<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENTS</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statement from the Freshers’ Rep</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On Arrival</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essentials to Bring</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Information</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Facilities</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Important People</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clubs &amp; Societies</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out &amp; About</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Cambridge Glossary</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Magdalene Offer Holders,

Hi! We're Fran and Felix, second year English, and Spanish and Arabic students respectively, and we're your Magdalene Freshers’ Reps for 2021. We're responsible for helping freshers settle into College life and for doing everything possible to organise a great Freshers’ Week.

We are aware of how hard the pandemic has been for everyone, but are pleased to say we are organising Freshers’ Week with the expectation of normal conditions. This will hopefully include all the stipends of a typical Freshers’ Week with club nights and more subdued quiz or family nights in equal measure.

Hopefully this guide will give you a taste of college life and help you pack and prepare for your arrival. Having said that, if you do have any questions at all please do not hesitate to message either of us by email, Facebook or Instagram. Please also drop us a message if you would like to be added to the offer holders’ group chat.

We look forward to meeting and welcoming you all to the best college in Cambridge soon!

Best wishes,

Fran and Felix

Emails: fas45@cam.ac.uk / ftm24@cam.ac.uk
Insta: @fransouthwood / @fm788
Facebook: Fran Southwood / Felix Matheson
ON ARRIVAL

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. 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 will be advised closer to the time the procedure for arriving at College and collecting your key.

ESSENTIALS TO BRING

MONEY
Cambridge is a busy place with lots of events for you to go to and stash for you to buy. Therefore, it’s a really good idea to sort out your online banking before you get here – remember there are loads of great student bank accounts available, all offering different freebies and benefits, so do your research! Another top tip is to bring a small amount of cash with you for Freshers’ Week as it will save you the walk (albeit short!) to Sainsbury’s to get money out to sign up for various events.

FLOATING SOCKETS (FOUR-WAY)
Particularly with some of the older rooms in College, the plugs can be in really weird places so these are a godsend to ensure you can charge your devices in the optimal position (next to your bed of course!)

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

STATIONERY
You 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. Don’t worry too much though as you can easily buy more in Cambridge, from stationers including Rymans, Staples and Paperchase.
ROOM INVENTORY
Please refer to the Accommodation Handbook for information about your room inventory including items such as bed linen and kettles, as well as regulations on any decorative items such as posters.

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. Also, remember not to bring candles as you will not be allowed these in your room. However, if you still want your room to smell nice, a reed diffuser is a great option!

COAT HANGERS
Remember to bring some with you as the College does not provide them.

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 Wi-Fi router which can be bought from the College. However, there is a strong Wi-Fi 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 Computing Facilities Guide. The library also has Wi-Fi 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 Road, 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.
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. One of the requirements in obtaining your degree at Cambridge is to “keep term”, and you can find further information about this in the Undergraduate Student Guide.

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 here: https://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 (Plodge 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
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 some money saved up for this week to allow yourself to join in with 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 always make sure to 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 £40 (these will be on sale in Freshers’ Week). 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.

FORMAL HALL
Another great part of Cambridge is the opportunity to attend formal dinners provided 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 [www.meals.magd.cam.ac.uk] to reserve seats in Hall. Tickets cost around £8.50 and £14 for a guest. It is easy to change dietary requirements and view the upcoming menus online when you log in.

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

HANDBOOK AND GUIDES
For further information on cooking, laundry, music and garden facilities please refer to the Accommodation Handbook and the Undergraduate Student Guide available on the College website.

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 two pounds. You’ll need to wear your gown and smart clothes (suits or smart skirt/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 Buttery 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.

**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 Plodge, 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, although some of the newer rooms use your university ID card. 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 Plodge keeps a spare white one. If you lose your key, there is a fee to replace it, so try to keep hold of yours! Outside the Plodge there are notice boards with details and announcements.

**JCR FACILITIES**
The JCR, found in First Court, contains a wide-screen TV, a DVD player 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 is a student run University newspaper – *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 LIBRARY**
We have three libraries in Magdalene: the New Library, located to the left of the far end of Second Court, the Pepys Library, in the Pepys building nearby, and the Old Library in First Court. The New Library is open 24 hours a day in Term time. It was completed in 2021, is enormous and is an environment that is very conducive to work. If you think there's a core text missing for your course in the library, you can always request it through your DoS and, after a suitable delay, it’ll appear as if by magic. The New Library has lots of working space, with private, sound-proofed rooms, wireless internet and a photocopier/printer.
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, and 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 notice boards outside the Plodge 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 from Magdalene Bridge with a discount for students 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 Plodge 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 Ryan Carter the Head Porter, 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.

**IMPORTANT PEOPLE**

**THE MASTER**

Professor Sir Christopher Greenwood is the Master of Magdalene College. A graduate of Magdalene College, where he was also a Fellow and more recently Honorary Fellow, Sir Christopher was the first person in his immediate family to go to university. Some of his achievements include: serving as a judge at the International Court of Justice, becoming Professor of International Law at LSE as well as his career as a barrister, regularly appearing as counsel before many tribunals, including the International Court of Justice, the European Court of Human Rights and the English courts.
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 teaching and welfare of undergraduates at Magdalene and leads the Academic Office. He has his own tutorial group, and is also a Director of Studies in Mathematics for the first two years. You may receive e-mails from him and the Academic Office staff 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 Susannah Roberts, the Accommodation Coordinator, who manages our residential accommodation.

THE DEAN
The Dean of College Dr Neil Jones(MT) and Dr Antje du Bois-Pedain (LT, ET) 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 Head Porter 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 HEAD PORTER**

Ryan Carter is 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 Ryan 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.

**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!

**THE ACADEMIC OFFICE**

The Academic Office is managed by Cei Whitehouse, the Academic Registrar. The Academic Office is the first point of contact for undergraduate students and we have an Undergraduate Tutorial Administrator to provide support. If you have any queries, please email tutorial@magd.cam.ac.uk or call 01223 760548.

**HANDBOOKS AND GUIDES**

For further information on the Housekeeping Department and the Computer Office, please refer to the Accommodation Handbook and the Computing Facilities Guide.

**THE COLLEGE NURSE**

The College Nurse, Taryn Rothwell, is available to see students during term in the Health Centre in Benson Court F1. She can be contacted by telephone if you are too unwell to see her; her number is 01223 330205. 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. For additional information, please see: [https://www.magd.cam.ac.uk/magnet/students/college-nurse](https://www.magd.cam.ac.uk/magnet/students/college-nurse)
THE CHAPLAIN

The College Chaplain is Sarah Atkins who, as well as being responsible for organising worship in College, is also concerned with the wellbeing of everybody, regardless of their beliefs. She is available each day for students to talk to her about anything, or even just for a cup of tea!

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 committee from our website (https://www.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’ Reps.
CLUBS & SOCIETIES

ROWING
Rowing is traditionally a hugely popular sport at Cambridge. Magdalene Boat Club welcomes people of all abilities - novice or experienced, rowers and coxes. Check out the Magdalene Boat Club Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/magdaleneboatclub) to find out more and if you’d like to get involved!

RUGBY UNION
College Rugby at Magdalene strikes the right balance between competition and fun! All abilities are welcome and even those who have never before picked up the oval balloon should definitely come along and get involved (everyone will get a game). If the idea of contact rugby doesn't appeal, the season starts with some warm-up touch fixtures to ease you in. We are hoping for a repeat of last season's huge fresher turnout and can promise loads of (subsidised) socials for those eager to cross those white lines and step upon the field of dreams.

Get in touch with this year's skipper Jamie Lamb (jbcl2@cam.ac.uk) with any questions.

FOOTBALL
After a strong season of consolidation in the division, the College Football Team is ready to challenge for some major honours. Some would say we play like Barcelona, others would say Barnet FC. No matter the ability, as long as you play with heart, passion and desire, you’re welcome to join our
weekly training sessions and matches. Sessions are very chilled (except for the odd two-footer) and we are hoping for lots of socials this year to make up for last year.

Feel free to message either of our captains, Felix “El Niño” Matheson (ftm24@cam.ac.uk) or Joey “Adel Taraabt” Dalton (jrd61@cam.ac.uk) for more info or to join our group chat. See you next season!

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. Women are 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.

MIXED NETBALL
Mixed Netball has thrived in the last couple of seasons. Our relaxed playing style, questionable tactics and enthusiasm with face paint has seen us move up the divisions over the last three 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 Fran Ozog (fo275@cam.ac.uk) if you’re keen to get involved!

MIXED LACROSSE
Come and join the Magdalene Sitting Dragons, undoubtedly the most exciting sports club in College! With our love of purple face paint 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!
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 Jovan (jd879@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. Tim Tian (zt247@cam.ac.uk) is captain this year.

TENNIS
Magdalene Lawn Tennis Club is known to be a friendly, sociable and forward-looking community that supports both budding talents and enthusiastic rookies. We always go big at the inter-college level League and Cuppers matches but also organise more chilled friendly matches both outside and within the club, so there is something here for everyone. In addition to the weekly two-hour club-organised sessions, we have an experienced external coach doing a fortnightly session for those who not only enjoy tennis for fun but also want to improve it to a higher level. Outside the courts, we have at least one tennis social every term to connect everyone in the community. Feel free to contact Tim Tian (zt247@cam.ac.uk) and follow Magdalene College Lawn Tennis Club on Facebook for further information.
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 which can be booked at the Porters’ Lodge where you can also borrow rackets. Feel free to contact Anna Knight (aek57@cam.ac.uk) for more information.

ETON FIVES
Magdalene College Eton Fives Club hosts training sessions and casual games at the college's own Eton fives court. It's a fun, fast-paced sport (like squash but with gloves) and most people have never heard of it till they get here, so no experience is needed to have a go! The club is open to all. Get in touch with Abraham Alsalihi (aofa2@cam.ac.uk) for more info.

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.

ATHLETICS
Athletics at Magdalene welcomes all from sprinting to long-distance, or shot-put to pole vaulting!

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!
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!

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.

SKIING
The University wide ski trip known as Varsity Skiing, which collaborates with Oxford University, 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 Jess Reeve (jhr54@cam.ac.uk) and join the Varsity Ski Trip Facebook Page https://www.facebook.com/groups/541173789333715/.

Ski you there!!

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!
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. If anybody is interested please get in touch.

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.

CHRISTIAN UNION
Magdalene Christian Union (CU) is a place for everyone, whether you are a Christian, exploring faith, or you just want to meet new people in a relaxed setting. We're a welcoming community, supporting each other while also looking outward with the good news of the gospel! We meet every Wednesday and Friday for Bible studies, prayer and, of course, food and fun!
CU leaders: Aiste Mizgeryte (am2894@cam.ac.uk), Lydia Pike (lp574@cam.ac.uk)

VOXSOC (Magdalene Vocal Society)
VoxSoc is Magdalene's friendly non-auditioning choir and welcomes anybody with any level of singing experience. We typically have a varied repertoire from popular favourites and close harmony arrangements to folk songs, madrigals and more. Previously, VoxSoc has put on one concert a term: a Christmas concert in Michaelmas, a collaboration with other Cambridge groups in Lent, and a ‘Concert on the Beach’ to round off the year in Easter. If you are interested in joining a friendly group that emphasises the social side of singing, please get in touch!
Directors: Matt Bryan (mjb314@cam.ac.uk) & Cameran Johal (cvsj2@cam.ac.uk)

POLSOC
Hello Freshers! We hope you’re settling in well at Magdalene and welcome to the Magdalene Politics Society. At Magdalene PolSoc we host a variety of events, from relaxed debates and discussions, to hosting guest speakers, and publishing the Magdalenite Political Journal. We would love to see your faces around and please feel free to contact us! – Taka Hemley (th600@cam.ac.uk), Harry White (hrw49@cam.ac.uk)

THE FLEAPIT
Though welcoming students from any college, Magdalene is lucky enough to be home to The Fleapit, and arts society running jazz evenings, film seasons, poetry readings and a famous annual exhibition. For more information about the society, events, or The Fleapit ethos, email Archie Sutherland Hamerton (ah2079@cam.ac.uk).
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 Lotus Thai 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, – just to name 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’) that might as well be a part of Magdalene it’s so close! Other good pubs include the Baron of Beef, The Waterman (outdoor screens) and The Cambridge Brew House. Always good to book if you plan on going on a Friday or Saturday (at least during Covid times it was). 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. Spoons is about a 15 minute walk from the college.

The main clubs in Cambridge are Mash, Vinyl (i.e. Life) and Lola's, which are central, and then The Missing Sock which is outside of the city but still very good. You will get to know these well during Freshers’ Week. Revolution (Revs) is also a good night out.

Near the station, Junction has big events and concerts, e.g. Shy FX did a set there in the Summer of 2021.

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 countless inspiring speakers including Stephen Fry, Bryan Cranston and Jamie Laing, 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.

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. (See below... )
## A Cambridge Glossary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basing</td>
<td>Block of 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!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beach</td>
<td>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!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benson</td>
<td>The name of some student accommodation found in the Village, refer to the map in this guide.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boaties</td>
<td>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 9am lectures seem impossible.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boat House</td>
<td>Second home to boaties (see above). Magdalene shares a boathouse with Queens’ College, just next to LMBC, the boat club of St John’s College.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bop</td>
<td>Themed disco held in College at the start and end of every term. Entry is cheap, but guarantees unlimited drinks, fun, and laughter (mostly at the ridiculous outfits and the text in wall).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buckingham</td>
<td>Another block of College student accommodation, on the far right hand side of the village.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caesarian Sunday (C-SUNDAY)</td>
<td>The last Sunday of drinking (for some) before exams, normally in May, and before the clubs close for a month!</td>
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<tr>
<td>College Families</td>
<td>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!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cripps</strong></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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CRSId</strong></td>
<td>Your initials and some numbers combined to give you your username for the University’s online Raven services.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cuppers</strong></td>
<td>An annual intercollegiate sporting competition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CUSU</strong></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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</tbody>
</table>
| **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 £14, much less than other colleges |
| **Gardies** | The best place for food after a night out. (Followed closely by the Van of Life) |
| **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! |
| **Outlook** | 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. |
| **iDiscover** | The name of the University’s online library search facility. Used to identify where books required for essay-writing are held. |
| **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 |
<p>| <strong>Jesus Green</strong> | 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. |</p>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Lutyens Building</strong></th>
<th>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 Housekeeping Departments.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mallory Court</strong></td>
<td>More accommodation in the Village, in the form of several small houses.</td>
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<td><strong>May Week</strong></td>
<td>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 occasionally… overindulgence.)</td>
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</table>
| **Oxford**          | i. Second-rate academic institution, inferior to Cambridge in every way.  
ii. Known as ‘the other place’ or ‘O*ford’.                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| **Plodge**          | 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!                                                                                                                                         |
| **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. 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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<tr>
<td>Tutor</td>
<td>The person in charge of your College pastoral care during your time in the University.</td>
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</table>
| 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 a 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. |