

ROBINSON COLLEGE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

ROBINSON COLLEGE STUDENTS' PROSPECTUS

**A FRIENDLY GUIDE TO THE COLLEGE MADE BY
ROBINSON STUDENTS!**

Contents

2	Welcome
3-4	Choosing a College
5-6	Accommodation
7-8	Food
9-10	Facilities
11-12	Gardens
13	Welfare
14	Academic Life
15-16	Sports & Societies
17	Contact Information
18	College Map

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www.rcsa.co.uk

Welcome!

Robinson is renowned for being a **laid back and friendly college**, and our students come from **all over the world**.

Robinson represents the **best of both worlds**:

We're **conveniently located** - just far out enough to avoid all the tourists, but less than a ten minute walk (or a three minute cycle) west of the city centre. We're situated right next-door to the University Library, and are very close to both the arts faculties on Sidgwick Site and the science buildings in West Cambridge.



We're an **average sized college**; with about 120 in a year, it's big enough that you don't tread on each other's toes, but it's also small enough to get to know just about everyone. Since all undergraduate students live on the same site, you'll get to know not only your year group really really well but also students in other years too - this gives Robinson an amazing community feel.

We are one of the **newest Cambridge colleges**; we enjoy the traditions you would expect from a Cambridge college, but within modern buildings that have top-notch central heating!



Choosing a College

Cambridge is a collegiate university, which means that as well as being a member of the University and an academic faculty/department, students also belong to a College community. A college is **your base in Cambridge** — it's where you will eat, sleep, and where your social life might be centred.

Student Profile:

Teddy Mack, MML
(Modern & Medieval Languages)



“

My advice for prospective students is don't be put off by all the reputation and history of this place. You get over it in about a week!

”

A-levels: Spanish, English Literature,
Biology



There are **lots of fantastic colleges** to pick between in Cambridge, which can make it a difficult choice to make.

We've put together this handy guide to help you make your decision!

Why did students pick Robinson?



Luis, Chemical Engineering

“

I really valued the strong sense of community within and between the year groups.

”



Ayanfe, Medicine

“

When I met the students here, there seemed to be a strong emphasis on student welfare, and an atmosphere of community rather than competition.

”

“

I loved the gardens - and had heard the food was really good!!

”



Emily, History

Accommodation

Robinson accommodation has a reputation as being **some of the nicest in the University** - around half of the rooms are ensuite and all have exceptional central heating. As it's new, accommodation is relatively standardised throughout college - thanks to this, you'll never end up with a bad room!



one of the
onsite
student
houses!

All undergraduate students live on-site, which creates a lovely **community feel** within the college.

Undergraduate accommodation in the main College building is separated into lettered staircases where there will be a **mix of students from all year groups**, with a kitchen on both the top and bottom floors. There are also College-owned houses on streets that run along the main site, where many students choose to live in their second or third year at Robinson.

Student Profile: Jonathan Wang, Engineering



“

Cambridge is one of the most unique experiences in the world. You will find interesting people from all walks of life who will influence you for the rest of yours!

”

A-levels: Maths, Physics,
Chemistry, Biology, English
Literature

Accommodation

There are four types of room at Robinson:

Best rooms are the largest and have ensuite facilities.



Standard Plus rooms are slightly smaller but also ensuite.

many Robinson rooms have balconies!

Standard rooms are slightly smaller still and either share bathroom facilities between two rooms or have an ensuite with a shower.



Value rooms are smallest and share bathroom facilities between two or three rooms.



In all rooms, college housekeeping staff will change your sheets once a week and empty your bins twice a week, as well as cleaning the kitchens on your staircase every day - just **making university life that little bit easier!** At Robinson, unlike many other colleges, this rent price includes all bills (heating, water etc) so there are **no unexpected charges!**

Food

Robinson has a well-deserved reputation for **some of the best food** in any Cambridge college!

Red Brick Cafe Bar

karaoke night at the bar!



The café has an **excellent range** of food (sandwiches, wraps and hot paninis) and drinks. It also stocks a range of emergency supplies and staples – eggs, bread, pasta and milk.

The café is open during the day and **transforms into a bar** during the evening. The bar often hosts entertainment for students in the form of quizzes, open-mic and stand-up nights. We also have the cheapest undergrad pint in Cambridge!

getting dinner in the restaurant!



The Garden Restaurant

The canteen at Robinson is known as the Garden Restaurant. Looking out onto the gardens, it opens for three meals a day during the week and brunch on the weekends.

The Garden Restaurant has **excellent vegan and vegetarian options** too, and the staff are more than happy to help cater for special dietary requirements.

Food

8

Formal Hall is held every Tuesday and Friday, and involves a three course set menu in gowns. They're not at all compulsory but are a very **nice way to celebrate a special occasion!**

Formals



Kitchens

If you move into one of the houses in 2nd or 3rd year, you can get access to **huge kitchens** with lots of facilities.

The kitchens in Robinson staircases aren't huge, but **have everything you need** to cook for yourself!



Student Profile: Emma Macrae, PBS (Psychology)



“*I love the community atmosphere of Robinson. I think it's just the right size where you can know everyone but still have a wide range of friends!*”

Advanced Higher Subjects
(Scotland): Biology,
Chemistry, Statistics,
Modern Studies

Facilities

Robinson has **lots of spaces and facilities** for students!

Outside of term, Robinson runs a large conferencing business, so we have lots of meeting venues that students can use, as well as a range of other spaces.

JCR (Junior Common Room)

The JCR is a well-used communal space with a TV, a pool table and plenty of games (virtual and board!). It's a good place to meet and relax with friends or even to do some work with the large whiteboard.



playing pool! Robinson also holds an open-to-all yearly pool tournament

Bop Room

Robinson is the **only college** to hold a bop (= party night!) **every week**, and has a special club room for this. It features cheap drinks, cheesy music and great times! Robinson is well known for the **best bops at the university** and hosts a university-wide LGBT+ celebration bop, Rainbow Robinson, every year.



Facilities

Library

The library is **open 24/7** - it is a quiet place to study filled with all the books you may need, and we are 30 seconds from the University Library if not!

Large desks, a separate law library, a computer suite and our **lovely librarian Judith** are just a few things that Robinson's library has to offer.

check out the Chapel's spectacular stained-glass chapel window!



Our beautiful, modern chapel holds **regular services**, including a Tuesday evensong and two Sunday services. Robinson's own choir sings at several of these services!

The chapel frequently hosts **musical performances** from our students or guest musicians.

The college provides for **all faiths**, from prayer rooms to non-denominational services provided by our wonderful Chaplain (who's always up for a chat, and also runs one of the Robinson football teams!)



Chapel



Gardens

Robinson has gardens renowned for **being some of the most beautiful** of any of the colleges.



Robinson even looks amazing in the winter!



Our gardens are open to all members of the college and, unlike in many other colleges, **walking on the grass to enjoy them is completely allowed!**

The beautiful pond with our new fountain, the Maria Björnson outdoors theatre and some wonderful sculptures are just a few of the things you can expect to find in Robinson's extensive gardens.



You could also join the college **Gardening Society**, which provides a much needed distress and break from the hectic Cambridge lifestyle. The garden looks incredible - and even better, we've been **harvesting our own vegetables to eat!**

Gardens

12

In summer students often **eat their lunches on the lawn outside**, and after exams they can be found playing croquet or frisbee and soaking up the sun.

If you're really lucky you might also spot the deer who live here, otherwise it's just the birds, cats (and students) that contribute to the local wildlife.

Student Profile: Fathima Manaal, Medicine



“Experiencing the unique traditions of the University such as its Formal Halls, college family system and May Balls has been really enjoyable.”

A-Levels: Maths, Biology,
Chemistry



Enjoying our
outdoor
theatre!



Welfare

Support for student welfare is **incredibly important** at Robinson.

Like many colleges, we have a tutorial system which means every student has a **Tutor** who is their point of call for anything welfare related. Your Tutor's priority is always you, and how you are doing. The **College Chaplain** is also available to speak to any student, if students would prefer to speak to him, and **Porters** are on the college site 24/7 and have mental health training.



*two of our
friendly porters,
Jain and Nicola*



The Robinson College Students' Association also has a **Welfare Team** who are there to support students. They hold drop-in sessions for students to have a chat, but can also see students whenever they need a talk about things. They run 'Welfare Events' - fun get-togethers for students to chat and relax.

students relax (with lots of free food!) at a college-wide Welfare Event!

Robinson also has a **College Counsellor** (although all students can access the **University Counselling Service**) who can also provide support to struggling students and we have a lovely **college nurse**, Kim, who can help with any health concerns. All students also sign up at a local GP.



Academic Life

Teaching at Cambridge is delivered through a combination of lectures, 'supervisions', discussion classes, labs etc depending on your course.

You're given a 'Director of Studies' (DoS for short). They will oversee your academic life, organise your supervisions and act as your point of contact for most problems that might crop up academically.

As Cambridge terms are incredibly busy, it's really important to maintain a work-life balance to the best of your ability. At Robinson, there is a **really supportive community** to help you do this, and the **priority is on helping each other achieve** rather than on competing.

At Robinson, there's a huge range of academics of different specialisms - but don't worry if it doesn't include what you're really interested in, as for most subjects you are **supervised by people across the University!**

If you have any questions about a specific subject, please do check out the RCSA Website and email the Subject Representative - **they'd be more than happy to answer any queries** you have!

Student Profile:
Beth Budgen,
Physical Natural Sciences



“Natsci is such a varied course that it never gets boring. Having lots of practicals is great as you get to meet lots of people from across the University!”

**A-Levels: Chemistry, Physics, Maths,
Further Maths**

Sports & Societies

College sports and societies lie at the heart of Robinson's **friendly and inclusive community**.

Robinson offers a **wide range of societies**, from Badminton to Board Games to our very own Brickhouse Theatre Company, so you can be sure that you'll find people to share your interests with!



Robinson has a range of rowing teams to suit all abilities!



Our sports teams have access to fantastic facilities, including our **own pitches** a short walk from the main grounds; all manner of sports can be played at the college or university level.

On the next page are a few examples of some of our college societies, but if you come to Robinson you'll be introduced to many more at the Societies Fair - and if you can't wait that long, you can check out other college societies on the RCSA website!

Sports & Societies

Here are just a few of the many societies you could join at Robinson:

Cheese and Wine

Making food and drink into an official pastime, Robinson's Cheese and Wine Society provides a seemingly endless supply of cheeses and appropriate rehydrating beverages for anyone looking to kick back and enjoy these chilled social events, open to the whole college.



waiting for the cheese and wine to be handed out!



Lacrosse

You've seen it in Wild Child, now come and play it yourself! One of Robinson's more casual sports, lacrosse is a great way to get out, get exercising, and feel a bit of team spirit. Weekly league games are sometimes competitive but always a laugh.



University Challenge

We may not have won yet, but we do have a fab team and tryouts are open to all! Could you join us and help us reach eternal Quizzing glory?

Get in Touch!

Got any questions about Robinson? We'd love to hear from you!

- **ACADEMIC:**

- Subject Representative Contacts: <http://www.rcsa.co.uk/subject>
- RCSA Academic Affairs Officer: academic@rcsa.co.uk
- Directors of Studies: <https://www.robinson.cam.ac.uk/college-life/academic-life/directors-studies>

- **SOCIETIES:**

- Society Contacts: <http://www.rcsa.co.uk/societies>
- RCSA Sports & Societies Officer: sports@rcsa.co.uk

- **WELFARE:**

- RCSA Welfare Officer: welfare@rcsa.co.uk
- RCSA BME Officer: bme@rcsa.co.uk
- RCSA LGBT+ Officer: lgbt@rcsa.co.uk
- RCSA Overseas Officer: overseas@rcsa.co.uk
- RCSA Mental Health and Disabilities Officer: dso@rcsa.co.uk
- RCSA Women's Officer: womens@rcsa.co.uk
- RCSA Men's Officer: men@rcsa.co.uk
- Chaplain: chaplain@robinson.cam.ac.uk

- **ADMISSIONS:**

- Admissions Co-ordinator: apply@robinson.cam.ac.uk

- **ANYTHING ELSE:**

- RCSA President: president@rcsa.co.uk



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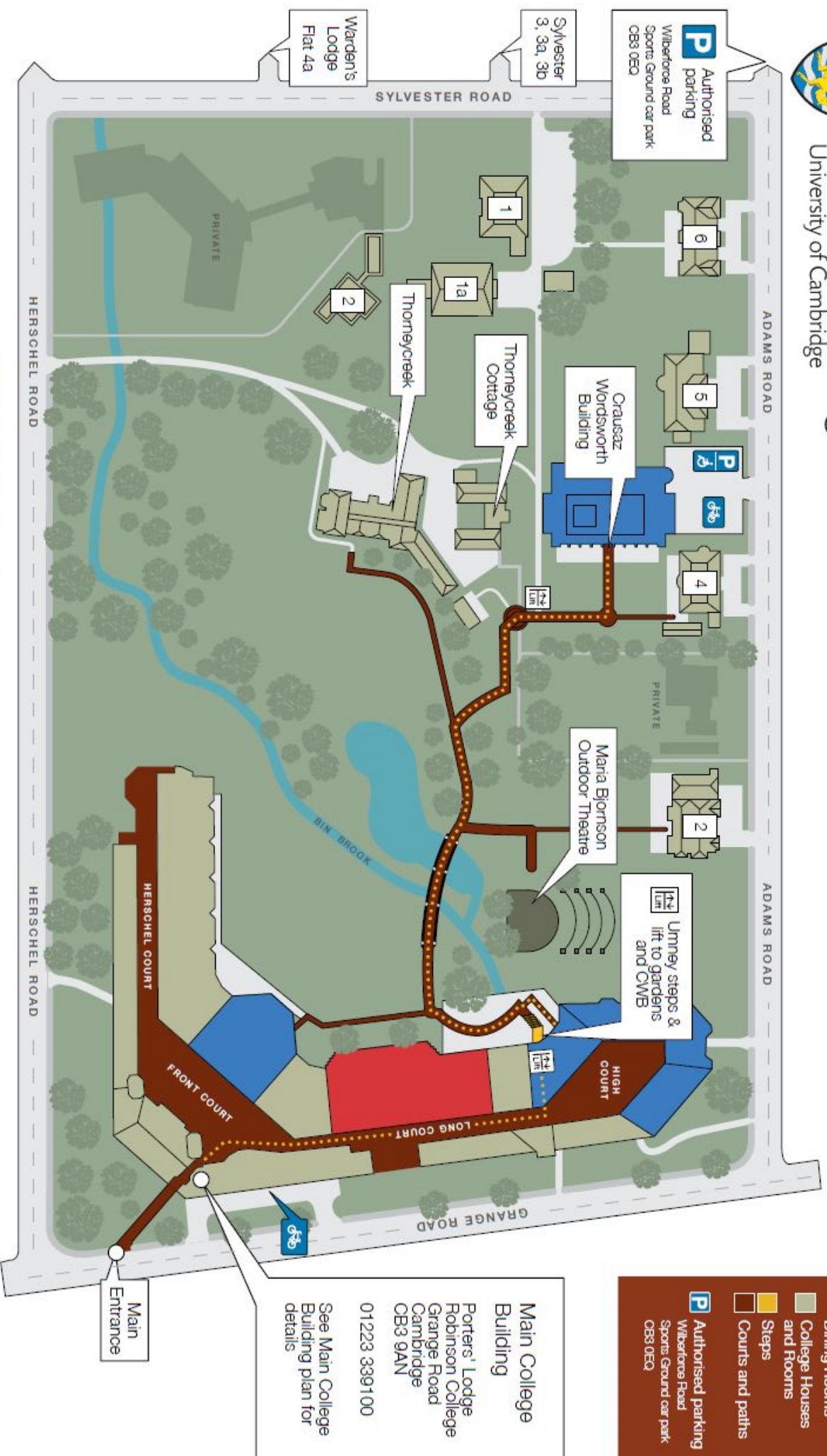


www.rcsa.co.uk



Robinson College

University of Cambridge



College Site plan



Level access routes
(Step free)



Robinson College has installed
CCTV at these premises for your
safety and protection

Look for and follow the signs to help you on your journey