

# FRESHERS' QUICK GUIDE

*What to do before and when you arrive*

## 1. THINGS TO BRING BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

Things you might forget include: a black tie and gown if you previously own them, passport or driving license if from the UK as handy forms of ID, an umbrella just in case. Everything else you can buy when you arrive.

## 2. ARRIVE

Drive, take a taxi or walk up to the college main site. Driving in Oxford is very difficult due to the one-way system but if you want to drive to college then park in Broad Street near Hertford College and buy a parking ticket. If you're taking a taxi, which is advisable if you've arrived by Bus/Coach or Train, then have the taxi wait for you while you pick up your keys from the Porters' Lodge. Those arriving by train should take a taxi from the taxi rank in front of the train station to Hertford College. Those arriving by bus/coach should get off at the main bus station, Gloucester Green and then take a taxi from the taxi rank, which can be reached by walking around to the other side of the group of shops that faces the buses and then across the brick square that is Gloucester Green. Remember to tell your taxi driver to wait for you once you reach Hertford College so that you can take the same taxi to your accommodation. The total cost should be somewhere near £10.

## 3. GO TO THE PORTERS' LODGE

At the main college site pick up your room key and your wicket key (which opens most common doors in college). Ask for the college door codes and write them down. The lodge is open 24 hours. If you can't get in the main gate because you arrive late at night then the lodge phone number is: 01865 279400 and they will let you in. If you can't get into your accommodation later for some reason then call the lodge. If you arrive during office hours, you may want to be super efficient and do steps 4 and 5 while you are here, if not do them tomorrow.

## 4. VISIT THE COLLEGE OFFICE DURING WORKING HOURS

(MON – FRI, 9-12, 1.30 – 5)

In the College Office in OBI (ask for directions at the Lodge) pick up your Bod Card, which is your student ID and is vitally important for your day-to-day survival in Oxford.

## 5. VISIT THE IT OFFICE DURING WORKING HOURS

(MON – FRI, 9-12, 1.30 – 5)

You can't do anything until you've got your Bod card! Using your newly acquired Bod card, register your e-mail account in the IT Office and get them to create you an account so you can use the machines in the MCR computer room. You should then register your PC / Laptop for use on the Hertford Network in the IT Office and get free anti-virus software if you have none. The IT office should then take details of your Bod card number and email account in order to pass these details on to the MCR Computer Clerk – make sure they do. We will then be able to set up an MCR account for you so that you can make full use of the MCR website and register your Bod card so that you can access the swipe card door to the MCR building.

## 6. VISIT YOUR DEPARTMENT

Can't help you with this one.

## 7. BUY SUB-FUSC

Sub-fusc is just a fancy name for the ceremonial dress we are required to wear to take exams or to attend matriculation. Traditionally men wear a dark (preferably black) suit, white shirt, white bow tie, gown and cap. Women wear a white shirt with collar, black skirt, black velvet ribbon worn around neck, gown and cap. The University, however, no longer requires students to adhere to the traditional gender references. The gowns are worn often, including at all formal Hertford dinners.

The MCR has an agreement with Walter's on High Street where, if we order in bulk, the MCR is given 15% commission on Academic gown orders, and 10% commission on clothing accessories and college clothing and regalia – the commission goes into the MCR budget, and ultimately to you, while you don't pay more for what you buy. You order by filling in the form attached with your freshers' pack and pidging it to the Treasurer, Ross Johnstone, before September 30.

You are also welcome to buy your sub-fusc at one of the shops on Broad Street, Turl Street or the High Street. The main suppliers are Walter's, Shepherd and Woodward, Castell & Son and Ede & Ravenscroft. Don't worry where you get it from, because it all costs the same. Most of them have second-hand gowns which are a bit cheaper, but they go fast so get in quick. NB. For graduates, you are allowed to wear your gown and cap from your 'home' university, so bring it if you have it!

## 8. AND RELAX.

Maybe have a cup of tea in the MCR. Quite a few students will take a lunch to eat in the MCR tea room while watching the BBC news and potentially not-so-respectable daytime TV programmes (Mon – Fri, 1pm – 2pm) and new faces are always welcome. Map of North Oxford, including Winchester Road and Woodstock Road Houses Map of South Oxford, including Hertford College and the Graduate Centre.