Weekly events, tips, and reflections
Week 0 - Hilary 2021
Welcome back to Hilary Term 2022!

The next few weeks will require us all to exercise some caution so we can avoid a major Omicron outbreak. Trust me, we do not want to return to the restrictions of last academic year. That’s why the Ball Committee and Domestic Bursar have decided to postpone the Ball to 23 April. (Those of you who want to wear flimsy dresses may be secretly relieved at the change of date!)

But almost all teaching is still Live. And there is still a lot going on in College: sport and entz; pilates and yoga; and writing workshops with our poet in residence; and the Mansfield Public Talks on Fridays at 5.30. I’m particularly excited by this term’s talks (check out the leaflet in your pigeonhole), which include lots of Mansfield alumni.

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We’re kicking off on Friday 28 January at 5.30pm with Ita O’Brien. Ita is Britain’s leading intimacy co-ordinator. She worked on It’s a Sin, I May Destroy You, Normal People and Gentleman Jack. She is talking about portraying sex and intimacy on screen in a realistic way, while protecting the dignity and rights of actors. Her talk promises to be artistically, ethically and politically interesting.

No need for Mansfield students or staff to book – just show up. As always, I welcome your suggestions for future speakers.

Best wishes, Helen

Helen Mountfield QC (she/her)  
Principal
Mansfield hosts a lively and engaging series of free public talks, every Friday from 5.30pm, during Oxford University term time.

The Mansfield Public Talks are convened by College Principal, Helen Mountfield QC, and platform leading figures from varied fields, aimed at opening up ideas and debate in front of a wide audience. The talks are open to all and as such are an important element of the College’s public engagement efforts.

This term's talks are:

**Friday 28 January 2022**
**Enacting Intimacy** by Ita O'Brien

Ita O’Brien, the world’s leading intimacy coordinator and founder of Intimacy On Set, whose credits include Normal People, Sex Education, It’s A Sin and I May Destroy You, in conversation about the ethics, aesthetics and politics of portraying sex on stage and screen. Image credit: Nic Dawkes.
Friday 11 February 2022
Where is the Centre of Gravity? Public Service in Fractious Times
by Sir Ian Blatchford

Sir Ian Blatchford, Director of the Science Museum, recent past Chairman of the National Museum Directors' Council and alumnus of Mansfield, reflects on navigating the choppy waters of ‘public service’ in times of fiscal austerity, Culture Wars and Covid

Friday 18 February 2022
Surviving the 21st Century
by Tom Fletcher

Tom Fletcher, formerly foreign affairs advisor to Gordon Brown and David Cameron, and British Ambassador to the Lebanon, now Principal of Hertford College Oxford discusses his new book, Ten Survival Skills for a World in Flux.
Friday 25 February 2022
This Dark Country: Women Artists, Still Life and Intimacy in the Early 20th Century by Rebecca Birrell

Rebecca Birrell, Assistant Keeper of Paintings Prints and Drawings at the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge and alumna of Mansfield College, on her dazzling new work of group biography and art criticism.

Friday 4 March 2022
Richard Pinel Performs at Mansfield

Tree concert in the College Chapel We are honoured to welcome international, award-winning organist, Richard Pinel, who will be performing in Mansfield’s Chapel for this celebratory recital to inaugurate the College’s famous and newly restored organ. This is a free event, open to all, though limited seating is available. Please book early to avoid disappointment.
Friday 11 March 2022
The Hands Lecture: Something rotten in the state - corruption and the fight for human rights

The Annual Hands Politics Lecture. Chris Bryant MP, Chair of the Parliamentary Standards Committee and Mansfield alumnus will argue that 'golden visas', weak financial regulation, poor political analysis and powerful UK law and accountancy firms have enabled authoritarian regimes like Russia to play us for fools and undermined the UK's reputation for the rule of law.

Each week's public talk will be advertised in the VQ. Tickets can be booked online by going to the Mansfield website.
Mansfield College Ball 2022 has been postponed

It is with a heavy heart that we announce, after discussions with Mansfield College, that Mansfield Ball 2022: Paradise Lost is to be postponed to Saturday 23rd April 2022.

This is due to concerns regarding high levels of the Omicron variant in Oxford, which may adversely affect the College’s teaching activities, and uncertainty with regards to potential staffing levels. As such, we are unable to guarantee a safe and positive experience for our guests and staff working during the night. All tickets will be automatically carried forward to the new date. We recognise that this new date in April may not work for everyone; if this applies to you, we will be happy to offer you a full refund. To request a refund, please send an email to refunds.mansfieldball@gmail.com, including your full name, ticket type and email address, before 5th of February 2022. For any requests made after this date, the usual Terms and Conditions for termination will apply. Alternatively, using the same email address, you may transfer your ticket by informing of the name change.

We understand that many of you will be disappointed by this announcement. The Ball Committee shares your frustration and appreciates your patience. We look forward to delivering this enchanting event in April 2022 and hope to see as many of you there as possible.
COVID Updates

**Student Dining**
Routine student dining will remain the same as Michaelmas Term with no pre-booking required. We will continue to maintain reduced numbers in Chapel so please try and make the best use of full meal times available. You will need to continue signing up against your printed name on the undergrad, postgrad or VSP sheet at each meal you attend. Meal charging arrangements remain the same throughout Hilary term and for the 2021/22 Academic Year. This is as discussed by the Finance and Resources Committee with their decision ratified by Governing Body.

**Formal Halls**
Formal Halls will be held most Wednesdays and Fridays up to the allocated student spaces available. Pre-booking is required and the new Front of House Manager, Ionela Rosca, will send out a booking email to all students in advance. The first email will be sent either tomorrow or Thursday for week 1, Wednesday and Friday Formals.

**Crypt**
The Crypt cafeteria will be open throughout the day until 8 p.m. The College Bar will re-open from next week on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays until 11 p.m. throughout term.
**Events**
Large internal events are not encouraged during the first half of term so please try and keep to smaller event numbers for a few weeks. Organisers of smaller events may also wish to require evidence of a recent negative LFD for their event attendees.

**To arrange a public room booking or a student event**
Firstly get in touch with lynne.quiggin@mansfield.ox.ac.uk to check room availability and that your planned event doesn’t clash with any other activity taking place in the College calendar. I’ll advise you whether specific permission is required from the Dean. Once room availability is confirmed and relevant permissions sought, a student event-form should be completed (this has been circulated by email). The student event form will need signing by either the Kitchen Manager or Front of House Manager where food is being consumed and the Bar Manager before any alcohol provision can be agreed. The completed event form is then returned to me in the Domestic Bursar’s office so that your event can be booked and appropriate staffing requirements arranged. Please allow as much notification as possible to arrange a social event, preferably 14 days minimum. All bookings should be kept within the reduced capacities displayed for each meeting room. Please remember to let plenty of fresh air into any facilities you are using in College to reduce the risk of covid-19 transmission.

We are keen to return to normal operations, room capacities and event arrangements as soon as possible and will keep you posted if there are any changes. If you have any questions, please send them to lynne.quiggin@mansfield.ox.ac.uk.
Hello Mansfield! Here we are! Michaelmas term and the holidays are now behind us, and we are preparing ourselves for a new term! I wish you all a very happy new year and hope that you have all enjoyed your holidays.

The MCR bench is planning a number of exciting events and activities for Hilary term. We aim to continue with our social events such as wine and cheese nights and exchange formal dinners. We will have the termly Michael Mahony graduate seminar on the 5th week. Movie nights, board game nights, pub crawls and so much more are also part of the plan. However, the start of the new term comes with a lot of uncertainties as to how we can move forward with our usual events and plans for the MCR due to the surge in COVID cases in the UK and all around the world. We will continue to monitor the situation, and take the safest measures in line with the college and government guidance to ensure your health and safety.

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We have been working on purchasing and installing some new equipment for the MCR. Last term, a powerful new Bluetooth speaker was purchased, and it is now in the MCR for your use. A projector is currently being installed in the MCR, which you can use for watching movies, playing games, etc. Additionally, based on your suggestions, the MCR bench has approved the purchase of a new and improved coffee machine for the MCR. The new coffee machine will replace the current one in the upcoming weeks.

As always, please keep in mind that the MCR bench is always here for you. Please reach out to me or any of our other bench members in case there was anything you wanted to talk about. We will do our best to ensure your well-being.

I wish you all an amazing term ahead of you, and hope to see you all soon!

Amirmohammad Farzaneh (he/him)
MCR President, Mansfield College
email: mcrpresident@mansfield.ox.ac.uk
MCR Placeholder

Next Thursday night (20th January)
MCR Pub Reunion
Details to be circulated soon
Poetry Workshops

Drop-in poetry workshops every Thursday between 2pm to 6pm in MB1 and Saturday between 4pm and 6 pm in MB1, available to all members of the college.

Mansfield's writer in residence Kate Clanchy is also available for 1-to-1 poetry sessions between these times. To make an appointment, email Kate on k.s.clanchy@reading.ac.uk

Kate Clanchy
Mansfield's motto is: 'Deus locutus est nobis in filio'. In Latin, this means 'God hath spoken unto us by [his] son' (Epistle to the Hebrews, 1:1-2)
Shut up & Focus!

Got a difficult task to focus on? Can’t get started? Can’t stay focused?

In “Shut up and Focus!” we get together and make a commitment as a group to focus, studiously, with purpose and without distractions. We are in it together. It’s a limited time with company, coffee, tea and cake. It’s for everyone in college – JCR, MCR, staff.

Tuesdays 11-12.30pm and Thursdays 2-3.30pm in Main Building, room 1.

How it works:
• Beforehand: Choose a task to bring to focus on.
• 11 am/2pm: Get coffee/tea/cake.
• 11.10 pm/ 2.10 pm: Focus!
• 12 pm/ 3 pm: Have some free coffee/tea/cake and congratulate yourself.
One-to-one study skills support for any undergraduate student of any subject.
Please contact your subject mentor by email to arrange a mutually convenient time to meet.

- Gail Leckie (Philosophy)
  gail.leckie@mansfield.ox.ac.uk
- Yashua Bhatti (Theology)
  yashua.bhatti@mansfield.ox.ac.uk
- Rachel O'Nunain (English)
  rachel.onunain@mansfield.ox.ac.uk
- James Harris (Maths, Physics, Engineering, Materials)
  james.harris@chch.ox.ac.uk
- Henry Tann (History)
  henry.tann@balliol.ox.ac.uk

If your subject is not mentioned, please contact Gail Leckie, as Tutor for Academic Support, who can signpost you to a source of support for your subject.
Peer Support

Would you like to have the skills and confidence to offer a helping hand to other students in your department? Contribute and engage with your student community? Promote and create welfare and wellbeing spaces in College?

Training as a Peer Supporter is a great way to develop personal and social skills that will be useful in all your relationships as well as making a positive contribution to the welfare support in your department. The Peer Support Programme offers experiential training focusing on active listening, assertive communication, diversity awareness and support skills, self-awareness and self-care.

Please feel free to email The Peer Support Programme with any questions you may have at peersupport@admin.ox.ac.uk.

Find more information at https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/welfare/peersupport
Who the Careers Service supports

The Careers Service supports all 12,510 undergraduate students, 13,044 graduate students at Oxford.

The Careers Service's dedicated support extends to more than 5,800 research and research support staff.

Oxford alumni can engage with the Careers Service for LIFE through access to 1:1 sessions with careers advisers, jobs board, careers fairs, workshops, and more.

Each college, department and faculty has a careers adviser dedicated to them.

Student societies can engage with the Service by advertising opportunities, attending a careers fair, co-host events, and more.
Chapel service

Every Wednesday at 18:15pm at Mansfield College Chapel

Join chaplain Stephen Hearn and fellow students and staff at Mansfield for an evening of prayer and song
Drop-in sessions will run every Thursday. Alternatively, contact us via Facebook Messenger or email to arrange a time to chat.

Peer supporters are here to talk about anything that is concerning you. Peer supporters have over 30 hours of training with the University Counselling Service in order to listen effectively, maintain confidentiality, and respect boundaries.

**Mahati**
mahati.garimella@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

**Efa**
efa.bowen@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

**Lumi**
lumi.westerlund@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

**Mitch**
mitch.marshall@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

**Kate**
katerina.panesova@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

**Anabel**
anabel.riley@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

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**Peer Support outside of Mansfield:**
Feel free to contact one of the Teddy Hall JCR peer supporters

**Katie** (katie.long@seh.ox.ac.uk)

**Greg** (greg.halliwell@seh.ox.ac.uk)
Oxford University Counselling Service
Reducing Digital Distraction (ReDD) Workshops
with Ulrik Lyngs, Dept of Computer Science
Selection of dates/times in Michaelmas Term weeks 3, 5 and 6

During Covid, you may have become more dependent on your digital devices than ever before: to study, to socialise, and to connect to the outside world. Smartphones, computers and tablets are powerful tools, but can also be an endless source of distraction that undermine your capacity to focus and result in long stretches of unproductive and unrewarding time.

If so, it may be time to take back control. This workshop can help! You will be supported to: reflect on your current relationship with your digital devices; identify the role you want them to play in your life; and get support to make real, practical changes. This workshop is relevant for all students, undergraduates and graduates.

To check available dates/times, and to book: https://calendly.com/ulyngs/redd-workshop
Meet the Junior Dean Team

**Main Site**
Cerise Jackson -- Welfare Junior Dean (Main Site)
cerise.jackson@mansfield.ox.ac.uk
Duty Phone (6pm-2am): 07707 130 350

Yashua Bhatti – Welfare Junior Dean
yashua.bhatti@mansfield.ox.ac.uk
Duty phone (6pm-2am) 07707130350

**Ablethorpe/Rhodes Wolfson**
Ben Wilkinson-Turnbull – Residential Junior Dean
ben.wilkinson-turnbull@ell.ox.ac.uk
Duty phone (11pm-7am) 07741071156

Juan Alvarez Velasquez – Residential Junior Dean
juan.alvarezvelasquez@physics.ox.ac.uk
Duty phone (11pm-7am) 07741071156

**Cowley Road Houses**
Darshini Nadarajan – Welfare Junior Dean
darshini.nadarajan@education.ox.ac.uk
Duty phone (6pm-2am) 07453370008

Zelimhan Akhmiev – Welfare Junior Dean
zelimhan.akhmiev@linacre.ox.ac.uk
Duty phone (6pm-2am) 07453370008
(Acting) Tutor for Women
Elizabeth Drummond can be approached by students with concerns or issues they feel would best be communicated to a woman tutor.
elizabeth.drummond@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

LGBTQ+ Tutor
Ros Ballaster may be contacted by email and can meet by phone or by Microsoft Teams
ros.ballaster@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

Tutor for Racial Inclusion
Helen Mountfield co-organises the termly forum for Amplifying Voices of Students of Colour and can be contacted by email on principal@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

Tutor for Disabilities
Andrew Higgins deals with disability related welfare issues. andrew.higgins@mansfield.ox.ac.uk
Royal Literary Fund Fellow: Jon Stock
provides academic writing support for all students, undergraduate or postgraduate. One to one sessions are for 50 minutes and take place online.
To book a slot, email jon.stock@rlfeducation.org.uk.

Academic Support Tutor: Gail Leckie
offers one to one study skills support for any undergraduate of any subject, to discuss any concerns you have about your academic work broadly construed.
Email: gail.leckie@mansfield.ox.ac.uk for an appointment.
Where can I get support?

Medical Professionals
if you need immediate medical attention CALL 999

University Support
UniversityCounselling Service Email
counselling@admin.ox.ac.uk for an appointment.

NHS 111
If you have an urgent medical problem and you’re not sure what to do, dial 111 and they can put you in touch with an out-of-hours GP or mental health nurse.

College GP
St Clements Surgery,
39 Temple Street,
OX4 1JS
tel: 01865 248 550

Tutor for Welfare:
Gail Leckie
gail.leckie@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

Chaplain:
Stephen Hearn
chaplain@mansfield.ox.ac.uk