

IGBTQ AT ORIEL



Oriel's recent history has been a good one for LGBTQ rights.

Last year, Oriel College flew the LGBTQ rainbow flag several times, and many students flew the flag from their own windows to celebrate. Last year's LGBTQ representative Joey Dunlop fought hard for the student press to drop its negative stereotyping of Oriel.

During the year, Oriel held a variety of events to promote equality, including a 'queer bop' (a night in the bar dedicated to appreciating LGBTQ culture), a talk from transgender author and artist S. Bear Bergman, and a discussion event around the concept of 'queerness'.

Oriel JCR subscribes to NoHeterox**, Oxford's queer zine, and Cuntry Living, a zine for gender equality, both of which are brought to the JCR every term.

Please email me any ideas for events or issues I could try to tackle this year! (kate.bradley@oriel.ox.ac.uk)

ORIEL'S OPINIONS



Eleanor Sharman

"I'm firmly under the 'Q' banner, and would happily say that the JCR has an incredibly active, supportive attitude towards those of non-normative identities. Change happens slowly in Oxford, but Oriel is doing us proud in standing up for individuality and freedom."

Jonathan Lester

"As someone who identifies as gay, I have found living in Oxford a much more comfortable experience than the area in which I grew up. I also find Oriel a welcoming and warm place, despite its traditional reputation."



Jonathan Sanders

"For those who identify as LGBTQ, starting out at uni can bring with it concerns about how their orientation might shape their social life, but Oxford offers so many academic and social opportunities that sexual orientation doesn't have to play a large part in deciding how your time here will unfold."



Rowan Milligan

"What makes Oxford's LGBTQ scene great is its diversity. You can get involved with people and events ranging from the political to the partygoing. There's something for everyone."



A HANDY GUIDE TO **LGBTQ** AT OXFORD UNIVERSITY



Information, advice and support for Oriel's lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and queer communities

2014-2015

WELCOME TO OXFORD!

I'm Kate, Oriel's LGBTQ representative this year. My job is to promote equality for people of all gender identities and sexual orientations in Oriel. Through the year, I'll be organising events, representing your views, inviting you to fun stuff and offering support wherever I can.



I've had Peer Support training so I'm also part of the welfare team - my door's always open, but seeing as my door's on the other side of Cowley, you might prefer to email me at kate.bradley@oriel.ox.ac.uk.

Many LGBTQ folk are quite happy just mingling with non-LGBTQ communities, but if you're looking for like-minded peers, Oxford has a huge range of activities for you. Oxford has several dedicated club nights, bars and pubs, and the university's LGBTQ Society organises a lot of events - email me if you'd like to get onto their mailing list.

For anyone who faces difficulties at Oxford due to their gender or sexuality, there are support services available to help - I've listed a few on the back of this leaflet. The university and its colleges have a commitment to uphold equality for everyone, so don't hesitate to contact me or the college if you need extra help or support.

If you're interested in engaging with LGBTQ political causes and activism, there are many routes you could take: there are several zines and journals in Oxford dedicated to liberation movements, alongside the Oxford University Student Union (OUSU), which has a dedicated LGBTQ campaign. (<http://ousu.org/get-involved/campaigns/lgbtq>)

HAVING FUN



Oxford University LGBTQ society

OULGBTQSoc (try saying that out loud!) is Oxford's university-wide LGBTQ society, putting on welfare, social, discussion and drinks events throughout the year.

Bars, pubs & clubs

The Plush Lounge is Oxford's dedicated gay bar, located near the train station - it's especially great on Friday nights. Babylove, now relocated to Paradise St, hosts the popular LGBTQ night PopTarts, and Castle Tavern on Castle Street is a more laidback option, with seats, tables and (slightly) quieter music. The Jolly Farmers on Paradise Street is a gay venue which also serves jolly good food. (Sorry.)

Oxford Pride & Wadham QueerFest

In June, Oxford Pride hosts a week of events, culminating in the Oxford Pride march and a loud and proud festival in the Oxpen fields. In November, Wadham College hosts 'QueerFest', an excuse to head to Oxford's most liberal college for liberal amounts of fun.

JOURNALISM & DISCUSSION

NoHeterOx** queer zine

Oriel subscribes to NoHeterOx**, Oxford's queer zine, which publishes student poetry, prose, essays, articles and art on LGBTQ issues once a term. Contact noheterox@gmail.com for more information.



Queer Studies Circle

Oxford's Queer Studies Circle meets fortnightly during term time to discuss gender, sex, queer theory and queer culture. You can get their updates on Facebook.

CONCERNS? QUE(ER)RIES?

Feel free to contact me (kate.bradley@oriel.ox.ac.uk) at any time. Oriel's welfare representatives Jonathan Lester and Melissa Barber have access to free contraception whenever you need it, and they are also trained in Peer Support if you want confidential support or advice. Oriel College's Welfare Officer Alejandra can be contacted at welfare@oriel.ox.ac.uk.

If you'd rather get help from the central university, the Student Advice Service is a free Oxford University Student Union counselling service, available at advice@ousu.org.



IMPORTANT CONTACTS & LINKS

Oxford University LGBTQ Society

<http://www.oulgbtsoc.org.uk/>

Sexual Health Oxfordshire

<http://www.sexualhealthoxfordshire.nhs.uk/links>

Oxford Friend (LGBTQ Helpline)

confidential@oxfordfriend.co.uk, 01865 726 893

Oxford Nightline (confidential support, 8pm-8am)

<http://users.ox.ac.uk/~nightln/>, 01865 270 270

Safe! Oxford (for under-25s affected by crime)

<http://www.safeproject.org.uk/>, 01865 815926

Oxford University Equality & Diversity Unit

<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/>