COURSES THAT WE OFFER

Ancient and Modern History

Biochemistry

Biological Sciences

Biomedical Sciences

Chemistry

Classical Archaeology and Ancient History

Classics

Economics and Management

Engineering Science

English

Geography

History

Law

Maths

Medicine

Modern Languages

Music

Philosophy

Physics

PPE

Experimental Psychology

Psychology

Philosophy, and Linguistics
INTRODUCTION FROM THE ACCESS OFFICER

Hi, I’m Georgie and I’m this year’s access officer for St Hilda’s College. This means that I help with improving access into College. This could be encouraging people to apply, making the College more open for prospective students to visit or making people comfortable about making an application to St Hilda’s, and Oxford in general, irrespective of their background.

Choosing a particular College to apply for can seem really difficult. Often on paper in the Oxford prospectus and on their websites, they seem very similar. Of course, the only way you can really know what life is like in the College is by actually being here, but hopefully by reading this prospectus you’ll be able to get a good idea of what life and work at Hilda’s is like.

Good luck if you do decide to make an application!
THE COLLEGE

One of the first things that people notice when they first come to St Hilda’s is that it does not look like a “typical” Oxford College. We have no quads or buildings with spires. Instead St Hilda’s is made up of a selection of separate buildings, each of which is separated by pathways and grass. The next few pages will show you the main areas around College, particularly those you would encounter most during your first year.

FINDING YOUR WAY AROUND COLLEGE

The Porters Lodge: The Porters Lodge is situated right next to the entrance of the College. It’s often the first point of call if you need help with something like finding a room in College, signing guests in, or booking a taxi. Here, each student has a pigeon hole (a ‘pidge’) where their post is sent to them. The lodge is also home to the two College cats: Teabag and Tealeaf.
THE LIBRARY

We have a relatively big library, with over 70,000 books and 158 seats. We have a big collection because Hilda’s used to be an all-women’s College, and women weren’t allowed to use the main university libraries. It’s open until 1am from Sunday to Thursday, until 12am on Fridays, and until 11pm on Saturdays. However, if you’re a law student, you can get given a key for 24-hour library access because lots of the key law texts can’t be taken out of the library. In the basement, there are 9 computers, printers, photocopiers, and scanners which students can use.

THE JCR

The JCR (Junior Common Room) is the focal point of the student community. Lots of undergraduate events are held here throughout the year, including open mic and comedy nights. It’s here that you’ll find the student bar and buttery, so the JCR is often quite busy in the evenings. We also have a pool table, a table football, table tennis, Sky TV and chest of drawers full of board games.

HALL BUILDING

Although you won’t live in this building as a first year, Hall building houses the JCR bar, the library and some of the tutors’ offices which means you may have tutorials in this building.
SOUTH BUILDING
THE DINING HALL
We are one of the only Colleges to have round tables which makes meal times much more sociable, with normally eight people to one table. Hall serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Monday to Friday, brunch on Saturday mornings and dinner on Sunday evenings. You can see a sample menu on the “prospective students” tab on the College website.

THE JCR COMPUTER ROOM
As well as the computers in the library, we also have a JCR computer room with another 7 computers. This room is open 24 hours a day, which is useful when you need to print something and the library is shut, or you want to work somewhere other than your room.

OTHER THINGS YOU CAN FIND AROUND COLLEGE

THE CHAPEL
The Chapel provides a quiet place for people of all faiths, and is always open. There is a service on Thursdays, and the Christian union meets here. The St Hilda’s College choir also practises here.

THE JDP
The Jacqueline du Pré Building is the first purpose-built concert hall in Oxford since the time of Handel! It has 5 music practice rooms, plus a recording studio, so is fantastic for students who want to keep up practising an instrument at uni. In addition, we have a stage, allowing our drama society to put on termly plays. The JdP also provides a venue for a variety of events, including performances by world famous musicians which we can watch for a discounted rate - and weekly student performances, which are free.

PUNTS
Being riverside has its perks! The College owns 6 punts which are flat boats which you push with a pole. They can be used for free during the summer term. Just ask at the College lodge and they’re yours to use for two hours at a time. Hilda’s is well placed on the river Cherwell, meaning that you can easily punt in a loop starting and ending at College, passing the Botanic Gardens and Christ Church Meadow.
GARDEN AND GROUNDS

As we’re one of the few Colleges where you’re allowed to walk on the grass, you’re able to take advantage of our really pretty gardens. This means in the summer we can use the lawns to play croquet, to study in the sun, and to sit outside with our meals. If you’re out late at night, you may even be able to spot our resident King Badger, walking around the College grounds.

NETBALL AND TENNIS COURTS

We have our own netball and tennis court on site, which is used by the respective College teams. It can also be booked out for free by students.

College guarantees all first years a room in on-site accommodation, and all finalists a room owned by College, which may be on or off-site. In second year, most students live out in privately rented accommodation in East Oxford, normally around a 5-minute bike ride away from College. The next few pages will show you what to expect when living in College accommodation, and a bit about what it’s like to live out in second year.
**FIRST YEAR ACCOMMODATION**

The majority of first years live in two buildings: Wolfson which has 54 rooms or Garden, which has 50 rooms. A smaller number of first years live upstairs in South building. You are randomly allocated a room in first year, and rent is exactly the same for all rooms.

All rooms have the following facilities: Sink, drawers, hanging space, desk, desk lamp, small table

There are kitchens on each floor, which all have a toaster, microwave, fridge and kettle. The kitchens in Wolfson also have hobs, and the ground and top floors have an oven.

Living in halls this year has made my experience at St Hilda’s this term that much more enjoyable as I’ve been so close to my friends. I have bonded with a huge variety of people and made firm friendships, despite only having lived here for 8 weeks! Everyone has been incredibly friendly and if you ever fancy a chat, a hug or just some procrastination there’s always someone around. The room is really big, with a huge noticeboard and I’ve been able to personalise it with things from home and university. The kitchens mean you can prepare your own food which even if you normally eat in halls is a definite bonus. But the best thing about living in Wolfson has been how quickly I’ve made friends and felt I can rely on the people around me. Often students spend a lot of their time in their rooms whether it be working or hanging out with friends and having such a nice environment makes everything so much nicer.

We also have laundry facilities are on-site costing £1.40 for a wash and £1.40 for a dry.

There are normally around 14 people to one floor in each building, and the corridor layout of the accommodation means that making friends and meeting new people at the beginning is made much easier.

If you’re an overseas student, there are storage rooms for your things, so you don’t have to worry about taking everything to and from Oxford every term.

Corinne, History Student
LIVING OUT IN SECOND YEAR

The majority of second-year students live out in East Oxford, along Cowley and Iffley Roads, or along the smaller roads that connect them. Of course, if there is a specific reason why you need to stay in College in second year, College will provide you with a room. Living out is an opportunity that many other Colleges do not offer. Although it can seem daunting, living out can be really great fun as you tend to have a lot more communal space and better kitchen facilities. It also means that evenings and weekends can be spent visiting other houses, and overall can mean it’s a lot easier to be social than living in College where you’re just in your room.

BACK IN COLLEGE FOR THIRD YEAR

In their final year the majority of students choose to move back into College. Rooms are allocated using a secret-ballot system which is conducted during the previous academic year. Final-year students live in rooms in Hall, South, Milham Ford, Christina Barratt or some College-owned offsite accommodation.

All rooms are single study bedrooms with shared toilet, shower and kitchen facilities – the exception is Christina Barratt which has en-suites, and has larger kitchens. All rooms cost the same, except for CBB which costs 10% more. If you live in one of the offsite houses, you can choose to have longer rent contracts which means you can stay in Oxford during some of the holidays.
The next few pages will show you everything you can expect from College. We’ll tell you about some typical days in student life, food in College, and College clubs and societies.

FOOD

The set-up for food at St Hilda’s is fairly relaxed compared to a lot of other Oxford Colleges. It is one of the few Colleges with round tables which makes for much more sociable meals (we’ve found that with some persistence, you can cram about ten people around one table).

Canteen-style breakfast, lunch, and dinner is served Monday to Friday, whilst brunch is available on Saturday and roast dinner on Sunday.

At St Hilda’s, rather than a set price, you pay for what you eat. At the start of the term, you pay £160 along with your rent which is loaded onto your university card and acts as meal credits. Then, you just scan your card when it’s time to pay. You can then top up your card with more credits if your run out, or transfer credits to other people at the end of the year if you haven’t used all your credits up.

There will always be a vegetarian option. If you have a special dietary requirement, you can tell the canteen staff beforehand and they will be happy to provide food that suits you.

Every Wednesday is formal hall in College, which is when you pay in advance for a set three-course served meal. This is completely optional and usually costs about £10. Often these formals are themed, for example there is sports formal in the summer, charity formal which raises money for specific charities we voted for, and advent formal which happens after the College tradition of “carols on the stairs.”

As the accommodation buildings have kitchens, you can cook your own meals if you want to. There is a Sainsbury’s just a two-minute walk from College, and a bigger Tesco just down the road to buy food from.
THE BUTTERY

Outside canteen hours, the College buttery in the JCR sells snacks. It is open from 2.30 – 5pm, then again from 8.30 – 11pm every evening Monday to Friday, and from 6 – 8pm on Saturday evenings. The buttery runs a brunch on Sundays. As it’s student run, prices are kept really low – for example you can buy a bar of chocolate for 60p, and Sunday brunch is only £3. You can also work shifts in the buttery, which is a great way of earning a bit of extra money as students aren’t normally allowed to have part-time jobs while studying here. Cake Mondays is also a popular thing at the buttery, where anyone can volunteer to make some homemade cakes or biscuits, which are sold at the buttery on Monday afternoons!

THE BAR

St Hilda’s Bar is one of the very few remaining College bars to be run by students, which keeps drinks prices very low. Each term, we’ll also work with the Charity Officers to think up a charity cocktail. All proceeds from the sales of that cocktail will go towards the charities that we have decided to support that term. Like in the Buttery, students also have the opportunity to work behind the bar alongside some professional staff. We also host our infamous end of term parties where prices progressively drop as the night goes on! Our bar is a really friendly and inclusive space. We have a wide range of non-alcoholic drinks, and jugs of tap water are always made available. There is never any pressure put on students to drink, and we as a JCR aim to promote responsible drinking amongst our members. We are currently working towards introducing alcohol awareness workshops into our fresher’s week programme.
**DAY IN THE LIFE OF A FIRST YEAR**

2.00 Normally on essay deadline days, this is when I start to write. This doesn’t take too long, even including planning time. How busy the week was and how much reading I’ve had will influence whether I start writing now or anytime between now and midnight.

5.00 By this point any tutorials will have been finished and dinner will usually be held in hall. Eating in hall is great for catching up with friends and is always a great way to relax. Sometimes I’ll have formal dinners with friends at other colleges.

6.00 On a normal day, I’d carry on reading for a while. On a busy day, I may go to a debate or talk at the Union, an OUSU event or OUSU Council which is every fortnight, or sometimes Law Soc drinks events. Often there are speaker events with the political clubs and societies I’m a member of, so there’s always something to do. So far this term I’ve seen quite a few impressive political speakers.

8.00 I normally stop work around this time, instead focusing on OUSU emails and answering questions in practical books. Or for some, a chance to nap.

1.00 At lunchtime I will often head to biochem café with other medics. The food there is incredible and the staff are definitely beginning to notice us as regulars.

2.00 Last lecture of the day, which I desperately try and stay awake in, before heading back to college in time for my tutorial.

3.00 We normally have tutorials in groups of two or three and these can have a varying format. One tutor will show us pictures of cells and tissues, while pointing out the different structures. Other tutors prefer to draw diagrams and graphs on white boards and ask us questions about what we think is going on.

4.00 After my tutorial I’ll try and get some of my next essay done, but all too often I’ll get distracted and chat to my friends before heading down to dinner.

6.00 Constantly obsessed with food, my friends and I have normally organised what time we’re going down to dinner during the day. The time tends to vary depending on just how hungry we are.

7.00 Once a week I go to a class at Iffley gym called ‘boxercise’. It’s a mixture of aerobic exercises and circuits with a good amount of punching thrown in. It’s a lot of fun, although if we do a lot of legwork, it can make my furious cycling to lectures the next morning interesting.

8.00 How I spend the rest of my evening depends on how much work I have to do. So often it’s a choice between the library, pub or park end Wednesdays/bridge Thursdays. Which choice I make probably determines how many times I put my alarm on snooze the following morning.
6.30 Alarm goes off. Have a strong desire to stay in bed as it’s so early but I have cheerleading practice this morning so I rush to get ready and head off to Iffley gym for the 7am start. We spend the time drilling our stunts ready for the upcoming university nationals.

9.00 Head back to college feeling energized after practice to have breakfast and get ready for the day.

10.00 Walk over to the lodge in college to greet visiting sixth form students who are visiting Hilda’s for the day. The other student ambassadors and I take turns in showing the students where to go and telling them about all the fantastic things Hilda’s has to offer.

10.30 Walk to the Radcliffe Camera library in central Oxford. I need to finish some reading about whether Malthusian theory can be used to explain Chinese demographic history for an essay for my module on an economic approach to history.

12.00 Rush to my lecture on ‘Republicanism, Resistance and Rebellions’ in early modern Europe. First year history students have up to 5 lectures a week, each lasting one hour.

1.30 Arrive back in college and have lunch in hall with friends.

2.30 Time for my tutorial. My tute partner and I are asked questions by our tutor on our essays on witchcraft and if looking at new pieces of evidence changes our argument. The tutorial is meant to last an hour but we overrun slightly discussing why the timing and scale of witch trials in early modern Russia was different to those in Germany.

4.00 Have a post-tutorial coffee with my tute partner and then we both head to the college library. I start to plan my economics essay but spend a lot of time procrastinating on Facebook. As the deadline is tomorrow evening, I decide to postpone writing until tomorrow morning.

6.00 Return to the hall for dinner. Tonight is Chinese night so the hall is decorated in an oriental theme and we get free fortune cookies! Dinner is a really good opportunity to catch up with friends doing different subjects and talk about each other’s days.

8.00 This evening, the college history society is going on a pub crawl. These are organised once a term by our tutor who is a specialist in the cultural, social and political history of drinking in early modern England. We meet in the college bar before heading off into Cowley and then into Oxford, visiting some of the oldest pubs in the country.

9.00 I’m up early for an English student to get to a lecture about Victorian society and literature at the St Cross Building. It sounds interesting, and since there is only one mandatory lecture a week, I’m able to pick and choose what appeals, and what sounds useful.

11.00 The lecture finishes at 11am, which allows me to get a couple hours work in at the English Faculty Library with the reference-only books there. I’m writing an essay on Thomas Hardy in for midday tomorrow, and hoping that I’ll be able to glean some last-minute info from this secondary reading!

1.00 I meet up with my friends for lunch back at college. I talk with my subject friends Meg and Emma about the essay due in tomorrow, and we recommend some secondary reading to each other.

2.00 Lunch over. I head to the Radcliffe Camera to get a start on the essay. Busy and quiet, it’s a great place to get work done – if I’m lucky enough to get a seat! The intro takes an age to complete but, having written two essays a week throughout the term, I am confident that I’ll be able to produce a cogent argument in my essay.

6.00 A few hours later I receive a message on the group chat – ‘dinner??’ and so I head back to college to eat and chill with some friends before the evening ahead. I retire to my room to finish the ‘draft’ of my essay.

10.00 By 10pm, I’m done – tomorrow morning will be devoted to proofreading, checking the footnotes and bibliography, and prepping for the tutorial later in the afternoon – in which myself, another student and our amazing tutor Adam will go through our essays and the topic in general for an hour and a half, in a relaxed but stimulating atmosphere. For the rest of my evening however, I chill in my neighbour’s room to unwind and chat.
6.00 Wake up for rowing (as late as I can possibly get away with).

6.20 I have a Rowing outing a couple of times a week at the Hilda’s boathouse on the river Isis, about a 15 minute cycle away.

8.30 Having got back from rowing, showered and had breakfast, I prepare for my French class later in the day. My French essays are due in 24 hours before the tutorial, which for me means gaining today, so I will have hopefully done it by now!

12.00 Lecture at the Taylorian on the use of music and sound in the Italian film I Cento Passi.

1.00 An hour off - I usually stay in town to get lunch if I have to be up there again soon. It’s not far to get back to Hilda’s but by the time you’ve got there and back I could get so much more done! It also gives me an excuse to go and buy the things I need in town, meaning I usually turn up to class with all sorts of random stuff falling out of my bag.

2.00 Italian reading/essay class at 47 Wellington Square, just behind the Taylorian. This is where all the Italian language classes take place and I have a class there every day for a different discipline (listening, translation etc)

3.15 I then speed cycle across town back to college for French class, trying to get my brain out of Italian mode and into French mode. We have a grammar class for an hour every week where we go over very specific grammar rules and practise translation into French.

4.15 Every other week I also have a French speaking class in college with two other students. Usually we each give a short presentation on a specific topic we have prepared, often based around French culture or issues in French society, and we then discuss it in the language.

5.30 I’m usually pretty hungry by this point so go straight to dinner when it opens at 5.30 (This is also excellent procrastination.) Unsurprisingly as a modern languages student, Italian night is my favourite - you can never have enough tiramisu accompanied by dramatic Italian pop music. The Hall staff are really friendly and always decorate the dining hall to match the theme!

6.00 I usually try and get my Italian translation due for the next day done now or else do some preparatory reading for my French literature tutorial tomorrow on George Sand’s novel Indiana.

8.30 There is a debate tonight at the Oxford Union on how to get young people more involved in politics, hosted by Rick Edwards, which I go to with some friends. Afterwards we go to the Union bar for a drink before walking back to Hilda’s. I try to get the last few things sorted out for today, then fall straight to sleep!

THE COLLEGE FAMILY SYSTEM

The Oxford College family is like a buddy system. When you start your first term, you have a parent who does the same subject as you. They are your first port of call if you need help with work and don’t want to ask a tutor, or just need general advice. How seriously different Colleges take the family system varies. At St Hilda’s, we embrace it wholeheartedly. Instead of opting for a marriage ballot like many other Colleges, St Hilda’s students will propose to each other, and the more elaborate the proposal, the better! The first thing you do as parents is write a postcard to each of your children after results day, introducing yourselves.

At the end of Freshers’ week, parents will also take their children back to their houses to attempt to cook them dinner. Throughout the year, we have also family formals. Closer to exams, parents are in charge of finding their children carnations to wear and supplying them copious amounts of revision chocolate! In the fifth week in every term the whole JCR goes to formal hall with their College families. This is a subsidised formal, meaning it is more accessible and affordable for everyone. It’s a really nice way to get to spend time with your family.
SOCIAL EVENTS IN THE JCR

A bop, which is an acronym for Big Open Party (though most students don’t know that), is an event organised by the Entz Officers. Essentially, it is like a disco held in the JCR, with a fancy dress theme. At other Colleges, Bops normally carry on into the night at the JCR. At Hilda’s we tend to have one of the smaller night clubs booked out as an after party venue instead. Normally there are around two bops a term. Previous themes have included Disney bop, Jungle Bop, and Thrift shop bop, where students partnered up and bought each other’s outfits from the local charity shops. They’re always good fun, and a social highlight of the term.

We also have an end of term party every term, which is similar to a BOP except it’s not fancy dress. This is a really great way to get everyone in the JCR together to celebrate getting through another term and say goodbye to everyone before going home for the holidays!

We also have lots of one-off and annual events held within the JCR. These include an arts festival, Thursday Night Live – an open mic event in the JCR, mulled wine and mince pie evening, and a cheese and wine night. As well as normal welfare tea run by the welfare officers, some of the officers run more specific welfare teas and events for the groups that they represent.

COLLEGE SPORTS TEAMS

Running: St Hilda’s running club is a relaxed, sociable group who meets for short, chatty runs of around 5–6km every week. All abilities welcome! It’s always so much easier to run in a group and it’s a nice, no-commitment way of getting in some exercise every week. We run a different route every week so it’s also a really great way of getting to know Oxford a bit better!
Rowing: Rowing is a fantastic way to try something new, be part of a close team, and take part in a long-standing Oxford tradition. You can either row or, for those with an inclination toward unquestionable power, cox, directing and encouraging your boat during training and racing. Rowing events throughout the week include actually rowing on the river in a team of usually eight. We also have fun rowing machine (erg) and gym sessions to improve your fitness and technique. Our coaches are ex-blues members who have rowed in the Oxford-Cambridge Boat Race, and rowers who have rowed in inter-collegiate competitions at the national level. Everything is organised by a committee of dedicated rowers.

If you want to race, there are three regattas throughout the year: Christchurch regatta is solely for new rowers so is a great place to start. Torpids and Summer Vllls come later in the year and are for everyone. On the final day of Summer Vllls several thousand students, parents, and townspeople come down to the Isis river to cheer the teams on.

Men’s football: As Hilda’s has only recently started admitting men, it has taken several years for the men’s team to make an impact on the OUAFC League; the archetypal ‘yo-yo club’, for a number of years the club did not achieve stability and languished in the bottom league. In the past few years, however, the team has increased their competitiveness, been promoted and has shown the potential to climb the league system. The First XI plays weekly starting in Michaelmas term, as does the more casual Second XI. The turnover of incoming freshers and outgoing finalists greatly dictates the quality of the team on a year-by-year basis, but generally the team is able to remain competitive each year. The Club also has a social aspect, with crew dates during term time and an AGM (Annual General Meeting) in off-season, in conjunction with the women’s team, where the next season’s captains and social secretaries are decided.
**Women’s football:** The women’s football team is a friendly and laid back club with members from all years. We usually train or have a match against another College team every week. The matches are a lot of fun, especially when we win with fewer than 11 of us!

**Netball:** St. Hilda’s College Netball Club (SHCNC) is very friendly and welcoming to all years and all abilities! Through weekly 30 minute matches and 1 hour (relaxed) training sessions, we have a social and team-spirited club that works towards success within Cuppers and Division 2 of the League. Recently, we invested in new netball kit for matches and introduced netball stash – another reason why Netball is one of the best sports to take part in within College!

**Hockey:** Hockey at Hilda’s is a really fun way of getting involved in College sport, with both men’s and women’s teams always looking for new players! It’s only once a week so not as much of a commitment as university sport, and it’s always a friendly atmosphere in the team. Get involved!

**Rugby:** St. Hilda’s College RUFC is a comparatively young club compared to others around the university, but that does not make it any less of a great team to be a part of! Welcoming players of all abilities, we balance games at the weekend with a great social environment, becoming great friends with our teammates. It’s a great way to structure a break from the academic side of Oxford!
COLLEGE CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Choir: St Hilda’s College choir is a relaxed, non-audition choir which meets every Friday evening in the College chapel. We sing in a number of concerts over the course of the year, including a termly concert in the University Church in the centre of Oxford.

Drama Society: Hildabeasts have been strutting the stage since the College’s foundation; training for theatrical careers, making loads of new friends and using it as a great excuse to take a break from work! Hilda’s students get involved in every element of the theatre and there are plenty of opportunities to get experience in whatever excites you. We produce several plays each academic year and regularly fund members in their theatrical pursuits outside of the society. Being one of the largest societies in College, with around 70 members, means we have a great social scene. Anybody and everybody is welcome to get involved. Just turn up to auditions or drop an email to a member of the committee.

Hildabeats: The Hildabeats are St Hilda’s very own jazz and blues band! We play all sorts of funky music, and do a concert each term, including a tinsel and mince pie fuelled Xmas concert. Anyone in Hilda’s is welcome to join, from all years and all abilities, from Louis Armstrong to Louis Walsh!

Christian Union: Hilda’s CU are a group of Christians who together meet for a weekly Bible study and for a prayer breakfast every Sunday. During the term we put on a number of events that try to tell folk in College about Jesus. We have a lot of fun and are a friendly and welcoming group. Regardless of whether you would call yourself a Christian or not; regardless of what church background you come from it is great seeing people get involved.
The JCR committee is elected by the undergraduate body to represent them in College. The committee works hard to do so and to improve the facilities for all of us.

**JCR PRESIDENT**
Anya Lyon-Fraser, Second Year History

Hi I’m Anya a second-year History student and your JCR president.

I’m here to represent and support you and to oversee the operation of the JCR as a whole. I’m lucky to have a really great committee to work with this year and I will be on hand to help them work together and to get the most out of their roles.

I’ll be working closely with the College administration, College committees and organisations and representative bodies such as OUSU to ensure the St Hilda’s JCR community has a voice and is involved in changes and projects at a College and university level.

If you need help with anything, have a concern or any ideas/suggestions for the committee, College or the JCR in general just let me know! I’m available via email, Facebook or in person, so feel free to get in touch.

**SECRETARY**
Shasta Kaul, Second Year PPE

Hello Everyone! I’m Shasta – a second-year PPE student and JCR Secretary. A major part of my role is delivering College banter (JCR events, photos, poetry – for general amusement) to you in the form of the Loo News on Monday mornings. This will be found not only in our stalls, but also come packaged to your inboxes with any notices that might be of interest to you, or that important people around campus consider important. If you have any suggestions and/or submissions (citizen journalism is fundamental to the intrinsic charm of this publication), please email me. I will also be keeping a record of what goes on in our exciting JCR meetings – emailing the agenda before and minutes after them to everyone. Other than that, I will help organize JCR events alongside the amazing committee officers. If you have any JCR-related concerns, ideas and proposals, or just want to talk about life, you can drop me a message/email – or just chat to me when you see me plodding around College. UnicornLove x

**TREASURER**
Sam McCarthy, Second Year Economics and Management

The treasurer! The person who is bestowed with the honour of paying the JCR bills, ensuring we don’t end up in debt and that everyone is keeping to budget. Apart from the mundane, the treasurer attends the College governance meetings and sees how the Colleges portfolio is invested (lots of money). They also co-chair the JCR investment committee which acts a dragons den-esque opportunity for members of the College to present new business ideas.

**WELFARE**
Olive Leonard, Second Year Geography and Bora Guloglu, Second Year Biochemistry

Hi, we are your Welfare Officers for this academic year. Together we’re responsible for all things welfare at St. Hilda’s. In short, we will be organising the support for students, which includes providing free contraception, organising welfare teas (where everyone comes down to the JCR for free food and a break from work,) putting together activities to counter your 5th-week blues, helping you to deal with academic stress, raising awareness of mental and sexual health issues, and organising the College family system. We’ve always got an open ear for you, so please don’t hesitate to contact either - or both - of us via email, Facebook, or any other way you can think of!
Similar to welfare is the peer support team. Oxford can sometimes be a stressful environment, and it takes its toll on everyone. The Peer Supporters are here to listen - no problem is too big or too small, whether you’re worried about an essay or are dealing with a mental health condition. Supporters have been trained by the Oxford Counselling service, and are a good source to turn to if you feel like you can’t discuss an issue with your tutor. There are drop in sessions throughout the year which are advertised to the whole JCR, but the peer supporters can be contacted any time.

**People of Colour and Racial Equality**

Nina Chatrath, Second Year History

Hi everyone, I’m Nina and I am currently in my second year reading History alongside carrying out the role of People of Colour and Racial Equality Officer. I intend to represent the BME community at St Hilda’s and strongly believe that welfare, diversity, respect and especially equality should be at the heart of College life. I plan to personally organise a weekly forum through welfare drop-in sessions so we can combat ignorance and racism together. I anticipate that I will be organising more socials as well to create a stronger and more unified community within College. Also my predecessor has been working hard to introduce a Tutor for Race in College and I would like to continue carrying out negotiations with the College to establish this position but most importantly I am always around to have a chat and keen to take suggestions from everyone and anyone.

**LGBTQ+**

David Parton, Third Year Law

Hey everyone, my name is David, my gender pronouns are he/him and I’m a third-year Law student. I am St Hilda’s JCR Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Officer for this academic year. My role, as a liberation officer, is predominantly social and political. I will also be a representative for Intersex and Asexual students, and everyone else who does not fall into a heteronormative or gender-binary identification.

The LGBTQ community at St Hilda’s is really strong, and part of my role is to hold informal social events in College, and encourage St Hilda’s students to go to Oxford University(-wide) LGBTQ Society events, such as the iconic weekly drinks (which I used to organise) and crew-dates, which are a kind of social event where we all go out for a meal. The University Society also holds Trans, Women, Bi and Asexual events that I will advertise, and I will provide support for St Hilda’s students interested in attending.

My role is also as a political representative in College, who aims to make LGBTQ life in College continuously better. Please email me (david.parton@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk) if you have any issues relating to my role that you would like help with, which I will deal with discretely and in confidence. I will also be working closely with other Liberation Officers on the JCR Committee to ensure intersectionality is considered. If you have any suggestions for events, please don’t hesitate to get in touch.

Finally, one main function of my role is organising the annual St Hilda’s College QueerBop (a massive LGBTQ party), that we will be holding in Hilary (the term after Christmas). Get pumped because it’s going to be ICONIC!
DISABILITIES
Lucy Williams, Second Year Geography

Hello, I am a 2nd year Geographer and Dyslexic. My role is to represent, make available appropriate information, provide welfare support and promote equality for disabled students. I will also be raising awareness through the JCR of the diverse nature of disability (which includes specific learning difficulties and mental health conditions) and its impacts, to further ensure that the College and JCR are doing everything they can to assist disabled students. I am also here to aid students through applying for DSA and DAS and organising individual exam arrangements.

Feel free to contact me with any question and suggestions, either e-mail me or put a note in my pidge!

WOMEN’S
Rachel Deeley, Second Year English

Hi everyone! I’m Rachel, your JCR Women’s Officer for 2016-17.

As Women’s Officer, it’s my job to make St Hilda’s a safe and inclusive place for members of the JCR who identify as women. Intersectionality is at the heart of my manifesto, and I work closely with the other liberation officers to ensure the needs of all women in College are met.

My main responsibilities include running the Sexual Consent Workshop in Fresher’s Week and organizing Hilda’s annual Gender Equality Festival in Hilary (second) term, a week full of diverse and thought-provoking events with a feminist focus. I will also be holding regular self-care sessions and feminist discussion groups throughout the year and publicising uni-wide events.

While my primary concern is representing women in a political and welfare capacity, anyone can approach me with gender-related questions, suggestions or concerns. Whether you need to talk to someone in confidence or just want to have a friendly chat, feel free to drop me an email, message, or see me in person.

FREPS
Charles Ors, Second Year German and Anisha Chopra, Second Year Medicine

Hi we’re Charles and Anisha. We are the Fresher and Finalists reps for this year, which involves organising Fresher’s Week and activities for finalists during their exams. During Fresher’s Week we will be working closely with the welfare officers to ensure everyone has a safe and fun time! If at any point in the year you have any issues or concerns relating to fresher/ finalist life do not hesitate to get in touch.

INTERNATIONAL OFFICER
Wiesje van den Heerik

Hi, I am Wiesje and I am your International Officer this year. Studying abroad brings some extra concerns with it. Visas, loans in different countries, dealing with English banks, language barriers or cultural differences. But fear not, for we are here to help! For all questions, concerns, or just a chat; message me, email me, or just say hi when you see me walking around.
RETURNING OFFICER
Blake Lewis, Second Year Law with European Law

Hi, I’m Blake, a second-year student doing Law with European Law and I’m the JCR OUSU Representative and Returning Officer.

In addition to being a member of the JCR Committee, my role involves representing St Hilda’s College to the University-wide student union (OUSU). This involves attending meetings and votes to ensure that the College not only is kept informed of what is going on at a University level, but that St Hilda’s also maintains an active role and ensures the voices of the students are heard at such meetings.

I hope to get the student body involved with planned votes so that I can truly be representative of the JCR I act on behalf of.

The other part of my role involves the running of elections within the JCR. This mainly relies on ensuring they are run in a way that is fair to all candidates, results in a democratic vote and maintains the utmost transparency to make sure the students get the opportunity to make a free and informed vote on candidates.

ENVIRONMENT AND ETHICS
Ellie Dibben, Second Year History

Hullo, I’m Ellie, a second-year History student and your Environment and Ethics Officer. My job is to make sure that St. Hilda’s College remains conscious of the its environmental and ethical impact, and to promote active engagement with these issues.

This year I will be continuing the divestment campaign, seeking a commitment from the College to take an active stand against fossil fuels in their investments. Find us on Facebook or join the team if you would like to get involved. We’re always keen to find new campaigners!

I will also work to improve the disposal of waste in College, promote ethical causes such as fair trade, and seek to improve the quality of vegetarian and vegan food in hall as such lifestyles are inherently linked sustainable living.

Please take a look at my full manifesto to find out what else I’ll be up to and feel free to approach me with any ideas or questions!

BALL PRESIDENT
Holly Beddingfield, Second Year English

Hi! I’m Holly, a second-year English student, and your Ball President. It’s exactly what it sounds like – alongside my outstanding committee, I will be coordinating your May Ball this year. It is my responsibility to deliver a truly unforgettable night. Expect a contemporary style that nods reverently to tradition; cocktails, lasers, and maybe even lip sync battles – not bad for the cheapest Ball in Oxford.

CHARITIES REPS
Rheagan McAvoy, Second Year History and Ellie MacDonald, Second Year Ancient and Modern History

Hi there! We’re Rheagan and Ellie and we are your Charity Reps for the year! Every term we elect two Oxford charities and 2 international charities. Throughout term we will be hosting charity events to raise money and will also be hosting an Activism Week in Hilary. If you have any ideas for events or charities email either rheagan.mcavoy@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk or ellie.macdonald@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk – all suggestions are welcome!
COLLEGE AFFAIRS
Hatty Jenner, Second Year French

Hi Hildabeasts, I’m Hatty and I’m your College Affairs Officer for this year.

My role is primarily to act as the link between the Buildings Office/Accommodations Office and the JCR. I also help arrange the room ballot for second-year students and, most importantly, I’m ‘officially’ in charge of the punts. ;)

If you have any problems with your accommodation e.g. a broken light then the fastest solution is to directly email buildings-support@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk detailing the issue and your room number, and they’ll come and fix it as soon as possible! Also, if you’re looking for accommodation out of College and need advice, contact me or the OUSU housing service on advice@ousu.ox.ac.uk (for example, they’ll look over your house contract before you sign to check everything looks legit).

If you have any further issues with your accommodation and for any reason the Buildings or Accommodations Offices aren’t doing enough to help (although they usually are very good!), then please feel free to contact me.

College affairs love x

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND CAREERS
Sarah Trolley, Third Year Geography

Hi, I am your Academic Affairs and Careers Officer.

During the year I’ll be organising lots of Career events with all sorts of organisations and companies. If there are any particular organisations you’d like to hear from let me know! Alongside this I will be promoting university wide careers fairs and events.

Another part of my role is being a representative of the JCR on academic issues. This means I sit on committees such as Library Committee and can help students which have an academic issue.

If you have any academic or careers related questions or enquiries please feel free to get in touch.

IT
Alex Wenk, Third Year Physics

I’m Alex, a third-year Physicist, and I’m your IT officer for the year. My primary job is to fix, maintain and update the JCR website. But I’m also here to help with any issues you may have regarding internet, Wi-Fi, or computers in general.

‘The Great JCR Print Credit Reserve’ is also something that I am responsible for. The idea is that as the vast majority of the JCR do not use all of their print credit, whilst a small minority use vast amounts, and end up running out, it is in the JCRs benefit for everyone to contribute a small amount to ‘The Great JCR Print Credit Reserve’ at the start of the year, from the free print credit they are given, such that no one runs out. At any time in the year JCR members can request credit back from the reserve, if they are running out of credit.

If you have any questions, problems, or suggestions don’t hesitate to get in touch.
On a map, St Hilda’s seems ages away from the centre of Oxford, and it is often missed on Open Days because people think it will take too long to get over Magdalen Bridge and back. In reality, it is only a five minute walk to the high street from the college, and is actually one of the closest colleges to the Exam Schools, which is where many lectures are held, and of course, the dreaded exams. But we wouldn’t swap our location for that extra five minutes, because being on the edge of East Oxford means that we get to live close to Cowley Road and the area that surrounds it. Cowley Road has a very unique and different vibe to the rest of the city and has some really great gems hidden away. Below, we’ve put together a list of our top ten favourite things about the area.

Cafes and Restaurants
Cowley Road is known for its wide range of places you can eat in, or take food away. Lots of these places are independent, which means you can eat in some one-off places that you wouldn’t find in the centre of town. Good restaurants and takeaways include Atomic Burger, Tebaru, Oli’s Thai, Kazbar, Mario’s and Red Star. For more café-type food, we recommend Rick’s, Viny’s Café and Tick Tock Café, which are all within a 5 minutes’ walk from College and are particularly good on Saturdays when hall only serves brunch in the mornings. One branch of Oxford’s famous ice cream shop, G&Ds is here. However for more flavour choices and lower prices, it’s good to go to Sundaes.
**PUBS AND BARS**

There are also lots of pubs and bars in Cowley, and a lot of them are cheaper than the ones you find in the centre of town. The Half Moon is often a good place to start or end, as it’s on the roundabout so only a two-minute walk from College. If you wanted a bit more of a chilled pub experience, we recommend The Angel and Greyhound, especially in the winter when it has an open fire, mulled cider, and a shelf full of board games. The Fir Tree is also nearby, a 5-minute walk down Iffley Road, and has a pub quiz on every week. There are lots of cocktail bars in the area. Our favourite is Be at One, which is right on the roundabout so a two-minute walk from College. Other good ones are the Mad Hatter, Café Terifa, and Jo Perks.

**THINGS TO DO**

The Ultimate Picture Palace is an independent cinema on Cowley Road. It often screens films a while after they’ve been shown in other cinemas, which is useful if you miss them when they first come out. You can also buy tea or wine, along with other snacks from the bar.

While the main nightclubs are in central Oxford, they are up to a 30-minute walk from College. However, there are plenty of places to go to down Cowley Road and have a lot more variety. If you fancy a night off from clubbing, there are quite a few alternative venues in the area. The Catweazle club for instance puts on open mic nights every Thursday, whilst the Bullingdon16 hosts weekly jazz nights and monthly comedy nights. Oxford’s main concert venue, the O2 Academy, is also here, where there are concerts and events every night of the week.

In the daytime, South Parks is a really nice park to go running or walking in. It’s a nice place to escape from the city for a while. It also hosts fireworks on Bonfire night, with live music and food stalls. If you go to the top of the hill you can get one of the best views of the Oxford skyline.
**GENERAL AMENITIES**

As College has some kitchen facilities, most students make their own meals at some point. For buying food, there’s a small Sainsbury’s on the roundabout at the end of the road that College is on. For a slightly bigger supermarket, there is a well-appointed Tesco Metro which is where most Hilda’s students do their food shopping.

We’re also very well placed for the Iffley Road gym and sports centre. We pay a small amount of money for a year’s membership to go to the gym and swimming pool, which you gain access to using your university card. In 2017, the annual membership was only £15 for both! College are currently in the process of building a temporary on-site gym, which should be finished by around March 2017.

East Oxford is a large student area, and as we have to live out of College in the second year, this is where most St Hilda’s second years will live, so you’ll get to know Cowley Road really well in your second year.

**ARRIVING AT ST HILDA’S**

So you’ve made an application, survived the interviews, got an offer and made it, so what happens next?

After A level results day, you should receive a postcard from your College parents. At least one of your parents will do your subject, and the postcard will tell you lots of information about what to expect, how to prepare, and what sort of things you should look out for. Often your College parents will add you on Facebook or give you their email address, to give you the chance to ask any questions before you arrive.
The head freshers’ reps (freps) are in charge of organising Freshers’ Week and making sure all new students settle in. The head freps recruit a group of second year students who know College well and have volunteered to help new students settle in. You will be able to join a Facebook group where you can begin to meet some of the other new students in your year, and have the chance to ask more questions and find out about what events there will be going on throughout your first week in Oxford.

Once you arrive at College on your first day, the freps will be on hand to show you what to do. They’re easily identifiable in their matching T-shirts! One great thing about St Hilda’s is that unlike in the more central Colleges, your parents can drive to right outside your accommodation block, so you don’t have to carry all your stuff too far! After you’ve moved your stuff in, there will be a few hours for you to settle in and meet with the other people in your corridor who are also just arriving, before being able to meet with everyone else in your year at dinner, and in the organised activities in the evening.

Freshers’ week contains a mix of club nights, alternative evening activities, talks and workshops and time to settle in and make new friends. The freps are on hand the whole week if you have any problems and don’t know who to talk to.
Worries about finance can be a big hurdle for many students, but they really needn’t be! When you arrive each term, you pay your College battels, which covers accommodation and food. Later on in the term, you may have to top-up your meal credits if you go to the Hall regularly. On top of maintenance loans from Student Finance, students from lower-income backgrounds can find many other sources of funding at Oxford. Some of these sources, like the Oxford Bursary and the Moritz Heyman Scholarship are awarded according to the information Oxford acquires from Student Finance, so you don’t need to apply for them. Just make sure you tick the option that allows your university to access your information when you fill out your student finance form. This takes away a lot of the stress and hassle of sorting your finances. On top of this, there are numerous other Hilda’s specific funds that you can apply for. They are listed below, but there is much more information on the St Hilda’s website.

Money absolutely is not a barrier to studying at St Hilda’s, or more generally, at any Oxford college. Living with a single parent who earns less than £16000 a year meant that right from the start of my degree, I’ve received around £3500 (this amount will increase for people starting courses in 2016) every year of my degree from the university, on top of government loans and grants, and the money from Oxford is entirely non-repayable! This means I get around £10,000-11000 a year to live off, which is plenty to get by on without ever having to ask my parents for financial help. Additionally, St Hilda’s has a “hardship fund” for those who do encounter financial difficulties but can’t ask their family for help, which is really useful. Another great thing about studying at St Hilda’s if you’re not from a privileged financial background, is that you’re eligible for reduced fees. For my first year, I’ll only (eventually) pay £3000, and for my second and third, £6000. It’s worth pointing out that these fees are not repayable until you start earning money, too - and even then, it’s repaid slowly! Overall, going to Oxford as someone who has low parental income has been made really easy by St Hilda’s. With their bursary and reduced tuition fees for low-income students, I’m financially much better off here than I would have been at any other university!

Testimonial from an Oxford Bursary recipient
**BATTELS**

Battels are essentially, these are the bills that you pay each term. Below is a rough example of a Battel for Michaelmas of your first year.

**The average Battel for a term**

- Cost of room in College – £1250 (average)
- Meal credits - £160
- Sports subscription (Michaelmas only) - £15
- JCR membership £7.50; JCR Hardship fund - £3; Money towards refugees (opt-out) - £4

Total – 1439.50

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**THE OXFORD BURSARY**

If you are a Home (UK) or EU student from a lower-income household, you will be eligible to receive an annual non-repayable Oxford Bursary to help with living costs. These are the figures for 2016.

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<th>Your Household Income</th>
<th>Your non-repayable Oxford Bursary (per Year)</th>
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<td>£16k or less</td>
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**THE MORITZ-HEYMAN SCHOLARSHIP**

The Moritz-Heyman Scholarship was started in 2012 and each year is awarded to 160 new undergraduates. To be eligible, you must have a household income of less than £16,000. Amongst other things, being a Moritz-Heyman Scholar means you get a significant bursary, the opportunity to access tailored internship support from the Oxford Careers Service, attend a range of exclusive events, including a reception hosted by the Vice-Chancellor. Scholars are normally expected to complete 25 hours of ‘outreach’ work to encourage school and college leavers to apply to university, or of community volunteering each year.

Testimonial from a Moritz-Heyman Scholar

Despite coming from a low-income family, I had always been determined to come to Oxford, whatever the financial cost. However, there is no denying that the thought of racking up a load of debt while at uni is a terrifying one. I am sure that the myths surrounding those two scary words - “student loan” - do put people off applying to university because they feel that it excludes them. I was therefore extremely relieved and excited to discover that Oxford was offering me the Moritz-Heyman scholarship, which was assessed automatically when I applied for a student finance. This meant it was a huge surprise (and relief) for me when I received a letter in the post about a month before coming to Oxford! The Moritz-Heyman scholarship means a reduction in tuition fees and a maintenance bursary - so although I’m still taking out a student loan to pay my tuition fees to the university it’s significantly less than it would have been, and I don’t have to rely on a maintenance loan at all – Oxford’s very generous bursary scheme, along with the maintenance loans which I receive from the government means I can cover all my living costs and more while at university. The scholarship has enabled me to have a normal social life - to go out with my friends and do my shopping without any worry (although I do still have an eye for a bargain!).
OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING

JCR hardship fund

Each member of the JCR gives £3 per term towards the JCR hardship fund. Any JCR member who finds themselves in unexpected economic difficulties can apply to the treasurer for money from this fund. Applications are always encouraged.

Scholarship

Students who get a distinction in their exams get £200 pounds a year for the rest of their degree.

DD White Fund

Students can apply to this fund to help cover the cost of sports equipment/kit.

Book Grant

Students can apply to this to help buy required reading for the year.

Travel Funds

Students needing to travel for part of their degree e.g. Thesis research, can apply for money to go towards the cost of travel and accommodation. Some subjects have their own specific travel fund. For instance, History has the Morgan Fund which students can take advantage of to visit places that would further their historical interests.

FIND OUT MORE

Come along to one of our open days to find out more about studying at St Hilda’s, and in Oxford more generally.

Up to date contact details and descriptions of all JCR Committee officer roles can be found on the St Hilda’s College JCR website:

www.hildasjcr.org.uk

All enquiries specifically relating to admissions please telephone: 01865 276815

or email: admissions@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk

College website: http://www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/


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