



Christ's College Cambridge



Christ's JCR

Freshers'
Guide

2016

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Welcome to Christ's!

You're coming to Cambridge!! We hope you're excited! We are **Sam and Nancy**, your first year representatives (better known as fresher reps). We are second year students who sit on the JCR (the college's elected student body- see <http://www.thejcr.co.uk>). Our job is to make sure that your first few weeks at Cambridge go as smoothly as possible. We can't wait to meet you all and show you the ropes! We have also organised what we hope will be a really fun freshers' week for you! Please take a look at the enclosed timetable for the week and have a think about planning your fancy dress costume!

If you have any questions or worries about Cambridge, Christ's or starting university generally before you arrive or during your first term, we will be your first port of call. Don't hesitate to drop us an **email** (firstyearrep@thejcr.co.uk) or reach us via **Facebook message** (our full names are below). We love to chat and we're really excited to get to know you! Remember, no query is too small or silly.



Within this pack you *should find two letters*; these are your first introductions to the wonderful world of college families. One of the letters has been written by your college parents. Your (new!) parents are second years who study different subjects to you and are your guides to everything non-academic at Christ's. The other letter is from your college sibling. Your sibling will be a second year who also studies your subject- your go-to person for any questions concerning the course. The family system at Christ's is a really lovely part of college life-an easy way to interact with people from other year groups-it won't be long before you are introduced to college aunts, uncles, grandparents and the rest!

Here are a few things that might be **useful to know** before you arrive:

- **Induction hobs** are the only type of hob in college so make sure that any pans that you might bring will work on induction hobs-many don't! Unfortunately, ovens are a very rare sight in college, so expect any cooking that you do to happen on the hob.
- **Spare change** is like gold dust in college. The washing machines and dryers in our laundry take £1 and 20p coins,
- **Sainsbury's** will be your go-to supermarket, so order a nectar card now and you can start saving straight away!
- **Bikes** are very useful time-savers for lots of people in Cambridge, especially if the faculty is a fair distance away, however, Christ's is one of Cambridge's most central colleges, so many people survive without a bike. Perhaps consider seeing how you fare without a bike for the first term, as cheap bikes are easy to find in Cambridge.

Please read through the pack carefully, but most of all - get excited!! You're going to have a fantastic few years in Cambridge and we can't wait to meet you! Enjoy the rest of the summer, see you in October.

Fresher love,

Nancy Thorpe (net25@cam.ac.uk)

Sam Perkins (sgp35@cam.ac.uk)

P.S- For updates on all things fresh please join our Facebook group at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/215483842118749/?ref=bookmarks> or search 'Official Christ's College Offer Holders 2016'. This is a great way to meet those in your new year group and keep track of updates and information concerning freshers week.



Getting Here...

A little information about your arrival in Cambridge: Alongside the official information sent to you by the College, you should have received a sheet of paper providing directions through Cambridge's complex one-way road systems to the college car park in order to move in. We recommend that you keep this close by on the journey as it will need to be consulted regularly!



Upon Arrival

Once you have beaten the streets and driven triumphantly through the gates of Christ's car park, you will be met by the friendly-faced JCR and the Freshers' Week Team, who will be on hand to help you get set up as smoothly as possible.

You will be escorted by members of the team to the Welcome Hub in the Lloyd Room, where you will receive your room packs, key and college card. Upon return to the car park, JCR members will be available to show you to your room and give you a hand with your many many bags!

After a chance to unpack and say goodbye, the fun, excitement and perhaps a few nerves of Freshers' Week will set in. All of this is explained on the next few pages!

Christ's College Freshers' Week 2016 JCR Social Timetable

Events in **BLUE** are compulsory College events (see the official College timetable)

Events in **GREEN** are JCR social events!

Sunday (arrive 13.00 latest)	Monday 3 October	Tuesday 4 October	Wednesday 5 October	Thursday 6 October	Friday 7 October	Saturday 8 October	Sunday 9 October
11.00 - 14.00 Welcome Hub <i>Lloyd Room</i> Collect room packs, University cards, room keys	09.00 - 12.30 Meetings with Directors of Studies Check Screens for times <i>Otherwise: free time/GP registration/paperwork. Help available in Buttery</i>	09.30-10.45 Surnames A-L 11.15-12.30 Surnames M-Z Matriculation Register <i>Mountbatten Room</i>	10.45 - 12.15 College welfare talks <i>Lecture Theatre in the Yusuf Hamied Centre</i>	LECTURES	LECTURES		09.00 Optional: Holy Communion followed by breakfast <i>College Chapel</i>
12.00 - 13.30 Upper Hall will be open for lunch (Cash payment)	13.00 - 15.00 Individual Matriculation Portraits (optional) <i>Mountbatten Room</i>	12:30 - 14.30 Sibling Tours Depts and Faculties: <i>Meet outside JCR</i>	12.30 - 14.00 College Parents' Lunch <i>See your assigned slot for location of where to meet.</i>	Lunch <i>Upper Hall open</i>	Lunch <i>Upper Hall open</i>	11.20 - 11.40 Freshers' Brunch <i>Upper Hall</i>	11.20 - 11.40 Brunch <i>Upper Hall</i>
14.00 - 16.00 Meetings with your Tutor <i>See invite letter for location</i>	15.20 sharp (arrive 15.15) Matriculation Photograph <i>Fellows' Garden</i>	14.00 - 16.00 University Freshers' Fair Parker's Piece <i>Meet outside JCR at 14.00 to divide into groups</i>	14.00 - 16.00 College Library Tours Sign up beforehand <i>otherwise free time to prepare for start of lectures tomorrow</i>	LECTURES	LECTURES	14.00 - 17.00 RAG Charity Punting <i>Meet at Porters' Lodge</i>	15.00 - 17.00 BBQ <i>Yusuf Hamied Centre (outside)</i>
16.00 - 17.30 JCR welfare talks <i>Lecture Theatre in the Yusuf Hamied Centre</i>	16.00 - 18.30 Meetings with Directors of Studies Check Screens for times <i>Otherwise free time/GP registration/paperwork. Help available in Buttery</i>	16.00 - 18.00 Christ's Freshers' Fair <i>Yusuf Hamied Centre</i>	16.00 - 18.00 College Library Tours Sign up beforehand <i>otherwise free time to prepare for start of lectures tomorrow</i>	15.30-17.30 College Sports Societies Fun Games <i>Parker's Piece</i>	<i>Free time</i> Overseas students: deadline for Tier 4 Visa Contact Visit <i>Please visit the Tutorial Office by this afternoon</i>		
18.00 - 18.45 Optional: Freshers' Chapel Service <i>College Chapel</i>	1900 - 1930 Tutors' Pre-dinner Drinks <i>See invite for location</i>	Dinner Upper Hall open	18.00 - 19.30 Pizza Party <i>JCR</i>	Dinner Upper Hall open		Dinner Upper Hall open	18.00 Optional: Evensong <i>followed by drinks</i> <i>College Chapel</i>
19.30 Welcome Dinner <i>Hall</i> <i>Informal: No gowns required</i>	19.30 - 20.30 Matriculation Dinner <i>Hall</i> <i>Formal: Gowns to be worn</i>	Alternatives 19.30 - 21.30 Margs & Hippos Pub Crawl <i>Meet in the Buttery</i> <i>Or 19.30 - 21.30</i> Board Games <i>JCR</i>	Alternatives 19.30 - 22.30 Rubik's Cube Pub Crawl <i>Meet in the Buttery</i> <i>Or 19.30 - 21.30</i> CCMS Acoustic Night <i>Function Room</i>	19.30 - 22.00 Subject Drinks- Invites will be sent out during the week	19.30 - 22.00 College Family Dinner <i>Venues to be announced</i>	19.00 - 20.00 Women's Social Organised by the Lady Margaret Society <i>Function Room</i>	
Followed by Freshers' Mingle <i>Function Room</i>	Followed by JCR Quiz <i>Hall</i>	21.30 BOP '90s theme <i>Function Room</i>				20.00 - 22.00 Mocktails & Karaoke <i>Function Room</i>	20.00 Christ's Films Cinema Showing <i>Lecture Theatre</i>

Timetable Explained...

Board Games	Chill and relax in the JCR with board games organised by some of our dedicated board gaming students!
BOP	One of the biggest parties of term, the BOP is organised by the JCR and is attended by most of the student body at Christ's. This term, the theme is '90s. Costumes are often elaborate and taken very seriously!
CCMS Acoustic Night	For those who'd like some downtime, the Christ's College Musical Society (CCMS) will provide music and chat in the Function Room. Join in if you play an instrument or fancy a listen!
Christ's Films	A Fresher's week exclusive, Christ's Films invite all first years to a sample Christ's Films showing in the Yusuf Hamied theatre. It's free!
Christ's Fresher's Fair	The Christ's Fair will be where all the college societies have stands where you can sign up to sports, music and academic societies for the coming year!
College Library Tours	Library staff will provide you with a short orientation tour of the College library. Sign up sheets will be available in the Welcome Hub on Sunday 2 October.
College Parents' Dinner	An evening when College parents go out for dinner with their kids, along with lots of other College families. Precise details will be provided on the day
Freshers' Brunch	This is an informal brunch. Note you will need your university card for Upper Hall payment
Freshers' Chapel Service	A special service in Chapel to welcome you to Christ's. The Choir will be singing, and drinks are served afterwards. The service will finish in plenty of time to get to Hall
Margs & Hippos Pub Crawl	Organised by the College sporting societies, this is an alcoholic event where you will join other years and visit some of Cambridge's finest establishments!
Matriculation Dinner	This is a dinner in formal hall, where some of the Fellows will be eating alongside you. It will be followed by a quiz.
Matriculation Portraits	Prior to the Group Matriculation Photo you will have an opportunity to order an individual matriculation photo. Details available in the Welcome Hub on Sunday 2 October.
Matriculation Register	This is compulsory. You will be asked to sign both the College and University Registers in order to take up membership.
Meeting Directors of Studies	These meetings are to introduce you to your Director of Studies (DoS) and are compulsory to attend. Details will be put on the Screens between 1 st and 2 nd Court
Meetings with Tutors	You will meet with your Tutor and other Freshers in your Tutor's College room for refreshments.
Mingle	The mingle is a casual way to get to know each other in the Function Room. The bar will be open and we will be doing lots of fun stuff so you get to know each other
Mocktails and Karaoke	After a long week, this is well... not a quiet night in, but a relaxing one! This will be in the function room and proceeds will go to the college charities.
Paperwork help	Paperwork Help will be running over several days, when there will always be second years in the Buttery to help you with all the forms you are given in the first few days!
Pizza Party	An informal event in the JCR in place of visiting Upper Hall.
RAG Charity punting	The typical Cambridge activity, with a chance to raise some money for Charity. Keep an eye for updates on the week for precise details!
Rubik's Cube Pub Crawl	Meet in the Buttery for a night of fun - an alcoholic event. You will be required to arrive wearing one article of clothing per designated colour, as if you were a scrambled Rubik's Cube. Throughout the course of the evening, as we move to various venues, the trading of articles of clothing with other participants will be encouraged in the attempt to be dressed in one colour by the end of the night. Blue, Green, Orange, Red, White and Yellow are the designated colours. You must wear one article of clothing per colour. Feel free to be creative in choosing different types of clothing and don't expect to get everything back!
Sibling Tours	Your College siblings will give you an orientation tour to your Department or Faculty
Sports Societies	If you fancy having a go at some of the sports on offer at Christ's, head down to Parkers Piece to meet the other players! Some fun games will be organised.
Subject Drinks	Meet with other students studying your subject. Invites will be sent to your pigeon hole before 6 October.
Welcome Dinner	The Senior Tutor will host a welcome dinner for new students. Even though it will be held in Hall, no gowns or dress code applies - wear whatever you like!
Women's Social	An event run by the all-female Lady Margaret Society to allow female students to network and get to know each other.

Things You May Need

Personal Items/ Documents:

- National Insurance Number
- NHS Car or Number
- Copy of Vaccination Record
- All student loan documentation
- Passport
- Passport sized photos (for NUS card, Union Society Membership etc)
- Bank Things (Credit Card, Debit Card, Cheque Book)
- Money to last until your loan arrives (should only be 3-4 days but complications can arise)
- Basic medicines (paracetamol, ibuprofen, plasters, pro plus)
- Toiletries
- This guide & any other preparatory material you may have received

For your room:

- Anything that makes you feel at home (ornaments, posters, photos etc-they're so important!)
- Small Kettle (perhaps travel sized as most gyp rooms will already be equipped with these)
- Computer/Laptop
- Plates, Bowls, Cutlery, Glasses, Mugs, Saucepans (make sure saucepans can be used on an induction hob)
- Coat Hangers (some rooms will be equipped with a few)
- Extension leads (very useful)
- Pillow cases, duvet covers, blanket etc. (you will need your own linen and you may want to bring a spare pillow)

Clothing:

For the majority of the time that you are in Cambridge you'll dress casually, however, there are some occasions where certain items are essential:

- **Formal Wear** (This is crucial for your Matriculation Photo-see previous page: Guide to Freshers' Week Timetable) A dark suit, shirt and tie, or a white shirt and dark skirt/trousers or a dark dress is required. Formal wear will also be necessary for other black tie events such as society dinners, dependent on your individual interests (if in doubt, bring extra dresses, shirts etc).
- Sports kit and equipment (not a necessity for participation). Even if you aren't a sporty type you are likely to be tempted into a casual bit of college sport at some point.
- Every item of fancy dress you own (you'll definitely use it at some point). Most crucially, don't forget to prepare a Freshers' Bop costume-the theme is Fresh Prince of Bel-Air (**90s theme**), or hit Primark when you arrive.
- Warm clothing – remember to bring your winter coat with you in October!
- A **College Gown**. This is an essential for Cambridge life – you will need it for your matriculation photo and for occasions such as dining in formal hall. You can order your college-specific gown from one of a range of shops in town (Ryder and Amies is recommended) before you arrive in Cambridge or enquire about reserving one by phoning the Porters' Lodge. Second hand gowns are available.

Life At Christ's

As you will soon learn, the Collegiate system is central to life at Cambridge. Christ's will feel like home sooner than you would think! All undergraduates live, eat and work in college (excepting some of the second year students, who live a two minute walk away from College in houses on Jesus Lane).

By choosing Christ's you have made a brilliant decision (and if you're one of the lucky ones who got pooled, you'll realise that being pooled was the best thing that ever happened to you). At medium size (roughly 120 students per year group), Christ's strength is the students. The College has a really friendly atmosphere and its size encourages mixing between year groups. At other universities it is common to mix only with other first years in your accommodation blocks, whereas at Christ's you will be just as likely to have friends in the second and third year as in your own year at other colleges (beyond those on your course), something that comes very in handy at times. With a whole range of clubs and societies, there are also opportunities for everyone to get involved with College life, and get to know as many or as few members of College as you wish.

Beyond this, Christ's also has an excellent academic reputation, and whilst the workload is challenging, there is no need for work to entirely dominate your life. Along with societies and sports teams, Christ's has a range of other facilities on offer, including our common room, theatre, tv room, free gym and outdoor swimming pool, as will be explained in the following section.

Lastly, Christ's is *THE most centrally located College* in Cambridge-an absolute blessing!



The JCR

The **Christ's College Student Union (CCSU)** represents the students of Christ's College. All Christ's undergraduates and graduates are members of **CCSU**, unless they choose to opt out. Around College, the CCSU is known as the **JCR** (Junior Combination Room) named after the undergraduate common room- a bit confusing, we know!

Elections for positions on the JCR are held in November, and students can apply for a position by submitting a manifesto and speaking at hustings. The available positions are:

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Male Welfare and Gender Equalities Officer
- Female Welfare and Gender Equalities Officer
- Access Officer
- Charities Officer
- Ents Officer
- Publicity Officer
- Environmental and Ethical Affairs Officer
- Catering and Facilities Officer
- Internationals Officer
- Ethnic Minorities Officer
- LGBT+ Officer
- First Year Reps



Who's Who In College

The Master

This year we have a brand new master! The newly-elected **Professor Jane Stapleton** is the 38th Master, succeeding Professor Frank Kelly. Jane Stapleton is a distinguished academic lawyer who has held posts at the Australian National University College of Law and the University of Texas School of Law. She was elected a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy in 2015 and is an Honorary Fellow of St John's College, Cambridge. She began her academic career as a scientist before moving to law, completing a DPhil at Oxford, and specialising in the law of torts. Jane Stapleton spent 10 years as a Fellow of Balliol College, Oxford. She will live in First Court, where you will get a chance to meet her often during your first term.

The Senior Tutor

Dr. Hunt is the Senior Tutor at Christ's. Alongside other Fellows, he is responsible for the day to day working of the College and maintaining a high academic standard. His office is in Y1.

The Chaplain

Reverend Mark is the College Chaplain. Beyond his religious duties, the Chaplain is a separate welfare outlet within College for everyone, regardless of religious belief. Mark has rooms in second court and his door is always open to students. He is hugely approachable and plays a big part in college life. You will definitely meet him during Freshers' Week.

The Praelector

Dr Winter is the Praelector. He appears on your matriculation photograph and is responsible for discipline in college. He should only be encountered again when you graduate.

Your Director of Studies

For each subject there is a Director of Studies (commonly known as DOS) in college, who is responsible for organising seminars and supervisions for their students. You DOS should be your first port of call for *academic issues*, as their job is to advise you. You will have a meeting with your DOS at the beginning and end of every term to review your progress.

Your Tutor

Your *personal tutor* is a fellow who is not associated with your subject. They will be responsible for your pastoral care. It is to them whom you should go with any non-academic issue. Tutors have open tutorial hours during which pupils may see them without making an appointment. These times are posted around College and are on the College website. You should receive a letter from your tutor prior to arrival, and also expect to find an invite in your pigeonhole to your start of term meeting (on the afternoon of your arrival in Cambridge).

The Porters

The Porters are your **24 hour port of call** in College. There will ALWAYS be a Porter available in the Porter's Lodge (better known as the *plodge*) to help you out, chat or answer your questions. The porters are the people to know in College-good friends to have.

How To:

Book a room:

There are a variety of rooms available for student use at Christ's, ranging from areas for music practice to rooms for meetings and events. We have an *online booking system* which can be accessed via the college website. If the room you want is free when you book it, most likely you will get it, however, certain events can override your booking.

Empty your rubbish:

At Cambridge you are very lucky to have a bedder! Your bedder will empty your bin daily and clean your room at least once a week. You will get to know your bedder and their working times, but they will usually come between 9 and 11 in the morning- if you do not want to be disturbed you should leave your bin outside your door the night before.

Get into College after dark:

Unlike many colleges at Cambridge, Christ's is fortunate to have *24 hour Porters on duty*. You're free to come and go as you like, so if you're coming back into college late you can either **ring the bell** at the front gate (a porter will answer the door) or use your University Card on the Hobson Street or King Street gates.

Recycle:

The College and JCR green officer have been working hard to make Christ's a greener place. There are recycling facilities in every gyp room (kitchen) or in each corridor. For more information, consult the green posters around College.

Get something mended:

If your lightbulb blows or your bed breaks (highly unlikely), never fear, just report it online on the College intranet or consult the porters if it is urgent. A maintenance man will soon come by to fix the problem.

Wash your clothes:

Washing machines and tumble dryers are located in the laundry in the basement of **P staircase**. These run at **£1 per wash** and 20p for every six minutes in the dryer. There are also facilities scattered across New Court but at a higher cost for drying. If you fail to pick your clothes up on time they will be removed from the machines, so make sure you hang a bag on the door for them to be left in. You will also need to provide your own powder/ tablets for the machines.

Facilities

The Library:

The Christ's College library is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. As well as providing core reading for each degree course, it provides a place to work with wifi and charging sockets for laptops. For more information look out for the library inductions in Freshers' Week.

Borrowing: The vast majority of books are available for borrowing and your University card acts as your library card across the University. In the Christ's library, you will be able to take out up to 15 books for two weeks, with the possibility of renewals up to three times.

Use a computer, photocopier or printer: There are computers available in the library and in staircase four alongside a library photocopier and printers at both locations. Your hermes id (the first part of your email address) acts as your username on these facilities. You will also be given a password in Freshers' week-try not to lose this! Printing and photocopying must be paid for – print credit can be added to any computer account using a debit card and for photocopying consult the librarians.

Other Library Facilities: It is likely that some books you need won't be available in the College Library. You will also have access to a specialised faculty library and to the UL (University Library) which is a copyright library, so has access to every book ever published in the UK. Specifically for lawyers, there is a *separate Law Library* located just inside First Court which requires card entry.

The JCR, TV room and Function Room:

The Yusuf Hamied Centre (in New Court) is where the JCR (Junior Common Room), MCR (Graduates Common Room) and TV Room can be found. The TV room holds a TV and sofas (naturally), whilst the JCR is more of a general social area with sofas, a pool table and board games. It's also a brilliant place to meet up before an event or night out, or just for a night in with pizza. The Function Room is in the basement of the Yusuf Hamied Centre and the venue for College Bops as well as many a Freshers' Week event.

The Theatre:

Christ's is fortunate enough to have its own theatre which is home to CADS (Christ's Amateur Dramatics Society) as well as the Christ's Film Society. For more information look out for them at the Sports and Societies Fair in Freshers' Week. The theatre is also the location for the Welfare Talks in Freshers' Week.

The Swimming Pool:

Christ's is one of the very few Cambridge College to have its own outdoor swimming pool. Regrettably unheated, this is *open only during Easter Term*, but still a great thing to have and provides a good break from revision during exam term. The pool is tucked away in the back right corner of the beautiful fellows' garden, accessible through second court and open until 4pm every day except Sunday in full term.

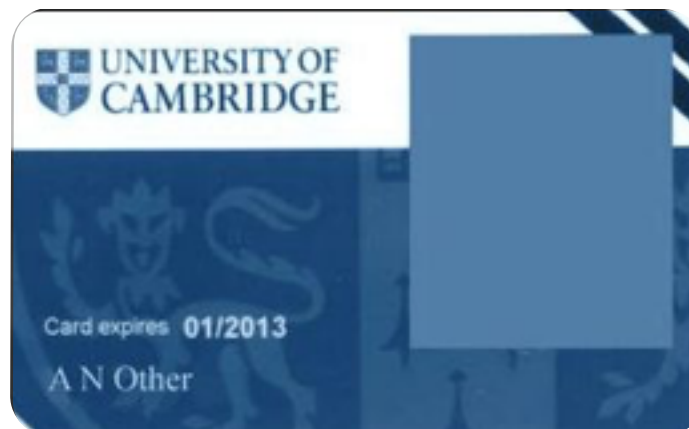


Food and Drink

All of the accommodation at Christ's provides some degree of self-catering facilities (usually two hobs and a microwave, as well as toaster and kettle) however, ovens are fairly non-existent. There is however, a range of food and drink available in College, which can all be paid for on your University Card.

University Card:

Your University Card will become your prized possession at Cambridge! As well as acting as your student ID, it doubles up as your **library card** in every library across the University. In some cases, it is also your room key and in all cases it is a way of accessing the College Library itself as well as both the side and back gate of College. Most crucially it also enables you to buy food and drink within College, eliminating the need for cash. A **£300 base rate** is paid at the beginning of your first term (the calculated average amount spent per term by a Christ's student). Whatever you then buy in College over Michaelmas term is added up and at the start of the next term the amount you have overspent is added (or indeed subtracted if you underspent) to your College Bill alongside a further total of your spending as an estimate for the next term. (Sounds complex, but makes sense in practice.) If it is not already clear – guard your University card with your life!



Upper Hall

Upper Hall is the cafeteria at Christ's. Breakfast, lunch and dinner is served every day, with the exception of a single morning brunch option on Saturdays and Sundays. It is a very **informal and sociable** place to chat whilst you eat. Opening times can be found within the A4 guide to Christ's College as well as on the College website. The food in upper hall has seen massive improvement in the last few years so you can now expect a large variety of main meals each lunch and dinner (including a carvery every lunchtime Mon-Fri) plus unlimited sides with every meal. Weekly menus for each term can be found on the College intranet as well as up outside Upper Hall itself. The pricing for Breakfast is per item (eg around 20p per rasher of bacon) and lunch and dinner work on the basis of £1.35-£2.03 as a base rate for each main meal plus £1 for the veg and potatoes (compulsory). Salad, sandwiches, and snacks are also available.

The Buttery (College Bar)

The Buttery is the College Bar and is open throughout the day as a **Costa Coffee**. You can pay for coffee on your college card, as with every meal/drink-it's cheaper than high street Costa! In the evenings (open normal pub hours) the **Bar** becomes a hub of College life. It sells a range of drinks at affordable rates (see the College intranet for prices) as well as a classic variety of pub snacks. It is perfect for a quick drink or chat after dinner, or a break from the Library (conveniently situated around 30 seconds away). It is guaranteed to be busy with a brilliant sociable atmosphere during Freshers' Week!

Formal Hall

An alternative to Upper Hall in the evenings is Formal Hall; a typical ‘Cambridge’ experience which runs every day except Saturday and consists of a three course meal. Formal Hall is a great way to get everyone from College together for a special event, such as birthdays. **Diners wear gowns** and Fellows also eat here, at the High Table. Eating in Formal Hall costs **£6.80**, reflecting the higher quality of food as well as setting and atmosphere. To attend Formal Hall you must book in via the College Intranet by 12pm on the day before you wish to eat, or if it is a Sunday then by 12pm on the Friday preceding. Water is the only drink provided so you are expected to bring any wine or soft drinks with you. There is a ‘limit’ of half a bottle of wine per person, and you are liable to a £1 corkage fine if this has not been bought from the Buttery. For higher prices, you also have the option of steak or high table meals, ensuring a higher quality of food. College members may invite up to two guests to Formal Hall on any night, at a charge of £8.30 per person to your card bill. If you wish to bring more guests you can do so with tutorial permission, or invite a friend from College along and use their guest allowance too.



— Upper Hall

Formal Hall —



Academia

Every course at Cambridge is taught by two separate bodies; **College and Faculty**. Each subject has a Faculty, located in its own faculty building in the city. Thus, a historian, for example, will be a member both of the History Faculty and of Christ's College. Faculties are responsible for central organisation of exams and lectures across the whole University, and also each have a **Faculty Library** supplying core books for each course as well as more specialised materials that aren't so likely to be found in your average College Library. Exams in Cambridge are generally taken near the end of Easter Term, with the exception of certain preliminary exams such as those for first year Historians and English students which occur at the beginning of Easter Term directly after the vacation. The rest of your teaching will be collegiate, and this (in the forms of supervisions and seminars) is what makes studying at Cambridge so different from other Universities. Each College has a Director of Studies (DOS) for each subject, and they will coordinate all of your collegiate teaching.

Supervisions

Supervisions are at the very core of collegiate teaching, and your Cambridge degree as a whole. Supervisions vary hugely from discipline to discipline but in general you'll be taught in **groups of two or three**, or in certain cases one on one. Supervisors will generally be College Fellows or Graduate students, and often specialists in the field they are teaching you, thus giving you the unique chance to learn from the very best on a very small scale. Supervisions are also the main form assessment will take throughout the year prior to exam term. Arts students will be expected to produce at least *one essay a week* which your supervisor will then discuss with you, often not of direct relevance to your lecture timetable and thus involving a high degree of personal study. Conversely, Science students are taught in a much more lecture based manner and are therefore likely to be given a *set of questions* to work through for each supervision that hold a much greater degree of relevance to what they will have been covering in lectures. It is important to remember that supervision is voluntary, so supervisors really do want to teach and you should take the opportunity to ask as many questions as possibly and properly engage. It is of course natural to be nervous in your first Cambridge supervision, but just remember that it will get better. After a few weeks you'll have built up a good relationship with your Supervisor, so make as much as you can of the time you have.

Clubs and Societies

As well as University-wide activities, Christ's has a multitude of its own clubs and societies.

Sport

One of the many positive features of the college system at Cambridge is that there is the opportunity to participate in almost any activity at a lower, more casual level, and this is no more true than in the case of sport. Christ's has a thriving sports scene catering for every mainstream sport as well as the more niche, for example waterpolo and ultimate frisbee. Where university trials are a daunting prospect for most, college sport offers a low commitment, low skill level alternative, allowing you to take part as much or as little as you like.

As well as the obvious social aspect within teams (football nights out are legendary within college) sport provides an excellent sense of college spirit. In almost every sport there is the chance to participate in 'cupperts' (the inter-collegiate cup and most important college competition of the year) which sees the college thrash out age old rivalries. Christ's also has a very large, friendly and successful **rowing club** catering for all levels. Even if you are reading this now thinking 'I'm not the sporty type...' then bring kit anyway, there is every chance you'll end up involved in something or another at college level.

For a taster and chance to get involved make sure you make it to the **Christ's Societies Fair** and the Sports and Societies Games on the Green during Freshers' Week.

Societies

Yet if you really aren't the sporty type you needn't worry! There is even more on offer in the way of societies! As has already been mentioned, Christ's boasts its own theatre which is home to **CADS** (Christ's Amateur Dramatics Society) and Christ's Films Society, both putting on performances and screenings throughout the year and open to anyone with an interest. Further to this, there exists a thriving music scene under the Christ's College Music Society (**CCMS**) as well as a wealth of other groups. The Milton Society and the Debating Society offer space for largely light-hearted debate, while the Seeley Society, Law Society, Darwin Society and many many more cater to specific subjects and interests. — Again, for further information see the Christ's Societies Fair in Freshers' Week.

Getting Around

Although it may seem daunting when you arrive, one of the things you'll soon realise about Cambridge is that it is a tiny city. Christ's central location means there are very few places you will need to go that are further than a five minute walk away. Therefore, despite the stereotype, a bike is not essential if you're at Christ's. However, there are a few places a little further away that you may wish to cycle to simply to save time:

The Sidgwick Site

Sidgwick is home largely to arts faculties such as **Law, History, and English**, as well as several others. It's around a 15 minute walk away from College if you take the scenic shortcut through King's College or can be cycled in around 5-7 minutes.

The UL (University Library):

For some subjects you may want to make use of the UL's vast collection. The UL lies very close to the Sidgwick site and is accessible by roughly the same routes, so again a bike may be helpful here.

Labs

Very much dependent on the options you choose, **science students** may have to attend far flung labs around the city.

Sports Pitches

Due to the central location of the vast majority of the Colleges, College owned sports pitches can be found more on the periphery of the city, around a 20-30 minute walk away. Depending on what sports you do in many cases a taxi will be provided for, but otherwise a bike is again a good shout here.

Bike Crime remains a problem in Cambridge. Alongside this other information from College you should have received a bike number, if you do choose to bring a bike make sure you register it and make sure you have a strong lock.

Other Forms of Transport-Cambridge also has a good bus network and has fast train links with London and other major cities.

Pubs, Clubs, Restaurants and Shopping

As you'll be told over and over, and will become all the more apparent when you arrive, the fantastic location of Christ's means that all you could need in the way of shopping lies right on your doorstep. Cambridge is really not a big city (in fact, it is barely a city at all) so whatever you need you can just pop out and get it. In terms of food, there is a **Sainsbury's** two minutes walk away as well as an M&S for those of greater sophistication (and budget). You'll struggle not to find what you need within very short walking distance.

Again, Christ's is central with regards to any sort of nightlife in Cambridge. As well as ents in College, Cambridge boasts a wide range of bars and restaurants, a couple of clubs and many other entertainment venues. In terms of food, Cambridge possesses a diverse mix of chains and independent outlets catering for every taste. Whether you want to go out to Nandos and claim the free whole chicken you've earned, take advantage of Orange Wednesdays at Pizza Express or visit the upmarket D'Arrys for a special occasion, you won't have to go far. On top of this, there is the chance to go to Union Debates each Thursday, see the latest show or stand-up comedy at the ADC Theatre or go to the cinema or see a band at the Corn Exchange. All of this is right on your doorstep. It is a similar story with regards to the small club scene in Cambridge:

Though there are just four clubs frequented by Cambridge students, you learn to love them. Christ's boasts **Cindie's** 30 seconds from the front gate and **Life** less than 10 seconds out of the side gate, and just two or three minutes walk from **Lola Lo** and **Fez**. Though perhaps lacking in terms of the actual amount of clubs, Cambridge has an absolute wealth of pubs, with at least five on King St (running along the back of college) alone, and many many more elsewhere. You'll get to visit a small sample on the organised nights out in Freshers' Week. Easily accessible, that is, if you bother to venture beyond the college bar...

Welfare

JCR Welfare

The JCR **Welfare officers'** main responsibility is to make sure that your time at Christ's is as happy, enjoyable, and safe as is possible. This means a number of things: they are people you can come to with questions and difficulties and if they don't know the answers, they should know who to send you to in order to help find them. They can help you confidentially with personal, physical, mental, and sexual health issues; equally, they can provide attack alarms to help ensure your safety.

The role also includes running Welfare events which we have throughout the year here, including low-key drop-ins. As Welfare Officers, they work with the JCR Exec, Fellows in College, and with CUSU to maintain existing welfare provisions and keep reviewing and improving them. If you have problems, queries, feedback, or just want a chat, you can find them around college or send them an email and they will get in touch with you promptly.

Other Welfare Outlets

As well as the college welfare system, CUSU (Cambridge University Student Union) provides an extensive range of services. These include a Student Advice Service and a Student Counselling Service, as well as whole range of services concerning anything from sexual health to disabilities. For more information, consult your CUSU Freshers' Guide or visit the CUSU website.

Sexual Health

Contraception and pregnancy: You can get condoms from the machine below the Library in College free of charge. Condoms, pregnancy tests and other sexual health supplies are freely available in the 'sexual health' drawer in the porters' lodge.

Women at Cambridge

Though a slight minority at Christ's, women play an important and active role here. Not only does there exist a women's sports team to match almost every men's team, there is also a women's sporting (drinking) society to rival the Marguerites, known as the **Hippolytans**. The JCR has a dedicated women's welfare officer (Mariane Lisbon de Paula) who is available for any women's welfare or needs, whilst the recently revived Lady Margaret Society aims to engage students in recognition of our female Foundress Lady Margaret Beaufort.

LGBT

Cambridge is generally a place in which people are very relaxed in their attitude towards sexuality, and though the Cambridge 'scene' may not compare with other larger cities, there is a very large LGBT community.

Greg Harker is the LGBT officer for Christ's JCR, feel free to contact him on lgbt@thejcr.co.uk for more information on anything LGBT or just to talk things over! CUSU LGBT run a LGBT Parenting Scheme for Freshers. It's a great way to make new friends and meet people who can answer questions you may have about LGBT things in Cambridge. Visit their page to find out more and sign up for the scheme.

Glossary

Arc&Anth ['ark-a-'nanth] n. The course of Archaeology and Anthropology.

ADC (Theatre) n. 1. The Amateur Dramatics Club, one of the larger student theatrical production groups 2. The Amateur Dramatics Club Theatre in Park Street.

ASNAC n. 1. The course of Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic. 2. One studying that course.

Backs, The prop n. Pleasant green area west of the river, so called because it backs onto the riverside colleges, Queens, Kings, Trinity, Johns, etc.

Ballare n. See Cindie's

BCD n. Boat Club Dinner

Bedder n. They will clean your room at least once a week and empty your bin daily. A good friend to have.

Black Tie n. Formal wear you almost certainly will have occasion to use in Cambridge consisting, for men, of a DJ, white dress shirt, bow tie and (optionally) a cummerbund and, for women, of a dress or black skirt/trousers and white blouse.

Boatie n. One who rows furiously being usu. conversationally deficient.

Bop n. A word meaning disco that, when used outside Cambridge, makes you sound like a prat v. To dance furiously, drunkenly, ostentatiously or in a deeply misguided fashion esp. when at a Bop.

Buttery n. The main bar of a college; for Christ's, it is in First Court. A wonderful place.

CADS prop. n. Christ's Amateur Dramatics Society, see in Clubs and Societies Index.

CCBC prop n. Christ's College Boat Club, see in Clubs and Societies Index.

CCMS prop n. Christ's College Music Society, see in Clubs and Societies Index.

CCSU prop. n. Christ's College Student Union, See JCR.

CICCU ['kick-'you] prop n. Cambridge Inter-Collegiate Christian Union.

Cindie's n. Actual name Ballare but known to all as Cindie's - The Ministry of Sound meets Butlins. An exceptionally bad nightclub on the corner of St Andrew's Street and Petty Cury, just opposite the entrance to Christ's. You will be dragged there sometime during Freshers' Week, you will enjoy it and you will return frequently throughout your Cambridge career.

CompSci ['comp-skee'] n. 1. The degree course Computer Sciences 2. One studying that course.

CUMS prop n. Cambridge University Music Society.

CUS prop n. Cambridge Union Society, hold weekly debates in the Union building. Check out at the Cambridge Societies Fair.

CUSU ['koo-soo'] prop n. Cambridge University Student Union, the University-wide student collective that bridges between the collegiate union and the NUS.

Death, Van of prop n. Kebab, burger & chip vendor in Market Square.

Don See Oxford.

Ents n. Entertainment; anything with music that takes itself too seriously to stoop to Bop status.

Ergo ['err-go]n. Rowing machine, thus 'to pull an e.'

Exeat ['ex-ee-at] n. Form giving you permission to leave College. (Not taken very seriously by many tutors except at the end of term)

Fine v. 'to fine'. Fining is another element of a typical swap (see entry). A fine is made by an individual at a swap, its content concerning what another person present has done. Anybody present and guilty of the fine stands and takes a drink from their beverage.

Fellow n. 1. A permanent member of the teaching staff at Cambridge

Formal Hall n. Evening meal eaten whilst wearing gown. See College food and drink.

Gardenia's (Gardie's) prop n. Kebab, burger & chip vendor down Rose Crescent from the Market Square.

Grafton Centre prop n. Shopping centre north of Christ's.

Hippos prop n. Popular abbreviation of the Hippolytans – the women's sports society. Not derog.

JCR n.1. Junior Common Room, located in New Court Building. 2. The CCSU Exec.

Life prop n. Actual name 'Kuda' but known universally to students as Life. A dark, sweaty underground club with unreasonably low ceilings situated less than fifteen seconds out of the side gate on Hobson St. A favourite of Christ's students.

Life, Trailer of prop n. Kebab, burger & chip vendor in Market Square. Rival to Van of Death.

Margs prop n. Popular abbreviation of The Marguerites – the men's sports (and drinking!) society.

Master prop n. see entry in Who's who at Christ's.

Mathmo n. Someone who studies mathematics voluntarily, occas. derog.

May Ball n. Lavish all-night affair put on in May Week by individual colleges, tickets often sold in pairs, dress is usually Black Tie or White Tie.

May Week n. Period of a week or so in June, no really, characterised by drunkenness, debauchery and post-exam trauma; contains several May Balls, Garden Parties and Mistakes.

NatSci ['nat-skee] n. 1. The degree course Natural Sciences 2. One studying that course, presumably because they want to.

New Court prop n. Thank Dennis Lasdun for this concrete erection at the rear end of Christ's; known by some as 'the Typewriter'; Home to many Freshers.

Oxford prop. n. Second-rate university to the west of London. Occasionally produces prime ministers.

Pigeon Hole n. Better known as a pidge. Where all your post can be found in the Plodge, you'll be shown this as soon as you arrive.

Footlights prop n. 1. Cambridge comedy troupe, great banter.

Plodge See Porter's Lodge.

Port n. A fortified red wine with high alcohol content often served after expensive meals.

Porter n. Porters are to be found in the Porters' Lodge and are often the best people to turn to for help with almost any issue. People worth befriending, particularly the night porters. See the entry in Who's who at Christ's.

Porters' Lodge n. The place where Porters lodge. The Porters' Lodge, embarrassingly referred to as the Plodge, is open 24 hours a day.

Sent Down v. usu. pp. To be expelled from College. Rare.

Squash n. 1. Sweaty, tedious racket game-courts in college. 2. A meeting for Freshers, normally with free drink and snacks, organised by a college or University society to entice membership and payment.

Supervision n. Teaching and discussion session. See Academia.

Swap n. A swap is a social event whereby a group of girls (often a drinking society) from one college, team or society goes to dinner (often to Curry Kind, another curry house or a formal hall) with a group of boys from another college or team/society. In general, a bottle of wine is consumed by each person on the swap. Also characterised by excessive pennyng, fining and often fancy dress.

Tab The online Cambridge tabloid paper.

The Other Place See Oxford.

Tripes n. Cambridge exam system.

Tutor n. A fellow responsible for your pastoral care. See Who's who in Christ's.

UL prop n. University Library, a scary piece of fascist architecture with a big brick tower containing an improbable number of books, located west of the river near the Sidgwick Site.

Union There is no Union in Cambridge as such. See CCSU, CSU, CUS and NUS. 'The Union' is the Union debating Society-confusing, yes.

University Card n. Plastic card similar in size and shape to a credit card. Used to pay for food and drink in the Buttery and Upper Hall, entering and taking books out of the library, gaining access to some faculty areas, and often used as Student ID. See entry in Food and Drink for more information.

Upper Hall prop n. College canteen that serves three meals a day (except Sundays), pay with your University card. See entry in Food and Drink.

Varsity 1. prop n. One of the main student newspapers. 2. adj. 'Varsity Matches' take place between Oxford and Cambridge in certain sports.

White Tie Formal dress consisting, for men, of a tailed coat, white wing collared dress shirt and white bow tie and, for women, evening dress. (You'll probably never need this!)