar New Year), as well as events celebrating the multitude of cultures at Hugh's (e.g. international welfare tea).

Raluca Sbirnea (she/her), 3rd Year Law

Access



Hi, I'm Asha, a PPEist and the Access Officer for 2020! My role is to encourage those from less 'traditional' Oxford backgrounds to consider applying, to ensure people feel comfortable once they arrive and to help with any access questions people have. This involves organising tours for groups of students from state schools to give them an insight into what studying at Oxford is really like, encouraging JCR members to get involved in uni-wide access schemes, and pushing for College to hold more access events to make Hugh's more accessible in general. Feel free to send me a message or chat to me if you see me in College about anything at all!



Asha Turner (she/her), 3rd Year PPE

Entz



We're James and Klaudia and we're the entz™ reps for St Hugh's. This means that we're in charge of putting on fun and relaxing events for everyone to enjoy throughout term. These have included a pub quiz, karaoke night, and jazz night, as well as bops.

Bops have all of the benefits of a club night without the 20-minute walk and compulsory Soloman's*. Commitment to the costume theme as well as the sesh will be rewarded. If you have any questions, drop a message to the St Hugh's Entz page on Facebook!

* Other kebab vans are available

James Jackson Jessel (he/him), 3rd Year History; Klaudia Zaporowka (she/her), 3rd Year PPE

Welfare

Hey, we're your 2020 Welfare Reps; Aaron, Jess, and Alice. We run the welfare events throughout the term, send out welfare supplies, and hopefully just act as people you can come to with any welfare related issues! We hold welfare teas several times a term on Sundays after bops (free food!!), and the 5th week of term is always a designated 'welfare week' to stave off the dreaded '5th week blues', where we hold lots of very wholesome events (again, free food!). We also have mysterious links to the college Cookie Fairy, who you can message with requests for cookies for your friends! Can't wait to meet you all in October!



Alice Gadsby (she/her), 2nd Year Classics; Jess Curry (she/her), 3rd Year Classics; Aaron Jones (he/him), 3rd Year Chemistry

Secretary

Hey guys, I'm Rebeka - a law student from London. I am the Secretary on the JCR Committee. Essentially, my work revolves around JCR democracy and administration. In meetings, I ensure that there is compliance with the JCR Constitution, whilst compiling the relevant motions into an Agenda every couple of weeks. As part of my role, I also run the Travel Grants process and attend Oxford SU Council meetings with JCR Committee members from other colleges too. I hope you will all find the JCR inclusive and welcoming. Congratulations on receiving your offer! St Hugh's is a great place and I am looking forward to meeting you all soon.



Rebeka Shipkolye (she/her), 3rd Year Law

Careers & Academic Affairs



Hi, I'm Connor, a History student from Norwich, and the JCR Careers and Academic Officer. My role is to represent the JCR in the Academic and Library Committees; this means I ensure any changes in academic proceedings at St Hugh's are always in your best interests. I also organise careers-oriented events to help Hughsies think about life after university. Otherwise, if you have any suggestions as to what you would find useful for me to do, or have any specific queries at all, please do not hesitate to get in touch!



Connor Wright (he/him), 3rd Year History

Dodo



Hi, I'm Alex, the St Hugh's Director of Digital Operations (DoDO). My roles include looking after the JCR PS4 and Wii, ensuring we have all up to date games and working controllers, as well as helping to organise any events that rely on using our TV or projector. I am also known for posting menu reviews of the food in hall to our JCR Facebook page for people to peruse.

Alex Goldie (he/him), 3rd Year Engineering

Freshers

Hi! I am Zaynab, a law student and your Freshers' Rep! There are only three things you need to know about me: I am from Glasgow (hence considered 'semi-international'), am extremely short (yep, 4' 10") and do not stop talking (rumour has it I even sleep talk!). As the FREP my two main tasks are welcoming the freshers and organising the 2020 Freshers' Week. I am so excited to meet all of you and you should be super excited to meet me – I mean, come to Oxford. Studying at Oxford is one of the most wonderful experiences I have had, and I can't wait for you to enjoy it as much as I do! On the rare occasion when you are feeling down however, there is plenty of support in College and I will always be around for a wee chat!



Zaynab Sarguroh (she/her), 2nd Year Law

Bar Officer



Hi! My name's Molly. I'm a PPE student and the JCR Bar Rep! This is a new role created to help make the bar a better space for you and your events. Over the next year, I will work with College and Entz to make the bar an even more comfortable space, host a wider range of activities and events in the bar and work to make the bar more sustainable and functional.

Molly Mantle (she/her), 2nd Year PPE

JCR Meetings



JCR meetings are the underrated gem of college culture. What better way to spend a Sunday evening (when there's nothing on but the final gruelling Fever club night of the week anyway) than discussing and voting on the issues that impact college with your fellow Hughsies? Come along and you too could be at the forefront of absolutely critical decisions like whether the JCR is in dire need of a new Settlers of Catan board game or whether a Taylor Swift movie night really needs a £50 drinks budget. If you're lucky you might even get to witness a few Parliament-worthy fights as members of the JCR battle it out to get their proposals for the College passed.

You can also propose motions of your own! This can feel a bit intimidating at first, but I promise that everyone will listen to your ideas respectfully, and if they do grill you a little it's only because they care about the College as much as you do.

Finally, and most importantly, these meetings are always stocked with FREE Domino's pizza (this point is even more significant because hall is closed for dinner on the weekends, and I don't know about you but wiping the remnants of flatmates' meals off the surfaces in a kitchen that hasn't been cleaned for two days doesn't sound appetising to me). So, grab a few slices and enjoy college democracy at its finest!



Cora Wilson (she/her),
2nd Year History

College Families

In your Welcome Pack from College you will have received a letter from your new 'college parents'. This is one, two, or more people doing your subject in the year above you.

It's super helpful having this connection to someone studying your subject who's just gone through the first-year course – they can help you out if you



have any questions or worries, either specifically about a problem sheet/essay or more generally about life at Oxford/Hugh's. They can be a lifeline if you're having an essay/problem sheet crisis (chances are we'll be having a crisis of our own ((but maybe not - if we're in the library at 2am that may be a personal choice rather than poor time management))). You can message us on Facebook or speak to us if you bump into us around College; being a college parent is completely voluntary so as parents we'll always be happy to help!

If you fancy, you can message us before you come up by finding us on Facebook (your parents might have given you their usernames in their letter). We might have some hot tips on what to do before you come up, what (not) to bring, or might be able to help if you're struggling with your pre-reading/work. We will be very excited to hear from you, and we don't have your details so we can't message first – please get in touch!

In Freshers' week you will have a chance to meet your parents – they'll get in touch with you to arrange a time and a place – you might get a few free drinks out of them if you're lucky. Completing your college family, you will also have college grandparents in 3rd year (and potentially great-grandparents), but you have less to do with them.

College families: Weird? Yes. Cute? Often. Helpful? Very.

Joe Young (he/him), 2nd Year
Chemistry

Societies



Societies range from college to uni-wide, from arts to sports to politics to quidditch. There are over 150 officially listed societies in Oxford, and because this range is so large it is impossible (let alone printing-budget friendly) to give an exhaustive list in the guide. However, here follows a selection of honourable mentions and descriptions from members. A full list of societies can be found online, and the freshers' fair in 0th week will overload you with options if this list seems lacking!

Beyond this, any student can set up their own society, whether they want that to be within College or further afield. As a personal plea, I must add there seems to be a distinct lack of karaoke society.

Ultimate Frisbee



Can you hold a frisbee? Subsequently throw that frisbee in something approaching a straight line? Move in 2 of 3 dimensions (3 of 3 a bonus)? Then if anything you're overqualified for ultimate frisbee. Ultimate frisbee is super chill and a great way to get some exercise without noticing you're exercising (the dream), meet people in your own and other years, and have a lot of fun. We have a match

every Sunday morning in Uni Parks, but it's pretty low commitment, you can dip in and out as you like (but we'd love to have new full-time team members!). Currently there's no training, but we could run optional sessions this year if people fancy – perhaps one day we could bring some tactics to a Hugh's ultimate frisbee match. We can dream. Ultimate frisbee is what you make of it – if you throw yourself around and really go for it, you'll have a great time – come to our taster session in fresher's week and try it out! (And email joseph.young@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk if you have any questions).

Joe Young (he/him), 2nd
Year Chemistry

Athletics

The athletics club is uni-wide rather than in College. There are different groups for different disciplines. If you run middle-distance then training is in Iffley three times a week. Sprints are similar but jumps are more frequent. All of the information for specific disciplines will be at the Freshers' Fair and on Facebook. You can come to as many or as few sessions as you like, depending on if you are looking for a bit of fitness or to represent the Blues at uni comps. Freshers' Varsity is first term then the Indoor Uni Varsity is in Hilary, and the Outdoor is Trinity. Obviously, the saying 'athletics for aesthetics' is pretty well known, and the sport does make you incredibly fit. But, of course, the main thing is enjoying your sport and getting better at it in the meantime – so, if this sounds like something you would be interested in, give athletics a go.



Nancie Bowley (she/her), 2nd Year Biology

Hockey



Playing hockey at Hugh's is great - and anyone is welcome, whether you have played before or not! We play matches on Sunday mornings against a variety of other colleges, and it's usually fairly casual and a lot of fun. There are college sticks and shin pads, although if you do have your own kit that's great. The team is from a range of years, and it is a lovely way to meet other freshers. Hockey is perfect to get some exercise into your week and relax before a wonderful brunch.

Kate Jameson (she/her),
2nd Year Classics



SHFC Women

Womens' football at Hugh's is about to become your greatest love, whether you're a semi-pro or someone who's never kicked a ball in their life. The SHFC girls are a hilarious and committed bunch (except when it rains) and we can always be relied on to liven up a crewdate. Football is a great way to get out of College and blow away all the essay-induced cobwebs every Sunday, and to make friends in other years that you might not otherwise meet. We may have "all the gear and no idea" but this year the Hassan's Cup final is in sight, having made the semis two years on the trot (the boys will tell you this was purely via forfeits but they're just jealous of our success).

If the game itself can't persuade you, come along for the beautiful kit, strong stash game and hugely subsidised tours to Budapest. No skill or experience needed – just bring yourself, your enthusiasm, all your friends, and we'll provide the shin pads. SHFC is losing some of our best players as well as our top 'own goal' scorer this year, so come along to our taster session in Fresher's week to find out which legacy will be yours!

Insta: @shfc_official

Kezia Taylor (she/her),
2nd Year Biochemistry



SHFC

St Hugh's boasts not only a magnificent 1st XI but also a 2nd team, open to all abilities so there's something for everyone. Don't worry if you haven't played for a while, Jacob Cowland is living proof that you can go from scoring own goals one week to bagging a perfect hattrick the next. If playing isn't your thing feel free to join the hordes of adoring fans as a Hugh's ultra, and a biased lino wouldn't go amiss either.

Both teams have weekly league matches, and as well as playing in the league, Hugh's takes part in the annual Cuppers tournament (intercollege knockout competition), and then Hassan's (think Champions league to the Europa league) when/if we get knocked out. Although last year we exited cuppers under dubious circumstances we have high hopes for a strong cup run this year.

Despite what the professional performances on the pitch may say, we are not all about the football. SHFC is a great way to get to know people across all years at Hugh's and promises cracking socials.

During term-time you can look forward to the usual crewdates (questionable chat included) and visits to the College bar post-match no matter the result.

Please do come along to the taster session, although bear in mind that SHFC is not liable for any injuries sustained in the warmup due to Ollie Jakes' 'enthusiastic' tackling technique.

Patrick Robinson (he/him),
2nd Year Medicine



Netball



St Hugh's Netball Club boasts two teams, both currently second in their respective divisions (2 and 3). Matches are held on Thursdays and Fridays, usually around lunch time - which means a team burger Thursday is always on the cards. They take place at Lady Margaret Hall's playing ground which is a massive perk since LMH is one of the few colleges within a sensible walking distance. You don't need to have any experience to participate in matches - just ask some of the boys - we play mainly for fun, with a competitive edge. We also enter two teams into the Cuppers competition each year, one mixed and one all girls so there are plenty of opportunities to get involved. The social aspect of netball is also a massive perk; with crew dates, team lunches and sports days on offer it is well worth it to join the best team at Hugh's (sorry football).



Sophie Garcia (she/her), 2nd Year Experimental Psychology

Crewdates

A crewdate is when two groups of people (sports teams or otherwise) meet up over a meal and copious amounts of wine. Crewdates are something you cannot fully understand until you've been on one. It is quite a niche social gathering that's specific to Oxford, crewdates involve lots of shouting and sconcing. Here are a couple of features to expect: 1.) sconcing - essentially calling out your mates in front of the whole crewdate for embarrassing stuff they've done. A true test of friendship. 2.) pennies: bring some to chuck in people's drinks - get it in, and they have to down it (ed: by 'it', any beverage you are comfortable drinking is okay, orange juice is always available).

There are many other weird and wonderful things that go down on crewdates, but to know everything, you'll just have to wait and see...

Kitty Blain (she/her), 2nd Year
German & Philosophy

LGBTQ+

Hugh's is renowned for its friendly and welcoming feel, and our LGBTQ+ is no exception. Oxford-wide as well as at Hugh's there is a vibrant and dynamic community with a wide range of events and socials to get involved with. In college the LGBTQ+ reps organise movie nights, drinks and welfare events such as identity painting. We also have inter-college events which is a perfect opportunity to meet other LGBTQ+ students from around the university and make new friends!

On a wider scale there are various uni-wide events organised by the Oxford University LGBTQ+ Society, perhaps the most famous being Tues-gay drinks. Every Tuesday a different college hosts drinks in their college bar which is a perfect opportunity to meet other LGBTQ+ students who you might not otherwise see. There is then the opportunity to go to Plush, our LGBTQ+ centred club, for Skittles night – a student-based club night full of glitter and queer anthems. Plush also holds other events such as CAKE, a queer women*'s and non-binary night. On top of this there is a drag night each term called Haute Mess which showcases Oxford's greatest queens.

The LGBTQ+ society also organises identity specific events such as trans welfare, 'Twelfare', teas, interfaith socials and meet ups for international students. They also run the Rainbow Parenting programme which, like college families, pairs 2nd year LGBTQ+ students with freshers. The Gender Expression Fund also provides financial assistance to those who find a disparity between their gender identity and their appearance.

With so many exciting events and an extensive support network Oxford LGBTQ+ life could not be better!

Marcus Ham (he/him), 2nd Year
German & Arabic





If you are a creative person by nature or wish to surround yourself with creativity and evolve your own art skills, then the communities of OxArt and Oxford Uni Arts Hub are definitely ones which you should consider joining. OxArt runs weekly classes, talks, and interactive seminars on a broad scope of art topics and mediums all throughout each term where anyone from beginner artists to the advanced are more than welcome.

The facebook group Oxford Uni Arts Hub is also a hive of creative energy and callings. Posts range from student newspapers publishing and promoting the works of budding student poets, playwrights, directors, and graphic designers, to some of the most cutting-edge memes of the artistic world. If ever you were looking to get involved with, or get a placement in, media, art, film, or theatre at Oxford then OUAH is where you will hear about it first.

Some of the highlights from first year were a workshop on how to paint with chinese ink; a mini canvas painting session (Bob Ross style); stress relief painting and meditation; a knitting tutorial; and a workshop on how to write a screenplay. One of the best parts of OxArt is that every week the classes are hosted in a different college within the university, which is a great way to explore colleges you may otherwise never have a reason to visit.

The vibe is always fun and welcoming, and materials are always provided so all you ever need to bring is yourself and a sense of enthusiasm.



Madeline Brown (she/her),
2nd Year English

Religious Societies



Hugh's is a diverse community, and this diversity is fully welcomed and embraced by every single member of the College. The College Chapel is part of the Church of England, but no matter what you believe in, you will always be respected and welcomed. The College also has a dedicated Multi-faith Prayer and Quiet Room for anyone who wants a quiet environment for thinking, meditating or praying.

The College Christian Union holds meetings every other Wednesday in College for a Bible Study and there are the OICCU (Oxford Inter-Collegiate Christian Union) central meetings on the other days.

The University has a great extent of religious societies. The Islamic Society is also one of the most active ones, with plenty of events planned every term. The University Jewish Society also runs a whole load



of events! Every term, an inter-faith formal is held where people from different faiths can have some great and friendly conversations and make friends!



These are just some examples of the religious communities in Oxford, but whatever your faith or background is, you will always find someone like you. If you want to find details for the different faiths, belief groups and religious

centres of all denominations, do check out the following link: <https://www.st-hughs.ox.ac.uk/currentstudents/chapel-and-faith/faith-belief-religion/>



Sheppard Li (he/him),
2nd Year Physics



If you want free stuff, Law Soc is the way to go.

There are two Law societies I will write about here: the St Hugh's College Law Society and the Oxford Law Society. For both of these societies, it does not matter which subject you do, all you need is an interest in the law or an interest in pursuing

a legal career path.

Starting with our College one, it's a great way of getting more intimate contact with law firms. This is because you have an opportunity to talk to lawyers in a smaller setting than the university-wide events, so networking is less intimidating. The society will also organise days at law firms where workshops are run. The highlight of my time so far with the College Law Soc is being taken out for a three-course dinner at The Ivy in Oxford courtesy of the company Slaughter and May. With a £5 per year membership fee, it's pretty clear that you're making a profit by joining the College Law Society.

Next, the Oxford Law Society. It is a very active society with a wide range of events happening every week – from cocktail making classes to puppy parties and enriching activities. It also hosts a ball every term, the most recent one being held at Shakespeare's Globe in London. Many events are hosted by corporate law firms, but if this doesn't appeal to you, the Society makes an effort to accommodate for interests beyond the corporate world. With a membership for the duration of your degree costing £45, I can confirm you make this back and more by attending only a few events.

Cara Robinson (she/her),
2nd Year Law

Student Journalism

For any aspiring student journalist, Oxford has a vast variety of opportunities, ranging from magazines to online and printed newspapers. At Oxford there will always be a chance for you to do reporting, writing, reviewing, on essentially any issue. The Isis Magazine, for example, is a wonderful opportunity for people interested in magazines, art, media, and culture. New newspapers, magazines, and journalism opportunities keep popping up in Oxford, such as the recently created Oxford Blue. Yet the real BNOCs (ed: see glossary if you're now lost) of newspapers in Oxford are the Cherwell, and its main rival, The Oxford Student. Both of these are great publications with both printed and online versions, and both have sections on Oxford-related news, comment & politics, identity, food & arts, science & tech, sports etc.

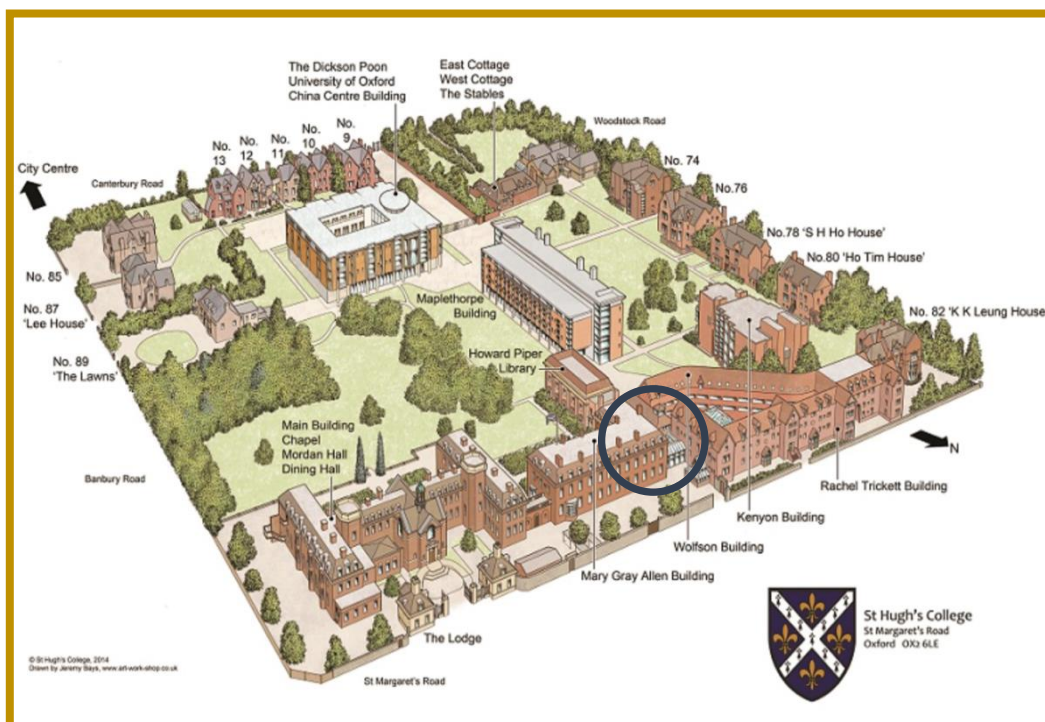
Student Journalism at Oxford can either be done as a contributor, or as part of the editorial teams. To be a contributor all you have to do is join Facebook groups, wait for Content calls with weekly article requests, and then submit your fantastically thorough articles written in the middle of an essay crisis, and in desperate need of procrastination. Otherwise, at the end of each term, applications open for various editorial positions. The editorial team is in charge of editing (surprise!), organising layouts for printing, and deciding what topics to cover in the weekly editions, but they can also participate in the writing of articles. The opportunities for young journalists, especially humanities students with four contact hours a week, are many. Even St Hugh's has its own college newspaper, The Swan, which with its captivating editions will always be great fun.

You'll get so involved you won't be able to get journalism out of your headline!

Antonio Patteri (he/him),
2nd Year History



The Bar



College Bar

With the combination of a moderately heavy workload and the constraints of your student budget on your mind, you may often decide it's way more fun to socialise within college (plus it does not involve the same energy as the long, cold walk to Bridge!). On these evenings, the college bar is the perfect place to be, especially if you fancy some Hughsie TLC. Tucked underneath the JCR, our bar is a great place to meet people, pre for a night out and, of course, is home to some of the best events of each term – from yoga and board games night to karaoke night and the famous Bops.

Over the last year, the bar has been getting some love from the dedicated Entz (entertainment) team and newly created JCR bar officer, who can help you use the bar as a space for whatever you need. We've also created a college cocktail and mocktail following our quarantine cocktail competition, and we are working on redecorating to make it an even better space for drinkers and non-drinkers alike. At the end of the day, whatever you might have heard about 'toxic drinking cultures' at uni, toxicity is absolutely not what you'll find on a Hugh's night in: the bar is the perfect place to have a great, but still wholesome night.

Molly Mantle (she/her),
2nd Year PPE



Bops



Legend has it that ‘bop’ stands for ‘Big Open Party’ but it’s probably best to ignore the dad-disco sounding name. Bops are basically in-college club nights or themed party nights which take place 3 Saturdays a term in the bar.

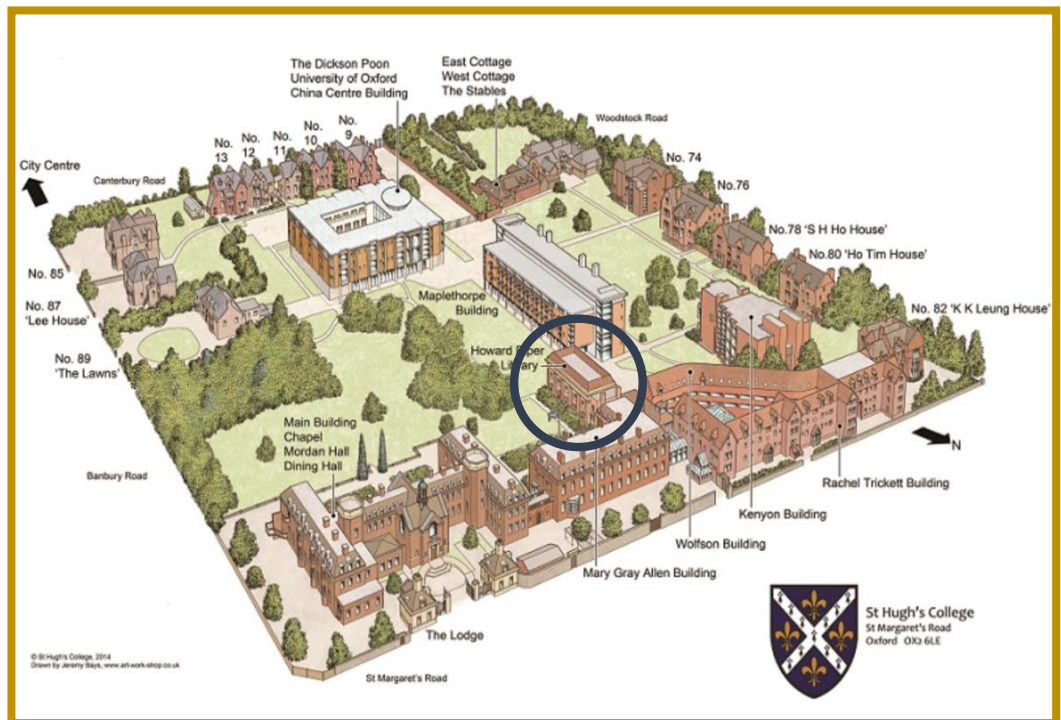
This is a time to dress up and let loose in the comfort of your own home – no need to worry about transporting the banana costume or pink hair into town and back again.

Previous bop themes have included meme theme, naughty noughties and the classic white t shirt bop, where your costume is a canvas for your friends to decorate throughout the night. Every bop features a bop juice cocktail and if, unlike me, your music taste extends beyond just ABBA and Cher, you can even volunteer to DJ a set (cool DJ name required).

Your great evening is also followed by a free welfare tea the next day and, of course, high attendance at the Hugh’s famous weekend brunch. Did someone say Best night On the Planet?

Molly Mantle (she/her),
2nd Year PPE





Library



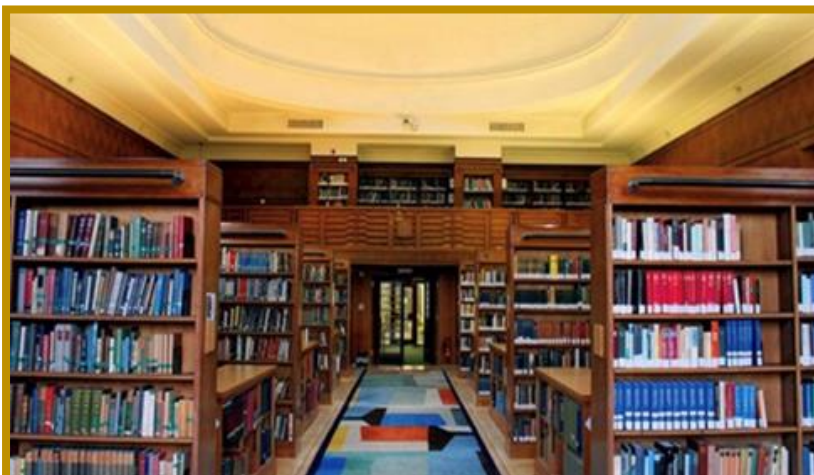
'The Library' at St Hugh's covers quite a large spectrum of study spaces, selected based on work ethic/hangover status/emotional fragility and impending deadlines. Oh, and where your course materials are found, although this is a minor factor unless you do history (those books are FAT and carrying them upstairs requires a special kind of dedication).

On entering St Hugh's library (an action which requires the use of your Bod card and gives a real secret-service vibe to the place), there are a number of desks available for collaborative study; colloquially known as 'The Fun Library', this is where to go if you have work to do but don't really want to do any of it. Hence, you get the self-satisfaction of having left your room with the full intention of productivity, alongside some quality socialising. Not recommended if your deadlines are rapidly approaching. You have been warned.

Also downstairs in the Hugh's library are the two science rooms, where you can find textbooks on everything from computing to endocrinology. As per, science doesn't fit the aesthetic attributed to the humanities meaning that you are left with the lighting and metallic furnishings of a police station interrogation room. However, some people find this better for getting work done and if you cannot even be trusted with eye contact, there are desks with cubicles; depressing, but sometimes it has to be done.

Further along the corridor is the Fulford room - very cute and cosy with a wooden interior and warmer lights. This room is generally occupied by historians (see above) but is also a good shout if you are feeling productive but can't quite tackle the stairs. Not one for those of you who suffer from

FOMO (ground-floor windows mean that you can see everyone enjoying a social life while you are stuck writing an essay at 1am).



If you want to channel true ~Oxford vibes~ but are not willing to make to the journey into town, head upstairs to the main room: with abstract carpeting, rich wooden shelving, huge double windows and beautiful ceiling to top it all off, this is the closest you can get to Harry Potter while still at Hugh's. There are also a lot of spaces here, so it is generally not a problem to find a seat. Unless it's Sunday afternoon - prime-time for playing catch-up.



The lights are specific to each table and are on a timer, meaning they have to be switched back on via a small button in the middle. Depends on what kind of person you are but unless you want to recreate the Creation of Adam or a scene from Twilight, you can always wait for the person

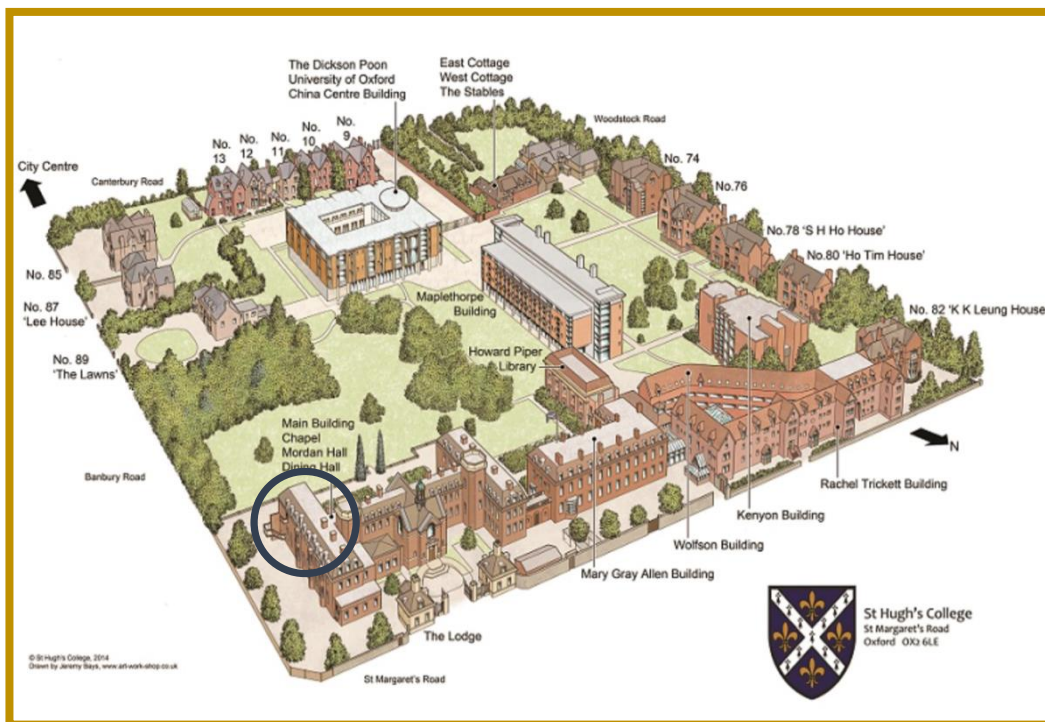
opposite you to press it.

On the next floor up, there are a few meeting rooms which are great for group work. And you get to use a whiteboard like a teacher. Should be incentive enough really.

Good luck with all future deadlines - one way or another, you will manage. And there will always be someone else there having a mare, so for camaraderie it is worth leaving your room.

Alex Rowlands (she/her),
2nd Year Medicine





Hall

Hall

Let's be honest - it doesn't really matter what the food in Hall is like, the fact is we don't have to make it ourselves. The menu is always devoid of pot-noodle so everything else is really just an added bonus.

On weekdays, Hall does breakfast, lunch, and dinner - and on days when there is formal hall, if you choose not to go, early hall is normally available. On weekends only brunch is served.

When running late to a 9am lecture, or in bed when you have missed it entirely, it is not uncommon to also miss breakfast. But from what the weekly menu can tell you better than I, breakfast is like weekend brunch; a full English buffet, fruit, cereal, and waffles - which you don't have to have all of if you're feeling a bit fragile after a Thursday Bridge night.

For lunch and dinner – meat, vegetarian, and vegan options are available, and as a general rule they are really good. Portions are decent, and you'll always be full with a serving of hall's favourite – carb with a side of carbs. Note: avoid jacket potato night at all costs, and please feel free to put forward a JCR motion to get this night abolished. We would all thank you.

All meals are paid for on your bod-card; which can be topped up on 'Upay'. Upay is a mobile app where you can buy tickets for formal hall and make sure you don't have the awkward 'card declined' interaction in the middle of Hall. Not that I'm speaking from experience or anything.

Prices at Hugh's are relatively low; £2-3 for lunch and dinner, and breakfast can be swindled for down to £1. Hugh's is also super casual unlike other colleges (*cough*, Christ Church) where it's a three-course formal every night - we want to feed you, not give you gout.



Martha Wilson (she/her),
2nd Year English



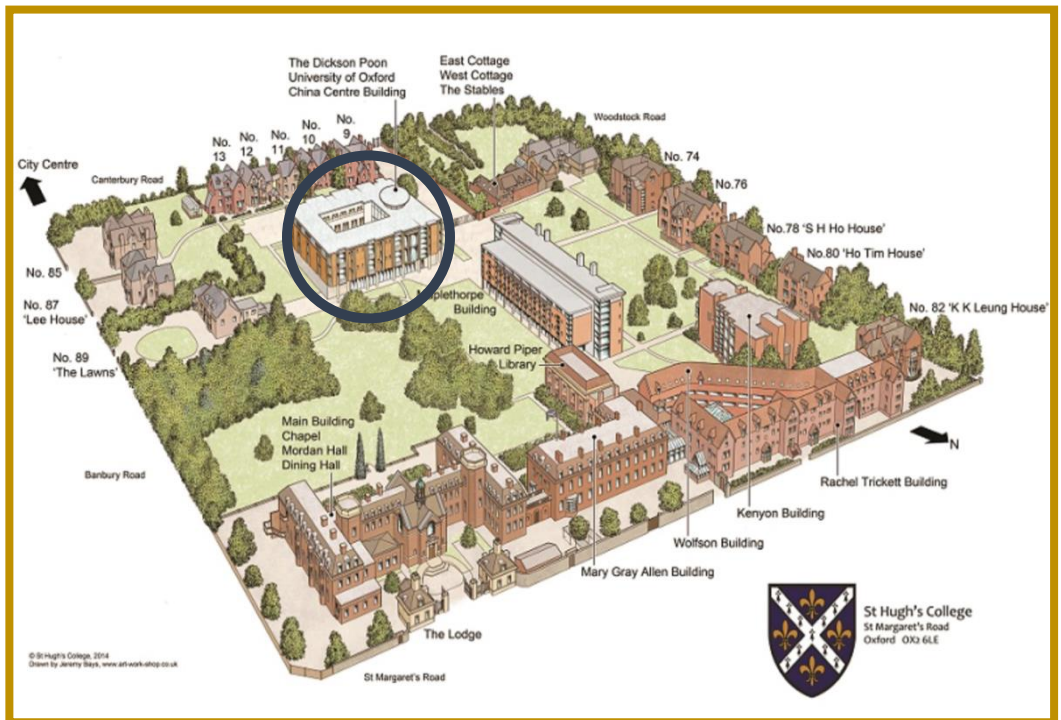
Formal Hall

Here at Hugh's, you have the option to attend Formal Hall once a week (usually Tuesday evenings). They are generally a relaxed occasion – you can go with a group of friends or invite guests for a three-course meal in the dining hall. Unlike some of the other colleges, we do not wear gowns, although the format remains fairly similar (don't be the one who screams when the Principal hits her gavel on the table!). The food is something to look forward to and is always delicious and often interesting for the reasonable price of £10.73: cheaper than formals at many other colleges. Check out [@chefs_at_sthughs](#) on Instagram to see what's on offer! A few times a year, Hugh's has themed formals, such as for Christmas, where we have the choir, and Burns' Night, where there is a Ceilidh afterwards (ed: arguably one of the best events of the year) – tickets are highly sort after and often sell out within 90 seconds!



Jenny Wang (she/her),
2nd Year Medicine

Dickson Poon



Dicky P

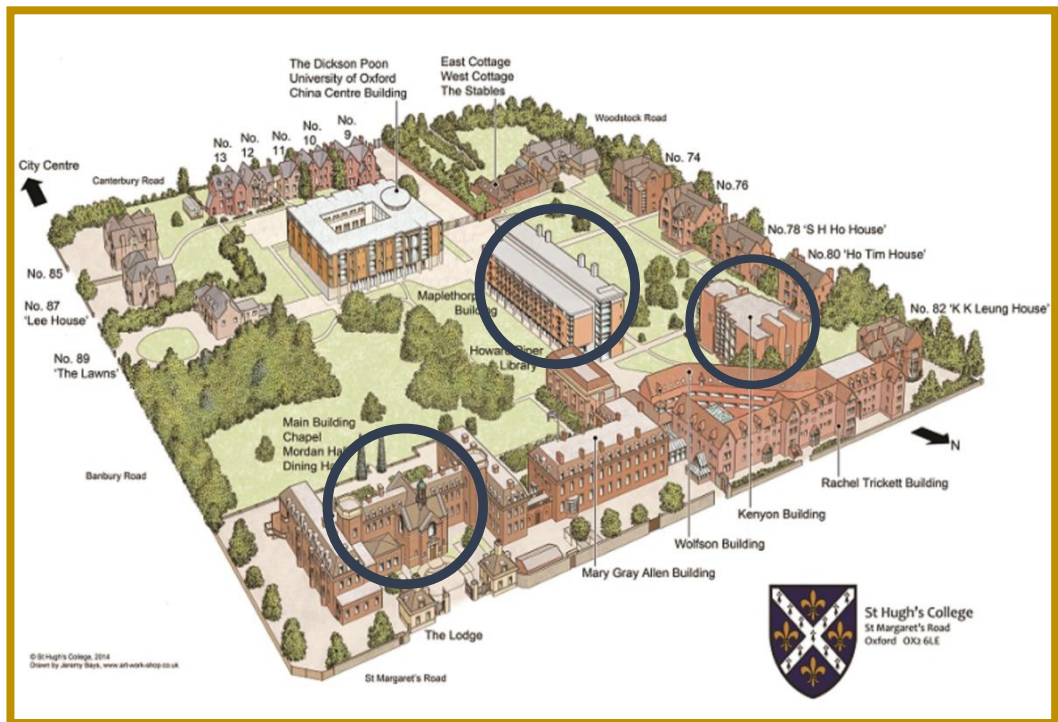


Ah, the delights of the Dickson Poon building. Little lifts the spirits more than a midday message on the group chat of “anyone going dicky p?? x”. They keep it simple with one meat and one non-meat (usually vegan, always delicious) option every weekday, often Asian fusion, and it’s a popular place to go for lunch at college. If you’re lucky and your tutor is feeling generous (or exhausted and in need of their morning coffee) you may even find yourself having the odd tute in there. There’s nothing like sitting back in those weird-shaped sofa chairs, sipping a hot bev and discussing the joys of early 20th century German poetry, of which there are obviously many. The price of this on the times where your tutor isn’t paying, however, is a bit steeper than you’d find at hall. Main meals tend to cost somewhere between £4 and £5, and I’ve heard horror stories of a single Innocent Revive smoothie setting students back somewhere in the range of £3.70. But it’s a Hughsie rite of passage – and what a hangover cure.

Issy Collins (she/her),
2nd Year German



Accommodation



Main Building



There is a reason we didn't put Kenyon on the front cover of this guide. Despite being a "protected building", Kenyon may be slightly lacking in that special Oxford essence that our Main Building has in spades. Built in 1916, you're living in St Hugh's history.

Seemingly the only part of Main that isn't old is you guys — both the first and second floor of Main Building are reserved as Freshers' only accommodation, and therefore the most social place to be! Both floors are structured as three corridors of rooms centred around the landing and kitchen.



Assert dominance by claiming your floor as the location for pre-drinks... what's better for a game of ring of fire than the ever-present scent of a slightly ineffective and completely over-loaded fridge? Or if that's not your style, the landing is a far more spacious social area, just be prepared for noise complaints.

If you're lucky enough to be allocated the undoubtable social hub of college as your living area for the next three terms, you'll be among 26 people sharing your floor's kitchen. It includes 2x 4-hob ovens, a fridge, a freezer, a kettle, a microwave, and a toaster that took many theft attempts from second-floor before first-floor got our own — though for future reference, you can just put in a maintenance request; Main Building provides you with everything you need. There is ample kitchen cupboard space, a central table and chairs and recycling separable bins; and, top tip, a back-right hob ring that is worth fighting for.

We haven't got the luxury of Maplethorpe's en-suites, but there are six toilets, four showers, and a bath (though I've never known anyone to use it) and I've never had to queue for any — in fact, the only downfall is perhaps the awkward sprint back to your room in just your towel, often joined with

the more awkward 'hello' to the 12 neighbours you manage to run into. As I said, social!

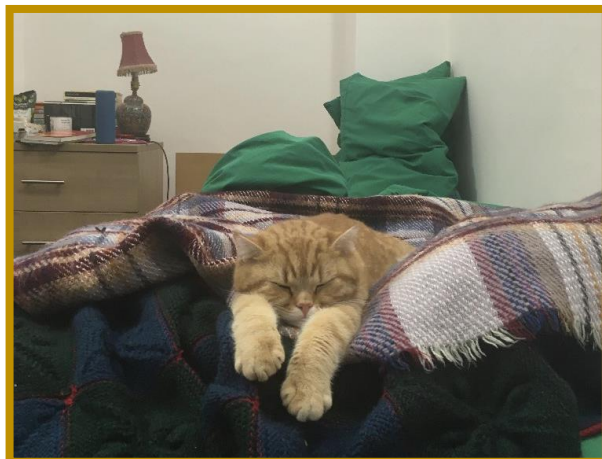
So, expect lots of sharing, but a room of your own. With a bed, desk, desk chair, armchair, wardrobe and cupboards, main lights and lamps, and a bin; your room gives you everything you need to never see another student if that's what you desire! And if you never want to go outside, Main is ideal, with the JCR, library, hall, chapel and bar mere corridors away.



Writing as a neighbour who is 'unbearable to live with' (thanks Rafael), I can tell you that the walls in Main are thin... and it perhaps doesn't help when you pick the corridor as the performance space for your latest rendition of 'Hey There Delilah' on the guitar. So, don't follow my example, and instead be a considerate neighbour; there's nothing like sharing a frying pan or walking to hall together to start a beautiful friendship. With over 50 people around you across the two floors, there's bound to be someone you like, or at least someone who has spare salt.

More than anything, it's important to remember that your accommodation is just a building – make friends with Kenyon and Maplethorpe. But if you're lucky, your floor can become a bit of a family, just don't mind the moody granddad because there will definitely be one.

Martha Wilson (she/her),
2nd Year English



Kenyon



Gothic architecture? Classical ornamentation? Historical significance? No thanks. This is The Kenyon Building, and it's oozing with fringe appeal. True to the radical anti-establishment sentiment championed by St Hugh's College, which bravely refuses even to be located within a mile of the Bodleian library, The Kenyon Building, in its unapologetic brutalism, quickly disabuses its inhabitants of any haughty Oxfordian pomposity. City of spires? I'll take cement columns.

David Roberts, the architect, is a true renegade. So radical is his style that New College had one of his buildings demolished (actually true). 'New' college, outdated outlook. St Hugh's, however, was ready for his artistic vision. Colleges such as "New" may feature marble floors and oak rooves, but Roberts shuns this antiquated frivolity in favour of such features as, he boasts, 'pit-marked concrete with circular holes.' Circular holes.



The design is minimal, the interior is comprised of bare concrete steps, wired glass panels and a decorative unused lift

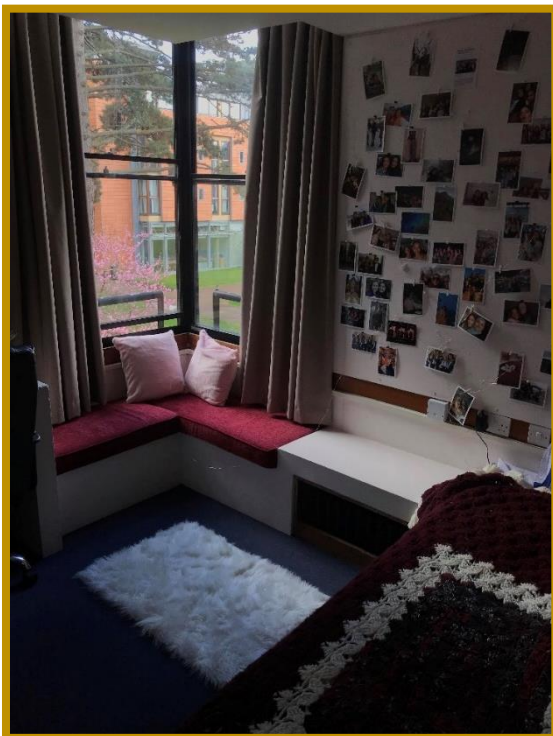
shaft. The building takes its name from celebrated archaeologist Dame Kathleen Kenyon-Building, sharing a namesake with the British Archaeology school of Jerusalem, now named the Kenyon institute. The building's parallels with Jerusalem do not end there – the phrase 'promised land' comes to mind.

Those students blessed with a room in The Kenyon Building will find themselves sharing a kitchen with their floor of 8 people, as well as two toilets and at least one shower and bath per floor. KB also (like Main Building) tends only to house Freshers, so it's definitely one of the more sociable accommodations – the corridors of rooms are all set up around the central

stairs and this makes for some great “house” parties. Wait till you discover the Death Slide down to the basement, suitable for hours of amusement after a night out.

In the haven of your own room you’ll enjoy delicious natural lighting, ample storage space, a comfortable window seat, and most importantly, a sink. And like the cold water which runs freely from the taps of The Kenyon Building’s many sinks, you will emerge from the bowels of this place every morning feeling fresh, invigorated by its anarchism, Dame Kenyon-B watching proudly over you as you tell the rest of Oxford that they can keep their neoclassical architecture, their double beds and their en-suites. You’re from The Kenyon Building. You’ll be fine.

Eddie Michael (he/him), 2nd Year
Spanish & Linguistics



Maplethorpe



If you're one of the elite 24 chosen to live in Maplethorpe then thank your lucky stars. The upper echelon of St Hugh's accommodation, Maplethorpe boasts en-suite bathrooms for every room, hella big kitchens and extremely close proximity to the Dickson Poon cafe.

In your room there will be a (somewhat oversized) desk, shelves and a comfy sofa chair (editor's note: and a bed, hopefully).

Everyone decorates their rooms differently (if they decorate at all) but Maplethorpe Building gives you lots of inboard space and shelving to work with so that your uni room soon starts to feel like a second home. And don't worry if your friends don't live in Maplethorpe too, because your bodcard gives you access to all of the Fresher accommodation, even if others can't access yours.

(Editor's note: this is a clear example of a classist hate crime against the Kenyon building. Please let us in).

My friends and I have personally found that the airy kitchens (one per floor) provide the ideal social setting for our regular chilli nights, as Maplethorpe kitchens are generally pretty clean and have plenty of space round the table for everyone to sit and eat together.



Pros:

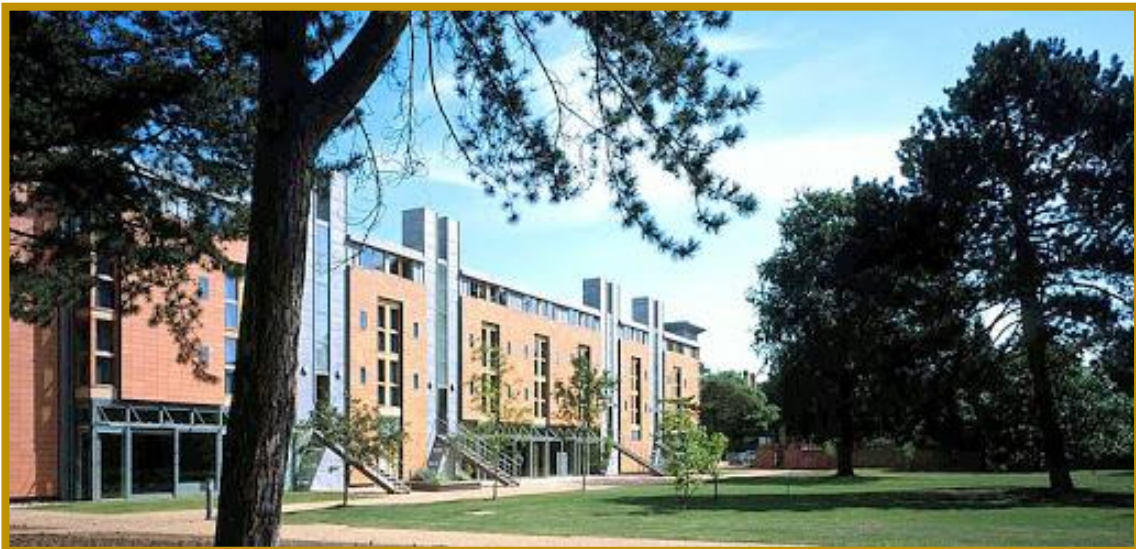
- ❖ Spacious rooms
- ❖ Personal bathroom (no sharing with your grotty friends)

- ❖ Lots of natural light due to the big windows which overlook the grounds
- ❖ Situated that all important 100ft closer to the centre of Oxford
- ❖ Truly massive storage capacity

Cons:

- ❖ Distance from the Dining Hall after a long and hungry day
- ❖ Jealousy from the Kenyon and Main dwellers (don't hate us 'cause you ain't us)

Sophie Garcia (she/her), 2nd Year
Experimental Psychology



What to Bring



We understand that it is hard to know how to prepare for your first term at Oxford and it may be a little overwhelming, so here's a few pointers to get you started.

Do bring:

- ❖ White shirt, black trousers/skirt & plain black shoes for matriculation and exams. Don't forget your gown and mortar board to complete the look!
- ❖ Some relatively smart clothes for formals/events. Think a collared shirt/blouse, a tie, a jacket, and smart trousers/skirt, or pretty much any dress that you wouldn't club in.
- ❖ Sliders/slippers and maybe a dressing gown, to get yourself to and from the library at 4am, or for that midnight dash to the loo.
- ❖ Funny outfits for bop costumes. Something random and colourful – you'll be especially popular if you have glitter.
- ❖ Cooking stuff (if you can cook): cutlery and plates, bowls and mugs, and a pan, a knife and a wooden spoon or two. It saves money and can be fun to cook with friends, but the food provided by both Hall and Dicky P (see relevant articles for the juicy details) is also great and still inexpensive.
- ❖ Laundry powder/pods. Alternatively, you could make the decision to simply not wash your clothes and intimidate your tutors.
- ❖ A bike. Bikes are useful although definitely not essential (we're only a 15 min walk from the centre of town). However, if you do bring one, invest in a decent lock. Bikes are very expensive in Oxford, so it's probably best to get one at home.
- ❖ ID. This is a very important one – trust me, you do NOT want to be the person who has to make the mad dash back to college for proof of your age before a night out.

- ❖ Clothes hangers – no one likes a crumpled sub fusc.
- ❖ Extension lead (again, not essential but might be useful).
- ❖ Coffee – vital to get you through those late-night cramming sessions that we all claim not to do.
- ❖ Maybe an extra lamp, the desk lamps are quite poor.

Unexpected but useful:

- ❖ Sports stuff, you will actually (hopefully) have time to be healthy. If you enjoy football, netball, hockey, rugby etc. get involved, we want cuppers.
- ❖ Alcohol so you can host the best pres and save blowing half your student loan on Jägerbombs once you're actually out. (Editor's note: not everyone drinks, orange juice is a very respectable alternative.)

Don't bring:

- ❖ All the books on the reading list, as a rule the tutors aren't too bothered and most things are available in the college library. There's no need to stress about all the work before, it'll be fine – if we got through it, you can!
- ❖ A mini fridge (Editor's note: these are allowed, but not essential unless you're incredibly territorial about your yogurts).
- ❖ A relationship from home. (This is definitely a joke, but uni will be a test for a relationship and will strengthen a good one).
- ❖ Fear, it sounds like a cliché but seriously you will be fine. You'll have ups and downs, especially in fresher's week and first term, but you will find your people and settle in quicker than you imagine, and your college parents are more than happy to help.

Sam Rubens (he/him), 2nd Year
Archaeology & Anthropology

Storage & Vac Res



There's no space for lies in the St Hugh's freshers' guide, so here it's best to be honest and admit that the whole storage/vac res concept is an enigma to most Hugh's students. What we have gleaned over our time so far on the subject of storage is that there is a College Store onsite where you can leave personal possessions over the vac – apparently excluding 'food, electrical appliances, fridges, money, musical Instruments, jewellery, photographic equipment, clocks, televisions, watches, computers, and works of art'. Spoilsports.

Nevertheless, students from the UK are permitted to leave two boxes of personal belongings at this store over vacations; international students are allowed five. In this regard (not trying to brag) we're apparently one of the best equipped of all the Oxford colleges. And here's the best part: the size requirement of a storage box isn't defined by college so get creative. Bring a skip. (Don't bring a skip).

As for residence over the vacation, all students are entitled to the luxury of 21 nights vac residence at college absolutely free of charge over the course of their undergraduate degree. There will be application forms to fill in if you want to take St Hugh's up on this sensational offer at some point, but these are relatively easy to get hold of so don't worry too much. The one downside of the situation is that you aren't actually guaranteed your own room for residence if you intend to stay over the vac, although where possible college will try and keep you in the same place as a gesture of goodwill.

Issy Collins (she/her),
2nd Year German

Scouts

The scouts are the wonderful people in charge of maintaining both our accommodation and communal spaces, such as the kitchens and shared bathrooms. They will empty your bin daily and, once a week, they will vacuum your room. If you don't want to be disturbed, you can leave your bin outside your door, but try to have a tidy room on the day they have to come in... you'll make their job a lot easier!

One thing I recommend? Get to know your scout. Like the porters, they know a lot about the college and are great to talk to. If you're shy or forgetful, there's a board with the scouts' names in Kenyon, near the laundry room.

PS: Lost something in college? Chances are that a scout will come across it. Just email the housekeeping team and they'll try the best they can!

Nicola Sharp (she/her), 2nd
Year Biomedical Sciences

Laundry

Welcome to uni, you're now responsible for all your own washing – good luck. At St Hugh's, we have two laundry rooms, one in Maplethorpe basement (bigger, nicer and generally doesn't resemble a prison cell) and one in Kenyon basement.

Washes cost £2.20 and dryers £1.20 (however the latter cost can easily be avoided by bringing a clothes rack) which you pay for using contactless payment on your card/phone.

The laundry rooms are open 24 hours; for the pacifists among you a midnight weekday wash might be more up your street, whereas the thrill-seekers out there will prefer the fast-paced political climate of Sunday afternoon. Whether you fancy battling for machines and racing back to your finished laundry or putting it on at midnight and using the time to indulge in an essay crisis, the laundry rooms are always open for the domestic therapy you crave.

Ella Smith (she/her), 2nd Year
Medicine

International Students



Hey all you fellow international students!

For everyone, moving from home to uni is a big change, but when you're moving overseas that change becomes all the more dramatic. Many of you probably will have moved around, but some of you will have done so less. Either way, aside from jetlag, you have genuinely nothing to worry about. You will fit in just fine because Hugh's is such a welcoming hub of people and you'll find your group no matter what! But since your experience is bound to be a tad different, we thought we'd include some helpful tips -- both practical and social -- to help you out!

Practicalities: travelling

Let's get the boring bit over with first: practicalities. If you have a long-haul flight, that's going to be pretty exhausting in itself, so you might want to give yourself a few days' leeway on arrival and get to Oxford a couple of days before you have to so you're not actually asleep in your first tutorial (this will happen anyways at some point, but it's best if you wait until you have the excuse of fifth week blues to do so). You'll also want to start packing by thinking of what you realistically need. I massively overdid it in Michaelmas and then regretted it, as you have to completely empty your room between terms (we'll deal with that specifically later)... for instance, I would say you need one pair of all-purpose sort of shoes, and one pair of shoes you can wear to a formal: that's it, really, and whatever else you bring is surplus. A 'different' outfit just requires changing a top/bottom, rather than the whole thing. Having a mentality like this -- a sort of 'minimalist' one, if you will -- will serve you (and the tidiness of your room) well. Definitely bring some decorations, especially printed photos that remind you of home/people you love, but again, you really don't need to bring a full-on coffee machine, as I did (there is, contrary to popular belief, coffee in England, too). Bring a couple of foldable storage boxes, too.

Everything like plates, cockery, etc., can be bought cheaply at any local store, and it's not worth the hassle, or the smashed bits of porcelain, to bring it in from abroad.

Re-emptying your room, it's again best not to bring things you don't need. There are fridges in college. There are toasters in college. There are places to get smoothies in or near college... These are the type of things that will take up a lot of room in the storage the college provides (which isn't enormous, but certainly ample), and could be filled with things like duvets and clothes, which are more useful. Don't panic-pack. You also will have to bring everything home over summer, and realising you have to book another seat on a plane for your mini fridge might not work out too well, to be perfectly honest with you.

Practicalities: admin

More stuffy practical advice includes the following:

- ❖ Change countries on your phone's app store, as apps like UPay will probably not be available from your local store.
- ❖ Get a UK bank card ASAP. It will make your life so much easier! HSBC gives you a hundred pounds (!) if you set up an account with them, and they also make it quite easy to do so: just make sure you have your enrolment certificate and ID with you. Santander is also good in that it gives you a railcard, (you will treasure your railcard) which makes travelling around the UK so much cheaper and easier. Also, get used to the currency. This is especially true if you're used to thinking in Euro because a pound is not the same as a Euro: ten quid is around 13 euro. Bear this in mind so you don't end up with the buzz of 'card declined' at the end of your allowance period!
- ❖ Oxford doesn't have Uber or Lyft, but you can call taxis/download a company app instead. Also note that buses accept cards, but when ordering a taxi you will need to request one with a card reader.



- ❖ If you need medical care, the NHS is free (weeeeow!) but you'll be surprised at how long it takes to get an appointment. Just make sure you get registered as soon as you get to Hugh's, which you can do just by going to the Nurse's surgery in the MGA building. (See more detail on this in the Welfare article).

Social/emotional advice

Once you get here, it's normal to feel homesick. After all, moving in from a different country is very different from driving from a place 30 minutes away! Luckily, we have a few tips for you:

- ❖ Keep reminders of home in your room, such as photographs or letters on your wall.
- ❖ Stay in contact. Call up your family and friends regularly. If you have friends not in Oxford but in the UK, you can definitely visit them or they can visit you. For instance, the Oxford Tube is a 24 hour bus service that goes to and from London every 15 minutes, at only eight pounds return!
- ❖ If you're missing food from home, there are some good restaurants not so far from St Hugh's that are worth a visit. Ask around or check out reviews online to get recommendations.
- ❖ And, most importantly, make new friends! The fact you're international will immediately springboard you into a nice conversation. It might feel a bit intimidating in the first week, but having a support system early on can do a lot to prevent loneliness. Plus us, your college parents, and people in the years above are all here for you and also like meeting new people! There are numerous societies you can join from various parts of the world, too, which provide a range of cultural and social activities you can get involved in.

Also, dear EU students, Brexit might be about to ruin a lot of things, but your experience at Hugh's is not one of them. Everyone is super friendly and if you speak any European languages the Modern Languages students will come flocking to you for practice, especially on nights out!

And finally, a note for local students: many international students love to talk about their home countries. But if you want to talk about something that's going down in someone's home country, please be sensitive about it.

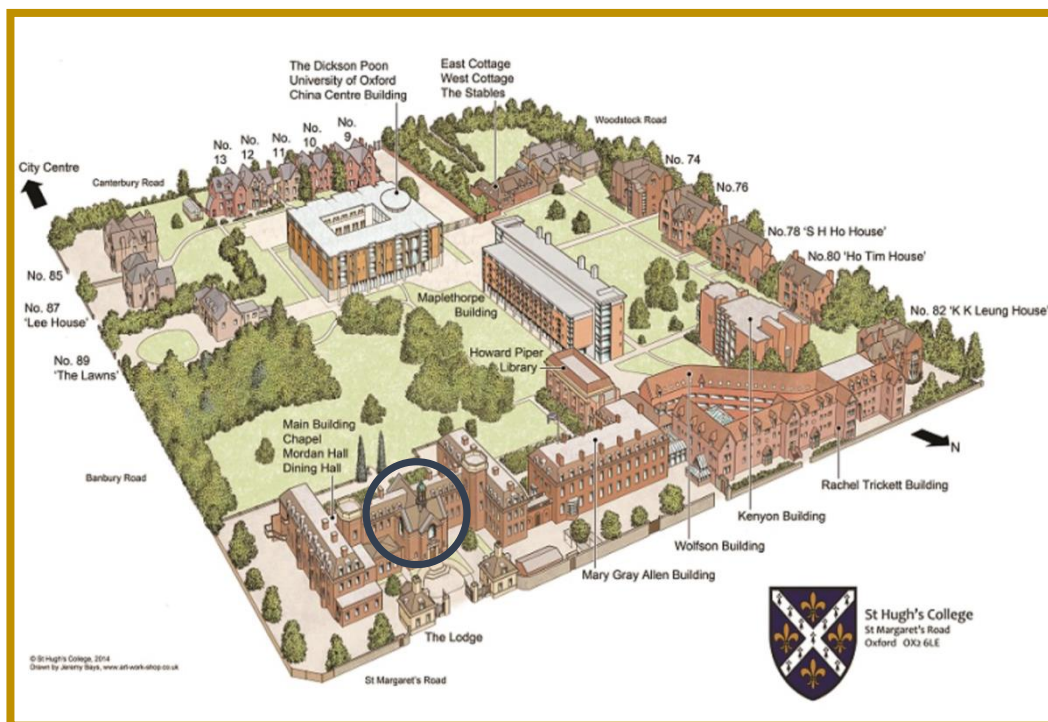
Above all, remember to have fun. Actually no: above all, remember that the cars drive on the opposite side of the road to most countries... especially important if you're biking! For the rest, don't stress: you'll soon know what 'Spoons' is and figure out which coin is the 50p and which the 20p.

We can't wait to meet you, and safe travels!

Maya Thapa-OFaolain (she/her), 2nd Year
History & French; Nicola Sharp (she/her),
2nd Year Biomedical Sciences



Chapel



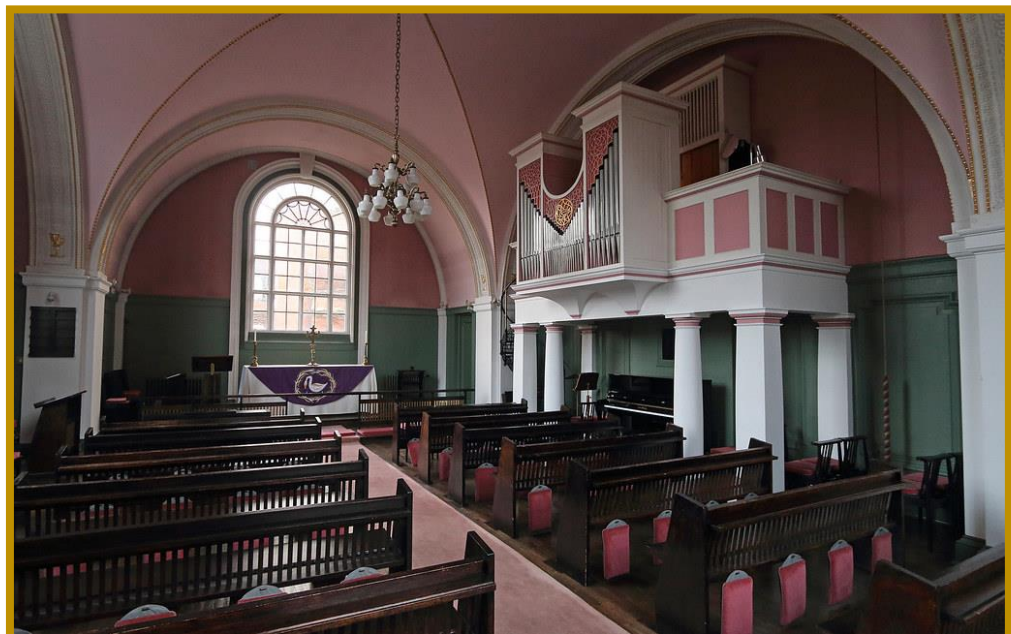
Chapel

The college chapel is on the first floor of main building, just above where you will enter college for the first time. It is a multi-faith space, open to everyone and plays several parts in college life. You'll first encounter the chapel after your first hour at Hugh's when you hear the bells, (very useful to keep you motivated on those all-nighters) and, if you happen to pass through MB during rehearsal times, you'll hear the choir and organ preparing for the weekly service, which happens every Sunday. These services mostly follow the structure of an Anglican evensong, but there are regular multi-faith services and you are welcome to attend (and claim your free dinner!), whatever your religious beliefs.

If you're interested in singing, but you're worried about committing time to university groups, the college choir has rehearsals twice a week, which you'll probably find is a really nice balance. College offers several choral awards and organ scholarships for those who want to make more of a commitment to college music. These involve helping prepare music for services in advance and taking the lead with solos but auditions for that aren't until the middle of Michaelmas term, so there's no need to decide whether to apply before you've attended a few rehearsals.

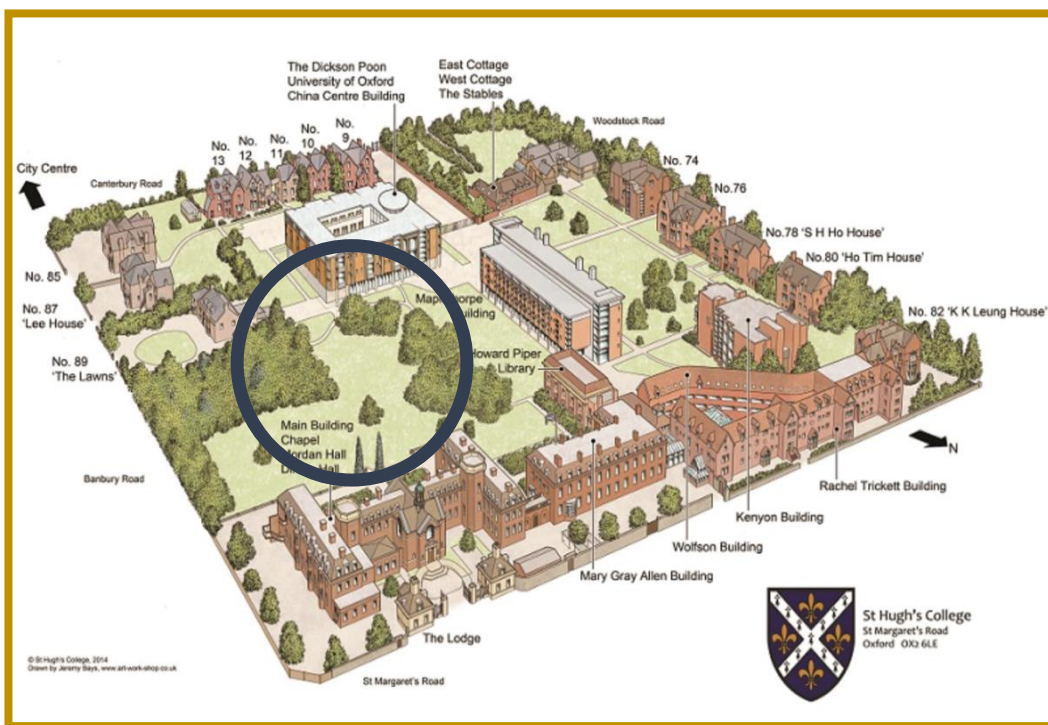
As is tradition in lots of college, the chaplain is also a key part of the welfare team, and available to help with any of your concerns, but this role is entirely separate from religious beliefs.

Molly Mantle (she/her),
2nd Year PPE





Grounds



Grounds

At Hugh's we're fortunate to have lovely big gardens which is one of the real perks of being further out of town. Because it's a former women's college and therefore #chill and #progressive, Hugh's is one of very few colleges that actually permits students to walk on the grass (except the croquet lawn because that is sacred). It's great to be able to have a morning stroll around the gardens to clear your mind a little, and if you're lucky you might come across the college cats! Professor Biscuit can usually be found eating grass and being fat (ed: he's just big-boned), while Admiral Flapjack is more elusive and mysterious, but both are up for a cuddle if you're that way inclined. Just don't smuggle them into your room after 6pm because they apparently have to "sleep in their own beds" and "eat real food", plus emails start going around about ransoms. It's a murky area.

On a lighter note, Hugh's garden party takes place every year at the start of May, and whenever the official college ball rolls around (2021??) our walk-on-able lawn will also provide the ideal setting for all your photographic needs.

Issy Collins (she/her),
2nd Year German



Bikes



Cycling is traditionally the best way to get around in Oxford. Having a bike might ensure that you actually go to lectures, having had a precious extra 15 minutes to sleep, and you'll get there in style too.

Second-hand bikes can be bought cheaply on the internet if the need arises so don't worry about finding a bike before you go if you don't already have one. However, you should avoid buying a new bike from the shops in Oxford because they are horribly expensive. Besides, it's probably quite risky to have a very nice bike here as there is a chance it will be stolen so maybe opt for something cheap, ugly, and potentially rusty.

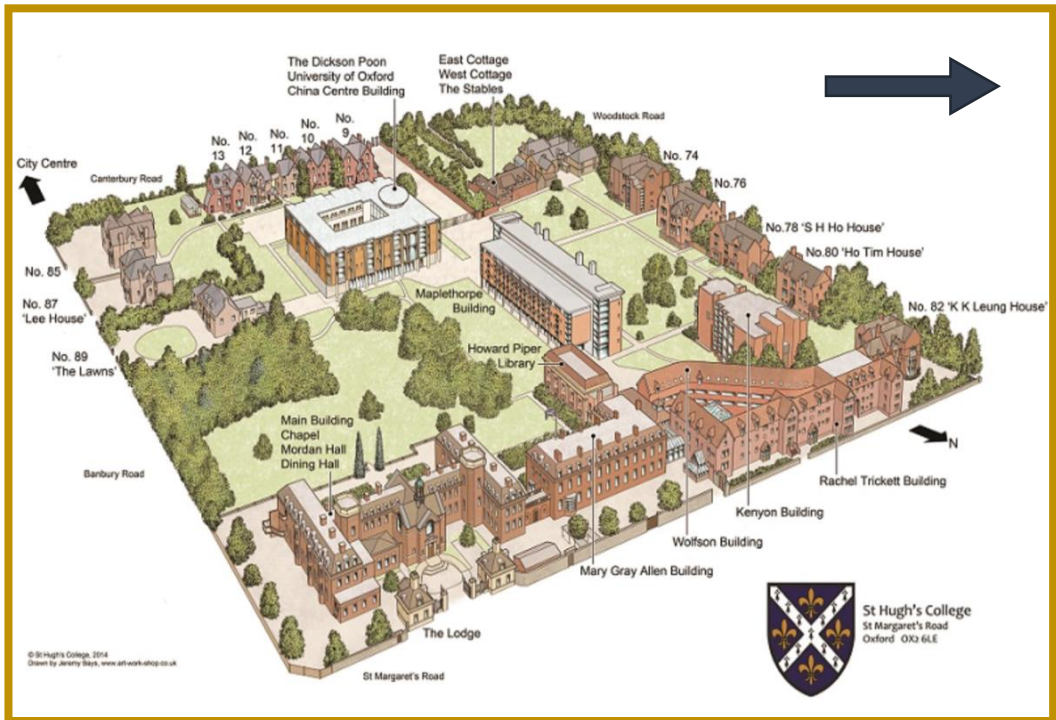
If we were to give you one solid piece of advice on this topic, it'd be to purchase a secure bike lock and use it every time you leave your bike anywhere. A helmet is also a good idea especially as some drivers hate us cyclists as much as we hate pedestrians. Also, cycling to your 9am after three hours of sleep without a helmet is putting a lot of trust in your physical faculties. You will also lose the ability to use your hands if you cycle in freezing rain without gloves so remember to pack those.

Finally, and most importantly, don't cycle drunk.

Emilia Carter (she/her),
2nd Year English



Leaving Hugh's





Whilst your idealised visions of student life will likely crumble during your first essay crisis, or the moment you accidentally shrivel your favourite top in the dryer, or in the Satan's womb that is Fever, there is one ideal of studenthood that you can fulfil. I'm talking about sidling up to do your work with the aid of a highly caffeinated beverage of your choice, in a space that's less soul-crushing than a library and less lonely than your 'study bedroom'.

Since cafes are only open in the daytime (sorry to disappoint if you were expecting Pret to fuel you through your all-night essay writing), it tends to be humanities students who use them, because scientists actually have regular contact hours while we enjoy sporadic intervals of interruption (also known as lectures, classes and tutorials) to our ongoing interior monologues of existential doubt. Not an element of pretension in sight.

But seriously — studying in a cafe can help you to feel less stressed, make you more productive, and the price of an americano is about half that of a pint.

The independent cafes are marginally more expensive, but tend to have a better ~vibe~ than the big chains - of which in the city centre there's Pret, Cafe Nero, the cafe on the third floor of Waterstones and a similar one in Blackwells, and Starbucks; but they're quite busy, which means they're not the best if you want to study for hours on end. There are also some indie cafes which take their coffee very seriously, like Jericho Coffee Roasters and Missing Bean on Turl Street and Brew on North Parade, but these are very small, which makes them better for meeting a friend than for studying. There is a second Missing Bean cafe located in the concrete delight that is the English/Law faculty, which I would recommend to fellow English students. I have also been told that the biochem cafe is lovely. There are several cafes on Walton Street in Jericho if you're looking for somewhere a bit out of the way.

My cafe of choice is the hippy-haven that is Common Ground, which is on Little Clarendon Street opposite Gails, a small chain which is a popular choice if you're looking for something on the bougie side.

Now go forth and caffeinate.

Orna Rifkin (she/her),
2nd Year English

Pubs

The go-to spot for pres. The go-to spot for post-exam elation and/or depression. The go-to spot for food, for drink, and for Oxford-level chatting of complete and utter tripe. Brace yourself for the most important digest of information contained within this guide.

The Rose and Crown is run by an eccentric landlord, with a slightly cramped interior but a sizeable garden with the usual tables, benches and heaters, which you'll be thankful for in Michaelmas.

Wetherspoons next; the Four Candles is the busier one that is usually preceding a club night. The Swan and Castle however, being a bit more out of the way, is bigger, and subsequently you won't usually have to fight your way to the bar. The downside being less food is served at the Swan and Castle, so if halloumi fries and pizza are a dealbreaker, best to go Four Candles.

When you need a break from the deafening silence of studying in the Rad-cam, the more central pubs are worth a visit:



- The Bear – oldest pub in Oxford; small, expect to stand, has lots of ties on display from Oxford colleges and schools around the country.
- The Turf Tavern – tucked away, nice atmosphere, bit dear.
- The King's Arms – don't particularly have much to say about this one, nice though.
- The Royal Blenheim – Campaign for Real Ale's Oxford City Pub of the Year, lots of beers and guest ales on, actually reasonable prices.
- The Eagle and Child – close to Hugh's, good music, cheap drinks, J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis used to meet there.

Jack Sharp (he/him),
2nd Year Law



Wednesday, 8pm. You have a tute at 9am the next morning. You haven't written your essay. You are spiralling. Anxiety, fear, regret. Chaos. Fit Dan catches your eye from across the library. You stare at those big, thick, succulent eyebrows. You already know what's about to happen. "Park End?". Yes, please, you handsome, handsome man. Arrive at Park End, 11pm. ABBA night. It's sweaty, you lost your friends after the cloakroom, all you want is a man after midnight, why are they playing Macklemore? 1am, still no ABBA, you're about to leave. You fight your way off of the dancefloor. Wait. Is that...? Out of nowhere: Friday night and the lights are low... You sprint back in. What a class night. Back in college, a respectable 3am, smashed a Hussein's on the way home. No worries.

Thursday, 9pm. Tute was a disaster. Your partner's essay was a masterpiece. Yours could have been written by a ten-year-old. But it isn't the essay that is haunting you. What happened last night at Park End? You swear, on everything you believe in, never to drink again (disclaimer: you don't need to drink to enjoy these clubs, and a lot of people still go sober). You're walking back to your room, spirits low. But what is that, lingering at the bottom of the Kenyon stairs? Those, eyebrows? Surely, it isn't, human? A shape, somehow both triangular and perfectly square, draws near. You are transfixed. "Bridge?" says Fit Dan. Oh no. 11.30pm you are leaving Spoons to join the queue. 12pm you get in. What's this? Live and direct? Yes please AJ, yes please. Cheese floor for an hour, smoking area to rendezvous with the boys, upstairs as the night progresses. Another Hussein's. Your blood is more mozzarella stick than oxygen. College for 4am.

Saturday. By some miracle you are still alive, but don't want your family to get a new mortgage to buy you a resale Fluorescent Adolescent, so The Bullingdon is out (do try and get tickets though as Bully is class when you get the right event). But it's a Saturday night. All you have on the next day is Ultimate Frisbee, and you're feeling like a geezer; Daddy just got 41% on his collection and he's earned some TLC. I don't know about you, but I'm

feeling 22, so Fever is my guy tonight. Taylor Swift etc. Never any cloakroom space, cash only, definitely a front for money-laundering. Another classic. 10/10.

Other spots include Plush, the LGBTQ+ club (also do sick themed nights), Emporium (don't bother), Cirkus (haha no), O2 Academy for live bits, and Freud if you're bougie. Keep this for reference, everything will make sense.

Ollie Jakes
(he/him), 2nd Year
History & English





Your time at Oxford will, inevitably, involve a lot of time spent in these. As a university with, to quote the prospectus, ‘legendary libraries’, Oxford’s got more than its fair share of great places to work – below are some of my favourites, but make sure you explore!

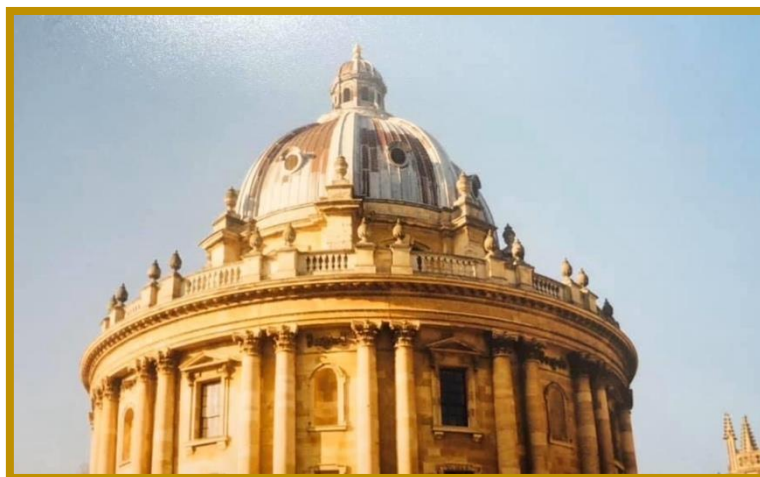
The Rad Cam and the Bod

The backdrop to every matriculation profile pic, the Rad Cam is arguably one of Oxford’s most impressive libraries. As a reading room of the wider Bodleian – Oxford’s legal deposit library – it holds primarily history books, but you’ll also find some English texts dotted amongst its hallowed shelves. The Bod is home to every book imaginable, and it even has the Duke Humfrey’s Library, Oxford’s 15th Century reading room of Harry Potter fame. You’ll also find a bit of the Bod inside Dicky P/China Centre on Hugh’s grounds – a great option for ordering offsite books when you don’t fancy facing the rain.

Faculty Libraries

Every faculty also has its own library, equipped with all the books you’ll ever need for your course. You can also often borrow from these (something the Bodleian doesn’t allow), so they’re a great place to go if you’re trying to avoid the distractions of college, or if your course mates are all book-hoarders.

Jack Vaughan (he/him),
2nd Year History



Gyms

St Hugh's has its very own college gym, and membership costs £35 per term, or £65 for an academic year (senior members of Hugh's boat club get free membership hence the number of rowing machines, and rowers, in there). You can find it below the JCR and beyond the college bar, making it incredibly convenient. Entrance is bod-card activated, so you need to make sure to sign up for a brief induction before you can start going. It comprises 6 rowing machines, 2 treadmills, 1 indoor bike, some free weights, a couple of resistance machines for upper and lower body and some yoga mats.

Admittedly, it may be worth a look elsewhere if you're looking for a wider range of serious facilities and a larger space to workout.

If you're interested, here are some other options (out of college):

- ❖ Puregym: located next to Westgate shopping centre, PureGym is known for its great facilities at a relatively good price. Classes and discounts are also available, friendly staff. I use the multi-gym membership so I can also use the Puregym at home during the vac - 10/10 would recommend.
- ❖ Buzzgym: you can find Buzzgym inside Westgate itself, and I have heard tales of the sheer volume of treadmills there... Go see for yourself. Apparently, home to more gym-lads than Puregym. Also apparently cheaper and with more machines.
- ❖ Iffley Road Sports Complex: Iffley is a trek and a half away. Not joking. However, it is the home to most sports practices if you play for uni, and therefore boasts some of the best facilities, including a pool and 3 (yes, three) gyms. In the interest of saving time, do not try and get here without a bike.

Check out the college website for more information about our gym, and also the websites of other gyms I have mentioned in Oxford. Alternatively, you could scout them out as you arrive to pick which is best suited to you.



Anna Ticehurst (she/her), 2nd Year
Archaeology & Anthropology

Shops and Supermarkets



Tesco

Ideal for a big shop, and mind-blowing to those of us who have never experienced a Tesco with an escalator. It's a fair distance so if you're walking back be careful not to buy too much heavy stuff.

- ❖ Where: 25 min walk – out of college, right, right, straight for 20 minutes (edit: google maps may be a better GPS than this)
- ❖ Does: food, toiletries, stationary
- ❖ Open: 7am-midnight (5pm on Sundays)
- ❖ Pros: cheap, massive, tescalator, near the centre of Oxford so convenient after lectures
- ❖ Cons: a trek, right next to Fever = potential flashbacks to nights better forgotten

Co-op

A standard co-op, bigger and further away than 9 to 9, but smaller and closer than Tesco's.

- ❖ Where: Walton Street, a <15-minute walk
- ❖ Does: mainly food
- ❖ Pros: near, cheap
- ❖ Cons: more limited range of stuff

9 to 9

A small newsagent just round the corner that does normal newsagent-y stuff but also a bit more – ideal for a quick bread and milk shop, and for last minute pre-bop drink runs.

- ❖ Where: <5 min walk - North Parade (go out Dicky P gate, straight ahead at first road, then first left)
- ❖ Does: food, toiletries, newsagent-y stuff
- ❖ Open: 9am-9pm (fancy that)
- ❖ Pros: very near, a bit tardis-y – has much more stuff than you expect
- ❖ Cons: bit more expensive than a big supermarket, smaller, so a smaller range of stuff

Joe Young (he/him),
2nd Year Chemistry

Union

If you've not already heard of the Oxford Union, well, you'll probably end up hearing too much about once you arrive, so I'll try and break it down as best I can here.

In simple terms, the Union (not to be mistaken with OUSU, our student Union) hosts debates and speakers, including iconic figures like the Dalai Lama, Rihanna and 4 US Presidents, amongst many others.

Joining is undeniably costly (£286, or £170 if you're eligible for a maintenance loan) although these figures are for lifetime membership and are discounted by around 10% during freshers' week. If you reckon you'd go pretty often to listen to some big names talk (there usually are 6-8 talks a week) and debates (every Thursday) then it's definitely a good investment to make.

Whilst there are a number of positions (logistics, sponsorship, access) on committee that are appointed, where the Union starts to acquire its murky rep is through the elected positions which people (pejoratively called 'hacks') run for. In the 7th week of each term, your Facebook feed and DMs will be awash with hack posts. People you've hardly met will be urging you to vote for them, regaling you with how great they and their side are and promising big reforms and greater inclusivity for the Union. This often smacks of insincerity and can be annoying, but equally it can easily be ignored if you have no interest in that stuff.

Looking past the termly riff raff between political wannabes, there's also an under-appreciated debating arm of the Union where you can get involved - there are weekly workshops where you can hone your public speaking skills with different tiers based on past experience, and a number of competitions both domestically and abroad in which students can participate. Oxford currently are the champions of the World Universities Debating Championship (WUDC), so yeah, pretty good stuff.

I'm gonna level with you, at the end of the day many (possibly most) people at Oxford clown the Union - it's notorious for attracting hacks who clout chase, has invited some dubious figures in the past and it does have its fair



share of melts. Yet each year hundreds and hundreds of students join, making the Union the largest student society in Oxford. Just this term I've been fortunate enough to listen to Conan O'Brien, Paul Krugman, Kunal Nayyar and Peggy Gou amongst others. So if some of the toffy connotations and all round bad chat from hacks doesn't deter you wholly, there's a lot to enjoy as far as speakers and events go.

Events during the first 2 weeks of Michaelmas are open to everyone, so don't take my word for it - have a look for yourself and see what you make of it!

Aditya Dabral (he/him),
2nd Year English



Freshers' Fair

Be tactical.

Bring an empty rucksack; those vouchers won't carry themselves. Make sure you pick up the free bike lights and seat cover, even if you don't intend to get a bike (you will probably get one, or someone's lights will get nicked).

Three email addresses. One you check, only the societies you actually want to hear from. One you rarely check, given to societies you are passively interested in but your feelings aren't quite there yet, and then a straight up fake for when you want the free thing but don't want the emails (aha poetry society?).

Be selective. Sign up to your subject faculty. Sign up to a couple sports and a club or two, but don't get drawn in. Remember the fake email for backup, so don't panic if the media society has you pinned. If you sign up to bands, the auditions will be very soon, so check regularly for updates.

If you are at all interested in the Oxford Union then make sure you get the deal from the first few weeks. It is a good way to think about things you otherwise wouldn't.

Ollie Jakes (he/him), 2nd Year
History & English





The key points

- ❖ Register to vote!
- ❖ You can register to vote in both your home constituency and in Oxford, and you can vote in local elections in both places. In a national election, you can only vote in one place.
- ❖ St Hugh's constituency is 'Oxford West & Abingdon'.
- ❖ If you have any trouble with registering or voting, or any questions, get in touch with people, just about anyone will be willing to help.

1. I'm a UK national* who has never registered to vote

*or an Irish, EU or Commonwealth citizen with a permanent UK address

Now's your chance to exercise your democratic rights! (and engage in some classic governmental bureaucracy) (it's actually super quick and easy there's not much bureaucracy)

You can register in both your home constituency and in Oxford. You will need to register for each place separately. Head to www.gov.uk/register-to-vote to register. You'll need your national insurance number (in the form "AB123456C". You should have been sent a letter around your 16th birthday. You can also find it on any payslips you might have).

For your address, the postcode is OX26LE, and just put down "St Hugh's College, St Margaret's Road, Oxford". Don't worry that you don't know exactly which building you're going to be living in yet.

It's as easy as that!

2. I'm a UK national* who is registered to vote at home, but not in Oxford

*or an Irish, EU or Commonwealth citizen with a permanent UK address

Get registered in a second constituency for 100% more democracy!

Even if you're already registered to vote at home, you can register to vote in Oxford as well, and you'll need to be registered there to vote in Oxford (e.g. if a national election occurs during term time, or if you want to vote in local Oxford elections).

Head to www.gov.uk/register-to-vote to register. You'll need your national insurance number.

For your address, the postcode is OX26LE, and just put down “St Hugh’s College, St Margaret’s Road, Oxford”. Don’t worry that you don’t know exactly which building you’re going to be living in yet.

3. I’m not a UK national but I think I have the right to vote in the UK Or I have more questions: contact Oxford council on 01865249811 – they will be able to give you more information.

Why should I vote?

Whether you want to get rid of Johnson or keep him in power; highlight the climate emergency or NHS underfunding; the most direct way of making your voice heard is through voting and encouraging your mates to vote. Voting for a party doesn’t just directly contribute to keeping them/getting them in power, but also shows other parties what the public wants, indirectly. If the green party gets lots of votes, for instance, even if they don’t get into government, the Conservatives might look at that and, wanting those votes, decide to do more on climate change.

How do I actually vote?

A week or so before election day you’ll be posted a ‘polling card’, which will tell you where your polling station is, and when it’s open (it’s generally 7am to 10pm). On election day, head down there (take some friends! Communal democracy!). You’ll be given a sheet of paper with all the candidates standing and will go to a table to cast your vote. You’ll then put your paper in a box. You don’t have to tell anyone who you voted for, at any point.

Joe Young (he/him),
2nd Year Chemistry

Hidden Gems



Taken from submissions by current second years

Bridge over troubled water

- ❖ Found on the far side of uni parks
- ❖ “It is a very nice place to go for a walk to, especially if you're feeling a little stressed or just want to get away from the noise of town, and a very good place to simply think about other things. Also 10/10 for dogs on the way”

Thames Path

- ❖ Near the Head of the River Pub on St Aldates.
- ❖ “You get a beautiful walk along the Thames, and within about 20 minutes you can feel like you're out of Oxford, without actually being that far from everywhere you need to be”

Common Ground Café

- ❖ Little Clarendon Street
- ❖ “Best place to study - bright, communal, you can get coffee, cheerful baristas”

The Turf Tavern

- ❖ Near Bridge Street
- ❖ “Butterbeer, if you know you know”

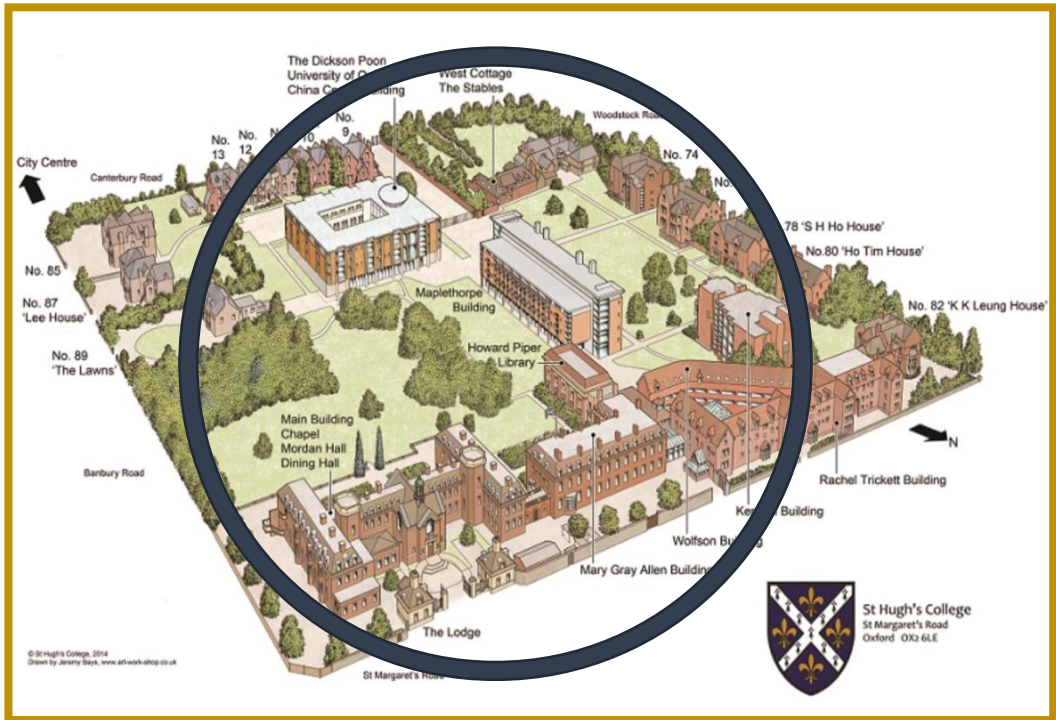
Voltaire Room

- ❖ Taylor Institution
- ❖ “Lovely place to work, really sheltered. Open to anyone, you don't have to be a languages student.”



Formosan Bubble Tea Bar

- ❖ High Street
- ❖ “It's a small, super authentic and cute bubble tea shop. Really hard to find, but by far best bubble tea in town. There's also a discount if you're part of the Union. – From a bubble tea connoisseur”





Starting university can be an overwhelming and difficult experience, and sometimes life in Oxford can become intense. Luckily, support is readily available both in St Hugh's and Oxford for both your mental and physical health. These resources are available to all, and should you feel that you need support of some kind, please don't hesitate to reach out. It is important to prioritise looking after yourself, and no problem is too big or small to seek help for. The college and university are both here to make sure that you feel safe and supported over the course of your degree.

Help in Hugh's

College Nurse

Our College Nurse, Sarah Dragonetti, can be found from Wednesdays to Fridays in the college surgery (MGA Building, first floor). She can give medical advice and direct you towards more help if you need it. She also sends regular emails with information from the NHS, as well as advertising some welfare events in college. You can contact her with any concerns or schedule an appointment by emailing nurse@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk or phoning 01865 274945. She also does room visits if you are very unwell.

College Counsellor

If you would like to talk to a professional about any personal problems, you can make an appointment with the College Counsellor, Elizabeth Treasure, by emailing counsellor@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk or through the College Nurse. She can usually offer appointments within a week. Elizabeth is from the University Counselling Service who commits some of her time exclusively to Hugh's.



Chaplain

The College Chaplain, Dr Shaun Henson is always available to members of College in any kind of need to offer support in confidence. You do not have to be religious, or to have a religious issue in order to reach out to Shaun for support. He is in College on most weekdays and Sunday afternoons during term time, and you can also contact him by emailing shaun.henson@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk or on 01865 274955.

Welfare Reps

Welfare Reps are members of the JCR committee that you can get in contact with if you have questions or just need someone to talk to. More information about the role of the Welfare Reps can be found on the JCR Committee page.

Peer Supporters

Peer Supporters are students trained by the University Counselling Service to listen and maintain confidentiality. Often it can help to simply get things off your chest, or to know that someone is genuinely willing to listen and take the time to understand. If you are in need of more professional help, they are also able to refer you. Peer supporters are also here if you're worried about a friend, or just want more information about welfare resources. If you want a chat you can email peersupport@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk, message one of them directly (there are posters around College with their names and photos on) or go to their drop-in peer support sessions. More information can be found on the peer support page of the guide.





WEQ

The JCR's Welfare and Equal Opportunities Committee is made up of student representatives of specific communities to provide support and representation. If you are struggling with experiences specific to a certain community or would just like to chat with someone who may have had similar experiences to you, reach out to the WEQ committee! Look out for Committee posters around College.

Junior Deans

Junior Deans are postgraduate students who are on duty during the evenings and overnight throughout term time and respond to complaints or incidents. You can call them, whether in an emergency situation, or to make an anonymous noise complaint. To reach the junior deans, call the Porter's Lodge on 01865 274900.

Help in Oxford

University Counselling Service

If you need or want professional support, you can receive free counselling through the University Counselling Service (at 3 Worcester Street). To book simply email counselling@admin.ox.ac.uk and they will get in touch with the next steps. They also offer a range of workshops to support you with difficulties ranging from lack of motivation to panic attacks and have really helpful podcasts and resources on their website.

General Help

The local GP practice is Summertown Health Centre, which you can register with before coming to university. Most appointments need to be booked two weeks prior. Surgery hours are held weekly by the College Doctor in Hugh's on Monday 8.30 am – 10 am. Appointments at the surgery can be booked online or at 01865 515552. For non-emergency medical advice, call 111, and for emergency, call 999. If you do call an ambulance let the Porters know, as they may turn it away if they don't know what's going on. The College Nurse and Doctor for sexual health advice. You can also contact the Oxfordshire Sexual Health Service at the Churchill Hospital (01865 231231).

Safe Haven Scheme

Many college lodges participate in the Safe Haven Scheme for students who may be feeling vulnerable or are experiencing medical issues; you can ask for help in the Porter's Lodge of any college. They will help you and arrange for you to get back to Hugh's safely or will call the emergency services if necessary.

Nightline

Nightline is a confidential listening service run by students between 8pm and 8am from 0th week to 9th week. You can call 01865 270270, contact via an instant messaging service (<http://oxfordnightline.org/open-im>), or visit the Nightline office in person at 16 Wellington Square between 8pm and 8am to talk to a volunteer.

Samaritans

24-hour confidential listening service, able to give emotional support, or just someone to talk to. Can be contacted at 116 123, or jo@samaritans.org, which has a 24-hour response time. More information can be found on their website www.samaritans.org.

Sasha Mills (she/her),
2nd Year English

Peer Support



Peer support is a university-wide scheme that offers trained support for students from their peers, both in college and across the university.

Peer supporters are students, active in both the JCR and the MCR, who have been specially trained by the Uni Counselling Service to listen to and talk through any issues that might be concerning you, whether they're related to work, home life or otherwise.

We get that approaching someone in a position of authority can be daunting. That's why Peer Support can be hugely beneficial in creating a safe, informal space to get things off your chest with someone who we hope you can identify with, and feel comfortable around.

Rainbow Peers and Peers of Colour are also active to offer and provide support to any LGBTQ+ students or students of colour, and diversity is a massive focus for the programme.

Peer Support is an integral part of welfare at Oxford. Becoming a peer supporter has been a hugely rewarding experience and an opportunity that is open to all.

We look forward to welcoming you in September.

Testimony:

'As a person that has struggled with anxiety for years, my experience with the peer support system has been nothing but positive. It allowed me to have a healthy outlet for my feelings, and deal with them constructively rather than letting them overwhelm me. It was easy to organise, I just got in touch with one of the peer supporters and within half an hour I was able to meet them. We had hot chocolate together, and I felt like I was really being listened to. Sometimes reaching out to your friends and family can be hard, but the peer support system gives you a safe space to talk to someone in without feeling that pressure. Would definitely recommend.'

Ollie Jakes (he/him), 2nd Year History & English; Madeleine Wright (she/her), 2nd Year Ancient & Modern History

Words of Wisdom

Taken from submissions by current second years

- ❖ “You might not make friends in the first few days. That’s fine! It might seem like everyone around you is best friends, but they’re probably all feeling as unsure as you are. Friendships will develop with time, and you’ll find your place”
- ❖ “Bring multivitamins to fight off that freshers’ flu throughout your first term!”
- ❖ “My main piece of advice would be to just chat to everyone. Everyone is in the same boat, and everyone appreciates some friendly chit-chat. Doesn't matter the topic; sometimes you find things to bond over despite huge differences in your degree, background, tastes... You're among so many interesting and lovely people and getting to know them will make your experience at Hugh's so much more enjoyable, especially since you're all living together.”
- ❖ “Try and prioritise and realise that some tasks will take more time than others. Sounds intuitive, but, say, if you're a student who does languages, try and spend about a quarter of the time on a translation that you would on an essay/commentary. Yes, you could spend six hours on a small task and have it perfect, but you need to prioritise to make sure you don't burn yourself out and leave yourself ample time for more time-consuming tasks.”



ALL-NIGHTER: Staying up all night to do work that you very easily could have done earlier.

BOD CARD: Student ID, access card for buildings, used to pay for food.

BOP: College party in the bar. Somewhat reminiscent of a year 6 disco.

BNOG: "Big Name on Campus." Thinks they're the centre of the universe, but actually somewhat irrelevant.

BURNS NIGHT: Yearly formal, get ready for a copiously long dinner and Scottish dancing that you're definitely not sober enough to do well.

COLLECTIONS: In-college exams at the start of each term.

COME UP: Arrive in Oxford.

CREWDATE: A cult-y event between sports clubs. Bring pennies and wine and expect to be sconced (see below) to shreds by people you thought were your friends.

CUPPERS: College sports competitions, quality varies. SHFC get unreasonably excited about this.

DEAN: Fellow responsible for student conduct. Seemingly appears out of thin air whenever a good time is happening.

DICKY P: Building in College with bougie food and coffee.

EIGHTS: Rowing bumps races in Trinity.

ELISH: Angiolini, college Principal. Very friendly, often hosts classy events with free alcohol.

ENTZ: short for entertainment. Can range from bops to board games nights.

FORMAL: 3 course dinner in college, weekly. Lounge suits and dresses/nice trousers. At Hugh's, gownless. Bring wine.

HACK: One who pushes him or herself in university societies, usually politics or journalism. Hangs out in the Union bar. A bit too into networking.

HALL: Dinner, also the physical dining room.

HIGH TABLE: Where Fellows sit at Hall, above you, and with better food. Do not sit here.

HILARY: Spring/Lent term.

THE ISIS: River, and eDgY student magazine.

JCR: Social space in a perpetually chilly conservatory. Also College's student-run undergraduate governing body.

LECTURES: If you do science, a daily occurrence, if you do humanities, reportedly a monthly (at best) occurrence.

LODGE: Gatehouse where the porters work, and where your pidge (pigeonhole) is found. Lost your keys? This is the place to go.

MAY DAY: 1st May every year, when schoolboys sing on top of Magdalen tower, accompanied by Morris dancing and alcohol.

MATRICULATION: Formal ceremony on Saturday 1st week to swear students into the University. Followed by Matriculash. One of the most 'Oxford' experiences imaginable.

MICHAELMAS: Winter term.

MODS: Type of prelim exam in certain subjects.

PORTER: Vital members of College. First port of call for almost anything you could think of. Found in the Porters' Lodge.

PRELIMS: End of year university exams in first year.

ROWING: Your friendly neighbourhood cult.

RUSTICATE: Leaving Oxford for a year for personal (officially known as suspension) or disciplinary reasons.

SCHOOLS: 'Examination Schools' on the High Street, where you'll sit university exams and, if studying a humanities subject, where some of your lectures are.



SCONCE: See also 'Crewdate'. Sort of like Never-Have-I-Ever. A great way to betray your friends' secrets!

SCOUT: The Oxford term for housekeeping staff. Get to know your scout! Will confiscate your washing up if you leave it for too long.

SUBFUSC: Archaic clothing worn for Matriculation, Graduation, and exams.

TORPIDS: Rowing bumps races in Hilary.

TRASHING: Celebratory informal ceremony after exams. Disapproved of by the University.

TRINITY: Summer term, also a college.

TUTE: Tutorial. Can be either great or horrific.

UNION: May be Student or Oxford. One is harmless, the other is Bad Vibes Central.

VAC: Vacation. Prepare to sleep until 12pm for five weeks.

Corona Virus

Admittedly, this guide was not written with Corona Virus in mind, being a product of a time when we were blissfully ignorant of what was to come. Therefore, articles on clubs, pubs and basically any interaction with the outside world seem slightly anachronistic (ed: this hyperbolic for comedic effect, please don't panic we will let you outside).

In light of this, we thought it important to add a little page on the big issue.

We take this opportunity to urge you not to worry. We have a freshers' sub-committee working hard to make sure your freshers' week is the best it can be, and Oxford have been putting in place so many contingency plans that my email inbox is starting to get a bit clogged with updates. Basically, we all just want you to have the most fun, social and safe (!!) experience possible. Who says drinking games can't be done from a two-metre distance? And Bridge will be there waiting for you in Hilary term – did someone say delayed gratification? Or is a preferred idiom 'patience is a virtue'?

For all we know, this page itself could be anachronistic by the time you are reading it, or by the time you actually get to Hugh's, as rules and restrictions change every day – so, the call-of-the-day is vague but optimistic!

The main thing to stress is how lucky you are to be going to a college-based university. It means that even if you can't get into the centre as much as you want, or if societies etc. are online, you are still surrounded by lots of friendly faces. It is such a social system compared to normal uni accommodation so don't worry there'll be plenty of people to make friends (or enemies) with.

And hey, at least you didn't have to do your A Levels.

Martha Wilson (she/her),
2nd Year English



(Some) Contacts

Porters' lodge - 01865 274900 : put this number in your phone now

College nurse (Sarah Dragonetti) - 01865 274945, sarah.dragonetti@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk

Summertown GPs - 01865 515552

University Counselling Service - 01865 270300

Nightline - 01865 270270

Emergency Services – 999

NHS Non-emergency – 111

Local Taxi – 001 Taxis, 01865 240000



