

MNG Rämibühl 3a

English Language Course and Project

British Life and Culture

eckersleyoxford

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Project work

Raemibuehl 3a

Oxford 2007



eckersleyoxford

14 Friars Entry Oxford OX1 2BZ UK
Tel: +44 (0) 1865 721268
Fax: +44 (0) 1865 791869
english@eckersley.co.uk
www.eckersley.co.uk

British Life and Culture

Contents

	Page
Introduction	4
University of Oxford	5
Oxfam	8
Oxford on a Shoestring	12
Clothes shopping in Oxford	17
Where to buy food in Oxford	18
Oxford city – a student map	20
British Music	24
Nightlife in Oxford	26

Introduction

First something about us, and what we were doing in Oxford:

We are class 3a from the mng Raemibuehl in Switzerland. In Raemibuehl we are in a special bilingual class, where we get taught some of our subjects in English instead of German.

It is because of this that we were in Oxford to practise and improve our English.

To learn as much English as possible we were staying in Host families in and around Oxford and were attending Eckersley Oxford.

The mornings we spent learning "general English" in different classes. It was quite different from the "normal" grammar lessons we were used to attend in Switzerland. It was much more relaxed.

In the afternoons we were working on our project on British life and culture.

Back in Switzerland we had formed groups and chosen a topic of British life and culture that we wanted to work on. And on arriving at Eckersley we started our research.

The first thing we had to do was interview people in the street and then with this and further information we prepared a presentation and designed this guide for next year's students from Raemibuehl.

We hope this guide will give you some useful hints and information about Oxford.

University of Oxford

The University of Oxford is the oldest University in the English-speaking world.

It consists of 39 Colleges, of which every has its own internal structure and activities. There is a women only college, there are colleges with excellent academic reputations, "party"-colleges and colleges with an incredibly high workload..

Together with Harvard and Cambridge, Oxford University belongs to the top ten Universities in the world. Its motto is "Dominus Illuminatio Mea", which means "The Lord is my Light".

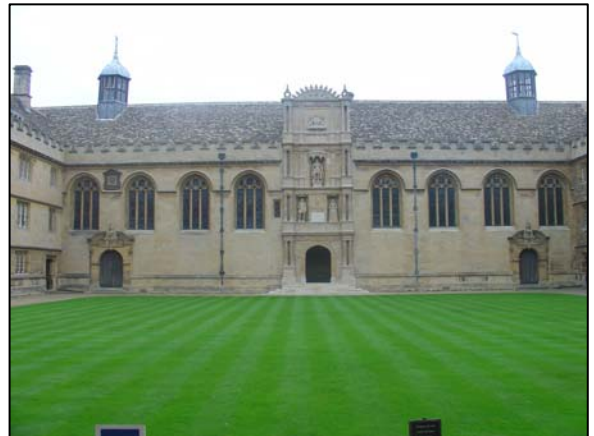
History of Oxford University

Beginning

No one knows exactly when the university was founded. Oxford was already a place of learning in the year 1096. Monks taught their students to a Master of Arts level. The students lived with the master and learnt from him.

Colleges

After a couple of centuries the first colleges were built but they weren't part of the university. After several years there were students at the colleges. After the foundation of the Church of England many monasteries were destroyed and every student had to be a member of a college.



Wadham College

Riots

There were several riots of the town people against the university. This struggle were called town against gown. They fought because the university controlled the prices of beer, vegetables etc. After the most famous one in 1355 the university ruled the town for 400 years and some members of the university went to Cambridge and founded the university of Cambridge.

Civil War

During the English Civil War the university was host to Charles I, of the Royalist party, and was the centre of the English court. After the Civil War Cromwell was Chancellor of the universities of Oxford and Cambridge and prevented them from being closed down by the puritans. After the Civil War the university continued to be a place of research and education on a high level.

After this period Oxford didn't have big political conflicts.

From 1827 women's colleges opened and women also had a right to an academic education and the reputation of the Oxford university got better.

Structure

Chancellor: - elected for lifetime
 - titular figure
 - not involved in running the university

Vice-Chancellor: - Head of the University

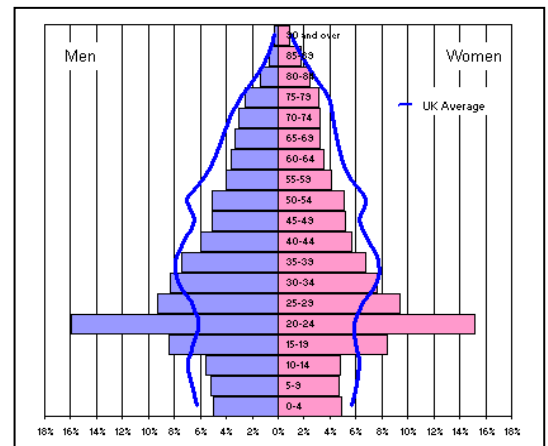
The executive is formed of the Vice-Chancellor, the five Pro-Vice-Chancellors, a couple of elected guarantors and observers from the Students Union.

The legislative called congregation consists of over 3,700 members. It is responsible for the election of chancellors and decides about the university policy.

Oxford and Cambridge (which is similarly structured) are unique for this democratic form of governance. The students are in fact dominating the city of Oxford as a demographic graph of Oxford shows:

Ante university

To enter Oxford university you have to pass an entry exam. You would have a big advantage if you were from private school. In this exam they ask questions about subjects, which aren't taught in England e.g. Philosophy. In the Philosophy exam they ask questions about how society should be. In these schools you have been prepared for this exam. In science subjects they ask questions about science you haven't been taught to see how you handle new things. After the exam they invite you to an interview, but just the best ones come to the interview and they take the best. The ratio between applicants and study places depends on the subject in some subjects it's 2:1 or 10:1. You can just apply for the college and the college has to choose you and so you can enter the University of Oxford. A normal A-level isn't enough to enter any university in the UK. At Oxford university 50% of people are from private schools and when Duncan studied it was even more, but just 10% of students in the UK attend independent schools. And when you have passed the exam you have to look for the money. At the time Mister Eckersley studied in 1949-1952 your home town used to pay your fees if you couldn't find a scholarship or other finances. Mr Eckersley had a scholarship at St. John College. You have also to pay for your room in the college.



University life live

At last you are at university. Even at Oxford University. It's your first day at St. Catherine's college and the other students call you a "Fresher". But unfortunately you aren't member of the University of Oxford yet; you are still only a member of your college.

Several days later will be a ceremony in which each fresher officially gets the title "member of Oxford University". This title belongs to every Oxford-student for lifetime!

The next 3 years or 9 terms you will have to study in a university with excellent reputation. Surely you ask yourself now what makes it so special.

First of all Oxford has very short term-times: 24 weeks per year. During the rest of the time the students are free, but it's not as easy as it seems... This university is not defined by the difficulty of the studies (they are the same as everywhere else), but by the volume of work, which is immense. Students often have to work past midnight to stay on top of their work. So there are many students who can't live without loads of caffeine, nicotine or even without Ritalin, a drug that is given to hyperactive children to increase their ability to concentrate.



In fact the only difficulty at Oxford is getting in... Once you are in it's your decision how much work you do. Professors are only knowledge filler and recommend you dozen of books to read. The main pressure is produced by the student himself. You have to keep yourself motivated and you need teachers who challenge you. Once to twice a week there is a tutorial where you meet your tutor to check if you follow the syllabus. In these 3 hours the tutor checks if you did your homework, helps you if you have problems: the tutors often find it fun and have a nice chat. Not the students: Tutorial means last minute work, work and work. For these tutorials Oxford is famous and unique. In Oxford you have to set priorities: There are clubs for everything (knitting, scrabble,

sky-diving, snowboarding...), so you could choose to spend your free-time as exotically as you want and even take part in competitions. But then your university life would be quickly finished. Work-"free-time" should be 80:20 suggest professors.

Cambridge and Oxford are quite similar. The only real difference is that Oxford always reminds you that you are student. On the 1st day of each term there is a big exam in order to check you worked during your holidays. But it's informal. That's also the reason why the university doesn't want the students to do little jobs to earn money in the holidays.

Money and finances are real problems for some students. One year of studies costs approximately 4000 pounds and it's difficult to survive even with a scholarship.

This fact is actually contradictory to the wish of the government to have as many students as possible in the UK.

But all in all, student-life in Oxford is a good time: beautiful colleges, the best education, but also nightlife and a multiplicity of different activities belong to most students' everyday life. They really can be glad that they don't live 50 years ago: at this time students had to be back at 10.00 pm.

Post university

After you have been awarded the degree of a Bachelor of Arts you have to wait seven years and pay money so you will receive the grade of a Master of Arts without any further studies. This system is unique for Oxford and Cambridge and just for art subjects. You stay a member of the College for a lifetime and you will be invited to the annual dinner for former students.



By Antonela Bicvic, Dac Ngan Nguyen and Leandra Falck

Oxford, October 2007

The History Of Oxfam

Oxfam (the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief) was founded by Canon Theodore Richard Milford and was actually one of many organisations that started to help other people by raising money. In 1942, Greece counted many losses after war and needed help for all the civilians who suffered from the war. But after the 2nd World War Oxfam was one of the only organisations that kept on going to make the earth a better place.



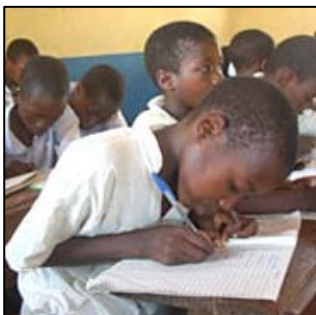
Then Joe Mitty, who was the first member of the organisation with a salary, had the brilliant idea of opening an Oxfam shop to raise more money for the charity. Generous people who were willing to contribute to this useful program donated all the items sold in these shops. Unfortunately Joe Mitty passed away this year, but the inheritance he left is big. Since the opening of the first shop, many more shops were added and recently the charity opened its first online shop with big success.

The amount of shops increased, but also the whole organisation spread and soon there was a necessity to widen the organisation on an international level. In 1995 the charity formed Oxford International that now has 13 organisations in more than 100 countries that all work together to change the world.

By helping people in developing countries another question was there: What about the poverty in England? For this reason a new program was set up: the UK Poverty Programme. It concentrates on national problems like poverty and homelessness.

Oxfam's Goals

The main goals of Oxfam are to reduce poverty and injustice. This is accomplished through many different programs and activities. Recently another issue has come up: climate change. Farmer's harvests rely on a specific minimum amount of water and there is no doubt that water shortage and natural disasters make it hard for the people to harvest enough and make a good enough profit to survive. Oxfam supplies emergency relief during and after a natural disaster like a flood but they also have long term goals in mind by helping poor communities to adapt to climate change.



Other issues that have been going on for a long time are fair trade and promoting equality. The right to be heard is something Oxfam also supports and it does so not only by giving everybody a say but also by educating people. Education is often the only escape from poverty that children from poor families can hope for. The best help is often to pay for any supplies and staff needed for teaching and that's the reason why so much help and donations are needed.

How Does Oxfam Raise Money?

Oxfam has been in the public eye since it was founded. It has always tried to encourage and motivate people to raise money by organizing a large number of fundraising events in the UK. So, people really have a chance to do something if they want. Oxfam offers a lot of opportunities to get involved.

- There are sports events such as the London Marathon or the Trail walker where you can do a 100 km walk in 30 hours. You can also take part in one of the global challenges like hiking in the Himalayas or climbing Kilimanjaro. For you it may be just an once-in-a-lifetime chance but it makes a real difference to others.
- There are music events as well. Oxjam is the biggest music festival in the UK. Around 40,000 musicians and an audience of 300,000 are expected at more than 3,000 events spread all over the country. About £ 1,000,000 is raised this way. Oxjam is also an opportunity for you to make music and to perform onstage. Or you can get involved by volunteering as a steward.
- A lot of people in the UK regularly donate money. A certain amount is taken from your bank account for Oxfam every month. People living in the UK can allow Oxfam to claim back the tax on these donations.
- Not only money can be donated but also miscellaneous unwanted items by putting them in an Oxfam donation bank for example or by just bringing them to an Oxfam shop.



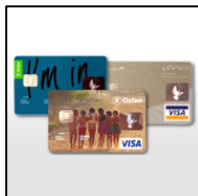
This is the most popular sector of the whole organisation. There are over 750 shops all over the country. Oxfam also helps poor producers by selling their products in a fair way. (Fair Trade) A lot of Oxfam shops are specialized, so there are shops that sell home-ware or furniture, music shops or bookshops. If you don't know what to do with things like coins, postcards, medals, badges or stamps, you can bring them to one of the shops specialising in collectables. The same thing with vintage or retro clothing you don't need any more. If you are getting married you can look for bridal wear in an Oxfam bridal shop or Oxfam. Oxfam has also launched Britain's first online charity shop with about 50,000 items going on sale.

All the money raised by the different shops and from lots of events goes towards helping many people in need.

Donations

There are many ways to donate something to Oxfam.

A vital part of the money Oxfam uses to organise their entire projects and work comes from gifts left in wills. There is also an "In Memory Gift" that can be arranged at any time – for example you can choose to make a donation each year to commemorate a loved one's birthday. You could donate money by using an Oxfam credit card, too. Every time you use it, Oxfam receives a donation. Holders of the Oxfam credit card have already raised £3 million in total and they continue to raise around £300,000 each year.



Donating shares to Oxfam is also a possibility. If you donate shares to Oxfam you can get an income tax relief on your donation.

One of the most original ways to donate money I've ever seen is to move house with the help of "the National Association of Estate Agents" and "the British Association of Removals" who support Oxfam. Give your removal company a ring to find out if they're taking part in the OXBOXX scheme, run by Oxfam with the British Association of Removals (BAR).

Another thing you can do is to donate your unwanted household items. It is possible to bring these goods direct to Oxfam shops during opening hours. The shops can then convert gifts into cash to fund their work in over 70 countries. You can make your donations easily by "Direct Debit". Paying by Direct Debit helps Oxfam keep costs to a minimum.

With your permission, they can claim tax back on your donations through Gift Aid, so your donations will be worth almost 30% more at no extra cost to you.



The best way to support Oxfam is by making regular donations. It means that they have a reliable income which they can count on and which allows them to plan things in advance and budget more effectively.

What your money can buy



- £5 a month can buy 24 buckets, which can be used to keep water clean.
- £10 a month can buy 36 textbooks, giving children a brighter future.
- £50 a month can pay a trainee teacher's salary in Kenya.
- £250 a month can pay for a cow for a dairy farmer in Malawi



For every £1 you give to Oxfam

79p is spent directly on emergency, development and campaigning work



11p is spent on support and running costs

10p is invested to generate future income

How Fair Is Fair-trade?

Even though many people consider Oxfam as a good and fair program to fight poverty there are some criticisms about the charity.

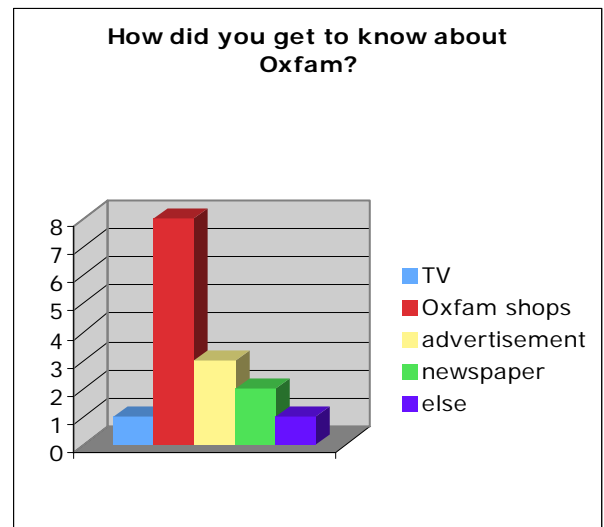
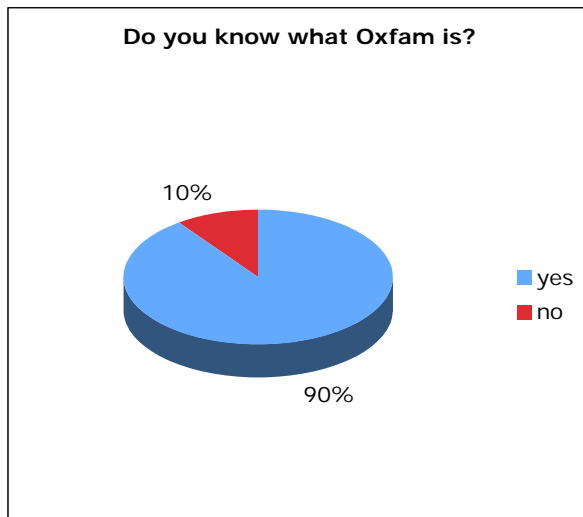
For example in 2003 Oxfam Belgium produced a poster with the message not to buy Israeli fruits and vegetables. Soon after the poster came out Oxfam had to withdraw it because of the reproach of promoting anti-Israel messages. Suddenly Oxfam's political independence was questioned. It didn't take long until the chairman of Oxfam International wrote a letter of apology and admitted that the charity had gone too far.

Another dubious aspect of their work may be found in Oxfam's fair trade policy. In order to get a certificate for fair trade, companies and stores have to pay a high fee. This doesn't necessarily make sense since only rich companies can afford such a certificate and the point of fair trade is that producers get a decent profit themselves rather than 'middle men'. Another point is that fair trade means customers have to be willing to pay more for goods. But who is willing to pay more? Enough people to make a profit out of it to compete with similar companies that sell the same items for less?



Interview

We had never heard anything about Oxfam before, although it is a well-founded worldwide organisation. So we wondered how popular it was in Oxford. Of course it was founded in Oxford but that doesn't mean that everyone knows what it is. To our surprise the analysis of our interviews looks like this:



Our Opinion

Oxfam can be compared to Unicef and other charity organisations, but what seems to be the biggest difference is that Oxfam works closer with the people and potential donors by using their shops to raise money. Most of the people we interviewed were well informed about what Oxfam is and the purpose of the organisation. Donations are made not only through money but also by donating items that the shops will resell. That means that people can actually see where the money comes from. On the other hand we are not sure where the money goes to. When we visited the Oxfam house we were just amazed by this modern building and the latest modern technology, which left us wondering how much money it all cost. And even though we knew what the organisation is trying to do, we couldn't figure out what each of them was actually doing in front of their computers.

All in all we think the charity is doing a good job and changes can be seen. We are glad we chose this project and had the opportunity to talk to Oxfam volunteers. If you don't know anything about Oxfam we would suggest visiting one of the shops and just looking around to get an idea of their work. Maybe you will find something you would like to purchase bearing in mind that every little contribution can make a difference and is appreciated by people in need.

Oxford on a Shoestring

When you come to Oxford, you will soon realise that everything is quite expensive. Prices are similar to those in Switzerland or even higher. But still, you have the opportunity to save some pounds if you know how and plan ahead a bit ... which is of course useful for a poor student (always mention this when you want a discount...)

1. Transport

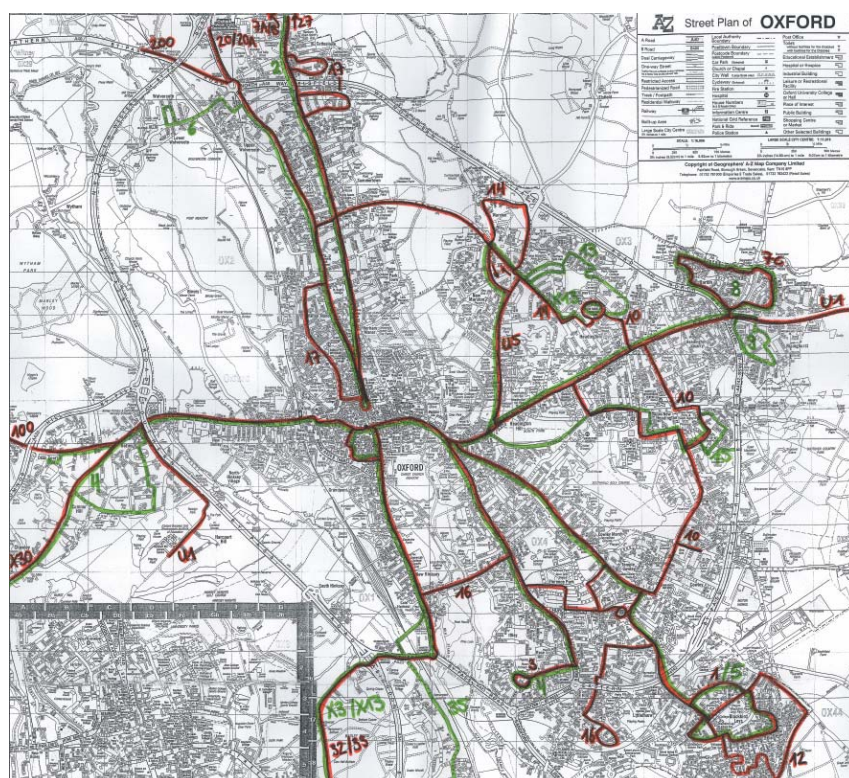
In Oxford you can mainly choose between three ways of getting around: **bus, bicycle and walking**. Buses are fast and can bring you to almost every place. They normally run until about 11 o'clock in the evening and are then substituted by night buses. They are very effective and a good kind of transport, but really expensive (fares: see below).

<i>Company</i>	<i>Single ride</i>	<i>1 day</i>	<i>1 week</i>	<i>2 weeks</i>	<i>4 weeks</i>	<i>Scholar 4 weeks</i>
Both	----		17	27		
<i>Stagecoach</i>	1.70	3.30 / 5.50	12 / 13		34 / 35	27
<i>Oxford bus company</i>	1.70	3.30	14	23	39	

Bikes you can rent at the following addresses:

(They are almost as expensive as busses; think for yourself whether it's worth it...)

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Phone</i>
Cyclo Analysts	150 Cowley Road, Oxford. OX4 1JJ	01865 246061
Summertown Cyles	202 Banbury Road, Oxford. OX2 7BY	01865 316885



2. Free time

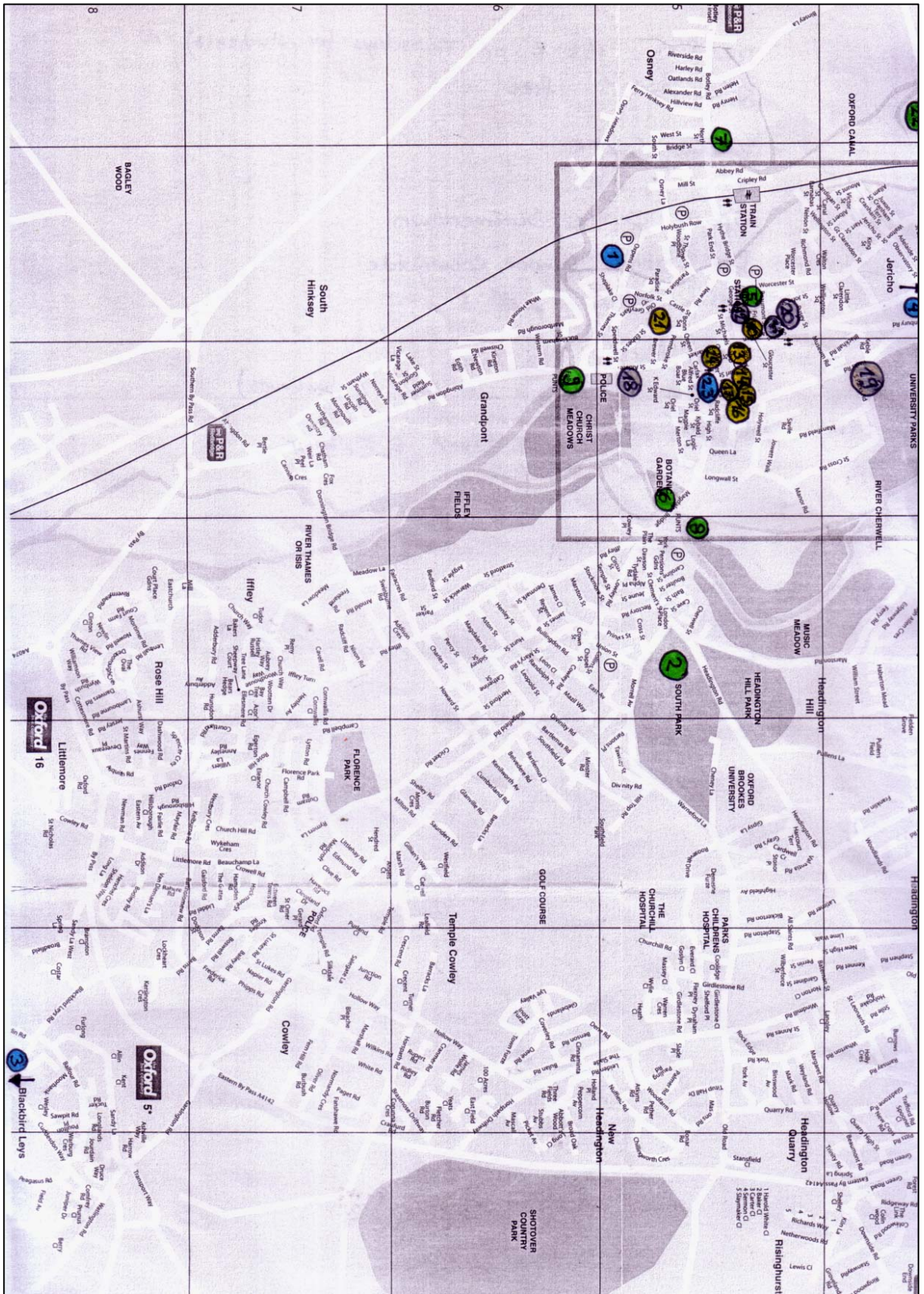
When you're 18 years old, Oxford is a great place to be with all its pubs and clubs. But although you're underage you can have a lot of fun! There are many museums, parks and even Second Hand Shops (Unicorn is really worth seeing), which are free and have no minimum age. Look out for special discounts! Students get many of them! As some free time activities are rather far away from the centre, the transport is important! All spots in Oxford are somehow connected to a bus line ;-).

No.	Name	Info
1	Ice Rink	£3-£6, discount for students
2	South Park	Take a photo from South Park ;-)
3	Bowlplex	Before 6pm it is cheaper!
4	Sports centre Ferry (in Summertown)	Not that expensive
5	Bus station	To London, Countryside
6	Botanic Garden	
7	Botley Park	
8	Punting	£10/hour weekdays, £12/hour weekends
9	Punting: Head of the River	£10/hour
10	Borders	Bookshop + Starbucks
11	Odeon	(Discount for students -£1) £7 (adult)
12	New Theatre Oxford	£15-£25 (on weekends it's more expensive)
13	Waterstone's	Bookshop + Costa Coffee
14	Wendy News	Sell stamps
15	Bonnie	One of the many souvenir shops, it's very easy to find such shops
16	Oxfam	For people who look for fair trade stuff
17	Unicorn	Second Hand Shop, must have seen!
18	Christ Church	For Harry Potter fans
19	Natural History Museum	Free!
20	Ashmolean Museum	Free!
21	Primark	Cheap Shopping
22	Port Meadow	Natural Area
23	Turl Bar	Billiard £1
24	Virgin Megastore	CD, DVD...

3. Food

Oxford food is available at a wide range of prices. You normally pay only a little money if you go to a supermarket and watch out for special offers. Especially sharing with other people can help you save a lot. Bread, cookies and common vegetables are quite cheap while more exotic stuff and soft drinks cost you quite a lot of money. Take-aways, like Kebabs or Chinese food, are more expensive but often quite delicious. Also watch out for bakeries and markets – here you can get really good food for not too bad prices. McDonalds, Burger King and KFC on Cornmarket Street offer their food at quite normal prices. Other restaurants are more expensive and some are astronomical.

No.	Name	Info
1	KFC	Variety boneless box for about 5 people to share for £12.99, very good!!!
2	Burger King	Menu ca. £4-£5
3	McDonalds	Menu ca. £4-£5
4	Noodle Bar	Chinese Restaurant, Take-away with student discount. Ca. £4.50
5	Covered Market	Many different shops at one spot
6	Market	Thursday small market and every second Friday farmer market
7	Sainsbury's	Supermarket
8	Harvey's	Coffee and Snacks
9	Hot and Tasty	Chicken wings and chips £3
10	Coffee Republic	Coffee £1.50-£3.50
11	La Croissanterie	Bakery stuff, big doughnut £1.20
12	Starbucks	Coffee £1.50-£3.50
13	Costa Coffee	Coffee £1.50-£3, the coffee has more taste than in Starbucks
14	News Café	Restaurant, menu £7-£9
15	Turf Tavern	Pub [sometimes they want to see your ID, try to look old ;-)]
16	Oisi Master	Chinese Food
17	The Goose	Restaurant, meal from £3-£6.5, cheap!
18	Bonjour	Big doughnut for £1.20
19	The Mitre	Pub (no problem under 18)
20	Head of the River	Pub (no problem to get in under 18)
21	West Cornwall Pasty Co.	Pasty £2-£3
22	Sprint	Coffee £1-£2
23	Bella Italia	Restaurant £7 meal, real good food and not too expensive



Clothes shopping in Oxford

Shopping in Oxford can be very expensive! Well, shopping in general is obviously expensive, but like everywhere in the world you can find bargains if you know where to go. That is why we are writing this article for you.

In Oxford, there are all different kinds of shops and places to find nice clothes. Firstly, we want to inform you that the "High Street" of shopping in Oxford is obviously the city centre, which includes Cornmarket Street, George Street, Magdalen Street, High Street and Queen Street. As it rains very often in England there are three places to go shopping without getting wet and these are as follows: The Westgate Centre, The Covered Market and The Clarendon Market.

Once a week (Thursdays) there is a market on Gloucester Green where you can find ordinary and second hand clothes. People there are really friendly and you might not only find something unusual but also have a nice chat with the salesperson. And it's worth mentioning at this point that it is possible to bargain and that there are always little stands on the streets where you can bargain as well.

Of course it depends on what you are looking for. If you want to buy cheap and fashionable clothes, Primark is the best place to go to. We assume that you are looking for unique clothes, which you do not find in Switzerland. Because there are chains like Zara, H&M, Claire's, Accessorize, Lush, The Body Shop and several others which we also have in Switzerland.

In the Westgate Centre there are quite a few shops, which sometimes have sales. There you can find shirts and tops for less than £5. There is, for example, the "Next Clearance Sale" where they have lots of bargains. To buy rather expensive brands for men we would suggest John Anthony, which you find there, too. As we don't have GAP in Switzerland this would be quite an interesting place to go to find casual clothes. It is quite expensive though, but when there is a sale on you can find real bargains with great quality.

Other British chains are Topshop, Next, New Look, River Island or Marks & Spencer. In addition, isn't it really surprising that there is no H&M in Oxford? Of course there is an H&M or two in London, but not in Oxford.



Covered Market

Something similar to H&M would be Primark, the shop we recommended to you before. The chain Marks & Spencer could be compared with Coop city.

Something special and new for us is that shops are even open on Sundays so you can go shopping whenever you like ☺.

To buy shoes, there are again several very nice shops to go to and as it would be quite difficult to explain each single place we recommend you to have a walk around the city centre and discover the shops yourself. This is more fun anyway, isn't it?

The streets are mostly really busy so sometimes shopping is quite stressful with all the people around, but you can still take a break and go to the University Park, which is a 10 min walk from the city centre and find a nice quiet spot there to relax.



When we did our street interviews about shopping we realized that there is quite a big range on how much money British students spend on clothes per month. On average, people spend about 50£ per month, but we also talked to one student who spends around 500£ for clothes per month! That shows, that there are some really rich children here, whose parents pay everything for them. Maybe this is a reason for the high prizes in Oxford.

Please remember, that when you go out shopping, don't be too enthusiastic about the small numbers of how much things cost but keep in mind that 10£ are already nearly 25 Swiss Franks. So we hope you enjoy shopping in Oxford and don't forget that you have a limited luggage allowance on the flight back to Zuerich!!!



Cornmarket Street

Where to buy food in Oxford

Again we were looking for cheap places to buy our lunch. Because even if you spend only £2.50 for food per day (which is nearly impossible), you will have spent £52.5 just on food.

So in order to save money, we advise you to go to the supermarket. There is one particular supermarket to go to: Sainsbury's, which is located really near to the school and where you find of course a variety of food (like in Migros). They have for example really nice chocolate chip cookies for just 35p.

There are also some small mini-markets that are rather expensive.

To buy take away there is noodlebar, Pret a Manger and lots of junk food chains. Of course there is Burger King, Mc Donald's and KFC in the city centre. And there is also Subway a bit out of the centre.

What's special about the noodlebar is that you get a discount with the Eckersley School Student-ID -Card and it's very tasty. You get a big portion and the varieties of dishes are huge. Besides you get a Fortune Cookie for free as a desert.

If money isn't really an issue for you, you might want to know where you can buy other food than take away or food from the supermarket, which is sometimes also a bit healthier...

There are several places to buy food in the Covered market, like "Fasta Pasta", which does freshly made delicious Italian style sandwiches, Pizza Express and another shop, which has milkshakes and freshly baked cookies.

On Gloucester Green there is a Lebanese/Indian restaurant and a falafel stand.

Opposite the Westgate Centre on Queen Street there is a crepes food stand.

If you are keen on trying out something new, the area around Hythe Bridge Street would be a good place to go to. Here you can see, that eating can also be a kind of adventure. There is the "Mongolian Wok", where you choose exactly what you want and they cook it in front of your eyes! Nearby there is a Chinese supermarket – on the other side of Hythe Bridge Street, where you can get weird and wonderful snacks. Enjoy your lunch and don't forget that your host family will cook dinner for you.



Sainsbury's



Oxford city – a student map

Daytime

1) Eckersley School

2) Noodle bar

-Student discount with the Eckersley student card.

3) Gloucester Green market

-every Wednesday: Fruit, vegetables, clothes,... (8.00 – 3.30)

-1st & 3rd Thursday of every month: Farmers Market (8.30 – 2.30/3.00)

-Also around Gloucester Green: Combabibos Café

4) Gloucester Green bus station

- Oxford Tube to London, leaving here

5) Sainsbury's

-Food shop (comparable with Migros or Coop in Switzerland)

6) Information centre

-(start of ghost trail in front of Oxford story)

7) Unicorn

-Awesome secondhand clothes shop. Really small and just worth seeing. =)

8) Covered market

-Nice market with interesting, small shops. Quiet expensive.

9) Carfax tower

-Good meeting place, as most buses stop near there.

10) Oxford castle

11) Westgate centre

-Main shopping centre in Oxford with bargain shops. (More information about it a few pages further)

12) Ashmolean museum

-free entry, but boring.

13) Botley park

-Basketball and football field.

14) Ice rink

-Quiet cheap and open till late (go Thursdays)

15) Little Clarendon street

-Small street with some interesting shops.

16) Jamal's

-Good but expensive Indian food.

17) Clarendon Shopping centre

18) Virgin

-big music store.

19) Sheldonian theatre

-nice building

20) Ferry sports centre

-swimming pool (£3.40 Adult, ? Students)

21) Natural history museum – free entry

22) Museum of Oxford – free entry

23) Modern art of Oxford – free entry

24) Alice's shop

-souvenir shop, Alice in Wonderland

25) Christ Church college

26) Bowlplex - bowling

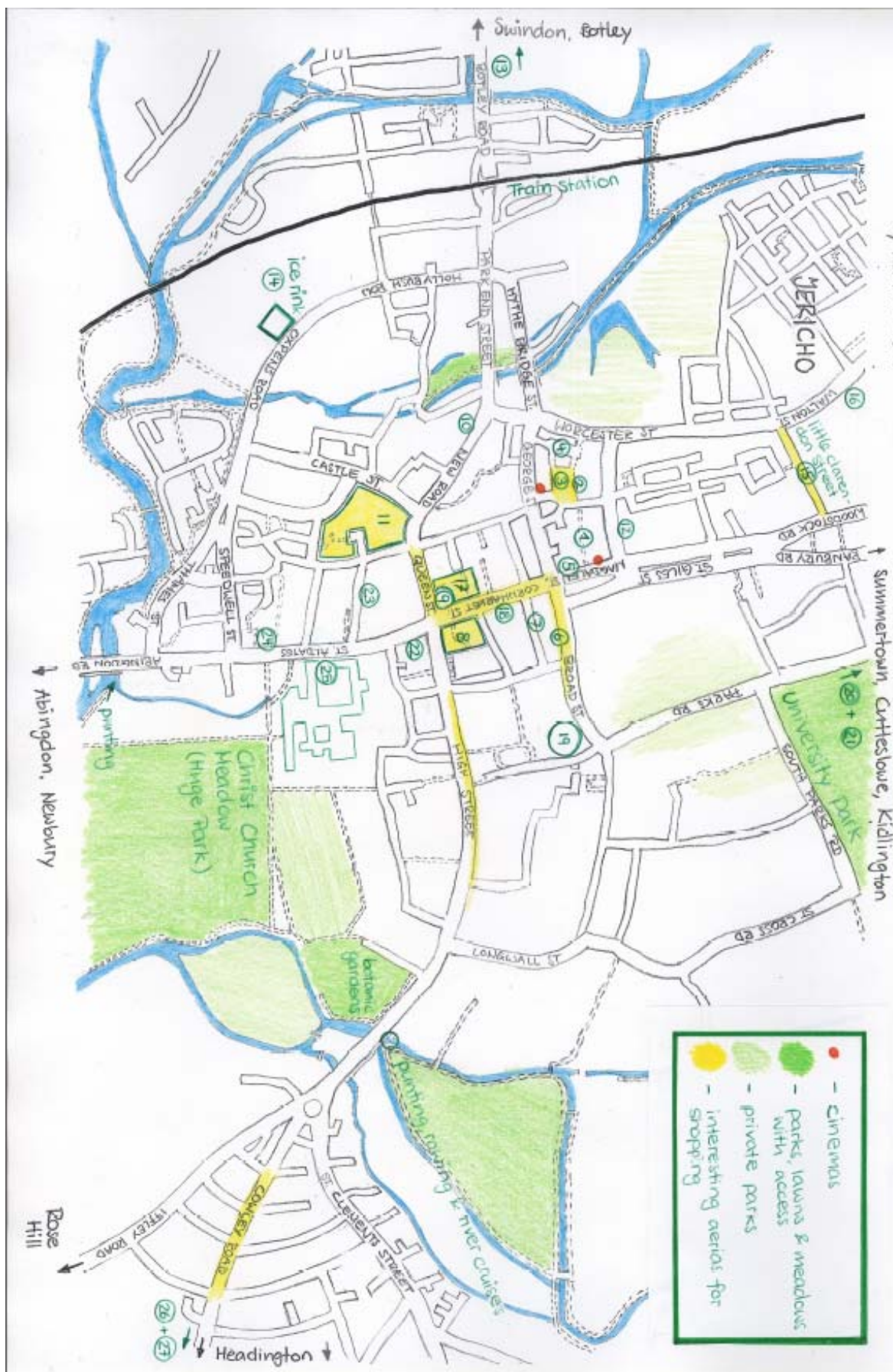
27) Multiplex - cinema

Oxford city - a student guide

by Martina & Sue

DAYTIME

October 2007



Nighttime

- 1) Imperial – Night club
- 2) Park End – Night club
- 3) Ocean & Collins – Night club
- 4) Que Pasa – Bar & Night club
- 5) Thirst Lodge – Restaurant, Bar & Night club
- 6) Head of the River – Pub
- 7) Mitre & The Turl – Restaurant & Pub
- 8) The Turf Tavern – Pub
- 9) Old School House – Pub
- 10) Ice Rink
- 11) Carling Academy – Music Venue or Night club
- 12) Bridge – Night club
- 13) Thirst
- 14) Carfax Tower – Good meeting place, as most buses stop near there
- 15) Cellar – Pub
- 16) Purple Turtle – Pub
- 17) Far from the Madding Crowd – Pub
- 18) Cape of Good Hope – Pub

Generally it's really hard to get in somewhere if you're not 18 (or if not the whole group is 18). Especially Night clubs. ...good luck!

You find some more information about some of those places a few pages further -> "Nightlife"

By Martina & Sue =)

Have fun in Oxford!!

by Martina & Sue

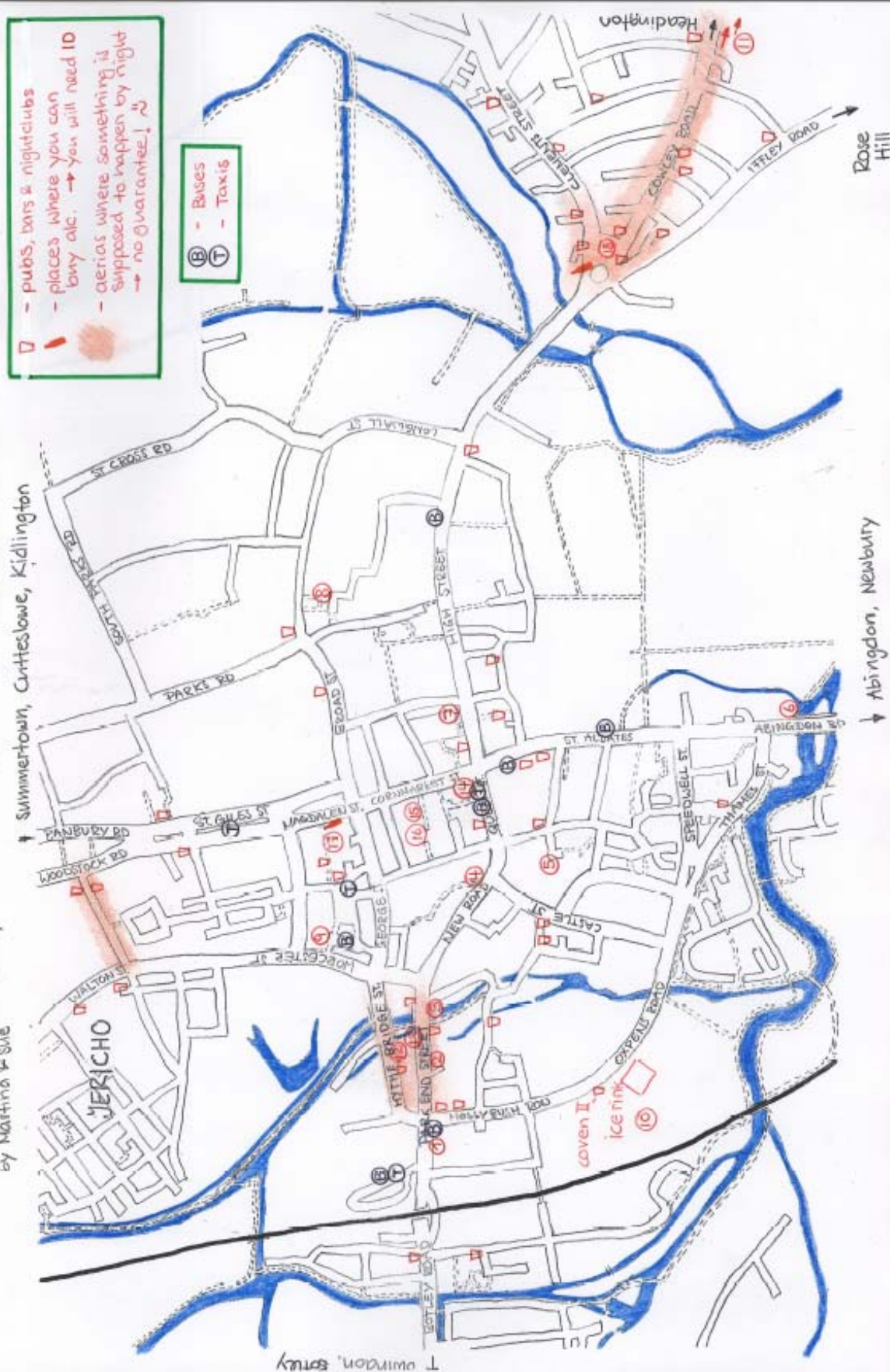
Oxford City - a student guide

Summertown, Cuttleslowe, Kidlington

October 2007

- pubs, bars & nightclubs
- places where you can "buy" alc. → you will need ID
- areas where something is "supposed" to happen by night → no guarantee! :)

- Ⓡ - Buses
- Ⓣ - Taxis



British Music

We chose to research British Music because we really like music and we all play music ourselves. There have always been great British Bands and Artists that have influenced music all over the world, such as The Beatles, Queen, The Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin, Pink Floyd, Deep Purple, Sex Pistols and many more.

And also nowadays, music genres like Britpop and Britrock are quite popular. Britons have been the main inventors of new styles in the history of Rock music.



Young Britons and their relationship to (British) music

To find out something about this topic, we did some street interviews. We asked young people about their music taste and other music related questions.

Here are some of our results:

- British Folk is not common at all amongst young people
- They like all different kinds of music
- Mainstream music has changed with globalisation
- Some people quite often go to listen to live music
- Music is often downloaded from the Internet

Personal Experiences


We noticed that there are several pubs in Oxford with live music nearly every evening. If you're looking for some live music to listen to in the evening, we suggest going to Cowley Road. There are many clubs and pubs, e.g. the Carling Academy, which everyone in Oxford knows about. They have good gigs all the time.

If you are a musician yourself, you'll enjoy the so-called "Open Mic Nights", where you can just drop in and show your talent on stage (Every Tuesday in the "Far From the Madding Crowd", a pub near the school, and every Thursday in the "Turf Tavern").

If you go to London we can recommend the "100 Club", which is a Jazz, Blues and Rock Club in Oxford Street, No. 100. In the streets we saw advertisements for Oxjam, which is a charity festival, organised by Oxfam (→see article in this guide!), but we haven't been there yet.

Pubs with Live Music

We heard about different Pubs with live music and we have been to some of them.

Pub and Location	Comment
Far From the Madding Crowd (next to the School)	Open Mic night every Tuesday
 100 Club (in London, Oxford Street 100)	It's one of the oldest clubs in London and is legendary for live performances by many great groups including The Clash and The Rolling Stones. Today, you can still see amazing bands playing Jazz, Swing, Blues, Rock, Ska and more.



Carling Academy
(in Oxford, Cowley Road, bus 5)

The former Zodiac, now re-opened and renamed into Carling Academy. It's now a bit more expensive and bigger. If we were very mean, we could say the old spirit of the free, smoky Zodiac is gone and is replaced by selfish capitalists of the Carling group. But we also have to consider the other side, i.e. there are now more famous bands and bigger and better gigs. The Carling is still worth a visit and probably the most common live music club in Oxford.

Music Stores and Merchandise

In Oxford there are mainly two big music stores, HMV and Virgin Megastore. In these stores, you can get nearly every CD and DVD you want. They are much bigger than music stores in Switzerland. You can also get some Band T-Shirts, posters and special editions of CDs, which are very hard to find in Switzerland. Something that's a bit strange is that sometimes the same CDs are labelled with different prices, so be careful! You can also buy band T-Shirts at Camden Market in London. You have a really big choice; they sell pretty much every T-Shirt!



Interview with Mike Hill

Mike Hill is a local artist and songwriter and he plays guitar in the band "Different Reasons". The Band has been going for 2 years and they play rock, alternative, country and folk. When we met him he brought along his guitar and played a song after the interview. He seemed to be a really cool guy and was very friendly. They often play in pubs and for charity, for example at the Oxjam Festival.

Mike wants to write a song for TV advertisements in order to become more famous. He's always trying to find a place to play his music, but it's not that easy. Mike has already won a competition in song writing, but nevertheless Different Reasons hasn't got a recording contract yet. "Nowadays every second person is a musician," says Mike Hill. "You have to put on a good show and play good music to get popular", he adds. He thinks that Different Reasons should improve the "show" part of their act. Therefore they recruited a new singer (Emma Johnson), who should catch the audience's eye. If you want to find out more about Different Reasons go to Youtube or visit their Myspace-page (www.myspace.com/differentreasons).



Different Reasons
(Mike Hill on the Left)

So if you like Rock Music, England is definitely the right place for you to go.

There are not only a lot of popular bands, but also bands playing in pubs, where you can get in for free or at least quite cheap.

Nightlife in Oxford

3:Ocean & Collins: The interior of this club is very nice. It has a dance floor, two bars and very nice toilets.

On Tuesday is Happy Hour, the drinks are quite cheap and if you go early it's pretty easy to get in, because usually you have to be 18.

They play a lot of different music like Hip-Hop, R'n'B, House, Techno, etc. If you get there at around ten and it is empty do not go in because probably there won't be any more people coming.

4:Que Pasa: It's close to the Eckersley School, and there are always different theme evenings, for example a Spanish evening on every Wednesday. You have to be 18, otherwise you have to be very lucky to get in. But you can just have dinner before 8 o'clock. It's normally priced, although the entrance is cheap the drinks aren't. Students just have to pay £2.50 instead of the normal price, £ 3.5. You also have a big choice of drinks. It's a very nice club with a beautiful interior.

5:The Thirst Lodge: This is a very nice club. You may manage to get in even if you are under 18. On Wednesday it's Happy Hour. That means that in the entry floor all the drinks are cheaper. It has three floors. A disco downstairs, a bar on the entry floor and a lounge with couches upstairs. Students like to go there and it is always pretty crowded. The music is loud. They play techno downstairs with a live DJ

6:The Head of the River: this is more a restaurant than a pub. But it's really great if you want to go with a big group. You can sit outside, there's a lot of space. You don't have to be 18 to get in but for buying booze you do. Music just in the background and inside.

7:The Turl: Actually a very cosy place but it usually closes at 11 p.m. It is a bit difficult to find but you can first go to The Mitre, which is more of a restaurant, and then, after dinner, you can go for a nice beer or play a bit of pool. It is not very popular but still there are always a few people. As it is just a pub you don't have to be 18 to go in but you have to be 18 to buy alcohol. And for the smokers: there is a machine where you can buy cigarettes.

8:The Turf Tavern: This is a very famous and popular pub for students. You can sit either inside or outside. It's even harder to find than the Turl but you can ask any student and he or she will tell you where it is. It's neither expensive nor cheap. The atmosphere is really nice and quiet and, very important, the toilets are very nice as well.