



# ***THE BEAR NECESSITIES***







## Dear Freshers...

First things first – a huge congratulations for getting an offer from Oxford's finest college! As your Social Sec and Freshers' Helpers, we are looking forward to welcoming you into the college. Though these are strange times, I hope you are looking forward to coming and we will do our best to make the transition to Teddy Hall (banish the phrase 'St Edmund hall from your vocabulary, it is and always will be 'Teddy Hall' or simply 'the Hall') as smooth, easy and as fun as possible.

Oxford can seem like a daunting place - it shouldn't. Teddy Hall is famed for its community spirit and friendly atmosphere and we are all here to help, so if you have any questions when you're here feel free to say hello or give us a wave.

Please enjoy reading this guide and we can't wait to see you soon!

P.S. If you want to get in touch with any of the students you'll be introduced to in this guide, either drop them an email (you can search them up through your Oxford Email) or a message on Facebook (through the St Edmund Hall JCR 2021-22 group – if you don't have Facebook already, definitely set an account up before you come as it's the main method of communicating events etc in Oxford!)

# The JCR Committee

The JCR Committee Preside over the General Meetings (discussed in 'The Essentials'), and act as representatives for the undergraduate body in their various positions, as well as taking responsibility for organising social events, reporting on happenings in the hall and supervising the general welfare of the JCR.



## **President – Julien Kress**

My name's Julien and I'm your JCR President for 2021. My main job is to represent us as a JCR, whether it be to senior members of the Hall or to University-wide committees. If you ever feel like there are issues which you feel should be addressed by our JCR, please feel free to come have a chat with me or drop me an email/message. Making sure we communicate as clearly and effectively as possible is my priority, and getting input from the JCR is essential. (jcr.president@seh.ox.ac.uk)



## **Vice President – Rachel Tripper**

Hey everyone, I'm Rachel your JCR VP. I'm the person you can come to for any problems or suggestions about improvements for everyday college life such as food, accommodation and the JCR. My main job is making sure everyone here has the best experience possible by working directly with college staff to make sure that college stuff runs smoothly e.g. formal halls, JCR photos and Christmas dinner. Feel free to drop me a message about literally anything and I'll always do my best to help! (jcr.vp@seh.ox.ac.uk)



## **Social Secretary – Millie Liddell & Caitlin Conway**

Welcome to the Hall - we're Millie and Caitlin and we are your Entz Presidents! We're in charge of making hall life as fun possible! We organise all of college's social events like BOPs (big, themed whole-college parties) and club nights as well as freshers' week. We'll be around all week putting on events for you – if you have any questions about life at Teddy Hall feel free to get in contact on Facebook or drop us an email! (jcr.socialsec@seh.ox.ac.uk)



## **Welfare Officers – Katie Long & Greg Halliwell**

We're Katie and Greg, and we are the JCR welfare officers. We work with the team of peer supporters as well as with the wider college to listen to any welfare related issues you might have and put on a range of events throughout term.

We're always happy to have a chat about anything be it social, academic or otherwise. You can send a us a message or an email, or just catch us in college where we can be found either in the library or (more often) in the JCR. Don't hesitate to get in contact (no problem is too small to talk about!). (jcr.welfare@seh.ox.ac.uk)





### **Treasurer – Lewis Lloyd**

Hi, I'm Lewis, your JCR Treasurer. I am essentially in charge of all the JCR money. My role involves maintaining the transparency of JCR funding and expenditure, keeping records up-to-date, issuing payments and reimbursements, and providing the relevant information at JCR meetings. I am also the first port of call for grants and funding, whether that be for academic or extracurricular activities. Feel free to contact me about any money related ideas or issues!



### **International and Visiting Students – Elena Gordillo**

Hey guys, hello, guten Morgen, bonjour, merhaba! I'm Elena, your International and Visiting Students' officer. At Teddy, we have a very diverse and warm environment that welcomes new international and visiting students from a variety of backgrounds every year. I'm here to make sure you feel welcome and help you settle in at Teddy, regardless from where you have come, be it the EU or India. If you ever feel lost in the UK, are suddenly experiencing culture shock, or have any other international-related issues, feel free to message me!



### **Gender and Sexual Diversity - Lue Campbell-Smith & Hazel Wake**

Hey! We're Lue & Hazel and we're the current GSD officers at Teddy Hall. We're here to help any LGBTQ-identifying members of the college with any concerns, queries or suggestions you might have. We are both peer supporters and are available to chat by message, email, on our Teddy Hall LGBT Facebook group, or at our regular social events in college. See you around!



### **BAME Officer – Jeevika Bali**

Hi, I'm Jeevi and I'm your BAME rep this year! If you identify as BAME and have any concerns or queries please let me know and I'd be more than happy to help. We'll be hosting a BAME social when you first arrive and there'll be plenty of events throughout the year you can get involved in. If you need anything you can contact me via email or facebook or just in real life if you see me around!



### **Disabilities Officer – Ben Luckcraft**

Hi! I'm Ben, your Disabilities Officer. It's my job to look after the interests of disabled students at College. You can come and chat to me whether you have a disability, are wondering if you do, or are caring for someone who does. Some of the things I can help with include applying for Disabled Students' Allowance, registering with the Disability Advisory Service, or talking to College about your accessibility needs. We also have a disability community Facebook page where I post updates and organise community events. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions please get in touch! You can find me at our bi-weekly disability drop-ins in the Welfare Room, or anytime via email or around College. Welcome to the Hall!



### **Secretary - Nailah Ranjan**

My name is Nailah and I'm a third year History and Politics student. I'll be your Secretary for this year and my job is to keep you updated about JCR meetings, college families, the yearbook and punt hire! Especially with yearbooks and the punt hire, I'm hoping to make things as easy for you all as possible, so please reach out if you've got any suggestions or questions. I'm looking forward to being your Secretary and working with the rest of the committee!



### **Sports Officers – Mauricio Alencar & Alex Whitmarsh**

Hey, we are Maurício and Alex. We are the JCR's sports reps for 2021, and we are really excited to ensure that Teddy Hall is the sportiest (and therefore most fun) college in Oxford. We hope to bring our amazing stash for JCR members, more sporty social events, and to ensure that Teddy Hall sports activities are always inclusive to all.



### **Access Officers – Ellie Cassidy and Anjali Depala**

We're Ellie and Anjali and we're the Teddy Hall Access Officers. Our aim is to highlight the importance of inclusivity at Teddy Hall and show that studying at Oxford is for people from all different backgrounds. We plan to continue running the @sehaccess Instagram account which gives a more informal account of what goes on at Teddy Hall. We also plan to update the access blog with more subject guides and blog posts written by our growing network of student ambassadors. We will also be writing the alternative prospectus, as well as planning a COVID-safe access roadshow. If you want to get involved with more access work or have any new ideas, feel free to drop us an email!



### **Charity Officers – Ben Lloyd**

I'm Ben and I'm excited to be your charity officer for next year. This means I will be organising fundraiser events, considering charity motions and raising awareness for volunteering opportunities in and around Oxford



### **Arts and Culture Officers – Katie Kirkpatrick and James Newbery**

Hi all! We're James (he/him) and Katie (she/her) and we'll be your Arts and Culture Officers this year. James is a second year English student who is very involved in the drama scene here in Oxford, enjoying acting, writing and directing. Katie is a second year french student who is very involved in poetry and student journalism. We are both also in the Teddy Hall choir and love musicals!! Don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions about the arts scene here at Teddy. Also, please send any awards/achievements or upcoming events to our brand new Instagram account!





### **Accommodation Officer – Jasmin Kreutzer**

Hi! I'm Jazzy, a second-year English student, and your accommodation officer for this year. I'm responsible for overseeing the ballot process for finalists' room allocation, as well as helping freshers with organising living out in second year, any other accommodation-related questions, and communicating ideas and suggestions regarding accommodation to the college. If you have any ideas for how to improve accommodation at Teddy hall, or any questions or worries, please get in touch and I'll be delighted to help!



### **Women's\* Officers – Beyza Akgun and April Dublin-Beeton**

We are Beyza and April and we are your Women's officers! We aim to create a warm environment and make everyone's experience at Teddy an unforgettable one. Our planned events for the following academic year include a variety of social (both drinking and non-drinking) events as well as welfare-oriented ones, such as inviting notable female guest speakers. Both of us are easily accessible around college (usually in the library) and so will always be around for anyone with any issues or concerns to address, or even just for a chat.



### **Academic Officer – Robert Hardwick**

Hiya, I'm Robbie, a second-year medic and your Academic and Careers Officer.

I sit in college Academic Committee meetings and can relay your ideas, thoughts or improvements for academics at these meetings. I'll also let you know what happens during these meetings to give the JCR an idea of how any academic changes might affect us.

I will also be keeping you all updated regarding career-related opportunities and events with alumni, so keep an eye out on your emails for anything you're interested in.



### **Men's\* Officers – Hector Skipworth and Harry Mehta**

We are Hector and Harry (2nd years reading earth sci and chemistry respectively) and we are your mens *officers*. *Our job is to organise events for men* at Teddy Hall and to provide a point of contact and a friendly face for any welfare concerns you may have. Hopefully with vaccinations looking up a whole host of events can be planned in person for the coming term and next year, with MOTH socials (drinkers and non drinkers both warmly welcomed) soon to return. We are always available for a chat or to help with anything that needs support.



### **IT Officer – Carenza Williams**

I'm Cara, a third year earth scientist and your IT officer for 2021-22. I'm in charge of keeping this website up to date, the mailing lists and running the JCR elections. If you have any questions, suggestions or just want to chat please drop me a message or email me!





### **Suspended Student Rep – Maddie Prottey**

I'm Maddie and I'm your Suspended Students Officer. It's my job to take care of everything suspension-related at the Hall. I'm here to offer advice and support to anyone considering suspension, who is currently suspended, or has returned from suspension. I suspended during my 2nd year so have had experience with the process of suspension and returning to Hall life in full. I want to ensure that suspended students still feel like valued Aularians, and that we, as a JCR, are doing all we can to make this happen.



### **Environment and Ethics Rep – Aili Channer**

I'm Aili, a second year English student, and I'm the Environment and Ethics Rep. My goal is to make Teddy Hall life as sustainable as possible and to increase the biodiversity around college. I believe that this should be an ongoing dialogue between students and decision-makers both at collegiate and university level, so I'm very keen to hear any ideas or concerns you may have, whether about Teddy Hall's environmental impact or any other ethical issues.





# Teddy Hall Peer Supporters

We all have 24+ hours of training from the University Counselling Service, and are here to talk to about any problems you might have - big or small. All conversations are confidential. Please don't hesitate to get in touch, via text/email/facebook messenger, drop in sessions, or just around college :)



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## Meet Your Freshers' Helpers

You will meet your Freshers' Helpers during freshers' week. They represent a team of second year students, led by third year 'Social Secretaries', Millie and Caitlin and our second year 'freshers rep' Brittany. They represent a variety of different subjects and societies, and hopefully will be able to answer any questions you have during your first term at the Hall.



# Meet Your Senior Freshers' Helpers

Alongside your Social Secretaries, Millie and Caitlin, we have a few senior freshers' helpers from third and fourth year who will be leading events during freshers' week. They'll be on hand to dish out all the Teddy Hall wisdom they've learned over the years!



**SIAN LANGHAM**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Year  
Engineering



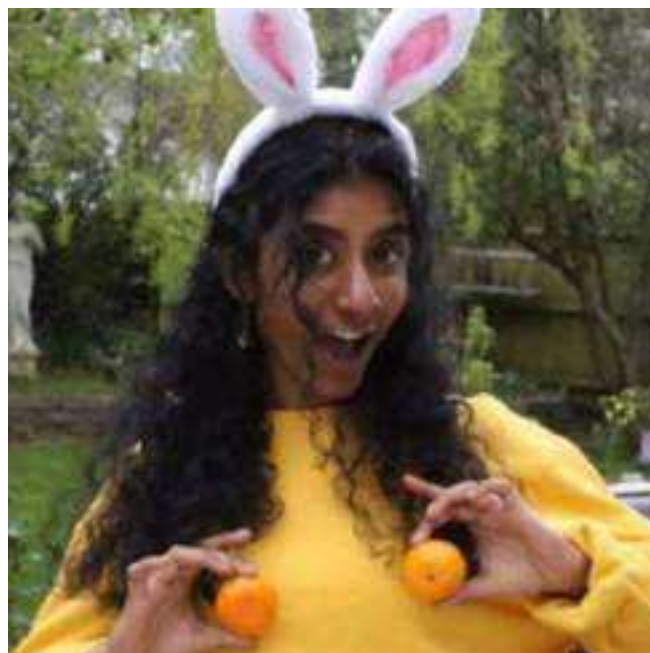
**LAUREN IRWIN**  
4<sup>th</sup> Year  
Earth Sciences



**LILY SHANAGHER**  
4<sup>th</sup> Year  
French & Russian

## Meet Your Freshers' Rep

Brittany is our Freshers' Rep – she'll be helping Millie and Caitlin to organise all the events during Freshers' Week. **We'll be selling tickets for club nights once you arrive in Oxford – don't worry about trying to buy anything beforehand!** As always, there'll be a mixture of drinking & non-drinking events so that everybody can get involved in the Freshers' Week spirit. Feel free to drop any of us a message if you have any questions about Freshers' Week in general!



**BRITTANY PERERA**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Year – Engineering  
"Gains not Brains"



# Freshers' Helpers

Here are all of your Freshers' Reps – they'll be on hand to help you move in and help out at all of the amazing events we have planned for freshers' week!



**SAM BOULGER**  
Biomed

"Loving Life"



**EMILY TWINN**  
English & French

"Cooler than Will"



**SOPHIE RICHARDSON**  
Geography

"Sophie-gnon Blanc"



**ELLA TAN**  
History

"mini golf master"



**ANNA MARIA IARAMBOYKOV**  
French & German

"Speak softly and carry a beer"



**EMILY FALCONER**  
Earth Sciences

"I mean, who doesn't look good in head to toe hi-vis water proofs and a hard hat?"



**VERITY BLACK**  
Medicine

"Pre-emptive paracetamol is a lifestyle"



**WILL HEATH**  
English

"Cooler than Emily Twinn"



**ESME MCMILLAN**  
Geography

"Oat Milk is a personality trait"





**ROBBIE HARDWICK**  
Medicine

“What goes around, comes around”



**ABBIE LEAVER**  
PPE

“if you like beer, I’ll like you”



**JAKE ELLIOT**  
History

“Ra Ra Radley”



**TOM COATES**  
E&M

“Teddy Teddy Teddy ...”



**CLAIRE MALLON**  
Law

“Let’s Get Toasty”



**HARRIET EYLES**  
Geography

“Aghhh the fluids”



**SAUL MANASSE**  
Maths

“Where’s Preston again?”



**SARAH WOODFORD**  
Geography

“No to Prelims, Yes to Predrinks”



# The JCR

## **The JCR**

Next to the Wolfson Hall, at the bottom of Emden, is our common room – the home of the TV, pool table and the most infamous chocomilk machine. Normally this room is at the centre of undergraduate College life, with everything from viewings of World Cup Finals to JCR Tea. It's the perfect place to take a lunch hour (or two, or three ...) away from the library – but its hard to resist the pull of the sofas and endless movies playing on the TV. It's also the heart of the college after a night out – it's inevitable that you'll stumble into the JCR with an Ahmed's in hand at some point in freshers' week.

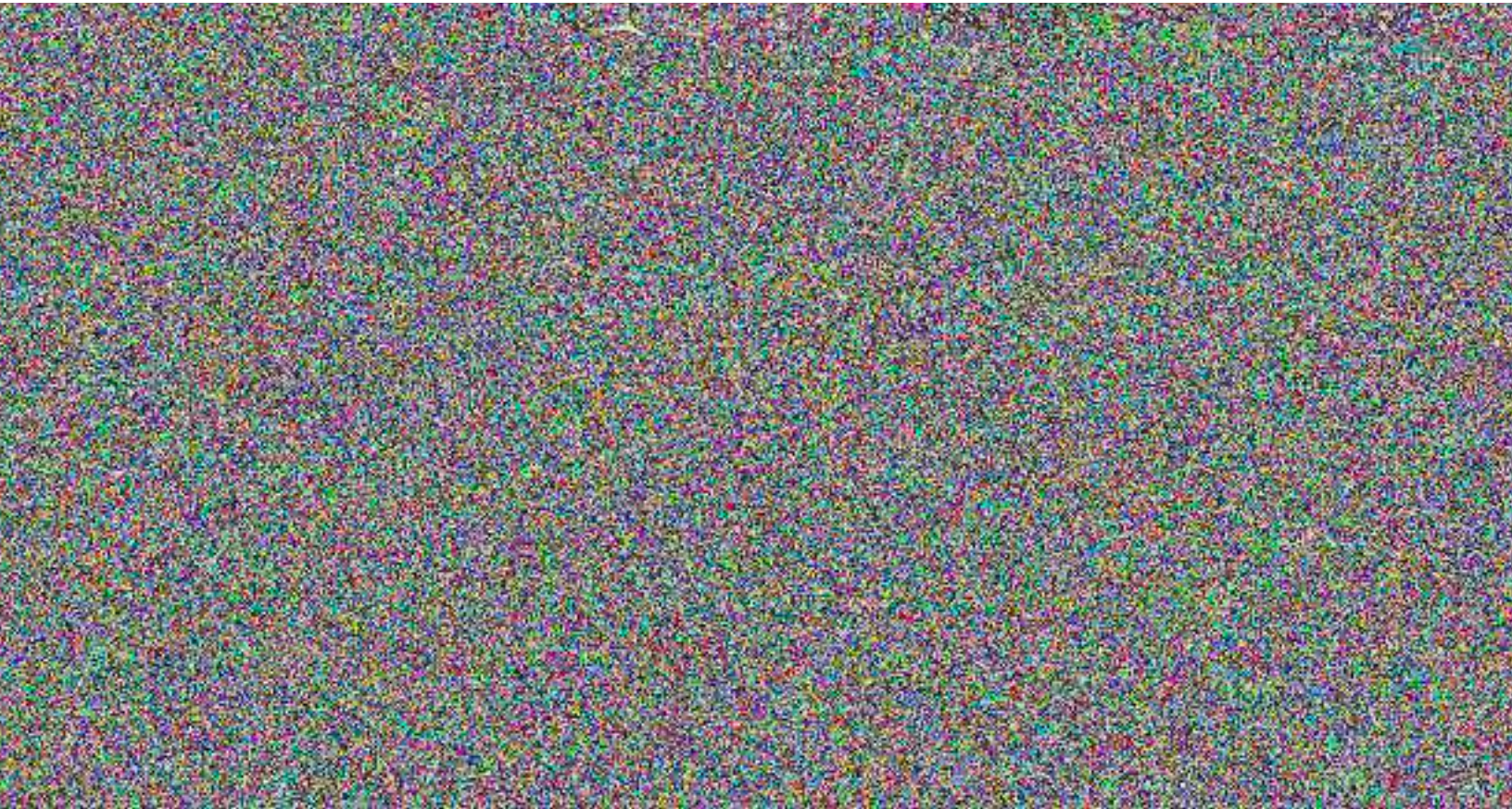
The JCR also has a committee and funds; meetings are held three times a term in the Wolfson, where members of the JCR (i.e. you) are able to propose motions on how the JCR money is spent or how the JCR constitution works.

## **The MCR**

The graduate student's version of our common room found to the right of the bar is classier than the JCR with comfy sofas and chairs and an array of bottles waiting to accompany the evening's rather stimulating conversation by the fire. We'd probably just end up feeling uncomfortable...

## **The SCR**

The mysterious area of college where only senior common room members (i.e your tutors) are admitted. If you ever receive the opportunity to go up there/ manage to sneak in, please do tell us what it's like, as we're all dying to know.





# Packing

Packing can seem a tad stressful, but it really shouldn't. Most things don't matter and luckily, we have compiled a list of the stuff that we think does.

The first time you move in, the Freshers' helpers will help you carry all of your things up to your room, so if you want to make friends, less is more! Also, don't forget that everything you bring has to be moved out at the end of every term, so pack seasonally.

## Essentials

- Toothbrush/toiletries
- Towels
- Duvet and pillow, with covers
- Rucksack or satchel
- Laundry basket or bag
- Laptop and charger
- Extension cable
- Ethernet cable
- Hairdryer
- Plate, bowl, mugs, saucepan...
- Cutlery and a sharp knife
- Warm clothing for Michaelmas
- Sub Fusc (see The Essentials)
- Doorstop
- Formal wear

## Non-essentials

- Decorations
- Beanbags, cushions
- Lamp
- Blankets
- Speakers
- Fancy dress
- A good hangover cure

## What Not to Pack

- Candles and incense are strictly banned
- Irons, kettles and toasters are banned from rooms, but will be provided
- You won't need your entire bookshelf





# Moving In

Access to Teddy Hall is extremely limited and parking is even more so. In order to combat this, College has organised for you all to arrive staggered at different times (which I am sure they have explained to you already). On arrival, a team of current students (our freshers' helpers) will be around to welcome you to the Hall and to show you to your room. Once you've unloaded your car near the main entrance, we also do ask that parents move to one of the nearby car parks to free up space outside the Hall – although of course you are welcome to see them before they go.

First years are allocated a room in Emden, Kelly, Whitehall, Besse or Dawson (called the William Miller Building by College). All the freshers accommodation except Dawson are in the main site and the rooms are pretty identical, Dawson is a very short walk away and but has nicer rooms with a big kitchen and ensuite bathrooms. Fun fact about Kelly: it is the tallest building in Oxford without a lift! Once you get up there though, you'll find each room is fairly spacious, with ample wardrobe space and full length mirrors on every floor. Each room also has its own sink, and there are communal bathrooms and kitchenettes on each floor.

When you first arrive though, make sure to meet everyone on your floor either by propping your door open or being bold and knocking to introduce yourself to others. Teddy Hall's small site means you'll be bumping into people all the time which means it's super easy to meet everybody. Wherever you are you will have an amazing time, get to know so many people and make great friendships!

College do not allow you to switch rooms once they have been allocated, but if you have a serious medical or personal reason as to why you need to, please get in contact with the JCR accommodation officer ([jasmin.kreutzer@seh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:jasmin.kreutzer@seh.ox.ac.uk)) or Belinda Huse ([accommodation.officer@seh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:accommodation.officer@seh.ox.ac.uk)). We will try everything possible to make everyone happy.





# Living in College

Access to college is restricted for security's sake, so remember to take your fob key with you wherever you go. This allows you onto all floors, into the library and the late gate. Be careful not to lose this or you will have to pay a fine or around £25 to College to get it replaced. 11pm, the main gate into college and the main exit out locks and instead access to the main site is via the late gate on the High Street, between Honey's Newsagents and The Rose Tea Room. Use your key on the turnstile and stumble blearily to bed.

Each floor has a scout, who empties bins and hovers rooms every weekday. If you don't want to be disturbed, or your room is unfit to be seen by anyone's eyes but yours, then leave your bins outside your door and your scout will get the message. You should try to befriend your scout, they're all lovely people and you'll see a lot of them!

## Bikes in Oxford

College provides racks to store your bike. Make sure you register your bike at the lodge within your first week. If not registered, your bike will be cut off the racks and thrown away. If you're not sure whether or not to bring a bike with you, see how your first week of commuting to and from lectures by foot is – you can always buy a bike here; there are lots of second hand bike sales in the first few weeks, and also a number of good bike shows around Oxford. Bike theft in Oxford is quite a big issue, so always try to lock your bike to something, rather than just to itself. Also, make sure you invest in a good lock (we recommend D-locks or chain locks – you can buy a good quality D-lock from the Oxford Union for £10), and always remove your bike lights when you leave your bike.







## College Food

As you will quickly notice (and be confused by...) no one at Teddy calls dinner 'dinner'. Instead you'll often hear "Ming?" whispered across the aisle of the library and ring out around the JCR. You'll fight using the nickname for at least a term, but eventually give in and forget what the word dinner actually means.

Though kitchens are available on almost all floors, Teddy Hall is catered for at breakfast and dinner. The food at Teddy Hall is always lovely – "Ming" is a great time to sit back and unwind after a day of work and catch up with all your friends. Before COVID, you could turn up at any time you liked for these meals and sit wherever suits you. However, last year the system was adapted a little to suit restrictions and students all had to sit in their households and had formal dinners every other night! Thankfully, prospects are looking a bit brighter for this year, so hopefully we'll be back to normal again.`

### **Battels and Finance**

Both accommodation and meals are paid for on your battels statement (your bill), which you will receive at the beginning of each term. Accommodation fees include all water, electricity, heating bills and a set number of meals. You can find far more detailed information about your battels in 'The Essentials' guide.



# The Library

Just to confuse you, the Teddy Hall library can be found inside the Norman Church (bragging point: it's the oldest church in Oxford), which you'll find through the first arch on your left in the front quad. It's well stocked and the collections of past exam papers come in very handy, but let's avoid all of that for now... There's a photocopier, computers and printers too. We recommend going to your library induction tour though, as otherwise you could spend an embarrassingly long time figuring out how to take out a book (speaking from previous experience!).

The library is a good place to work, with a quiet atmosphere, plug space for laptops and a good amount of desk space and open 24-7. If you find yourself doing more people watching than work, then do remember that the library tower is usually far emptier than downstairs and there's very little to distract you up there. There's also our IT Room which is another great place to work if the library ever gets too full – a little bit more chilled out than the dead silence of the library!

There are also many, many other libraries in Oxford, so if you end up getting a bit tired of Teddy Hall's library, then definitely go out exploring for more exotic places to work in – the RadCam and the Bodleian are just a short walk away. The libraries around the University will be working on a booking system this term and the link for this is found here:

<https://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/using/reading-rooms> .







## College Amenities

### Bar

Our bar may not be the biggest in Oxford, but that just means its always lively. You can get just about anything you fancy here – all the usual booze, soft drinks, tea and coffee, crisps and sweets, all at a lower cost than high street pubs and bars. Photos of previous sporting victories are hung up on the walls of the two halves of the bar (the Buttery on the left and the Well on the right) and clubs/societies often meet every week for a drink.

### Gym

Teddy Hall has its own gym, over at Norham Gardens (one of our post-graduate accommodation sites), which is a 5-minute bike ride from college. It's on the small side but it is FREE for any Teddy students to use, and it has the benefit of being nice and quiet! Gym inductions will happen early this term and there is a booking form to arrange a time slot for using it. You must be inducted to use the gym so make sure you sign up when its available.

### Music Room

You can pick up the key to the Music Room at the Porter's Lodge, and then it's all yours for any musical or theatrical needs – although be sure to book to avoid disappointment. It's set underground so you can make plenty of noise without disturbing anyone, and boasts a wide array of instruments and sound tech. It's also the perfect place to practise if you're doing any drama, especially if you enter the cuppers competition – you'll hear more about this at the start of term through your Arts and Culture Reps.

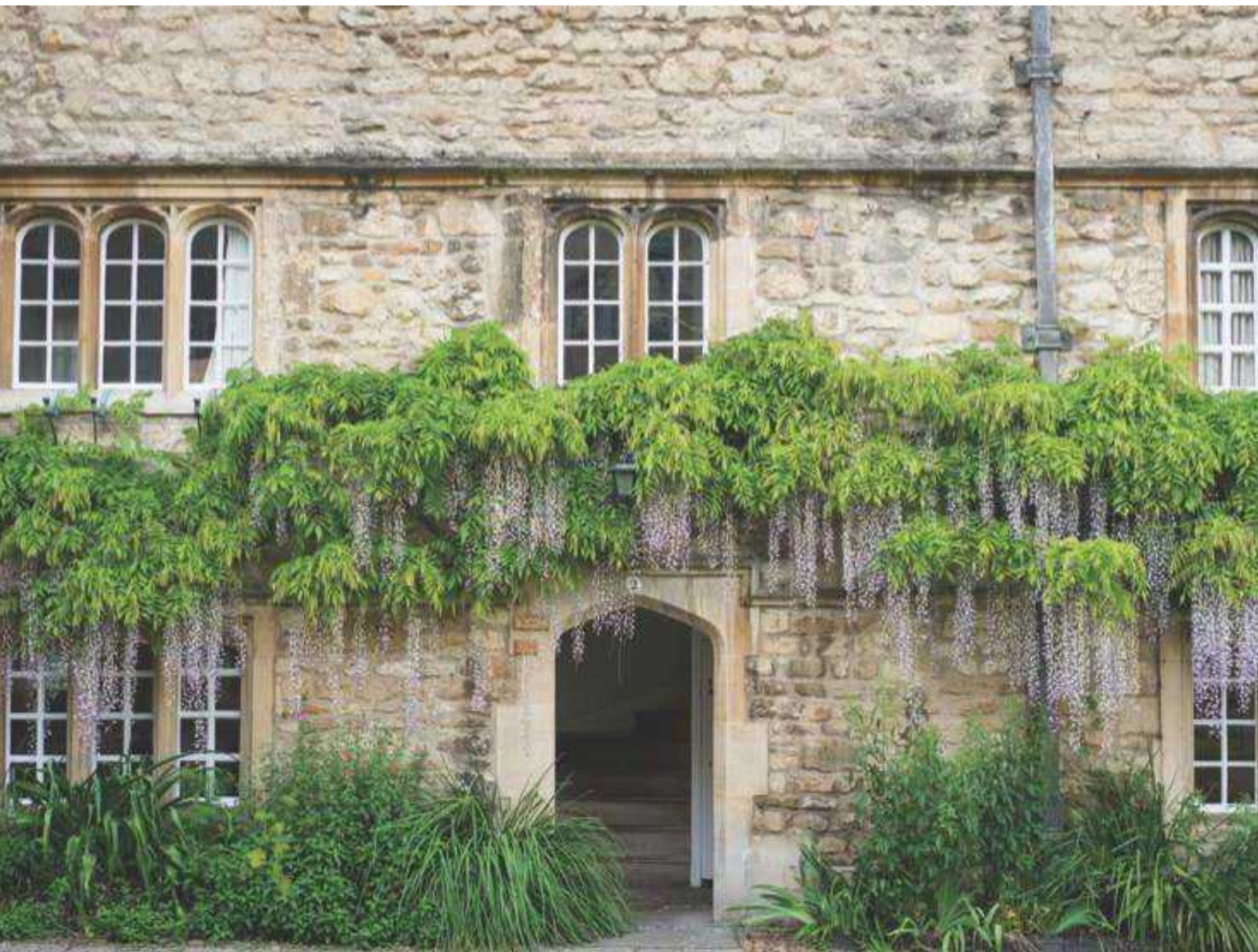


## IT

Our bar The JCR computer room is now located in what used to be a Podarock shop and it can be accessed from the High Street during the day and from the Kitchen quad at night. As the room has recently moved here, we will send out a map to the JCR outlining where it is once term has started. The computer room is great for emergency essay printing if you don't have a printer of your own (much easier than traipsing up the library tower where the other printers are) and is usually paper ready. It is also a very nice workspace, and alternative to the library.

## Nurse

Whatever the reason for your visit may be, the college nurse is there to offer you support – whether you need to talk through a problem or are in desperate need of a paracetamol. You will get an email to let you know the hours when the nurse is available, and it might be best to email them arrange an appointment time, just to make sure. The nurse's room is also where you'll see the college doctor if you've made an appointment. A doctor from the Summertown practice (you'll register with them at the start of term) comes to the college weekly and you can book an appointment online. All information regarding this is on the SHE website in the 'current students' section.







## Oxford Nightlife

**Plush** – Great central location on Cornmarket Street, Plush is the LGBTQ+ venue in Oxford with Oxford's LGBTQ+ society leading a club night there every Tuesday. Every other night of the week, all are welcome for their famous £1 jaegerbombs. Sweaty n vibey, with the occasional great DJ event.

**Bridge** - An iconic Thursday night and the home of the existential crisis. Easily got the best smoking area in Oxford and it's here you'll see everyone you've come to know (for better or for worse). Early arrival through Anuba (or Spirit if we want to get technical), the down-stairs sister bar, is essential for cheap drinks and avoiding queuing for years..

**Anuba** – It's a Teddy Hall Takeover on a Thursday night, only a fool enters through the main road side! Much of Teddy Hall begins (and ends) the night in Anuba with its great tunes, with a quieter and cheaper bar.

**Varsity Club** - Has an impressive rooftop terrace, but also boasts a very pricey drinks menu. Nice for an occasional treat or to impress visiting friends...always the venue for any posh society drinks.

**Park End** - This place hasn't actually been called Park End for years, but God forbid you call it by its real name ... Atik. The home of uni sports teams and VKs on a Wednesday or a rogue Brookes night on a Monday. Either way, a lot of fun.

**Bullington Club & O2 Academy** – Gig venues and trendy venues out in Cowley, look out on facebook for their events. If you think you're cool enough give them a go....

**Thirst** – Opposite Park End, has a bar and dance floor, good for when parks ends full or you feel like a random night with cheesy music



# Unofficial Glossary

**Ahmed's:** Legendary Kebab van near college. Seems like a great idea after a night on the razzle, but is arguably regrettable the morning after when your room smells like garlic and your mouth tastes of carpet. 'I'm never eating that again', you vow. Oh, but you will.

**BOP:** Big Organised Party. Shame? Modesty? Good taste? BOPs are where you'll take a picture of the next big name in politics dressed in something entirely inappropriate that you can sell to the Daily Mail for a mint in 20 years' time.

**BNOC:** Big Name on Campus. Prepare to not know who any of these self-proclaimed BNOCs actually are. They all peaked in sixth form and are just trying to keep living that dream.

**Crew Date:** Oxford tradition where two groups go out for a boozy meal. Prepare for various drinking games and other assorted fun. A brilliant way to learn things about your new friends that you never wanted to know, but are secretly glad that you do.

**Chocomilk:** The nectar of the Gods.

**Collections:** Exams at the start of every term to check you haven't been slacking off over the holidays. They don't matter. Don't panic.

**Cuppers:** Everyone's favourite sporting event. Whether you play it or you don't, watching inter-college cuppers sports will either be the best or worst experience of your life.

**JCR Tea:** Everyone's favourite moment of the week. Arrive early to secure your share of tiger bread, guacamole, capri suns and frubes or other treats £100 of the JCR budget has bought everyone. COVID put this on a hiatus – now it will be back with a vengeance.

**Keble:** Otherwise known as K%ble. The enemy. You'd rather go to Cambridge than to K@&le and that's all you need to know.

**Kelly:** Literally Mount Everest.

**Michaelmas, Hilary and Trinity:** The embarrassing names we have for winter, spring and summer terms. Avoid using around friends from home, you will be laughed at.

**Ming:** Affectionate name for dinner served in college.

**Pidge:** Your own pigeon-hole, where post and leaflets are received. Enjoy checking this multiple times a day until the novelty wears off.



**Plodge:** Term for the porter's lodge, for those of us who don't have enough time on our hands to say the whole thing.

**Quiz Machine:** Watch the supposed 'best young minds' in the country shout at a partially broken and infinitely cruel machine. The very best way to waste your money. Unfortunately missing in action with COVID – read your encyclopaedias during term in preparation.

**Rowers:** 'Oh, I didn't realise they rowed' is a phrase you will literally never, ever hear because anyone who has been on the river will tell you about it every time they see you.

**Trashing:** An Oxford tradition where students, having finished their exams, are covered in the likes of shaving foam, silly string, confetti and some sort of fizzy alcohol.

**Scout:** So much more than a cleaner. The only reason your room doesn't become an actual hovel.





# Sports and Societies

We'll have a College Freshers' Fair during your first week where you can sign up to any of the societies below. There'll also be a big University Freshers' Fair with lots more societies – there's something for everyone! You can find the list of current societies on the Oxford Uni Website.

## **Netball – [Esme.Mcmillan@seh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Esme.Mcmillan@seh.ox.ac.uk) Beth.Scott@seh.ox.ac.uk**

The netball team strives to keep up with Teddy's legendary sporting success and whether you haven't played before or are an experienced player, there is a spot for you on our team. We make the games and practices as fun and friendly as possible so come and give it a go! We usually play matches every week in an intercollegiate league for the first two terms, entering an A and B team if we have enough people. We aim to have training weekly, and hope to have regular social events like crew dates and social sports nights. At the end of Trinity, we also have Cuppers, a fun knockout tournament between all the colleges - it is usually boiling but a great way to end the year. Look forward to seeing you on court!

## **Rowing – [menscaptain@sehbc.org](mailto:menscaptain@sehbc.org), [womenscaptain@sehbc.org](mailto:womenscaptain@sehbc.org)**

Oxford is probably one of the most accessible places to start rowing. As the largest sporting society at Teddy Hall, we value participation just as much as performance. The majority of Teddy Hall rowers and coxes learnt as freshers and all play their part in making up an incredibly welcoming club. We thrive on those who arrive at university keen to try a new sport, and we cater for those joining purely for the fun of it as well as those aiming to out-perform other colleges and universities in races across the country. Through joining SEHBC you can also try your hand at coxing. The cox is the person in the boat who takes charge of steering and issuing commands; it's a lot of fun, especially in Oxford's bumps style regattas. We have a large women's and men's side of the boat club, and we pride ourselves on being an incredibly integrated club, in both training and social aspects. Teddy Hall boat club has a fantastic social scene, and we regularly hold games nights, crewdates, as well as boat club dinners once a term. So whether you're rowing through Oxford in glorious weather with your friends, winning big races, or celebrating at end of term dinners, rowing is a very unique and hugely rewarding sport. If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to contact us!

## **Rugby – [Hector.Skipworth@seh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Hector.Skipworth@seh.ox.ac.uk)**

St Edmund Hall RFC is the most successful rugby club in Oxford's long history of college sport. Having won over half of every Cuppers tournament we have ever entered, we have a big rugby legacy that we are striving to continue. Unfortunately, last year we were unable to get our 3rd cuppers victory in a row due to COVID-19; instead, we will look to this coming season to defend our title and to make up for the lost celebrations from last season. The Cuppers tournament offers colleges competitive, hard-fought rugby. Past campaigns have always ended with fans storming the pitch in celebration, beer flying everywhere, players and supporters alike in tears of joy. It is this scene which symbolises how much rugby means to the Hall. Although it is not all competitive, we accommodate players at any level, from beginners right up to those with professional contracts. Throughout the year, there are many friendlies and we are one of only two colleges to run a second XV, The Hilarians. As a result, we consider ourselves one of the most inclusive clubs as well as successful. Across the season and the two teams we offer a great mix of serious rugby and a more Sunday league style as well, so everyone is encouraged to get involved. The college is very proud of its rugby team and games often attract large crowds of supporters. On the Saturday of fresher's week, we will take on the Teddy Hall Old Boys so be sure to come and play or watch. After every match on a Saturday rugby drinks is held in the college bar. These drinks are great fun and enable a good social mixing for people from all over college. Rugby is the soul of Teddy Hall and I can't recommend getting involved in any capacity enough. Please do feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the rugby club.

### **Womens' Football – yasmin.ratcliffe@seh.ox.ac.uk & gemma.smith-bingham@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Hi guys! We are the Teddy women's football team! We're a very friendly and sociable club! We have done pretty well in the past in cuppers but welcome any and all skill level!! We have drinks and crewdates and are a great way to meet girls in different years! Come find a captain if you wanna join!

### **Darts – James.Odwell@seh.ox.ac.uk & Jordan.Dring@seh.ox.ac.uk**

"Success consists of going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm" – Winston Churchill.

"Some people feel the rain, others just get wet" – Phil Taylor. Winston Churchill's actual participation in SEHDC is debated by historians to this day, but I believe the former of these quotes is too relevant to our philosophy to be a mere coincidence. The latter is a fascinating meteorological statement from England's greatest ever sportsman to remind darts players of the importance of appreciating that rain is indeed wet. These two quotes capture exactly what SEHDC is all about: chat. As all the boxing greats from Mike Tyson to Freddie Flintoff have realised, nobody actually cares about who wins the fight, instead it's "all about who's got the better craic at the pressers" (Muhammad Ali, 1963). At SEHDC we play exclusively for a laugh: our one important rule is that results are totally impossible. We are the only club to have on site sporting facilities – the darts board in the bar has witnessed some of the greatest Teddy Hall losses in living memory – and we are also the only sporting club in college to hold our drunks nights whilst we are playing our fixtures. Our midweek games often attract large crowds of supporters and are a great way to visit and then get kicked out of other college's bars while witnessing some of the greatest dartistic talent the hall has to offer. Nearly all of our players had never touched a dart before coming to Oxford so it cannot be stressed enough just how unimportant actual ability is as long as you are prepared to make outlandish claims that you can't deliver on and to back yourself even after you've already lost. We play once/twice a week in Michaelmas/Hilary in league and friendly fixtures that are always really fun and sociable, so we would encourage all members of the Hall to come down and get involved regardless of whether or not hey intend to throw. It's also important to note that some of the Halls greatest ever sportsmen have discovered their hidden talents whilst competing for SEHDC – as Sid Waddel accurately summarised: "Darts players are probably a lot fitter than rugby players in terms of overall body strength." You get the picture. Having won darts superleague last year, you have a chance to join a championship team. No matter what your experience, tuck into darts at the bar in the evenings and come along to any fixtures! Honestly, even if you've never played before, get involved!

### **Football - Samuel.Boulger@seh.ox.ac.uk**

St Edmund Hall Association Football Club is a very friendly club and no matter how many times you've kicked a football, you will be welcomed with open arms. Our 3 teams accommodate a variety of ability and so whatever your level, we would love to have you as part of the club. The three teams compete in Cuppers, an intercollegiate cup competition, which are very competitive and great to play in. After a disappointing loss in the semi-finals last year, the first team are hungrier than ever for Cuppers victory. We always get great support from the hall and they provide a great atmosphere with the SEHAFC ultras in full force. SEHAFC is a family club and we have a weekly social in the college bar which brings the whole club together and ensures that everyone gets to know each other in all years. Let's just say, some players take the Gazza approach and others the Ronaldo approach. Akin to the wise words of the greatest manager to have ever lived 'I wouldn't say SEHAFC are the best club in the world, but I'd say they're in the top one'.



### **Hockey – [harriet.elyes@seh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:harriet.elyes@seh.ox.ac.uk)**

Having pretty recently completed the treble of League, Mixed Cuppers and Super-cuppers - and reaching the final of Cuppers - the hockey club is searching for new talent to take us one step further and win the ever-elusive cuppers trophy. Whilst there are officially two separate teams for Men's and Women's hockey, SEHHC has always had a strong girls contingent competing in the Men's competitions as well due to the sheer terror of girls from other colleges of fielding a team against the Hall - which results in many cancelled matches. However, the hockey calendar is full of fixtures, so there is always plenty of games to play whether you're a hockey veteran or just looking for a new sport to try out. Founded in 2019/20, there is now even a Hilarians (2<sup>nd</sup> XI) team for Hockey for seriously casual play with literally only willingness required. Regardless of your experience level, SEHHC can provide. In Michaelmas term the main team will be competing in Division One and hoping to maintain the record of recent years. Hilary then sees the season-defining cuppers campaign. Having lost in the final to our hockey rivals Worcester in 2019 and COVID bringing an end to all things sport in Trinity 2020, we're hoping that this season will finally be the one that sees hockey come home to the Hall. If we do win the league, then we also get the opportunity to play the Cambridge college that won their league on the hockey varsity day, which is a great day out (especially when we turn up and walk all over the inferior tabs 7-0). Finally, Summer sees the defence of our Mixed Cuppers trophy, a great chance to have a bit of sporting relaxation during the hectic exam period. Alongside this, girls will have a chance to play in few six aside friendlies as well as forge their own path in the uncharted territory of Women's Cuppers this year. Matches are always played on Sundays, mostly down at Iffley Road (approximately 10-minute walk from college). Hockey at the Hall provides a great chance to meet some different people and take part in some more of the sporty culture of the Hall. Hope to see you down at Iffley for our first game of the season!

### **Rounders – [Alexander.sarshar@seh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Alexander.sarshar@seh.ox.ac.uk)**

Look up 'domination' in the dictionary and you'll find 'SEHRC'. Winning the 2019 cuppers and coming back strong in 2021 with a narrow defeat of half a rounder in the final against BNC. The SEH Rounders Club combines two invaluable propensities: exercise and enjoyment. The team takes to the Uni Parks pitch for a weekly fixture in Trinity Term and proves that Rounders is a no minor summer sport but an integral part of the college community - great way to bond with other years. The question on many lips is how one could not spend their Friday afternoon racing around the four posts of the pitch. We encourage all, be it with no experience whatsoever, to get stuck into the team and help retain our Cuppers title. We look forward to seeing lots of you in Trinity Term.

### **Basketball – [ryan.dsouza@seh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ryan.dsouza@seh.ox.ac.uk)**

Teddy Hall has a very positive and active basketball culture and regular games for players of all levels. Whether you want to play once a month or religiously every week, SEH Basketball Club is the place for you. Most of the year we play friendly matches which are always fun, team spirited and occasionally quite competitive. Apart from Cuppers during Trinity term, the Club does not require a high level of commitment (and even Cupper is completely optional). A perfect place for anyone looking for a regular opportunity to play with and get to know amazing people, both in Teddy Hall and other colleges.

### **Teddy Hall Badminton – William.Loosely@seh.ox.ac.uk**

If you've ever fancied knocked a feathered cork over a net with other people, then badminton is the sport for you! If you haven't, then that's your problem. Last year we have weekly 'training' sessions with Magdalen college in their courts, and this is something we're looking to continue this year. These sessions are completely free to attend – just bring some friends along! For those looking to compete for the college, there's a mixed cuppers tournament we've been able to reach the cuppers finals for the past few years in a row – Let's see if we can go all the way this time! The university badminton club hosts club nights 3 times a week, although these are paid. They also run trials for the university team in Michalmas.

### **Chess – lewis.lloyd@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Teddy Hall has a good number of chess players of all abilities. Teddy Hall achieved 4<sup>th</sup> place in cuppers in previous years and it'd be great to compete again this year with your support! It's a great chance to meet follow chess players or give chess a go again if it's been a while. If you are interested, look out for notifications during the year, or send me a message/e-mail if you have any chess related questions.

### **Creative Writing – alexander.abrahams@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Since the first word was carved into stone (maybe), The Hall's writers have assembled in the Buttery Bar to recite their literary masterworks, often to the peaceful backdrop of rugby drinks. Dante himself is said to have read an early draft of his Inferno to the group, which would likely have been a total failure if not for the constructive criticism of several undergraduates. Even though coronavirus may prevent us this year from entering the bar, we will be assembling in some form to share words, sentences, and the occasional full stop. Attendance isn't expected every week, but there will be a casual meeting on Wednesday nights. Attendees may bring and read their original work(s), or can opt just to listen and discuss. We accept any form of writing at any experience level, so please come along and be part of the single most important writing group in literary history.

### **Cricket - Robert.Hardwick@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Cricket at the Hall has seen an upsurge in recent year, with SEHCC winning Cuppers in 2017, and finishing runners up in 2018 after tying the final and losing out in the super over (very ICC World Cup like). The Cricket Cuppers final has established itself as a significant date in the Hall sporting calendar, with large numbers gathering in the Parks to support the Hall. Outside of cuppers, we field 2 league sides on a weekly basis in Trinity, with players from all abilities encouraged to join, even if it's your first time swinging a bat. As an added bonus we also have claims to some of the best sporting stash in college.

### **Tennis – Ishan.ramanathan@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Tennis at the Hall is, unlike tennis, a tale of two halves. The first being the league: while SEHLTC boast top flight position in the league setup, it's far more chilled than it seems and a good excuse to get outside and secure some tan-line (our favourite is sock-tan). There's also the chance of the famous amalgamated sports drinks which is not one to miss. For the more serious players, we have cuppers: a doubles tournament consisting of 3 pairs who play a set against each of the opposing team's pairs, and whoever wins the most sets wins. Last year was cancelled unfortunately but SEHLTC marched to cuppers quarter finals last year before being smacked out the competition. We go again next year.



### **Choir – james.whitbourn@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Hi, I'm Alex and I'm a conducting scholar in the Teddy Hall Chapel Choir. Along with our new Director of Music, James Whitbourn, we rehearse on Saturdays and Sundays, for one weekly evensong. This term this is obviously subject to some restrictions. We normally have free sherry and free formal hall after evensong, and we sing for other occasional college events. The choir is welcoming and friendly and we gladly accept people from backgrounds with all levels of choral and musical experience, and people all faiths and none! If you have any questions, feel free to email and ask!

### **Orienteering Club – Adam.Hawkins@seh.ox.ac.uk**

You don't know what made you do it, maybe your own sense of curiosity or maybe just a fear of missing out, but you go to The Buttery anyway. From then it's all a blur. You wake up and realise you're on a train to Leeds, with a tute in an hour, fiver in your mouth. If you make it back in time, you're in. Welcome to the Orienteering Club.

### **Varsity Trip – Amelia.Liddell@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Heyya I'm Millie your Varsity Trip Rep which means for the next term I'll be incessantly pestering you about skiing. This year, at the end of your first term a decent chunk of both Oxford and Cambridge will decamp down to the Alps for a week of sun, ski and après. It is honestly so fun and arguably the best week of your uni experience in my opinion. Loads of Teddy Hall generally go (50+ I believe last trip), from seasoned skiers to plenty of complete beginners, making this the perfect opportunity to try it if you've never skied before, and probably the best value for money ski trip you could ever go on. Looking forward to meeting you all and bombarding you with hundreds of messages about it. I'll also be selecting a few freshers to be trip reps to help me, so make yourself known at the college freshers fair if you are keen for some skiing, or just love fun. In the meantime, go like the Varsity Trip fb page and please message me if you've got any questions.

### **Christian Union – Davidson.sabu@seh.ox.ac.uk**

As the Teddy Hall Christian Union, we are striving to be a distinctive united family within the larger college community. We meet once a week for a meal, Bible and banter, and to pray for one another as we try to live in a way that reflects Jesus. All are welcome, whether you're a church-goer or are simply interested in investigating the claim of Jesus for yourself. We are also part of OICCU (Oxford Inter-Collegiate Christian Union), the university wide CU, which meets bi-weekly and helps inspire us and equip us for day-to-day life living and speaking for Jesus. If you have any questions, feel free to drop one of us (Yang Xin and David Sabu, your reps for this year) an email.

There are also many other sports not listed here but still often enter the cuppers competition – this includes Swimming, Gymnastics, Ultimate Frisbee, Lacrosse, Polo, Athletics, Rugby 7s and Women's cricket



## Subject Reports

In the following section you'll find subject reports from current second years, giving you a bit of extra information about what your first year's study will be like. If there is anything else you want to know, drop them an email, or get in touch with your college parents. Teddy Hall students are always happy to help out where we can, so never be afraid to ask for help.



**Biochemistry – beyza.akgun@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Firstly, well done for getting into Teddy Hall and Biochem. Your work over the first year will cover a broad range of topics over 5 modules: Biological Chemistry, Biophysical Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Molecular Cell Biology and Maths and Stats. The workload starts gradual mostly making sure everyone is at the same level. A normal week consists of a few lectures in the morning each day, two departmentally organised classes (one Maths or Stats and one Biological Chemistry or Biophysical Chemistry), one or two college-based tutorials and one day of labs. Outside of contact hours, you'll have to do a problem sheet for each class and tutorial and a write up after labs. Although there is a lot of work to do, there is plenty of time for extracurriculars and other interests. Good luck and enjoy the year.

**Biomed – matt.jarvis@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Teddy Hall is the one of the best colleges to study Biomedical Sciences at Oxford, since we have Rob Wilkins as our main tutor, and he runs the course for the whole university. This means the Teddy library is stocked with every textbook you might need, and there is always plenty of support available if you need help with lecture or tutorial work. First year BMS lectures are extremely diverse, and you'll cover content ranging from cell biology and genetics all the way to cognitive psychology. It's a great system for allowing you to work out what you enjoy, so that you can specialise accordingly in the latter two years. The lecture content may seem quite overwhelming, so don't worry about learning it all. If you focus on tutorial work, you'll have all the knowledge you need for the end of year exams. Good luck with everything! And feel free to contact me or any other biomedics if you ever have questions or concerns!

**Chemistry – mohammed.masum@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Congratulations for achieving your offer to study to what is objectively the best course, at objectively the best college, in Oxford. The chemistry course is engaging, broad and interesting, although do be prepared to have more contact hours than many of your peers. A week will consist of 9 and 10am lectures (Monday-Friday); 2 afternoons of labs on a Monday and Tuesday; a tutorial in one of three branches of Chemistry; and a maths class. There are also 2 physics classes per term in the first year. Whilst tutorials may seem daunting and unfamiliar at first, you will soon realise that the tutors are there to help you, not catch you out, and tutes are probably the best way to really get to grips with the course material whilst exploring more complex ideas not covered in lectures. If you are ever stuck with work or have any questions, then feel free to ask the second/third years - we're always happy to help! Whilst this may seem like a lot, it's definitely manageable and thanks to the relaxed and supportive atmosphere at Teddy Hall there's plenty of time to enjoy yourself in any way you want; be it through one of the college's many sports teams, or through the crazy social life that Teddy provides (the Teddy clubbing scene is where it's at, I'm just saying) - you'll definitely be able to find a balance between work and relaxation!

### **Earth Sciences – emily.falconer@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Congratulations on getting in to study Earth Science at Oxford and welcome to Teddy Hall!! The first year is so broad: you'll sit 4 papers at the end of the year in Geology, Physics Chemistry & Biology, Planet Earth and Maths. This means you don't have to worry if you haven't done certain subjects at A-level or if you don't know what you're interested in yet. Each week you'll have a combination of lectures, lab and tutorials. You'll have specific maths tutorials each week which are such a life saver! As well as departmental tutorials with different tutors each week; this is a bit different to other subjects who have the same tutors regularly but I really enjoyed the breadth of topics we could cover. Also what we're all really here for: fieldtrips! Hopefully we've seen the end of Virtual Fieldtrips for good and you'll get to go to Pembroke in a few weeks. We went to Arran at the end of summer term and I learnt so much: it puts all the theory you'll learn into context. Also, Earth Science is a small subject (usually less than 40 people in a year) and so you will all get to know each other on these trips and in department which is so lovely - I maintain that Earth Science people are some of the loveliest people! The work load also isn't super crazy so you'll have plenty of time to throw yourself into Teddy life too. Well done again, and see you in October!

### **Economics and Management - felix.gallagher@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Lots of the haters like to call E&M "Easy & Manageable", but that's by no means a bad thing. You've managed to get accepted onto one the hardest degrees to get onto and now you get to really enjoy your 3 years at Oxford. Usually you do 3 modules in your first term, 2 in the second, and 1 in the summer so you can revise for exams at the end of the year. The first term is one of the hardest of your degree (apart from maybe finals) so don't worry if you find it daunting to begin with, it does get easier and you've proved you're all more than capable by getting in! If you are struggling, the E&Mers are a really good bunch, and there's a decent sized group so do help each other out, and the older years will be more than happy to help so don't be afraid to ask. The E&M tutors at Teddy are all really nice too, so if you do have any worries, do let them know, they're there to help you. The Maths workbook is a great way of refreshing your maths skills, especially if you haven't done any since schools closed in March, and there's no harm in having a quick read of some items on your reading lists just to re-familiarise yourself with some economics. One of the best things about E&M being "Easy & Manageable" is that you have enough time to get involved with lots of societies, college sports teams and still have a great social time too (as well as the free coffee at the business school)! Congratulations again on getting into Teddy Hall and I hope you're excited for the wonderful 3 years you'll have at the hall.

### **Engineering – britanny.perera@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Hey! Well done for getting into the best college in Oxford for the best course there is (Engineering at Teddy Hall ofc). You'll have four tutors for your different modules- Amy, Richard, Paul and Stephen (but that might change). If you love what you do, chances are, they'll like you too. First year is all about getting to grips with new content and concepts and levelling up what you did in school. Some of it is quite a step up but as long as you actually give it a go and put effort in so you have something to say in your tutorial, you've got your tutors to help you out. There are 2 tute sheets a week, which do need a bit of time and sweat, so give yourself a decent amount of time to complete. Get them done and out the way and treat yourself to an easy (easier), breezy (breezier) week. Save yourself the hassle and last-minute panic. That being said, the years above you are legends and would be happy to help you out if you need it. You'll get to know us at subject lunch/dinner where we'll have some banging food and banging chat. Just ask your college parents if you've got any questions and, until then, don't stress it. Enjoy your post-A-level summer and have a blast. Can't wait to see you next year!



### **English Language and Literature – [william.heath@seh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:william.heath@seh.ox.ac.uk)**

Welcome to English at Teddy Hall, and congrats! Across your first year of English you'll study four papers: an Introduction to English Language and Literature (basically a module that delves into language and literary theory, which you write your two portfolio questions on at the end of the year), and then three examined papers: Early Medieval Literature (Old and Middle English), Victorian Literature (1830-1910) and Modern Literature (1910-present day). The beauty of your studies is just how flexible you can be in tailoring them to your interests; aside from one compulsory Paper 1 (theory) lecture series, you can pick and choose which lectures you'd like to listen to based on your interests and on how heavy you want your workload to be! The same can be said for your tutorial essays, usually based on your group discussions on whatever texts you've been reading for your classes that week — take whatever you found most interesting and feel free to roll with it in whatever direction! You have about three classes each week (one for each paper you're covering that term) and generally one tutorial, so there's plenty of material to draw from and plenty of opportunity to get to know and become close with everyone else doing your subject. You'll receive essay feedback in your tutorials, usually in groups of two or three with your tutor, which proves to be invaluable by the end of the year when you sit your Prelims, but even these are just a way for you to check in and see where you're at, and they don't have any weighting on your final degree classification! Generally, just use first year to get to know people, your course, your tutors, how you work best and what you're most interested in, getting stuck in to any opportunities outside your course, and if you need any help then your tutors and the second and third years are always there to turn to if you have any questions. Can't wait to see you in October!

### **Fine Art – [Jennifer.gill@seh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Jennifer.gill@seh.ox.ac.uk)**

Well Done on receiving an offer to study Fine Art at Teddy Hall! In your first year your studios will be at the Ruskin School of Art on the High Street, which is just a 60 second walk from the hall. There you will have your own space to create and once every fortnight a tutor will come and check on your practice and offer their expertise. Your week will be made up of one History and Theory of Art lecture/seminar, one afternoon of Anatomy class, one artist talk, one skills workshop at Bullingdon Road and the chance to go to two group crits. The department allows you to organise most of your time how you wish! I like to spend my daytime in my studio space, but there are also other places to work like the workshop or media lab at the Bullingdon Road site, which is a 15-minute walk away from the Ruskin. Living at Teddy Hall is great, because it is so close to the libraries, Modern Art Oxford and outside the hall is a bus stop for the Oxford Tube that can take you to London for just £5 to see exhibitions! My best piece of advice is to take every opportunity there is and get stuck in! Good Luck!

### **Geography – [esme.mcmillian@seh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:esme.mcmillian@seh.ox.ac.uk)**

Congratulations and welcome to Teddy Hall, the college with the best sense of community, even (especially) in a pandemic. Geography is the best subject you could have chosen, as the course content in first year is so broad, you get to learn a bit about everything. Whenever I tell my flatmates about what I've been studying, they always ask me how on earth that's geography! In first year, you study 4 modules across the 3 terms: Human Geography, Earth Surface Processes (physical geography), Geographical Techniques and Geographical Controversies. There aren't any optional modules for Prelims (first year), but that does mean you're all studying the same thing, so there are lots of people to help you out if you're a bit stuck. And luckily, one of the best things about geography is the people that study it – everyone gets on really well, and geographers have the most fun! In the first two terms, you have around 6 1-hour lectures, and 1-2 practicals a week ... (continued on next page)

## **Geography – [esme.mcmillan@seh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:esme.mcmillan@seh.ox.ac.uk) (continued)**

In the last term, there's only a few lectures left to cover, which takes place in the first few weeks, leaving plenty of time to revise for exams (although that's a long way off yet so don't even worry!). Each week, you're set either a 1500 word essay or set of shorter questions to answer, which is discussed in your tutorial. There's also some fieldwork trips and reports to complete. For geography, it's important to watch the lectures, particularly for the more physical side, as it gives you a good baseline understanding of the topic. But the reading is where you get to delve into the topic and learn about the nuances of the arguments. Hopefully, lectures and tutorials will be able to take place in person this year, but online or in real life the tutors at Teddy Hall are brilliant. Their knowledge and love for their topics makes tutorial discussions so interesting, but most importantly they are always there to help – so don't hesitate to reach out to either the tutors, your peers, or the older geographers if you're struggling. Enjoy first year geography – but don't forget everything else first year has to offer!

## **History – [ella.tan@seh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ella.tan@seh.ox.ac.uk)**

A huge congratulations and welcome to History in Teddy Hall! I'm happy to tell you that History is the best degree you could've chosen, and Teddy Hall is the greatest place to be. History at Oxford is very flexible, offering you the breadth to discover new things, and the depth to delve into what you're passionate about. The best part is that besides the basic period and geographical requirements, you have complete freedom and endless opportunities to decide what you want to learn! In First Year, you'll get to choose a paper in British History, one in Historical Methods, one in European and World history, and an Optional Subject (an opportunity for you to study a specific theme / topic / region using primary sources). This covers virtually every possible theme and topic you can think of, ranging from gender studies, revolutions, and empires to art, psychology, and even witchcraft (!). First Year papers are a great opportunity for you to try anything and everything you're interested in, so don't be constrained by what you think is "useful" - everything you learn will ultimately be relevant and help you to develop intellectually. Our history professors are extremely accessible, and are really interested to help you grow in your thinking as much as in your knowledge. Each week, you'll get the chance to have in-depth discussions with your tutors who are not only experts in their field, but who are genuinely passionate about the histories that they teach. This will form the bulk of your contact hours (about 2-4 hours per week), with lectures supplementing whatever you need to know. We may have less contact hours than other courses, but this is because you'll be using much of your time to read and research for your essays. You'll generally be assigned an essay a few days to a week before each tutorial, accompanied by a reading list to inform and guide your writing. This means that History is a very self-directed degree - you will have the freedom to focus on academic areas that catch your attention, and to formulate your own thoughts and arguments. Of course, this is probably also a big step up from anything you've experienced beforehand, so don't worry if it feels overwhelming at the start. Reading widely in a short period of time, writing substantial essays, and even managing your time academically are skills that you're meant to develop through your first year, not ones you're already expected to have. Also, please don't hesitate to reach out to me, your college parents, or any other history seniors - we are more than happy to help you out with any questions and concerns you may have! While I can't guarantee that your time studying History and in Oxford will always be easy, I can promise you that you'll have a really enjoyable and rewarding time experiencing all that your degree has to offer. We can't wait to meet you in October!



**Law – [claire.mallon@seh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:claire.mallon@seh.ox.ac.uk)**

Welcome to the Hall!!! First of all, massive congratulations to all the law freshers for getting here, the application process is hard – especially during a pandemic – so be proud of yourselves. Law is such a great subject, it allows you a lot of flexibility to make your own schedule and whilst the workload is pretty heavy, I promise you it is manageable! In first year, you will be studying Roman law and Criminal law in Michaelmas, Constitutional in Hilary, and Contract and half of Tort in Trinity. Each week you will have an essay (1200-1500 words) in each of the subjects you are studying followed by a tutorial (1-2hrs) on the week's reading, you may also attend lectures but whether these will be online or in person will probably vary. You're lucky because the tutors at Teddy Hall could not be better, each one will have their own style, but I promise you will enjoy them and really get a lot out of each tutorial. As a heads up, first year lawyers have their exams after second term (Hilary) and not after third term like most subjects in first year. This is not something to stress about, you will feel ready when the time comes around. It might seem a little unfair at the time, when no one else has that extra pressure, but just think about that exam-free trinity when you can (slightly) kick back when exam season comes into full swing for everyone else. Us second years are always here to help! Don't be afraid to ask your college parents, or any of us, for help. As a general rule if you're feeling a little overwhelmed – so is everyone else! So help each other out and most importantly, enjoy it! Enjoy the rest of your summer and be excited to join the Hall! We can't wait to meet you all in October.

**Material Sciences – [timothy.hartogg@seh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:timothy.hartogg@seh.ox.ac.uk)**

Hi there and welcome to materials at Teddy! The subject which no one's heard of at the college they probably haven't either! I'm not entirely sure how lectures and tutorials (tutes) will work for you guys but most likely you'll end up having 2-3 lectures a day and a maths tute each week, along with one or two for materials, each of which has a problem sheet which you go through with your tutor in groups of 3-4. The sheets can vary massively in how long they take depending on how hard they are and how much sleep you had the night before! You'll have some busy times, but you should be able to stay on top of it. The course has just been redesigned last year so some of the teething problems our year had with the new course should be solved for this year in terms of structure. You'll have maths tutes as well as some others with Jonathan and normally at least a one tute with Mauro, both of whom are your main tutors who you'll get to know very well in your first year. Both are easy to talk to so any problems you have they're there to help in tutes or if you email them, they can normally help. Same goes for the other tutors you'll have over the year – you'll probably meet all the teddy materials tutors at some point. You'll get labs once every couple of weeks as well on Thursday and Friday afternoons, with 3 lab reports to do over the year. These are pretty unpleasant but if you leave plenty of time you should have no problems, just remember that the (now) 3rd years had to do one after every lab! It's not all work though, as materials (seems to) have less work than some of the other STEM subjects at Teddy, so there'll be plenty of time to take part in whatever sports or societies you're interested in. If it's not offered in college, there will almost certainly be a uni-wide society that'll be glad to see some new faces. 2nd years live out at Teddy hall so you won't see the older matscis as much as at other colleges but if you have any questions feel free to email or message me I'd be happy to help. See you soon!

**Maths – saul.manasse@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Congratulations on getting into Teddy Hall, to do the best degree we have to offer. The first year maths course is very broad, with a range of pure and applied modules. You will have 5 modules per term, and will have 2 lectures on each module each week. You will also have a problem sheet for each module every week, and usually a tutorial for each sheet too – so 5 sheets and 3-4 tutorials a week. The Teddy Hall maths tutors are great, and they will help you to improve really quickly. The course is tough, but also manageable and incredibly rewarding – you are here because you love maths and you are good at it, so there is no reason why you should not thrive here. The most important piece of advice I can give is to just try your best, and don't worry about what anyone else is doing. If you find problems super hard, and have to hand in a partially completed sheet, that is okay. As long as you have put in a sensible amount of time and thought, you will improve very quickly. Looking forward to meeting you and hope you enjoy your first year!

**Medicine – verity.black@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Congratulations on your place here at Oxford and welcome to your home for the next six years! Although I'd be very biased in saying Teddy is definitely the best college, let alone to study medicine at, I'll happily say I would not want to have spent the past year anywhere else! From the unbeatable sense of community and hall spirit to the one and only Rob Wilkins, we have everything here (also don't worry, you will soon understand the unfailing love we have for that man). In terms of the actual course, it's hard to give you what a typical week will look like at the moment. Last year for us, we'd have online lectures (about 2-3 a day) as well as in person practicals (about 1 a term) and in person tutorials (having anywhere between 1 and 4 a week). The medical sciences department are trying their hardest to make everything as "normal" as possible (eg 3-4 lab sessions a week with in person lectures) but nothing is confirmed yet. All us second years will be joining you experiencing what normal is truly like! The workload is definitely a pressure but as soon as you get into your stride it is by no means unbearable. The tutors and lectures and other Teddy staff are amazing at helping if you do find yourself struggling with workload, content or anything on your mind, so do not stress about that! Also, regardless of your interests there will be a society or club for you to destress and enjoy. If you have any questions feel free to email me! See you all at freshers!

**Modern Languages – anna.iaramboykov@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Big welcome and congratulations for receiving an offer to study Modern Languages at Teddy Hall!! In your first year you will build a foundation for the next 3 years, studying and translating literature from a wide range of periods in your chosen language(s). In doing so, you will discover what periods, topics, and movements you enjoy more than others and which ones you would want to pursue further in your second year. You will have many contact hours each week for each language including 4-5 lectures (pertaining to the assigned literary works), 1 literary seminar or tutorial, 1 translation seminar (into and from target language), 1 grammar class and 1 speaking class. You are generally required to hand in work before each class but it's very manageable and you can still trick the other degrees into thinking you have nothing to do 😊. The tutors are also always available if you need any help with your work. Looking forward to meeting you all and hope you're excited to get to know your language(s) better; after all, to have another language is to possess a second soul (my boy Charlemagne)



**PPE – Rachel.trippier@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Huge congratulations on getting in to study PPE at Teddy Hall! Although its a strange time right now First Year will still be fantastic. The first year PPE course aims to give you both depth and breadth in all three subjects. Some people find the workload more manageable than others, and you'll always have work due in, but the course is incredibly interesting so it shouldn't be hard to enjoy! Each term you'll study 2/3 of the disciplines. For example, you may begin studying Ethics and Practice of Politics in first term. Then in second term Microeconomics and General Philosophy. Finally in third term it may be Macroeconomics and Theory of Politics (depending how the tutors choose to arrange the tutorials). Throughout the year you will also take Logic classes as part of the first year Philosophy course. You will tend to have 2/3 pieces of set work per week. This will be either: an essay (1500-2000) words for Politics, Ethics and General Philosophy or a problem sheet for Logic and Economics. Lectures for all three subjects take place in Examination schools which is just across the road from Teddy Hall, if you're in Whitehall or Besse you may even be able to see the school from your bedroom window! Lectures tend to take place between 10 and 1. Lectures aim to give you as much information as possible on the various sub-topics, some students find these more useful than others! You will also have 'labs' where you learn about a political analysis software which you have to write an essay on in Hilary term. Overall, the first year PPE course is a lot of fun. The reading is manageable and you are able to focus your essays on what you find most interesting. You will find your writing style throughout the year and you'll finish the year having learned a lot and hopefully enjoyed yourself! The tutors are incredibly welcoming and always happy to help. Equally, if you have any queries you should speak to any of the PPE second or third years as they will all be more than happy to help you out and we're all excited to welcome you to the PPE family!

**PPL - freya.rennison@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Congrats on making it! PPL is a diverse and flexible course which allows you to personalise your learning and spans both the sciences and humanities. However, as with all double honours your workload might be higher than your peers. Because of early exams, first year might be particularly busy for you - but hang in there because it gets easier! The structure of your course depends on which combination you picked, but everyone will complete 3 out of 4 of the introductory papers (psychology, philosophy, linguistics, statistics and experimental design) in their first year. Don't stress - none of these papers assume you have any previous knowledge, and many students will have never studied these subjects before coming to university. Take notice of which bits you enjoy and which bits you don't because you get a lot more choice in second year. You'll have 2-4 tutorials a week which you'll most likely join the Experimental Psychology/PPE/MFL students for. The tutors for PPL at Teddy are really amazing and will make sure you have all the support you need.

**Physics – james.morely@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Hello, well done for getting in to study physics at oxford! Not gonna lie, it's quite a challenging course, but I'd wager that's half the reason you're here and if you put the effort in the workload is very manageable. In the first year, half the course will be maths, the other half physics (obviously) and you'll have some practical and computing labs. You'll have lectures at department and roughly 2 tutorials a week with 4 of the college tutors. If you're struggling at any point, just talk to your tutors or talk to your college parent, everyone can help you more than you'd expect. Good luck!

**Psychology – Emily.currie@seh.ox.ac.uk**

Firstly, congratulations! You've made a great choice to study experimental psychology, especially at teddy hall! The psychology course is slightly different to the other subjects in the you'll have your prelims at the end of Hillary term (2nd term) but this does mean you'll have slightly less to revise hopefully! In the prelims course you'll have an even split between neurophysiology, psychology and statistics. The neurophysiology course is quite biology heavy but everything will be covered for those who haven't studied biology at A level! The statistics course is a fair bit of work but just keep doing the set work throughout the term and you will be absolutely fine - none is that mathematically challenging! In the psychology course, you cover a huge variety of topics from social to perception - it is super interesting. Over the term you'll write about 12 essays in total (6 for neuro and 6 for psychology) but they are all spread out so you won't ever write more than two a week! Alongside this you'll get set a stats sheet a week. There should be on average 6 lectures a week and 3 tutorials (with your tutorial work being covered by the lectures). Although this does feel like a lot, the tutors are there to help and are very understanding and you'll get used to the work load. If you ever can't complete work or are struggling in anyway just email the tutors and they'll work out how to help. There's definitely time to get involved with activities outside your degree - if anything distraction and doing things you enjoy will help with your work too!