

# Reuben College Termcard

## Michaelmas Term 2025

This is your handbook for events organised by the staff and Fellows of Reuben College. A number of additional theme events may be arranged throughout the term, and will be advertised in the weekly College newsletter. The graduate community also organises social events which are advertised separately.

Please note:

- Reuben members are able to bring guests to most evening events: there will be a charge for guest meals.
- For **Reuben Explores** you are asked to register via Microsoft Forms using the links below by 12 noon on the Friday prior to each event. You are welcome to invite non-Reuben friends - we just ask that you register them in advance. This event is free of charge.
- For **Tuesday Talks/Dining with Dinosaurs (DwD)**, you'll need to book (and pay for guests) via University Online Stores by 9:00 on the Friday prior to each event. See [Terms & Conditions for Tuesday Talks here](#). This event is free for Reuben members, and £18/£20 for guests (students/non-students).
- For **Formal Halls** (£25) and **Cultural Dinners** (£15) you will need to book and pay via University Online Stores by 9:00 on the Friday prior to each event. See [Terms & Conditions for Thursday Night Dinners here](#).

**Events are subject to change: these will be communicated in the College's weekly newsletter wherever possible.**

### IN THE DINING HALL

#### WEEKLY LUNCHES\*

Lunch is normally served Monday - Friday between 12:00 - 13:00 for Reuben members (and guests) only. Lunch is open to all University members from 13:00 - 14:00.

#### MONDAY & WEDNESDAY DINNERS\*

In term time, dinner is available on Monday & Wednesday evenings from 17:30 - 18:45 for Reuben members and guests.

**\*You do not need to book these in advance.**

# WEEK 0 - FRESHERS' WEEK

5-11 OCTOBER

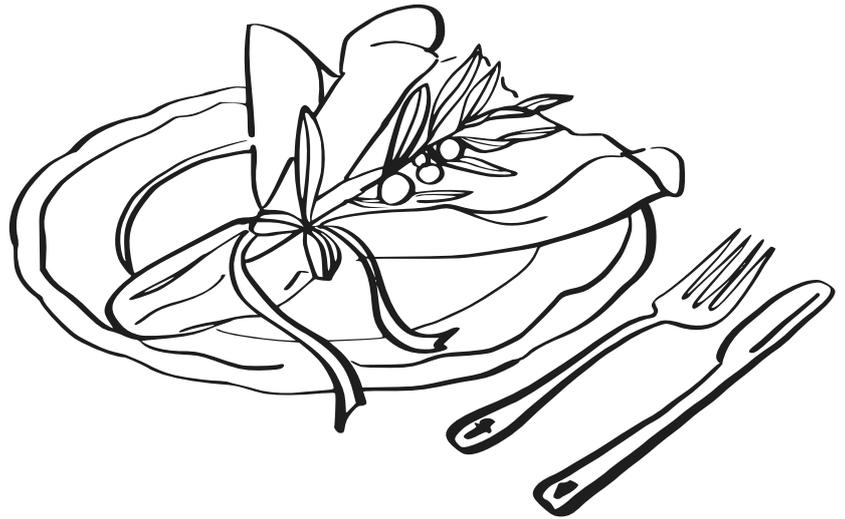
## Freshers' Dinners

**Wednesday 8 October / Thursday 9 October / Friday 10 October**

19:00-21:00, Dining Hall

All freshers are invited to a formal dinner in the Dining Hall during Week 0 to welcome them to Reuben and meet other College members.

No need to register - the academic office will be in touch to assign you to one of our three evenings.



## Other freshers' events



The Academic Office and the Graduate Common Room (GCR) committee will be running a range of induction events during Week 0.

Make sure to keep an eye on your emails for your induction week schedule from the Academic Office. The GCR are in charge of exciting student-run events, including BOPs, film nights and a Reuben Freshers' Fayre.

You can **[keep up-to-date with the GCR here.](#)**

# WEEK 1

12-18 OCTOBER

## Tuesday Talks/DwD: An Introduction to Reuben's Themes

**Tuesday 14 October**

18:20 - 21:00, Dining Hall

This evening's talk will be of particular interest to new students. We will introduce Reuben's 'themes' and 'strategic areas', and discuss the ways in which students can get involved in any and all of their activities. **Please note that this event is for Reuben members only.**

[Book here](#)

## Formal Hall

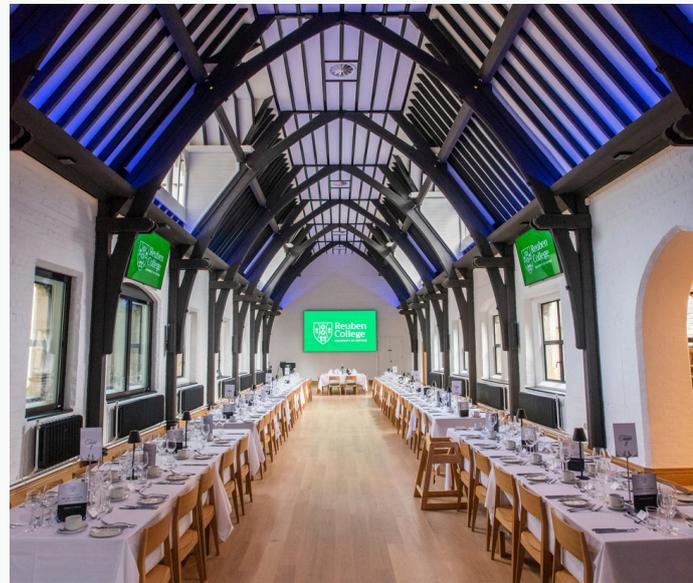
**Thursday 16 October**

19:00 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Formal Hall offers a chance to get together with friends and colleagues to enjoy a beautifully prepared meal and get dressed up.

Members are welcome to invite up to a max of 5 paying guests.

[Book here](#)



## Guided walk through Oxford Botanic Garden

**Saturday 18 October**

10:00-12:00, Oxford Botanic Garden and Arboretum

Walk with [Prof Katrina Charles](#) (Environmental Change) & [Dr Tess Johnson](#) (Values & Society) through the trail *Plant Power! Stop the Superbugs*, followed by coffee and cake! Discussion will include plants, antimicrobial resistance and climate-health links. Sign up by 11 October to secure your place.

[Book here](#)

# WEEK 2

19-25 OCTOBER

## Reuben Explores: Public Engagement with Research, Culture & Heritage

**Monday 20 October**

17:30 - 18:30, Lecture Theatre / Livestreamed (book to access online)

Engage with one of Reuben's strategic areas: Public Engagement with Research, Culture & Heritage (PERCH). Sharing research beyond academia is an integral part of being an academic, with impact on society, policy, and your own work. Join us to explore these mutual benefits and find out more about Reuben's exclusive PER Innovation Fund, which can support your own public engagement endeavours.

[Book here](#)

## Tuesday Talks/DwD: Maximising the University's Societal Impact Through Innovation

**Tuesday 21 October** / 18:20 - 21:00, Dining Hall



Our Vice Chancellor identifies three parts to our academic mission: teaching, research, and innovation. But what does 'innovation' mean in practice? How can we measure the impact of the University's innovations to know if we're making a difference? For Oxford, societal impact is as diverse as you might expect. [Dr Mairi Gibbs](#) (CEO of Oxford University Innovation) will give an overview of how innovation is enabled by OUI's expert support and explain OUI's approach to measuring impact based on theory.

[Book here](#)

## Formal Hall

**Thursday 23 October**

19:00 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Formal Hall offers a chance to get together with friends and colleagues and dress up to enjoy a beautifully prepared meal.

Members can invite up to a max of 5 paying guests.

[Book here](#)

# WEEK 3

26 OCTOBER - 1 NOVEMBER

## Tuesday Talks/DwD:

### Why Is Amazon's Alexa Named Alexa? The Curious Case of Our Relationship With Antiquity

**Tuesday 28 October**

18:20 - 21:00, Dining Hall

In this talk, Michael Scott (Professor of Classics & Ancient History and Pro-Vice-Chancellor International, University of Warwick) explores how and why our modern society is still inextricably linked with Ancient Greece and Rome.

He will expose the surprisingly recent origins of our engagement with antiquity, explore its positive and negative impacts across fields as diverse as politics, science, and social media, and discuss how this relationship might evolve in the future. From this, Prof Scott will highlight what continues to make the past such an important part of our present.



**[Book here](#)**

## Cultural Dinner: Black History Month

**Thursday 30 October / 19:00 - 21:00, Dining Hall**

Reuben invites you to learn about and celebrate the rich and vivid cultures of Africa and its diaspora. Themed '*Diaspora Undivided*', this inaugural Black History Month cultural dinner will feature music by Oxford's Aseda Gospel Choir, spoken word by students, and a family-style dinner featuring cuisines from across the Black diaspora. We encourage wearing African prints and bright colours to this celebration!

**[Book here](#)**



# WEEK 4

2-8 NOVEMBER

## Reuben Explores: Innovation & Entrepreneurship (I&E)

### Monday 3 November

17:30 - 18:30, Lecture Theatre / Livestreamed (book to access online)

New to understanding how you can make a real difference in society? In the early stages of coming up with an idea that uses your research and skills to solve real-world challenges? Let's explore together how you can get the best impact from your research.

Join us for an introduction to I&E and find out more about the many ways to be innovative and entrepreneurial within Oxford's ecosystem.

[Book here](#)

## Tuesday Talks/DwD: Yesterday, The Beatles & the Soundtrack of the 60s

### Tuesday 4 November

18:20 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Join renowned music historian [Rupert Perry CBE](#) for a *magical mystery tour* through the 60s, exploring how The Beatles not only changed music but helped shape an entire generation. Their music became the soundtrack of a turbulent decade; as the world cried out for answers, The Beatles reminded us to simply *Let It Be*.

*Come together* to celebrate the enduring legacy of the Fab Four at this talk.

[Book here](#)



# WEEK 4 (CONT'D)

2-8 NOVEMBER

## Interdisciplinary Lunch

**Wednesday 5 November**

12:15-13:15, Abbot's Kitchen

Please note, attendance is limited to one per term.

Facilitating Reuben's commitment to interdisciplinary discussion, the College President is introducing a series of informal lunches. Reuben students from all themes, disciplines and courses are invited to join him for a discussion lunch, paid for by the College.

Attendees will collect their meal in the Dining Hall and then take their tray into the Abbot's Kitchen. No prior preparation is required, but numbers are capped at 15 so we advise you to register as soon as possible. *You may withdraw up to one week before; after this, you will be charged for the cost of the lunch.*

**Register by contacting the Academic Office**

## Formal Hall

**Thursday 6 November**

19:00 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Formal Hall offers a chance to get together with friends and colleagues and dress up to enjoy a beautifully prepared meal. Members can invite up to a max of 5 paying guests.

**Book here**



## WEEK 5

9-15 NOVEMBER

### Tuesday Talks/DwD: Student Takeover

**Tuesday 11 November**

18:20 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Join us for presentations from our Reuben students on their own varied research projects. Details on the topics and presenters will come during term.

**[Book here](#)**

## Formal Hall



**Thursday 13 November**

19:00 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Formal Hall offers a chance to get together with friends and colleagues and dress up to enjoy a beautifully prepared meal.

Members can invite up to a max of 5 paying guests.

**[Book here](#)**

## WEEK 6

16-22 NOVEMBER

### Reuben Explores: Applying for DPhil Study

**Monday 17 November**

17:30 - 18:30, Lecture Theatre /  
Livestreamed (book to access online)

With the deadline for DPhil applications rapidly approaching (mid-December), join Reuben Fellows for advice on your applications. Bring along your questions and be ready to make some notes.

We will have two Fellows leading this session: [Prof Esther Becker](#) (who will cover MPLS/Medical Sciences Division applications) and [Dr Jonathan Pugh](#) (who will cover Social Sciences / Humanities applications).

**[Book here](#)**



# WEEK 6 (CONT'D)

16-22 NOVEMBER

## Tuesday Talks/DwD:

### AI – Investment Perspectives Through an African and South Asian Lens

**Tuesday 18 November**

18:20 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Sir Graham Wrigley will lead an interactive discussion around this important topic.



British  
International  
Investment

We will also welcome our College President, Prof Lord (Lionel) Tarassenko - a world expert in AI - along with Abhinav Sinha, who leads British International Investment's technology programme in Africa and Asia.

**[Book here](#)**



## Formal Hall

**Thursday 20 November**

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**[Book here](#)**

# WEEK 7

23-29 NOVEMBER

## Tuesday Talks/DwD: Health as an Entry Point to Tackling Climate Change

**Tuesday 25 November**

18:20 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Climate change is harming our health, whether through increased heat stress, worsening air quality, spread of diseases, worsening food security, or increased anxiety linked to extreme events. Tackling climate change is good for our health.

Prof Elizabeth Robinson (Director of LSE's Grantham Research Institute) will share with you why, despite the clear benefits, globally we are still struggling to make what surely are sensible policies and choices.

**[Book here](#)**



## Cultural Dinner: Thanksgiving

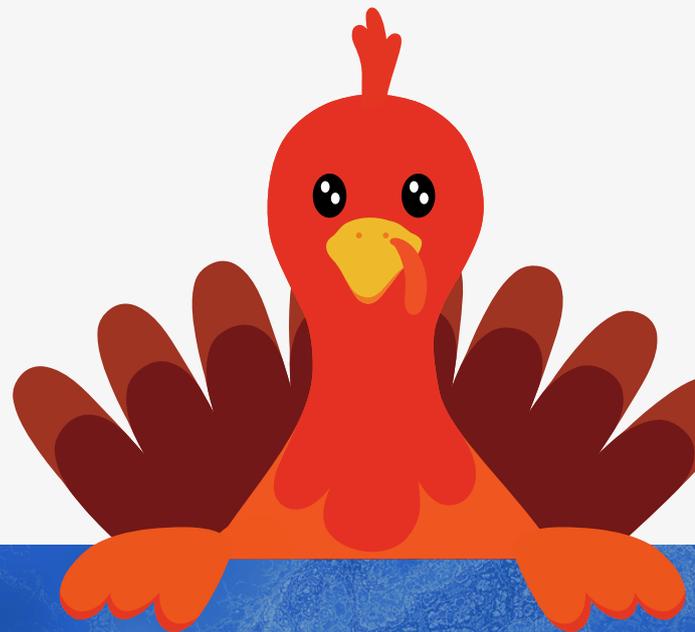
**Thursday 27 November**

19:00 - 21:00, Dining Hall

Join us as we come together to celebrate Thanksgiving, a holiday rooted in gratitude, togetherness, and sharing.

Traditionally observed in the USA, Thanksgiving is a day when loved ones gather over a meal to reflect on the blessings of the past year. Whether you're familiar with the holiday or experiencing it for the first time, everyone is welcome! We encourage wearing autumnal colours such as oranges, reds and yellows.

**[Book here](#)**



# WEEK 8

30 NOVEMBER - 6 DECEMBER

## Reuben Explores: Promoting Wellbeing

### Monday 1 December

17:30 - 18:30, Lecture Theatre / Livestreamed (book to access online)

When your studies feel intense and the world outside brings challenges that are hard to ignore - especially those beyond your control - it's easy to feel overwhelmed. In times like these, taking care of your mental health and wellbeing is a crucial part of coping with stress.

Join [Dr Caroline Mawson](#) (Senior Tutor) and [Kirren Mahmood](#) (Welfare Dean) for a thoughtful and practical session on how to look after yourself when things feel uncertain. We'll talk about everyday self-care, coping with stress, and where to find support (both at university and beyond) no matter what you're facing.

[\*\*Book here\*\*](#)

## Tuesday Talks/DwD: How Politics Is Shaping Markets and the Implications for Entrepreneurship and Innovation

### Tuesday 2 December

18:20 - 21:00, Dining Hall

[Sam Gyimah](#) is a British politician and former banker. He began his career at Goldman Sachs before being elected as the Conservative Member of Parliament for East Surrey in 2010. During his political career, he held various ministerial roles, including Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation. He resigned from the Conservative Party in protest of a no-deal Brexit and later joined the Liberal Democrats. After losing his seat in the 2019 general election, he returned to work at Goldman Sachs.

[\*\*Book here\*\*](#)

# WEEK 8 (CONT'D)

30 NOVEMBER - 6 DECEMBER

## Interdisciplinary Lunch

**Wednesday 3 December / 12:15-13:15, Abbot's Kitchen**

Please note, attendance is limited to one per term.

Facilitating Reuben's commitment to interdisciplinary discussion, the College President is introducing a series of informal lunches. Reuben students from all themes, disciplines and courses are invited to join him for a discussion lunch, paid for by the College.

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**[Register by contacting the Academic Office](#)**

## Formal Hall: Christmas Dinner

**Thursday 4 December**

19:00 - 21:00, Dining Hall

It's the end of Michaelmas Term! Gather with friends and colleagues to celebrate over a festive meal. Beforehand, the Reuben College Choir will fill the marble staircase with Christmas carols from 6pm, setting the perfect tone for the evening.

**[Book here](#)**

## Christmas Family Party

**Saturday 6 December**

College Bar

Save the date for our family Christmas celebration - an event for the children of Reuben students.

Timings and further details TBC.



# BEYOND TERM

## Carol Service

**Sunday 7 December**

17:50-19:30, University Church of St Mary the Virgin

Join us for a traditional English carol service at the University Church with the graduate community. All College members and guests, of all faiths or none, are welcome for a peaceful and meditative service.

Look out for further details in our College newsletter closer to the date.



**[Book here](#)**

## Schmidt Colloquium

**Friday 12 December**

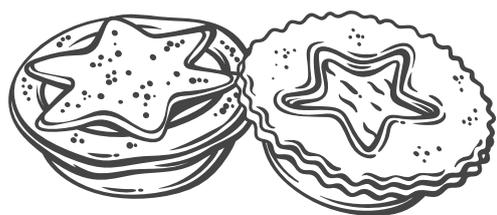
11:45-16:30, Lecture Theatre



Reuben College is the collegiate home of the Schmidt AI in Science Fellows at Oxford. Once each term we invite you to hear their exciting research ideas and progress at our termly Schmidt AI in Science Colloquium.

'This is deliberately held in week 9 so that any student or Research Fellow with an interest in AI or Science can attend this highly inter-disciplinary event

**[Book here](#)**



## Mince Pies at the Museum

Date and location TBC.

Keep a look out on our website and in the College newsletter for this festive event, exploring a Museum or Library across Oxford.

# FURTHER BOOKING INFO

Tickets and guest tickets can only be booked by Reuben members using a Reuben email address. All guests must attend the event with a Reuben member; anyone found to have booked guest tickets without being present themselves will have these places cancelled.

## **Pronouns**

You may have noticed that we are asking, when booking onto events, whether you would like to include your pronouns on your place cards. **But why?**

Pronouns are words we use in everyday language to refer to ourselves or others. They can be an important way to express your gender identity. 'I', 'me', 'she/her', 'he/him' and 'they/them' are some examples of pronouns. Some trans and gender non-conforming people may use 'they', 'them' and 'theirs' as personal pronouns. 'They' is considered a gender-neutral pronoun, compared to pronouns like 'he/him' or 'she/her' which are generally perceived as gendered terms.

Pronouns can be used to role model trans allyship, allowing others to see that inclusion is a key component of our College culture. For more information on why you might like to introduce yourself with your pronouns, and how to be inclusive of others doing so, please see here:

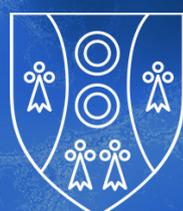
[A beginner's guide to pronouns and using pronouns in the workplace | Stonewall](#)

## **College Hospitality**

We now have a 'College Hospitality' option when booking onto events. This is only to be used by those that have specific allowances from the College, and have been emailed to confirm that they can use this option. We reserve the right to cancel bookings that are not eligible.

Should you have any questions about the Termcard or upcoming events in Michaelmas Term, please email the events team at:

**[events@reuben.ox.ac.uk](mailto:events@reuben.ox.ac.uk)**



**Reuben  
College**  
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD