



**Lincoln College**  
**MCR**  
**Freshers' Handbook**  
**2024-25**

Lincoln College Turl Street  
Ian Davis 1992

**Congratulations on your offer from Lincoln!**

When you arrive in October, you will be joining the **Lincoln MCR** (Middle Common Room), the busiest, most exciting, and most tight-knit graduate community in Oxford. This handbook is a brief guide to introduce you to the MCR, who we are and what we do, and hopefully get you excited about your time here. Don't worry if you're unable to take it all in now — all of this information will be repeated over the course of Freshers' Week and beyond, and you can always reach out to any member of the MCR Committee if you'd like to know more.

**We look forward to seeing you soon!**



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## *A Message from your MCR President*

Welcome to the Lincoln College MCR!

To those of you who have just joined us, from every corner of the globe and across a variety of academic subjects, the warmest of welcomes to Lincoln College. As Lincoln begins celebrations for its 600th (!) anniversary (an exciting set of programming in which you are all welcome to partake), the College swells with the anticipation of new memories and the arrival of those who are to make them.

As you make your way through the College quadrangles for the first time, taking photos of the ivy with a Missing Bean coffee in tow, you may wonder what the coming academic year has in store. It is, after all, no secret that Oxford is a special—and, at times, challenging—place in which to pursue an education. The coming year will push you academically, see relationships and friendships forged and contested, but (above all) shape you into a stronger version of yourself.

Regardless of the path that journey takes, the MCR is a resource and light for along the way. Lincoln is your home, both this year and for the remainder of your time in and beyond Oxford. And, while you should certainly embrace the eccentricities and traditions that make Oxford the storied place it is, the MCR will remain a place for you to take a breath; engage in conversation with a Lincolnite you've never met; or enjoy a pint and an embarrassment of biscuits. It is a physical and symbolic space that will, hopefully, serve as the North Star of your postgraduate experience (a goal we take very seriously on MCR Committee).



Even as you attend the many events offered around Oxford, joining societies and locating your niche, I encourage you to take part in the MCR's equally full terms of events—ranging from Wine and Cheeses, Pizza & Pints, Welfare Teas, Social Exchanges, MCR Dinners, Cultural Highlight Nights, Lincoln Leads events, and, most importantly, new offerings that meet the interests of our diverse array of new students!

At Lincoln, you will have the truly unique opportunity to befriend individuals with their own interests, cultural backgrounds, and diverse set of opinions. In the MCR, perhaps more than anywhere else, you will be able to build lifelong friendships with some of the greatest thinkers our various communities have to offer. It remains my genuine pleasure to serve as MCR President for the coming year, and I hope that all of you, new and returning, will find that the Lincoln College MCR is indeed a place to call home.

Here's to you, here's to Lincoln, and here's to the next three terms! I look forward to meeting you all very soon!

All my best,

Adam

## Meet the MCR Executive Committee



### Adam Kluge - President

Originally from New York, Adam is committed to fostering a diverse, inclusive MCR community that prioritises the values of strong social ties and shared responsibility.

Prior to his assuming the role of MCR President, Adam spent two terms as a Social Representative, during which he was able to grow familiar with the Lincoln postgraduate community, organise events around a variety of themes, and partake in (perhaps) a few too many Pizza & Pints.

Adam spends much of his week attending College committee and Governing Body meetings, with the intention of bringing the diverse voices, concerns, and interests of the MCR community to the broader College administration. Furthermore, Adam welcomes feedback from the entire MCR on future events, activities, and the continued success of the MCR community at large. He encourages people to reach out to him at his Oxford email at any time (he is dangerously attached to Outlook): [adam.kluge@lincoln.ox.ac.uk](mailto:adam.kluge@lincoln.ox.ac.uk).

Outside of committee, Adam can be found at The Missing Bean, in the library, or rehearsing for his next musical performance. He looks forward to supporting the growth of the MCR over the coming terms!





*Olivia Holder – Treasurer & Vice-President*

Olivia is an American DPhil student in the History of Art looking at ceramics. She did her MPhil at Oxford in Visual, Material and Museum Anthropology, an MA at Peking University writing at the intersection of Art History and International Relations, and her BA in History at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. As Treasurer of the MCR, Olivia is tasked with overseeing the responsible usage of MCR funds for the betterment of Lincoln College’s graduate community and will be devoting all of her waking hours to computing numbers, writing cheques, and signing reimbursements. She encourages MCR members with ideas for group activities, local trips, reoccurring events, or anything that members might think is missing and/or lacking, to please get in touch!

*Ashley Castelino – Secretary*

Approaching the end of his DPhil in medieval literature, Ashley’s role as Secretary is largely dealing with behind-the-scenes admin. He runs elections, organises graduate accommodation, manages the MCR Constitution, updates the website, takes minutes, and generally just keeps the MCR ticking along as best he can.



This is Ashley’s fourth year at Lincoln, so get in touch if you have any questions about anything to do with the MCR or the wider College.



## The Social MCR

The Lincoln MCR is definitely known across Oxford for its jam-packed social calendar, with something for everyone. There are events all week, led by our two tireless **Social Secretaries**, one of whom will be elected in Michaelmas term along with a team of **Social Reps** (nudge-nudge)...



*Aymen Aulaitwi*

Aymen is a first year DPhil in Economic and Social History. Returning following his two-year MPhil at the college, many would say he is a solid feature of the college, others that he has been here too long.

"I am here to not only ensure Lincoln puts on the best events of the year, but also to protect and nurture the college as the centre of your social world. Hence, the title 'Social Secretary.'

I am all about engagement, fun, and bringing the Lincoln college family together. Whether that be through regular events such as Wine & Cheese nights, Pizza & Pints, or our legendary termly Emily Carr Parties (Ibiza have been informed they are being put out of business), or larger annual events such as the world-renowned



Lincoln in Love party (Glastonbury is also on notice). But its not all parties, I will also be organising MCR lunches and dinners, college exchange dinners, pub quizzes, movie nights, and my favourite, sports watching events. Ultimately, I want everyone to feel like the MCR is the centre of their social world and I am always happy to hear new ideas and put on the events you want to see!"









## The Academic MCR

Although graduate academic life at Oxford is usually centred on departments/faculties and not colleges, Lincoln stands out in offering a very wide range of academic events in the MCR itself, led by our two wonderful **Academic Officers**

### Isabella Turilli



Isabella is in her second year at Lincoln, studying for an MPhil in International Relations. As one of two Academic Officers, she is tasked with running study sessions, networking events, and programming like the Lord Florey Talks and Lincoln Leads. When she's not laying out croissants for Shut Up and Write, Isabella avoids her own academic work with Pilates workouts and choir rehearsals.

### Laura Da Silva

Laura is in her second year of the MPhil in Economics. In the role of Academic Officer she will be organising a variety of interesting speaker events and panel discussions, as well as more social academic evening events such as 'Cultural Highlight Night' and 'Academics at the Movies'



Together, Laura and Isabella aim to create welcoming spaces for the MCR to explore new intellectual topics while building a close-knit community within college.





Join a Lincoln Leads panel to share your ideas with illustrious Lincoln alumni, like actress Emily Mortimer!



Share your country's food, drinks, and culture at a Cultural Highlight Night!



Begin your day right with a productive writing session, complete with a breakfast buffet!



## Welfare at Lincoln

The Lincoln MCR is a wonderfully diverse community and we do our best to make sure it remains a warm, safe, and welcoming space for everyone, through a number of events and initiatives led by our two amazing **Welfare Officers**.



*Saskia Laufer*

Saskia is a second year MPhil in East European Studies, where they research Ukrainian pop music. As welfare officer, they are here to make every member of our community feel welcome and included.

If they're not dishing out welfare tea, you can probably find them sketching, walking through University parks, or exploring cute Oxford cafés.

*Ish Srivastava*

Ishika is a second year MPhil Development Studies student from Mumbai, India. She loves live music and all varieties of chai.

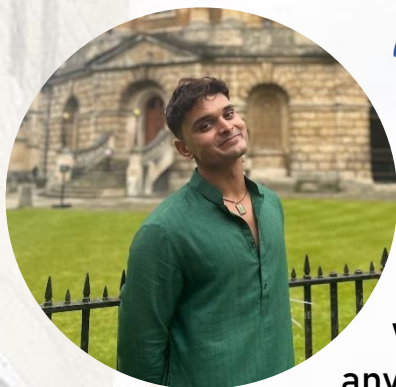
Previously, a consent education facilitator in her undergrad, she is here to guide you through

the labyrinth of welfare resources here at Oxford. She also helps organise the weekly welfare teas, so if you have any special themes in mind, do let her know.



In addition to our Welfare Officers, we have a number of Reps whose role is to ensure that different groups and communities are properly represented and respected. Some of these important Rep roles will also be up for election soon...





### *Adhvik Shetty – Diversity Rep*

Adhvik (AKA Adi) is a second-year DPhil in International Development looking at reproductive health in India. As diversity rep, he aims to highlight the different voices and backgrounds within the college. Please get in touch if you have any ideas for cultural events that you would like to see organised in the MCR!

### *Peter-Rory Hall – LGBTQ+ Rep*

Peter-Rory is a second-year Skaggs-Oxford scholar pursuing a DPhil in Biophysics & Nanoscience. As a representative for LGBTQ+ students and their allies in the MCR, Peter-Rory



is dedicated to an inclusive environment. He is passionate about raising awareness of healthy relationships and preventing abuse. Your sense of belonging is paramount, so please don't hesitate to reach out if you need assistance, want to chat, or have any ideas to share!



### *Lauren Fox – Disabilities Rep*

Lauren is a first year DPhil in Criminology, staying on at Lincoln after completing an MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice. As Disabilities Rep, Lauren represents disabled students within the MCR, ensuring that MCR events, communications, and initiatives are accessible to all students. This year, she is particularly looking forward to running craft nights and DisabiliTeas. Lauren is also a point of contact for information about disability support within the MCR, college, and university.

For information about accessibility at Lincoln, including links to an access guide of Lincoln buildings, see <https://lincoln.ox.ac.uk/student-life/accessibility>.



## Environment Rep



Lincoln and the MCR are committed to sustainability, through a number of initiatives led by the Environment Rep. This position will also be up for elections in Michaelmas 2024.

For information about some of the College and the MCR's sustainability initiatives, see

<https://lincolnmcr.weebly.com/environment.html>.

## Peer Supporters

Peer-supporters are fellow Lincolnites who are here for you and specially trained to talk about anything that is bothering you. Their experiences of the same very specific student context allows for support with an “insider understanding” and makes it accessible within the day-to-day structure of university life. It's confidential, judgment free and relaxed.

If you're interested in joining our team of peer supporters, get in touch with one of the Welfare Officers!



Thanksgiving Potluck



Halloween Maffare Tea



Pottery Welfare Tea







Welfare hand lotion



Yoga



CHOCOLATE  
Welfare Tea



## Accommodation

Lincoln has 3 main accommodation sites for graduate students: **Bear Lane** (~3 minutes from main college site), the **EPA Centre** on Museum Road (~10 minutes), and **Little Clarendon Street** (LCS, ~12 minutes).

Each site has its own vibe and community, and each will have some members of the MCR Committee living there next year, so if you would like to know more about any of them, do get in touch with one of us and we will be more than happy to help.

If you have any general questions about the provision of accommodation, feel free to email the MCR Secretary (Ashley) at [lincolnmcrsec@lincoln.ox.ac.uk](mailto:lincolnmcrsec@lincoln.ox.ac.uk).



EPA Centre







## Lincoln Lingo

### Michaelmas

first term

### Hilary

second term

### Trinity

third term

### Bod Card

Your (Bodleian) student card that you must collect when you arrive – you will need it for all meals and to get into most libraries, so try not to lose it!

### Freshers' Week

0 Week, before the start of Michaelmas. It is largely a week of social activity with many many events planned by the MCR for you to meet your fellow graduate freshers.

### Matriculation

the ceremony at the end of your first term that officially initiates you into Oxford!

### Sub Fuse

Your formal wear at matriculation and graduation, including gown and mortar-board

### Hall

The College dining hall



### *Buttery*

The room next to hall where breakfast, lunch, and First Hall are served

### *First/Informal Hall*

First sitting of dinner, served in the Buttery, every night except Saturdays

### *Second/Formal Hall*

Second sitting of dinner, a seated three-course meal – gown must be worn!

### *Great Hall*

A more posh formal hall every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, complete with a cheese board and port!

### *Deepers*

Our College bar, run by Simon

### *Battels*

The bills you pay to College for accommodation, food, etc.

### *Porters*

The lovely staff who man the Lodge

### *Pidges*

Pigeon-holes in the Lodge where post is delivered

### *Scouts*

Cleaners who clean your rooms and different parts of College

### *The Imp*

Our College mascot



### *Quads*

The grassy squares surrounded by buildings that make up the College. Lincoln has 3: Chapel, Front & Grove

### *Rector*

The head of Lincoln College, Nigel Clifford

### *Vac*

Short for "Vacation", the breaks in between terms

### *Emily Carr party*

The highlight of each term, a big house party at the Emily Carr House in Bear Lane the Saturday before 1st week

### *MCR dinners*

Fortnightly MCR dinners, which offer a sumptuous three-course feast provided by the Chef

### *MCR exchange dinners*

Oxford has a fine tradition of cultural exchange between its colleges, and Lincoln is at the forefront of that group – we invite another college to come and dine at Lincoln, and in return we go to them and sample life and food at their college.



## Join our Community!

The information in this handbook is just the beginning. You can find out more about the MCR on our [website](https://lincolnmcr.weebly.com/) (<https://lincolnmcr.weebly.com/>), which includes the great MCR Constitution if you wish to read it for some strange reason.

For wider College matters, you can also check out the very comprehensive Lincoln website (<https://lincoln.ox.ac.uk/>).

Follow us on [Instagram @lincolnmcr](#) and join the “[Lincoln College MCR 2024-25](#)” [Facebook](#) group.

And if you'd like to get involved more, do consider joining the MCR Committee – keep your ears open for more info on open positions and how to run...

In the meantime, enjoy the rest of your summer, and we look forward to seeing you in October!