



NEW COLLEGE
OXFORD

Freshers' Guide 2020-21

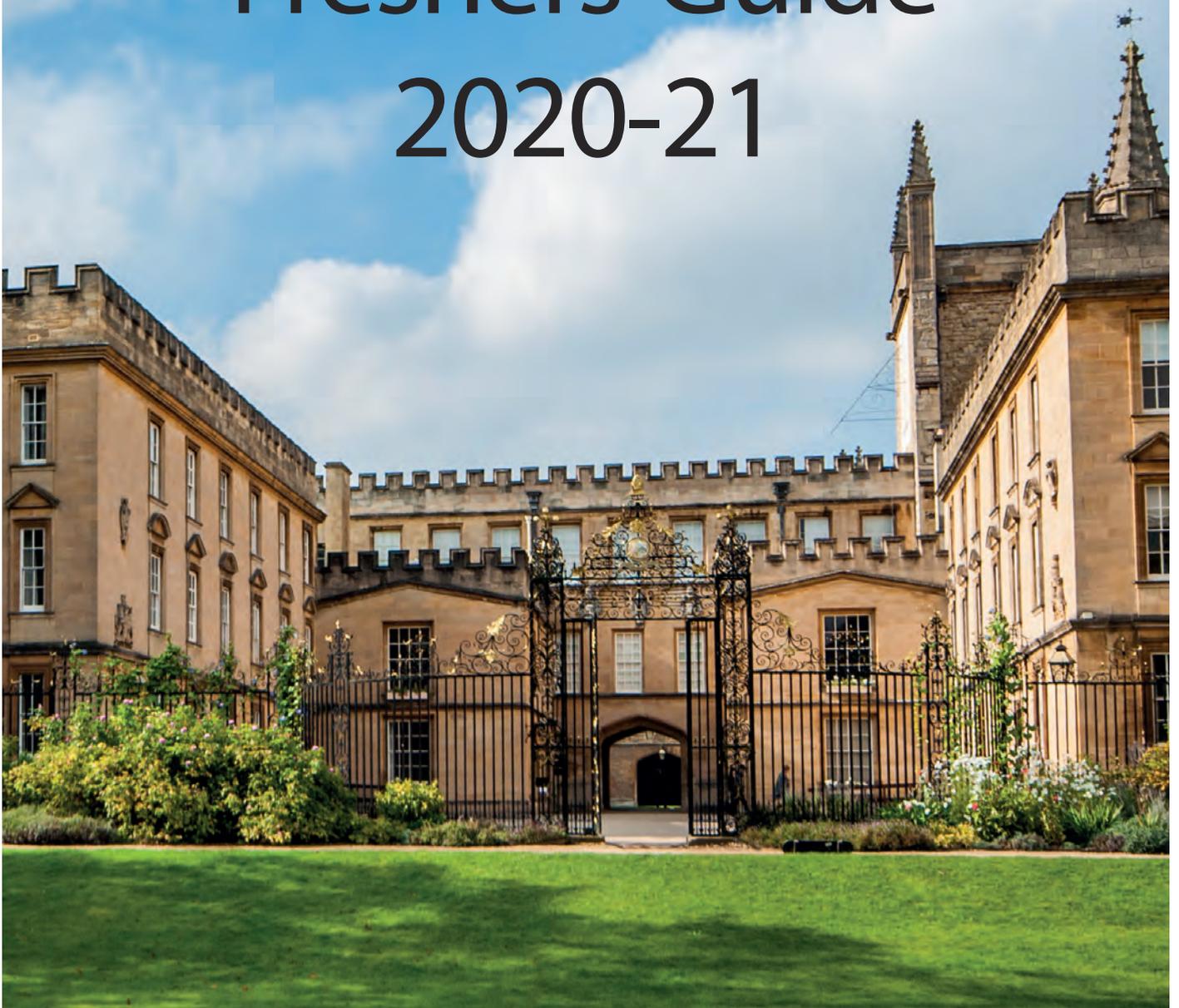


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WELCOME!

Welcome to New College. Congratulations on your results, and we look forward to you becoming a part of our College community in October!

This guide is organised roughly chronologically taking you through the end of the summer, your first day, your first week, and then giving some general advice. We have tried our best to adapt this guide to possible Covid-19 related scenarios, however please check the 'Dean's Handbook' webpage (<https://www.new.ox.ac.uk/deans-handbook>) for more up to date information. A more detailed section on Covid-19 can be found later in the Preparations section of the guide. However, the majority of this guide is based upon College life as we hope it'll be when things return to normal. It's worth giving this guide a read because hopefully many of your questions will be answered somewhere within these very pages.

Before you get here

At this point, we hope you'll be enjoying one of the longest and most work-free summers you're ever going to get. Enjoy it, and make the most of the time you have at home. You'll probably have lots of questions about what to do before you get here. You'll want to know what to expect in terms of work, and the social side of life, as well as where you'll be living for the next 3 terms. We hope that this guide answers some of the questions you might have, and gets you excited for all that's to come on the journey ahead.



Why haven't I been asked to choose accommodation yet?

First off, don't worry that you haven't been sent anything about choosing accommodation. You'll be assigned a room, so don't need to sort anything out yourself. First year rooms range from the mediocre to the ridiculously good. You will all be living in *New Buildings*, which is one of the best, and most sociable, accommodation blocks in Oxford. Get in touch with **Alys Owen** (our housing officer) if you want any info about your room at: alys.owen@new.ox.ac.uk.

In your room, you will have a bed (most are singles but there are a handful of doubles), bedside table with lamp, a desk with lamp, a fridge, an Ethernet point and chairs. You will either have an ensuite, or access to a shared bathroom. College doesn't provide bedding, so you'll need to bring this with you, or order it to be sent to College. You're also able to personalise your room in whatever way you choose (within limits!). Your room will be cleaned each week by a *scout*. They are very friendly, as long as your room is reasonably tidy when they come round.

You'll have access to our laundry facilities (including washers, dryers and irons), food in Hall, and IT and printing facilities. You won't have access to a kitchen, but it's still possible to make some food in your room.



A blueprint for the sort of room you'll be living in over the next year...

What To Bring

General living:

- *Bedding* (remember a duvet and pillows) If you need to borrow this, email the housing officer.
- Towels
- Toiletries
- Hand sanitiser and face mask (will have the option to purchase a New College mask upon arrival)
- Washing powder
- Coat-hangers
- Laptop (and charger)
- Mobile phone (and charger)
- Ethernet cable (if you want to get onto the Ethernet rather than Wi-Fi - advisable as Eduroam can be unreliable)
- Extension cable (multiway adaptor)
- Posters and pins

Work stuff:

- Stationery
- Folders
- Dictionary
- Calculator (subject specific, probably don't need this if you do English)
- Paper and Notebooks
- Any relevant old notes – You might not use these, but they can be reassuring.
- Hole punch
- Stapler
- Scissors

Clothes:

- Whatever it is that you like to wear, including clothes for the wet and windy Oxford weather, and for the occasional time when the sun makes an appearance.
- Sub fusc (This is what we wear for exams and for matriculation)
- Fancy dress stuff for bops
- Black tie (if you have it)
- Sports kit

Food stuff:

- *Kettle*
- Cloths and tea towels
- Washing up liquid
- Mugs, tumblers, wine glasses, shot glasses etc.
- A few plates, bowls and cutlery



The kettle - woman, man, or non-binary person's best friend

Administration:

- Money and bank cards
- ID (passport and/or driver's license) for opening bank accounts, and for getting into pubs and clubs.
- Passport photos (useful for Union membership, coxing licenses and other extra-curricular activities)
- LEA/ finance information
- Medical details

Subfusc

This is Oxford's academic dress which you wear for exams.

Subfusc is:

- Dark suit with dark socks and white bow tie or black ribbon
OR a black skirt with black tights
OR black trousers with dark socks
- A plain white collared shirt
- Black shoes
- A gown and mortarboard

Included in this pack will be an advertisement for the gown and mortarboard, so you can buy it in advance. Alternatively, there are loads of shops in Oxford, where you can buy these things once you arrive. They usually come in a package with a black ribbon or white bow tie.



New College does sub-fusc...

Storage

The JCR and College run an external storage scheme where you can store the things you don't need to take home every vacation securely at Charles Wood and Sons (our external storage provider).

College funds some free storage for the following groups of people: international students, students from Scotland, Wales, NI or Channel Islands, students who live more than 4 hours away from Oxford and students whose family/friends cannot pick them up at the end of term. Alys, your housing officer, will be in touch with more details about this later in term!

Optional extras:

- Cushions, rugs, teddy bears, plants, books, films, photographs and anything else that will make your room feel more like home.
- Musical instruments
- A printer. Yes, you can use College printers, you just might find having your own a bit more convenient.
- Bike. Bring one with you, or buy when you get here, there are loads of second hand bike shops.

Stuff you are NOT allowed:

- Toasters, ovens, microwaves, electric paella pans
- Pets
- Cars
- Candles (decorative or otherwise) and other fire hazards
- Offensive weapons
- Blu-tack (It damages the paint on the walls, but you do get a pin board for posters and stuff)

Preparation

What work should I do beforehand?

Your tutors should have got in touch to let you know what work they expect you to have done before you start, and you may have a *reading list* to work through. Don't worry if you haven't heard anything from them though; some tutors will not set any holiday work. Your *subject rep*, will probably have recommendations for books that are really important or suggest places to look for useful resources. You will be able to contact your subject rep through the Academic Affairs Officer, **Luke Hatton** (see page 33). Don't be afraid to get in touch and ask them any questions.

Anything else I need to sort out?

Yes. Firstly, you'll need to fill in some *forms* that will be sent to you shortly after receiving your exam results, including a *passport sized photo* for your *Bod Card*. You'll have this card for all the years of your degree, so make sure it's a photo you don't mind looking at every day. More on the Bod Card in a bit. Unlike a passport photo, you can smile for your bod card photo!

Secondly, there is a booklet of information about IT on the website, and it's a good idea to read this and sort that out all things IT before you arrive. It shouldn't take too long to set up your *Single Sign On account* and your access to *Eduroam*.

Your Single Sign On is a really important username and password combination, that enables you to access, among other things, your online library account (*SOLO*), *Weblearn* (Oxford's virtual learning site), and your emails.

It takes the form *newcXXXX* and the password can be changed to one of your choice. Make sure to write this down as it's easy to forget things in the hustle and bustle of Fresher's Week. You'll also be able to access your Oxford email using your Single Sign On. Once set up, you can access it from *owa.nexus.ox.ac.uk*. Anyone will be able to email you on *firstname.surname@new.ox.ac.uk*. (If in doubt about other people's email addresses, you can search for currently active Oxford nexus email users here: <http://www.ox.ac.uk/staff>)

Eduroam is a Wi-Fi network that you can access from University buildings around Oxford, and at University campuses worldwide. It's worth bearing in mind that you do need to register your logon and password for this before you get to Oxford because you can't do it over College Wi-Fi (although don't worry if you haven't, it does work over 3G). Eduroam has a different username and password combination to your Single Sign On. The logon takes the form *FIRSTNAME.SURNAME@NEW.OX.AC.UK* and you set a password of your choice.

I'm an International Student, do I need to do anything differently?

As an international student, you will likely be arriving at College before the UK students, which will give you time to get settled living in the UK with the help of some events put on specifically for you. Dependent on travel guidelines and restrictions, you may have to quarantine in the UK before term begins. Also, a few things are on our packing list that you shouldn't bring with you, but should instead buy in Oxford. There will be an International Students Guide on the website but if you have any more questions please do get in touch with **Tina Sang**, the International and Overseas Officer (see page 32), or check out this University website: <https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/new/international> .

Don't bring, but buy

- Kettle
- Pillow and duvet (purchase online at www.galilarde.com/oxfordnew and have them sent to the College before you arrive; a small number of rooms have double beds so check with the accommodation manager (sue.fisher@new.ox.ac.uk) before you arrive)
- Mugs, glasses, plates bowls cutlery etc.
- Coat hangers
- Bike
- Too many cold weather clothes if you're from a warm country (they tend to be of better quality and last longer if you buy them in town, although they can be more expensive)

Phones in the UK:

Since you probably won't be in the UK for the full year we recommend getting pay-as-you-go. Giffgaff has a nice offer with unlimited texts, 500 UK minutes and 2GB of mobile data for £8 per month. You can order your sim card online and have it delivered to College so you already have it before you arrive (YOUR NAME, New College, and Oxford, OX1 3BN). For international calls, *Skype* is a good option, or you could get your SIM card from *Lebara*, which has reasonable per minute prices for international calls.

Think about banking:

You should check whether your bank has a branch in the UK or a cooperation with a UK bank. Otherwise, Oxford SU Fresher's Fair will give you the chance to chat to different UK banks if you're undecided. You'll also be able to set up a bank account there and then, if you have the necessary documents (A valid *passport* or *EU identity card* and a *student enrolment certificate* (you need to get this stamped by College and can ask the International and Overseas Students officer, **Tina Sang** email: tina.sang@new.ox.ac.uk for help with this.

Transferring money:

If you want to pay your battels/tuition fees from a foreign bank at the beginning of term, we recommend using *transferwise.com*. It will save you the complications that might arise from different currencies and additional fees.

COVID-19 Information

Both the College and the JCR Committee are committed to making sure your student experience is as normal and enjoyable as possible, whilst making sure that government guidance on coronavirus is followed. Below is everything we currently know about College life for Michaelmas term, however this remains highly dependent on government restrictions and could be subject to change. Key things to remember are that you will be expected to social distance and to wear masks at all times in college (and in any places with other students) and will likely have to sign a university-wide charter to this effect. Similarly, there will be hand sanitiser stations and social distancing signage around College. For more information, please check the University's and College's Covid-19 Links on this webpage: <https://www.new.ox.ac.uk/deans-handbook>

General

All events, teaching and socialising will be carried out with effective social distancing in place. If you develop symptoms of the virus, you will need to get a test within 48 hours and self-isolate.

If you do need to self-isolate, College will provide you with a 'wraparound' care package to make sure you have access to everything you need. This will include meals delivered to your room, and other general care. If you've been in contact with someone who has had symptoms, you will likely be asked to self-isolate too.

'Household groups' are groups of students using shared facilities, such as a kitchen or bathroom. They are not related to social groups, and are purely based on accommodation. If someone in your household group has to self isolate, then everyone in that 'household' must self isolate too. This is the only time household groups will come into play. However, most 1st and 2nd years have ensuite bathrooms and no kitchens. If you have an ensuite bathroom, you will essentially be in a '1 person household' and so will not have to self isolate if someone else on your staircase or floor has to.

Provided social distancing measures are correctly followed and face coverings are worn, you can socialise with any student in college.

International students should contact college for specific enquiries about arrangements for them. You can contact Suzie at admissions@new.ox.ac.uk.

Accommodation

We are very lucky at New College to have our rooms regularly cleaned by scouts (cleaners). As usual, they will be cleaning bedrooms once a week, but they'll also be paying extra attention to the cleaning of communal spaces and to wiping down door handles or banisters. Overall cleaning in College will be increased, and scouts will be onsite until 6pm every day.

If a student is self-isolating or has COVID-19 symptoms, the scouts will not clean their bedroom.

Dining Hall

The Hall will be open, and there will be staggered dining sessions for meals. These will likely be separated based on year groups.

Central perspex screens have been installed on the tables, and diners will be separated by 1m side by side. There will be a 2m queuing system indoors, and queuing will continue outside under the marquee. The meals are self service, with a one way system.

Guest nights and formal dinners will sadly not be happening in Michaelmas term.

The Junior Common Room/Social Spaces

The JCR will be open with a reduced capacity, and there will hopefully be a big marquee in the Garden Quad which will be used for social events. More rooms will be available for undergraduate use, namely the Red Room and the Christopher Cox Room. In terms of sports grounds, details will be determined subject to regulations nearer the time.

Study Rooms/Tutorials

Some tutorials will take place in person and others will be held online. Those that are held in person will be socially distanced and the rooms will be cleaned in between each use. Students will be responsible for cleaning their own study area after a tutorial.

Fortunately, the library will be open, with social distancing and protective measures in place.

The Bar

Good news... The bar will be open! It will have a reduced capacity, and a one-way system will be put in place. There will also be rope barriers and social distancing rules, as well as perspex screens installed on the tables. To help support the track and trace system, you will only be able to buy drinks for yourself, so no buying people rounds of drinks sorry!

Visitors to College

Initially, no visitors will be allowed into College, however this is subject to review. You will still be able to visit other colleges for tutorials though. Members of College will be required to sign in and out when leaving or entering College.

Freshers' Week

We have been working hard to plan lots of fun events for you, to replicate a normal New College Freshers' Week. All of these events will be socially distanced. Matriculation will still be taking place in some form, however the details for this have not yet been confirmed.

Freshers' Week

WHEN YOU GET HERE

The following page entails the provisional plan for your arrival. If anything important changes we will let you know. You can also check the New College Offer Holders web-page (<https://www.new.ox.ac.uk/offer-holders>) for more up to date information.

When do I arrive?

You'll be arriving early if you're an international student. Everyone else should arrive at College between 10am and 4pm on *Monday in 0th week*.

What do I do when I get here?

Parking

You'll be able to park on Holywell Street. There will be a team of people in in committee sweatshirts to help you (they are the JCR committee and freshers' week team). They will get you a parking permit from the porters, so you'll be able to leave the car on the street for 20 minutes or so.

Collecting your keys

Head to the *Porters' Lodge*, where you can collect your room key. The porters will tell you where your room is, and the person who is helping you out will be able to take you there.

Registering

The person helping you will take you to either Lecture Room 6 or 4. There, you'll need to register for your student loan, and pick up your Bod Card (University card). You will have your photo taken for the Who's Who as well, so you can get to recognise everyone in your year as soon as possible.

Unpacking

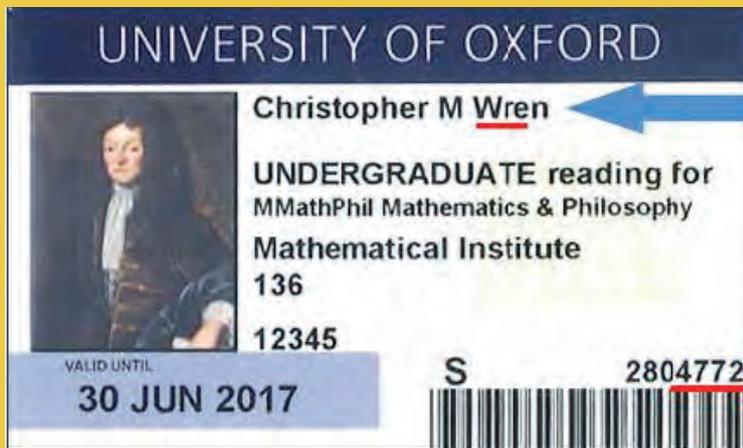
Unloading everything from the car into your room shouldn't take too long, and 2nd years will be on hand to help in anyway they can. If your room is at the top of several flights of stairs, don't be afraid to ask for help!

Fresher's Marquee

Once you've got all your stuff up to your room, and waved goodbye to your parents or whoever brought you, you can head down to the *Freshers' Marquee* in *Garden Quad*. It will be clearly signposted so don't worry about getting lost.

The Bod Card

It's simultaneously a debit card, ID, discount card, library card and a key into various university departments, and to the rooms of New College itself. It's yours for your whole degree. It's called the Bodleian Card for long. You use it to buy food and drink in College.



A sample of what a Bod Card looks like. Worth using a good photo as it's pretty much fixed for all your time here - remember that, unlike in a passport photo, you **are** allowed to smile! (Photo - Bodleian Library blog)

There will be committee members and other Freshers all milling about in the marquee. The second years will be running frequent tours of College in groups so you can get acclimatised to the layout of College pretty quickly.

THE MAIN PROGRAMME KICKS OFF

At around 4pm, once everyone has arrived, you will have a talk where the JCR Officers will introduce themselves and the plan for the week. You will then have team building activities followed by pizza with the other people in your staircase and a party in the big Marquee (coronavirus permitting)!

Your first week

After the mad rush of your first day, you can settle down and look forward to a week full of fun and frolics, with a couple of necessary tasks thrown in too. You'll be able to see all this looking at your Freshers' Week timetable. We will put this on the website ahead of Freshers' Week.

During the day

Necessaries:

You may face a bit of an information overload, since you'll be getting a fire safety talk and several library inductions. We'd advise you sort out all the IT stuff as soon as possible, as it will make things easier later on if you aren't struggling to get on the Wi-Fi. You'll also get to meet your tutors properly for the first time since they interviewed you. Most people end up getting on really well with their tutors so don't be scared by this.

Fun stuff:

When you have time between your compulsory information sessions and sorting out admin bits and bobs, there will be loads of activities going on within College.

There will be *MADD* (Music, Arts, Dance and Drama) and *Sports* events going on to show you what life is like outside the library. The *New College Fresher's Fair* will have a number of stalls by different sports teams and societies within College, so you'll get a good idea of what's going to be on offer throughout the year.

This year, due to Covid-19, the *Oxford University Fresher's Fair* will take place virtually where you'll no doubt sign up for a hundred clubs you never knew existed, and will spend the next few terms trying to remove yourself from the mailing list of that club you never once went to. However, you'll find something that suits you perfectly - there is truly something for everyone, from the Cocktails Society to the Historical Re-enactment society, a cacophony of choirs and orchestras, and every sports team imaginable.

At night

You can look forward to some great entertainment throughout the week co-ordinated by our brilliant Freshers Team, **Tim (Lewis) and Agata**, and our Entz Reps, **Tim (Hoving) and Danni**. Subject to Covid restrictions, there'll be a silent disco, you'll get to experience the LEGENDARY *New College Toga Party*, and enjoy your first of many awesome bops! (**Bop**: noun - A party in College organised by students, with a fancy dress theme. Each college has two or three of these per term. The quality varies widely, although we think New College's are undeniably the best). The first bop theme of the term will be **NEWTOWN Festival**. Make sure you have a good costume!



New College goes clubbing - photo taken at the Christmas Bop!

Congratulations if you manage to party every night of Freshers' Week! But you're certainly not expected to; we've got loads of other events planned. Expect a *Chocolate Tasting Session*, trips to *G and Ds* (legendary ice cream parlour), and more. There are some really exciting things in the pipeline so look out for the announcements of what's going on!

If Covid restrictions allow it, over the course of the week you can look forward to a silent disco, live music, a formal cocktail party, a bop at the end of the week of course, and loads more! We will also be running lots of exciting non-drinking events such as games nights and open air film screenings in the beautiful New College gardens (shown in the picture below).

So many new people and new things! I feel a bit overloaded.

If you feel lost or disoriented during the week, don't worry, it's perfectly normal and happens to everyone. You could also track down your College parents who will be happy to chat to you, show you around and answer any questions. Fresher's Week is great fun, but it can also be overwhelming; don't worry if it doesn't live up to the hype and isn't the **best week of your life ever**; you've got so many more great experiences to look forward to in the next 9+ terms of Oxford, and it's perfectly normal to take a bit of time to adjust to new things.

Throughout the week, the Welfare Reps will also be running chilled out, arts and crafts-style events with free food and drinks. Mila and Matt are lovely, smiley people, and will always be there to help you out if you are feeling overwhelmed or anxious.



Garden Quad, seen from the gardens... (Photo: Nathaniel Hunt)

Life after Freshers'

WORK

There's no denying that work is a big part of life at Oxford! You'll note that it's a bit different from school! Firstly, and most importantly, you will have *tutorials* ('tutes') a few times a week. These happen with your tutor, either individually or as part of a small group, and will hopefully take place in person. It's an amazing way to learn from others and gives you the chance to develop and defend your own opinions rather than just getting a few comments in red ink at the bottom of your essay.

For each tutorial, you'll be set work, probably the week before either an essay or a problem sheet. Usually this work will form the basis of the discussion.

For science subjects it's often a good idea to hand in any rough work for questions that you haven't managed to complete fully, as then the tutor may be able to see where you're going wrong.

Another big change will be *lectures*. For many undergraduate courses, some or many lectures are essential, for some other courses, they will be optional. If you are in any doubt about which lectures you should be attending, please speak to your tutors in the first instance. You will get a lecture list for each term; most departments will put this on their websites or on Weblearn as well. First term lectures will take place online and information with regards to the other terms will be released later on in the year

You'll notice pretty quickly that you get loads of freedom at university. There won't be anyone reminding you to work, which means you have to motivate yourself and find a pattern that suits you. This is something you'll probably figure out after your first late-night essay crisis.



1st years ready for Preliminary Exams (Photo: Ellie Wilkins)

Many people find it easier to concentrate if they work somewhere other than their room; the College and University libraries (especially the fabulous *Bodleian*), the café area, and even coffee shops around the city may be good options.

At the start of most terms (except first term), you'll have *Collections*, which are exams on the previous term's work. Your first Collections will be in January 2021.

If you do have a problem with work, however trivial it may seem (even struggling with procrastination can be something it's helpful to get advice about), don't hesitate to contact someone. Your tutor, or one of the second years doing your subject can be a good starting point. Another option is the Academic Affairs Officer, **Luke Hatton**, who is always available to chat about work worries. Everyone here at New College wants to help you enjoy your subject so that you can achieve your full potential!

PRACTICALITIES

FINANCES

Before you arrive at Oxford it can be hard to estimate how much money you will need, or what to budget for. To make this easier, we have tried to give you an idea of what you'll need to pay for during your time at Oxford.

Battels

Battels are the charge you have to pay to College at the beginning of each term. They include the cost of accommodation and evening meals every night. Each evening meal costs £7.52. You can sign off from paying some of this charge if you don't plan to eat in College, as explained below. Your Battels statement when you arrive in October will be £1836.60, which breaks down to £451.20 for evening meals, £3 for accommodation insurance and £1382.40 for accommodation rent.

Battels need to be paid by mid-day on the Friday of 1st week of each term. Your battels statement will be emailed to you at the beginning of 0th week of each term (this is the week preceding the first Sunday of term, so Fresher's week is 0th week). Your first battels will be due by Friday 16th October. There are two ways to pay, either hand in a cheque at the College bursary, or pay by debit card or credit card online. You pay online through the meal booking website, food.new.ox.ac.uk. Log on with your Oxford credentials and click 'Fees and Charges', then 'Pay Battels'. This is also where you can find all your Battels statements throughout your time at Oxford.

As well as accommodation and meals, many events in College and things like sports team photos, charity calendars and all wine purchased from the JCR Wine Cellar will be paid for through Battels. This means that your name will be noted and you will pay these charges on top of your standard Battels bill at the start of the next term. It is easy to let the hidden costs build up by not keeping track of your Battels spending. It's a good idea to keep an eye in how much you've spent, which you can do by keeping a note for yourself whenever you charge something to Battels, or by emailing Linda

Goodsell at linda.goodsell@new.ox.ac.uk.

For UK students with a student loan, tuition fees are automatically paid to College by the Student Loans Company. However, if you are paying fees yourself or are an international student, then these fees also appear on your Michaelmas Battels statement and can be paid using the same method.

Cost of living

On top of paying your Battels, you will need money to keep you going on a day-to-day basis. This will cover breakfast, lunch, evenings out, toiletries and other spontaneous shopping, etc. You'll pay for food and drink purchased from Hall or the College Bar on your tills account (find out more about this in the food section below).

Students often spend more in their first term, particularly if you decide to buy your own books (although most people don't do this) or to join many societies. Most societies cost around £10-30 to join, but some offer more expensive life memberships, whilst others charge you termly fees, known as subs. It is advisable to plan for extra spending because of this. Information on society fees can often be found on their websites, or will be provided at the freshers' fairs. Here are some examples of the variation:

- History Society Membership: £15 (£12 during first week), talks free and socials £2 for members (£1 and £5 respectively for non-members).
- Oxford Union Life Membership: £249 during welcome period at the start of Michaelmas (£278 otherwise). Lower membership fee available (£169.95) for those with a full government maintenance loan.

There is no real average for what people spend per term, as your lifestyle will dictate how much you spend. For example, not drinking alcohol can make things a lot cheaper, or choosing to buy lunch from less expensive alternatives.

Having said that, here are some general weekly costs to give you an idea:

- Sandwich at the ATS: £3 - 4 (N.B. they have a £5 card limit so remember to take cash!)
- Pint at the Turf Tavern: £4 - 5
- Drink in the College bar: £2 - 3 (variable depending on the alcohol)
- Lunch in Hall: £3 - 5 (Hall lunch and dinner prices vary depending on how much food you get)
- Breakfast in Hall: £0.50 - 3
- Cereal and milk from Tesco: £0.75+ +£0.89 = £1.54
- Tesco meal deal: £3
- Society membership: variable as above
- Trip home: depends on where you live
- Ball tickets: £40-200, depending on the ball

Some other spending tips for once we're back to normal post-corona times:

· The general price of a night out in Oxford is about: £5-10 for club entry, £8 for pre-drinks + drinks out = £13+

Some tips for making nights out less expensive:

- Buy club tickets in advance on Fixr or from the College Entz reps as this will be cheaper than on the door
- Buying drinks at clubs will be more expensive than having drinks from the College bar/Tesco before you leave, but clubs will often have deals on specific drinks (eg. VKs, Jaegerbombs) so keep an eye out for those
- If you can, avoid taking a coat or jacket so you don't have to pay for the cloakroom and take a jumper to tie around your waist

Example expenditure per term:

This person budgets around £85 a week. Not everyone lives like this and you may well find even if your budget is similar, it breaks down completely differently. Also, it is just an example and it is very possible to spend less (or significantly more) than this amount.

- Standard Battels = £1836.60
- Food £35/ week (e.g. Alternative Tuck Shop sandwich for lunch, cereal, brunch in hall, plus snacks) = £280
- Club nights 12 times a term, at ~£13 a time = £156
- Society memberships e.g. History society £12, £6 for a social x2 = £24
- Laundry (8 sets of washes and dries) = £24 (make this cheaper and more eco-friendly by bringing a clothes horse to skip using the dryer!)
- Drinks in the bar (4 pints a week) £2.50 x 4 x 8 = £80
- Crew date (£15 curry plus £5 club entry, £5 bottle of wine, £5 of drinks) x 2 = £60
- Guest night (£20 ticket + £10 wine) x2 = £60
- Makeup/toiletries = £40
- Vacation storage = Free if you meet certain criteria, otherwise £5 per box (see elsewhere in the guide for more information)

Bear in mind that this doesn't include one-off costs, like clothes shopping, buying stash or ball tickets, or anything paid for on Battels! Also, remember when setting a budget that you have an extra week in Fresher's week which can also be quite expensive if you're drinking, so include some extra money for that outside of your weekly budget x8.

If you want any more information about specific costs living in Oxford, feel free to contact the JCR VP for Operations and Finance (see JCR committee profiles below!).

JCR Levies

Around halfway through Michaelmas, you will receive an email from the JCR VP for Operations and Finance, giving you the option to opt out of paying JCR levies. These levies are charged to your Battels at the start of Hilary, Trinity and in the middle of the Summer vac for the previous term, so you won't have to pay for the Michaelmas levies if you opt out. The levies (per term) are as follows:

Reach Oxford levy - £6

Computer levy - £1

Charities levy - £7.50 (automatic amount, can be changed)

Art levy - £2

Hardship levy - £5

Sports levy - £4

Punts usage levy - £6 (only applies in Trinity Term)

Staff Gratuity levy - £2

New College Society membership - £21 (single payment only made once in your first year).

You can opt out of all of these except for the Computer levy and the New College Society membership. More information will be provided in the email giving you the option to opt out.

Living out

While New College provides accommodation for the first two years of your degree, you'll probably need to live out in third year (unless your degree includes a year abroad). There are very few third-year rooms in College, not enough for everyone. Whilst you probably won't need to be thinking about this until second year, it can be useful to have an idea of what to expect. We estimate that rents are usually £380-470+ per month. Then bills are £30-40 a month, TV licenses are £36 annually, and food costs £20-40 per week.

On top of this, other costs like going out, playing sport, books etc. will also apply. You also have to pay housing costs year-round, rather than just during term times as you do in first and second year.

Financial support

Oxford is one of the most generous universities in the country bursary-wise. The University bursary scheme gives money to all students whose household income is less than £42,875. As long as you ticked the box, "I'm happy to share this information with universities" on your Student Finance Application, this is all sorted out automatically. It's also worth looking at <https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/fees-and-funding> to see the full range of bursaries available, and find out if you are eligible for any extra financial support. On top of this, you should have received information about potential Scholarship awards, which should also be detailed in the link above.

There are also two university-wide hardship funds, one of which is the Access to Learning Fund (<https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/fees-funding/assistance/hardship/alf#:~:text=The%20Access%20to%20Learning%20Fund,usually%20paid%20in%20termly%20instalments.>) and the University Hardship Fund (<https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/fees-funding/assistance/hardship/uhf>). More information about who these are available to can be found in the links above, but they are for students already at Oxford and work through an application process.

If you wish to apply for a study grant you can contact Bursar's PA (4OB1 - first floor, right).

Finally, you can make an appointment with the College Bursar, David Palfreyman, through his secretary (4OB1) at bursar@new.ox.ac.uk; he is welcoming to any student with financial difficulty. If you do get into financial difficulty, for example, if your circumstances change, contact the Bursary as soon as possible. College are usually prepared to work out financial arrangements on an individual basis and are always very happy to help if they can. Don't be put off asking until the situation becomes an emergency!

If you need any more information about Battels, general advice about finance from the Bursar, or more information about loans and grants, visit www.new.ox.ac.uk/finance. There's a great document which gives you information on all of the New College bursaries as well as financial advice to be found at <https://www.new.ox.ac.uk/freshers-information>. Linda Goodsell (4OB first floor left) can answer any of your questions about battels and student loans.

FOOD

Most people don't have access to kitchens in their first year, leaving the Hall kitchens as your main source of affordable cooked meals. Eating in Hall gives you the chance to catch up with friends in a friendly relaxed environment. Hall serves three meals a day, all to a high standard and accommodating all dietary requirements and allergies.

On right: The Hall, where you will eat your meals (Photo: Ayna Taira)



Typical Meal times

Breakfast: 8-9am weekdays

A selection of cereals, continental and cooked options are available at breakfast (although many people just have cereal in their rooms).

Lunch: 12-1:30pm weekdays

Lunch is available every weekday, and again offers hot and cold options. At weekends, breakfast and lunch are combined into one, as you'll see below...

Brunch: 11am-1pm Saturdays and Sunday

Brunch is one of the **best** meals of the week!

Dinner (informal): 5:45-7:15pm (except on formal days when it finishes at 6:30pm).

Dinner (formal): seated for 7:15 Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays

Formal is slightly more fancy than informal Hall; you have to wear your gown, and there is waiter service (but you don't have to get dressed up - wearing your gown over trackies is totally acceptable). You can also bring your own wine. Whether formal or informal, dinner consists of a 3-course meal.

Formals **will not** be happening in Michaelmas term, but don't worry they will resume as soon as possible.

Café/Bar

Alongside the three meals served in Hall, the bar is open from 11am-11pm, offering sandwiches, wraps and paninis, as well as a variety of snacks and hot drinks at reasona-



Cafe during the day on the left (Photo: Ayna Taira) and a bar at night on the right (Photo: Ellie Wilkins)!

ble prices. This means you can still purchase food even if you miss a mealtime. Then, in the evening the bar itself is open to serve alcohol from 6pm.

Paying for meals

Evening meals are included on battels, and you pay for any other food bought within College using your till account. All students make a pre-payment at the start of term. This covers all your evening meals and a fixed 'kitchen charge' that goes towards the kitchen staffs' wages and the upkeep of the kitchens. Broken down this is £7.23 per meal. You can sign out of dinner if you don't plan to go that day, up until 10am, and you will be reimbursed the cost of the meal (but not the kitchen charge), getting £4.89 back on battels at the start of the next term. Formal and informal cost the same.

Your *till account* is used to pay for drinks and snacks in the bar and café, and breakfast and lunch through the Buttery.

You need to keep this topped up, and again can do this through the intranet (*food.new.ox.ac.uk*) or at the Bursary in cash during office hours. In the Buttery, you can run into debt up to a threshold of £15, but you can't run up a deficit in the bar or café. Any debt left on your account at the end of term is automatically added to the next term's battels. There are fines if you exceed the debt limit.

You pay for all food using your Bod Card, which is scanned in the Buttery. In the bar you can pay by cash or credit card but beware that you lose the New College member discount, so will be charged 20% extra.

Meal booking website

The same website (*food.new.ox.ac.uk*) is also used to book yourself into and out of meals. Login using your bod card number. *You'll be automatically signed into informal dinner each day.* Make sure to *sign out* when you want to and to *sign on for formals* if you want to go. For example, your College parent may suggest that you all go to *family formal*. Make sure to click cancel next to your early hall booking, and then book the sitting you want.

You can also change your preferences so you are automatically booked in for vegetarian, vegan etc. meals. Speak to **Brian Cole**, the catering manager (in 4OB or email **brian.cole@new.ox.ac.uk**) to discuss any specific *dietary requirements* that you have.

Guest Night

Every two weeks the JCR has a *Guest Night* on a Friday evening (alternating with MCR Guest Night). Our guest nights fall on even weeks. Guest Night food is particularly good, so it is a fantastic opportunity to get friends or family over, and it's always well attended. The dress code is suits and ties or cocktail dresses, and no gowns. You can get wine from the *JCR wine cellar* or bring your own.

You sign up for Guest Night through the intranet system; be warned, tickets get snapped up very quickly. Guest Night costs £17.75 for New College Students and £23.10 for non-Oxford University guests.

FACILITIES

Laundry

The College provides us with laundry facilities, located in the basement of *Staircase 2* in *New Buildings* (2NB). You need to take your Bod Card in order to get into the staircase. There are washing machines, tumble dryers, irons, and drying racks. You'll need to provide your own laundry powder though. You'll need a credit or debit card to pay down at the laundry room. A wash costs £1.80 and a dry £0.70.

The Library

The Library is the building resembling a nuclear bunker at the end of Holywell Quad. It's open from 8am until 2am, and houses most of the books you will need for your work. It also has a good selection of DVDs (non-academic) which you can borrow whenever you like. If the Library doesn't have a book you need, there are forms in the foyer that you can use to request for the librarians order it. The Library has ample space to sit down and work, allowing for effective social distancing. You will be shown how to use it during Fresher's Week. Once again, it's the Bod Card that gets you in and allows you to take out books and access your library account. You can email the library at library@new.ox.ac.uk.



People working together in the group study room in the library (Photo: Ayna Taira)

The JCR

First off, note that the JCR means two things. It stands for the *Junior Common Room*; the community of undergrads that you'll be joining in October. There's also an MCR for post-grad students, and the SCR, which consists of College academic staff (like the governing body, fellows and tutors). You'll find out more about the JCR, its politics, and how to get involved later on.

Secondly, it's an actual room in College which has recently been renovated. It's got a 65" 4K TV with Sky+, PS4, Wii, Netflix, big comfy sofas, a kitchenette with free tea, coffee, milk and biscuits, a vending machine, a pool table and table tennis. A great social space, it's available for your use at any time for procrastination and socialising.



A midnight game of ping pong in the JCR (Photo: Agata Gwincinska)

IT AND COMPUTING

If you don't have your own computer, there is a computer suite in 2NB. There are printers in the computer suite, library and JCR, which costs 7p/sheet to print, and a free scanning service. The computer suite is open 24/7. If you ever have any problems with IT, you can drop in to the IT office, in 12 OB 2 between 2 and 4 each weekday afternoon. Outside these hours, you can email the details of your problem to it-support@new.ox.ac.uk.

Username and password combinations:

A useful reference

- **Single sign on(SSO):** Nexus email, Weblearn, the library system (SOLO), Reports (OxCort) etc:
 - o Username: newcXXXX
 - o Password: Initially given by College but you can change this
- **Meal Booking System:** Booking in and out of dinner and paying battels and tuition fees to College
 - o Same as SSO

POST

Everybody has their own *pigeonhole* ('pidge') which can be found in the small room next to the Porter's Lodge. Here you'll receive any post sent to you from both inside and outside the University. For those wanting to send you stuff from outside, your address is 'New College, Oxford, OX1 3BN'.

Anything that won't fit in your pidge will be put in another room, and the porters will leave you a laminated card. You can then take this to them and swap it for your parcel. If you want to send something to anyone within the University, intercollege post is free. Simply label an envelope with the name and the College (or Department) of the person and hand it to the porters. For the ordinary post (unfortunately not free), there is a post-box just after the glass bit where the porters are, as you come into Holywell Quad through the lodge.

University and College Life

When you get to Oxford, you'll be inundated with offers of things to get involved with. There are societies, clubs and teams at both *College* and *University* level. Within College a huge variety of interests are catered for and within Oxford as a whole there's a society for just about everything. So there's no reason to think you'll be spending all your time in the library!

If you're reading this over the summer, you might want to start thinking about the sort of extra-curricular activities you're interested in taking part in, whether it be continuing with an existing passion, or something brand new. If you just want to look forward to the nights out to come, that's fine too!

Entz

New College is undoubtedly among the best at having fun in Oxford; there's always an amazing event coming up! Our bops happen three times per term and they are pretty legendary. A bop is a College-held fancy dress themed party in an Oxford nightclub; they're great fun, and a fab way to de-stress with your friends. In terms of the theme, most people dress up to match at our bop, and lots of people go all out - go get some body paint, capes, sparkles and wigs, top that off with a little originality and dress to impress! There are also exciting opportunities for student DJs at bops so all you talented musicians can get involved. Outside of in-College entz, the clubs in Oxford cater for a variety of tastes. Despite what you may have heard, there are in fact plenty of plac-



A group of friends in fancy dress ready for a winter bop (college party)



Oxford in the sunlight (Photo: Agata Gwincinska)

es around offering everything from drum and bass events (the Bully) to the downright cheesy, (but fabulous, Parkend) and everything in between. The Entz Officers, **Tim** and **Danni**, have organised loads to do in Freshers' Week, and throughout the year will be putting on fun events like quiz nights and silent discos. Other things to look forward to include the famous New College Boat Party, inter-year crew dates, and the New College Garden Party in the summer.

All this should mean that your first year is one that you'll never forget!

On top of all this there's the Varsity Trip: the annual Oxford and Cambridge ski trip. It's been running since 1922 (even before the Winter Olympics) and is the oldest and largest trip of its kind! The trip takes thousands of beginner to advanced skiers to the Alps every year, and provides packages for transport, clothing and equipment to make the week as smooth as possible. There is always a big New College turn out, and many students will go multiple years - there's often a group of freshers going, so don't stress about finding people to go with. For any more information or if you have questions, talk to the College Varsity Rep, Toscanie Hulett.

STUFF YOU CAN DO IN COLLEGE

Sport

Sport is a huge part of life at New College, and whether you're the starring striker for the Blues, or just fancy an afternoon game of croquet, the opportunities to get involved are endless. We have a fantastic sports ground just 5 minutes' walk away from College. It has football and rugby pitches in Michaelmas and Hilary terms, and lawn tennis courts and a cricket pitch in Trinity term. There is also a squash court, and a hard court for tennis, netball and basketball. We have a lovely pavilion with changing rooms, which is perfect for watching a relaxing afternoon's cricket in the summer. If that's not enough we have our own set of punts which you can sign out at your leisure in Trinity term. [New College Boat Club](#) also has its own boathouse located on the Isis river, equipped with bar and balcony. As a New College student, you'll also get free access to the [Iffley Gym](#), about 20 mins walk from College.



The boys in brown playing a Cuppers match on the Weston Grounds (Photo: Ellie Wilkins)

At the moment, New College runs badminton, cricket, croquet, dance, darts, football, hockey, lacrosse, netball, pool, rounders, rowing, rugby, squash, table tennis, tennis, touch rugby and yoga. If you're keen to set up something that is not on this list, notice that something has lapsed or want to organise a team, email the Sports Officer, **Alex Brown**.

A large number of our teams compete in the annual inter-collegiate competition called *Cuppers*, and New College generally does very well. If you want to get involved, contact the captain of the team, or the Sports Rep, or alternatively, most teams should have a stall at the *New College Fresher's Fair*. Don't be put off if it seems too competitive for you - you can get involved at any level. For those who wish to progress further with their sport, you can represent the University in high level teams - just get in contact with the Sports Rep or the current University players to find out more.

MADD

MADD stands for **Music, Arts, Drama** and **Dance**. New College is a fantastic place either to try something new or to take something with which you have experience to a new level. The first major event on New College's MADD calendar, especially for freshers is the OUDS (Oxford University Drama Society) **drama cuppers**, the inter-collegiate competition open exclusively to first year graduates and undergraduates. It's a great opportunity to become closer to your fellow freshers and with no experience necessary, a brilliant way to get a feel for what an Oxford production entails!

The MADD community at New is vast - ranging from solo musicians, jazz groups, beat poets, comedians, ballroom dancers and everything in between! Chat to our Arts Officer **Ayna Taira** for all things MADD related, in particular, if you'd like to get involved with *New College Drama Society*. This year, we are expanding the scope of MADD to include film, photography and literature, and will be introducing new writing workshops for you to get involved in. Ayna's also the person to contact if you want to get involved in *New College Music Society*, attend some of the various workshops and classes we offer (e.g. taster sessions for different types of dance), or when you want to take art out of New College's termly Art Store (the various art you can borrow from College to decorate your dorm room). Michaelmas term also brings with it the New College Pantomime, written and directed by Ayna and performed by first years mainly.

New College Music Society

The New College Music Society (**NCMS**) is one of Oxford's leading College music societies. They offer a myriad of events and socials, and provide a wide range of activities to musicians of all abilities. They hold frequent concerts with their in-house and external ensembles, and hold free recitals every Wednesday during term-time. They also encourage College and University students to join their ensembles; their non-auditioning ones include the *New College Chamber Orchestra* and the *Holywell Singers*, while their auditioned groups include the *Wykeham Consort*.

As well as their wide range of concerts and musical activities, NCMS provide many social events, including open mic nights and Jazz nights. Follow their Facebook page to keep up-to-date with their many events and socials, and if you are interested in joining the music making, drop them an email on newcollegemusicsociety@gmail.com. It's also easy to get involved in music more informally - we're proud to have our very own Band Room (get in touch with the Band Room Officer, **Luke Smith**, if you're interested)



*Left: People practicing on the grand piano in the Clore Music Rooms
Right: group picture of the 2019 (winning!) drama cuppers cast from New College
(Photos: Ayna Taira)*

GETTING INVOLVED

This section covers three areas that are incredibly important to life at New College: charities, outreach, and environment and ethics.

Charities and Environment

New College is great at getting involved in the wider community and there will be plenty of opportunities to take part in charitable activities. There are loads of volunteering opportunities, so here are just a few examples:

Curry Runners: homelessness charity at New College that distributes food twice weekly

Turl Street Homeless Action: volunteers distribute food daily to homeless people in Oxford

Solidaritee: sells T-shirts to raise awareness of and money for the refugee crisis

Jacari: encourages students to teach English to children of refugee and asylum seeking backgrounds

Schools Plus: aims to address educational inequality by providing Oxford student tutors

What's a Pound?: encourages university balls and other large scale events to add a pound to ticket prices which is then donated to charity

Tingewick: run by medical students, raises money for local hospitals and for grief support

For more, speak to the Charities Officer **George Tench**; he'll be able to match you up to a volunteering opportunity in Oxford that fits you.

Within College, we raise thousands of pounds each year for charity, voting on the charities this money goes to in the JCR each term. There is an optional battels levy, which contributes to this fund. There are also various College events such as charity formal hall that help raise money, as well as fundraisers in College, for example, the *Oxford Half Marathon* in October. We create a *New College Naked Calendar* each year, and are always looking for new ideas to raise money. If you are interested in running an event contact the Charities Officer, **George Tench**.

You can also get involved with helping with environment and ethics. This year we will be starting an *EnE (Environment and Ethics) Discussion Group*, led by **Paul Khlal**, which is a great thing to get involved in if you are interested in these sorts of questions.

In addition to this, you can get involved with all the environmental action in Oxford at a University Level, for example through the *Oxford Climate Society*. We are always looking for new ideas for how to improve the College, so contact **Paul Khlal** if you're interested in making New College more environmentally friendly!

Outreach

Last but by no means least, outreach is really important to us at New College. By getting involved with, you can making a real difference to prospective students who might, inspired by you, decide to apply to Oxford when they may not have done so otherwise. It's all about encouraging everyone to apply, irrespective of their backgrounds. The main way that we do this is through visiting state schools or having them visit us. This relies on student volunteers and the Access and Outreach Officer, **Sam Bogie**, will be in touch to recruit willing tour guides each week. In addition, there is an ambassador scheme, where volunteers are trained and are involved in access work on a more consistent basis. Besides visits, we have our instagram @newcollegejcr, where we will be sharing stories and testimonials from New College students, as well as College tours and guides to applying, so get liking!

Typically, volunteering means giving a tour of College, having some (free) lunch and giving a Q and A session about Oxford. It's encouraged for everyone to get involved in access events, no matter what background you've come from - remember that the entire point of access is that your school shouldn't matter.

One of the most well-known University-wide schemes is called *Target Schools*, which encourage Oxford students to visit state schools in their local areas. If this is something you wish to get involved in you can get training and support. They also run a programme in which prospective students "shadow" a current student in a subject they're interested in, attending lectures and seminars for a day. New College also runs a great program called *Step Up*, which you can learn more about by heading to our website.

STUFF OUTSIDE OF COLLEGE

There are so many societies in Oxford that to start a list would be impossible. You'll find out about all these at the Oxford SU's *Freshers' Fair*. This takes place in Freshers' Week and will be virtual this year, with stands representing everything from skiing to Amnesty International, from the Biochemistry Society to J.R.R. Tolkien Appreciation. One important organisation at a University level is *Raise and Give* (RAG), which gives you the opportunity to do anything from bungee jumping to hitchhiking all in the name of charity. They also organise infamous club nights and other social events. Look for them at the virtual *Freshers' Fair* and their own *RAG Freshers' Fair*.

Oxford SU

Oxford SU is the *Oxford University Student Union*. Because of the College system, it isn't a social hub like at some other universities but it still does important work. Oxford SU Council is every two weeks and New College is invited to send three representatives to vote on issues like endorsing NUS regulations or SU Policy. We send the Vice President for Communications, Welfare and Equality and the President, but there is one space up for grabs, so you could make a difference just by turning up. The Freshers' Fair is run by Oxford SU too.

Oxford as a City

From cosy cafés to funky bars, Oxford has lots of great places to discover! Here's a few:

Insiders' Guide to Oxford

Cafés:

Society Café
The Jericho Café
Greens Café
The Missing Bean
The Art Café
Vaults & Garden Café

Bars:

Kazbar
Freud
The Half Moon
Raoul's
The Varsity Club
Sandy's
The Jam Factory

Where to eat:

Café Coco
The Handlebar Café
The Rickety Press
Chutney's
Olly's Thai
Edamame
Pepper's Burgers

Pubs:

The King's Arms
Turf Tavern
The Bear
The Mad Hatter
The Old Bookbinders
The Perch
The Duke of Cambridge

Where to go:

Christ Church Meadows
University Parks
Port Meadow
South Parks
The Covered Market
(Ben's Cookies and Moo-
Moo's!)
Botanic Garden

Clubs:

(for when they're open)
Bridge
Parkend (Attik to the locals)
Plush
Fever
The O2
The Bullingdon

The Radcliffe Camera seen through the gate of the Bodelian (Photo: Agata Gwincinska)

The JCR

If you've read everything so far, firstly well done on sticking with it! Secondly, you might have noticed mentions of people like the Entz Officers, or the Sports or Arts Officers, and you might be wondering who they are.

Each Trinity term the JCR elects a committee, led by the President, which works to run various important things around College, and to allocate JCR funding.

Absolutely everyone has a say in the running of the JCR – through JCR meetings and motions anyone can put forward a proposal for how to spend our budget, or a policy the JCR should adopt, or a new idea we should explore - all of which is voted on.

JCR money is spent on the likes of sports kit, arts, big college socials, bagatelle boards, pizza, and any other items that get JCR approval. The VP for Finance and Operations, **Tara Shutes**, ensures that we remain within budget.

To get your hands on this cash, simply put in a motion to the Vice President for Communications, Welfare and Equality, **Indu Appanna**, and turn up to the JCR meeting to make your case.

JCR meetings are your fortnightly dose of democracy, with large quantities of pizza on the side. At these meetings, we decide our spending as well as our affiliations. However, New College is not the most political of colleges so we don't make as many big political statements as some other colleges. There will be a taster session for JCR meetings Sunday afternoon, where you'll see how JCR meetings run.



Your JCR committee (2020 Zoom edition)!

The JCR Committee - Elected

President - Izi Cook

Email: isobel.cook@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hi everyone! I'm Izi, a second year Philosophy and French student, and your President for this year. The Committee and I can't wait to welcome you all in October, and for you to become a part of the vibrant community we love so much. Over this coming year, I'll be coordinating the wonderful JCR committee and working with them to bring their ideas to life, as well as making sure our College is as inclusive and welcoming as possible. I'll also act as the point of contact between you lot, the College, and the central University; representing the interests of the JCR and making sure all your voices are heard.



Not long ago, I was in the same position as you all and I know that while it is very exciting, starting Uni can also be pretty intimidating. It is easy to worry that you won't feel like you belong in College, or won't find people who you relate to. I want to take this opportunity to reassure you that our College is a really friendly community, with a diverse range of people and lots of new opportunities. My priority is to make sure that everyone feels that New College is a place where they can be themselves. We have loads of great stuff planned for the year so get excited! If you have any questions, suggestions, or just want someone to talk to, I'm always up for a chat so please do come say hi. You can also always contact me via email or on Facebook messenger (feel free to send me a friend request).

Vice-President for Communications, Welfare and Equality - Indu Appanna

Email: indu.appanna@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hey everyone! My name is Indu, I'm a second year studying French and Italian and I'm your VP for Communications, Welfare and Equality this year. With this role, I oversee the smooth running of JCR meetings, and help represent and promote the college's views at the Student Union. I am also responsible for coordinating the Communications, Welfare and Equality Team, meaning I will be supporting the wonderful Committee in ensuring that our New College environment is as welcoming and friendly as it can possibly be. My priority is also to encourage people to get involved within the JCR and to make sure that everyone knows their voice is heard. We value every single one of your views, and are fully committed to implementing your ideas on improving college life to the max. No doubt, the uncertainty of recent times has impacted us all, but know that you can always send me a message on email or Facebook if you have any worries or questions, however big or small. We are all really excited to welcome you into our New College community. That's all from me - I hope you have a great summer, and can't wait to see you soon!



Vice President for Operations and Finance – Tara Shutes

Email: tara.shutes@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hi everyone, I'm Tara, a second year biomedical scientist and your VP for Operations and Finance for the coming year. I'm really looking forward to meeting you all in October!

My role is split into two main parts. The Operations half is leading the Operations and Finance division within the JCR committee (including the AcAff, Charities, Entz, E&E, Food & Bar, Housing, JCR, MADD and Sports Officers). This involves helping them to get as many members of the JCR involved in extracurriculars both in college and uni-wide, running fun events and making sure general JCR affairs run smoothly. As well as this, I am also the Treasurer for the JCR. This involves managing JCR finances and advising on spending, to ensure the budget stays healthy and accessible to everyone for the whole year.

I hope you have a great summer! If anyone has any questions about funding, specific events or opportunities, or just general financial advice, please do pop me an email – I'm really happy to help in any way I can!



The JCR Committee - Communications, Welfare and Equality

Welfare Officer (Women and Transfeminine) - Mila Ottevanger

Email: mila.ottevanger@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hi everyone! I'm Mila, a second-year English Language and Literature student, and I'm lucky enough to be one of your Welfare Reps this year alongside the lovely Matt. I'll be around to provide you with tea, free food and to lend an ear during what can be a big adjustment.

I'm really looking forward to meeting everybody and getting to know you all, so don't hesitate to come up and say hi! My role this year will entail giving you free cookies, free sexual health supplies and confidential advice and referrals once I complete my Peer Support training by next term.



Welfare Officer (Male, Transmasculine and Minority gender) - Matt Strutton

Email: matthew.strutton@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: He/Him

Bio: Hi! I'm Matt and I study chemistry. I am one of your welfare officers this year, working alongside the amazing Mila, and we are here to ensure that you are as happy and comfortable at New College as possible. This includes everything from listening to any concerns you may have to organising fun and inclusive events throughout the year, such as JCR teas where we can all have a catch up over delicious (and free) food.

I would always be happy to chat to anyone about anything - please do say hi if you see me! Looking forward to meeting you soon!



Womxn's Officer - Celestine Adelmant

Email: celestine.adelmant@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hi! I'm Celestine, I'm a second year Biologist and your Women's Officer this year. My role is to represent and promote the equal rights of all self-identifying women in the JCR in any way I can. I will be running regular discussion groups, feminist film nights, guest speakers and networking events throughout the year to help inspire and motivate women at New College, which I really recommend you get involved with! I will also send out regular emails to inform you of university-wide events organised by some of the many women's societies at Oxford which are an excellent way to meet like-minded people from other colleges. Please don't hesitate to drop me a message if you have any questions about college life before you arrive or throughout the year, I'm always up for a chat! I look forward to meeting you all in October :)



Access and Outreach Officer - Samantha Bogie

Email: samantha.bogie@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hi I'm Sam, a second year Spanish student, and I'll be your Access and Outreach Officer this year! I'm here to ensure that everyone at New College feels welcomed and comfortable, irrespective of background or identity, and that College is a diverse place where everyone is represented. You'll see me plugging various access initiatives throughout the year, along with tours and Q&As which College holds for prospective applicants; I encourage all of you to get involved as you really can make such a big difference, and definitely don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions! I have some big ideas for our access Instagram this year (@newcollegeaccess), so this is a really great way to get involved in access if you're looking for a more low-commitment role! This year, I'm also aiming to bring students from access backgrounds together to create a space where everyone feels comfortable; coming to Oxford is an incredibly daunting prospect, made even more daunting if you are from a non-traditional background and have concerns about 'fitting in'. Feel free to drop me a message or email if this is something you're particularly concerned about - I likely had the exact same questions this time last year!



Ethnic Minorities Officer - Mizan Rahman

Email: mizan.rahman@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: He/Him

Bio: Hello, I'm Mizan, a second year law student and your Ethnic Minorities Officer. My job is to voice the concerns of students that self-identify as belonging to an ethnic minority. If you have any issues, no matter how small, please do drop me a message/email/talk to me. I will be hosting various events for BAME students throughout the year as well as signposting University wide events, such as those run by OUSU societies. For all students I will be organising events to celebrate the diversity at New College such as formals for events of cultural importance. In the coming weeks I will also be setting up a New College based BAME family scheme so keep an eye out on the JCR page! In the meantime enjoy your summer - we are all looking forward to meeting you in October!



LGTBQ+ Officer - Lucy McCaughan

Email: lucy.mccaughan@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hi guys, I'm Lucy, and I'm your LGBTQ+ Rep for the coming year! I'm a second-year law student, and upon coming to university I was in a state of uncertainty about my sexuality. However, upon arriving in Oxford I discovered an incredibly warm and vibrant LGBTQ+ scene, where everyone is made to feel welcome. As rep, I will be showcasing the amazing university-wide LGBTQ+ events, such as Wadham's Queerfest, as well as organising a variety of get-togethers in college throughout the year. This will include everything from a LGBTQ+ celebratory dinner, to a Freshers' Week picnic, to (free!) pre-drinks every week before Plush (Oxford's lively gay club). The queer community in College is a non-judgemental, safe space, where I have found some of my best friends. Whether you are confident in your identity, or still figuring it all out, the community at New College will welcome you.



Disabilities Officer - Lauren Turner

Email: lauren.turner@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hi! My name is Lauren, I am a second year studying Experimental Psychology, and I will be your disabilities officer this year. My role is to represent the needs of disabled students at New College. At times, Oxford can be particularly stressful for those with disabilities, and if you don't know who to talk to about getting day-to-day support or assistance with exams, I can point you in the right direction for advice and information. If you have any questions before arriving, or throughout the year, feel free to send me an email or message me on Facebook. I am really looking forward to meeting you all!



International and Overseas Officer - Tina Sang

Emails: tina.sang@new.ox.ac.uk, tina_sang@outlook.com

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hi, I'm Tina! I am a second-year English student who's lived in America and China, and I will be your international and overseas officer this year. My job is to ensure that all international students are able to settle in smoothly to university life, especially as the Covid-19 pandemic may affect some of you coming to New College this year. I understand that the past few months may have been particularly difficult, so if you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me!

Throughout the year, I will be organizing a variety of College and Uni-wide events promoting culture and diversity, including international-themed formals, weekly teas in my room, and bar crawls, all designed to introduce you to international and domestic students and help you integrate.

Before Freshers' Week officially starts at New College, I will organize a few international freshers events, including an online Q&A session on Zoom before you arrive. There will also be a section of the Fresher's Guide dedicated to tips for international students on packing, transportation, banking, etc. I will be living in College when you arrive, and am happy to grab a coffee or meal to get to know you better! I look forward to meeting you all and establishing a friendly, vibrant international community at New College with all of you.



The JCR Committee - Operations and Finance

Sports Officer - Alex Brown

Email: Alexandra.brown@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hi everyone, I'm Alex, a second-year Classicist and your sports officer for this coming year. New College offers a wide range of sport all year round, from rugby to croquet (!) to mixed rounders. Participation from all different abilities and levels in as many sports as you want is greatly encouraged here, with options for both the competitive and serious, as well as the social members. Not only is sport a great way to relax and divert your focus from work, but it is also an easy way to meet new people and form inter-year friendships. There is also funding available for both College and University sport, ensuring you can buy all the kit, undeniably one of the main motivations for playing sport. I really hope lots of you participate in one of the many sporting opportunities at New College and feel free to ask me any questions over email. Can't wait to meet you all in October!



Academic Affairs Rep - Luke Hatton

Email: luke.hatton@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: He/Him

Bio: Hi! I'm Luke, a third year engineering student, and the incoming JCR Academic Affairs Officer.. My role mainly consists of working with College to organise logistics and student helpers for the interview period in December (more on this later in term!) and the Open Days in July and September, and allocating you all your College parents (who hopefully you've received a letter from by now!). I'm also here if you need anyone to chat to about worries or concerns about the academic side of Oxford life, or to direct you to support available within College. There are various forms of academic support available to ensure that any problems you may have during your studies are addressed, including your tutor, the Cox and Salvesen Fellows and your college parents. If you do have any worries or concerns about academic life at Oxford, feel free to drop me an email. See you in October!



Arts Officer - Ayna Li Taira

Email: ayna.taira@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hi everyone, I'm Ayna! I'm a second year Philosophy and German student and will be your MADD/Arts Officer for this year. MADD stands for Music, Art, Dance, and Drama, but we're widening the definition of 'Arts' to include literature, photography, and film. So if you're at all interested in any of these, feel free to drop me a message anytime! There are so many opportunities to get involved, so whether you're an aspiring film director or just want to do some Bob Ross classes for fun, I'll be here to support your artistic interests, and to showcase New College talent. Aside from our annual traditions such as the Oxmas Panto and Arts Week, you will have many arts-related events to look forward to: open mic nights, workshops, dance classes, and more! I'm excited to see you all and introduce you to all things MADD here at New College.



Entz Officers - Danni Banks and Tim Hoving

Emails: danielle.banks@new.ox.ac.uk /tim.hoving@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: She/Her (Danni) and He/Him (Tim)

Bio: Hey, we're Danni and Tim, your Entz reps for this year! That essentially means that we are responsible for making sure your first year is as much fun as possible, through Freshers' Week and beyond. Depending on what we are allowed to do when you get here we want to make sure that you get the best freshers week possible; whether that's an introduction to Oxford's diverse night-life through various club nights, or more events in and around College. We also promise there will be lots of fun non-drinking events put on throughout the week as well. After that, we will make sure that there are exciting things to do throughout the year. This involves putting on events such as the huge New College boat party and the garden party in the summer, as well as making sure our bops are the best in Oxford. Feel free to contact either of us if you have any questions about College life.





Housing and Facilities Officer - Alys Owen

Email: alys.owen@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hey! I'm Alys, a second year mathematician. I am your Housing and Facilities Officer for the next year. It's my job to organise anything related to your housing in New College, including running the housing ballot for the JCR, and helping with anything relating to laundry, vacation storage, as well as any other domestic services and facilities. My role is to make your life at New College easier and more comfortable. I'll be able to answer any questions you may have regarding your accommodation for the coming year so feel free to drop me an email with your query and I'll be happy to help! I look forward to seeing you all in October.

Charities Officer - George Tench

Email: george.tench@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: He/Him

Bio: Hey I'm George, and I'm a second-year PPEist, and the Charities Officer for this year! I'm in charge of all the College charity events over the next three terms, including pidge presents, charity formals, the naked calendar, charity auction and a range of charity competitions. I'll also try my best to keep you informed of all the incredible Oxford-wide volunteering and charity opportunities on offer. I am personally involved with TSHA, which provides food and other essentials to homeless people around Oxford. Within College we also have a food distribution group called the Curry Runners, using leftover food from hall - another great way to easily do some volunteering and to get to know people across the college. Please don't hesitate to message me with any charity or volunteering questions over the Summer vacation and I look forward to meeting you all very soon!



Environment and Ethics Officer - Paul Khlát

Email: paul.khlat@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: He/Him

Bio: Hi everyone, I'm Paul - I'm a second year chemist and I'll be your E&E rep this year! Last year, my predecessors successfully challenged the College on its investment portfolio, and I hope to build on this work to ensure we continue to strive for ethical and environmental greatness. I'll be organising E&E meetings throughout the year, and ensuring that College is playing its part in university-wide schemes in regard to environmental targets, as well as running some fun initiatives within College. Please feel free to message me if you have any questions and see you in October :)

Food and Bar Officer - Jake Rule

Email: jake.rule@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: He/Him

Bio: Hello everyone! I'm Jake and I'm a second year physicist and I'm the Food and Bar rep for the coming year. We are lucky to have a great bar area that is used widely by lots of people in College. I'll be trying to do some fun events in the bar along with trying to help with any issues or ideas people have about food or bar related things. Feel free to message or email me if you have any.



JCR Officer - Joanna Reid

Emails: joanna.reif@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hi, I'm Joanna, a second year medic and your JCR Officer for this year. The JCR is the 'junior common room' and is the communal living room for everyone in college. It has a TV stocked with games, a pool and table tennis table, lots of sofas and a kitchenette for everyone to use. The JCR has become a bit unloved in recent years, so I am hoping to work on improvements including some new furniture, appliances and kitchenware. Another important part of my job is to keep the cupboards stocked with mugs, coffee, tea and milk to fuel library breaks. I am looking forward to meeting you and taking on your suggestions for the JCR in the coming year.



Your JCR committee 2.0, edited onto the bodies of last year's Committee by the highly skilled Tara Shutes

The JCR Committee - Appointed

Freshers' Rep - Tim Lewis

Pronouns - He/Him

Bio: Hey everyone! I'm Tim, a 2nd year E&M student. As Freshers' Rep, I'm responsible for making sure that Freshers' week goes well, and will be here to help everyone settle in and get used to college. Working with the Events Coordinator Agata, my aim is to ensure everyone makes the most of and has fun during Freshers' week, as well as being the person to come to if things go wrong. The week is a great opportunity to get as involved as possible in college and university life, to meet new people and to join societies and clubs. I'll introduce myself to everyone when you all arrive, but please feel free to get in contact with questions or worries at any time. This extends beyond just Freshers' week, and I'll be around throughout the whole year to help with any problems.



Freshers' Week Events Coordinator- Agata Gwincinska

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hi, my name's Agata and I'm a 2nd year Medicine student. I will be working alongside your Freshers' Rep Tim to help organise and implement the various events we have lined up for you during your first week at New College. We hope that despite the challenges Covid-19 may impose, this Freshers' Week will be the best yet! I will be welcoming you upon your arrival and hope to remain a friendly face throughout your first year, so please feel free to contact me with any queries or concerns and I will try my best to answer them!



Picture from New College Commemoration Ball 2019 (held every 3 years) by Lafayette Photography

Wine Stewards

Bio: New College is home to the only student-run wine cellar in Oxford! We aim to provide good quality wines at all price points, from Old World classics from France, Italy and Spain as well as more unusual offerings from around the globe for you to try. The cellar is underneath the JCR and is open before every formal. If you're planning an event or just really like wine, we also do special orders. Each year we have two wine stewards, and this year's wine stewards will be appointed at the beginning of term next year. They will be hosting wine related events, starting with the classic 'wine and cheese' night in fifth week of Michaelmas. If you ever want a wine recommendation, these are the people to ask!



Tortoise Custodians - Rory McKinnon and Rosie Thomas

Pronouns:

Bio: Hi - we are Rory (Engineering) & Rosie (PPE), elder 3rd years and the current (and first!) tortoise custodians at New College. Although at the time of writing we do not yet have a tortoise, it is our job to get one for the College, and to give it the best possible home here.

IT Officer - Cameron Macleod

Pronouns: He/Him

Bio: Hi I'm Cameron, a second year medic. I'm very passionate about IT and I am here to assist with any of your computer related problems. Feel free to get in touch with me about faulty or broken computers/devices or just general IT related queries and I will do my best to help before pointing you to the actual IT office. Particularly this year, there will be an increased reliance on digital services and interaction so please get in touch if you have any problems on this front. I will also be working to improve the JCR website so if you have any ideas for new features you want to see let me know.



Bike Rep - Ibrahim Al-Hariri

Pronouns: He/Him

Bio: I'm a 2nd year PPEist, handling the College bikes for the year. They make journeys quicker and they're a great way of exploring Oxford (for free)! There are three of them, in different sizes; each one comes with a lock. Here's the maxim: use them, but don't lose them.

NOTE: if you want to learn to ride a bike and you're embarrassed to tell this to others, let me know and I'll happily teach you!

Mint Julep Quarterperson – Izzy Merriman

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hi! My name is Izzy, I'm a second year Historian and your Mint Julep Quarterperson. This quirky role is unique to New College, and is an interesting (and fun!) part of our College's history. William Trapier, a wealthy businessman from Charleston, SC, visited New in 1845 and asked for a Mint Julep – a cocktail that consists of mint, bourbon whisky and sugar. When he realised this popular drink from the States was unheard of here, he made one for himself and left his recipe, his own cup and a sum of money for the provision of Mint Juleps on the 1st of June every year. My job is to ensure that every New College student has a Mint Julep (or an equally delicious non-alcoholic alternative) to enjoy on this day, to keep the tradition alive and to celebrate our College's fascinating history. Something to look forward to in Trinity term...



The humble Mint Julep



Stash Rep - Venice

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hi, I'm Venice (the one on the right in this picture) and I'm a second year Engineering student and I'm your stash rep for this year. Check the Facebook in Michaelmas for deadlines on ordering stash if you want to flex a college puffa.

Band Room Officer – Luke Smith

Pronouns: He/Him

Bio: Hi everyone, I'm Luke and I am your Band Room Officer. My role is to help you make the most of the band room, just one of the great music facilities at New College. The band room can be found beneath the JCR and is home to lots of great equipment including a drum kit, keyboard, guitars, amps, microphones and music stands. The room can be easily booked through the Music Facilities page on the College Website. If you are organising an event, be it inside or outside of college, you can borrow equipment from the band room by getting in contact with me. At the start of term, I will be looking into updating some of our equipment so if you have any suggestions please let me know!



Other Aspects of College Life

Welfare

Whilst we don't want to scare you, and suggest that you've got any reason to panic, moving to university is a huge change. Adjusting to living by yourself, perhaps for the first time, to being more independent, or having a larger workload can sometimes be hard.

You might find it reassuring to know that for many people Freshers' Week is by no means the best week of their Oxford experience, or even close, and many people take some time to get used to it. If you do find yourself needing some support, in Freshers' week or beyond, there are loads of places you can go and people you can talk to.

We have a welfare system that is fantastically run by the Welfare Officers, **Mila Otte-vanger and Matt Strutton**. Speak to any of the JCR welfare team (which includes the Welfare Reps, the LGBTQ+ Rep, the BME officer, the Disabilities officer and the Peer Supporters), who are always willing to have a chat if anything is bothering you; they're trained in how to do this. Alternatively, there are services such as *Oxford Nightline* or the *Oxford University Counselling service* that you can get in contact with.

We also have the great resource of the *Cox and Salvesen fellows*. They live in College, and are there to help with student's welfare. They are the people to contact if you have concerns before you get to College, for example, existing health conditions. More about them later in the section on College staff and other important people.

Another great resource is the Headspace app, which as a member of New College you will hopefully be getting a free subscription to.

Some useful welfare contacts are:

University Welfare (information on services available as well as useful advice and tips): www.admin.ox.ac.uk/shw/

Oxford SU have a similar website: www.oxfordsu.org/wellbeing



The ingredients of a JCR welfare tea, regularly held by the Welfare Reps

Faith at New College

University is a time for discovering new things. This can include further exploring your own religion, learning about other ones and meeting new people in religious communities (both inside and outside of College). It goes without saying that Oxford aims to be welcoming to everyone, regardless of faith, and that one of the most exciting things about going to university is being in such a diverse environment, whilst also finding your own niche.

New College has people of many different faiths, who would be willing to talk to you if you have questions or need support. Some of them are involved in University-wide societies of faith, all of which are friendly, welcoming communities. A few examples include *Oxford Inter-collegiate Christian Union (OICCU)*, *Islamic society (ISOC)*, *Jewish Society (Oxford JSOC)*, *Hindu society (HUM)* among many others.

Often, communities of faith can take on a welfare role and act as support networks, giving many people a place where they feel they belong. Getting involved can also lead to unexpected discoveries by giving you a chance to explore something you may have taken for granted. The above societies will put on events throughout the year, with a particular focus in Freshers Week to help ease the transition into life in Oxford!

In terms of religious communities within College there is a Christian Union, run by **Dana McGibbon**. The CU holds weekly meetings and Bible studies which are open to everyone within College, whether you would consider yourself a Christian or not. There are also many university-wide CU events, including lunchtime talks, the relaxed discussion group 'The Search', and pub socials. You can find out more about these at www.oiccu.org. Oxford has many, many amazing churches, so feel free to get in touch if you have questions about finding a church here, or if you would like a friend to go along with - we will do our best to help! You can also sign up for Freshaway (the university-wide pre-Freshers' CU residential) 23rd-25th September - this is an amazing opportunity to make friends before term starts (www.oiccu.org/freshaway). Send the CU an email at christian.union@new.ox.ac.uk if you have any questions at all!

At New College we have a Muslim prayer room in College which students can gain access to by asking the Porters for a key. On top of this there is the central University of Oxford prayer room by the Museum of Natural History. Hall will also be serving Halal food at least 3 days every week.

The *Chapel* also plays an important role at New College, being a place of reflection, worship and regular services sung by our world-renowned choir. Evensong is at 6.15pm everyday apart from Wednesday; Eucharist on Thursday.

Our Chaplain, **Reverend Dr Erica Longfellow** (erica.longfellow@new.ox.ac.uk) is very friendly and approachable, and organises morning prayer (plus free breakfast), discussions over lunch every week ('Soul Food'), Christmas tree decorating... amongst many other things. See the chapel termcard or contact the chaplain for details. The Chaplain



Flowers in bloom in front of the Old Quad by the Chapel (Photo: Agata Gwincinska)

is very happy to support the welfare of students and always willing to see members of College on any issue, or simply for a chat, whatever their belief or faith background.

The Chaplain and the Assistant Chaplain, Rev Susan Bridge (susan.bridge@new.ox.ac.uk) are both based in 3OB6.

Some useful links and contacts:

OICCU: <http://www.oiccu.org/>

OUISOC: <http://ouisoc.org/>

Oxford JSOC : <http://www.oxfordjsoc.co.uk/jsoc/>

Hindu society: <http://www.oxfordhumsoc.com/>

A far more comprehensive list is available on the University of Oxford website, under 'Religion and Belief' at:

<https://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/religionandbelief/faithsocietiesgroupsorreligiouscentres/#d.en.31129>

LGBTQ+

New College is known for its accepting, jovial atmosphere. As such, it is an awesome place to feel comfortable identifying as LGBTQ+.

The JCR's LGBTQ+ Officer, **Lucy McCaughan**, has the responsibility as part of the welfare team to make sure everyone feels welcome and happy at New College, particularly those who are not part of the cis/het community, and ensure that everyone in the JCR is fairly represented in College. The LGBTQ+ Officer is also responsible for organising events such as drinks, crew dates and dinners in Hall to raise money for LGBTQ+ focussed charities. If you have any concerns even remotely related to being LGBTQ+ in College you can chat to Lucy. There are also Rainbow Peers across the University, who are trained Peer Supporters there to offer support to LGBTQ+ students across all Colleges and throughout the wider University. (For more information, email rainbowpeers@admin.ox.ac.uk.)



New College flies the rainbow flag for LGBTQ history month (Photo: Michael Burden)

In Oxford, tolerance is the norm. There are thousands of supportive members of the wider Oxford student body. The LGBTQ+ scene is well established and as such, there are a few places for a great night out. Every Tuesday evening the uni-wide LGBTQ+ society hosts LGBTQ+ drinks at a different College bar. After a couple of hours there, those who fancy staying out a bit longer inevitably end up at Plush to keep the night going. Plush is Oxford's gay nightclub, and is also good on Saturday nights.

Some useful contacts:

For more information about the **LGBTQ+ society** in Oxford, visit www.oulgbtsoc.org.uk.

Stonewall is a lesbian, gay and bisexual charity, which has a hotline for anyone needing support: 08000 502020.

Ethnic Minorities

New College boasts an amazingly accepting and diverse body of undergraduates. We come from all walks of life, and some of us celebrate a different heritage from the majority. The JCR's Ethnic Minorities Officer, **Mizan Rahman**, has the responsibility of making sure that students who self-identify from an ethnic minority background are fairly represented in College as well voicing any concerns that these students may have. Alongside this, they also organise various social events like crewdates, games nights and dinners.

New College, and Oxford in general is a very friendly city with acceptance being the expected norm. The BLM movement has reminded us all of the solidarity that Oxford students can show, and the voice we have when we stand together. We are proud of the diversity and affection we show towards one another as part of the New College family. If you have any questions or concerns whatsoever you can chat to Mizan. You can also talk to one of our **Peers of Colour in College** who are Peer Supporters with an extra focus of issues that ethnic minorities may face. If you prefer to talk to someone outside of college, peersofcolour@admin.ox.ac.uk is a good place to start.



New College's Fireworks for Diwali last year (Photo: Ayna Taira)

There are many, many societies in the University that you can get involved in which are more focused than the general Ethnic Minority label.

Some useful contacts include:

The newly formed **Oxford Westernised Asians Society** (OxWas)

Oxford African and Caribbean Society (<https://www.oxfordacs.org/>)

Oxford Asia Pacific Society (Asia Pacific (<https://ouaps.uk/>))

Oxford Africa Soc (<https://o9xforduniversityafricasociety.com/>)

Oxford South Asian Society (<https://sites.google.com/view/oxford-south-asian-society/home?authuser=0>)

And there are many more which can be found at <https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/life/clubs/list>



*New College Chapel and the Cloisters both offer peaceful spaces for contemplation
(top photo: Nathaniel Hunt)*

College Staff and Other Important People

These are the people you really want to keep happy. It's especially worth getting to know the **scouts**, **porters** and **catering staff**, who are the key to the College. You will find that they are lovely people and you won't find it difficult to stay on the right side of them!



Miles Young, Warden.

The Warden is the head of the College and the most senior figure of authority. You'll meet him at various points throughout the year such as lunch in his lodgings and going through your tutor reports.

Photo - ©John Cairns

Prof Michael Burden, Dean

The Dean is in charge of discipline in College. You can arrange to see him through his secretary, Jacqui Julier (jacqui.julier@new.ox.ac.uk) but otherwise you'll only bump into him if you've committed a serious misdemeanour. See here for more: <https://www.new.ox.ac.uk/deans-handbook>



Photo - © John Cairns



Rev Dr Erica Longfellow, Chaplain

Erica is a Church of England Priest and is responsible for services in the Chapel. She is available to listen to any member of College regardless of spiritual background.

Photo - ©John Cairns

Mr Gez Wells, Home Bursar

Gez is in charge of most of the non-academic operational sides of College life - accommodation, domestic, catering, security etc. You can call for a chat with him if you have any questions!



Photo - ©John Cairns



Dr William Poole, Senior tutor

William has overall responsibility for undergraduate teaching and academic matters in the College.



Mr David Palfreyman, Bursar

David is the man with the money. Should you ever come into financial difficulty, or need to talk about grants and loans, arrange an appointment through his secretary in 4OB1.

Annabella Massey, Salvesen Fellow and Katie McKeogh, Cox Fellow

Hello, I'm Annabella, the Salvesen Fellow and I work alongside Katie McKeogh, the Cox Fellow. Together, we're senior members of the College and part of the Welfare Team. We live on site and we are available to meet with students about any aspect of life and study in College and in Oxford. To arrange a meeting with us, just pop an email to welfare@new.ox.ac.uk. We can also be contacted in emergencies via the lodge. Part of our job is building bridges between the JCR and the SCR, so you'll find that we host regular events, including some of the introductory sessions during Freshers' Week, and an event for new students during Michaelmas Term.

The Cox Fellow, Katie, also lives in College and is available to meet students in the same way as the Salvesen Fellow. She lives with a small black and white cat, Hobbes, who is too shy to wander around College but will be delighted to befriend student visitors.



Freyja Madsen, Academic Registrar

Freyja is the first point of contact for any student with queries about Academic Life. She is also a member of the Welfare Team, the College's Disability Support Co-ordinator, and one of the College's Harassment Officers. If you're not sure who you need to speak to, email/phone/pop in to see Freyja!

Tel: 01865 279596 Email: tuition@new.ox.ac.uk Office: 4OB5

Scouts

These lovely people are in charge of cleaning the rooms of the inevitably hungover/messy/still asleep undergrads. They'll come in once a week, which means you'll have to get out of bed before noon at least once a week if you want your room cleaned (probably a good idea). They are generally chirpy and very nice.



Scouts and some other New College staff receiving certificates in the Warden's Lodgings

Porters

These people are the engine room of College. They staff the Porters Lodge at the Holywell entrance and know everything that's going on in College. They'll be the ones who shut down raucous parties but they're also incredibly helpful, and we're lucky to have such a good-humoured and friendly bunch. They'll be there 24 hours a day so if you ever need to know anything about College or get your key, pop into the Lodge. There is also a Porters' Who's Who which will be circulated in Freshers' Week so you can get to know the Porters' names better!



Howard Weller, Senior Night Porter



From right to left, porters Corrie, Chris (Head Porter) and Stewart

Maintenance

Despite testing fire alarms at 9am, the maintenance team are there to be helpful! If you ever need something fixing (broken showers, electricity gone, etc.) you can put in a maintenance request. Google New College maintenance request, and once you've proved you're not a robot they'll be able to send someone to fix your leaky shower or broken drawer handles.



Michael Collett, Clerk of Works

Kitchen Staff

These wonderful people prepare and serve the meals you enjoy in Hall. As mentioned earlier, remember to speak to **Brian Cole** if you have any dietary requirements as our catering staff are proud to cater for a wide range of needs.



Brian Cole, Catering Manager



Emily Meeson, PA to the Home Bursar

4 Old Buildings.

4 OB is the administrative hub of College, and where you'll find most of the administrative staff. It comprises the Bursary, Home Bursary, and Academic administration, as well as the Catering Manager and the Dean's Secretary.



The kitchen team

FAQs

People keep using abbreviations for rooms. What do they mean?

College is divided into buildings. Each building is divided into staircases and each staircase is divided into rooms. The staircase number comes first, then the building, then the room. So 9 OB 3 is room 3 on staircase 9 of Old Buildings.

The different building abbreviations are as follows:

- NB: New Buildings (In Holywell Quad, and your home this year)
- HW: Holywell Cottages (at the far end of New Buildings)
- OB: Old Buildings (where many tutors have teaching rooms)
- H: Hall (Above the Hall)
- LW: Houses on Longwall Street
- NCL: Houses on New College Lane
- BH: Bodicote House (Grey building on Longwall Street)
- SH: Saville House
- SB: Sacher Building (hidden behind the gardens)
- WB: Weston Buildings (postgraduates, houses at the sports grounds).

I have locked myself out of my room, what do I do?

This happens to everyone more than once. Go and speak to the porters who will sign you out with a spare key.

Can I smoke in College?

There are two places in College where you can smoke and vape. The first is at the bottom of the Mound out in the gardens - 'not within 5 metres of the buildings [i.e. Old Buildings]', according to College regulations. The second is the slype, which is the place where the bins and recycling are. Otherwise, College is a no smoking zone, although you can smoke outside College; just outside the Porters' Lodge on the wall is a popular spot.

Which famous people went to New College?

Probably the most famous alumni are Hugh Grant, Tony Benn, Angus Deayton, Kate Beckinsale, Gyles Brandreth, Hugh Gaitskell, Rachel Johnson, Sally Phillips, Kate Mosse, Rick Stein and even the last Duke of Wellington. Richard Dawkins is an emeritus fellow and can often be spotted at dinner.

We were founded in 1379. Why is it called New College, and always 'New College', never 'New'?

Being one of the oldest Colleges, New College does seem a bit of a misnomer. The rea-

son behind the absurdity is that the College is officially called: "The Warden and Scholars of the College of St Mary of Winchester in Oxford".

But another College (which we commonly call Oriel), was already named after St. Mary, so our College was the "New College of St. Mary". However, it was generally just called "New College", a name which has stuck for the last 638 years.

Do we have any rival Colleges?

Not really. Our extremely friendly, welcoming and somewhat apathetic nature has stopped us having any real rivalries. Since the 1912 Olympics in Stockholm, rowers have historically disliked Magdalen (see NCBC website for the story...) but otherwise we like pretty much everyone.

Who do I speak to if I have a problem with my room?

If you need bin bags or extra toilet paper, your scout should be able to help. If you have a problem with your room, you can contact **Sue Fisher**, the Accommodation Manager (In 4NB or sue.fisher@new.ox.ac.uk). If something is broken in your room, you can contact maintenance.

How do I book an event?

To book events in College (this includes any occasion with more than ten people present) you need to get permission. Permission forms for events can be downloaded from the Dean's pages on the College website and you need to submit these to the Assistant Dean, Gideon Elford. (<http://new.ox.ac.uk/deans-hand-book>). To make an appointment with him contact the Dean's Secretary, Jacqui Julier (jacqui.julier@new.ox.ac.uk).

How do I book a room?

If you need to book a room in College, for a meeting, or a tutorial, or if you want to book a guest room for having relatives to stay, then contact **Emily Meeson** by emailing rooms@new.ox.ac.uk.

Can I stay later than the end of term?

At the end of Michaelmas term, you can't usually stay on in College, because all of the rooms are needed for interviews. (The only exception is if you are helping out with interviews yourself). You have to be out by Saturday morning at the end of 8th week. International students should bear this in mind when booking flights home.

At the start and end of other terms, there is often more flexibility. If you need vacation residence, contact **Emily Meeson** (emily.meeson@new.ox.ac.uk)

Do I need to bring a bike?

Not necessarily. The JCR has some bikes which can be borrowed by speaking the Bike Rep, **Ibrahim Al-Hariri** (ibrahim.al-hariri@new.ox.ac.uk) and Oxford is a small enough city that you might find walking suits you just fine. Plus, even if you do find that you want a bike once you're here there are loads of places to get second hand bikes, so it's not necessary to try to fit one in the car!

Extra Info

Useful Contacts:

- Porters Lodge 01865 279500
- Weston Lodge 01865 281081
- 28 Beaumont Street GP 01865 311811 (or 0845 345 8995 after hours)
- NHS 111 service 111
- Thames Valley police 01865841148
- Citizen's Advice Bureau 0844 111444
- Oxford City Housing association 08702 200608
- Oxford City Council 01865 249811
- University Counselling Service 01865 270300
- Oxford Nightline 01865 270270
- Domino's Pizza 01865 200222 (say you're from New College and you might get a discount)

Useful websites:

New College: Official website with lots of useful information including staff contacts.
www.new.ox.ac.uk

New College JCR instagram: Updates on what's going on in College, updates on events committee activity and more.
[@newcollegejcr](https://www.instagram.com/newcollegejcr)

New College JCR Facebook page: Facebook is an integral part of University life at Oxford, so we really recommend you get it! Join us on our JCR's page.

NCBC: Everything you want to know about our Boat Club including the 1912 Olympics story.
<https://jcrweb.new.ox.ac.uk/>
(NCBC also has a twitter account: www.twitter.com/NewCollegeBC)

Oxford University: The University homepage, with links to vast amounts of all sorts of useful information.
www.ox.ac.uk

Oxford SU: Student Union websites with links to many services such as welfare and the alternative prospectus. www.ousu.org



Student outside the Radcliffe Camera, with All Souls College visible in the background

Cherwell: Oxford's independent student newspaper.
www.cherwell.org

The Oxford student: A weekly student newspaper.
www.oxfordstudent.com/

Oxford Tube: 24-hour coach service from Oxford to London, up to every 10 minutes.
Fares from £13 return. Look out for discount vouchers at the Freshers Fair.
www.oxfordtube.com

Daily info: A great website with reviews of restaurants plays and events in Oxford.
www.dailyinfo.co.uk

Oxford Hub: Home of student volunteering and social action in Oxford.



New College by night (photos: Nathaniel Hunt)

Your To Do List:

Hopefully this tick list will condense the 50 pages of information in this guide to a single page of everything you need to do before you come to New College in October!

1. Complete and return any forms sent to you in the post
2. Make sure you have all the items in the what to bring section (Page 6)
3. Make sure you have the shoes, socks, shirt and skirt/trousers/suit for sub-fusc (black is probably best). Don't worry about the ribbon/bow tie, gown and mortarboard so much, most people get them in a deal from the local shops once they have arrived.
4. Get your IT sorted (Page 8) especially your Single Sign On and Oxford Email
5. If you're are an international student revisit Page 9 and contact **Tina Sang**, the international rep, if you have any questions
6. Browse the societies you may want to be involved with at <https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/life/clubs> . This is particularly important if you want to play University level sports as you may want to come early for preseason training (contact **Alex Brown** the Sports Rep for more info)
7. Plan how you are going to travel to Oxford (and back again if you are super organised)
8. Try and complete any holiday preparation work set by your tutors, you will not have time to do this when you are in Oxford!
9. Get in touch with the second years doing your subject - they were in your position only a year ago and are therefore the best people to answer most of your Oxford related questions. You should get a letter from your College Parent, otherwise **Luke Hatton**, the academic affairs rep, will be able to put you in touch with your subject rep.
10. Prepare yourself mentally - life in Oxford can be quite intense, especially during your first term when you are settling in to uni life. Therefore, it can be invaluable to take some time to get to know yourself better and find what things help **you** stay mentally healthy. This is could be anything from getting more sleep or exercising to eating healthily or spending time with friends. Many students find mindfulness a life changing practice so it is well worth experimenting with apps like Headspace or Calm (which both have free trials) to see if this works for you.
11. Make the most of your summer! You have earned this break after getting such great results so have some fun and we will look forward to seeing you completely refreshed in October!

