

# PostScript

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Finally Simon  
appears in his  
rightful place on  
the front cover!  
This week more  
exciting than  
ever before!  
Look out for the  
up coming film,  
Simon goes to  
Spain

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**Article request:**  
as you may  
notice, there are  
not many  
contributors this  
week! Did some  
of our members  
go to a rally? I  
think so, but  
where is the  
write up?

## Welcome to OUSGG

Did you know? Issue 336 is the first issue of postscript where the last digit of the number is the product of the first two minus two times the first plus the second?



## Chair's report - Phil

Does anybody actually care about what I write here? [*ed: of course, I read every word of it :-)*] I mean, you'll take one look at it, presume it to be filled with cheesy and clichéd self-congratulatory drivel, then turn to the more lurid details of whatever the minds of our lurid members who could be bothered enough to send things in had to say [*ed: not much at all this time...*]. Still, I guess I'd better put something down for posterity, as this is going to go into the Bod and I wouldn't want future biographers of mine to think I was lazy. Which would, of course, be a silly thing to accuse an arts student of being. But I digress. Where was I? Oh yes. On to my address...

Well, that was fun, wasn't it? Eight short weeks, filled with bizarre parlour games, devious plotting and scheming, dangerous board games (is his 'joke' wearing a bit thin now?), Morris dancing, wild pub crawls, pancakes, and over enthusiasm at SSAGO AGMs [*ed: or some bunch of nutters offering that we would run the rally*]. Not to

mention the ongoing stream of far too many in-jokes to list, or even to explain to confused onlookers, which seem to pervade our every action.

Thanks are due to the OU Morrismen and the OU Carrom Club, for obvious reasons, those who booked rooms for me, and to everybody who turned up to make it a fun term. There are more I could list, but this isn't an acceptance speech for an Oscar, and those who deserve thanks from me know who they are anyway. I've nothing more to say. Buy yourselves a drink [*ed: like I need to be told to...*] as a way of showing my gratitude. Right, I'm off to go and listen to some Mahler, enjoy my happy OUSGG retirement, and maybe even wind up some poor deluded souls on uk.rec.scouting...

I bid you a fond farewell.

PS: Please stop attacking me from three sides. Please? [*ed: only three?*]

## A letter home!! – Ben Bateson

Dear Sir,

Two weeks hence, I have just finished reading the copies of PostScript that I was presented with at the Rally (nice to see my £10 subscription being spent on stamps, by the way) with the assistance of *Roget's Thesaurus*, *Encyclopaedia Britannica* and *Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable*. My complaint is largely regarding the inaccessibility of your publication.

Under the editorship of Mr. Seward, PostScript was full of many a hearty jape and light-hearted jest, which more than made up for the journalistic favours given to the editor's girlfriend. In the glorious, halcyon days of Bemand, our beloved journal was impeccably produced and only occasionally featured right-wing rants on under-achievement, beagles, and why it is perfectly necessary to pay the garage £50 to change your oil filter.

Today, however, on opening the hallowed pages, we regularly find the path to media enlightenment blocked by one (or more) of the following:

- 1) Semi-coherent ramblings from the metaphysical and hyperbolic planet that is Philip Alderton's brain [ed: did you not find them enlightening? [ed: *I assumed they were highly enlightening – and that not being an arts student I had missed the point*].
- 2) A badly-drawn, completely incomprehensible cartoon supplement [ed: *Simon is a high quality cartoon, if you wish to take up the matter with the author he can be contacted (I am assured) by email at simon-editor@simon-cartoon.com*].
- 3) Multiple editorial footnotes, revealing the editor's failure to grasp foreign languages (is '~~raison d'être~~' 'reason deter' [ed: *spelling corrected using spell checker*] something to do with particle physics?) [ed: *I am unaware as to which comment you mean, my understanding of foreign languages is perfect*].
- 4) A general lack of committee information [ed: *you obviously didn't read the microdot on the last page*].

The conclusion to be drawn is that obviously PostScript has become far too high-brow for the likes of us Brummies. I am personally made to feel so low-brow [ed: *from someone who is about to fail his second degree this is hardly surprising :P*], that when I wrinkle my forehead in confusion at the Chair's Address, I can untie my shoelaces without using my hands [ed: *I think we need photographic proof of this...*].

Therefore, I plead to start the Campaign for Re-Alignment of PostScript to Ordinary Language Articles (CRAPOLA), and will subscribe any new members (especially those who went on Winter Walking™) for the fee of £1.

Yours bemusedly,

Ben Bateson (ex-St. Catz, shortly to fail his degree once more)

## Black Tie Dinner (aka Tequilathon) – Mark Hawkins

The OUSGG Annual Black Tie Dinner is to be held on the 11th May 2002 (Saturday of 3rd week Trinity term), at Balliol College, with the Punt and Picnic to be held on the 12th May 2002. If you intend attending the dinner or dinner and punt & picnic please let me know, preferably by email. If you have any specific dietary requirements please tell me so I can let Balliol know. Additionally if anyone has access to punts from their college which could be used for the punt and picnic please let me know. For any further details please contact me.  
Mark.

Email: [annualdinner@ousgg.org.uk](mailto:annualdinner@ousgg.org.uk)

[Mark.hawkins@queens.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Mark.hawkins@queens.ox.ac.uk)

# Uniform Rant – Mark Hawkins

Apologies for those of you in OUSGG from a guiding background, or indeed no scouting background at all, for this article will be of no use to you at all – except may be for starting fires to keep your rooms warm [ed: *the postscript management accepts no responsibility for damage done by fires started with these pages, nor for fines accrued for such actions*]. The story as it were starts with the Scout Associations Uniform review of 18 months ago in which a glossy pamphlet was distributed which contained pictures of the proposed new uniform in a range of hideous technicolour permutations for every possible Scouting eventuality and persuasion. The result of which was that most people didn't want much change, so the shirts changed colour (very slightly), the trousers became blue rather than mushroom (good move), and 'activity' wear was introduced. The practicality of so called activity wear you can discuss amongst yourselves, it is on the issue of the sensible coloured trousers that I want to rant, having had occasion to buy some recently.

The trousers are unhemmed. To those of you who are not of a needlework persuasion this means that they are not sewn up properly at the bottom (the bottom of the trouser legs that is) [ed: *take them back then, if they are not complete*]. Therefore my brand spanking new scout trousers had about a foot or so of spare leg on them. The idea being that one length of trouser will fit even the tallest 7 foot basketball playing scout, with the rest of us being forced to take them up. Are the scout association trying to make more money by producing cheaper trousers and selling them for the same price? Or are they trying to revive the ailing numbers of scouts who do the needlework badge? I don't know, but the conspiracy theories are endless [ed: *I'd have guessed that this is so you can let them down as you grow or sommit but then I don't know about sewing :)*].

I am not saying that it is not in principle a sensible idea, but I don't remember this being in the uniform review. The pictures certainly did not show smiling pictures of boys and girls taking up their trousers (in the dressmaking work sense [ed: *not that anyone would take it any other way...*]); or worse their harassed parents doing this. I don't disagree with it – I would probably have had to take up the trousers up anyway. The question is can I get a partial refund for the extra foot of trousers that I bought? [ed: *I doubt it – or was that a rhetorical question?*]

## The pointless bit to chop off with the members list on the back :)

|                    | Beaver Scouts  | Cub Scouts          | Scouts  | Explorer Scouts           | Scout Network   | Adults            | Scout Fellowship | Sea Scouts(over 10½)  | Air Scouts(over 10½)                            |
|--------------------|--|---------------------|---|---------------------------|---|-------------------|------------------|---|---|
|                    | <b>official uniform in bold</b><br><i>options in italics</i>   |                     |   |                           |   |                   |                  |   |   |
| <b>Footwear</b>    | <i>free choice appropriate to the occasion or activity</i>   |                     |   |                           |   |                   |                  |   |   |
| <b>Trousers</b>    | <i>navy blue activity trousers</i>   |                     | <b>navy blue activity trousers</b>  |                           | <b>activity trousers, or smart trousers, both navy blue</b>                         |                   |                  | <b>activity trousers, or smart trousers, both navy blue</b>           |   |
| <b>Skirt</b>       | no activity skirt, BUT any <i>smart navy blue skirt</i> may be worn  |                     | <b>smart navy blue skirt</b>  |                           |   | no activity skirt |                  |   | <b>smart navy blue skirt: no activity skirt</b> |
| <b>Smart Shirt</b> | not applicable   |                     | <b>dark green 2 long sleeved</b>  | <b>beige long sleeved</b> | <b>stone long sleeved or stone short sleeved</b>                                    |                   |                  | <b>navy blue jersey, or light blue long sleeved</b>                   | <b>light blue long sleeved</b>                  |
| <b>Polo Shirt</b>  | <i>turquoise</i>   | <i>dark green 1</i> | <i>dark green 2</i>   | <i>beige</i>              | <i>stone</i>  |                   |                  | not applicable  |   |
| <b>Sweatshirt</b>  | <i>turquoise</i>   | <i>dark green 1</i> | not applicable  |                           |   | not applicable    |                  |   | not applicable                                  |
| <b>Scarf</b>       | <b>Group scarf retained throughout (with Gilwell, adult, and Scout Fellowship scarves available) and a tie as an alternative for Scout Network, Adults, &amp; Scout Fellowship</b>   |                     |   |                           |   |                   |                  |   |   |
| <b>Belt</b>        | not applicable   |                     | <b>leather Scout belt [brown, as now, with buckle showing new Scout logo badge]</b> |                           | <b>leather Scout belt [brown, as now, with buckle showing new Scout logo badge]</b> |                   |                  |   |   |
| <b>Badges</b>      | <b>cloth badges, worn on uniform upper garment, position decided nationally</b>  |                     |   |                           |   |                   |                  |   |   |
| <b>Other</b>       | <i>other options to include navy blue shorts, a navy blue baseball cap; a grey fleece and a navy blue outer jacket; and the existing variations in respect of kilts, pleated tartan skirts, and religious &amp; cultural practices to continue</i> |                     |   |                           |   |                   |                  |   |   |
| <b>Notes</b>       | NB: Beaver Scouts and Cub Scouts in Sea/Air Scout Groups wear these Section uniforms   |                     |   |                           | distinctive badge available   |                   |                  | <b>current headware retained:</b><br>distinctive badges etc available |   |

## Committee – *From the Web*

Having received a complaint that I haven't recently printed a copy of the committee list I thought it would be useful to print out a copy of the current committee list, so that everyone at the meeting tonight knows who has just finished being on the committee... More seriously, thanks guys for sitting on the committee and helping to run OUSGG (except those of you who were responsible for us having to organise a rally, who should be shot).

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Chairman                  | Phil Alderton (St. Peter's)              |
| Chair-Elect               | Robert France (St. John's)               |
| Junior Treasurer          | Richard Owen (Lincoln)                   |
| Secretary (resigned)      | Amanda Kerr-Munslow (Brasenose)          |
| Membership Secretary      | Natalie Jones (Wadham)                   |
| Scout & Guide Liaison     | Jen Harding                              |
| SSAGO Rep.                | Alison Parker (St. Anne's)               |
| Lunchtime Meetings        | Richard Owen (Lincoln)                   |
| Quartermaster             | Stephen White (ex-Keble; not via mail)   |
| PostScript Editor         | Tristram Fenton-May (Keble)              |
| Internet Officer          | Gail Templeman (Magdalen)                |
| Old Members Rep           | Matthew Bemand (ex-Merton; not via mail) |
| Annual Dinner Organiser   | Mark Hawkins (Queens')                   |
| Winter Walking Organiser  | Post Vacant                              |
| Easter Activity Organiser | Michael Ramsden (St. Peter's)            |
| Summer Trip Organiser     | Post vacant                              |
| Senior Member             | Dr John Singleton                        |

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# CENSORRED

by Webmaster

This section had names and addresses of current members, and so has been removed.