

= Oriel College , Oxford =

Oriel College is a constituent college of the University of Oxford in Oxford , England . Located in Oriel Square , the college has the distinction of being the oldest royal foundation in Oxford ( a title formerly claimed by University College , whose claim of being founded by King Alfred is no longer promoted ) . In recognition of this royal connection , the college has also been known as King 's College and King 's Hall . The reigning monarch of the United Kingdom ( since 1952 , Elizabeth II ) is the official Visitor of the College .

The original medieval foundation set up by Adam de Brome , under the patronage of Edward II , was called the House or Hall of the Blessed Mary at Oxford . The first design allowed for a Provost and ten Fellows , called ' scholars ' , and the College remained a small body of graduate Fellows until the 16th century , when it started to admit undergraduates . During the English Civil War , Oriel played host to high @-@ ranking members of the King 's Oxford Parliament .

The main site of the College incorporates four medieval halls : Bedel Hall , St Mary Hall , St Martin Hall and Tackley 's Inn , the last being the earliest property acquired by the college and the oldest standing medieval hall in Oxford . The College has nearly 40 Fellows , about 300 undergraduates and some 160 graduates , the student body having roughly equal numbers of men and women .

Oriel 's notable alumni include two Nobel laureates ; prominent Fellows have included founders of the Oxford Movement . Among Oriel 's more notable possessions are a painting by Bernard van Orley and three pieces of medieval silver plate .

= = History = =

= = Middle Ages = = =

On 24 April 1324 , the Rector of the University Church , Adam de Brome , obtained a licence from King Edward II to found a " certain college of scholars studying various disciplines in honour of the Virgin " and to endow it to the value of £ 30 a year . Brome bought two properties in 1324 , Tackley 's Hall , on the south side of the High Street and Perilous Hall , on the north side of Broad Street , and as an investment he also purchased the advowson of a church in Aberford .

Brome 's foundation was confirmed in a charter dated 21 January 1326 , in which the Crown , represented by the Lord Chancellor , was to exercise the rights of Visitor ; a further charter drawn up in May of that year gave the rights of Visitor to Henry Burghersh , Bishop of Lincoln , as Oxford at that time was part of the diocese of Lincoln . Under Edward 's patronage , Brome diverted the revenues of the University Church to his college , which thereafter was responsible for appointing the Vicar and providing four chaplains to celebrate the daily services in the church . The college lost no time in seeking royal favour again after Edward II 's deposition , and Edward III confirmed his father 's favour in February 1327 , but the amended statutes remained in force with the Bishop of Lincoln as Visitor . In 1329 , the college received through royal grant a large house belonging to the crown , known as La Oriole , standing on the site of what is now First quad ; it is from this property that the college acquired its common name , " Oriel " , the name being in use from about 1349 . The word referred to an oratorium , or oriel window , forming a feature of the earlier property .

In the early 1410s several Fellows of Oriel took part in the disturbances accompanying Archbishop Arundel 's attempt to stamp out Lollardy in the University ; the Lollard belief that religious power and authority came through piety and not through the hierarchy of the Church particularly inflamed passions in Oxford , where its proponent , John Wycliffe , had been head of Balliol . Disregarding the Provost 's authority , Oriel Fellows fought bloody battles with other scholars , killed one of the Chancellor 's servants when they attacked his house , and were prominent among the group that obstructed the Archbishop and ridiculed his censures .

In 1442 , Henry VI sanctioned an arrangement whereby the town was to pay the college £ 25 a year from the fee farm in exchange for decayed property , allegedly worth £ 30 a year , which the college could not afford to keep in repair . The arrangement was cancelled in 1450 .

== = Early Modern = = =

In 1643 a general obligation was imposed on Oxford colleges to support the Royalist cause in the English Civil War , the King called for Oriel 's plate and almost all of it was given , the total weighing 29 lb.0 oz.5 dwt. of gilt , and 52 lb.7 oz.14 dwt. of " white " plate . In the same year the College was assessed at £ 1 for the weekly sum of £ 40 charged on the colleges and halls for the fortification of the city . When the Oxford Parliament was assembled during the Civil War in 1644 , Oriel housed the Executive Committee of the Privy council , Parliament being held at neighbouring Christ Church . Following the defeat of the Royalist cause , the University was scrutinised by the Parliamentarians , and five of the eighteen Oriel Fellows were removed . The Visitors , using their own authority , elected Fellows between 1648 and October 1652 , when without reference to the Commissioners , John Washbourne was chosen ; the autonomy of the College in this respect seems to have been restored .

In 1673 James Davenant , a Fellow since 1661 , complained to William Fuller , then Bishop of Lincoln , about Provost Say 's conduct in the election of Thomas Twitty to a Fellowship . Bishop Fuller appointed a commission that included the Vice @-@ Chancellor , Peter Mews , the Dean of Christ Church , John Fell , and the Principal of Brasenose , Thomas Yates . On 1 August Fell reported to the Bishop that ;

When this Devil of buying and selling is once cast out , your Lordship will , I hope , take care that he return not again , lest he bring seven worse than himself into the house after ' tis swept and garnisht .

On 24 January 1674 , Bishop Fuller issued a decree dealing with the recommendations of the commissioners ? a majority of all the Fellows should always be insisted on , so the Provost could not push an election in a thin meeting , and Fellows should be admitted immediately after their election . On 28 January Provost Say obtained a recommendation for Twitty 's election from the King , but it was withdrawn on 13 February , following the Vice @-@ Chancellor 's refusal to swear Twitty into the University and the Bishop 's protests at Court .

During the early 1720s , a constitutional struggle began between the Provost and the Fellows , culminating in a lawsuit . In 1721 , Henry Edmunds was elected as a Fellow by 9 votes to 3 ; his election was rejected by Provost George Carter , and on appeal , by the Visitor , Edmund Gibson , then Bishop of Lincoln . Rejections of candidates by the Provost continued , fueling discontent among the Fellows , until a writ of attachment against the Bishop of Lincoln was heard between 1724 and 1726 . The opposing Fellows , led by Edmunds , appealed to the first set of statutes , claiming the Crown as Visitor , making Gibson 's decisions invalid ; Provost Carter , supported by Bishop Gibson , appealed to the second set , claiming the Bishop of Lincoln as Visitor . The jury decided for the Fellows , supporting the original charter of Edward II .

In a private printing of 1899 Provost Shadwell lists thirteen Gaudies observed by the College during the 18th century ; by the end of the 19th century all but two , the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and the Purification of the Virgin , had ceased to be celebrated .

== = Modern = = =

In the early 19th century , the reforming zeal of Provosts John Eveleigh and Edward Copleston gained Oriel a reputation as the most brilliant college of the day . It was the centre of the " Oriel Noetics " ? clerical liberals such as Richard Whately and Thomas Arnold were Fellows , and during the 1830s , two intellectually eminent Fellows of Oriel , John Keble and John Henry Newman , supported by Canon Pusey ( also an Oriel fellow initially , later at Christ Church ) and others , formed a group known as the Oxford Movement , alternatively as the Tractarians , or familiarly as the Puseyites . The group was disgusted by the Church of England of the day and sought to revive the spirit of early Christianity . Tension arose in College since Provost Edward Hawkins was a determined opponent of the Movement .

During the First World War , a wall was built dividing Third quad from Second quad to

accommodate members of Somerville College in St Mary 's Hall while their college buildings were being used as a military hospital . At this time Oxford separated male and female students as far as possible ; Vera Brittain , one of the Somerville students , recalled an amusing occurrence during her time there in her autobiography , Testament of Youth ;

[ ... ] the few remaining undergraduates in the still masculine section of Oriel not unnaturally concluded that it would be a first @-@ rate " rag " to break down the wall which divided them from the carefully guarded young females in St. Mary Hall . Great perturbation filled the souls of the Somerville dons when they came down to breakfast one morning to find that a large gap had suddenly appeared in the protecting masonry , through which had been thrust a hilarious placard :

" ' OO MADE THIS ' ERE ' OLE ? "

" MICE !!! "

Throughout that day and the following night the Senior Common Room , from the Principal downwards , took it in turns to sit on guard beside the hole , for fear any unruly spirit should escape through it to the forbidden adventurous males on the other side .

In 1985 , the college became the last all @-@ male college in Oxford to admit women for matriculation as undergraduates . In 1984 , the Senior Common Room voted 23 @-@ 4 to admit women undergraduates from 1986 . The Junior Common Room president believed that " the distinctive character of the college will be undermined " .

A second Feast Day was added in 2007 by a benefaction from Oriensis George Moody , to be celebrated on or near St George 's Day ( 23 April ) . The only remaining gaudy had been Candlemas , the new annual dinner will be known as the St. George 's Day Gaudy . The dinner is black tie and gowns , and by request of the benefactor , the main course will normally be goose . The inaugural event took place on Wednesday 25 April 2007 .

= = Buildings and environs = =

= = = Front Quad ( First quadrangle ) = = =

Nothing survives of the original buildings , La Oriole and the smaller St Martin 's Hall in the south @-@ east ; both were demolished before the quadrangle was built in the artisan mannerist style during the 17th century . The south and west ranges and the gate tower were built around 1620 to 1622 ; the north and east ranges and the chapel buildings date from 1637 to 1642 . The façade of the east range forms a classical E shape comprising the college chapel , hall and undercroft . The exterior and interior of the ranges are topped by an alternating pattern of decorative gables . The gate house has a Perp portal and canted Gothic oriel windows , with fan vaulting in the entrance . The room above has a particularly fine plaster ceiling and chimneypiece of stucco caryatids and panelling interlaced with studded bands sprouting into large flowers .

The cartouches over staircases one , two , three , five and six and the chapel , bar and provost 's lodgings entrances bear the arms of important figures in the College 's history ; ( 1 ) Anthony Blencowe ( Provost 1574 @-@ 1618 ) who left money that paid for building the west side of front quad . ( 2 ) Richard Dudley ( Fellow 1495 @-@ 1536 ) who gave property for Fellowships . ( 3 ) John Carpenter ( Provost 1428 @-@ 1435 , later Bishop Carpenter ) who gave property , plate , Fellowships and Exhibitions . ( Chapel ) John Frank ( Master of the Rolls ) gave property for Fellowships around 1441 . ( Bar ) William Lewis ( Provost 1618 @-@ 1621 ) who canvassed successfully for donations for the rebuilding of college . ( 5 ) William Smith ( Bishop of Lincoln ) who gave property for a Fellowship around 1508 . ( Provost 's lodgings ) John Tolson who was Provost during the building of Front Quad . ( 6 ) Edward Hawkins ( Provost 1828 @-@ 1882 ) .

= = = Hall = = =

In the centre of the East range , the portico of the hall entrance commemorates its construction during the reign of Charles I with the legend " REGNANTE CAROLO " , Charles , being King , in

pierced stonework . The portico was completely rebuilt in 1897 , and above it are statues of two Kings : Edward II on the left , and probably either Charles I or James I , although this is disputed ; above those is a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary after whom the College is officially named . The top breaks the Jacobean tradition and has classical pilasters , a shield with garlands , and a segmental pediment .

The hall has a hammerbeam roof ; the louvre in the centre is now glazed , but was originally the only means of escape for smoke rising from a fireplace in the centre of the floor . The wooden panelling was designed by Ninian Comper and was erected in 1911 in place of some previous 19th @-@ century Gothic type , though even earlier panelling , dating from 1710 , is evident in the Buttery .

Behind the High Table is a portrait of Edward II ; underneath is a longsword brought to the college in 1902 after being preserved for many years on one of the college 's estates at Swainswick , near Bath . On either side are portraits of Sir Walter Raleigh and Joseph Butler . The other portraits around the hall include other prominent members of Oriel such as Matthew Arnold , Thomas Arnold , James Anthony Froude , John Keble , John Henry Newman , Richard Whately and John Robinson .

The heraldic glass in the windows display the coats of arms of benefactors and distinguished members of the College ; three of the windows were designed by Ninian Comper . The window next to the entrance on the East side contains the arms of Regius Professors of Modern History who have been ex @-@ officio Fellows of the College .

= = = = Chapel = = = =

The current chapel is Oriel 's third , the first being built around 1373 on the north side of the front quadrangle . By 1566 , the chapel was located on the south side of the quadrangle , as shown in a drawing made for Elizabeth I 's visit to Oxford in that year . The present building was consecrated in 1642 and despite subsequent restorations it largely retains its original appearance .

The bronze lectern was given to the College in 1654 . The black and white marble paving dates from 1677 ? 78 . Except for the pews on the west , dating from 1884 , the panelling , stalls and screens are all 17th @-@ century , as are the altar and carved communion rails . Behind the altar is Bernard van Orley 's *The Carrying of the Cross* ? a companion @-@ piece to this painting is in the National Gallery of Scotland . The organ case dates from 1716 ; originally designed by Christopher Schreider for St Mary Abbots Church , Kensington , it was acquired by Oriel in 1884 .

In the north @-@ west window of the gallery there is a small piece of late medieval glass , a figure of St Margaret of Antioch . In the south window of the gallery there is a painted window of " *The Presentation of Christ in the Temple* " , executed by William Peckitt of York . It was originally set in the east window in 1767 ; a later version of his work can be seen in New College Chapel . The rest of the stained glass is Victorian : the earliest is on the easternmost part of the south side ; the rest date from after the 1884 restorations by Powell .

Above the entrance to the chapel is an oriel that , until the 1880s , was a room on the first floor that formed part of a set of rooms that were occupied by Richard Whately , and later by John Henry Newman . Whately is said to have used the space as a larder and Newman is said to have used it for his private prayers ? when the organ was installed in 1884 , the space was used for the blower . The wall that once separated the room from the ante @-@ chapel was removed , making it accessible from the chapel . The organ was built by J. W. Walker & Sons in 1888 ; in 1991 the space behind the organ was rebuilt as an oratory and memorial to Newman and the Oxford Movement . A new stained glass window designed by Vivienne Haig and realised by Douglas Hogg was completed and installed in 2001 .

During the late 1980s , the chapel was extensively restored with the assistance of donations from Lady Norma Dalrymple @-@ Champneys . During this work , the chandelier , given in 1885 by Provost Shadwell while still a Fellow , was put back in place , the organ was restored , the painting mounted behind the altar , and the chapel repainted . A list of former chaplains and organ scholars was erected in the ante @-@ chapel . The Chaplain is Rev Dr Robert Tobin and the Senior Organ Scholar for 2010 @-@ 11 was Edwin Lock . At that time David Maw was appointed Director of

Chapel Music .

= = = Back Quad ( Second quadrangle ) = = =

Originally a garden , the demand for more accommodation for undergraduates in the early 18th century resulted in two free @-@ standing blocks being built . The first block erected was the Robinson Building on the east side , built in 1720 by Bishop Robinson at the suggestion of his wife , as the inscription over the door records . Its twin block , the Carter Building , was erected on the west side in 1729 , as a result of a benefaction by Provost Carter . The two buildings stood for nearly a hundred years as detached blocks in the garden , and the architectural elements of the First quad are repeated on them ? only here the seven gables are all alike . Between 1817 and 1819 , they were joined up to the Front quad with their present , rather incongruous connecting links . In the link to the Robinson Building , two purpose @-@ built rooms have been incorporated - the Champneys Room , designed by Weldon Champneys , the nephew of Basil Champneys , and the Benefactors Room , a panelled room honouring benefactors of the college . A Gothic oriel window , belonging to the Provost 's Lodgings , was added to the Carter Building in 1826 .

The north range houses the library and senior common rooms ; designed in the Neoclassical style by James Wyatt , it was built between 1788 and 1796 to accommodate the books bequested by Edward , Baron Leigh , formerly High Steward of the University and an Orielensis , whose gift had doubled the size of the library . The two @-@ storey building has rusticated arches on the ground floor and a row of Ionic columns above , dividing the façade into seven bays ? the ground floor contains the first purpose built senior common rooms in Oxford , above is the library .

On 7 March 1949 , a fire spread from the library roof ; over 300 printed books and the manuscripts on exhibition were completely destroyed , and over 3 @,@ 000 books needed repair , though the main structure suffered little damage and restoration took less than a year .

= = = St. Mary 's Quad ( Third quadrangle ) = = =

The south , east and west ranges of third quadrangle contain elements of St Mary Hall , which was incorporated into Oriel in 1902 ; less than a decade later , the Hall 's buildings on the northern side were demolished for the construction of the Rhodes Building . Bedel Hall in the south was formally amalgamated with St Mary Hall in 1505 .

In the south range , parts of the medieval buildings survive and are incorporated into staircase ten ? the straight , steep flight of stairs and timber framed partitions date from a mid @-@ 15th century rebuilding of St Mary Hall . The former Chapel , Hall and Buttery of St Mary Hall , built in 1640 , form part of the Junior Library and Junior Common Room . Viewed from the third quad , the Chapel , with its Gothic windows , can be seen to have been built neatly on top of the Hall , a unique example in Oxford of such a plan .

On the east side of the quad is a simple rustic style timber @-@ frame building ; known as " the Dolls ' House " , it was erected by Principal King in 1743 .

In 1826 an ornate range was erected by St Mary Hall in the Gothic Revival style , incorporating the old gate of St Mary Hall , on the west side of the quad . Designed by Daniel Robertson , it contains two quite ornate oriels placed asymmetrically , one is of six lights , the other four . They are the best example of the pre @-@ archaeological Gothic in Oxford . The large oriel on the first floor at the north end was once the drawing room window of the Principal of the Hall . Parts of the street wall incorporated into this range show traces of blocked windows dating from the same period of rebuilding in the 15th century as the present @-@ day staircase ten .

The Rhodes Building , pictured right , was built in 1911 using £ 100 @,@ 000 left to the College for that purpose by former student Cecil Rhodes . It was designed by Basil Champneys and stands on the site of the house of the St Mary Hall Principal , on the High Street . Champneys 's first proposal for the building included an open arcade to the High Street , a domed central feature and balustraded parapet . The left hand block and much of the centre was to be given up to a new Provost 's Lodgings , and the five windows on the first floor above the arcade were to light a gallery

belonging to the Lodging . The college eventually decided to retain the existing Provost 's Lodging and demanded detailing " more in accordance with the style which has become traditional in Oxford " . It became the last building of the Jacobean revival style in Oxford .

On the side facing the High Street , there is a statue of Rhodes over the main entrance , with Edward VII and George V beneath . The inscription reads : " e Larga MUlnflCentla CaeCILII rhoDes " , which , as well as acknowledging Rhodes ' munificence , is a chronogram giving the date of construction , MDCCCLLVIII .

The staircases of the interior façade are decorated with cartouches similar to those found in First Quad , and likewise bear the arms of important figures in the College 's history ; ( 13 ) Sir Walter Raleigh who was an undergraduate from 1572 to 1574 , ( 14 ) John Keble who was a Fellow between 1811 and 1835 ) , ( archway ) Edward Hawkins who was Provost from 1828 until 1882 and ( 15 ) Gilbert White who was an undergraduate from 1739 until 1743 and a Fellow from 1744 until 1793 .

The building was not entirely well received ; William Sherwood , Mayor of Oxford and Master of Magdalen College School , wrote :

Oriel [ has ] broken out into the High , ... destroying a most picturesque group of old houses in so doing , and , to put it gently , hardly compensating us for their removal .

= = = O 'Brien Quad ( Island site ) = = =

This is a convex quadrilateral of buildings , bordered by the High Street , and the meeting of Oriel Street and King Edward Street in Oriel Square . The site took six hundred years to acquire and although it contains teaching rooms and the Harris Lecture Theatre , it is largely given over to accommodation .

On the High Street , No. 106 and 107 stand on the site of Tackley 's Inn ; built around 1295 , it was the first piece of property that Adam de Brome acquired when he began to found the college in 1324 . It comprised a hall and chambers leased to scholars , behind a frontage of five shops , with the scholars above and a cellar of five bays below . The hall , which was open to the roof , was 33 feet ( 10 m ) long , 20 feet ( 6 m ) wide , and about 22 feet ( 7 m ) high ; at the east end was a large chamber with another chamber above it . The south wall of the building , which survives , was partly of stone and contains a large two @-@ light early 14th @-@ century window . The cellar below is of the same date and is the best preserved medieval cellar in Oxford ; originally entered by stone steps from the street , it has a stone vault divided into four sections by two diagonal ribs , with carved corbels .

The Oriel Street site was acquired between 1329 and 1392 . No. 12 , now staircases 19 and 20 , is the oldest tenement acquired by the college ; known as Kylyngworth 's , it was granted to the college in 1392 by Thomas de Lentwardyn , Fellow and later Provost , having previously been let to William de Daventre , Oriel 's fourth Provost , in 1367 . A back wing to the property was added around 1600 and further work to the front was conducted in 1724 ? 38 . In 1985 , funded by a gift from Edgar O 'Brien and £ 10 @ , @ 000 from the Pilgrim Trust , Kylyngworth 's was refurbished along with Nos. 10 , 9 and 7 .

King Edward Street was created by the college between 1872 and 1873 when 109 and 110 High Street were demolished . The old shops on each side of the road were pulled down and rebuilt , and to preserve the continuity , the new shops were numbered 108 and 109 ? 112 . Named after the college 's founder , the road was opened in 1873 . On the wall of the first floor of No. 6 , there is a large metal plaque with a portrait of Cecil Rhodes ; underneath is the inscription :

In this house , the Rt. Hon Cecil John Rhodes kept academical residence in the year 1881 . This memorial is erected by Alfred Mosely in recognition of the great services rendered by Cecil Rhodes to his country .

In the centre of the quad is the Harris Building , formerly Oriel court , a real tennis court where Charles I played tennis with his nephew Prince Rupert in December 1642 and King Edward VII had his first tennis lesson in 1859 . The building was in use as a lecture hall by 1923 , and after modernisation between 1991 and 1994 , funded by Sir Philip and Lady Harris , contains

accommodation , a seminar room and the college 's main lecture theatre . The bronze plaque in the lobby commemorates Sir Philip 's father , Captain Charles William Harris , after whom the building is named . The building was opened by John Major , then Prime Minister , on 10 August 1993 .

Whereas the staircases on the first three quadrangles are marked with Arabic numerals , the Island site is marked with Roman numerals . Both sites have the numbering running anticlockwise around each quadrangle and there are two staircase eighteens ? Mary Quad 's staircase numbering finishes at 18 and O 'Brien Quad 's staircase numbering begins with XVIII .

= = = Rectory Road = = =

Bordered by the Cowley Road , this site was formerly Nazareth House , a residential care home convent ? Goldie Wing ( shown left ) and Larmerier House are its surviving buildings . Nazareth House itself was demolished to make room for two purpose @-@ built halls of residence , James Mellon Hall ( shown right ) and David Paterson House . The two new halls were opened by Queen Elizabeth II on 8 November 2000 .

As it is about ten minutes walk from College and more peaceful than the middle of the city , it has become the principal choice of accommodation for Oriel 's graduates and finalists . The site has its own common rooms , squash court , gymnasium and support staff .

= = = Bartlemas = = =

Bartlemas is a conservation area that incorporates the remaining buildings of a leper hospital founded by Henry I ; it includes the sports grounds for Oriel , Jesus and Lincoln Colleges , along with landscaping for wildlife and small scale urban development .

In 1326 Provost Adam de Brome was appointed warden of St Bartholomew 's ; a leper hospital in Cowley Marsh , the hospital was later granted to the college by Edward III , along with the payments it had been receiving from the fee farm . It was increasingly used as a rest house for sick members of the college needing a change of air . In 1649 the college rebuilt the main hospital range north of the chapel , destroyed in the Civil War , as a row of four almshouses , called Bartlemas House . Bartlemas Chapel and two farm cottages are the other extant buildings .

= = = Filming location = = =

The buildings of Oriel College were used as a location for Hugh Grant 's first film , Privileged ( 1982 ) , as well as Oxford Blues ( 1984 ) , True Blue ( 1991 ) and The Dinosaur Hunter ( 2000 ) . The television crime series Inspector Morse used the College in the episodes " Ghost in the Machine " , under the name of ' Courtenay College ' , " The Silent World of Nicholas Quinn " , " The Infernal Serpent " , " Deadly Slumber " , " Twilight of the Gods " and " Death is now My Neighbour " , and in the one off follow on , Lewis , the Middle Common Room and Oriel Square were used .

= = Coat of arms = =

In heraldic terminology : Gules , three lions passant guardant Or within a bordure engrailed Argent .

The arms of the College are based on those of the founder Edward II , the three gold lions of England on a red background . However , as no one may bear another 's arms unaltered , an engrailed silver border was added " for difference " .

The three feathers , often adopted by members of the College , can be found in decorations around college and is the motif on the college crested tie . It probably represents Edward , the Black Prince , although it may represent King Charles I , who was Prince of Wales when the building of First quad began in the 17th century .

College colours , used on the college scarf , sports clothing , oar blades and the like , are two white stripes on navy .

The long @-@ time informal emblem of the Tortoise Club ( 1st Summer VIII and 1st Torpid crews ) , was formalized in a grant to the College by Letters Patent dated 20 April 2009 of Garter , Clarenceux and Norroy and Ulster King of Arms . The Badge is blazoned A Tortoise displayed the shell circular Azure charged with two concentric annulets Argent . The grant is formulated to provide the College , the Boat Club , and the Oriel Society ( Oriel 's Alumni society ) use of the badge in relation to Tortoise Club alumni activities ; the Tortoise Club is not itself an incorporated entity and does not bear Arms in its own right ; therefore it could not be granted such a heraldic Badge directly .

= = Grace = =

Before formal Hall , the following Latin grace is recited by one of the student bible clerks . The translation is reputedly by Erasmus in his *Convivium Religiosum* of a grace recorded by St John Chrysostom :

Benedicte Deus , qui pascis nos a juventute nostra et praebes cibum omni carni , reple gaudio et laetitia corda nostra ut nos affatim quod satis est habentes abundemus in omne opus bonum , per Jesum Christum Dominum nostrum , cui , tecum et Spiritu Sancto , sit omnis honos , laus et imperium , in saecula saeculorum .

Blessed God , who feedest us from our youth and providest food to all flesh , fill our hearts with joy and gladness , that we , having enough to satisfy us , may abound in every good work , through Jesus Christ our Lord , to whom , with thee and the Holy Spirit , be all honour , praise and power for all ages .

After the meal , the Provost , or a Fellow , usually recites a short Latin prayer [ *Benedicto benedicatur , per Jesum Christum , Let praise be given to / by the Blessed One* ] instead of the full post cibum grace :

Domine Deus , resurrectio et vita credentium , qui semper es laudandus cum in viventibus tum in defunctis , agimus tibi gratias pro Eduardo secundo , Fundatore nostro , pro Adamo De Brome , praecipuo benefactore caeterisque benefactoribus nostris , quorum beneficiis hic ad pietatem et ad studia bonarum literarum alimur ; rogantes ut nos his donis tuis recte utentes , ad resurrectionis gloriam immortalem perducamur , per Jesum Christum Dominum nostrum .

Lord God , the resurrection and life of all who believe in thee , who art always worthy to be praised by both the living and the dead , we give thee thanks for Edward the Second , our Founder , for Adam de Brome , our principal benefactor and for all our other benefactors , by whose benefits we are here maintained in godliness and learning ; and we beseech thee that using these thy gifts rightly we may be led to the immortal glory of resurrection , through Jesus Christ our Lord .

= = Student life = =

Students are admitted to Oriel in line with the common framework the Oxford University Colleges adhere to , which lays down the principles and procedures for admission to Oxford University , which they all observe .

Accommodation is provided for all undergraduates , and for some graduates , though some accommodation is off @-@ site . Members are generally expected to dine in hall , where there are two sittings every evening , one informal and one formal , except on Saturdays , where there is only an informal sitting . The Bar , situated underneath the Hall , serves food from mid @-@ morning and drinks in the evening . There is both a Junior Common Room ( JCR ) , between Second and Third quad , and a Middle Common Room ( MCR ) , on the Island Site .

The college lending library supplements the university libraries and holds over 100 @,@ 000 volumes , including core undergraduate texts . Most undergraduate tutorials are carried out in the college , though for specialist papers , undergraduates may be sent to tutors in other colleges .

Between 2001 @-@ 2010 , Oriel College students chose not to be affiliated to the University @-@ wide Students ' union , OUSU , although this did not stop some students from getting involved with OUSU and running for elected office . In a 2010 student referendum the JCR decided to reaffiliate .



However , in 2013 , in a fresh referendum , the Oriel JCR again voted to disaffiliate from OUSU .

Oriel College has its own drama society , the Oriel Lions , which funds college and Oxford University shows .

== = Sport = = =

Croquet may be played in St Mary quad in the summer , as can bowls on the south lawn of First quad . The sports ground is mainly used for cricket , tennis , rugby union and football .

== = = Rowing = = = =

Rowing at Oriel is carried out from the college 's own boat @-@ house across Christ Church Meadow . Oriel has a reputation for its success in rowing , in particular the two intercollegiate bumps races , Torpids and Eights Week . In Tom Brown at Oxford by Thomas Hughes , Oriel 's win in the 1842 Head of the River Race , with Oriel bumping Trinity , was re @-@ written as Tom 's college , " St Ambrose " taking first place and " Oriel " in second place .

In 2005 the college remained " Head of the River " in Torpids and rowed over second in Eights Week . Having been awarded spoons in Summer Eights 2006 after being bumped every day of racing , the Men 's 1st VIII bumped twice in 2007 and twice again in 2008 to return to 2nd on the River , behind Balliol College . The women 's 1st VIII has also had success in Summer Eights in recent years , winning blades in 2007 after bumping on all four days and finishing 2008 in Division I for the first time since 1994 . In 2006 Oriel claimed the first ever double headship in Torpids , rowing over as Head of the River in both the men 's and women 's first divisions . Both Men 's and Women 's 1st Vllls ceded the headship of Torpids in 2008 by being bumped ; the positions remained unchanged in 2007 as Torpids were cancelled . In recent years , Oriel has held the men 's Headship in Eights in 2011 , 2012 , 2014 and 2015 . As of 2014 the women are 12th on the river .

On the afternoons of the Thursday , Friday and Saturday of 7th week in Trinity Term , the boat club hosts the annual Oriel Regatta ; events in this competition include side @-@ by @-@ side racing for eights , coxed fours , pairs and single sculls . The course runs upstream from the Longbridges Boathouse to past the end of boathouses on Christ Church Island and are conducted in knock @-@ out format .

The general emblem of the Oriel College Boat Club is the original medieval badge of Edward , the Black Prince . In recent years this has been augmented by the addition of crossed @-@ oars below the feathers .

== = = = The Tortoise Club = = = = =

The Tortoise Club is open to the men 's 1st Summer VIII and 1st Torpid ( as well as their respective coxwains ) , but does not extend to the Boat Club committee 's Bosun ( boatswain ) , Secretary , or Treasurer unless they are also 1st VIII , 1st Torpid , or coxwains to those boats . The unique emblem of the Tortoise Club is the tortoise badge . The College of Arms ' narrative should not be misunderstood to imply use of the Tortoise emblem by the general Oriel College Boat Club membership or members of the Oriel Society - these have their own appropriate emblematic devices .

== = = = The Blessed Virgins Club = = = = =

At the creation of the Oriel College Women 's Boat Club in 1986 , Oriel 's female rowers in the 1st VIII and 1st Torpid became members of The Blessed Virgins Club , in like fashion and styling as their male counterparts in the Tortoise Club . The respective unique emblem of The Blessed Virgins is a pair of ( angelic ) wings . The choice of " Blessed Virgins " is a pun on the official name of the college , that being ' The House of Blessed Mary the Virgin in Oxford'

===== Oriel Rowing Jackets =====

Until 2009 the wearing of Boat Club Jackets ( ivory with navy blue piping and cuff rings , bearing the three ostrich feather emblem on the left breast ) was limited to the 1st and 2nd Summer VIII 's and Torpids and the Oriel College Boat Club Committee . At that time cuff ring designations were : Three rings for 1st Summer VIII and 1st Torpid ; two rings for Boat Club Committee ; one ring for 2nd Summer VIII 2nd Torpid . These now obsolete designations can still be seen at the Walters of Oxford website .

Changes brought about in 2009 to become more inclusive of lower @-@ boats ' alumni ( 3rd , 4th , and sometimes 5th VIII 's as well as boat coxswains ) reformed the cuff ring designations as follows : Three rings for 1st Summer VIII ; two rings for 1st Torpid and a blades @-@ winning 2nd Summer VIII at the Captain 's discretion ; one ring for general boat club members ( no specific distinction for committee members exists today ) .

== Academic performance ==

Oriel is ranked 9th out of 30 in the 2012 / 13 Norrington Table .

== People associated with the College ==

See also Former students of Oriel College and Fellows of Oriel College .

Many notable and famous people have passed through Oriel 's gates , from statesmen to cricketers to industrialists ; their most famous undergraduate is the 16th @-@ century explorer , Sir Walter Raleigh . On the graduate level , the college boasts as former fellows the principal founders of the Oxford Movement : John Keble , E.B. Pusey , and John Henry Newman . The College has produced many other churchmen , bishops , cardinals , governors , and two Nobel Prize recipients : Alexander Todd ( Chemistry ) and James Meade ( Economics ) .

The Professorial Fellowships the College holds are : the Regius Professor of Modern History , held by Lyndal Roper and formerly by Robert Evans , Sir John Elliott , Hugh Trevor @-@ Roper and Thomas Arnold , the Oriel Professor of the Interpretation of Holy Scripture , held by John Barton , the Nolloth Professor of the Philosophy of the Christian Religion , held by Brian Leftow , and the Nuffield Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology .

In the 1700s , Oriel attracted its first transatlantic students ? sons of planters in Virginia . ' One of them came to regret giving a job to a young surveyor : George Washington.'

== Notable possessions ==

Oriel has three notable pieces of medieval plate . The first is a French beaker and cover in silver gilt ; past estimates on its dating from 1460 ? 70 are thought mistaken , and circa 1350 , with later decoration , was later expounded . It was bought in 1493 for £ 4.18s.1d. , under the mistaken belief that it had belonged to Edward II . In a college inventory of plate dated 21 December 1596 , it is named as the Founder 's Cup .

The second notable piece of plate is a mazer of maplewood with silver gilt mounts , dating from 1470 ? 85 . On the edge of the rim is a row of grouped beads ; below is an inscription in black letters :

Vir racione vivas non quod petit atra voluptas sic caro casta datur lis lingue suppeditatur

Man , in thy draughts let reason be thy guide , and not the craving of perverted lust ;

So honest nourishment will be supplied , and strife of tongue be trampled in the dust

This type of shallow drinking vessel was quite common in the Middle Ages , but the only other mazers in Oxford are three dating from the 15th century , and one standing mazer from 1529 ? 30 , all belonging to All Souls . Thirdly is a coconut cup , one of six in Oxford ; the Oriel cup has silver gilt mounts and dates from the first quarter of the 16th century .

Among the later plate are two flagons , two patens and a chalice which date from 1640 ? 41 . The

larger pieces of Buttery Plate include the Sanford and Heywood grace cups , dated 1654 ? 55 and 1669 ? 70 , a rosewater ewer gifted in 1669 , a punchbowl dating from 1735 ? 36 , and the great Wenman tankard presented in 1679 , which holds a gallon and is the largest in Oxford . Many of the 17th- and 18th @-@ century tankards were given by commensales and commoners as a form of admission fee .

As of 2006 , the college 's estimated financial endowment was £ 77 million . Oriel possesses an engrossment of the Magna Carta .