St Anne’s is known for being one of the most inclusive, active and friendly colleges in Oxford. Initially founded as the Society of Home-Students, St Anne’s was established upon the principles of equality and fair opportunity and these are still evident today. With one of the largest college libraries in the University we pride ourselves on being informal yet academically ambitious. This can be seen everywhere you look around the College; our coffee shop allows students to either relax, work, or even host events with alumnae; the versatility of our Junior Common Room is used for watching TV, taking part in JCR events or watching the St Anne’s pool team strut their stuff; and our college bar can be a place to grab a drink, take part in a pub quiz or even watch live music or comedy. It’s impossible to summarize St Anne’s in just a couple of paragraphs but this emphasis on student well-being, equality and accessibility is a good start.

What really makes this college so special are the people who call it home. Alongside the wide range of talented students we attract each year, St Anne's tends to produce the type of person who is willing to both lead and take part in a huge range of activities, remain effortlessly friendly, and to work hard throughout their time at Oxford. If you think you fit this description, read on, come to an open day and speak to any one of us. St Anne’s could be the place for you.

Welcome to St Anne's!

Helen Robb
JCR President
If you find the business of day-to-day chores a bit distracting, there is the option of living in a student house during your second and/or third year. Although it can isolate you from the college social scene, the life of living in a student house can be quite brilliant in its own way. Say goodbye to the college bar, scolding you for leaving the kitchen, and the midnight-8 am silent rule and hello to move house every eight weeks.

If you survive the first year, St Anne’s can say goodbye to ‘the ghetto’, (see across) into the glorious modern student accommodation. These consist of six Deech Building, Claire Palley ‘one’ and Rumoured to have bigger kitchens, etc. St Anne’s is proud to be able to house your degree in style.

5 floors, 2 kitchens, 7 toilets and over 25 bedrooms that reside, obviously, above the college bar. What more could you want? With 22 occupants, (including Mike the barman), you will never fear boredom in a place filled with winding staircases and secret passages that is St Anne’s answer to Hogwarts.

Geographically, ATB is set a little apart from other Fresher accommodation; however, when you have your own bar, pool table and flat screen TV downstairs, not to mention the most close-knit house in St Anne’s, who’s complaining?

What can be said about Gatehouse that isn’t already stated by its architecture? It is a bold yet dignified effort that finds its roots deep within the St Anne’s spirit of inclusion, no matter who you are, or what you’re made of. Its inhabitants share this philosophy and as a result tend to be some of the most sociable in college, creating a tight-knit community that so often develops from living in close quarters. Stanners love it, passers-by admire it, and its friendly face always welcomes you back after a night out!

Come one come all! Unlike most other colleges throughout your
Out
College life a
living out in
high some feel
social life,
be equally
scouts
change the
hen dirty
say hello to
enger having

In Up
This rewards you with an upgrade. You
Anne’s A-Z) and move upwards (or
es of second/third year
buildings: Wolfson, Rayne, the Ruth
and ‘two’, and Trenaman House.
An suite and/or a personal balcony, St
ou for all three or four years of your

ODATION

Woodstock
Next to the Bevs is the majestic maze
that is 58/60 Woodstock Road (less
imaginatively termed ‘Woodstock’),
the other Victorian housing block. It is
famous for two things: its kitchen,
which is larger than any in St Anne’s
and Room 13, which can only be
described as very, very cozy. Very,
very cozy. With direct access to the college
laundry room, not to mention a sink in
every room, Woodstock is definitely
the Mayfair of the Freshers’ monopoly
board.

The pride of Bevington Road, this
collection of ten handsome
Victorian houses are affectionately
known as the ‘Bevs’. Home to some
of the most palatial rooms in the
Fresher world, living in the Bevs can
be totally suite (see what we did
there)? Each of the ‘Bevs’ houses
up to eight people and whilst the
many flights of stairs could make it
less sociable than your average
corridor, the kitchens make for great
communal spaces.

Bevington Houses

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Our library is one of the largest college libraries in Oxford and offers 110,000 volumes on shelf with 2,000 new books added every year. Located in the Hartland House it is open 24/7 with librarians on hand during the week; and a self-service system to check out books in the evenings and on weekends. We have college-wide wireless internet access as well as our own computer room, another productive place of study that is open 24 hours a day with networked printers and scanners. There are also IT specialists available on site to deal with any technical problems.

As you might guess while reading this, we're pretty proud of our wonderful St Anne’s Coffee Shop, STACS, simply because it's just so good. STACS is open daily and offers a cheaper alternative to Starbucks, with comfy sofas, wireless internet and a relaxed atmosphere that makes it a good working environment and a great place to meet with friends. You could even grab a bite to eat from the wide range of wraps, sandwiches, paninis, muffins and cakes available. There's also a spiral staircase to add to its majesty.

St Anne’s has the luxury of four practice rooms; three smaller - each equipped with an upright piano for your general-purpose playing - as well as the hallowed Annie Barnes room (a.k.a. the room with the drums), which is larger and contains a most delightful grand piano. The art-art side of the arts is supported by the newly opened dark room and a room dedicated to painting, drawing and generally wreaking colourful mischief. The Mary Ogilive Lecture Theatre (MOLT) doubles as a performance space and hosts weekly concerts and art exhibitions.
In the evening (after a day of lectures, labs, tutes and essaying) the college bar opens. With a pool table, a giant screen TV (yes, it plays Sky Sports), a football table, and drinks at student prices, it's a great place to relax and meet people you may not see day to day around college. A slightly quieter place to socialise is the Junior Common Room in Hartland House, known as the Hartland Room, which has a larger telly and another pool table.

For a more substantial meal, the Dining Hall is open Monday to Friday for breakfast, lunch and dinner, whilst brunch is the perfect start to the weekend. With brand new kitchen facilities, eating in 'Hall' offers a wide range of tasty food and will cater to individual dietary requirements. Formals shouldn't be forgotten either, these fortnightly fiestas offer cuisine that would even have Mr Ramsay shouting; 'Yes Chef!'

At the other end of the culinary spectrum are the legendary student kitchens. One of the bonuses of St Anne's, these act as an area in which to exercise creative potential (think 'Come Dine with Me' meets 'how many meals can I fit baked beans in?') Kitchens vary in size but that should be no excuse to the adventurous, as they are all generously equipped with the essentials.

By the time you get here, St Anne’s will have finished the construction of its brand new gym. Designed to be genuinely useable, this space will be kitted out with brand new equipment and its fair share of rippling Stanners. Combine this with our rowing room and access to local sports fields, there is no reason to let that bountiful student diet come anywhere near your bikini body.
Hi there potential Stanner! I suppose for formality’s sake I should start with a short but sweet introduction. So here it is: I’m Vickie Morrish, and I study English. When I’m not being a ‘literary critic,’ I cheer for the Oxford Sirens (the best and only cheerleading squad here at Ox.) I also write for the finest Oxford student newspaper, the Cherwell, only a slight bias here. Now let us start our adventure, clever candidate, as we delve into one day in the mysterious world of Oxford. Welcome to my typical Friday:

2 P.M. AND TIME FOR LECTURES! 2 HOURS FLY BY

FACEBOOK

MY STUDIES ARE A CONSTANT STRUGGLE AGAINST MY NEMESIS.

I SAID WAKE UP!!!!!
MY ALARM INTERRUPTS RUDELY. I HOP ON MY BIKE AND START MY JOURNEY.

E.T.?!?

AFTER A FURIOUS 20 MINUTES PEDALLING, I START CHEERLEADING PRACTICE.

Lectures

Another mad dash...

Voltaire, you say??

Exhausted, I nap. Oh the bliss of sleep!

And so the night ends...

The much anticipated tute. This lasts an hour or so. The battle of minds is strong and I must keep my wits about me...
Matt Nicol -
Second Year History and Politics

I did not actually apply to St Anne’s College. There, I said it. Thankfully, Oxford’s application system righted this grave mistake. Like all other Oxford students I am now adamant that my college is the best one. Do not be fooled by our slightly northern location and more modern architectural style. Behind this façade hides one of the most fun and inclusive colleges in the entire University.

When I arrived as a trembling Fresher, I did have my doubts. I was worried I wouldn’t fit in, but it took just one embrace with a giant beaver (our college mascot) to allay these fears and welcome me into the college community. Perhaps the biggest compliment you can pay to Anne’s is to state how normal it is. Its students do not fit the old-fashioned Oxford stereotypes and the canteen is always more heavily populated than the library. Don’t get me wrong, people do work hard and are academically driven, but this is coupled with a large, thriving social scene and a myriad of opportunities across the University to do whatever you want. On a personal note this has meant captaining Anne’s football team, the world-famous ‘Mint Green Army’ (see above), and becoming a stalwart – token boy – for the girls’ netball side, as well as contributing to Oxford’s best student newspaper, the Cherwell. Having endured weeks of abuse from my friends at home about Oxford’s “Scrabble party” scene, I was also pleasantly surprised by Oxford’s nightlife and impressed by St Anne’s' always strong contingent on the dance floors of Park End and Camera.

Don’t make my mistake; apply to St Anne’s directly! It could be one of the best decisions you ever make!

Saras Mane - Third Year Medic

When I first visited St Anne’s, the relaxed atmosphere and welcoming faces led me to apply to study Medicine; as a ‘wise and aged’ third year, I can now confirm my first judgements were to be trusted. St Anne’s has one of the largest undergraduate intakes and we have a great sense of community, founded upon a very active JCR. Taking on the role of Welfare Rep in my second year, I witnessed the array of resources, the dedicated staff and the sheer amount of effort that goes into creating the extensive support network at Anne’s to help any student in need. As a medic, I have enjoyed being a part of our own St Anne’s Medical Society with socials every term; the medic curry is always a highlight. All of this adds to the camaraderie that’s intrinsic not only to the subject, but also to the atmosphere at Anne’s. Anne’s is a great place to live and study and the continual improvement of facilities makes being a part of this college an evolving and exciting student experience.
When I am back in the States, a day doesn’t go by when someone doesn’t ask me about my time in England and I always have more than enough to say. Some of my favourite anecdotes included how I fell victim to some language confusion, first at WH Smith when I asked where the tacks (for a notice board) could be found, and then got a lengthy explanation of VAT from the shop keeper. And then there’s the classic (and ongoing) pants versus underwear lexical gaff. I think it will be a long time before I live that one down.

However, the one thing I could never seem to do justice to was St Anne’s itself. Trying to explain it to someone who hasn’t been on campus is difficult; they just don’t know. Everything I said about it boiled down to “It’s a happy place to be.” I’ve heard St Anne’s described as one of the most down-to-earth colleges at Oxford, and it’s true: ridiculously accomplished scholars ask to be referred to by their first name, no frilly titles here. Likewise, administrators actually talk to students and offer smiles and pleasantries rather than disgruntled greetings.

There are so many things about Anne’s that make it special to me. From home-cooked-uni student-style-meals on the weekends, to pub crawling and clubbing during the week, to mid-afternoon study breaks strolling through University Parks; I may have complained about the distance to lectures a few times, but once I found a shortcut through the Parks, all complaints ceased.

After surviving Michaelmas, I don’t know what I’d do without a large Americano from STACS. Part way through last term, it became my mission to fill up a loyalty card in less than a week. A mission, I have to say, that was way too easy to accomplish. Or perhaps having a power yoga session with one of my friends in her huge room ATB (Above The Bar) instead of knocking out one hundred more pages of reading. And then there’s the odd bit of British pop culture thrown in: Mock the Week, I have to say, is genius.

I don’t think I can ever really explain the Anne’s vibe. I’ve lived it, but words fail to do justice to just how happy St Anne’s has made me.
What should students expect when applying to St Anne’s?

Martin Speight: Well it hasn’t got moldy old cloisters or deer parks but aside that it’s no different to any other college. We have a very relaxed atmosphere here at Anne’s but we do not relax our academic standards, (the pressures and workload are the same across colleges). Nevertheless, you will find a very friendly atmosphere at St Anne’s. You can expect access to some of the best facilities; the college library has one of the best buying systems that I’ve seen and it is always well stocked with new editions and relevant material.

Geraldine Hazbun: Prospective students should expect to find St Anne’s a place where they are encouraged to think independently, and to grow in intellectual self-confidence, but also where they find a special type of solidarity in their subject and college environments. Applicants should expect to find the admissions process testing but strangely enjoyable. They shouldn’t worry if they are pushed to think hard or challenged in the interview; it’s often a good sign!
What advice would you offer to those considering applying to Oxford?

**MS:** When you’re here, despite perhaps the intimidating number of applicants for your subject, when you walk into your interview we’ll only be looking at you as an academic individual. This individuality is crucial to us at St Anne’s: there is no such thing as a preconception of the ‘right sort’. Oxford as a whole tends to look for potential rather than solely a wealth of academic achievement, although the latter is most certainly important. The only thing I can advise you is that if you don’t apply then you won’t stand a chance of getting in!

**GH:** I’d advise students to act on their instincts when it comes to college choice, and to visit where possible. In the case of St Anne’s, to be open to the fact that modernity and informality are bywords for excellence.

Describe your ideal student in three words:

**MS:** No such thing.

**GH:** Passionate, creative, exceptional (and can I add teetotal?)
Upon arrival, every student is assigned a college family, with at least one parent who will be studying the same (or a very similar) subject – these people are the first port of call for any minor concerns. They have been through it before and are more than happy to help with any work issues you may be having and are another friendly face around college!

One of your academic tutors will also take on the role of Personal Tutor with whom you meet separately to your tutorials – these are the people to inform if you are struggling academically. And that’s not all: the male and female Welfare Reps are very friendly people, always around college to offer confidential support, or general advice! They regularly organise free cake nights, hand out welfare supplies and work with a team of peer supporters, who apart from being very lovely people are also specially trained by the University Counselling Service and are available if you have any stresses or concerns.

There is also the Decanal Team, which is a team of three Assistant Deans who live on site and are on call 24/7 if you have any emergencies. St Anne’s is one of the few colleges who employ a professional Counsellor as well as a College Nurse and all the members of the St Anne’s Welfare team, co-ordinated by the Senior Tutor, work tirelessly to make sure you have the most amazing time at Oxford. **We also have our own Student Disability Advisor** who advises on the practical support available to students with disabilities, both in college and in the wider university.

While almost every Stanner loves their university experience, leaving home and going to university will always have its challenges, which is why Welfare is so important here at St Anne’s.
Support schemes are available both at St Anne’s and across the University. In response to the rise in tuition fees, the University now offers both reduced fees and one of the best bursary schemes in the country. There are also support packages available for EU students!

Within St Anne’s further support is available. In addition to dedicated hardship funds, travel grants are very generous; past projects have included teaching English to children in Argentina and attending a summer school in South Korea. St Anne’s also offers students who have achieved Grade 8 the chance of a music bursary to assist them with musical tuition. College is also keen to prepare you for life after Oxford, offering a number of career-focused opportunities such as the Clayman Scholarship and the Diageo Internship for those with an interest in finance or marketing, not to mention the opportunity to spend a year in Japan after your degree. Please see the college website and the finance section of the University website for more details.

Coming to uni can be a strange and stressful experience; for most this will be the first time you will be in control of your own living expenses. With money being spent on food, rent, drink, books and that simply irresistible kebab run at 3 am when you’re in the midst of an essay crisis... it can quickly add up. However, for those who are eligible, the College has a very good financial support system that should allow you to enjoy the benefits of living away from home: staying out, sleeping in, leaving your socks on the floor and seeing just how much mould you can grow in a mug over an 8-week term.

All the college facilities are very cheap, which makes it possible for everyone to get the most out of student life while living on a tight budget. The food in Hall is heavily subsidised, (prices range from around £2-2.50 for a hot meal), and is served throughout the week. Alternatively, all accommodation has a kitchen if you’d like to self-cater. STACS also offers a selection of light lunches and Starbucks-quality coffee without the expense, AND the college bar is open every night and serves cheap drinks!

St Anne's has the second largest college library in the whole university so books are not a problem! If the book you are looking for is not in the St Anne’s Library it is bound to be available at either your faculty library or in the Bodleian. Online journals are also all accessible free of charge and the College Library provides cheap printing and photocopying.

St Anne's is proud to offer students accommodation in college throughout their entire course and this is much cheaper than moving into a student house for a year. However, St Anne’s is one of the very few colleges that offer ‘equalisation pay’. This is essentially a grant that roughly covers the increase in living expenses when living out (normally around £800). This ensures you’re paying roughly the same amount as those choosing to stay in college.

Bursaries - Your Ticket On Board

Support schemes are available both at St Anne’s and across the University. In response to the rise in tuition fees, the University now offers both reduced fees and one of the best bursary schemes in the country. There are also support packages available for EU students! Within St Anne’s further support is available. In addition to dedicated hardship funds, travel grants are very generous; past projects have included teaching English to children in Argentina and attending a summer school in South Korea. St Anne’s also offers students who have achieved Grade 8 the chance of a music bursary to assist them with musical tuition. College is also keen to prepare you for life after Oxford, offering a number of career-focused opportunities such as the Clayman Scholarship and the Diageo Internship for those with an interest in finance or marketing, not to mention the opportunity to spend a year in Japan after your degree. Please see the college website and the finance section of the University website for more details.
**SPORT**

In true Oxford style, rowing is THE biggest sport at St Anne's. With our stellar men’s and women’s squads filled with rowers from every year, it is a brilliant way to get fired up with college spirit! Experienced rowers and absolute novices are all welcome.

If you don’t fancy ‘doing the Oxford thing’ by becoming a rower but you are interested in keeping fit, then St Anne’s offers a wide range of sports for you to get involved in. The choices range from football, rugby, netball, (ice)hockey, tennis, rounders, badminton, and squash to the likes of darts or pool.

Taking part in a college sport, either seriously or for fun is also a fantastic way to socialise with people of all years at St Anne’s, and an excellent way of forgetting those essay woes! Plus there is definitely something immensely satisfying about beating our rival colleges. Our practice grounds are nearby (five minutes by bike) and offer rugby and football pitches and a netball court. In the summer there are several tennis courts available for student use, where you can relax and enjoy the sunshine. Sporting events also run throughout the year and include ‘Cuppers’ Cross Country races, the Bumps (rowing) and the Varsity ski trip, not to mention all-year free access to our new college gym!

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**Art and Lit.**

St Anne’s offers some great artistic opportunities, whether you’re an arts connoisseur or just want to try something new. Activities are primarily student-led and organised on demand each year.

So what is there to do? If you enjoy literature, LitSoc is the place for you. A society hosted by English tutor Dr Sam Thompson, activities range from creative writing groups to theatre trips to the Oxford Playhouse. The creative writing group meets once a week in the Eagle and Child, a pub famous for being the former meeting place of literary giants such as C.S Lewis and J. R. R. Tolkien. If you would rather be on the stage, the Drama Society is the place for all budding thespians. Film fanatic? Anne’s not only has regular showings in the MOLT (its own cinema) but it’s also situated very close to the Phoenix Picturehouse. If photography is more your scene, the college has its own darkroom on the first floor of Woodstock, and we also have our own student arts room. The annual St Anne’s Arts Week is a week-long celebration of Stanner talent, ranging from Freshers to alumnae; events have included a fantastic summer festival, a performance by the Oxford Imps (Oxford’s greatest improvisation comedians), a drawing class at the Ashmolean, a trip to London and the Globe Theatre and a TV and theatre make-up class.
St Anne’s has a thriving musical scene, with opportunities available for all levels of performers. Whether you’re the next Sir Simon Rattle or Mr Hudson (both St Anne’s alumnae), or just enjoy a casual sing or play now and again, you will certainly find what you’re looking for here at St Anne’s. If you don’t, there is plenty of opportunity to get something started!

Our college choir is non-auditioning and informal, meeting once or twice a week during term time with one performance a term. This is your chance to sing a wide repertoire, ranging from classical works to popular songs. St Anne’s also has a college orchestra, jointly run with St John’s (‘SASJO’). The orchestra rehearses weekly, playing music by composers from Mozart to Hans Zimmer alongside student compositions. This is a great opportunity to keep your musical skills up to scratch and enjoy playing with others without the intense schedules of the university-wide ensembles.

The St Anne’s Music Society is student-led, offering fortnightly recitals from visiting musicians and college students. The standard of these recitals is always high, including a wide variety of performers. In addition, St Anne’s has music bursaries available to instrumentalists and singers, and four practice rooms.

St Anne’s is one of the few colleges to have a fully functioning Swing Band. Featuring the hits of Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin, it is one of the most lively musical experiences you can get at Oxford. It culminates with a fantastic Swing Dance every term, something not to be missed!
St Anne’s unique location gives it the benefit of direct access to some of Oxford’s finest facilities, from some of the most delectable restaurants and delicatessens to the much lusted after academic departments. Sure, it’s not slap-bang in the centre, but don’t let that deter you; read on to get a brief insight into what makes Oxford Oxford for us!

Just two minutes down the road is Little Clarendon Street, home to G&Ds (the best ice cream bar in Oxford) and the Duke of Cambridge, which serves top-notch cocktails. On our (back)doorstep is the unparalleled beauty that is the University Parks, absolutely stunning on those days off in Michaelmas and Trinity (Hilary gets too cold!), and home to the grounds of many of Oxford’s most prestigious sports teams. Jericho is without a doubt one of the finest points of living in St Anne’s, the typical response when telling other students: ‘Oh yeah, I live near Jericho – you know Jericho?’ a mixture of awe and jealousy. Too hip for Hipstomatic, this area is home to all the cool bars (including a converted church), the alternative music scene and a bunch of trendy restaurants and cafés. What’s more, if you’re a Lord of the Rings fanatic (come on, who isn’t?) then, whilst Exeter (see glossary: other colleges) might have the tree under which Tolkien had his eureka moment... WE have the Eagle and Child, his (and our) favoured watering hole, just down the road. After that little gem, you should be gagging for St Anne’s... BUT we are also well situated amongst the academic facilities: we’re only a 30 second from the Language Centre, an easy roll out of bed from the Engineering, Science, Geography and Maths departments, in close proximity to the Modern Languages and Classics departments, and only a three minute walk from the Pitt Rivers museum. What’s more, with the new Humanities site being built literally across the road, St Anne’s is becoming the new heart of the University!
1. University Parks - Beautiful for everything, also has many of the university playing fields.
2. East West Provisions - the all-important local shop, useful for milk.
3. Ali’s - the even more important kebab van. A welcome pit stop on the way home.
4. G & Ds - Rumour has it if you 'moo' at the servers you get free ice cream.
5. The Duke of Cambridge - Cocktails like these are not to be taken for granted. Oxford Union members get discounts!
6. The Eagle and Child - somewhat of a cultural icon.
8. Jamals - The home of the crew date.
10. Punting - Free to all Stanners, great after matriculation.
11. The Boat House - For all the early birds.
12. The Oxford Union - Putting the Oxford in Oxford, very interesting.
13. Park End/Camera - A logical conclusion to a meal at Jamals or a warm up before one at Ali’s.
14. The Language Centre - Offers cheap, comprehensive language courses.
15. Engineering Department.
16. Pitt Rivers Museum - There are human heads in here!
17. Science, Geography and Maths Departments - Shortcut to these through the Uni Parks!
18. Supermarkets and Cashpoints!
19. Ice Rink - This means Ice Hockey!
Ali's – Kebab vans serve the same function at 3am as oases do in desert environments. Not quite Evian, but heaven when you need it. You will only ever go to Ali's. Succumbing to night nosh elsewhere is a treasonable offence.

Alumnae – or 'Senior Members'. People who have been to and left the College and possibly gone on to do great things. Our recent high-profile alumnae include Danny Alexander, famed more for his hair than for his politics, Edwina Currie (enough said), and apparently that woman who wrote Bridget Jones, but since I found that that wasn’t Renée Zellweger I have no idea who she is now anyway.

Arts Week – a week in Trinity term when Anne’s gets it culture vibe on. Bands, barbecues, what more could you want? Women getting naked in a lecture theatre? Performance art; why not? Why, what did you think I meant?

Beaver – college mascot. College members share many characteristics with this animal, including busyness, collecting debris in places they live, and being hunted to extinction for their lucrative hides. The latter is less the case these days.

Bop – themed parties that each college holds a few times a term. Part eye-watering hedonism, part Freudian childhood relapse. Two sides of the same coin, really.

Collections – college assessments taken at the beginning of each term, because nothing says hello to a new start like a three-hour exam. Officially the world's worst progress test, because they don't actually count towards your degree. But, you know, all part of the fun.

College family – bizarre peer mentoring system which has become an ingrained social service in its own right. First-year children are assigned two second-year parents: subjects similar, genders unspecified. One of few token instances when borderline-incestuous tendencies invite marginal social acceptability.

Consulto et Audacter – the college's motto, meaning 'deliberately and boldly'.

Crew date – a civilised rendezvous of select gentlemen and ladies, perchance of the sporting inclination, oft declining unto Bacchanalia ere the witching hour.

Dean – nice important lady whom you should only really ever be seeing whilst in the company of several hundred other people. If you’re deaned you’ve probably done something wrong, and if you can’t remember what that was, likelihood is that’s part of the problem.

Did you go to a state school or a private school? – No one ever asks this question. No one can tell, and more importantly, no one cares. Everyone is fantastic.


Formal Hall – special dress-up dinner every fortnight at St Anne’s; a proud Oxford tradition. Food is better than anything you could possibly cook/mildly heat in your life. At other colleges, formals can take place at the dull regularity of anything up to every day so that they end up having ‘formal formals’ and ‘informal formals’. If I’m not mistaken, that first thing's a tautology and the other one's a contradiction.

Gowns – funky black drapery designed to make you exude pure scholarliness and look extremely attractive to tourists. Students who get firsts in their first-year exams are upgraded to gowns so fly you could well achieve lift in them.

Hartland House – the core building of college, the 'heart land' if you like (hur hur), containing the library and the offices of lots of important people. It's got great panelling.

Hartland Room – the underrated undergraduate common room which has become more or less deserted in the late 2000s after all the kool kids went to STACs. Generally used as St Anne’s very own Room of Requirement.

JCR Committee – Über-students elected to preside dutifully over Lesser-students. In the words of any famous rap artist, “get on dat”.

Kitchen – St Anne’s has a lot of these. There is a big one that serves impressive award-winning cuisine to all college members and then a smattering of smaller ones in which students attempt to assail an egg with a spatula. Without wanting to excite you too much, they’ve just made the big one even bigger.
Labs – along with lectures, form the immovable monolith that is a science student’s daily timetable. Literally the only reason in Oxford why any human being would be awake before nine am. (See also: Rowing)

Lectures – fifty-minute wonders delivered by world-class academics. Sometimes, alas, students will tend to find the insides of their eyelids slightly more interesting.

Library – originally stocked on the premise that women were not allowed to read in the main Bodleian Library, the astoundingly massive collection of books in the college library is one of the best surprising consequences of gender discrimination you’ll find anywhere, and pretty darn useful too.

Lodge – the entrance to college, staffed by Porters.

Matriculation – compulsory official registration ceremony where everyone wears subfusc and gowns and files into the centre of town. Unless you are dying to see the Vice-Chancellor in a Tudor bonnet, there is quite possibly very little point to this at all. Nonetheless it’s a great excuse to dress up in a fabulous outfit you wouldn’t normally wear to a bar, have an outrageously good time, and take embarrassingly posed photographs to upload the next afternoon. (See also: Bop)

MOLT – the Mary Ogilvie Lecture Theatre. Great for theatrics of both academic and artsy persuasions. Very swanky.

North Room – room at the back of the library where a lot of old books are kept. Warning for nocturnal users: I cannot guarantee you will get out alive.

Open and informal – a college mantra: this is what we are. And it’s absolutely true; we are supremely chilled people.

Other colleges – Bah.

Porters – top blokes who know loads about college and stop people loafing in and casually helping themselves to a free sofa or something.

Postgraduates – students who appear in a big photo at the start of your degree, then disperse, never to be seen again.

Prelims and Finals – names for first-year and final-year examinations. Confusingly, some people take first-year exams after first year and others take final-year exams before their final year. All the same, panic at the impending onset of either will send you in sporadic fits of anguish and self-loathing to be resolved only by validation on FaceBook, as three likes on a status is widely held to be better than a first.

Principal – Tim Gardam. A great guy, though ‘great guy’ would certainly be somewhere in the job description.

Rowing – An enjoyable sporting activity which for some people takes the place of sleep.

Saint Anne – patronage includes carpenters; childless people; equestrians; grandparents; housewives; lace makers; lost articles; miners; mothers; moving house; old-clothes dealers; poverty; pregnancy; seamstresses; stablemen; sterility. Reflects the vibrant cross-section of peoples and experiences we have in the college.

Scout – lovely human beings who are tasked with rectifying your domestic destruction every morning. Also a reason for getting up respectfully at a respectable hour – people apparently fall asleep in bizarre angles and modes of undress.

Squirrels – they’re everywhere.

STACS – glorious acronym for St Anne’s Coffee Shop, opened in 2008. Event of the year up until some cool dude got himself elected president of the USA. Great for a cheeky muffin and a spot of overdue reading. We like to think Barack would say the same.

Stanners – what we like to call ourselves. I challenge you to think of a snappier alternative.

Subfusc – derived from the Latin ‘of a dusky colour’, this monochrome outfit is usually worn by all students to official occasions, along with a gown. Also responsible for perhaps half of annual white bow tie sales nationally.

Tutorials – see Tutes

Tutes – the pinnacle of the British education system; what makes Oxford Oxford. A one-hour scholarly jam between someone who’s (often) dedicated their life to a subject and someone who’s (very often) dedicated their small hours to a subject. Suprisingly, you can feel kinda erudite by the end of it.

Vending machines – Tucked away in a dark corner of Hartland House, two silent sentries stock very reasonably priced confectionery within procrastination distance of the library.

Wicket gate – door at the back of college that majestically opens and closes itself on the press of a few buttons. Good when you want to feel godly, bad when you want to get to the lecture in less than five minutes.
Thank you for reading our Alternative Prospectus and we hope to see you soon!

If you like what you've read and would like to find out more, then please come and join us at one of our open days. For more information or to find out when our next open days are being held, please contact us at:

+44 (0)1865 274825

www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk       www.stannesjcr.org

@ schools liaison@st-annes.ox.ac.uk

St Anne’s College
Woodstock Road
Oxford, OX2 6HS
UK

Oxford Admissions: www.admissions.ox.ac.uk

Money Matters: www.ox.ac.uk/fundingupdate

The views in this publication are those of the students who wrote it and are not necessarily the same as those of St Anne’s College or The University of Oxford.