2017

MAGDALENE FRESHERS’ GUIDE
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A CAMBRIDGE GLOSSARY
Dear Freshers,

Congratulations on attaining a place at Magdalene, Cambridge's best college! You're finally there – no more stressful applications, personal statements or daunting interviews! Now is the time to take a deep breath, relax and read through this guide to give you an idea of what to expect. My name is Matt, and I am Magdalene’s Freshers’ Rep for 2017. I’m here to make sure that you feel happy, safe and settled in what I know can be an overwhelming time, having been through it myself just last year. Without a doubt, most of you will have some mixed emotions at the moment: excitement, nervousness, confusion... leaving home for the first time is a big change for everyone but the important thing to remember is that you are not alone – all Freshers will be experiencing similar thoughts and feelings. The Freshers’ Committee and I will all be on hand throughout Freshers’ Week (and the year) to help you with any problems or questions you may have, or simply to have a chat. If you have any questions, worries or concerns, please get in touch with me at any time – via email (jcr-freshers@magd.cam.ac.uk) or via Facebook (Matthew Rowlands) and I will be more than happy to help!

Together with the Freshers’ Committee we have arranged an exciting, fun-filled Freshers’ Week, beginning Saturday 30th September, to introduce you to Magdalene, Cambridge student life and to ensure you have a memorable first week in your new home. The week is a great (but not the only) opportunity to get to know everyone - be brave and introduce yourself, and the year group (and entire college) will be tight-knit in no time, as is the Magdalene way!

One of the first things to expect when you come to Magdalene is the college family system. You will be put into a ‘family’ with fellow freshers (your ‘siblings’) and second/third years (your ‘parents’). Your ‘parents’ may invite you to a Facebook group, so don’t be surprised. They are also there to answer any questions you have and ensure you settle into college well during the first few weeks.

At Cambridge, you will have lecturers, supervisors (who will set you work, mark it, and go through it with you in small study group sessions known as supervisions), a Director of Studies (or DOS, who will oversee and help with all of your academic work) and a College Tutor (who is there ensure your personal welfare). Lectures won’t begin until Thursday 5th October or later, and you will be shown your department in advance by members of the College, so you can ask them any questions you may have specific to your subject.

There will be a timetable in your pigeon-hole in the Porters’ Lodge to let you know when all of these things will be happening in relation to all the fun planned for Freshers’!

To find out more about College join the Magdalene College Freshers 2017 page on Facebook, as this will be constantly updated with important information about the goings on of College, the link to which (as well as the timetable) can be found on the JCR website at https://jcr.magd.cam.ac.uk/freshers.

I hope you’ve had a fantastic summer and I am looking forward to welcoming you all to Magdalene,

Matt
ON ARRIVAL

All new freshers must arrive by the 2nd October at the very latest. However, overseas freshers can arrive from 2pm on the 27th September, and home students can arrive from 9am on the 30th September, with Freshers' Week beginning that afternoon.

If you are arriving by train, it may be wise to get a taxi or bus; the walk to Magdalene is around half an hour, and you will probably be heavily laden with bags.

If you plan on arriving by car, Magdalene Street tends to be very busy since most freshers will be arriving on the same day. Luckily, there are several places to park in the vicinity, including along Chesterton Road (the main road which Magdalene Street meets at the crossroads) and in the Park Street car park, which is reasonably close to College. You may need to make a few trips from your car, but there should be lots of people available to help!

Once you arrive at College, you should go to the Porters’ Lodge to collect your room key and your Freshers’ Week timetable from your pigeon-hole. The Freshers’ Committee, a team of friendly second years, will be ready and waiting to greet you in yellow t-shirts. They will show you to your room, and answer any questions you may have on the day.
ESSENTIALS TO BRING

PASSPORT PHOTOS
It might be handy to bring some passport photos as you may need them to join some clubs and societies. It might be easier to do this at home, but don’t worry as this can be done here at the Post Office.

MONEY
Cambridge is a busy place with lots of events for you to go to and stash for you to buy. Therefore, it is really useful to either sort out your online banking before you get here or to have a cheque book because, to be honest, the walk to Sainsbury’s to get money out is a long and treacherous one! (5 minutes – but this is long in Cambridge terms!)

FLOATING SOCKETS (FOUR-WAY)
These are a godsend.

NHS NUMBER
Essential for registering with a local GP, which is compulsory for all students. On that note, do get that done in Fresher’s Week otherwise your Tutor will be on your case!

STATIONERY
You need will need the usual pens and pencils to write with. In terms of the number of files and things, bring a few as they are very useful to keep yourself organised with the many pieces of paper you may get in lectures. You can easily buy more in Cambridge, from stationers including Rymans, Staples and Paperchase.

BOOKS
You will be able to access any literature you think you’ll require at either the University Library, a department library or the college library (which you will be shown once you arrive), and so buying literature in advance is not necessary, unless you’d like to have your own copy. Once you arrive any key books you think you should purchase will become apparent, and so we advise not to guess what you require in advance (you will receive a variety of different reading lists weekly).

BED LINEN
College provides a duvet and pillow, but sheets, pillowcases and duvet covers are not provided and must be brought. Towels are also not provided, so bringing these is essential!
KETTLE, TEA, COFFEE…
…milk, sugar, mugs etc. All gyp rooms do have kettles in, but many people do bring a kettle of their own, although you may not use a kettle in your room. However, it’s up to you to bring the rest.

KITCHEN THINGS
Food is available at meal times in Ramsay Hall but for those of you that would like to try your hand at a bit of cooking you’ll need pans, utensils, cutlery, plates, bowls, tea-towels etc. Almost all of the College gyp rooms have an electric hob, microwave, kettle and toaster, however the majority do not have an oven, though the microwaves do have an 'oven setting'. In some of the gyp rooms there are newly fitted induction hobs, and for these there are pots and pans provided.

POSTERS, HANGERS AND PHOTOS
Blu-tak/White-tak and other similar adhesives are not to be used for posters/photos etc on your walls, but all rooms should have a pinboard. If not the Housekeeping department can provide you with one for free.

RUGS, CUSHIONS etc.
Anything to make your room look homely, don’t bring too much though as the rooms vary in size and you can always bring more up next term.

COAT HANGERS
Coat hangers are also needed as the College does not provide them. If you’re lucky, there will probably be a few already in there from previous owners, but bring a few too just in case.

LAMPS
One table lamp is provided but it is often worth having another one or two to brighten up your room.

COMPUTERS, PRINTERS AND TECHNOLOGY
The vast majority of students now bring a computer/laptop with them. In terms of internet connection, you may need either an Ethernet cable to connect your computer to the Ethernet port or a wifi router which can be bought from the College. However, there is a strong wifi connection available in most rooms so probably wait until you arrive to see if you need to buy an Ethernet cable - more about this is stated in the computer and internet handbook. The library also has wifi and there are several printers, photocopiers and computers around Magdalene should you need to use them.
BIKES

There is always room for more bikes in Cambridge; they are very useful and can save a lot of time if you have to travel to lectures or sports pitches that are further away. If you fancy your chances with cycling in Cambridge, it is probably best to buy your bike at home and bring it with you as many of the local bike shops may take advantage of the sudden surge in demand for bikes in Freshers’ Week. However, you can get some good deals around such as Halfords annual student deal where you can pick up a bike, lock and lights for just under £100. There are also shops scattered around town, many on Mill Lane, and the police organise second hand sales at various points in the year. But you must definitely remember a good lock as bike theft is rife in Cambridge.

All bikes must be registered with the College Marshal and have a registration number painted on. There is an opportunity to do this during Freshers’ Week. Bike racks can be found in both Benson Court in the village, at Cripps Court and there are some small public bike racks at Thompsons Lane and Bridge Street.
GENERAL INFORMATION

TERM DATES
Cambridge seems to revel in being as confusing as possible for new students, but you’ll soon get the hang of it all. A prime example of this is the term structure. There are three terms, Michaelmas (before Christmas), Lent (after Christmas) and Easter (summer term). The first two are both 80 days long and Easter term is 70 days. You can stay in your room all term, but the bill only includes 70 days of rent – staying longer than this will cost a bit extra.

One of the requirements in obtaining your degree at Cambridge is to “keep term”, this just means you have to be in Cambridge for at least 60 days. You will need to be in Cambridge during “Full Term” which is a shorter period within the term itself (see what I mean about confusing). Full Term always begins on a Tuesday and all your lectures will happen during Full Term.

As long as you aren’t leading a dual life fighting crime or running for political office you probably needn’t worry about this too much, but if you do need to be away during Full Term, officially you must obtain permission from your Tutor. Generally speaking, it will be fine to pop home for a day or to visit a friend for the weekend. If you need to be away for longer, or if you are missing a supervision, you should ask permission to see if it is possible to do so.

Full Term spans around 8 weeks. Just as May week isn’t in May, and Easter isn’t during Easter term, you’ll find some things at Cambridge almost seem designed to be as baffling as they can. Another example of this is that academic weeks in Cambridge start on a Thursday – this can lead to some confusing timetables, but it does mean that there are always a few days at the start of Full Term to settle in before lectures start. University term dates can be found at http://www.cam.ac.uk/about-the-university/term-dates-and-calendars.

ADDRESS & POST
Despite what the Daily Mail might have you believe, we haven’t quite cracked getting our post delivered by owls yet, so we still have to make do with the good old Royal Mail. Post is delivered daily to the Porters’ Lodge (P'lodge in Cambridge lingo) and put in your pigeon hole (pidge). Items too large to fit are placed on the central table. If you order a package that needs to be signed for, the porters will email you when it arrives and you can collect it from them.

Your new address: “Your Name”
Magdalene College
Cambridge
CB3 0AG
NIGHT TIME SECURITY
The gates to First Court, Cripps Court and The Village are locked at 8pm each night, however your blue University ID card will let you in after those times, so you can come and go as you please. The gates to the Fellow’s Garden are always locked and can likewise be opened with your ID.

KEY
When you first arrive at Magdalene and collect your key from the Porter’s Lodge you will also sign the Redit book. You will also have to sign this book when you hand your key back in at the end of each term. Make sure you hand in your room key on time – there is a fine if you don’t. There is also a cost to replace your key if you lose it, but the Porters have spare keys if you accidently lock it in your room (though they may make some jokes at your expense!).

GUESTS
If you wish to have a friend or family member visit, they can stay in your room and you can hire camp beds (surprisingly comfy!) from the Housekeeping Office in the Lutyens Building, or you can book one of the guest rooms by contacting the Development Office; guests must be signed in on arrival via the Porters Lodge.
TUTOR
During your time here at Magdalene you’ll be assigned a Tutor, who will be responsible for your personal welfare. At the start of your first term and at the end of every other term you will have a short meeting with your Tutor - this is just an opportunity to discuss how your time here is going and for them to help resolve any problems you might have. They will also sign off your exeat form, which is your permission to leave College at the end of term.
MONEY

As you prepare for the next few years of your exciting lives at Magdalene, you will need to guarantee you make the most of it. Unfortunately, that means managing your money for what might be the first time ever. Luckily this guide is here to give you some tips and general advice about how to spend wisely and not dip into that tempting overdraft!

FRESHERS’ WEEK
This is the one week where spending a little extra is going to be totally worth it. It is useful to have a cheque book or some money saved up for this week to allow yourself to join in on all the fun. The prices are never extortionate as the Freshers’ Committee do a great job of subsidising the cost of some of the events. We try our best to make sure everyone can get involved so the events are never too pricey.

One rite of passage into Magdalene is buying your very own gown, costing around £45. You can expect a few meals over the course of the week to be around £10 - £20. The entry into clubs during Freshers’ Week can be between £3 - £5 but the committee will be selling wristbands which will include 5 club nights during the week. Remember that drinks prices in clubs can vary as well! There will be clubs and societies you can join which may require a small entry/membership fee or will require money for stash.

On the whole Freshers’ Week is not that expensive as you can choose to attend as much of it as you would like and many of the college events will be free. It is handy however to have some money saved up for this week to make the most of it!

COLLEGE BILLS
This is a summary of all the things you need to pay for during each term. For example, your accommodation charges, University Card bill from the term before (food charges), internet charges etc. You will receive the bill at the start of every term and are required to pay it before halfway through term. This can be via internet banking or a cheque. There is an additional £300 deposit to be paid with your first bill to cover any damages that you may cause in your room throughout the time you’re here.

COLLEGE COSTS
The rent bands can be found easily on the Magdalene website. You will pay a Kitchen Fixed Charge (KFC) of £190.44 every term to help with the upkeep of gyp rooms, the JCR room etc. Heating and electricity is included within rent figures and internet, printing and library charges will be added to your College bill as needed. There is also a small fee of £7.50 to be paid to the JCR committee to help provide great events throughout the year and upkeep facilities in College.
FORMAL HALL
Another great part of Cambridge is the opportunity to attend formal dinners provided for by the colleges. Magdalene has one of the most atmospheric Formal Halls in Cambridge due to being completely candlelit. At Magdalene, you use the online booking system [http://meals.magd.cam.ac.uk] to reserve seats in Hall. Tickets cost around £7.35 for Magdalene students and around £11.25 for guests depending on the occasion. It is easy to change dietary requirements and view the upcoming menus online when you log in.

STUDENT LOANS
If you are a UK student, you will most likely be using Student Finance to support yourselves financially whilst you are here at university. For more details on this it is easier to check on the GOV.UK website directly at https://www.gov.uk/student-finance.

INSURANCE
To make sure all your belongings are completely safe, it is advisable to get your personal items insured. More notably, your bike, should you bring one. This can be done through the College Marshal when you arrive. It is also possible to lock your bikes in a secure, covered bike shed for £10 for the year, though there are racks which are uncovered too. For other belongings like electrical devices it is a good idea to get them insured privately.

FREE MONEY
During the year you will be notified if any travel awards or other financial awards become available to apply for within College. Income based grants are also available through the university. Search 'cam.ac.uk funding' for more information and do speak to your Tutor.
COLLEGE FACILITIES

RAMSAY HALL
The College’s cafeteria is located in Ramsay Hall next to Pepys Court and has recently undergone huge improvements. There is now a wide variety of really yummy, locally sourced food which is also relatively cheap. You can pay for your meals using your university card which you can top-up using an online prepay account (UPayChilli - which will be explained to you on arrival). It’s a social place, and often acts as a meeting point in addition to serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. The JCR work to improve standards and value for money, and a Food Committee is also in place to push for further improvements.

Opening times:
Breakfast: 8.00-9.00 am
Lunch: 12.30-1.30 pm
Dinner: 6.15-7.15 pm
Brunch (Saturday and Sunday): 10.30 am -1.30 pm

FORMAL HALL
Voted as the most atmospheric Formal Hall in Cambridge, this three-course meal is lit by candlelight and waiter-served. You can book in online until 6pm the day before. Wine can either be bought from the buttery using your University Card, or you can bring your own, in which case you will have to pay corkage of just over a pound. Formal Hall is every day at 7.30pm. You'll need to wear your gowns and smart clothes (boys in suits; girls usually in a smart skirt or dress). People often go for birthdays, celebrations or to show off to family and friends. Just don't stand up when the Fellows leave at the end!

THE BUTTERY
The Butter is situated opposite Formal Hall and sells cheap wine from the College's wine cellar, as well as other alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks; you can pay for everything with your University Card. The Butter is open every day from 6.30-8.30pm.
COOKING FACILITIES
There are various gyp rooms around Magdalene, where you can prepare some food if you're feeling peckish. Most gyp rooms will have a kettle, a toaster, two hob rings and a microwave. Any cooking facilities found in College rooms will be confiscated, though kettles are permitted. There is also a mini fridge provided in some rooms.

PORTERS’ LODGE
The nerve centre of the College and the first place to go to get whatever you need, whether it’s the key for the squash court or witty anecdotes. Affectionately abbreviated to the P’lodge, you’ll find porters here 24 hours a day. Student pigeon-holes are located here – yours is below your name. This is also where you go if you have lost your key or locked yourself out (which happens more often than you’d hope). Most rooms operate using a metal Cor-Key which will get you into the building in which you live and your room. The gates to First Court and the Village, once they have been locked at night and rooms located in Cripps are, on the other hand, accessed with your Uni ID card. If you can’t find your key, the P’lodge keeps a spare white one, although this must be returned within 20 minutes of it being taken out. If you lose your key, the cost of replacing it is around £25, so try to keep hold of yours! Outside the P’lodge there are noticeboards with details and announcements.

JCR FACILITIES
The JCR, found in First Court, contains a wide-screen TV, a DVD player, a Playstation (with Fifa… and SingStar!!) and a Sky box with subscriptions to most major channels, as well as a number of sofas and comfy chairs. There is a selection of national newspapers delivered daily, and also delivered are the two student run University newspapers – The Cambridge Student (TCS) and Varsity. Just down the corridor in Old Lodge is the pool room. This contains a pool table and table-football table, which are free of charge. This closes at midnight during exam term. There's also a table-tennis table in the Buckingham Room, at the back of the Village. To use this, you need to book out the Buckingham Room 5 days in advance and then collect the equipment from the porters before you go.
THE COLLEGE BAR
The Bar is located just to the right of First Court, and is open in the evenings from Thursday – Sunday from 7pm until closing time (11pm Thursday, 11.30pm on Friday and Saturday and 10.30pm on Sunday). It has a reasonable range of drinks and is cheaper than some of the Cambridge pubs. You can pay for your drinks using your university card, which you can top-up using an online prepay account (which will be explained to you in your first week here). The JCR usually holds a few events in the bar throughout the term, such as karaoke and pub quizzes. The bar will be used as a central hub during Freshers’ Week.

THE LIBRARY
Located in the Pepys Building at the far end of Second Court, the library is open 24 hours a day in Term time. It’s smaller than other College libraries, however, it’s definitely worth checking out before resorting to faculty libraries, and if you think there’s a core text missing for your course you can always request it through your DoS and, after a suitable delay, it’ll appear as if by magic. The library has reasonable amounts of working space, with wireless internet and a photocopier/printer in the left cloister.

SPORTS PITCHES
Magdalene shares pitches with St John’s College and most sports teams play matches and train on this area. To get there, go through the back of the Village, walk through John’s, turning right when you reach the gravel pathway, with the Backs on your left. Head out under the Archway and cross Queen’s Road to get to the pitches on the other side.

SQUASH COURT
The squash court is near C Staircase in Mallory Court. Sessions can be booked out on the noticeboards outside the P’lodge and the porters have the key.

PUNTS
The College has punts available for hire by JCR members. They can be booked with the porters at the beginning of Michaelmas Term and throughout Easter Term. They are moored on the Beach and are free of charge. If they are both booked out, Scudamore rents punts at £9 per hour from Magdalene Bridge if you show them your Uni ID card.
MAGDALENE BOAT HOUSE
Magdalene shares its boathouse with Queens’ College. It is located a short and pleasant walk down the river, along Jesus Green. Head down the walkway on Quayside and keep heading in a straight line, keeping the Cam on your left. Crossing the first main bridge you come to, the boathouse is on the left-hand side of the river. See the map in the P’lodge for more details.

GYMS
There are two well-equipped gyms in College. The first is located in the basement of Staircase C in the Lutyens Building in the Village. It has a good selection of free weights, a rowing machine, a bike and a treadmill. You’ll need an induction to use these facilities. The other gym was opened in April 2011 and is located on the 3rd floor in Cripps Court. It has treadmills, cross-trainers, a step machine, rowing machine, bikes and a selection of free weights. In order to use this gym you need to sign a form in which you agree not to damage any of the equipment but no induction is needed. You can sign this form by going to see Bob Smith, the College Marshal, at any time when he is in his office (in the Village) and he will enable your Uni ID card so that it will open the door to the gym.

LAUNDRY
The College has laundry facilities in the Lutyens Building, accessible through Benson D and E, as well as in 30 Thompson’s Lane. Should you find yourself up there, there are also facilities in Cripps Court. There are washing machines that operate at £1.40 per wash and tumble dryers that operate at 20p for 8 minutes – there’s also a change machine if you’ve only got notes, or there is a change box at the P’lodge.

MUSIC PRACTICE ROOMS
The College has a music practice room in Old Lodge and another in Cripps Court. You can apply for a practice room card at the P’lodge if you want to use the rooms: if you do, it’s worth getting it sorted within the first few weeks.

FELLOWS’ GARDEN
The Fellows’ Garden is a great place to sit outside, relax and trick yourself into thinking you’re studying during exam term. Access is via the gate at the right-hand side of the library. This is the only place in College where you’re allowed to walk on the grass! In Easter term you can also use the lawn for croquet after exams.
IMPORTANT PEOPLE

THE MASTER
Dr Rowan Williams, or as he is officially titled, Lord Williams of Oystermouth, was admitted as Master of Magdalene College in 2013. Formerly Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Williams is in charge of all things Magdalene and in many ways is our very own Dumbledore! He is the chair of the Governing Body of the College, and you will probably see him in Formal Hall, in Chapel or just generally pottering about the place. In your first few weeks you will be invited to meet him and his wife in the Master’s Lodge for lunch, so do go along!

THE GOVERNING BODY
The Governing Body consists of the Master and Senior Fellows. They exercise overall authority over the College, govern the College in accordance with its Statutes and take all major decisions on behalf of the College regarding its strategic position, financial matters, education and learning policy, and deal with wayward students! The Governing Body is assisted by a number of committees comprised of Fellows, Senior College Staff and student representatives covering all aspects of the College’s interests.

THE SENIOR TUTOR
Dr Stuart Martin has overall responsibility for the welfare of undergraduates at Magdalene and leads the tutorial team. He has his own tutorial group, and is also the Director of Studies in Mathematics. You will receive e-mails from him and his PA about various matters throughout your time in Magdalene.

THE TUTORS
Every student at Magdalene is assigned a Tutor from a different subject area to whom they can turn for confidential advice and support if they encounter difficulties that are not purely academic. You are required to meet your Tutor at the end of every term to sign your exeat form, confirming that you have met the University’s residence requirements, and also giving you the opportunity to discuss anything that is troubling you or just to talk about how the term has gone. You will meet your Tutor in Freshers’ Week, where he/she will explain their role to you in more detail.
THE BURSARS
The Senior Bursar, Steven Morris, is responsible for the financial management of the College. The College also has an Assistant Bursar, Helen Foord, who manages College facilities and Georgina Rose, the Accommodation Coordinator, who manages our residential accommodation.

THE DEAN
The Dean of College, Dr Jones, is responsible for maintaining good order in the College and for the discipline of undergraduate members. If you break any serious College rules, then you will be subjected to the wrath of the Dean! The College Marshal deals with minor discipline issues.

DIRECTOR OF STUDIES (DoS)
Your DoS will be a Fellow in your subject area, and is your first point of contact for all academic queries. They are almost always based in Magdalene, but for smaller subjects he/she may be a fellow at another College. You will have a fair amount of contact with them on a regular basis and they will arrange meetings at the beginning and end of every term to monitor your progress. They will also arrange your supervisions, so do speak to them if these cause you any problems. In some cases, they may even supervise you directly.

THE COLLEGE MARSHAL
Bob Smith, the College Marshal, is in many ways the Head Porter. He is a very welcoming, friendly chap, except when he is dealing with student discipline! If you have brought a bicycle, you should meet with Bob in Freshers' Week so that he can register it with the College for storage and protection in case of theft. He will explain his role in more detail to you during his health and safety presentation in Freshers' Week.

THE PORTERS
Dressed in snazzy waistcoats and Magdalene ties, the Porters are some of the most important people in keeping Magdalene’s cogs turning! They handle mail, take messages, act as gatekeepers, and control the issuing of keys within College. If you have a query or problem, they can generally point you in the right direction. You will soon find out that they have their own quirky sense of humour that comes alive when you have locked yourself out of your room wearing a towel!
HOUSEKEEPERS
The Housekeepers are responsible for cleaning, disposing of waste and the provision of furniture in all College rooms. They do not clean student rooms during term time, except if you are lucky enough to end up with an en-suite room, where they will clean your bathroom weekly. (Communal bathrooms and gyp rooms are cleaned everyday though).

THE COMPUTER OFFICE
The College Computer Officer is Nigel Hawkes, and Mark Reed and Usman Zia-Ul-Haq assist him. They are responsible for maintaining the College’s internet services, and can help you with any problems you have with networking, College computers in the library and computer rooms and to configure a wireless router or your PC to the network. They can be found in Benson E3, or you can contact them by email: computer.office@magd.cam.ac.uk

THE COLLEGE NURSE
The College Nurse is available to see students on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday's from 9.40am-12.40pm and Thursdays during term between 8.20am-11.20 in the sickbay in Bright’s Building (just past the entrance to Ramsay). She can be contacted by telephone if you are too unwell to see her; her number is 01223 891141. She can contact your Doctor if you are seriously unwell. Outside her working hours, do contact the porters, as they will be able to point you in the right direction.

THE CHAPLAIN
The Rev’d Nick Widdows is the College Chaplain and, as well as being responsible for organising worship in College, he is also concerned with the wellbeing of everybody, regardless of their beliefs. He is available each day for students to talk to him about anything, or even just for a cup of tea! You will receive an invitation to meet with him for lunch in the Parlour during Freshers’ Week.
THE JCR

At Magdalene we have an elected body of undergraduate students within college known as the JCR Committee. They liaise with the senior members of college, voicing the concerns and thoughts of the entire undergraduate student body, seeking to improve all aspects of the college itself and of college life. Find out more about this year’s elected from our website (http://jcr.magd.cam.ac.uk/committee). Part of your Freshers’ Rep’s job is to ensure that all your issues, thoughts and feelings that you wish to raise with college are communicated, heard and acted upon.

SUBJECT REPS

Each subject has a representative that will show you round your respective departments during your first week and answer any questions you may have that are specific to your course. They are mostly second years and can all be contacted through your Freshers’ Rep Matthew Rowlands (msr44@cam.ac.uk).
CLUBS & SOCIETIES

RUGBY
College rugby is both fantastically competitive and well organised, whilst being a great opportunity to play with friends. We have a mixed squad of experienced and novice players so we welcome and encourage anyone to sign up, regardless of experience. Last year the team was remarkably successful winning the Cuppers Shield and are aiming to emulate this success this year. The end of season rugby dinner is also a spectacular occasion and is enough to convince anyone to sign up. Feel free to get in touch with this year’s captain Matthew Rowlands (msr44@cam.ac.uk) and get excited for the annual Magdalene-Magdalen (Oxford) match!

ROWING
Rowing is traditionally a hugely popular sport at Cambridge. Magdalene Boat Club welcomes people of all abilities - novice or experienced, rowers and coxes. There will be a Boat Club ‘squash’ at the beginning of Term as well as a ‘Boatie Bar Crawl’ where you can learn more about rowing, coxing and MBC. Check out the Magdalene Boat Club Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/magdaleneboatclub) to find out more or contact James Richardson (jr676@cam.ac.uk) if you’d like to get involved!

FOOTBALL
A fun, social team that takes very little seriously, including the football. All welcome – we train weekly and have fixtures against other colleges, and have recently moved up to the next division due to their excellent matches this year! Get in touch with Harry Robson (hr390@cam.ac.uk) and Shota Motohashi (sm2231@cam.ac.uk) (Men’s Captains) for more details or Ellen Harris (Ladies’ Captain) (eh556@cam.ac.uk).
CRICKET
With about as much organisation as the Australian cricket team and a little less talent, Magdalene’s cricket team provides that ray of sunlight during the strains of exam term. We have relatively relaxed net sessions a couple of times a week, plus matches. Girls also welcome to come to nets/training. There is a wide range of skill level meaning that anybody is welcome, and the Magdalene-Magdalen (Oxford) annual cricket match promises a day of frivolity. For those keener men in white there may even be the possibility of winter nets. Contact Louis Elton (le307@cam.ac.uk) or Sam Robson (sr754@cam.ac.uk) for more details!

MIXED NETBALL
Mixed Netball has thrived in the last couple of seasons. Our relaxed playing style, questionable tactics and enthusiasm with facepaint has seen us move up the divisions over the last 3 years. No netballing talent required. It’s always a popular choice for freshers and oldies alike wanting to do a little bit of casual sport, with zero commitment! Feel free to get in touch with this year’s captain Tristan Lee (tl436@cam.ac.uk). Or get in touch with Riona Kelly (rek45@cam.ac.uk) for women’s netball!

MIXED LACROSSE
Come and join the Magdalene Sitting Dragons, undoubtedly the most exciting sports club in College! With our love of purple facepaint and our incredibly designed stash, we welcome Magdalenites of all abilities to come and join in for some fun in the fresh air. Post-game cakes/doughnuts are always a given too! Feel free to get in touch with Kit Baker (cb909@cam.ac.uk) if you want to get involved!

MIXED HOCKEY
Magdalene runs a mixed team through both Michaelmas and Lent. It is very relaxed, with the team playing matches once a week and there being no training. It’s a brilliant way to meet loads of great people and socialise across different years. Whether you are a superstar hockey whiz or a complete novice, definitely sign up! Feel free to get in touch with Niamh Ryan (nar51@cam.ac.uk) or Sam Ashbridge (sjma2@cam.ac.uk).

BADMINTON
Badminton at College takes a more laid back approach, with practice during the week and several league matches a term. Anyone is welcome, regardless of standard and as always there is also the temptation of stash.
**TENNIS**
Once the sun comes out, or at least the rain abates in Easter Term, the tennis players come out to play. We have both a men’s’ and a women’s’ team with weekly training sessions. We welcome any newcomers to join and have a bit of fun. Contact Jack Long-Martinez (jl893@cam.ac.uk) for more details.

**SQUASH**
For the casual enthusiast to the more serious players, Magdalene squash caters for all. We play in the University leagues and in-College matches at our Magdalene court can be booked at the Porters’ Lodge who can also lend you rackets. Contact Seb Burgess for more information, sb2034@cam.ac.uk.

**SWIMMING**
Fun and low commitment, we welcome swimmers of all standards whether you're a current competitive swimmer, haven't raced in years or swim for fun - email Sophie Canham sic23@cam.ac.uk!

**ATHLETICS**
Athletics at Magdalene welcomes all from sprinting to long-distance, or shotput to pole vaulting! Contact Alistair Stanley (as2392@cam.ac.uk) for more info.

**VOLLEYBALL**
We have a thriving and enthusiastic volleyball team at Magdalene - what we lack in talent/knowledge of the rules we make up for in Top-Gun celebrations, aviators and passion! The action occurs mainly during Easter Term, when we compete in the Cuppers competition in beach volleyball, played by mixed teams of six people (played, of course on grass!) It's a great chance to have some fun and procrastinate during exam term, so please come along and give it a go! Contact Heather Rigby (hsr26@cam.ac.uk) to find out more.

**BASKETBALL**
Magdalene’s basketball team joins with Fitzwilliam College: we train once a week and have league matches in Michaelmas and Lent. Magd/Fitz basketball has been doing well as of late, maintaining our position in the second division. Nevertheless, all are welcome! We look to involve as many as possible, bringing out potential in all players in their respective capacity, and emphasising team spirit in the process. Much like the San Antonio Spurs, the end-goal is good basketball! Contact Danny Baalbaki (dmb80@cam.ac.uk) if you’d like to get involved.

**ULTIMATE FRISBEE**
The New Thundercatz is the Ultimate frisbee team for students of Magdalene College as well as others. It is a fast-paced, exciting team game played with a flying disc and no referee, depending on the friendly spirit of the game to settle disputes according to the rules. We have training sessions once a week and play a match every weekend in the College league, a mildly competitive and super-friendly league that runs throughout term time. It’s designed to be accessible to beginners while still fun for intermediate players so even if you’ve never held a disc before don’t worry, there’s plenty of chance to improve your skills, in a low-commitment, welcoming environment. Contact Captains Sean Herron (sth30@cam.ac.uk) or Jackson...
Woodruff (jcw78@cam.ac.uk) if you’d like to be involved!

SKIING
Magdalene does not currently offer a college ski trip, however there is a University wide ski trip known as Varsity Skiing, which collaborates with Oxford University and is a really great time. It would be great to get a large freshers contingent this year and so if you’re interested please contact this year’s Magdalene Ski Rep Sophia Ponte (slcp2@cam.ac.uk) or join the Varsity Ski Trip Facebook Page - https://www.facebook.com/groups/541173789333715/.

TABLE TENNIS
Magdalene puts out two table tennis teams into the university leagues, playing weekly during Full Term and we are always looking out for new players, so feel free to come along!

POOL
We’re lucky enough to have our own college pool table so it’s super easy to go along at any point and have a game with some friends before heading to the college bar for some refreshments afterwards! If you want to join the pool team please contact Edwin Balani (eb677@cam.ac.uk).

CHESS
Chess is a burgeoning sport at Magdalene having only completed its third year, but has already risen from the depths of Division 4 to the dizzy heights of Division 1 in the University league as well as reaching the final of the Cuppers Plate in 2008. But as a new team we are always on the lookout for new players, so if anybody is interested please get in touch.

DRAMA SOC
Drama at magdalene has reached to new heights in the last few years with a number of students taking part in big productions both at Magdalene and at university level. If you have any questions about how to get my involved at any level contact Lily Lindon (lfl24@cam.ac.uk).

MUSIC SOCIETY
Magdalene music society welcomes all musicians from all genres to get to know each other, to share their talent with others, and to perform at our informal concerts throughout the year. Get in touch with Aditya Chander (ac888@cam.ac.uk) for more details!

MUSICAL SOCIETY
The Magdalene musical takes place once a year in Lent term. MMPS is the society that makes the magic happen! We have garnered an excellent reputation for putting on fantastic productions year after year: recent highlights include ‘Anything Goes’ (2016), 'Godspell' (2015 – 4* from Varsity, 3* from the Tab), ‘Guys & Dolls’ (2014 – 4* from Varsity, strong 2.1 from The Tab), ‘Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat’ (2013 - 4* from Varsity, 8/10 TCS). Get in touch with Joanna Cheng (jc950@cam.ac.uk) for more details about how to get involved in what is a really fun society that welcomes all!
ARS MAGNA
Ars Magna is the College’s arts magazine. If you’d like to get involved in any way, be it via articles, photographs, art, theatre reviews or creative writing, embrace your creative side and contact Loic Desplanques (ld468@cam.ac.uk) or Catja Hamilton (crh60@cam.ac.uk).

OXCAM
Magdalene’s Oxfam representative is Rebecca Halbach (rh607@cam.ac.uk) so if you have any questions or want to get involved please drop her a message.

CHRISTIAN UNION
Magdalene College Christian Union is a group of students, from different years, nationalities and subjects which exists to make Jesus Christ known in Magdalene College. We meet in College every Wednesday evening from 6-7pm to chat, read and learn from the Bible and pray together, which equips and encourages us to tell our friends in College about Jesus. Every Friday at 8 til 8.45am we have breakfast together and pray for each other and our friends. We are part of CICCU, the university-wide Christian Union which also holds some great meetings and events, such as Central (every Saturday afternoon), Friday Lunchtime Talks and Compass Cafe (Friday evening). We go to a variety of different churches in Cambridge, and we would love to help you find a church that suits you during your time as a student. Wherever you’re from; whether you’re Christian, Atheist, from another religious background or just curious, we would love to meet you! You are more than welcome to come along to any of our meetings and events or if you have any questions please feel free to contact Susannah Williams via Facebook!
OUT & ABOUT

RESTAURANTS & CAFES
We have many restaurants here in Cambridge ranging from very posh (such as Midsummer House which has 2 Michelin stars and is probably out of a uni budget price range...) to not so posh (Curry King and Sesame come to mind, hot destinations for swaps!) and covering a wide range of cuisines. Some places do student discounts such as Wildwood, just a few doors down from Basing which does takeaway cheap pizzas, Nanna Mex £5 student deal on a Monday, Thaikun, to name just a few! Cafes are pretty well represented in Cambridge too, providing great study locations in Easter term or providing a nice escape from the fast pace of University life.

PUBS & CLUBS
There are plenty of pubs in Cambridge, including the Pickerel Inn ('The Pick') [Contact Jack Bowskill (jb2041@cam.ac.uk) for more details] that is so close, it might as well be a part of Magdalene! We also have a few cocktail bars such as Las Iguanas (right on our doorstep), The Vaults, La Raza, Novi... etc., which have a Happy Hour on different nights of the week. There are four main clubs in Cambridge, which have different nights. They are very popular and each have different styles: Ballare (which we all call ‘Cindies’, is big on Tuesdays and Wednesdays), Kuda (which we all call 'Life', is the place to go on Sundays), Fez (Propaganda on Fridays) and Lola Lo (i.e. Lola’s, on Thursdays).

THE CAMBRIDGE UNION
The Cambridge Union is the oldest debating society in the world as well as being the largest student society in Cambridge. Over the past year, the Union has hosted countess inspiring speakers including Senator Bernie Sanders, Stephen Fry and Mary Berry while tackling key issues within our society such as mental health, the rise of social media as well as the threat of modern culture to democracy. Please contact Jade Charles for more information.
**BOPS**

These are parties within College twice a term where we all dress up according to a theme and then have what is effectively a school disco in Ramsay Hall, with a DJ and unlimited ‘Bop Juice.’ You’ll get your first experience of this on the Friday during Freshers’ Week… Bring your best fancy dress.
## A CAMBRIDGE GLOSSARY

<p>| <strong>Basing</strong> | Block of Freshers’ student accommodation on Quayside. Strategic location right above Prezzo. But beware, more likely than not you’ll be asked by promoters, “Would you like to go punting?” every other day! |
| <strong>Beach</strong> | Area of grass next to Benson O, situated beside the river. One of the best places for chilling or a picnic whenever the weather is nice, especially in Summer after Tripos! |
| <strong>Benson</strong> | The name of some student accommodation found in the Village, refer to the map in this guide. |
| <strong>Blue</strong> | A sporting award received for representing Cambridge in a match against Oxford. Full, Half or Quarter Blues available. Ownership entitles holder to entry into the Hawks or Ospreys club if you’re a man or woman respectively. |
| <strong>Boaties</strong> | Colloquial term for rowers. Amongst their other skills, we probably admire them most for their ability to wake up at 6 in the morning when even 9 AM lectures seem impossible. |
| <strong>Boat House</strong> | Second home to boaties (see above). Magdalene shares a boathouse with Queen’s College, just next to LMBC, the boat club of St John’s College. |
| <strong>Bop</strong> | Themed disco held in College at the start and end of every term. Entry is but a mere £5, but guarantees unlimited drinks, fun, and laughter (mostly at the ridiculous outfits). |
| <strong>Buckingham</strong> | Another block of College student accommodation, on the far right hand side of the village. |
| <strong>Ceasarian Sunday</strong> | The last Sunday of drinking before exams, normally in May, and before the clubs close for a month! |</p>
<table>
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<tr>
<th>College Families</th>
<th>A great opportunity for inter-year bonding. Even if you don’t get College married, you can still form a family with a couple of friends and take in a few freshers as your ‘children’ to help them settle into College. Ideally, families should meet regularly and provide support throughout the year, not just at Freshers’ Week!</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cripps</td>
<td>Magdalene’s newest accommodation building located on Chesterton Lane. Also has a gym, music room, several conference rooms, and a large multi-purpose amphitheatre.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRSid</td>
<td>Your initials and some numbers combined to give you your username for the university’s online Raven services, as well as your Hermes Webmail address (see below).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cuppers</td>
<td>An annual intercollegiate sporting competition.</td>
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<td>CUSU</td>
<td>The University-wide Student Union. Important for representing student views at a national level. Also provides an array of services for students as well as publishing a weekly newspaper, The Cambridge Student.</td>
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| DoS              | i. Shorthand for ‘Director of Studies’.  
ii. The person who is the head of your subject in College. Your DoS arranges supervisions for you and receives feedback from supervisors. |
| Formal Hall      | A formal 3-course meal served in College. Magdalene proudly serves the only fully candle-lit formal. Prices are extremely affordable at £7.35 for College members and £11.25 for guests. |
| Gown             | Black knee length garment, each College having their own version. Worn to formal occasions such as matriculation, graduation, but most often at Formal Hall! |
| Hermes Webmail | The University’s email service, and the method by which staff and societies will contact you. Should be checked several times a day. Be prepared for the initial influx of emails after your overzealous day signing up for every possible society at the Freshers’ Fair. |
| JCR | i. The collective name for the undergraduate body of students in Magdalene.  
ii. The committee elected from the JCR body to represent their views and interests. 
iii. A common room, consisting of a TV, a DVD player, a Playstation and some sofas. |
| Jesus Green | Large grassy area very close to Magdalene. Another fantastic area for chilling out with friends. Some sports such as frisbee and lacrosse also convene here for practice. |
| Lutyens Building | The large red-brick building straight ahead when you enter the Village. Not only is it the location of Benson A to E, it also houses laundry facilities, a gym, the IT and the housing department. |
| Mallory Court | More accommodation in the Village, in the form of several small houses. |
| May Week | Ironically, a week in June to relax after everyone has finished Tripos exams. This is when events such as ‘May Balls’ and Garden Parties take place. These are mostly events of extravagance (and, unfortunately, overindulgence.) |
| Newton | The name of the University’s online library search facility. Used to identify where books required for essay-writing are held. |
| Oxford | i. Second-rate academic institution, inferior to Cambridge in every way. 
ii. Known as ‘the other place’. |
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<th>Term</th>
<th>Description</th>
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| P'Lodge               | i. An abbreviation of Porters' Lodge, typically pronounced as a single word. The place where you can find mail in your pigeon holes  
                          ii. A useful meeting point.                                                                                                             |
| Punting               | i. Progress (often slow) down the Cam in a low-lying wooden boat, propelled solely by a large stick, driven from the back (not from the front – that’s how they do it in The Other Place).  
                          ii. Punting tours are a very touristy affair, but self-punting can be very fun, provided you don’t fall in! |
| Sex on the Beach      | The college bar’s finest cocktail.                                                                                                          |
| Stash                 | Items of clothing, often in the form of hoodies or tracksuit bottoms, purchased and/or awarded for participation in a particular College or University sports team, club or society. Constitutes a considerable part of any Cambridge students’ wardrobe, particularly that of rowers. |
| Supervision           | Typically a one-hour session with supervisors to meet and discuss the work you have done for the work. Warning: Intense work and preparation required. |
| Swap                  | A typical swap is a group of boys from one College going for a meal with some girls from another, though they can also be mixed groups. Going on a swap is a great way to meet people from other colleges, and also to sample other colleges’ formal hall! |
| Thompson’s Lane       | More accommodation, accessible by Quayside and Thompson’s Lane. The closest Magdalene accommodation to the heart of Cambridge city! |
| Tripos | i. A word feared by most, if not all, students at Cambridge.  
  ii. The official name for a degree in Cambridge, but usually used colloquially to refer to the Tripos examinations.  
  iii. An old-fashioned three-legged stool, from which the degree course takes its name. |
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<td>Tutor</td>
<td>The person in charge of your College pastoral care during your time in the university.</td>
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| UL     | i. Shorthand for University Library. Contains a copy of every book ever published in the UK.  
  ii. Its sheer size and grandeur make it worth a visit even if you don’t require books from the library. |
| Union  | The famous Cambridge debating society formed in 1815. Membership is pricey, but lasts for lifetime and allows one to attend talks and debates by world-renowned speakers, as well as quality events (Yoga or cocktail making classes, anyone?) |
| Varsity| The name commonly given to a sporting match between Oxford and Cambridge. Participation required to gain a Blue (see above). |
| Village| The side of Magdalene opposite the Porters’ Lodge where most of the student accommodation is located. |