

Welcome to our first ever Music at Oxford Christmas Quiz

A little challenge to keep your brain cells ticking during the haze of mulled wine and carols. It's simple - we've written a short story celebrating our city of Oxford, and some of the beautiful venues and colleges that reside here.

Hidden within the story, between words, and sometimes between paragraphs, you'll find the names of some Oxford University colleges and arts venues – who knew we could squeeze so many in?! Capital letters in the middle of a name don't invalidate it either.

And if you're not sure what we mean, look back at the last sentence and you'll see NEW i.e. New College hidden away within kNEW. That's the smallest one to find, we promise!

There are 21 colleges and 7 arts venues to find in total. When you've found as many as you can, simply complete the entry form and **return it to us**, and you could be in with a chance of winning some special prizes.



If you feel able, please also consider including a voluntary donation, we suggest £5 per entry.

Every donation we receive for Music at Oxford goes towards bringing high-quality music and education projects to the city, to enable us to achieve our vision of changing, enriching and connecting lives through music.

PRIZES

Oxford river cruise for four with afternoon tea – donated by The Folly – restaurant located at Folly Bridge

Afternoon tea for 2 at The Store Oxford – A boutique hotel located on Broad Street

10 free coffees at Gulp Fiction-bookshop in The Covered Market

2 x tickets to a Music at Oxford Spring/Summer 24/25 concert of your choice

1 x family pass for Blenheim Palace

Afternoon tea for 4 at Blenheim Palace

An Oxford Tour!

Names can be found in and between words, sometimes between paragraphs.

Hannah was running late. She'd set her alarm, that damn timer, tons of times before and always heard it, but somehow, not this morning.

Hannah was a tour guide in Oxford. Alongside her studying she ran tours around the city of dreaming spires, telling the stories of its history: the foundation of the North Wall thousands of years ago, the city's place in Civil War history, and now its existence as a thriving metropolis and popular filming location. She took people to places deemed holy (well, depending on who you spoke to), spots rumoured to be haunted, and spoke of Kings, Queens, authors, and much more.

This morning though she would have to hurry if she was going to make it for her 10:30am tour. She contemplated whether she'd have time for a bacon roll, slathered in Worcestershire sauce, to soak up the revels of the previous evening, but the start of the 9:30am news on the radio swiftly put paid to that; Kellogg's cornflakes it would have to be.

Shortly Hannah was on her bike and flying down Banbury Road. Luckily the sun was out and as she passed the University Parks she caught a flash of colour from the Spring planting. Regent's Park it wasn't (as a Londoner Hannah could never admit anything bettered that), but it tried its best.

Locking up her bike, she dashed into the office to grab the details of today's group. "It's an American party for you" declared her colleague Magda, lengthening her arm out so Hannah could take the piece of paper as she walked by. "Thanks" said Hannah, "fingers crossed they're the tipping kind".

"Good morning everyone" said Hannah once she'd gathered her group, "and welcome to the beautiful city of Oxford. It's my pleasure today to show you around these special streets and tell

you its story; museum-like details, but without the reading! We start here at Gloucester Green. Now the site of a bus station, but formerly it was the home of the Oxford Cattle Market."

"Cattle? Now that's something we know about, don't we Eleanor? Being from Texas" piped up Hank, a large gentleman with a bushy moustache and wearing a baseball cap. "We surely do" Eleanor replied turning to Hannah, her smiling eyes offering an apology for her husband's interruption.

"I'm afraid the cattle don't come to Oxford anymore after the market closed in 1979, but hopefully there'll be plenty of things you find interesting as we go" replied Hannah. "And in case you're missing home I think the food market here sometimes has Tex-Mex!"

"Eternally grateful that I am for your food recommendations" sneered an older gentleman near the front of the group, "could we possibly get going? I would like to ensure we don't miss anything because we run out of time."

"Of course" charmed Hannah. "Now many of you may be aware of the tradition of detective TV shows and fiction in the UK. From PD James to Inspector Morse and Wycliffe, halls, churches and colleges in the city have always fought to get production companies interested in using their spaces to film."

"Erm, excuse me" said the snooty man from earlier who Hannah had since discovered was called Mr Lincoln, "I think you'll find Wycliffe was actually filmed in Cornwall."

"Very true Sir" replied Hannah, her patience beginning to crack, "It may never have been filmed here, but the author of the books studied at the University so we can claim some links."

"Now as I was saying, many dramas have been filmed in the city including here, outside the Bodleian, one of the oldest libraries in Europe: three Harry Potter films, Philip Pulman's *The Golden Compass*, and multiple episodes within the Morse franchise. Magical wands, an abandoned bike, bleeding bodies, you never know what you might see next in Oxford!"

"I love all those series" sighed an older lady, on her own within the group. "John Thaw was such a dish. I'm Gloria by the way" she said to Hannah, "Gloria Harris, Manchester born but moved to the States as a baby. My parents studied here though so I've always wanted to come".

"I hope you enjoy the tour," replied Hannah. "Now if you'll follow me, I'll take you to the site of many a great Oxford party, known in the city as a Ball." Hannah walked ahead but smiled as she heard Gloria exclaim behind her:

"Oh, I always thought it would be great fun to go to a Ball. I, old as I am though, have never made it to one."

"Nor I" Eleanor declared, "no matter how much I hinted to Hank here".

"As we head into the parks, not only will you see a lot of beautiful flowers, but you'll also find the home of the University Cricket Club", Hannah continued. "Many a sunny afternoon has been spent on the boundary rope applauding a beautiful shot or calling out a poor man's fielding. People enjoy the tradition of cricket teas here as well. Sandwich, salmon if a team's feeling rich, or if the captain's more of a tightwad, ham. Scones and biscuits too, all washed down with a cup of tea".

"Cricket's a bit like baseball, right?" asked Hank. "Throw the ball, hit the ball, run fast?"

"Hmm, there are similarities", replied Hannah "but with a lot more rules. I'm not sure I've got time enough to explain!"

"We're now heading towards Jericho, location of the creation of the Oxford English Dictionary and a place that, to many, contains the holy Trinity of Oxford things – books, churches and great pubs."

"Oh, your English pubs are so charming" said Eleanor, "we went to such a cute one the other day in Hertford".

Continuing, Hannah said "Jericho is also very near the canal, where you'll often see on display houseboats living on this important thoroughfare linking London and the Midlands. The surrounding streets also contain beautiful old workers' terraced houses making this a popular area to live within the city."

"They look very attractive to me" piped up Gloria, "I could see myself in one of these".

"Not for me" replied Hank. "Too damn small! I'd be constantly hitting my head". Eleanor sighed, raising her eyebrows in a resigned smirk to Gloria.

"They may seem small on the front" Hannah replied, "but many have been extended, which has made them very sought after".

"And now as we make our way back towards the centre, you'll see some more examples of the beautiful Oxford architecture including this church here..."

"Jesus Christ, church again?" burst out Hank. "If I'd wanted to come on a religious tour, I'd have chosen one".

"Erm" stuttered Hannah not quite sure how to react. "Well, we do say that you'll see all different types of building on this tour, but Oxford just happens to have quite a lot of churches".

"Don't worry honey" said Eleanor. "Leave him to me. Hank Sheldon Ian Carter, I have had enough of your attitude for the day! This poor girl is just trying to give us a nice tour of this beautiful city, and all you can do is moan and interrupt. Now you apologise right now!"

Hannah stood there, as dumbstruck as the rest of the group at the outburst from mild-mannered Eleanor.

Hank, head bowed, then turned to her shamefaced. "I'm sorry Ma'am, I was rude and out of order. Please accept my humble apology."

Hannah, not used to such a grovelling tone, looked at the man and said "Apology accepted Mr Carter, thank you. Now Ladies and Gentlemen this way please – on your left you'll see the city's old fire station..."

Moving off, Hannah caught Eleanor's eye who gave a small smile and nod before turning back to her husband.

At the end of the tour, Hannah thanked all the guests for coming and reminded them that if they've enjoyed the tour, she'd be grateful if they would do an online review. She also plugged their other tours including their special Prime Ministers in Oxford tour featuring the elder William Pitt, riverside walks along the Isis, and their literary special featuring Tolkien and CS Lewis.

She held out the tour company's cards and smiled as Hank and Eleanor approached. "I'm sorry again Ma'am for my behaviour" said Hank "and thank you for an interesting tour. Perhaps you can use this" he said, brandishing a £50 note, "to go and have one of those afternoon cricket teas you were telling us about? They sure sounded nice".

She then held her breath as the snooty man came forward. "Thank you young lady" he said. "Perhaps not the most intellectual tour I've ever been on, but you certainly showed us a lot." He then took a card and pressed a pound coin into Hannah's hand.

"That's high praise from him" said Gloria, giving Hannah a big hug and a £10 note. "We visited Cambridge the other day and you should have heard what he said to the guide there!"

An Oxford Tour © Roz Surtees for Music at Oxford

28 to find in total: 7 Arts Venues, 21 Oxford Colleges

ANSWER SHEET

Oxford Colleges

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____
- 7 _____
- 8 _____
- 9 _____
- 10 _____
- 11 _____
- 12 _____
- 13 _____
- 14 _____
- 15 _____
- 16 _____
- 17 _____
- 18 _____
- 19 _____
- 20 _____
- 21 _____

Arts Venues

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____
- 7 _____

HOW TO ENTER

Send us your completed answer sheet along with the following information. Even if you haven't found all the answers you can still enter the draw; just one answer makes you eligible.

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Contact Telephone Number

E-mail Address

Would you like to be entered into our competition draw?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Would you be happy to make a suggested donation of £5 for each completed entry?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Would you like to receive a copy of the answers to the quiz, via email, after the closing date?

Yes ☐ No ☐

NB a voluntary donation is not required to enter the competition draw.

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submissions is Friday 17 January
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