

Hulme Common Room  
Brasenose College  
Radcliffe Square  
Oxford, OX1 4AJ

September 2022

Dear Graduate Fresher,

It's my absolute pleasure to welcome you to Brasenose College. You are now a Graduate Fresher at Brasenose. You're also now a member of the Hulme Common Room (HCR) at Brasenose, which is the equivalent of the Middle Common Room (MCR) at most other colleges. You'll have noticed there's a bit of jargon around this place, but don't stress—you'll be on to it in no time at all.

The HCR is our graduate community in College, and our physical space is on the right side of Old Quad. There is an adorable wooden sign pointing the way. You're always welcome in the HCR. The HCR has a committee, and we run the activities of the HCR. There is so much room to get involved. I hope to see some of you stand for committee positions at our elections at the start of Michaelmas.

I want to call your attention to some key information. There is a [HCR Freshers 2022 Facebook Group](#) that you can join to connect with other in-coming Freshers. The passphrase to join is "stay off the grass." We will share info about Freshers events in that group. We will share everything via email, too, so don't worry if you aren't on Facebook. [You can sign-up to be part of a college family](#). College families are a Brasenose Freshers tradition. You'll have a parent and a few siblings, the aim being to immediately have a few friendly faces around college. We do a few family events as part of Freshers, too. I'll also call attention to the [HCR's website](#), where you'll find answers to many of your questions. Freshers will run from September 25<sup>th</sup> through October 8<sup>th</sup>, -1<sup>st</sup> and 0<sup>th</sup> Week. We'll have the Fresher's Guide and Freshers Timetable to you soon. Finally, please join me, and a few other committee members, for a [pre-Freshers Q&A via Zoom on September 12<sup>th</sup> at 3pm GMT +1](#).

I remember when I arrived in College. I was so nervous. We had part of our Freshers induction in Hall. I remember sitting there in that historic room and thinking to myself—wow, I feel so out of place. Everyone seemed so sharp. I figured the HCR committee members speaking at the front of the Hall must have cast-iron courage. I find it so funny looking back. The Oxford I built in my mind was not the Oxford I came to know: a welcoming place populated by normal people. I'm almost certain that, like me, you'll settle in, make friends, and come to find this place feels like home. The HCR is here to help you along your way.

Please reach out to me or any of the HCR Committee should you have any questions. You can find our emails on the HCR website. We can't wait to meet you.

Best,



Christian H Norton  
HCR President  
On behalf of the HCR Committee