



# St Hugh's College

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FRESHERS' GUIDE 2021

# An Editors' Welcome

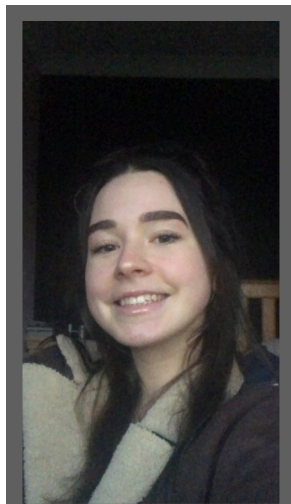
Welcome to your Freshers' Guide! Congratulations on earning your place at Oxford, and more specifically, at the best college there is!!

We hope you are excited to read the guide to find out about all things Hugh's. We remember how nervous we were when we started, so we hope this guide puts your nerves at ease, with some (debatably) useful advice and info about College life. This guide will discuss all things Hugh's from societies to accommodation, everyday life and just generally how to survive away from home (remembering to eat and sleep is surprisingly hard!).

This guide is just here to help you out and for you to hear from students who were in your shoes a year ago and are still standing (just about).

We really hope you enjoy what we've put together as much as we did making it.

As a note, you'll notice that a decent amount of this year's guide has been adapted from last year's. Fun fact - it's awfully hard to write about stuff when you've never really experienced what it's usually



# Contents

*JCR*

[JCR Committee Introductions](#)

1

[JCR Meetings and Online Presence](#)

8

[Freshers' Committee Introductions](#)

9

[College Families](#)

11

[Freshers' Fair](#)

12

[Societies](#)

14

[Bops](#)

22

Facilities

[Map](#)

24

[Library](#)

25

[Dining Hall \(and Formals\)](#)

27

[Dickson Poon \(and the Wordsworth Tea Room\)](#)

28

[College Bar and JCR](#)

29

# Contents

## [Bikes](#)

39

## [What to Bring](#)

40

## The Wider World of Oxford

### *Academic Stuff*

#### [University/Department Libraries](#)

43

#### [Musings on the Radcam](#)

44

#### [Student Union](#)

45

#### [Oxford Union](#)

46

### *Less Academic Stuff*

#### [Cafes](#)

47

#### [Pubs](#)

48

#### [Clubs](#)

49

#### [Gyms](#)

51

#### [\(Food\) Shops](#)

52



# JCR Committee Introductions

## JCR President - Michael Bakare

Congratulations on getting into St Hugh's! I'm Michael (he/him), a PPEist from North London and your JCR President for 2021.

I'm always up for a chat about the JCR, college or just anything on your mind. You'll probably be most successful catching me on the college grounds on one of my countless socially distanced walks. (Hopefully by the time you get here social distancing will be a thing of the past)

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 where I let you know what's going on around college and in Oxford more generally. The information tends to be really useful so it's worth giving them a quick read.

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



## Vice President - Alice Gadsby

Hi, I'm Alice (she/her) and I'm the JCR vice president. My role mostly involves anything to do with accommodation and food, as well as more generally supporting the president and the rest of the committee. This means I run the room ballot (where people arrange where and with whom they're going to live the following year in college) and deal with things to do with hall and Dicky P (our college cafe!), among other things. Please get in touch any time



## Freshers' Representative - Molayo Ogunde

Hi! I'm Molayo, your Fresher's Representative and a Human Scientist (a very lowkey subject) from London. I ran my Fresher's Rep campaign on my dislike of pineapple on pizza, so if you find yourself at Little Venice (a great pizza place next to Hugh's) do me a favour and get a bbq base Venice special. Jokes aside, as Freshers' Rep my main role is to organise Freshers' week 2021 and welcoming you all! Please feel free to reach out or say hello if you see me around college which, according to my



# Secretary - Aditya Dabral



Hey guys, I'm Adi (he/him), a 3rd (by the time you read it?) year English student from London. In my role as Secretary I minute and send out agendas for JCR meetings, so if you ever want to pass a motion requesting money or want a change in Hugh's policy then feel free to reach out to me! In my free time I enjoy reading, sharing political opinions no-one asked for, and singing the praises of Chelsea F.C and the

New York

## Sport and Societies Rep - Dan Johnston

Hey everyone I'm Dan (he/him), the Sports & Societies Rep this year. Being an Engineer, writing, and even more so funny writing, is not a strength of mine so I shall keep this short for all our sakes. When I'm not questioning why I chose to have such a big workload, I'm either Climbing, playing rugby or heavily binge watching Netflix. I am here to help you with anything related to sports or societies within college, including (but not limited to): -

- ♠ The boring behind the scenes admin stuff needed for running Clubs & Societies.
- ♠ Enabling and encouraging all JCR members to start new societies or sports that they think are missing.
- ♠ Organising the Sports Formal (once I find out what that actually is).
- ♠ Sorting punting sign-up slips in Trinity term.
- ♠ Co-organising our sports day with Clare College Cambridge.
- ♠ Anything else that may help bring the Sports & Societies scene





## BAME Representative - Iris-Mae Morse

Hi! My name's Iris-Mae (she/her), and I'm in my second year studying Medicine. I'm the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) student rep so I run lots of fun events throughout the year and generally promote the welfare and of BAME Hugh's students. I'm always free for a chat and I'm excited to meet you all in October :)



## Charities and Communications Rep - Rosie Pitcher

Hey! I'm Rosie (she/her), I study Human Sciences and am the rep primarily responsible for fundraising for the charities we elect every term! I was absolutely terrified of anyone on committee when I was a fresher, but I promise we are not scary :) Feel free to reach out if you have a charity you think deserves our support, or any fundraising ideas! Hope-



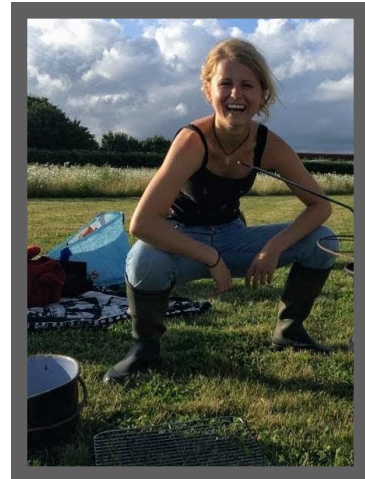
## LGBTQ+ Representative - Marcus Ham



Hi I'm Marcus (he/him) and I'm your LGBTQ+ rep! I am in 2nd year studying German and Arabic. It's my job to support college's LGBTQ+ students, make sure that they are all treated equally and having fun. I organise socials such as film night and crewdates. I am also responsible for the gender expression fund to help offset costs relating to gender identity. My DMs are always open, feel free to say hi! :)

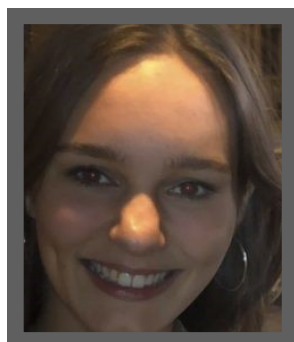
## Environment and Ethics Rep - Annie Liddell

Hiya I'm Annie, a Fresher doing Human sciences. I'm also your environment and ethics rep. I am in charge of bringing your ideas on environmental and ethical issues to the college's attention. I can also be found endlessly searching for bins and people who will use them correctly, trying to cook vegan food for people and running into trees (not on purpose). If you have any ide-



## Treasurer - Tessa Wilkinson

Hi, I'm Tessa (she/her), the current Treasurer of St. Hugh's JCR and a second year Economics and Management student. 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



Hi! I'm Sasha (she/her), your careers and academic affairs representative. I work across a range of issues, including access, in-college examinations (collections), and making careers opportunities available for the JCR student body. I'm always happy to help, whether that be by reading over a job application or by advocating for your academic concerns and needs!



## Director of Digital Operations - James Mason

Hi, I'm James (he/him), an engineer from Cambridge (deep shame). I am the St Hugh's Director of Digital Operations (DoDO).



My roles include looking after the JCR tech (Wii, Ps4, TV etc) and developing the JCR's online presence (Website, Instagram check them out). I am also known for posting weekly menu reviews of the food in hall to our JCR Facebook page.



# Welfare Representatives

Hey, we're your 2021 Welfare Reps; Ollie Jakes, Maddie Wright, and Connor Fitchett. 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! Normally we would host

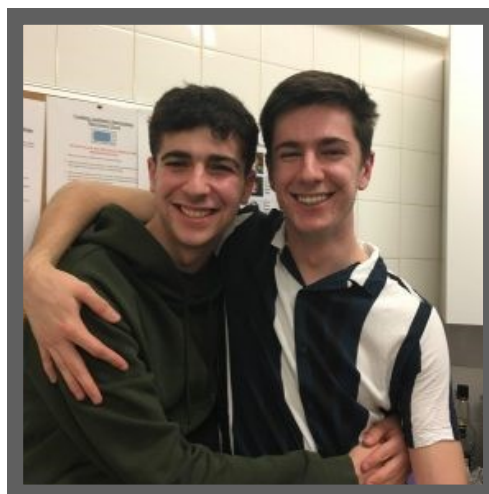


welfare teas several times a term on Sundays after bops (free food!!), and the 5th week of term is always a designated 'welfare week' to stave off the dreaded '5th week blues', where we hold lots of very wholesome events (again, free food!). We also have mysterious links to the college Cookie Fairy, who you can message with requests for cookies for your friends! Can't wait to meet you all in October!

Connor (pictured), is the Freshers' Welfare Officer,

## Entz Representatives

Hi, we're Patrick and Jacob, your Entz reps. This basically means that we organise events for you in term, these include pub quizzes, karaoke, film nights, and of course bops. A lot of our events so far have been via zoom, which may or may not have driven your entz reps to the edge (we just wanna bopppp). Bops have all of the benefits of a club night without the 20 minute walk and compulsory Solomon's (despite what other colleges may say, other kebab vans are NOT available). By the time you get here we won't have had bop for over a year and half so it's safe to say it's going to pop off. Commitment to theme and general good chat have known to be rewarded with \*free bop juice\* (cue limbs). Please drop the entzstagram a follow for all things Entz



# JCR Meetings and Online Presence

JCR meetings, in all honesty, are the heart of democracy within the college. What's better than spending a lazy Sunday evening (in which you *definitely* don't have an essay to write) discussing and voting on the issues that impact you as a student of St Hugh's? By exercising your rights as a JCR member, you too can have a say on whether Professor Biscuit and Admiral Flapjack are honorary JCR members or not, or whether college parents should be allowed to marry between subjects (hint: they should!). Sometimes you'll have to decide whether the JCR budget should go towards various activities and events too!

Last year everything was online (because, you know, global pandemic), but usually you meet in-person in the JCR conservatory. Thus, you get to see people rise out of their seats to truly display the passion of their argument. I assume. I don't know, again. But apparently it can be a *wee* bit intimidating at first if/when you propose your own motion. Everyone will listen to you though, and treat you with the proper respect and all. While it may feel like it at times, it's not as bad as the House of Lords.

Most importantly, physical JCR meetings mean free food (namely Domino's pizza). Considering the fact that there's no dinner service in Hall over the weekend, this can make attending a JCR meeting

even more desirable - you don't have to cook for an evening!

It's important to note that a lot of information and communication from the JCR takes place online. The main channel is the JCR Facebook





is lots of information here from hall menus to library and printing guides. In addition to this there is the JCR's own website: <https://jcr.st-hughs.ox.ac.uk/>. You can find out about the JCR, it's committee and the clubs and societies available.

**Jack Rodden** and **James Mason**. Adapted from **Cora Wilson**

## Freshers' Committee

The Freshers' Committee are a sub-division of the JCR. Collectively, they're responsible for things like writing the Freshers' Guide (the thing you're currently reading!), as well as managing Freshers' Week and dealing with college families (more on that one in a moment). Considering this fact, I argue that they deserve their own introductions, however brief. The following is an introduction from some of the members of the committee!

Hi, I'm Ashlynn and I'm one of the College Family Coordinators and Event Planners! I study Music and am currently the President of the St Hugh's Music Society. I'm so excited for you all to meet your wonderful college parents and enjoy the fantastic events we have planned for Freshers' week! See you all soon!



Hi, my name is Ben. I was one of the graphic designers for the Freshers' Committee. I helped to design the freshers' merch and the cover for the freshers' guide. Biochemistry, (he/him).

studying maths. I make sure that all Freshers are as aware as can be of the welfare resources available to them, as well as always being here for a chat if you want. I

Hi, I'm Meghana; I'm the Freshers Committee Treasurer for St Hugh's - currently studying E&M. Most often, I've been working behind the scenes and making sure all finances are going smoothly between you, us, our suppliers and college. Hope you're all excited to be joining Oxford soon and I look forward to meeting you!

Hi! I'm Jack, one of the Freshers' Guide editors on the Freshers' Committee! I assisted in the creation of what you're currently reading, basically. And outside of that, I study biochemistry!

Hi! I'm Evelyn and I'm the lead editor of the Freshers' Guide. I study French and Spanish and I really hope you enjoy what we've put together for you. I hope the Guide gets you properly excited to get started and I know you will have a great time in Oxford as Freshers.

Hello there! My name is Jakub and I am a student of Archaeology and Anthropology. As one of the event planners I helped with preparation of timetable for Freshers' Week. I am looking forward to

getting you know during some of the activities we planned for you.



Hi! I'm Mehرداد and I'm a Maths/CompSci student. I'm just helping plan some of the events during Freshers' week and you'll probably see me during games night. I'm really excited to see everyone, and hope you all have a brilliant time!

Hi my name

is

# College Families

Hi! We're Ashlynn and Kimberley and we're the College Family Coordinators for this year's Freshers' Committee. Before we explain what "college families" are, we would firstly like to say CONGRATS on getting into Oxford and welcome to hands down the best college at Oxford! We're so excited to welcome you into the College community and can't wait to meet you all in Freshers' week!

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 one of the weird but wonderful traditions that we have here at Oxford! The Cherwell article: "Meet the Parents: College Families Explained" is really useful and gives a great summary of the system.

It's super helpful having this connection to someone studying your subject who's just gone through the first-year course, because 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. Honestly, college families have helped a lot with surviving Oxford, especially in the first term when you're so new to things! They can answer any questions before or after you arrive, show you around, and generally just be a friendly face both around Hugh's and Oxford. 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! The college is a big family tree so not only do you have college parents but also siblings, grandparents, great grandparents, aunts, uncles and so on.

If you fancy, you can message us before you come up by finding us on Facebook or Instagram (your parents should have given you their usernames in their letter). We might



Dream College Mum

College families form an amazing network and your parents can become life-long friends so we can't wait for you all to meet your fabulous college parents! See you all soon!

## Freshers' Fair

As we all know Covid-19 brought a lot of changes, one of which was that we were not able to have an in person's freshers fair. This was pretty sad news to all of us freshers at the time (I was really looking forward to getting bags full of freebies from societies I would not end up joining). But all was not ruined as the SU stepped up and hosted a virtual freshers fair which was actually pretty good, sure there were no freebies, but you still had the opportunity to talk to second years about the society they represented through a virtual chat function. You were also able to look up a particular society if you already had one in mind, or simply scroll through the main virtual area where there were loads of societies which had set up virtual stands that you could simply click on and find out more about that society or go to their website. There were also benefits that came with having a virtual freshers fair, one being that you could take part from anywhere, you could find your favourite societies over lunch or if you were out and about you could have a quick look on your phone. It also meant that it felt like less of a rush to find a society you liked or be doomed to be extracurricular-less forever, you could deliberate on whether you wanted to join or not and you could look at all your options at once or over a couple of days. All in all, the virtual freshers fair was a really good experience despite my original



whether that hope ages well or not...

As such, there's the question of navigating a physical Freshers' Fair. It's no small order, and requires skill, tactics and the ability to move faster than the slowest member in the herd - they'll be pounced upon by the media society, not you.

Bring an empty bag, such as a rucksack; those vouchers won't carry themselves. Honestly just grab all the free stuff you can - you can always auction it off later, right? Things like bike lights are always useful, and even if you don't have a bike someone you know will - call it a 'welcome to uni' gift or something.

When it comes to contacts, go armed with three emails. One you'll *actually* check for the societies that you want to hear from. A second for the societies that you're *kinda* interested in, but not enough to have it guiltily clutter your main inbox for half a term. Your third should either be a spam address or outright fake - use it to feel comfortable about taking free stuff, or to get rid of someone holding a clipboard in one hand and a gun in the other (kidding, of course [although the 'Guild of Assassins' is a thing]).



Equally, there are a wonderful range of societies. Enough that you'll *never* have the time to do everything with all of them. Thus, it's important to be selective. Sign up to any subject-relevant societies, then maybe a couple of sport and non-sport clubs. Admittedly, most societies often give you a few weeks of free taster sessions be-

fore asking you to pay (usually about £5-£10 per year), so it might be a good idea to sign up for more than you'll keep, and then

# St Hugh's Societies

There are many societies, both at the university and college level. The following are a selection of adverts/pleas/desperate cries for your attention from some of the presidents of their respective societies. Keep them in mind, and if any interest you feel free to enquire

## 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 in other years, and have a lot of fun. We have a match every Sunday morning in Uni Parks (a 10 minute walk (the



park, not the match)) and 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 –

## Environment and Sustainability Society

St Hugh's Environment and Sustainability Society exists to make our college as environmentally friendly as possible! We organise talks, socials and events, and share information about environmental sustainability on our social media. We also subsidise eco-friendly products and provide tips for minimising our carbon footprint.

Membership is free, and you can find us on Instagram

## Music Society

Hi! We're St Hugh's Music Society and we're an organisation for all those who enjoy, play, and listen to music at St Hugh's College! We aim to sustain a sense of community between all musicians at College and promote the engagement with music between everyone, regardless of your subject. We're a new society so we can't wait to organise fantastic concerts and events for you all over the next year! Some of the events we have planned include: music recitals, open mic nights, competitions, and inter-college events. The annual Freshers' Recital will be taking place during Freshers' week so it might be a good idea to have something ready in advance – we'd love to have performers from a wide range of subjects and hear music from a large variety of genres. We're currently looking at starting a band, choir, and piano group – if any of these interest you, please get in touch with us or if you'd like to start your own ensemble, we'd also love to hear from you! The society is open to everyone and you do not have to be a member to attend our events. Everyone is welcome and



# Pool and Dart Society

Hello new hughsies!

English pool is a much loved sport at St Hugh's and has grown in popularity over my time in college. We now have two pool tables in the JCR which, before the COVID age, were social hubs across all year groups. I am hoping that we can bounce back strongly this year and get potting balls once more. Every year we participate in an inter-college league, typically entering two teams of four players. It's a lot of fun and a great way to visit other colleges and meet new people over a drink and some friendly competition. Otherwise though, college pool is a great social sport that students of all abilities are welcome to play. There are lots of opportunities to learn!

Darts has fallen a little by the wayside in recent years unfortunately but we are hoping to revive it and spread interest. It's a great game to play casually down in the bar with friends.

## Surfing Society

We are a new society that aims to bring together like-minded individuals at St Hugh's with an interest in surfing. Open to all competency levels (even those who have never surfed before); we aim to facilitate 3 subsidised surfing trips a year, predominantly to Bristol wave pool (1.5-hour drive). There is no joining fee and trips will be subsidised by our JCR allocated funds. Aside from surfing excursions, we aim to host termly socials for all members.

Follow our Instagram page for updates on trips & events.  
[@st\\_hughs\\_surfing](#)



# SHFC Women's Team

Women's 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 from when it rains) and we can always be relied upon to liv- en up a crewdate. Football is a great way to get out of college and blow away all the es- say-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



## Hockey Society

The St Hugh's hockey team enjoyed a successful 2019-2020 season and welcomes players of all abilities from all years of the college. We play matches on Sunday mornings against a variety of other colleges in Michaelmas and Hilary terms, and will train when we don't have matches, at the pitch at St Edward's school. There are college sticks and shin pads so anyone can come along, we'd love to have as many players as possible so please feel free to get involved even if you've never played before! The team is from a range of years, and it's a lovely way to meet other freshers as well. Hockey is a really relaxed and fun way to get some exercise into your week and relax on a Sunday. If you're interested, please feel free to get in touch with either of us by email or on

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. However, it is not limited to networking; the society will organise days based at law firms, where workshops are run so you gain insight into what being a solicitor or barrister entails. 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 – there's a lot going on. It also hosts a glamorous ball every term, the most recent one being held at Shakespeare's Globe in London. Many events are hosted by corporate law firms which will help you build upon your commercial awareness

# Religious Societies

St Hugh's community is a diverse one, and this diversity is fully welcomed and embraced by everyone here! While the College chapel is part of the Church of England, all faiths (or lack thereof) are welcomed and respected. To that end, there is a multi-faith prayer and quiet room available to all members of the College (for use in things such as prayer, faith or meditation). As well as this, there is a dedicated Faith and Beliefs representative for the JCR - Aaliyah Khan. Oh! And every term, an inter-faith formal is held where people from different faiths and backgrounds can come together to meet new people and have interesting conversations.



There are also many different religious societies run at St Hugh's -

The College Christian Union holds meetings every other Wednesday in College for Bible study. At a university level, the OICCU (Oxford Inter-Collegiate Christian Union) central meetings occur on the other days. Other university societies include the Islam-

ic Society, which is also one of the most active ones, with plenty of events planned every term. The University Jewish Society also runs a good number of events. It's important to note, however, that these are just some of the religious communities in Oxford - whatever your faith or background is, you will always find someone who shares your beliefs. If you want to find details for the different faiths, belief groups and religious centres of all denominations, you can do so here - <https://>



# Rowing Society

**Who Are We?** - SHBC is an incredibly friendly, fun, and welcoming boat club open to all students in College. There is a Men's side and a Women's side, each training in boats of 8, although it is also possible to scull in a single or row in fours. The Club welcomes newcomers of any ability, from complete novices to experienced athletes. We have an impressive competitive record, an excellent rapport throughout College and an infamous social calendar, [easily] making us one of the best sports clubs to join in College.



**Rowing At Oxford** - Oxford University is famous for its rowing, so it should come as no surprise that College rowing is one of the most popular, competitive and enjoyable sports on offer across the University. We train on the historical and beautiful Isis River, beside Christ Church Meadows,

as well as at Godstow. Novice crews are entered into the well-renowned Christ Church Regatta each Michaelmas, after which they are merged with senior crews to participate in the highly reputable Bumps Races - Torpids in Hilary Term and Summer Eights in Trinity. Crews are also entered into time trial races such as IWL and ISL throughout the year.

## **The Real Reason We All**

**Row** - Yet another famous rowing perk is its jam-packed social life. With literally

hundreds of boats training on the same stretch of river every morning, rowing is a great way to meet students from other colleg-





grabs include 'Most likely to sleep through an outing', 'Super sub', and 'Best backseat coxswain', with winners voted for anonymously by club members. Ultimately, the stimulating, friendly and inclusive social side of SHBC firmly seals it as an ideal club to join for a fantastic University sports life. No matter what anyone says, nothing bonds a crew together like the shared trauma of a 6.45am outing the morning after a heavy night at Bridge (although the post-outing breakfast in Hall makes it all worth it).

If you want to see more SHBC content give our official Instagram page a follow on @sthughsboatclub, or have a browse through our website for more photos and our current committee!



# Bops

If truth be told, I honestly have no idea what 'Bop' is (or at least I didn't until I read about it). Names aside ('Big Open Party', in case you're interested), Bops are pretty much just in-college club/themed party nights. They occur three times a term on Saturday evenings. They're meant to be a time to dress up in often fairly wacky outfits that you might not otherwise want to wear outside of college and just have a bit of fun for a while. And, with the workload that is Oxford, that's not a bad thing. Bops are often themed - previous adventures have included memes, the 80s, and plain white t-shirts (you're decorated throughout the night). Each Bop has a juice cocktail and the DJ is often a volunteer from college (so work on refining those playlists!).

The evening is also followed by a free welfare tea (an event offering free squash and tea, as well as sandwiches and other lunch-snack things). Brunch is also considerably more popular after everyone's tired themselves out, which makes hall a nice place to socialise if partying the night away isn't quite your thing...

**Jack Rodden.** Adapted from **Molly Mantle**



# *The Head in the Clouds Ball*

St Hugh's RAG Ball

19th November 2021

Celestial theme

In aid of the Oxfordshire  
Sexual Abuse and Rape Crisis  
Centre

7.30-11.30pm

Tickets on FIXR soon!

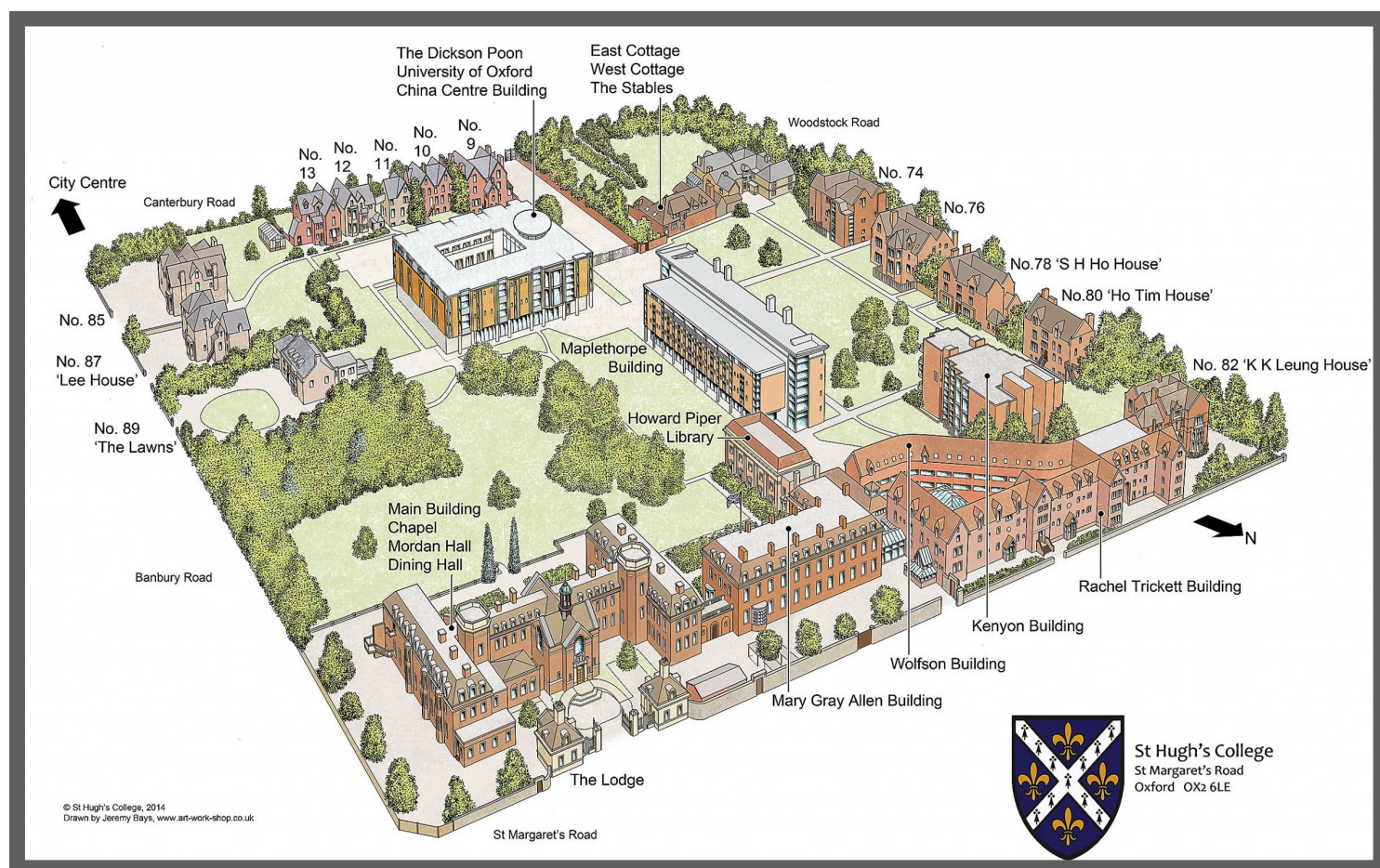


# Facilities

As a student of St Hugh's, there are many facilities available to you, the major ones of which are explained in the following pages. And, honestly, if you ever get the opportunity, I'd seriously recommend just going for an explore (COVID permitting) - I'm sure there are

## Map

This, logically, is a map of St Hugh's college. If you haven't already seen this, you will by the time you arrive at Hugh's, considering you, you know, need to know where to move into!





# Library

The library of St. Hugh's is... Sizable, and within that there are many study spaces. Some are out in the open, while others are more tucked away. It means that there's a lot of space depending on the kind of person you are, especially if you just want people to stay out of your way while you furiously scribble away at that essay due in... Oh, two hours?

Ok, so we should probably enter the library so you can start on that essay, right?

The books are everywhere. Everything has its place - different rooms for different subjects, for the most part. Expect to go on a wee bit of a scavenger hunt to find what you're looking for. Although I can attest to the fact that the librarians are amazing at finding what you need!

Initial entry to the library is granted via your BOD card, and the experience of a door opening to that small \*beep\* never grows old. Inside, you'll just have stepped straight into the 'collaborative' section of the library, although supposedly it's often referred to as 'The Fun Library' too. This is the place to go if you have work to do, but don't *really* want to do any of it. Thus, you have the bubbly satisfaction of leaving your room with the *intention* of doing some serious study, but don't have to live up to the promise! Although the clock is ticking on that essay, so we should probably just enter the depths...

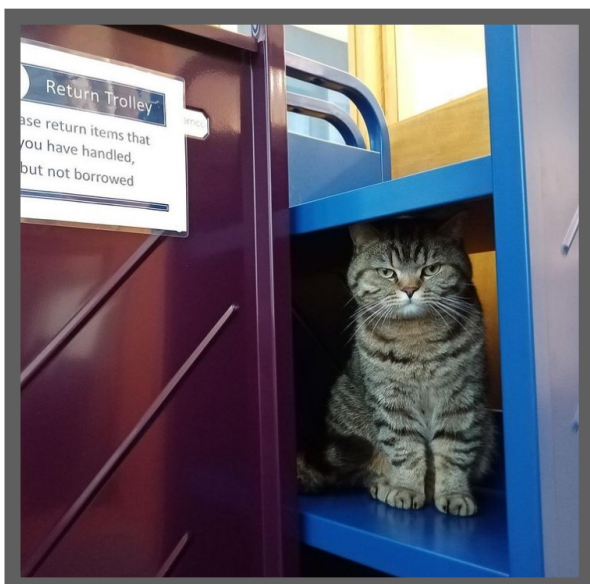
What are you looking for? Science? That'll be down here on the ground floor - two rooms, one for \*cough\* actual \*cough\* science, and another for the more socially-inclined sciences (the 'East Room' - creative, right?). Tall, metallic shelves, kind of like a grown up version of your school library. You can find cubicle desks here too, in case you *really* don't want to be distracted. Speaking of distractions, have I mentioned the cats? Sometimes they're hiding in the shelves and it's so ador-

be here all night! That's useful - it means we can slow down the tou-

Oh. Essay, right...

Then if you're not sciences, nor are you a fan of greek... The 'Upper Reading Room' then! Atop a frankly marvellous staircase, this room is... Admittedly pretty. Natural lighting, spacious, grand. Abstract carpets too, which brings everything together, to my mind. If you want to channel 'oh gods I'm actually in Oxford' (aside from the workload) without leaving the grounds, this is a good start! Usually free spaces are available, and the desks have individual lights. Word of advice - it reduces the social awkwardness if you don't stretch your finger forward, tongue sticking out slightly, to press the button while *someone else is watching*. Just wait for the person opposite to do it! Second point, apparently it gets busier on Sunday afternoons, the great 'catch-up' time, so might be best to plan around that if you're planning on studying for-

Essay! Right - I remembered *that* time, see? This here is language, but by your blank expression I'm guessing that's not your cup of tea either, is it? Hmmm... The floor above this is just meeting rooms. You can use those with friends, and they have whiteboards - fulfill that childish delight of drawing on them! Which, admittedly, is what whiteboards are for... And I'm guessing you're not looking for those, considering you need some quiet, private space for your essay, right?



Aye... Your room might've been the better option for this. Just grab the book you need and you can take it out - the loan times are generous, renewals can be done online and there are no overdue fees either!

# Dining Hall (and Formals)

In some regards, the main perk of (dining) Hall is the fact that you don't need to cook it yourself. In all honesty, that would probably be enough, especially after a long day of lectures, tutorials and essay writing. It's definitely improved by the fact that it's *good* food too... And not a pot noodle to be seen!

Monday to Friday, Hall serves a breakfast (a mix of 'English Breakfast', cereals, fruits, the works [although I would caution against trying to sample the *entire* menu in one sitting... I definitely don't speak from experience or anything]). There's also lunch and dinner. This is true of every day but the day Formal Hall is run (more on that one in a moment), wherein an early dinner is served, before a considerably more formal (I suppose the clue is in the name) is sat.

Every lunch and dinner has a meat, vegetarian and vegan option, and they're generally really good! Portions are decent, and for those with a sweet tooth, the desserts are *divine* (although also first-come, first-serve, so try not to run that essay too late)! I have been informed that jacket potato night should be avoided, although I myself haven't tried it. While the JCR hasn't been able to abolish that night yet, there have been efforts towards reducing red meat usage from an environmental standpoint - meat free Mondays are being trialled too.

Weekends are slightly different. It used to be brunch - a single late morning, super-large breakfast cum lunch. Nowadays, however, it's just a lunch, although it's to the same standards as Hall's weekly offerings! This is one of those times where COVID-19 has made things weird, so I honestly don't know what you'll experience - lunch isn't bad though... Fingers crossed for both?!

The food is paid for on your BOD card (the 'satisfying beep machine'), and that can be topped up via the 'UPay' app. It means you can't get an awkward 'card declined' moment while you're standing

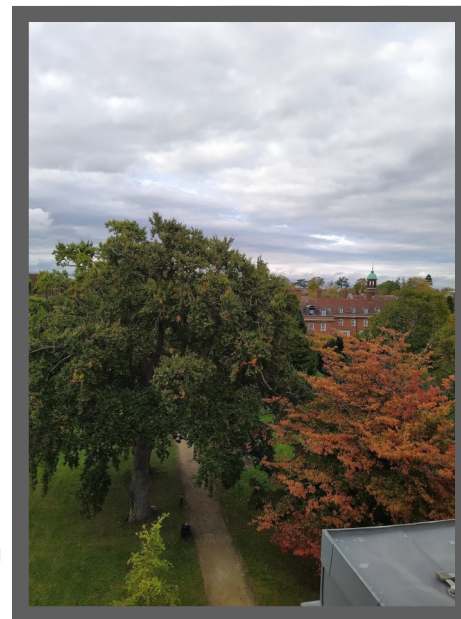
\*splutter\*). Sorry, there's something in my throat! But aye, St Hugh's is trying to give you a good meal, not gout.

Oh, and that Formal Hall I was talking about? It's optional and usually on a Tuesday evening. The name can be misleading though - while you do need to actually look decently presentable (although a gown is *not* required), the event is generally a relaxed affair, and you can bring friends/guests (although you might want to make sure they're not going to embarrass you or anything)! It's a three-course meal, up to the delicious college standard and priced at around £11 - cheaper than formals at many other colleges. Check out @chefs\_at\_sthughs to have a sneaky peek at what's on offer: some nights are themed, especially for Christmas (choir included) and

## Dickson Poon (and the Wordsworth Tearoom)

Ah, the Dickson Poon building. Although I say that in the knowledge that you may never hear it called that - 'Dicky P' is a more commonly used title. Regardless, it is (or, to be specific, the Wordsworth Tea Room is) a popular place to go for lunch if you're within college, and someone popping the question for lunch there often lifts the spirits. Each day is usually an Asian fusion (although takeaways this year have also included [admittedly healthy sounding] burgers and pizza) meat and non-meat option. If there's one drawback, it's the price - it's considerably more expensive than Hall is, with a main meal costing between £4 and £5. However, if you're ever lucky enough to have a tutorial in there, and your tutor pays for a nice hot drink (aye, *apparently* it happens)? Well, don't look a gift horse in the mouth! Especially when there are horror stories of a single 'Innocent' Revive smoothie setting you back £3.70! If you're feeling like you want to treat yourself though? It's not a bad place to go, and the whole experience is probably some sort of rite of passage

The rest of the Dickson Poon building is graduate accommodation, so we can only drool over how nice the rooms look (because my gods have you seen the kitchens?!). There are also many meeting/conference rooms (more possible tutorial locations, take note), as well as a really nice enclosed courtyard. There's also one of the Bodleian libraries, which means that you can have so many books shipped to you from the other university libraries if you don't fancy the trapse into Oxford proper! And if you can



## College Bar and JCR

One could argue that there are a few advantages to socialising within college - it's cheaper, and involves considerably less walking. After a day of working, and the constraints of a student budget, the college bar is supposedly the perfect place to be, especially if you don't want to experience the scary reality that is 'the outside world' for an evening. Tucked beneath the JCR, the bar is a great place to meet people, as well as being host to some of the best event nights of each term, from yoga and board games to karaoke and the famous Bops.

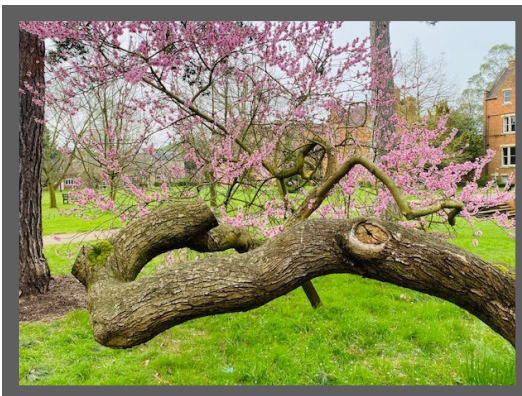
Equally, the JCR (the physical room, rather than the group of people - I know, it's confusing) itself is a good space to socialise. There are pool tables, a rather odd-ball selection of board games, Sky TV, and *multiple* games consoles (Wii, PS4, Switch). It's been



Over the last few years, the bar has also been getting some love from the dedicated Entz representatives as well as the JCR Bar Officer. Through them, the space can be hired out for different student events. A college cocktail and mocktail have also *finally* been implemented (not to say it'll *last*), and the space has been further shifted towards a more welcoming space for drinkers and non-drinkers alike. There's no toxic drinking culture on a 'Hugh's Night-in', making the bar a perfect place to have a great, but wholesome,

## Grounds

The grounds of St Hugh's are definitely one of its selling points. Having 10 acres of gardens is a perk of being slightly further from the hustle and bustle of the city centre. I know that it makes a night out harder, but at least you have more than a depressing square of grass that you can't even walk on (aye, you're allowed to walk on the grass here [minus the croquet lawn]!). Honestly though, it's a really nice place to have a morning stroll, or at any time just to clear your mind a little. And, if you're lucky, you might happen to come across the college cats! Professor Biscuit is... Big-boned, but *very* friendly, and often seems to want all the cuddles you can give him. Admiral Flapjack is considerably more elusive, so good luck if you manage to find her! In terms of other wildlife, I've personally encountered foxes (ah, the joys of them playing



outside of your window at 01:00), and so. Many. Squirrels (my record is eight over a distance of 100 metres).

Related to the grounds, there's the matter of the College Ball. Held bi-annually, it's arguably one of the

# Accommodation

As a Fresher, you'll get accommodation under a fairly randomised system. There are several places that you might live in first year. Main building is solely for Freshers, which means that you'll be surrounded by people that are just as nervous as you! Equally there's Keynon - a 1960s, grade-two listed building that often acts as overflow for Freshers, as well as some later year accommodation. If you're incredibly lucky, you may get Maplethorpe - congrats, you now have an en-suite! And MGA was also used by some Freshers

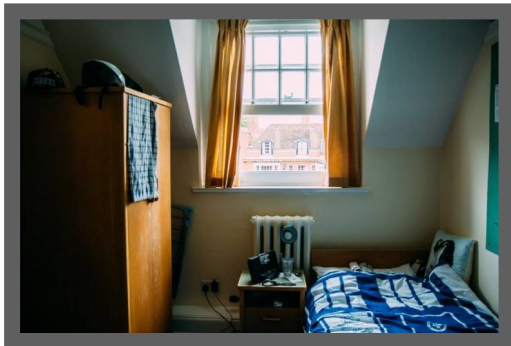
## Main Building

If you've been allocated Main as your accommodation next year, congratulations on securing the best building for Freshers. Main's superiority is clear from the outset; simply look at Kenyon or Maplethorpe and you'll know what I mean. But Main Building's appeal isn't so superficial – since this is the only accommodation reserved entirely for Freshers, it's also the most social as well as the most beautiful.

Things were a little bizarre last year thanks to the global pandemic, social distancing, multiple lockdowns and the majority of us not being here for Hilary, but I'm not salty about that at all. And even if I were, I'd have sooner had two terms in Main than three in Kenyon (no beef). The opportunities to aestheticize your life and really feel like a main character are ample – just think of the photo opportunities on that staircase, in front of the lawns...the possibilities are endless.

Main's set-up could be changing slightly next year, depending on whether Boris allows for looser restrictions, but rest assured – there'll be ample kitchen space and showers, too (no en-suites here, sorry – but what do you think this is, a hotel?!). Now – onto

and watch them rue the day they didn't apply to Hugh's.



On a serious note, having my first year in Main Building was an amazing experience, even with all the corona stuff. You're going to absolutely love it, too – and hopefully you won't have to deal with the porters and Dean enforcing COVID rules. But anyway, more in general, congratula-

## Kenyon

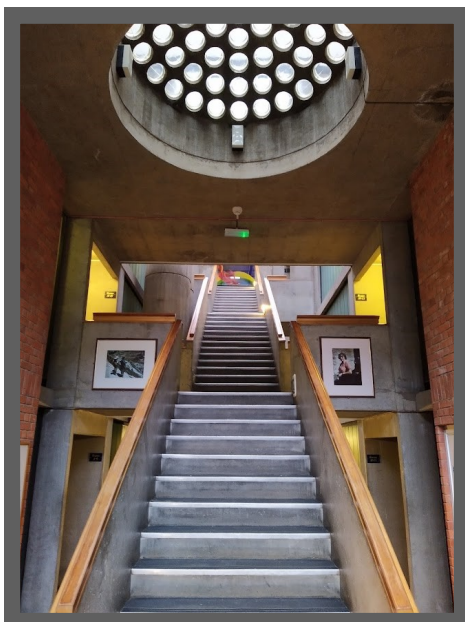
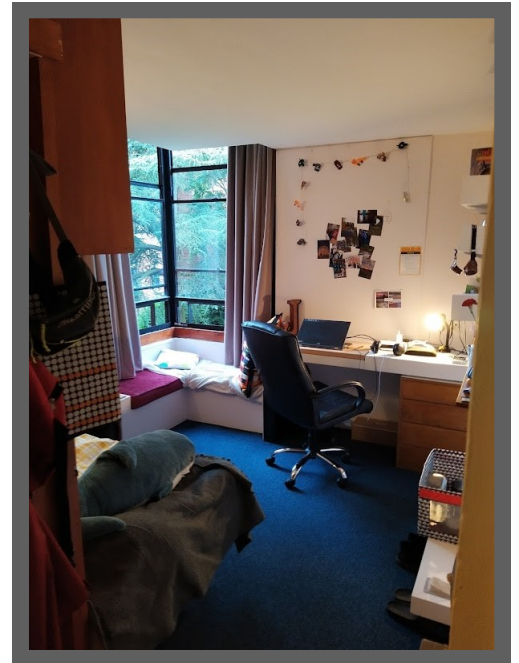
Once described by Christopher Wren as the finest example of architectural mastery (this is very untrue), the Kenyon Building refuses to conform to the conventions of student accommodation. From its concrete interior to the almost uncanny amount of stairs, there is something to be admired in the complexity that Kenyon has to offer. It is undoubtedly a departure from the limestone-clad centre of Oxford, but this is exactly what makes the building brutally (get it?) unique.

The architect, David Roberts, had a clear vision in mind for his work; above all, he was concerned with bringing university buildings into modernity. His first experiment took place with the construction of the River Building at Magdalene College, Cambridge. The next institution to be graced by Roberts' architectural decorum was New College, Oxford. They were, however, less receptive to his radical vision for the student accommodation of the modern age, and his Sackler Building was subsequently demolished. Their loss. Described as 'his most accomplished building', the Kenyon Building was Roberts' only other completed project in Oxford and Hugh's freshers have reaped the benefits of Kenyon ever



these monumental features have not already aroused your curiosity, there is, of course, a 'Death Slide' down to the basement (a favourite pastime for students after one too many drinks).

Yet another remarkable aspect of the Kenyon Building is that it is, without a doubt, the social hub of college. The building is organised around the central staircase, giving it a communal feel. Each of the four floors houses between 8 and 12 people, and so even if household mixing is restricted, there will be plenty of fellow freshers for you to hang out with. There is one kitchen per floor (a luxury which many other colleges do not provide for their freshers), meaning you have the freedom to eat what you like when you like. Furthermore, there are two toilets, at least one shower and a bath per floor - this does mean your facilities will be shared, but rest assured that every room has its own, personal sink. Freshening up has never sounded easier.



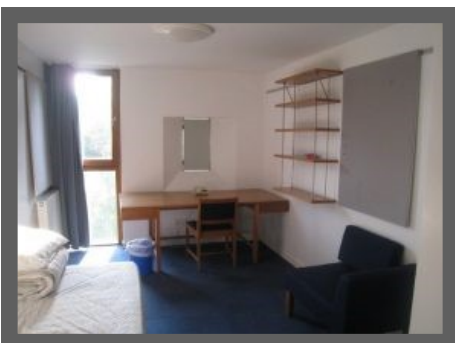
Students are often pleasantly surprised by the spaciousness of the rooms in Kenyon. They contain great storage and decoration space, making that termly unpacking much less tedious. The window seat in every room adds an airy feel, but be prepared to lock eyes with your tutors as they drift past every now and then. If anything else can be said for the Kenyon experience, it is surely the best place to be - day in, day out. I have grown to be proud to be a Kenyon

# Maplethorpe

There are 24 rooms available in Maplethorpe for freshers, all in staircase IV. There are eight rooms per corridor. (And so normally eight people per floor.) My favourite thing about living in Maplethorpe is the communal kitchen. We have two fridges and two freezers between seven people. The dry storage in the kitchens is plentiful – two expansive cupboards per person. The communal kitchen with dining table is a common feature across all three floors of the staircase, but there are variances with the bedrooms.

Each floor of Maplethorpe is different, as some bedrooms on the upper floors are double sets (in which there is one door leading into two separated rooms and one shared bathroom, I think.) In terms of bedroom size, the single sets are very big, while the double sets are more of a normal size. You could (theoretically) squidge two and a half double mattresses into one room. The wardrobes are similarly exceedingly cavernous. The ensuites are lifesavers! Bring a sliding mop for your ensuite to push the water into the drain, because if you're fond of long showers the water will deviously seep out of the door into your carpet - it will be mildly disastrous and you will have to spend your entire evening hairdrying your floor. (Weirdly, some floors in Maplethorpe are carpeted while some are hardwood. Mine is carpeted.)

Within the bedrooms, you will have the biggest desk *ever*. (The drawers can be fully pulled out, so if you find yourself accidentally having a 4-foot plank of wood in your hands, just slide it back in.) You will have four shelves (one shelving unit with four levels), a sofa chair, a desk chair, and an entryway ottoman. Maplethorpe has the best windows in college – both the bedrooms and the kitchens offer beautiful views and make the overall atmosphere very light and airy. Also, in general, the walls are ridiculously thick, so you can genuinely hear next to nothing from your neighbours. This is not the case for the other buildings in college.



to get to the library, the quickest way is to sprint the path down past Kenyon, then to cut right through the Wolfson corridor. Mapletorpe is two minutes away from Kenyon and four to seven minutes away from Main. You will also be right next to the Dicky P gates (which are always open if you believe in yourself). Laundry rooms are downstairs. This is particularly useful when your laundry bag is rather weighty due to all of the other busy and important things you have had to do.

A few words of warning – the doors to the staircases open outwards and are very heavy. This is rubbish engineering. Other people have complained about the fire alarms going off, but I cannot actually *hear* the fire alarms from my room, so my serene atmosphere goes uninterrupted. This is incredible engineering. Heating can go **very** hot – do not get your heater stuck on full blast on a weekend when the maintenance team are not available. And your friends in Main and Kenyon will do ridiculous amounts of projecting because they are jealous of the fabulous ensuites and wonderful kitchens Mapletorpe.

## MGA

Characterised by high ceilings, wood clad walls and spacious rooms (with fireplaces!), MGA is basically an upgraded version of Main. It's also arguably the best located of the accommodation options, being in close proximity to all necessities and giving you the option to more or less survive without even stepping outside, with the exception of having to do your laundry. The rooms include a bed, large desk, desk chair, table, armchair, most rooms have a double wardrobe, and all have more than enough storage space.

Rumour has it it's even quieter in MGA than in the library, which proves great when it comes to getting work done, but that comes at its price, MGA is by no means party central and your household is the only group of freshers in the building (at least, it was



when wanting advice from those who when wanting advice from those who have already lived through what you are, and you'll be sure to find one of them studying your subject.

You have two showers, two baths (!!), four toilets and a kitchen between eleven of you, which is alright, the kitchens aren't huge though and do lead to whole-household dinners taking place on the floor in the corridor outside instead, which has its own distinct appeal. The rooms, on the other hand, prove perfectly adequate to

## Extra Accommodation Information

There are a few other random tidbits of information concerning accommodation that it's nice to be informed about!

## Storage

Admittedly, the storage situation at St Hugh's is something of an enigma for most students. What has been gleaned over time, however, is the fact that there is some sort of College store onsite (specifically, it's a TARDIS-like shed by the lodge. When you walk into it, think 'Raiders of the Lost Ark'), and you can leave personal possessions here over the vacations. Note, however, that this supposedly excludes 'food, electrical appliances, fridges, money, musical instruments, jewellery, photographic equipment, clocks, televisions, watches, computers and works of art'. I'm not going to comment on how that quote likes to repeat itself, nor my annoyance at not being able to safely store my Van Gogh.

Furthermore, if you're a UK student, you can only store two boxes

box for St Hugh's, right? Oh! And a fun technicality - there's no size requirement for a storage box, it just has to be box shaped, I guess. So get creative! Although I've been told that a skip might be over-kill...

## Vacation Residence

In a similar vein, there's the matter of occupancy over the vacation. Every student is entitled to 21 nights free of pseudo-sleep at college, although note that's over the (first) three years of your course (Fourth years get a further seven in their last year). Anything more than that and you'll need to pay - it's about £27 a night, if memory serves. And there will be forms to fill out - they're emailed out (and so are easy to get), but you just have to explain why you think you should be staying over the vacation. The downside to the whole scheme is the fact that you're not *guaranteed your own room for the period of your stay. If you're not living in Maplethorpe, therefore, you can cross your fingers*

## Scouts

The scouts are the wonderful people in charge of maintaining both our accommodation and communal spaces, such as the kitchens and shared bathrooms. If you're not living in a pandemic, they'll empty your room's bin daily and, once a week, will vacuum your room (for reference, you'll need to do this yourself if COVID-19 is still a major thing). If you'd rather not be disturbed, you can leave your bin outside your door, although do try to have a tidy room on the day they have to come in - it makes their job easier, and they already do enough for us!



they're great to talk to, and can probably tell you a lot about the college (and maybe the gossip too?). The scouts 'basecamp' is in the Kenyon basement, and there's a board there with all their names if, like me, you struggle to remember those sorts of things.

*PS: If you've lost something in college, try emailing the housekeeping team and they'll try the best they can to help you. Often, a scout might've already come across it!*

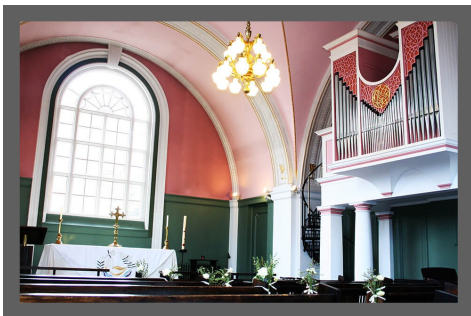
## Laundry

Ah, university. Now you're responsible for all your own washing! It's not that big of a thing, all-in-all, and there are posters everywhere to help you figure things out, but it can be a wee bit stressful if you don't want the stereotypical pink whites. St Hugh's has two laundry rooms - one in the Maplethorpe basement (supposedly the bigger of the two, and not quite as reminiscent of a prison's) and one in Kenyon basement. A wash will cost £2.20, while dryers are £1.20 (advice - just bring a drying rack), and you pay via contactless (card/phone). Perhaps most interestingly, the laundry rooms are open 24/7. This leads to a lot of strategic washing. For instance, do you take the safe route and go for midnight on a Wednesday morning, when you're likely to find a free machine? Or do you prefer the heart-pounding, mad scramble that is Sunday afternoon, where people circle like vultures waiting for the nearest timer to *sloooowly* tick down? The choice is yours!

(As a note here, and this is honestly a pet-peeve of mine, but is also some advice - set a timer for your washing on your phone. Then you can minimise the time that it's sitting in the washer once it's done, and so reduce the chance that you come down to

# Chapel

Located on the first floor of Main Building (literally just above the doors that you [potentially] skip through in pure happiness when you first arrive) is the chapel. It's a multi-faith space, is open to everyone and plays several parts in College life. Supposedly, there are bells that chime every hour - I've heard bells *somewhere*, but for this last year I've been of the opinion that they don't come from the chapel - this is something that needs investigation. Regardless of where the phantom bells originate from, they're useful to count down the hours until your next essay hand in, and can keep you motivated on those all-nighters. Aside from the bells, you might also hear the organ or the heavenly harmony that is the choir as they prepare for the weekly service, which happens every Sunday. These usually follow the structure of an Anglican evensong, but there are regular multi-faith services. And hey, free dinner, so you're more than welcome to attend whatever your religious beliefs may, or may not, be!

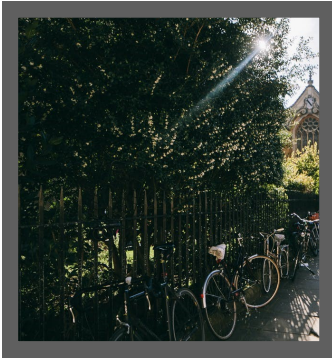


If you happen to be interested in singing, but don't want to sell your soul to a university society, then the College choir has rehearsals twice a week, which might be a lower level of commitment for you. There are choral awards and organ scholarships available for those that are musically inclined (you get paid, more vacation residence and a nice gown).

# Bikes

If you're one of the people that actually *chose* St Hugh's, firstly, you made a good choice! Secondly, however, you probably did so with the knowledge that it is a decent distance from the city centre, and so from a lot of what Oxford has to offer (not to mention lecture theatres). As such, a bike can be a useful tool in getting

Second-hand bikes can be bought cheaply on the Internet, so there's no need to panic if you don't already own a bike (or don't want to ship it to Oxford). New bikes in Oxford, however, cost about the same as a degree - thus try to avoid the bike shops in the city. Also, of course, that wonderful new bike is a wee bit of a target for thieves...



If you do decide to have a bike with you in Oxford, then a secure lock (college recommends the solid D-ring ones, if I recall, often along with a secondary cable lock to secure the wheels) is a must, and you should try to use it as much as possible! Helmets are also insanely important, especially when it's been a long night partying or whatever (please do not cycle drunk - I don't think it'll end well), and you're now cycling across Oxford trying to rub the sleep from your eyes! And, owing to the joy that is British weather, gloves may be useful for Michaelmas/Hilary, else you may struggle to feel your hands.

## What to Bring

It's not easy to prepare for your first term at Oxford, especially in regards to knowing what (not) to bring. Thus, the following are a few pointers to get your mind racing. A quick Google can pull up some other very help (and arguably far more detailed) checklists too though!

### **Do bring -**

- ♠ A set of formal clothes to go with your sub fusc - a white shirt, black trousers/skirt and plain black shoes. You'll (shudder) need these for matriculation and, at the other end of the year, exams
- ♠ A (few) sets of smart-ish clothes for formals. Think standard

- ♠ Some pair of shoes (slip-ons) for travelling to the toilet/shower (because do you really want your *feet* touching that floor?!)
- ♠ Potentially a few funny outfits for Bops, if you can think of stuff that's going to work (useful to either be a mind-reader or able to predict the future here). Generally though, something random and colourful often works, especially if it has glitter for the 'oh, shiny' factor!
- ♠ Sporting attire, especially if you want to really dive into the sporting societies
- ♠ Normal clothes (it's not all suit and tie here, thank gods)
- ♠ Cooking stuff, if you want to cook. That's things like pots, pans and other utensils. Even if you plan on never setting foot in the kitchen (reminder that there's no dinner in halls at the weekends), plates, mugs and some cutlery are decently important so that you're not eating straight off your desk
- ♠ Laundry powder/pods. Hopefully you're planning on doing some clothes washing. I mean, power to you if not, but I don't know whether you'll have many people willing to exist within 10ft of you by the end of term if you don't...
- ♠ Clothes hangers, for their obvious purpose\*
- ♠ Extension lead. May be useful if you like having everything plugged in and accessible on your desk (especially if you're running PCs or multi-monitor setups)
- ♠ Coffee (other caffeine sources are available) - I've been trying to crack the science of all-nighters. So far, I haven't been all that successful
- ♠ An extra lamp, especially if you want to read before bed (and actually have the luxury of a bedside table [it's room dependent]). However, I find the college lamps (one is provided) to be as bright as the sun and capable of illuminating my room on their own



- ♠ Bikes. Not required, but useful, as previously mentioned. Along with this, there's the need for a good D-lock, helmet and lights
- ♠ Valid ID. If you want to go clubbing, you're probably going to need this!

### **Do not bring -**

- ♠ All the books on the reading list. Most books are available from the college library (and if not then the faculty library). General rule of thumb is to pick one or two all-round books, and library the rest, but you don't even need that! And, if you're really desperate, .pdf files can often be your friend, if you know what I mean...
- ♠ A mini fridge. While you *can* bring one, there's not much need - sharpie, sticky notes and threats to use those same implements on people that don't take 'my milk, don't touch' messages seriously should suffice
- ♠ Internet-connected speakers (Alexas, Google Hubs e.t.c.). Again, you *can*, but the Internet here has some very particular certificates that some devices will be unable to install and so won't be able to connect properly. Small IoT devices are the worst for this - you can try, but don't expect your 12 speaker wireless stereo system to work first time...
- ♠ Fear. Cliché, but it's a serious point - you'll be fine. It's nerve-wracking at first, but you'll find your feet, and you'll have other Freshers'/your college parents/the college as a whole to support you! Besides, I think you've been through a worse year than we have - you've got this!
- ♠ The kitchen sink (I had to say it)

\* (that purpose is of course to be fashioned into rabbit ears for the best bop costume *ever!*)

**Jack Rodden.** Adapted from **Sam Rubens**

# The Wider World of Oxford

It may be hard to believe, especially when you feel like the work just won't end, but there's actually a world *outside* of the 14 acres of the grounds of St Hugh's! Oxford is a very... Shall we say *unique* city? It's a strange mix of very old and (somewhat) new, and the two styles do somewhat seem to battle with each other across the city. Around St Hugh's, you'd be excused for not realising you were in Oxford - it's a rather standard smattering of houses (and if you look at these and see something different, then I might be blind). Move further in, however, and you'll quickly come to note that Oxford is very real, beautifully portrayed by '*His Dark Materials*', and honestly just very pretty.

## University Libraries

It's stereotypical, but probably true (provided you're *not* living through a pandemic) - you're probably going to be spending a lot of time in libraries. While the St. Hugh's library is wonderful, it's not all-encompassing. For that, we have to look at the university libraries in all their 'legendary' (to quote the prospectus) glory!

The 'Bodleian' library system consists of just over 30 different libraries across the city - some are departmental (faculty libraries), and so probably aren't particularly relevant, while others are more general, such as the Bodleian library (ironic, right?). The Rad Cam is another well known library (and does look *beautiful* if you get the photo right!), but is more specific to history (although that shouldn't stop you from visiting).

We here at St. Hugh's are extra lucky, because Dickson Poon has one of the Bodleian libraries in it. If you want to avoid the *long*

A word of warning, however! The Bodleian doesn't allow for books to be borrowed ( it's a 'reference library') and it's more a question of treating them well and ha ha no you're not trusted with that 18th century textbook, nice try. The faculty libraries, however, *do* often allow you to borrow books, and considering they'll often have literally every book you'll ever need for your course, then can be a fairly good first port of call if you're looking for an easy solution over spending the afternoon pretending you're in Hogwarts.

Of course, atop all this there are digital systems (which admittedly have become more present this year - I myself haven't actually *been* to a university library yet). SOLO is Oxford's digital system, and it can

## Musings on the Radcam

The Radcam (Radcliffe Camera Library) is arguably Oxford's most iconic building. It's in movies, Windows' pre-set wallpapers and pretty much everyone at Oxford's Instagram story most of the time. Despite all this and its status as a major tourist destination, as an Oxford student, you can work there whenever you can get a slot. Working in the Radcam slightly remedied my impostor syndrome and made me realise I was actually at Oxford, so is an experience I would highly recommend.

I missed most of the induction here, having spent two weeks at the University of Leeds thinking I wanted to be a civil engineer (long story), so it took me a couple of weeks to discover the joys of SOLO, the university's online library tool, which is literally the most useful thing ever. Once I'd got to grips with it, I went to the Radcam weekly to collect all the books I needed. Having this amazing building as your faculty library is pretty insane, especially during COVID where all the tourists would be clamouring to take a look inside whilst you

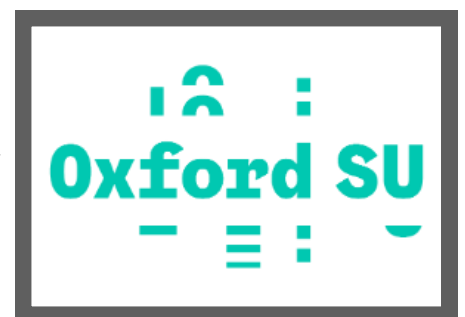


way more efficiently. I found separating work, sleep and socialising really helpful and if you are someone who struggles to concentrate, working in different places allows you to be distracted by your surroundings rather than your phone. It's also a great way to explore Oxford during the day, rather than living life as a hermit in college.

Working in other libraries, especially the Radcam, is something I would 100% recommend. Just don't book the Gladstone link, which

## Student Union

The Oxford Student Union (SU, for short) is primarily responsible for student representation across the university. They are akin to the JCR committee here at St Hugh's... Just with a downsize more power. There are a few student-elected positions, and it's the responsibility of these people to be the student voice for those across the university. They talk to departments and the university admin in order to induce sweeping changes and reforms across the university. To give them their due, they do cause good changes, and there are many surveys sent out to students over the year in order to ensure that they're accurately representing the desires of students. This year, for instance, there have been projects to work on improving mental health support in the university as well as, as always, working on the alternative student prospectus.



As with the JCR, you're automatically a member of the student union, meaning that you'll always have the opportunity to have



Consider yourself lucky if you've yet to hear about the Oxford Union - I have no doubt that you'll have heard about it *far* too much by the end of the first week. As it stands, however, I'll try and give you a heads-up. Simply put, the *Oxford* Union (rather than the *Student* Union, detailed earlier in the guide) hosts debates and speakers. To give it credit, the Union does sign up some fairly iconic figures: the Dalai Lama, Rihanna and four US Presidents, to name but a few. This comes at a literal cost though, and joining is pricey - £286 for a life-time membership (£170 if you're eligible for a full maintenance loan). There *is* usually a 10% discount during Freshers' week though, and an opening free two weeks.

You can get involved in the union by running for a position on the committee. This is, however, where some of the murkier reputation of the Union is acquired. Many of the elected positions are fiercely fought over by 'hacks'. In the 7th week of each term, you're liable to find your socials flooded with posts from them - people you barely recognise are urging you to vote for them, spinning tales over how great they are while promising big reforms, and greater inclusivity, for the Union. General gripe of politicians and their machinations aside, this does rather reek of insincerity, and so often ends up being rather annoying (vote based on who annoys you the *least*, I guess?). However, you *can* also just ignore it all, so it's not the worst.

Outside of the termly political-wannabe campaigning, there's also a rather under-appreciated debate arm of the Oxford Union, which you can get involved in. There are weekly workshops for you to hone your public speaking skills, and opportunities to take part in both national and international competitions. So you can help to defend Oxford in the World University Debating Championship (WUDC). Not quite sure *how* you win a debate, but clearly it happens!

To be honest, many people in Oxford (admittedly, *most* people in

# Cafés

The café can often be a happy medium for the eternal tightrope walk that is student life. It's less soul-crushing than a library (this is especially true when you're procrastinating an imminent essay), but still considerably less lonely than your own bedroom. Admittedly, it's often far noisier than either of these previous options, but there's certain warmth to the whole event. And, perhaps more importantly, cafés allow for the acquisition of a very important student tool - the highly caffeinated beverage!

This is a vital part of any student's arsenal, allowing you to write away into the wee hours of the morning with barely a yawn. Not to say that it's a healthy, nor particularly advisable, solution to the problem of submitting work on time, but it's an avenue. That being said, cafés (at least during the day), can be a good way to get this lifeblood, although other drinks (and, of course, food) can also be



bought. And that whole 'being social' thing can often help to reduce your stress (if nothing else, you'll see that everyone's experiencing the same stuff you are), as well as making you more productive. Oh! And generally a café is going to be cheaper than a pub! So win-win, right?

If I've actually managed to interest you with this, then you'll be pleased to know that Oxford has *many* cafés. The independent ones are often slightly more expensive, but they arguably make up for it with their 'vibe'. Examples of these are *Missing Bean* (Turl Street) and *Brew* (North Parade) - they take their coffee seriously, although they're quite small, so aren't the best when it comes to studying. *Common Ground* (Little Clarendon Street) caters more towards that student ideal, however. Conversely, if tea is more your thing, *Bird and Blend* (High Street) has some very... Unique flavours.

Equally, many of the departments have their own cafés too. These can be very useful, because you're almost guaranteeing that you'll be surrounded by your subject of choice, especially if it's used by academics/researchers too.

It would also be remiss of me to not mention the (to my mind better) aspect of the humble café - the food! *Barefoot* (North Parade Avenue) has an utterly amazing bakery (even if it's on the slightly expensive side). *G&D's* is also an Oxford staple, specialising in ice cream, and I'd be surprised if you get through your first year without at least *hearing* about it. Ultimately though? Explore. You'll

## Pubs

Pubs are a strangely common staple of British life. Personally, I've never quite understood the desire, but maybe that's just me. All that aside, within student life you can realistically argue visiting them for almost anything, be it post-exam release, any other public celebration or even just for an evening with friends. Owing to COVID-19, pubs have been less of a thing in student life this year, but I shall take the liberty of shamelessly stealing from last year's guide in order to provide an overview of the options in Oxford.

*The Rose and Crown* (North Parade Avenue) is run by an eccentric landlord, with a slightly cramped interior but a sizable garden with the usual tables, benches and heaters (which you'll be thankful for in Michaelmas). For *Wetherspoons* options, you're spoilt with not one, but two locations - *The Four Candles* (George Street) and *The Swan and Castle* (Castle Street). The former of the two is the busier one, and often is involved in the initial events of a club night. *The Swan and Castle* is a bit more out of the way and is bigger, so subsequently you won't usually have to

the more central pubs are -

- ♠ *The Bear Inn* (Alfred Street). It's the oldest pub in Oxford, and is very small. As such, expect to stand. It looks pretty though, having lots of ties on display from Oxford colleges and schools around the country.
- ♠ *The Turf Tavern* (Holywell Street). It's tucked away, but has a nice atmosphere. Expensive, but well sought after. Also 'Butterbeer'.
- ♠ *The King's Arms* (Holywell Street). Nice, although nothing to call home about.
- ♠ *The Royal Blenheim* (St. Ebbe's Street). Has lots of beers and guest ales on, with reasonable prices to boot.
- ♠ *The Eagle and Child* (St. Giles'). One of the closest pubs to St Hugh's with good music and cheap drinks. J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis used to meet there.
- ♠ *The Harcourt Arms* (Cranham Terrace).



## Clubs

It's been a good year since any of us have felt the joys of clubbing in Oxford but humour me and picture the scene. 9am lecture tomorrow morning, you're just winding the evening's work down in the library and you lock eyes with a friend on the other side of the room. The communication is silent yet implicitly clear, you know you shouldn't but at the same time you should – off clubbing it is. But where to go?

The two mainstay club nights of the Oxford week are Park End Wednesday and Bridge Thursday. It takes a brave soul to pull off



helps you battle through. Rumour has it a full evening spent on the Park End cheese floor or in the Bridge smoking area would see you bump into every human being you have ever interacted with – a night well spent.

Other notables in Oxford include Broke Mondays at Park End, Tuesdays at the LGBTQ+ club Plush (great themed nights), Bullingdon (typically weekend but can vary, big recommendation for the right events but tickets get extortionate if you don't get them early), Emporium and Cirkus (run away, nothing good ever came from either), O2 academy (for some live bits), Freud's (for the bougie among us). Fever Fridays were a classic, but that place looks suspiciously derelict at the moment and general consensus is they've gone bust over lockdown (*editor's note - they have, along with Cirkus. Sorry to disappoint*).

On Wednesdays and Thursdays in particular, Hugh's will always send a strong contingent to the Four Candles (one of the two Wetherspoons in Oxford) and from there onto Parkers/Bridge (round the corner from each other). The Solomon's pit stop on the journey home is by no means a necessity, but again integral to Hugh's sub-



# Gyms

If you're a person who actually has time to properly maintain their body as a university student (and props to you - I personally consider a walk around the college grounds to be a suitable 'workout'), then the college gym might be just for you! Membership is £33 per term, or £65 for the year (although senior members of Hugh's boat club get free membership). The gym is located below the JCR and beyond the college bar, meaning it's decently central and accessible. Remember to bring your BOD card, however, as it's required for entry, pending a brief induction session.

The important bit, however, is the available equipment! In the gym, you'll have access to six rowing machines (can you tell why there's a stereotype?), two treadmills, an indoor bike, some weights (both bench-based and free medicine balls), a couple of upper and lower body resistance machines (no, I have no clue what those are either) and some yoga mats. Oh, and perhaps the best thing - gym balls. These are spread out over three rooms, each of which has fans (because an underground gym with no ventilation would be... Interesting...) and iPod docks, so you can blare out your 'inspirational playlist'.

It's a decent gym, but if you're looking for something more serious, or a wider range of things, it might be best to look further afield. They're probably going to be more expensive, but if you're looking for that level of torture, then there are a few options in Oxford -

- ♠ *PureGym* (St Ebbe's Street). This is located next to Westgate Shopping Centre. Memberships start from £17.99 a month (although as a student the joys of Unidays can make this cheaper), with a considerably wider range of facilities and, perhaps more importantly, full air-conditioning! Also free Wi-Fi, in case you're only going to pretend. More seriously, there



- ♠ *Iffley Road Sports Complex (Iffley Road). Admittedly, this one is a hike to get to. However, it's a far bigger facility all-in-all, containing a swimming pool and three gyms (main, outdoor and performance), a full track and field environment as well as several multi-purpose sports halls, ball courts and even a fully-padded dojo. So maybe worth the hike? It's tied into the University sport societies too, so expect to venture there one day if you happen to sign up to anything obviously sporty (a bike, or an understanding of the local bus routes, is advised)...*

## (Food) Shops

The joy of living in a city, I've found, is that you're kind of spoilt when it comes to shopping opportunities. For the sake of brevity, I'll focus on the ones that you'll probably need to survive, but note that I heavily encourage exploration - there are some really quaint places that do some really awesome stuff, especially if you know where to look (*The Covered Market* is a great place for this). However, here are some of the main ones.

*Tesco Metro* (Magdalen Street). It's a Tesco with an escalator, so that should tell you something. I do 99% of my food shopping here, to be honest - it's well stocked, and by buying Tesco own brands you can often save yourself some money. As well as food, there's a small selection of stationary, as well as most of the toiletries you'll probably need. It's also open until midnight every day but Sunday, so it's available for when you have that late-night sugar craving! A word of warning though? It's a decent trek back to St Hugh's (about 20 or so minutes), which can sometimes *kill* when you have a heavy bag of shopping. Might be advisable to use a backpack.

more niche items are only available from the larger stores, and there's a decent amount of overlap between the ones in Summer-town (for instance, all of them sell bread [different types of bread, obviously, but still bread]).

If you want something quick and easy, there's also a small *Nine 2 Nine* (Banbury Road) newsagent a very short distance from St Hugh's. If you're just looking for milk because someone else stole it from your fridge, then this is probably a decent place to get it. Don't expect too much more though - it's mostly the standard

## Restaurants

There is so much choice for good restaurants in Oxford if you do decide to treat yourself to a meal out! I'll talk through a few of my personal favourites.



Clarendon Street is a great place to head to for food and also conveniently found on our side of town. Along with Gail's and G&D's, Clarendon Street has the delicious restaurant Pierre Victoire with all French cuisine that could be desired, even snails! There is also Al-Andalus, a really tasty Tapas bar with loads of choice and also great paellas for fans of Spanish cuisine. A bit further afield, Kazbar in Cowley also has

amazing Spanish/Moroccan cuisine and really friendly staff. In the centre, another staple is Bbuona who make fresh pizza which is so yum and not too pricey.



by the river and the Cherwell Boathouse is a really ideal and classy restaurant for that situation or for a date night. On top of the shopping centre Westgate, there is also the restaurant Victors which has a very cool setting and a great menu to mull over.

Jericho also offers a great selection of places to eat. Branca has a Deli and restaurant which is perfect for a quick but delicious lunch. Finally, you could try the Jericho café, which apparently does ‘the 2nd best brunch in Britain’, so is definitely worth the trip!

## Hidden Gems

The following are a selection of ideas and suggestions taken from current second years, as well as current third years (because a global pandemic really limits the amount you leave the college grounds). They cover a range of different locations and places, and generally are here to serve as inspiration - Oxford is a beautiful city, and it's great to explore!

- ♠ *Port Meadow*, on the Western outskirts of Oxford. It's a ‘good [place] for walks and to chill out [during the] day/evening.’ Equally, if you're up for some wild swimming, there are meant to be some ‘good spots for a dip’.
- ♠ *The Covered Market* (Market Street), near the centre of Oxford. It's a ‘good place for arts and crafts’, but I can highly recommend the ‘greengrocers with the wide variety of funky veg’, as well as ‘the

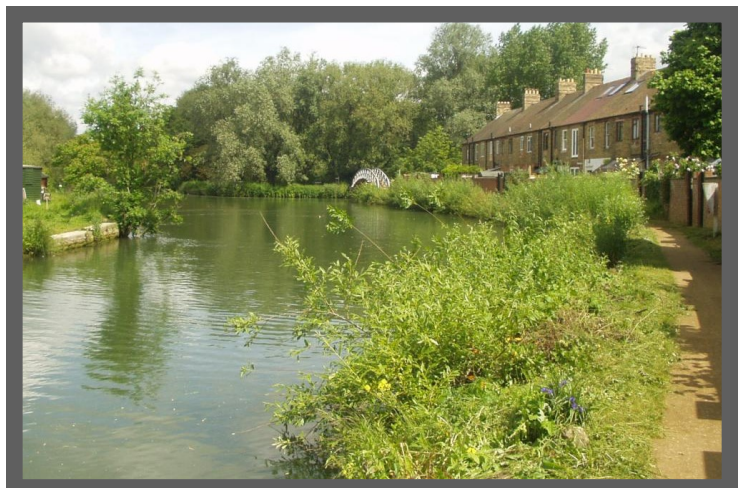


- ♠ *Cowley High Street* (B480), to the South-East of central Oxford (near St Hilda's college). 'For anyone looking for international foods, a beautiful walk, or even a little day trip out' (especially if it feels 'a bit more like home') this place 'is a gem'. 'Being able to buy international breads, cheeses, meat, veg and snacks is a godsend', and it can be really great to hear 'someone speak your own language'.
- ♠ *Godstow Abbey*, in Godstow, the other side of Port Meadow to



St Hugh's. 'A beautiful place and a great long-ish walk' if you just want 'to get outside the main city area for an afternoon'

- ♠ *Thames Path*, following the Thames river in the South of Oxford. It's a 'beautiful walk along the Thames, and within about 20 minutes you can feel like you're out of Oxford', while in reality you're still not 'that far from [everything] you need to [do]'



# Voting

Ok! So this is something I only really learnt once I arrived in Oxford (or, to be specific, after I read last year's Freshers' Guide), but did you know you can vote (in *local* elections - please *do not* try to vote more than once in a national election, that's fraud) for both your own constituency *and* Oxford? And it's important to exercise your right to vote, so you're probably burning up waiting to know what to do, right?

Firstly, St Hugh's constituency is 'Oxford West & Abingdon'. That means that provided your home address is not within this constituency, you can vote for it as a second vote, as it's your term-time address. A week or so before the election, you'll be posted a 'polling card' (the pidge room gets very colourful). This will tell you where the polling station is, and when it's open (usually most of the day, and about a five minute walk away). On the day itself, when you arrive you'll need to find the people with your name (things are divided by surname), and you'll then be given a sheet (or sheets). Just cross some boxes, and you're done! Remember that your vote is confidential to you - there's never any obligation to tell anyone else your political preferences.

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.

If you're a UK national (or from the Commonwealth/EU, but things might be tricky with Brexit) with a permanent UK address, and you *haven't* registered to vote yet, what are you waiting for?! Head to [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote) to do so! You'll need your National Insurance number (it's in the form AB123456C - you likely got a letter

same process, but just register for one new address (Oxford) rather than both!

If you're one of the above groups, but still feel as though you have a right to vote (or more questions), contact Oxford council on 01865 249811, or email [elections@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:elections@oxford.gov.uk).

All jokes aside, voting is important. It allows for your voice to be heard - it's a good way to see the changes you want enacted. Aye, it may seem as though you're shouting into an empty void at times, but if you never open your mouth to speak in the first place, how can you expect anyone to hear you?

**Jack Rodden.** Adapted from **Joe Young**



# Welfare

Starting at university can be an incredibly rewarding, but also incredibly stressful, experience. It's probably the first time you'll be given the freedoms you're given, along with near complete control over your schedule. But that, of course, means you have to take care of yourself far more too. However, it's not something you have to do alone - St Hugh's has a strong, caring community to help and support you, both informally and more professionally. It can be scary to make those first steps and reach out, but it's very much worth it in the end. No problem is too small if it's hurting you.

## College/University Support

### Within St Hugh's

There are many different avenues for support within St Hugh's.

Our College Nurse, Sarah Dragonetti, can be found from Wednesdays to Fridays in the college surgery (found on the first floor of the MGA building). She can give medical advice, as well as directing you towards external help if needed. She also sends regular emails with information from the NHS, as well as advertising some welfare events in college (for instance, last year we had sessions of gardening). You can contact her with any concerns or schedule an appointment by emailing [nurse@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:nurse@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk) or phoning 01865 274945. She also does room visits if you are very unwell.

week. Elizabeth is from the University Counselling Service who commits some of her time exclusively to the students of St Hugh's.

On another level, the College Chaplain, Dr Shaun Henson, is always available to members of the College in any kind of need to offer support in confidence. You do not have to be religious, nor does your issue have to be of a religious nature, 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](mailto:shaun.henson@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk) or on 01865 274955.

If you would prefer to talk to a student, the Welfare Representatives 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 ([jcr.st-hughs.ox.ac.uk/welfare/weq-committee/](http://jcr.st-hughs.ox.ac.uk/welfare/weq-committee/)).

Another student contact are the Peer Supporters. These are students trained by the University Counselling Service to listen while maintaining 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 - the Peer Supporters are the people for this. If you are in need of more professional help, they are also able to refer you. Equally, you can contact the Peer Supporters if you're worried about a friend, or just want more information about welfare resources. To contact them, email [peersupport@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk](mailto: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. Peer supporters are covered in more detail shortly.

More generally, the JCR's Welfare and Equal Opportunities Committee is made up of student representatives of specific communities to provide support and representation, such as for BAME, women and transfeminine identities, disabilities and male and minority

emergency situation, or to make an anonymous complaint by contacting the Porter's Lodge on 01865 274900.

## Within the University

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 [counseling@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:counseling@admin.ox.ac.uk) and they will get back to you with the next steps towards organising an appointment. 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.

If you're out in Oxford, it's useful to remember that many of the college lodges participate in the Safe Haven Scheme. This is for students who may be feeling vulnerable, or who 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 St Hugh's safely or will call the emergency services if necessary.

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.

Outside of the university, there's local GP practice for St Hugh's, which is Summertown Health Centre. You can register with Summertown before coming to university. Most appointments need to be booked two weeks prior, although there is likely to be varia-

they don't turn the ambulance away, and so that they can assist you if needed.

It should be noted that you can speak with both the College Nurse and Doctor for sexual health advice. You can also contact the Oxfordshire Sexual Health Service at the Churchill Hospital (01865 231231).

Samaritans is a 24-hour confidential listening service, able to give emotional support, or just someone to talk to. They are similar to Nightline, but national, and can be contacted at 116 123, or [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org), which has a 24-hour response time. More infor-

## 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 University Counselling Service to listen to, and talk through, any issues that might be concerning you, whether they're related to work, home life or something else entirely.

It can often be difficult approaching and talking to someone in a position of authority, such as a professional within the counselling service. 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. To that end, Rainbow Peers and Peers of Colour are also active to offer and provide support to any LGBTQ+ students or students of colour - diversity is a massive focus for the pro-

We look forward to welcoming you in September.

A testimony from a previous student -

'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



# Welfare Map

The following outlines a selection of resources available to you as a undergraduate of St Hugh's, the University of Oxford, and more generally as a resident of Oxford. It's colour-coded into different areas, and relates to the people best suited to handle the problem you may have. In all cases, however, the people listed here will be more than happy to listen to you and help you - it's often difficult to make that first step and tell someone, but it's most certainly a rewarding one!

St. Hugh's Welfare Map - 2021					
Physical/Sexual Health		Mental/Emotional Health		Academic Concerns	
Financial Concerns					
					
<b>Sexual Health Clinic</b> Churchill Hospital OX3 7LJ <a href="https://www.ouh.nhs.uk/services/departments/sexual-health/">https://www.ouh.nhs.uk/services/departments/sexual-health/</a> 01865 231231	<b>College Nurse</b> Sarah Dragonetti <a href="mailto:nurse@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">nurse@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a> 01865 274945 For confidential email: <a href="mailto:st-hughsnurse@nhs.net">st-hughsnurse@nhs.net</a> College surgery: 1st floor, MGA	<b>College Counsellor</b> Elizabeth Treasure <a href="mailto:counsellor@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">counsellor@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a> 01865 274945	<b>Chaplain</b> Shaun Henson <a href="mailto:shaun.henson@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">shaun.henson@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a> 01865 274955	<b>Personal Tutor</b>	<b>Academic Registrar</b> Thea Crapper <a href="mailto:thea.crapper@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">thea.crapper@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a> 01865 274918
<b>NHS Dental</b> <a href="http://www.studental.co.uk">www.studental.co.uk</a> 01865 689997	<b>College GP</b> Summertown Health Centre 160 Banbury Road 01865 515552	<b>University Counselling Service</b> 3 Worcester Street <a href="mailto:counselling@admin.ox.ac.uk">counselling@admin.ox.ac.uk</a> 01865 270300	<b>Tutor for Equality</b> David Taylor <a href="mailto:david.taylor@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">david.taylor@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a>	<b>Senior Tutor</b> Professor Robert Vilain, <a href="mailto:Robert.vilain@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">Robert.vilain@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a>	<b>WEQ Suspended Status Rep</b> Cameron Marnoch <a href="mailto:cameron.marnoch@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">cameron.marnoch@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a>
<b>College Disability Contact</b> Thea Crapper <a href="mailto:thea.crapper@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">thea.crapper@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a> 01865 274918	<b>University Sexual Harassment and Violence Support Service</b> <a href="mailto:supportservice@admin.ox.ac.uk">supportservice@admin.ox.ac.uk</a> <a href="http://www.ox.ac.uk/supportservice">www.ox.ac.uk/supportservice</a>	<b>JCR Black, Asian, &amp; Minority Ethnic Rep</b> Iris-Mae Morse <a href="mailto:iris-mae.morse@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">iris-mae.morse@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a>	<b>JCR/MCR Reps</b> Madeline Wright ( <a href="mailto:jcr.femalewelfare@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">jcr.femalewelfare@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a> ) Ollie Jakes ( <a href="mailto:jcr.malewelfare@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">jcr.malewelfare@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a> ) Connor Fitchett ( <a href="mailto:connor.fitchett@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">connor.fitchett@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a> )		
<b>JCR Disabilities Rep</b> Jenny Wang <a href="mailto:jenny.wang@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">jenny.wang@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a>			<b>JCR Welfare Reps</b>	<b>MCR Welfare Reps</b> Jake Fawkes ( <a href="mailto:jake.fawkes@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">jake.fawkes@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a> ) Michelle Ma ( <a href="mailto:michelle.ma@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">michelle.ma@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a> )	<b>College Hardship Fund/ Other Support</b> <a href="https://www.st-hughs.ox.ac.uk/currentstudents/finance/financial-advice-for-students-2/">https://www.st-hughs.ox.ac.uk/currentstudents/finance/financial-advice-for-students-2/</a>
<b>College Harassment Advisors</b> Nora Khayi <a href="mailto:nora.khayi@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">nora.khayi@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a> 01865 274956 & Peter Marshall <a href="mailto:peter.marshall@oup.com">peter.marshall@oup.com</a>			<b>JCR LGBTQ+ Rep</b> Marcus Ham ( <a href="mailto:jcr.lgbtq@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">jcr.lgbtq@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a> )	<b>University Hardship Fund</b> <a href="https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/fees-funding/assistance/hardship/ohf">https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/fees-funding/assistance/hardship/ohf</a>	
			<b>MCR Equalities Rep</b> Simple Rajrah ( <a href="mailto:Alani.Sweezy@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">Alani.Sweezy@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a> )		<b>In a serious emergency call 999, then inform the Porters on 01865 274900. For urgent medical advice in a non-life-threatening situation, call 111.</b>
			<b>JCR International Rep</b> Mika Erik Möser ( <a href="mailto:jcr.international@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">jcr.international@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a> )		
			<b>MCR International Rep</b> Florence Smith ( <a href="mailto:florence.smith@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">florence.smith@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a> )		
<b>Peer Support Contacts</b>		<b>Decanal Team</b>			
St. Hugh's	<a href="mailto:peersupport@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">peersupport@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a>	Dean	<a href="mailto:DrDamianJenkins,damianjenkins@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">Dr Damian Jenkins, damianjenkins@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk</a>		
Somerville	<a href="https://blogs.som.ox.ac.uk/jcr/welfare/peer-support/">https://blogs.som.ox.ac.uk/jcr/welfare/peer-support/</a>	Assistant Dean	<a href="mailto:EriIchijo,erichijo@bnc.ox.ac.uk">Eri Ichijo, erichijo@bnc.ox.ac.uk</a>		
		Junior Deans	<a href="mailto:YurimPark,yurim.park@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">Yurim Park (yurim.park@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)</a> <a href="mailto:MarinVuksic,marin.vuksic@materials.ox.ac.uk">Marin Vuksic (marin.vuksic@materials.ox.ac.uk)</a> <a href="mailto:YanaLishkova,iana.lishkova@eng.ox.ac.uk">Yana Lishkova (iana.lishkova@eng.ox.ac.uk)</a> <a href="mailto:JoanaBessa,joanna.bessa@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk">Joana Bessa (joanna.bessa@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)</a>		
MIND Infoline	0300 123 3393	OSARCC (Rape Crisis Centre) - Confidential Listening Space	Phone: 0800 783 6294 Text: 07537 432442 Email: <a href="mailto:support@osarcc.org.uk">support@osarcc.org.uk</a>	Samaritans	116 123
Oxford Nightline	01865 270270			Calm HelpLine	0800 58 58 58
Oxford Safe Haven (Mental Health Crisis)	01865 903037	Student Advice	<a href="http://www.oxfordsu.org/wellbeing/student-advice/">www.oxfordsu.org/wellbeing/student-advice/</a>	Mind InfoLine	0300 123 3393

# Words of Wisdom

These are a few words from other students, be it stuff they wish they'd know, or just bits of friendly advice -

*'Hugh's being where it is (a literal mile north of most of the centre) some people may discourage you from trekking to lectures. For some subjects they're compulsory, so this isn't really applicable to scientists, but for humanities and social sciences, lectures can be hugely helpful in building the fundamentals, allowing you to focus so much more time on deeper reading. I was told in Freshers that no one in my subject goes to lectures. Every other college does though, giving them a big advantage, and much more opportunity to meet course mates in other colleges (when they're in person). I only found this out in my final year, and wish I'd known better sooner'*

*'Freshers' week is not the final word in making friends - definitely put yourself out there as much as you can in Freshers' week, but don't worry if you don't find your group, or click with anyone. There are heaps more opportunities to get to know people and you'll be making new friends well into your later years at Hugh's!'*

*'Leave your door open during freshers week'*

*'The best thing about Oxford is how up for everything everyone is - nothing is seen as 'lame'. So if you fancy something, just go and do it.'*

*'Try and contribute as much as you can to group tutorials. You will make mistakes from time to time but you'll learn so much more from engaging than passively listening. I know it's difficult if you're naturally quiet but it's worth pushing yourself to get the most out of your degree!'*

# Glossary of Oxford Words

**All-nighter** - Staying up all night to do work that you very easily could have done earlier. (Editor's Note - Not to be confused with 'all-nighter', the event that occurs because you realise that you have no one to tell you that sleep is important, allowing you to procrastinate away your sleep *as well as the day*)

**Bod Card** - Your Student ID. It's also your access card for buildings (unfortunately not all of them) and is used to pay for food

**BOP ('Big Open Party')** - A college party, usually in the bar below the JCR Common Room. Somewhat reminiscent of a year six disco

**BNOC ('Big Name on Campus')** - A person who thinks they're the centre of the universe, but actually somewhat irrelevant - who cares about Jerry when there's an important essay due in two hours?

**Bumps** - A strange mating ritual performed by rowing crews involving trying to hit ('bump') the boat in front of them while avoiding being bumped themselves. Not being bumped is a good thing, suggesting finer fitness and so greater suitability as a mate

**Burns Night** - A Scottish celebration to celebrate the life of the poet 'Robert Burns' on/around the 25th of January. Get ready for a long formal dinner and Scottish dancing that you're definitely not sober enough to do well

**Collections** - In-college exams at the start of each term. Akin to 'mocks' at GSCE or A-level (or equivalent). They often don't mean anything but to show your tutors how you're doing

**Come Up** - Arrive in Oxford

**Crewdate** - An event between university sport clubs, which often appears incredibly cultish. Bring pennies and wine and expect to be

# Glossary of Oxford Words

thin air whenever a good time is happening (assumedly to put a swift end to it)

**‘Dicky P’** - The Dickson Poon building at the South gate of the college. The ‘Wordsworth Tea Room’ is stocked with bougie food and coffee, and there’s also a Bodleian library

**Eights** - Rowing bumps races in Trinity, usually in eighth week

**Elish** - Angiolini, college Principal. Very friendly, and often hosts classy events with free alcohol at her house on college grounds (it’s a very nice house)

**Entz** - Short for entertainment. Can range from bops to board games nights. Many formal ‘entz’ activities are handled by the associated JCR representatives

**Formal** - In St Hugh’s, this is a three course dinner, served weekly. Dress code consists of lounge suits and dresses/nice trousers - gowns aren’t required. Note, however, that both the size of the meal and the dress code vary between colleges - check before arriving under/overdressed!

**Hack** - A person who pushes themselves in university societies, specifically in politics or journalism. Hangs out at the Union bar, and a bit too into networking

**Hall** - Describes both the meal (dinner) and the physical room in which food is served

**High Table** - The table at which fellows sit Where Fellows in Hall (the physical room). This is literally and figuratively above you, and also results in better food. *DO NOT SIT HERE!*

# Glossary of Oxford Words

**Lectures** - For science students, a daily occurrence, involving travelling to a lecture theatre to watch someone present with PowerPoint for an hour. If you do humanities, reportedly a monthly (at best) occurrence. During COVID, these became long sessions of staring at a computer screen while trying to not press the pause button

**Lodge** - The gatehouse of St Hugh's, where the porters work and where your pidge (see below) is found

**May Day** - A local celebration occurring on the 1st of May every year, when schoolboys sing on top of Magdalen tower, accompanied by Morris dancing and alcohol (functionally, it's a mini-festival in the streets... At six am in the morning)

**Matriculash** - A celebration that follows matriculation, usually involving pubs and over-zealous partying (source - Wadham, 2014)

**Matriculation** - A formal ceremony on Saturday of 1st week to swear students into the University. One of the most 'Oxford' experiences imaginable

**Michaelmas** - Winter term

**Mods** - A type of prelim exam in certain subjects

**Porter** - A vital member of the college, with a job sheet too long to list here. First port of call for almost anything you could think of. Native to the Lodge, although can be seen hunting throughout the grounds

**Prelims** - The end-of-year university exams in first year. Usually used to decide as to whether you can continue on to years two and three (fail/pass/distinction)



# Glossary of Oxford Words

**Schools ('Examination Schools')** - Found on the High Street. A large, overly grand building where you'll sit university exams and, if studying a humanities subject, where some of your lectures are

**Sconce** - A game similar to '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. May also enter your room to clean them, depending on COVID guidelines.

**Subfusc** - An archaic clothing set worn for Matriculation, Graduation and, most awkwardly, exams

**Torpids** - Rowing bumps races in Hilary (seems to be interchangeable when describing 'Summer Eights', although the rules differ *very slightly*)

**Trashing** - A celebratory informal ceremony performed by many students after end-of-year exams, usually involving making a mess of oneself and one's environment with creams and confetti. The University heavily disapproves of it

**Trinity** - Summer term. Also a college

**Tute** - Short for tutorial, primarily organised and run by college tutors. Quality, and desire to cry afterwards, varies. Essays/problem sheets are often set before/after them

**Union** - May refer to the Student or Oxford Union. They do different things, and cater to different people

**Vac** - Short for vacation. Tutors will often stress that it's 'not a holi-

# Some (Important) Contacts

The following are contact details for several key services that you might need during your time at St Hugh's, many of which can also be found in the relevant areas of the welfare section) -

## **Porters' Lodge -**

Phone - 01865 274900

## **College Nurse (Sarah Dragonetti) -**

Phone - 01865 274945

Email - [sarah.dragonetti@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sarah.dragonetti@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)

## **Summertown Health Clinic -**

Phone - 01865 515552

## **University Counselling Service -**

Phone - 01865 270300

## **Nightline -**

Phone - 01865 270270

## **Emergency Services -**

Emergency Phone - 999

NHS Non-emergency Phone - 111

