FOREWORD FROM THE GCR PRESIDENT

Dear Graduate Fresher,

Congratulations on your acceptance to study at the University of Oxford, and welcome to Christ Church.

You are now a member of Christ Church’s Graduate Common Room (GCR). This is a diverse, collegial group that is comprised of around 300 graduate students. The GCR is now your home at Oxford; offering support, friendship, and no shortage of entertainment. While the committee organises a variety of social and welfare events, dinners and sports outings, the GCR itself is your physical space to use, work, and relax in as you wish.

Our college is a unique place, where you will be adding to the countless stories that have been written here. For example our GCR was once occupied by Charles Dodgson (Lewis Carroll) while writing about Alice’s adventures in Wonderland, and by Albert Einstein while he was a research fellow at the college. On top of this, you can also enjoy three meals a day in the Hogwarts dining hall.

Enclosed is our Freshers’ Guide, which will give you an idea of the facilities available in college, and in our GCR; while explaining some of the more mysterious aspects of life at Christ Church. Please join our Facebook group (https://www.facebook.com/groups/3201307470126745/), and do not hesitate to contact me via email (gcr.president@chch.ox.ac.uk) with any questions you may have.

In the week before term begins, informally referred to as “0th week” there will be a number of GCR and College events, as well as those organised by your department or faculty, which will give you a chance to meet new people, be introduced to life at Christ Church and life at the wider University. Details regarding the schedule of this Freshers’ Week will be sent out before your arrival, and events will be announced on Facebook, as well as on the GCR mailing list to which you will automatically be subscribed with your new Oxford email address.

I look forwards to welcoming you to Oxford and hosting you at Christ Church as we emerge into the post-pandemic era. Each chapter we experience is different, and I’m certain that the next will be a rollercoaster that has the power to completely change your life; no matter what, I am sure you will very much enjoy this one!

Best wishes and kind regards,

Delaney Charles Conleth Dominey-Foy
Christ Church, GCR President
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Dear Freshers,

Welcome to the Christ Church Graduate Common Room! We (Ayman and Sanskriti; both 5th year medical students) are your Freshers’ Reps this year. This means we’ll be your first point of contact across Michaelmas term, so come to us with any and all questions you might have. We’ll also be co-ordinating a programme of fun events to help you settle in and meet other people in Freshers’ Week, and will meet as many of you as we can in the weeks before term starts!

The Graduate Common Room, aka the GCR, refers to both a physical room (in Tom Quad - ask for directions from the Porter’s Lodge if you can’t find it!) and to the whole graduate community at Christ Church, of which you will be a member. We come together across the year for sports (rowing and football are very popular at Christ Church), socials (“BOPs”, pub quizzes, games nights), dinners (exchanges with other colleges, formals in Hall), entertainment (film nights, video games) and much, much more! You’ll find people are very welcoming, and always happy to meet new people - so get stuck in! Make sure you join the GCR WhatsApp and Facebook groups to stay up to date (we’ll email about these), as these are where people tend to organise and advertise events.

We’ve paired you all with college “parents” - these are returning GCR members who will help show you around Oxford. We’ve tried to match up interests and/or study areas where possible, but you can ask them about anything - your college parents are a great first port of call to ask all the little questions you have. They just want to help you settle in! If you’re arriving in Oxford early, some great places to check out are the Ashmolean Museum, the Museum of Natural History and Pitt Rivers, and the Botanical Gardens - all of these are free to access for Oxford students - make sure to take your university card, aka the Bod Card.

We know packing can be quite stressful, especially for those coming from abroad. Whilst you can buy most essentials like toothbrushes, pillows, or socks in Oxford, we’d recommend you also bring some things you can’t get here. Whether that’s photos of family and friends, decoration which reminds you of home, or snacks from abroad, these can all really help to make you feel at home in Oxford.

Coming to a new city and starting fresh can often seem quite daunting, and whilst most people end up loving their first few weeks and time at Oxford, we have plenty of welfare support available if things get a bit rocky. We have the lovely Welfare Coordinator Clare, as well as our College Counsellor, GCR Welfare reps, peer supporters, and out-of-hours Wardens - to name a few. There’s more info on each of these and how to contact them in the Fresher’s guide and on the Christ Church website.

We’ve got a lot more to share, but hopefully this brief introduction can help you feel more prepared ahead of starting in September/October; check out our Freshers’ pack for lots more info. We can’t wait to meet you all!

Best wishes,

Ayman and Sanskriti
GETTING STARTED AT CHRIST CHURCH

The Graduate Common Room (GCR) refers to both the community of graduates at Christ Church, and its rooms. These are found at the top of the staircase in Tom 7 (see the map at the back of this guide). Most colleges use the term Middle Common Room (MCR) instead of Graduate Common Room but, as with many things, Christ Church does things differently! And awesomely. Hence, GCR it is.

Membership of the GCR is automatically given to anyone who has completed an undergraduate degree and is studying at Christ Church towards another degree. Associate membership can be granted to other individuals who may then make use of some of the GCR facilities. Partners of GCR Members are often made Associate Members, as are visiting graduates. Guests and visitors of GCR Members are also welcome to make use of the Common Room.

The GCR Mailing List and Social Media

Most communication within the GCR is done by email. You will be automatically subscribed to the two GCR mailing lists when you arrive. The (chchcr@maillist.ox.ac.uk) list is used by the GCR Committee to announce social events, GCR meetings, and the like. If you find that you haven’t been added to the list, or if you’d like to subscribe on another email address, please contact the Academic Office (academic.office@chch.ox.ac.uk).

Arriving in Christ Church

The first place you should visit when you arrive at Christ Church is the Porters' Lodge. You'll find the Lodge in the arch of Tom Gate, which is the main entrance to Christ Church, on St. Aldate’s. From the Lodge, you should obtain a Tom Gate electronic fob, which opens all external and many internal doors and gates, as well as your bedroom if you live in College accommodation. Some older rooms may still require a conventional key, which the porters will also provide upon your arrival.

Finally, you should collect your University Card (Bod Card) from the Academic Office on the first floor of Tom 8 (found in Tom Quad near the Dining Hall). This will only be delivered to College once you have completed and returned your University Card Form. You may contact the Academic Office team by email at academic.office@chch.ox.ac.uk.

Connecting to the Internet

Internet connections in College are made through the university wireless networks. There are two networks you can connect to: CHCH-Members and eduroam. Both of these require that you have a remote access account setup with the Oxford University Computing Service. It is advised that you set these up before your arrival in Oxford to make connecting to the network easier. In-depth information on how to connect can be found on their website here: www.oucs.ox.ac.uk/network/wireless/.
College Parents

Before you arrive at Christ Church, you will receive an email introducing you to your college parents. This programme pairs Freshers up with existing members of the GCR who are there to try and make new members feel at home, helping to integrate them into the Common Room's lively social environment. Your parents will be there to answer even the smallest of questions.

GCR LIFE

The Common Room

The physical GCR consists of a suite of rooms situated in one corner of Tom Quad. The main room of this is where most GCR activities take place. It is steeped in history, having been previously occupied both by Charles Dodgson (better known as Lewis Carroll) and Albert Einstein. It sports some very comfortable leather sofas and, since recently, a baby grand.

The Common Room contains everything you need to relax after a hard day’s work: free tea and coffee, the occasional pop up bar, a widescreen television with a PS4 and FIFA20 if you must... The GCR also subscribes to a few newspapers and magazines for you to enjoy.

Social Events

The social life of the GCR is always active, with plenty going on to maintain that important work-life balance. Social Secretaries are elected once a term and are in charge of organising events like bops (‘big organised parties’), pub-crawls, garden parties, and social exchanges with other colleges, and again, bops. We have regular welfare teas, food and drink tastings, movie nights, and board game nights throughout the year. These and many other events are organised for you by the GCR Committee.

Of course, there are always plenty of unofficial/imromptu events hosted by GCR Members. This space is yours to use as you wish. You can invite friends to the GCR and even book the Les Jones dining room for private events and dinners. If you prefer a quiet night in, then you should have no difficulty in finding somebody with whom to watch a movie in the Common Room.

Sports

GCR sports tend to be mainly on the informal side, although football cuppers (cuppers is just fun intercollegiate competition) against other colleges is pretty hard-fought - one year we suffered four broken legs in our first four games! On top of this, it is impossible to forget the more
stereotypical of Oxford sports. Rowing plays an important part in College and goes back a long way. Christ Church is one of the top boat clubs in Oxford, and at that, one of the best equipped. Every year, apart from flooding and COVID-19, we participate with numerous boats in university-wide regattas such as our Novice Regatta, Torpids, and Summer Eights. This, some might say insane, activity is something that has to be tried at least once, if you haven’t before. There will be a novice BBQ not to be missed, races in the first term, and plenty of fun to be had in the spring and summer bumps.

In the summer months, croquet becomes something of an obsession for some members of the GCR. The Masters’ Garden is available for croquet in Trinity Term, and is a lovely place to while away the hours after dinner.

If you are interested in playing sport in the GCR, or indeed setting up a new team, then let one of the Sports Officers/Committee Members know and they should be able to point you in the right direction. Tennis courts, football or rugby pitches, squash courts in St. Aldate’s, or any other part of the Sports Ground may be booked by using the Christ Church online system (https://chchoxford.sports-booker.com/home.php).

Music

There is an active music-making scene at Christ Church, in which many GCR Members are involved. The Christ Church orchestra gives concerts once a term, and there are numerous choirs, orchestras, and other music groups that one can join throughout the University. The College Choir is highly recommended; open to all Members of the House, it is a great way to get involved with the College and Cathedral without having to commit a large amount of time.

GCR Meetings and Elections

GCR Ordinary General Meetings (OGMs) are held once or twice a term. They provide an opportunity for you to express your opinions about how the GCR should be run, to vote in Associate GCR Members, and to make sure that your elected representatives on the GCR Committee are doing their jobs well. Come along to these meetings and have your say on some important issues and vote on changes in the GCR. As an extra incentive, there usually are snacks and sometimes even more! Elections to the GCR Committee are held towards the end of each term. The GCR Committee is there to make sure that the Common Room runs smoothly, and that members of the Common Room get the most out of its facilities. Most committee positions are open for nomination at the end of each term and it can be good fun and fulfilling to get involved: you are strongly encouraged!
GCR Facilities

The Kitchens
The GCR has two kitchens: one situated in the turret adjacent to the main Common Room and the other in the passage between the main Common Room and Les Jones Dining Room. The kitchens contain various cooking equipment for the use of GCR Members including refrigerators, a stove with cooking hobs, grill and fan-assisted oven, and a microwave oven. Items placed in the refrigerator must be clearly labelled with your name and an expiry date, otherwise they will be thrown out. The turret kitchen is also home to the tea and coffee facilities of the GCR. These include teapots, cafetières, and a wide selection of teas and biscuits.

While we have a scout, who is responsible for the overall maintenance of the Common Room, maintaining general levels of tidiness, particularly in the kitchens, is everybody’s responsibility. Fortunately, both kitchens are equipped with a dishwasher to make this easier for everyone.

The Les Jones Dining Room
This dining room is named after a fondly remembered GCR butler, now retired. It contains a large and magnificent dining table, and is used by members of the Common Room for a variety of events ranging from teaching to dinner parties. Any GCR Member can book the dining room for such an occasion, by emailing the GCR Vice President.

The Study Room
The study room can be found to your left as you come to the top of the stairs in Tom 7. It is set aside for people wishing to read and work. The room contains several desks, and some comfy chairs. There are ample power sockets for laptops and the room has Wi-Fi (Network: CHCH, Password: aedeschristi1). The room can become quite busy, particularly in Trinity term when exams and thesis deadlines are looming, so there are plenty of shelves on which to keep personal libraries/work. As it is a shared space, it is important to keep the room as clutter-free as possible for everyone to use.

The Computer Room
The Computer Room is on the second floor of Tom 7, above the Les Jones Dining Room. It currently contains PCs, a colour and a black-and-white printer, and a scanner. To use the GCR computers you will need login details, which will be given to you when you arrive. Those wishing to use the College network, either over Wi-Fi in the GCR or over wired connections in St. Aldate’s, will need to register their machines with the Computing Office.
The Tutorial Room

The GCR provides space for those members with teaching responsibilities. The room is situated next to the Computer Room and can be booked using the sheet on the door.

The Noticeboard

The hallway leading to the main Common Room contains the GCR noticeboard. Here you will find details of some forthcoming events from around the university, and other useful things like Hall menus and information on College and University matters.

Lockers

Lockers are in the hallway next to the study room. Keys can be obtained from the Academic Office at the end of 0th week. Details will be sent by email about the procedure.
COLLEGE FACILITIES

In addition to the facilities provided by the GCR, you can use all the regular College amenities.

The Library

The library is in Peckwater Quad and you’ll need your Oxford University Student Card (“Bod Card”) to use it. Beyond acting as a potential study space, it has a vast range of academic books, and, if something you need is missing, you can ask the library staff to try and source it for you! Even if you don’t use the library much, go in to look at the Upper Library (ask the librarian at the desk to let you upstairs). It is a beautiful room containing many old and rare books, and a set of very comfortable Chippendale stools. Cardinal Wolsey’s hat or galero (which can be seen in the College crest) is also on display. Graduate students may apply to be library clerks in the evenings and on weekends.

The Picture Gallery

The Picture Gallery is in Canterbury Quad. It contains an extensive art collection, and frequently changing exhibitions. It is one of the finest collections of its kind in the country and should not be missed. Members of Christ Church and guests can enter for free.

The Music Room

The Music Room is on the ground floor of Tom 4 (the other side of the arch to the lodge). You’ll need to obtain permission from the Music Tutor in order to use it. The music room contains a grand piano, and can be booked at the Porters’ Lodge.

The Art Room

The Art Room is at the top of Old Library. It is an open access studio, seminar, exhibition, and social space welcoming anyone connected to the College with an interest in the visual arts. One GCR Member recently displayed an exhibition of their art there.

Sports Facilities

The Squash Courts

There are two squash courts located in St. Aldate’s Quad. You can book them via https://chchoxford.sports-booker.com/home.php and pick up the key (fob) at the Porters’ Lodge.

The Gym

While the College does not have its own gym, the University has an excellent gym and pool, situated on Iffley Road (15 minutes away). College is providing free membership for all Christ Church Members this year. The University Club on Mansfield Road also contains a small
gym, which costs £55 per year to join. The club itself offers a host of useful facilities, and should not be missed (membership to the club itself is free) - [https://www.club.ox.ac.uk/gym-and-sports](https://www.club.ox.ac.uk/gym-and-sports).

The Undercroft

The “Undie” is the College bar. It can be found in the cellar of the Lee Building. It is open most nights of the week, from 7.30 pm -11 pm. Drinks are cheap and there is a jukebox. As with all pubs and other “enclosed spaces” in the UK, smoking is prohibited. This is a thoroughly cheap and cheerful place to have a drink or two, as well as mix with undergraduates… if you so wish.

The Buttery

The Buttery is the other College bar, situated in the Ante-Hall, just outside the main dining hall. It’s open before dinner in the evening until 8pm. You can buy bottles of the House wine, sherry and port there, as well as beer, spirits, and wine from the College cellars. Each member may battle up to £60 of wine per term.

Punts

The College owns three punts and a rowboat that are available for all members to hire out at a cheaper rate than commercial punts. Punts can be booked online via [https://chchoxford.sports-booker.com/home.php](https://chchoxford.sports-booker.com/home.php), using your College username and password. They are available during Trinity Term and provide an excellent way to spend a lazy afternoon.

The Masters’ Garden

This garden next to Meadows Building is open during Trinity Term, and is a pleasant place to play croquet, to stroll, or just to sit. It is one of the few places in College where we are allowed to sit on the grass. Legend has it that we won the garden from Corpus Christi College in a game of poker.
ACCOMMODATION

About half of the graduates at Christ Church live in accommodation provided by College.

Steward’s Accommodation

St. Aldate’s Quad and 12 Abbey Road, are administered by the Steward of Christ Church and maintained by the House Manager. St. Aldate’s Quad is mainly inhabited by first-year graduates.

All Steward's accommodation is charged on a termly basis in advance. Although water is included in this charge, electricity and heating are metered quarterly and the cost divided equally between the occupants of the flat or house. All charges are made to battels – your first bill will be for accommodation charged in advance.

Steward’s accommodation is serviced by a College scout who will clean your room and kitchen, and empty the bins either daily or weekly.

St. Aldate’s Quad

St. Aldate’s Quad is just across the road from Christ Church (look for the big wooden gate with a round hole). You will need a fob to get in, available from the Porters. Inside the quad there are seven staircases designated in Roman numerals.

Rooms in St. Aldate’s are split into flats with shared kitchens and bathrooms. The previous occupant may have left the kitchen partially equipped, but you will need to supply your own mugs, crockery, cooking equipment etc. Sainsbury’s (in the Westgate Centre) and Marks and Spencer supermarkets are both nearby, located off Queen Street. There is also a small Tesco situated further down St. Aldate’s.

As the main gate to the quad is on the main road, and unlike the main site there is not a lodge, it is very important to make sure that the main gate is closed behind you when entering or leaving the quad, and that the code is not given out to others. Additionally, doors to individual rooms and flats should be locked behind you, and you should not leave your window open while you are out.

Staircase V of St. Aldate’s contains a laundry for the use of all St. Aldate’s residents with three washers and three driers. Laundry cards can be obtained from a machine located in the Junior Common Room (JCR) in Tom 7. There is also an iron and ironing board.

12 Abbey Road

This graduate accommodation is about ten minutes from Christ Church by bike. It is a large shared house with a communal kitchen, a garden, and plenty of bathrooms.

Scouts

Scouts keep flats and individual rooms clean and habitable. If you live in St. Aldate’s Quad, you will find that a scout cleans the common areas in your staircase every day and that your room is vacuumed and cleaned once a week. Leave your bin out overnight so that it can be emptied in the morning (this is also the unofficial signal that you do not wish to be disturbed the next morning).
Treasury Accommodation

Treasury accommodation is administered by the Treasurer of Christ Church. It is mainly for second- and subsequent-year graduates, but some first-year students may be allocated Treasury accommodation. Most of this housing is located near the railway station, on Botley, Criphey, or Abbey Road. This accommodation is provided on a lease basis (contracts are for 11 months), and is self-servicing (i.e. no scout). Please check with the Treasury office for the most current rent rates, which vary from property to property.

Guest Accommodation

The College has a limited supply of guest accommodation that can be booked through the Conference Office. It is advisable to book well in advance, as demand is often high. The nightly charge is made to battels. Breakfast is usually included.

Private accommodation

Many graduates choose to live in private-sector flats and this can often work out cheaper. If you are looking for a flat in Oxford, you may find the following websites useful:

- www.admin.ox.ac.uk/accommodation/index.shtml
- www.dailyinfo.co.uk/
- www.ox.ac.uk/gazette/
- https://www.rightmove.co.uk/
- www.gumtree.com/flats-houses/oxford
- www.facebook.com/groups/160632823948859/?fref=ts
FOOD

Christ Church Hall offers a grand venue for dining. From Monday to Friday, breakfast and lunch are served in Hall from 8.00 am to 9.00 am and 12.30 pm to 1.30 pm, respectively. On weekends brunch is served from 11.00 am to 1.30 pm on Saturday and until 2.00 pm on Sunday. Breakfast, lunch, and brunch are served cafeteria style and are paid for using your Bod Card (which you can top up using an online system, http://topup.chch.ox.ac.uk) or in cash. Payment by Bod Card allows you to take advantage of the cheaper rate for members of the College, whereas food will be charged at guest rates for payment by cash. A wide selection of reasonably priced food is available, and you can bring guests to lunch.

Three-course dinners are served in the Hall throughout term time (0th Week – 9th Week). There are two sittings: informal, at 6pm, and formal, at 7.20pm where the same food is served. Most graduates tend to go to the formal sitting, but the choice is entirely up to you. There is usually one table reserved for graduate members. At the formal dinner, everyone must wear gowns and, in general, "smarter" attire is expected (but not officially required). Before dinner begins, everyone stands for the reading of Grace (in Latin). Make sure that you bring your Bod Card to dinner, as it will be scanned when you enter the Hall.

A dinner in Hall will cost around £4.17, but you can also purchase a Season Ticket from the Steward’s Office. This will mean that you pay around £2.82 per dinner if you attend every dinner. If you live in St. Aldate’s, you will be automatically signed in for dinner during term (which starts on Monday of 0th week). If you live in St. Aldate’s and do not wish to be on the Season Ticket, this can be arranged at the start of term and you will then be granted the ability to sign out of Hall on a weekly basis but will be charged the higher food rate of around £4.17 per dinner. Please note you will still need to email the Hall (hallmanager@chch.ox.ac.uk) on a weekly basis to sign out for those days you will not be dining, as by default you are still signed in for all of them but at a high rate. If you fail to sign out, you will be charged as if you were there. People living out (i.e. not in College or in St. Aldate’s) must sign in for dinner by 10.00 am on the day before they wish to dine (Friday 10.00 am for Sunday) by putting their name on the signing-in sheets just inside the entrance to Hall or by email: hallmanager@chch.ox.ac.uk. Signing in or out of dinner can be done several days in advance, and if necessary, for longer periods by arrangement with one of the Hall Managers.

If you are a vegetarian, vegan, or have any other dietary requirements, then you should collect the appropriate card from the Steward’s Office as soon as possible upon arrival. Take a passport photograph with you when you go to collect your card. You will have to present this card during all dinners in Hall to make sure that you get the correct food.
Guests can be accommodated at Hall dinners for a charge of around £9.62. Send an email before 10.00 am on the day you’d like to bring guests (Saturday 10.00 am for Sunday) to the Hall Manager, and their team (hallmanager@chch.ox.ac.uk). Make sure you note the number of guests you are bringing (up to two), which sitting you would like to attend, and any dietary requirements.

During the vacations, a dinner service is provided for graduates. This happens on average about twice or three times a week. Vacation dinners are usually served in the Freind Room in the Lee Building.

In addition to the ordinary provision of food, the GCR regularly arranges special dinners. GCR guest dinners happen on Wednesday evenings during term. At these dinners, High Table food is served and (up to one) guests can be invited. Our amazing Executive Head Chef Chris Simms and his fantastic team provide a menu of extraordinary quality for a very reasonable price. Tickets are allocated by ballot and the GCR Food & Dining Officers are responsible for organising both the dinners and the ballot. After dinner, there will be drinks and snacks in the GCR (typically port & cheese). These dinners are a good way to entertain friends by showing off the fine cuisine and splendid surroundings!

In addition to this, a special GCR Black Tie dinner is typically held at the end of each term in 8th week (usually each member can bring up to one guest). The GCR Food & Dining Officers also try to organise three exchange dinners with other colleges during term time. Furthermore, port & cheese exchanges, Afternoon Tea and wine/whiskey/gin tastings are organised together with the social secretaries.
WELFARE

There are a number of people in Christ Church to whom you can talk if you are having personal or work-related problems. Your College Adviser should provide pastoral support and academic advice as a complement to your supervisor. Dr Katherine Lebow (katherine.lebow@chch.ox.ac.uk) and Professor Alex Vasudevan (alexander.vasudevan@chch.ox.ac.uk) are the two College Welfare Officers, who are tutors within College, and are happy to see any member of the College about problems they might be having. They may be contacted by telephone or by email.

Revd. Clare Hayns is the College Chaplain and Welfare Coordinator. She will offer counsel and pastoral support to all members of Christ Church, whatever their religious beliefs. She will also oversee the welfare resources available in college and will work with the GCR and JCR Welfare Officers to do this.

The College Nurse is also available to all members of the College each day by appointment only, in Killcanon 2 (nurse@chch.ox.ac.uk). Office hours will be circulated at the start of term and made available on the College website.

Out of hours, our wardens are available to provide support, for example for mental health crises, physical illness, or serious incidents, and are contactable via the Porters’ Lodge. This means that there is support available 24/7 during term time.

In addition, the GCR has its own Welfare Officers (see committee members below). They can be consulted at any time and are always happy to have a friendly (and confidential) chat about whatever might be on your mind. They will organise welfare events and will provide additional information about the welfare resources available to you. Also available for a chat are our student peer supporters – these are members of college who have had 30 hours of training from the University Counselling service and are always willing to lend an ear – no problem is too big or small!
GRANTS AND HARDSHIP FUNDING

The College can offer grants to assist with academic travel and with the purchase of textbooks. Facilities also exist to help with unexpected financial difficulties. If you are experiencing financial problems, the College may be able to help, if not with a hardship grant, then with a short-term loan, or with a deferment of your battels bill. More information is contained in the Blue Book.
GCR COMMITTEE

Committee members usually can be contacted via the standard Christ Church email address, firstname.lastname@chch.ox.ac.uk. The committee positions are listed below:

The GCR Executive (Elected Annually):

President: DELANEY CHARLES CONLETH DOMINEY-FOY
The President makes sure that all is well in the Common Room and also represents the graduate community at Christ Church to the College.

Vice President: ANDREW PAULLEY
The Vice President helps keep the committee in check, writes agendas for meetings, takes minutes, and generally makes life easier for everybody at Christ Church.

Treasurer: ARTHUR WOTTON
The Treasurer looks after the GCR accounts and budgets, and makes sure our bills are paid on time.

The GCR Committee (Elected Termly):

Arts Officer
The Arts Officer, Judith Valerie Engel, organises and informs us about all things cultural; from art exhibitions and trips to concerts and festivals.

Disabilities Officer
Our Disabilities Officer, James Cullis, provides student representation for disabilities within the GCR.

Environment & Ethics Officer
The interim Environment & Ethics Officer, Maximilian Pflueger, keeps everyone informed about all issues green and ethical.

Food & Dining Officers
The Food & Dining Officers, Ben Nabnian and Samantha Sharkoff, organise the guest dinners as well as exchange and black-tie dinners. They also have a say in what goes on the menu for Hall.
LGBTQ+ Officer

Our interim LGBTQ+ Officer, Alexander Illsley, works with other welfare officers and is especially concerned with the LGBTQ+ issues of members of the college. This also involves liaising with their counterparts in the JCR to organise LGBTQ+ social events together, as well as coordinating upon health and security of the community.

Photography Officer

The in-House Photographer is Pramit Saha. He will be on hand at our GCR events to take pictures of you at your best.

Gender Representative

The GCR’s Gender Representative is Samantha Sharkoff. She acts to support women, men, non-binary individuals, and those who are gender non-conforming to ensure the college environment is a comfortable space for all. This role works to raise awareness for men’s mental health, promote discussions on gender in college and support all individuals experiencing hardships associated with gender expression; whilst providing members with free sexual health supplies and free sanitary products.

Social Secretaries

Our interim Social Secs Linnea Zoe Drexhage and Milena Vuletic are here to organise outstanding bops and pub trips, and make sure that we are kept happy and entertained.

Sports Officer

The interim Sports Officer, Maximillian Crane, is in charge of organising GCR sporting events and letting us know about sporting opportunities.

Welfare Officers

Kate Friesen and Aoife Miralles are our Welfare Officers and can be spoken to, in confidence, about anything that is troubling you. Also, a large part of the magic behind the scenes can be attributed to them!

Computing Officer

Nasma Dasser is responsible for producing and maintaining the GCRs website; here you can find everything related to the GCR including events timetables, social sign-ups and room bookings.

Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) Officer

The interim GCR Black Asian and Minority Ethnic Officer (BAME) Officer, Ayman D’Souza, provides representation to all people that identify as BAME, and promotes the views and interests of the community.
CONTACT INFORMATION

You will probably need to contact at least some of these people during your time at Christ Church. The telephone extension numbers shown are for the Oxford University internal network (add 01865 before the extension numbers if dialling externally). Christ Church Members can be contacted via the standard email address: firstname.lastname@chch.ox.ac.uk. The information here is correct at the time of writing, but is subject to change.

The Academic Office

The Academic Office, headed by the Senior and Junior Censors, is responsible for providing administrative support for all areas of the College’s academic functions: e.g. examinations, monitoring of student progress, awards, prizes and scholarships, book and travel grants, and financial assistance. It should be the first port of call for on-course student queries: academic.office@chch.ox.ac.uk. The office is on the first floor of Tom 8 and is usually open 9am - 1pm and 2pm - 5pm from Monday to Friday. Further information about the team and FAQs can be found on the College website: https://www.chch.ox.ac.uk/academic-office

The Tutor for Graduates

DR ANNA CLARK
(2)76158

Senior Censor

PROF DIRK AARTS
(2)76157

Junior Censor

PROF KEVIN MCGERTY
(2)76182

Academic Registrar

MS HELEN ETTY
(2)76157

The Tutor for Graduates is especially concerned with graduate affairs, and they are always happy to hear from Christ Church graduate students. Contact the Tutor for Graduates with any serious academic problems or concerns that cannot be resolved by your College Advisor. The Junior Censor deals with permission for parties and general disciplinary matters.
Welfare

For full details about the extensive welfare support available at Christ Church, and lots more contact information, visit the college website: https://www.chch.ox.ac.uk/welfare-support-christ-church

College Welfare Coordinator & Chaplain
REV’D CLARE HAYNS
(2)76236 clare.hayns@chch.ox.ac.uk

Surgery

The College Doctors have a surgery at Northgate Health Centre (27 @ Northgate):
(01865 311500 – external number)

College Nurse
(2)76176 nurse@chch.ox.ac.uk

Porters’ Lodge
(2)76150 porters@chch.ox.ac.uk

Liddell Porters’ Lodge
(2)31100

Steward’s Office

The Steward’s Office is on the ground floor of Tom 9 and is usually open from 9am - 1pm and 2pm - 5pm from Monday to Friday. This office deals with most of the arrangements for College accommodation, food, and bills. All enquiries about charging and fees should be directed in the first instance to the Steward’s staff in the main office: battels@chch.ox.ac.uk for queries about college charges and fees@chch.ox.ac.uk regarding course fees.

The Steward
MS PAULINE LINIERES-HARTLEY

Contact for College/Steward’s accommodation queries:
jacqueline.folliard@chch.ox.ac.uk

Treasury

The Treasurer
MR JAMES LAWRIE

Contact for Treasury accommodation queries:
sally.gillard@chch.ox.ac.uk
**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Post**

All incoming mail will be placed in your pigeonhole (‘pidge’), including internal (i.e. University) mail. If you wish to send a message via pigeonpost (internal) to someone in an Oxford University college, department, or office, place it in the letter box in the door to the Porters’ office. If you receive mail that must be signed for, the Porters will sign on your behalf (very handy for those frequent Amazon packages!) and notify you that you have a package via email. Important information may appear in your pidge at any time so we encourage you to check it regularly.

During the Christmas, Easter, and summer vacations, mail is still placed in your pigeonhole. If you want post to be redirected elsewhere inform the Steward’s Office before you leave Oxford.

The phone number of the Porters’ Lodge is (2)76150. The porter on duty will be able to take messages and leave them in your pigeonhole.

**A Note on Telephone Numbers**

Telephone numbers in this guide are given as a six-digit number with the first in brackets, e.g. (2)76150 is the number for the Porter’s Lodge. If you are dialling from a University internal phone line, simply dial 76150 (i.e. without the initial 2). If calling from an outside line in Oxford, dial 276150. If the call is from outside Oxford, you will need the area code, so dial 01865 276150.

**Websites**

You may find useful information on these websites.

- University of Oxford [www.ox.ac.uk](http://www.ox.ac.uk)
- Christ Church [www.chch.ox.ac.uk](http://www.chch.ox.ac.uk)
- Student Funding [https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/fees-and-funding/oxford-funding](https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/fees-and-funding/oxford-funding)
- Oxford University Student Union [https://www.oxfordsu.org](https://www.oxfordsu.org)
- Immigration and Nationality Directorate [www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk)
- Council for International Education [www.ukcosa.org.uk](http://www.ukcosa.org.uk)
- Education UK [www.educationuk.org](http://www.educationuk.org)
- Oxford City Council [www.oxford.gov.uk](http://www.oxford.gov.uk)
- National Rail Inquiries [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)
- National Express [www.nationalexpress.com](http://www.nationalexpress.com)
- Megabus (low cost intercity bus travel) [https://uk.megabus.com](https://uk.megabus.com)
## Guide to Oxford English

This glossary, lovingly compiled over many years, should help explain some of the confusing jargon used at Christ Church and Oxford.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Battels</td>
<td>The huge bill from College that arrives by email every term when you least expect it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blades</td>
<td>A boat that bumps on every day of the Trinity Term races is awarded blades. See Bumps, Spoons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bod</td>
<td>Short for the Bodleian Library.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bod Card</td>
<td>An Oxford University Card. Essential for accessing most services offered by the University and, more importantly, for getting into dinner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bop</td>
<td>Where we get to put on our dancing shoes and show the younger generation how to really get down. Or not. Good fun regardless.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boatie</td>
<td>Rower. Will talk only about rowing, mostly with their rowing friends.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bumps</td>
<td>Boatie-speak, imported from the Other Place; type of race rowed on the river where each boat tries to hit the one in front. See Eights, Torpids.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buttery</td>
<td>College bar in the Ante-Hall (just outside Hall). You can battel wine/sherry/port or buy pre-dinner drinks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ChCh</td>
<td>Abbreviation for Christ Church.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCC</td>
<td>Not the abbreviation for Christ Church, but for Corpus Christi College, our little neighbour to the east.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collections</td>
<td>When graduates go and have a chat with the Head of House and Tutor for Graduates to explain what you’ve been up to this year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coming up/Going down</td>
<td>Coming up is when you return, or arrive, in Oxford, and going down is when you leave, be it for a vacation or for good.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custodians</td>
<td>The often imaginative people in bowler hats that can be seen wandering around the College confusing tourists. They are highly skilled at telling the difference between Members of the House and tourists who want to avoid paying the entrance fee. The Custodians are not to be confused with the Porters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D.Phil.</td>
<td>What Oxford people call a Ph.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eights</td>
<td>Bumps race in Trinity term. Usually involves a lot of Pimms. See Bumps.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freshers</td>
<td>All new members of the College.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaudy</td>
<td>A reunion party for old Members of the House. Some of them are very distinguished.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| GCR Scout | Our GCR scout steps in where angels fear to tread. They are responsible for the overall maintenance of the GCR (but the not the mess we leave behind)!
| Hall | Christ Church Great Hall is the largest Tudor Hall in Oxford. It is where we eat all that lovely food College provides for us. |
Harry Potter Since they filmed portions of the first two Harry Potter films here and based the Hogwarts Hall on ours, we get plenty of tourists who want to bathe in the glory of the place. Sometimes they wear costumes… Wands may be purchased from the Cathedral shop.

High Table Where the fellows and academics of Christ Church eat dinner, at the far end of Hall. Their food is superior to our own. Every graduate should get the chance to go once a year.

The House Christ Church’s nickname. Comes from Christ Church’s Latin name Aedes Christi. Find a classicist to explain.

JCR The Junior Common Room, name for all the undergraduates at Christ Church and the rooms below the GCR in Tom 7.

Junior Censor The College Officer in charge of discipline of Junior Members.

Junior Members The collective name for all students at Christ Church, undergraduate and graduate alike.

Les Jones Formerly the GCR butler. Now a dining room.

Matriculation The ceremony by which you are formally admitted to the University.

Meadows Green meadows, cows grazing, harmony with nature, peace – a wonderful place for a stroll.

Mercury The statue in the middle of the pond in Tom Quad, guarded by George, the ‘great white’ koi carp (a gift from the Empress of Japan). Mentioned by Evelyn Waugh in Brideshead Revisited. Also used to refer to the surrounding pond, dips into which are against the College rules.

Other Place The University of Cambridge. See Tabs.

Oxford Union Debating society / private club – not a student union (see OUSU). The Oxford Union hold many interesting talks and debates, plus a termly ball, and have handsome rooms for the use of members and one of the latest-opening (but most degenerate) bars in Oxford. If you want to get actively involved in Oxford Union politics, then steel yourself for some truly ruthless greasy-pole-climbing…

OUSU Oxford University Student Union. If you’ve been to other British universities, you might expect a large organisation, but OUSU is a very small union, and there is no “union building” as such. They offer a range of services to students (see https://www.oxfordsu.org), which are mostly already offered to you by Christ Church. If you know your Marx and Engels from your Miners Strike and Scargill, then you’ll no doubt be welcome to get actively involved, comrade!


Pigeonhole Where the post comes in College. See plodge.

Plodge Short for Porters’ Lodge, where the pigeonholes and the Porters are.
Porters  Guardians of the keys, protectors of Christ Church. They are around 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Make friends with them. They are very helpful if you make an effort to get to know them. The Porters are not to be confused with the Custodians.

PRS  Probationary Research Student, which is what you’ll initially be if you are reading for a D.Phil..

Quad  Square things, occasionally with grass. Known as a ‘Court’ at the Other Place.

Senior Censor  The College Officer in charge of academic matters.

Scouts  Chatty cleaners who come and empty your bin as well as look after you. Make friends with them! They are useful allies.

Spoons  A boat that is bumped on every day of the Trinity Term races is awarded spoons. See blades.

Staircase  Rooms in Oxford colleges are located via their staircase. For instance, St. Aldate’s 3:9 is room number 9 in Staircase 3 of St. Aldate’s Quad.

Tabs  People from the Other Place (see above). From the Latin name Cantabrigia.

Terms  There are three terms and each is eight weeks long: Michaelmas (October to December), Hilary (January to March) and Trinity (April to June). Time is kept through the use of weeks, starting with 0th week (the week before term starts), through to 9th week (the week after it ends).

Transfer  What you do when you stop being a PRS, and become a proper D.Phil. student. It involves submitting some work and doing a viva.

Tutor for Graduates  The Tutor for Graduates oversees all graduate issues in the College, including funding, travel grants, academic and other matters.

Undergraduates  Young people who listen to ghastly music and use too many profanities. They go home during the vacations, at which point the College fills up with conference guests instead.

Undie  Charming slang term for the College bar, the Undercroft. Formerly a crypt...

Viva  Known as a thesis defence in other places. You spend three hours explaining your thesis to a bunch of examiners, and at the end of it, they make you a Doctor (touch wood). Time to party!
CHRIST CHURCH MAPS

St. Aldate’s Quad
GCR