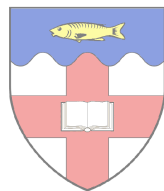


Regent's **Park College** OXFORD

ALTERNATIVE PROSPECTUS 2012





Regent's Park College,
Oxford,
OX1 2LB
rpc.ox.ac.uk

Welcome

Regent's is undoubtedly the best place to spend your time at Oxford University. We are technically a PPH, but operate exactly like a small college in almost every way. It truly is a fantastic place to be and I'm yet to find a single person who has had anything negative to say about their time here. With a diverse student body - one of the friendliest and most supportive within the whole University - and one of the most comfortable JCRs in Oxford, we are a constant hub of activity. Whether it's high quality table tennis, outstanding sporting or artistic achievement, or relaxed conversation with friends, Regent's is *the* place to study and live.



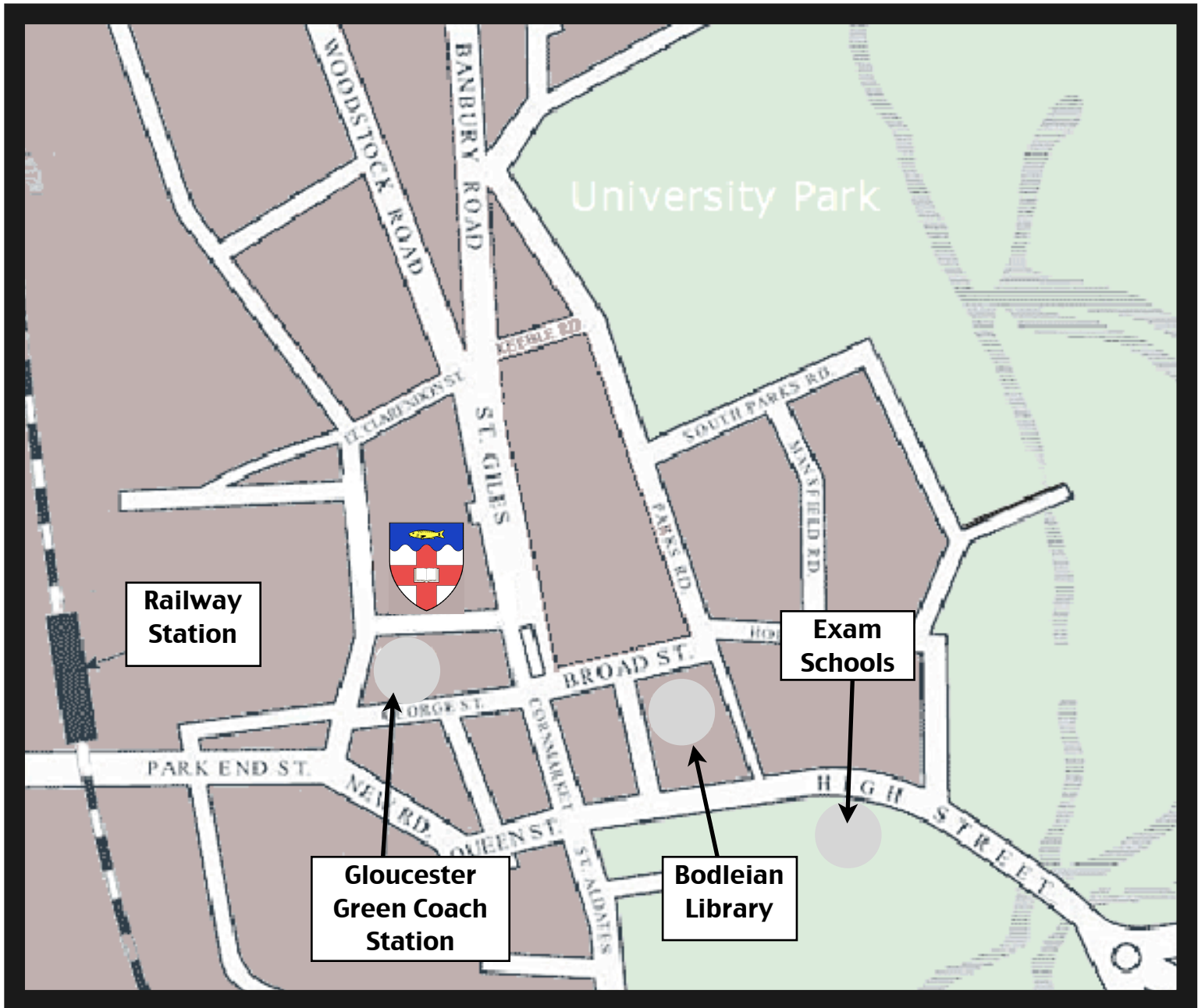
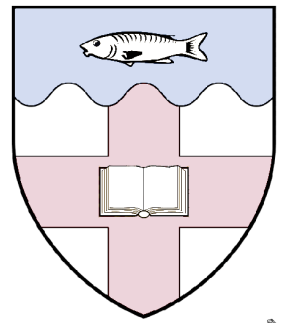
As well as the inevitable workload (which isn't as scary as you might think), there are plenty of opportunities to have fun. Alongside having the cheapest bar in Oxford, there are all sorts of musical, dramatic and sporting activities going on both day and night. Formal hall, followed by a JCR social or party, is a particular personal highlight.

Regent's students engage in a variety of activities both in and out of college something that will be discussed in greater detail later in this prospectus. We perform disproportionately well in relation to our size, in all aspects of university life, particularly sport, music and drama.

Whatever you're interested in, there will be plenty of opportunities to get involved and make this college work for you; I really can't speak highly enough of Regent's and I look forward to welcoming you to our community.

Harrison Denner

Junior Common Room President, 2012



Unlike some colleges, Regent's is incredibly central within Oxford; everything is a short walk away and you can easily go without a bike for your first year. The Bodleian Library (the main University Library) and most faculties are less than ten minutes away and Exam Schools, where both lectures and exams are held, is a twelve minute walk from the college.



WHO ARE WE?

Regent's is one of the 44 academic institutions which collectively make up Oxford University. Rather unusually, we are not a college but a Permanent Private Hall (PPH), which means we are slightly smaller than most colleges and are linked to a religious foundation (in our case, the Baptists). That said, our undergraduate experience is the same as everywhere else - you don't have to be a Baptist or even a Christian to attend Regent's (most students aren't), and all Regent's students are full members of the University. Regent's only accepts students for humanities subjects as well, so no strange, silent scientists here! Our smaller size is one of our biggest assets; Regent's has a nurturing atmosphere in which to study, where all year groups intermingle socially. Oxford can be frantic at times, but our small community means that no student can be anonymous as at other colleges and 'drift' through their time here - settling in is easy as everyone knows everyone. Regent's is the perfect springboard into all areas of University life; we have been home to many Oxford Blues sports people, a President of the Oxford Union, and a great number of editors of the student newspaper, 'Cherwell'.

REGENT'S BY NUMBERS

1810

ESTABLISHED IN LONDON

1927

MOVED TO OXFORD

1957

BECOMES A PPH OF OXFORD UNIVERSITY

102

UNDERGRADUATES AT REGENT'S

209

STUDENTS IN TOTAL

FOOD

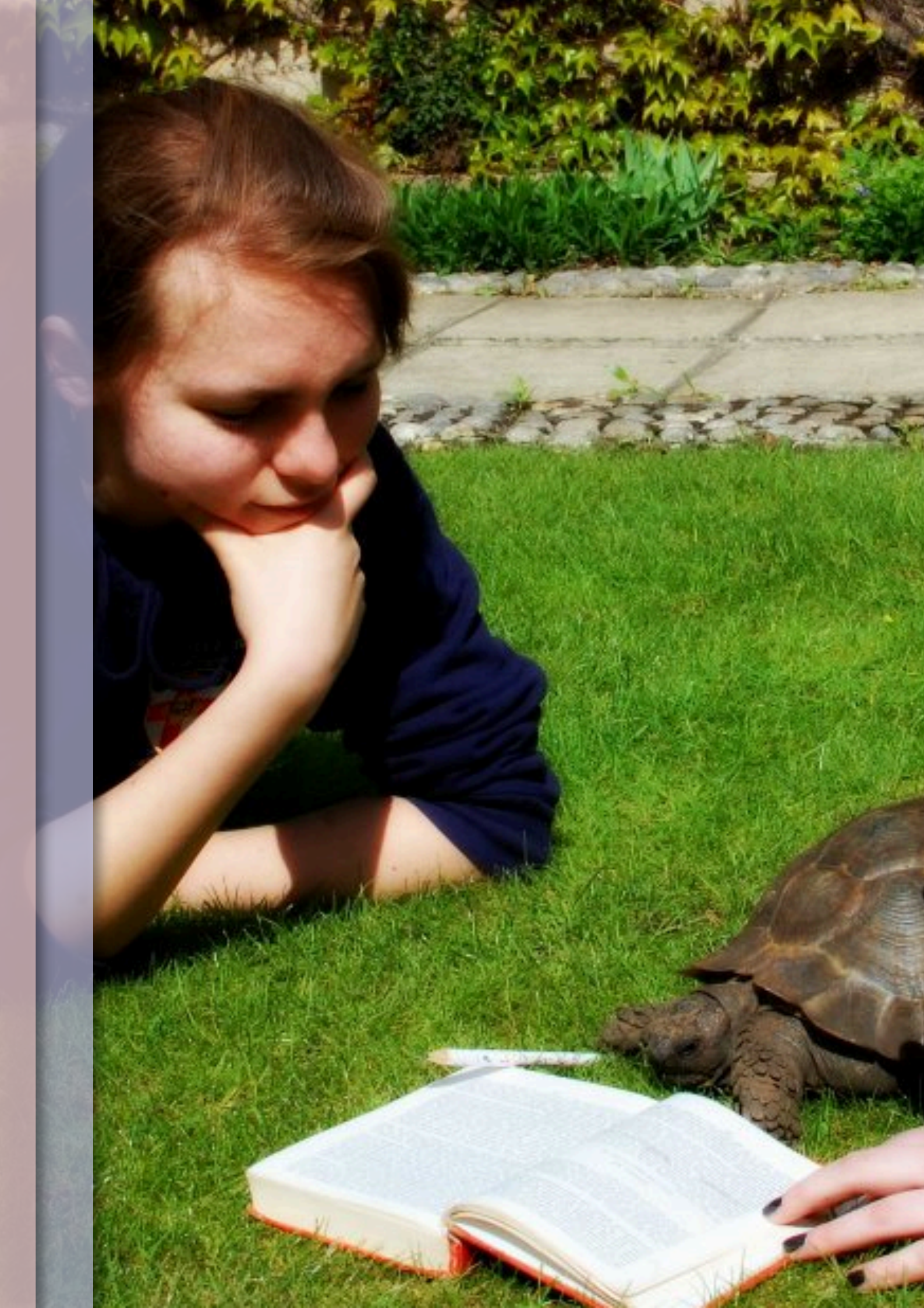
There are three options for food at Regent's; eating in, eating out, or eating in our College Hall. All rooms have access to kitchens which gives everyone the option to eat in and of course Oxford has a wide variety of restaurants and bars for food outside of Regent's. However most students like to eat in college, as breakfast, lunch and a three-course dinner are served in Helwys Hall (pictured) every weekday, with a vegetarian option always available and a salad bar at lunch.

In addition, every Friday we are treated to Formal Hall, where nicer food is served by a more ambient light, and the whole college gets dressed up in suits/dresses and gowns. Formal Halls at Regent's are unlike those anywhere else; they are held often enough that they become a feature of college life but infrequently enough that most people attend. Formals are usually followed by a JCR event ranging from Halloween parties to a charity auctions. Twice a term there is a 'guest formal' which is a black tie affair.

Food in college is usually very tasty, and rather varied - from Mexican fajitas to beef and ale pies. In addition, we are one of the last colleges in Oxford to enjoy waiter service for every lunch and dinner. It's reasonably priced, too - meals will rarely cost you much more than £3.50, except Formal Hall, which costs £7.70.







COLLEGE LIFE

Oxford life can be a bit hectic but Regent's is the perfect oasis in which to live, socialise and work. Our central location just off St. Giles means that nothing is more than a ten-minute walk away. The Library is extensively equipped and open twenty-four hours a day - perfect for essay crises when you need to finish an essay late at night. The library features a frosted-glass map of the world which was the centrepiece of the 1937 Glasgow Exhibition; although it looks a bit like a child might have drawn it.

Breakfast is served at 8.30, tea and biscuits are provided in the JCR at 11am and 4pm, lunch is served at 1pm, dinner at 7pm, and there is a cooked breakfast on Tuesdays. On Sundays 'Über brew' is provided by the JCR; this is a much larger brew with more junk food. You will never go hungry at Regent's! In the evenings the college bar is usually open and people congregate in the JCR to plan an evening out or go to one of the many more cultural events in the city.

Our students are fully engaged in University-wide student life; many are frequent contributors to the student newspapers, some are heavily involved in the University drama scene; others have produced or directed professional plays at the Oxford Playhouse and still others are sportsmen competing at University level. Regent's truly is the perfect springboard from which to launch yourself into the co-curricular life of the University whilst retaining a strong social and support network within the college.

In addition a staple of college life is the college tortoise, Emmanuelle, who is over one hundred years old and has won the Corpus Christi tortoise race many times. She is everyone's favourite pet and there is a position of 'Tortoise Keeper' on the JCR committee to look after her.

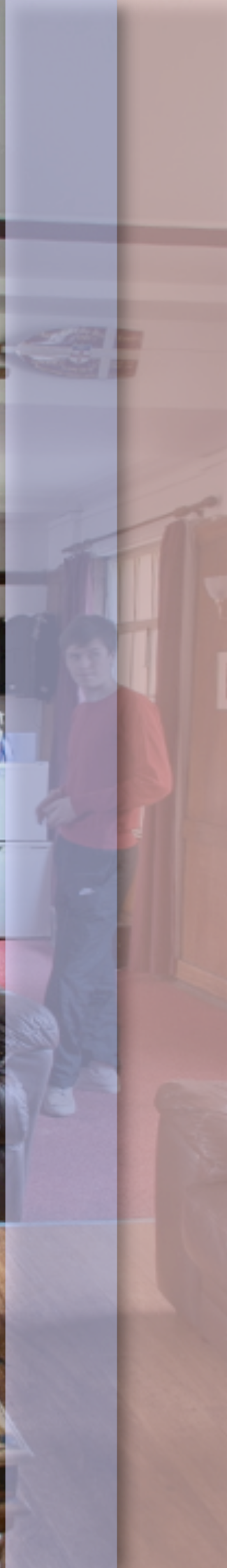
JCR

The Junior Common Room (JCR) is both the body of undergraduate students within Regent's, as well as the name of a room occupied by the JCR which is the hub of student life.

Regent's is lucky to have one of the most comfortable Junior Common Rooms in the University. The room is furnished with leather sofas, chairs and both table football and table tennis tables. Tea and biscuits are provided every weekday at 11am and 4pm by the JCR Committee - this 'brew' is a staple of Regent's life and a good excuse to get away from work!

Parties and socials are held every Friday night in the JCR, where the Social Committee transforms the room according to the event - as well as the legendary parties the JCR hosts twice a term, there are also quieter nights, such as mulled wine on the Quad, a Spanish-themed night, a Christmas party, and a Halloween event. The room is also equipped with big speakers, a dance floor and a futuristic light system to convert the JCR into the best venue outside of London!

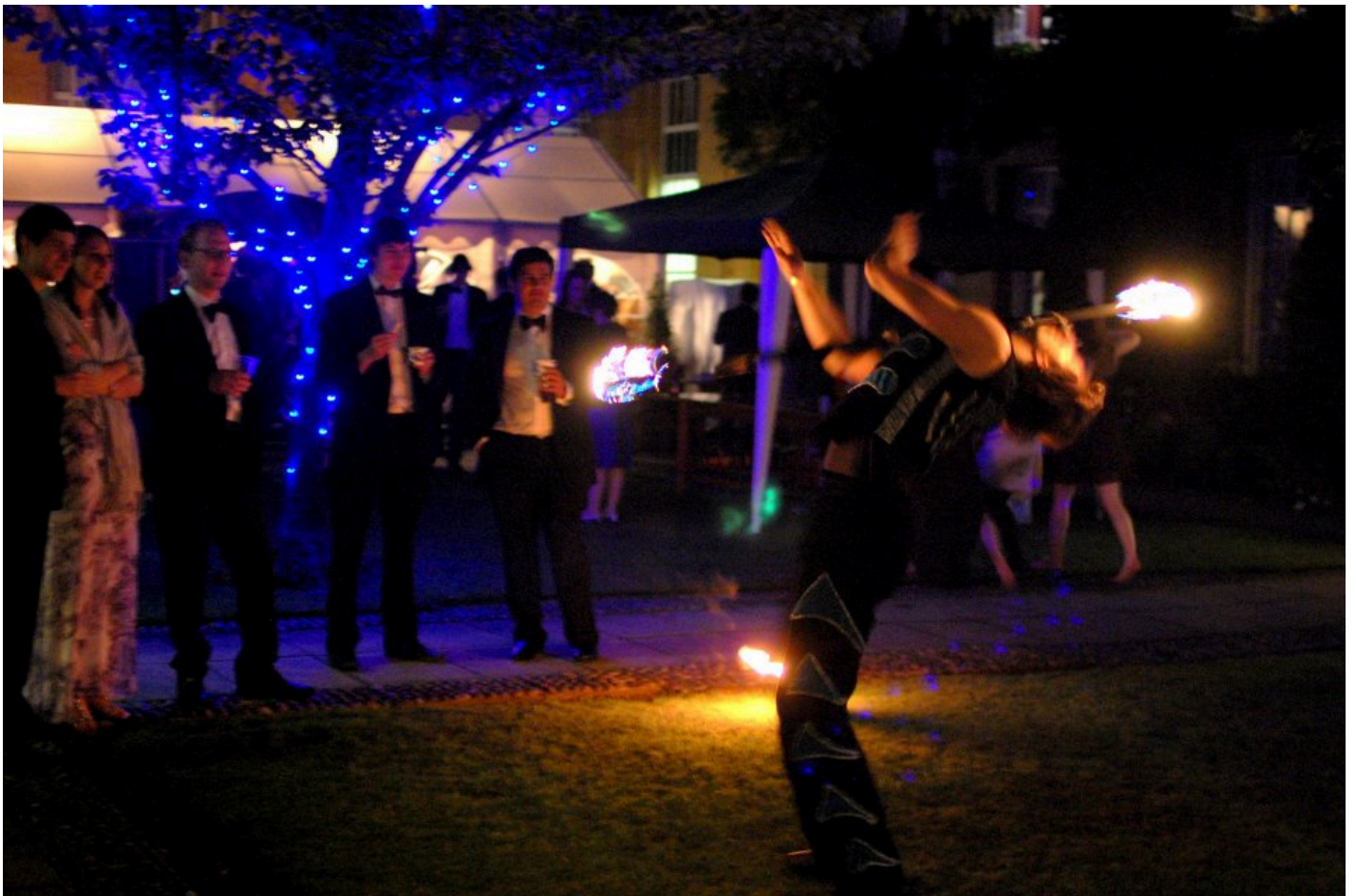
In an adjacent room the JCR has a licensed bar run by the student body, which is open every night. As well as stocking all manner of drinks, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic, its main claim to fame is that it is also the cheapest bar in Oxford, with a bottle of beer costing a mere £1.50. The bar is always a good place to catch up with friends - it also runs a DVD library, which is free of charge. The bar is also home to a 40" TV, which is frequently used by undergraduates to watch everything from sports matches to Disney films.





SOCIAL LIFE

Regent's is a friendly and sociable college where the support network provided by friends across the whole age range of the college makes it the best place to do your degree. With a strong social sphere based both around College life and within the wider University, we all have a real ethos of 'work hard, play hard'. The JCR social term-card rivals any in the University, both in variety and volume. Alongside the legendary Friday night events ranging from Burns Night to 'Oxmas', Regent's is the host to its very own ball at the end of the academic year, just after exams, named the 'Final Fling'. This ball sees the College transformed into a black-tie evening with an imaginative theme. Recent themes have included 'Seven Deadly Sins' and 'The World of Roald Dahl', complete with casino, bouncy castle, fire jugglers, a chocolate fountain and a Big Friendly Giant.





SPORT

Regent's has a strong sporting life backed up by healthy involvement in University Sport.

There is a college rowing team, one of the strongest in its division, for both men and women, the men's team having won 'blades' (an award for overtaking four boats in a race) many times in the College's history but most recently in the 2012 Summer Eights competition. Both teams row in the college boat, named 'Regent's Shark'. Both the men's and the women's teams are made up of people who had never rowed before coming to Oxford - some hadn't even played sport before coming to Regent's.

In addition there is a women's netball team (sometimes staffed by men when numbers are low!) and a men's football team which plays on Friday afternoons against other colleges at University Parks, losing only two games in 2011. The women's football team competes jointly with Balliol Ladies F.C., providing an alternative social mix away from college life. There is also a tennis club (which competes in some very stylish white polo shirts), and a croquet club, both of which compete against other colleges in the summer.

If Regent's does not offer a sport then there is the option of playing for another college. Many students do this - some play football for Christ Church, others netball for Worcester, and of course if you're *really* sporty then it is possible to play at University level - one of our students played Rugby for the university in the 2012 season and many Regent's students have achieved University blues in sports as diverse as Athletics and Life Saving.







THE ARTS

Theatre and music flourish at Regent's and most of the college ends up being involved in the theatre in some way.

On a college level, Regent's enters a performance for the university-wide drama competition 'Cuppers'; a brilliant event where first years get to showcase their talent in the first term. Additionally, the Regent's pantomime at Christmas is an established tradition well loved by all - last year Regent's put on an enthusiastic performance of Robin Hood with singing, dancing and even a bit of acting. For those who aren't particularly fond of pantomime humour, there is a traditionally a summer play during the final term where we get the opportunity to perform in the beautiful Regent's Quad.

University-wide, Regent's continues to dominate proceedings with students making a name for themselves in the world of theatre and showing the rest of the university that we are not to be trifled with. Recently Regent's has been involved with *Dangerous Liaisons*, *The Hothouse* and *A Little Night Music* at the Oxford Playhouse; The New Writing Festival and also Oxbard Fest (a celebration of Shakespeare which took place over two weeks) plus much, much more.

There are plenty of opportunities for stage managing, producing, lighting, sound, costume, directing or getting involved with the Oxford University Drama Society (OUDS) for those who are keen to get involved in Oxford's vibrant drama scene but who don't want to act.

Even if you're not into drama, other significant arts ventures at Regent's may tempt your attention. In particular, the Advent and Gospel choirs rehearse once a week, and perform at various Formals throughout the year, in addition to the Advent service which is held at St. John's College across the road. Whatever your tastes, there is something for everyone!