

PostScript

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Term Terminates

Well it's the end of term – way hey – and no doubt you are eagerly reading this copy of PostScript in Jericho Café, after having managed to get yourself elected as Grand Supreme Major General Emperor Monarch President–elect of OUSGG at the AGM! However, if you didn't make it to the AGM, or are reading this on the web or in the archives - sorry if you are not in Jericho Café ☹. A big 'thank you' must go to Alison for the great events this term. Looking forwards, there is Winter Walking™ over the Christmas vacation, and another exciting term of meetings planned by Keith.



Read about the recent ULALA rally at Leeds, the service weekend at Youlbury, the F&PGC minutes (Finance and General Purpose Committee Minutes, exciting), tonnes of absolutely spurious letters, plus or regular features: *Ou est Eri>| ?* and *Ovine Top Trumps*, in this the last issue of PostScript this term.

Have a Happy Christmas,
Mark Hawkins – The Queen's College, PostScript Editor.

Asta La Vista Baby!

Chair Report

As usual, 8th week has crept up on me without me realising it, this one marking not only the end of another term but also the end of my time as both chair and SSAGO rep. With only the TGM and meal tonight, which are both essentially organised, I can almost relax! It's been a tough term for me (not just because of OUSGG), and big thanks must go to everyone who's helped me through it: supplying ice cream, company and reassuring phone calls!



The latter part of this term has gone better than expected too - a few more problems than the first part, but I don't think too many people have gone home unhappy (oh, maybe Hayley and Jenny walking home in the rain when Tristam fell off his chair and crushed Hayley's bike helmet!) I must once again give thanks to all those who have helped me – particularly to Rob and Tristam who have driven us all around the country, without once complaining. Also to Hayley who lent me her murder mystery party, to Caroline for lending her tape player, to

Gillian and Andy from OUMC for helping out at Brookes, to Sam for organising the TGM and to everyone else who's helped clear up, direct people and prevent me from getting too stressed!

There have been a few changes during my time as chair – closer links with local Scouting and Guiding, particularly through the Oxfordshire Scout Network, some new faces (I hope you'll stick with us!), an increase in attendance from Oxford Brookes University students, and of course, the final departure from Oxford (but not necessarily OUSGG) of Chris. I think it's important that a club such as OUSGG does undergo change from time to time, to reflect the wishes of its current membership, particularly in Oxford where traditions can be so hard to lose.

We go into the New Year with Keith at our helm, and Jenny arguing with SSAGO, so I'm sure the next term will be as enjoyable and hopefully more so than this one. Me? Well I have practical finals to pass, a load of social events for OUMC to organise, oh and a rally.... Alison Parker – St Anne's, Chair

Rally as distorted by Rob

(who spent too long writing the first bit and had to rush the second half)

Part 1: The Journey from Hell

It all started when my car wouldn't. Leeds is a long way you know, up in the grim North, and a car that won't even move five feet is going to have trouble getting there - as Keith helpfully pointed out. So out we got, me and Keith, to look under the bonnet. My knowledge of what's under a car's bonnet just about stretches to filling

In Which

My, [*ouch*, sorry Jen's] heap of junk [car] wouldn't start. No one has a clue why so out of sheer optimism we push start it and it works!

up the oil and water, but even then I have to get out the manual to make sure I get it the right way round. Fortunately Keith had more of a clue and set to prodding and poking about, checking connections to something called the starter motor, looking for fuses and other technical type stuff. Unfortunately it didn't make any difference. We resorted to plan B and summoned the second car (which had headed off to Summertown to get the North Oxford lot) containing Tristram, Alison, Natalie and Haley back to the centre of Oxford so we could try a push start. Success! We were finally off, into the wide blue yonder (okay murky black yonder) just after



Rob's car has seen better days.

7pm, only an hour after we were meant to leave. In Tristram time that's ten minutes early.

Keith and I set the pace (don't ask me how, Tristram must have stopped for a sleep somewhere just outside of Oxford) as we headed for Northampton. With some trepidation Keith and I stopped for petrol on the way, at which point it became clear I wasn't as awake as I might have been. Stopping the wrong side of the fuel pump was an easy mistake to make, slightly less so the need for Keith to stop me putting lead replacement petrol in my unleaded car, but trying to pay for it all on my BOD card perhaps explains why the girls refused to spread themselves more evenly over the two vehicles. Somehow I managed to my car fuelled up and started, so we carried on along the fantastic new A43 before turning North up the M1. We stopped around Junction 20 for some food; Tristram only over taking me in the last mile (he must have stopped at Silverstone for a couple of racing laps or so). My chicken and chips was pretty average, not that I'm complaining. It's not as if Tristram stole the last Steak and Ale almost pie while I was checking prices for the girls (who decided to play safe and order a vast assortment of sticky puddings to share). The landlord was a little concerned that as it was Karaoke night we might be imminently swamped with a hoard of party mad singers, but we decided to risk it. As it turned out this was either his first Karaoke Night, or he is an eternal optimist. In the hour it took to finish eating the number of people in the pub probably got up to a dangerously crowded 25 (and this was 9pm on a Friday night). The succession of potential pop stars rejects started pretty soon after we had ordered and provided some interesting audio accompaniment (I think Haley was physically pained). Dinner finished, we made a polite but hasty exit.

In Which

I almost brake my [Jen's] barely functional car. We stop for food and Tristram nicks the only good thing on the menu. Our ears are assaulted by some of the worst singing ever.

Part 2: Le Rally

Only a couple of short hours later and we were in Bramhope, just North of Leeds, for the start of the weekend proper. I was expecting it to be cold and wet; to see people wearing flat caps and for there to be much talk of whippets, possibly even the odd ferret or two. Okay I wasn't really expecting the last lot but it was much colder and wetter than I expected (I thought the camping field was the site lake) and I did see a man in a flat cap. Actually we managed to find the one bit of dry flat ground (why no one else had taken it still isn't clear), stick up the tents and then head off for the obligatory campfire. It is at this point that I should mention I was tired, very tired. Those of you who have been on a Rally will know what I mean if I say "I felt like I'd been on a rally before I arrived" or in layman's term "I was knackered". So what I planned to do was warm up at the campfire, sing a couple of songs and then head off to bed. [*A likely story* - Ed] After all we hadn't even brought any beer with us [*Really* - Ed]. The Rally, however, had other ideas. It turned out that the organisers had arranged for a very reasonable priced bar and a couple of can of 'Stone's' bitter later I forgot all about my plans for an early night and got on with the serious business of singing campfire songs. [*Told you so* - Ed] We'd skipped the brief "clean songs" phase as we didn't get to the fire until after midnight and so we were straight into songs ranging from the slightly risqué (What *do* you *do* when you leave the Navy?) to the down right rude (I know a bear that you don't know.....). Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and 4.30 am saw Christina, Tristram and me still round the fire - but then even we had to call it a day (or should I say morning). Keith claims I managed to get to bed with out disturbing him, so either he's very polite or sleeps like a log. Tristram and Christina weren't in any particular rush to go to sleep and entertained us all with a series of amusing quotes that drifted, entirely out of context, across the night. I'm sure you will find them prominently displaced elsewhere in this issue, or someone isn't doing there job! [*If this is a jibe at me then you can 'stic it up yer jacks' y son': I publish what I receive* - Ed].

A few short hours later and we were all up for a fine fried breakfast and then a wide game round the local area. I noticed Chris' team seemed to have done very well – the tinned tomatoes were inspired - but I don't think we ever found out who won (I don't think anyone did) [*Sounds like brekky and wide game in one: very inspired* –Ed]. Someone managed to bring back an old radiator - students, what can you do with them! Lunch was the usual sandwich affair, followed by a scrabble to prepare fancy dress for the evening and a dash to the buses, which were taking us on the activities.

In Which

We eat twice, Chris *et al* put in an excellent but unrewarded wide game performance and an old radiator appears unannounced.

I know Keith had a good time at the armouries, and Christina had a *very* good time on the pub crawl. Quite a few of us went bowling and were badly shown up by Natalie's supreme talent. Two scores over 150 left us all in the dust. Alison snuck off to see her parents, so that she could taunt us later with stories of hot water, fluffy towels, plentiful food and clean clothes. I'm not sure what else went on, but hey ho on to the barn dance. Actually let's skip over that too, we'll just say that Alison had arranged some excellent French maid costumes and everyone got into the spirit! [I've a sinking feeling Chris has some pictures that won't be forgotten for a long time]. After that we all headed back to site and another campfire. I have to confess to being a woose (how

In Which

Natalie shows a secret talent, there's dancing, someone dresses up as a French Maid and I have to go to bed early.

do you spell that) [*Not sure but I don't think its like that* – Ed] and getting an *earlyish* night. As I headed off to my bed at about 1.30 am while everyone else was still singing and talking the night away.

By some miracle everyone made breakfast on Sunday and then hit the silly games: Banana wanging, three legged rugby, can balancing, puzzles, spoon threading and more! I should mention that my team won (Ben's nicked the prize, I don't even know what it was). Finally lunch and the closing ceremony before tired, muddy, smeared with banana and happy we wended our way back to the soft beds and central heating of Oxford and sleep (Tristam apparently managed to sleep until mid afternoon the next day).

In Which

Games are played, people go home and Tristam amazes everyone with his incredible powers of sleep.

See you all at the next one!

Rob

Google Image Search for ULALA:



Space:



Competition:

“Jenny and Jenny were there, and must have has a good time because they are still to account for the pair of red boxer shorts found in their tent when we packed up camp.”



If they are your boxer shorts, or know whose they are, why not tell us about it here in PostScript. We might even give you a spangly prize: your boxer shorts, or alternatively a picture of Rob and Tristam dressed as French Maids.

Our Weekend away.....

As seems to be a running theme on trips at the moment, the Youlbury service weekend started with Rob accosting random strangers to help push start his car that had decided (quite sensibly really) that it was far too early and cold to be going anywhere on a Saturday. After much faff, that included Keith having seven missed calls in ten minutes and Jenny (along with Dessi and Shreya) being picked up from LMH, we all eventually arrived at Youlbury only about half an hour later than planned. We were all very impressed with the accommodation - proper beds, huge comfy sofas in the lounge, TV etc (hope it's as good as this on WW Keith!!).

The work for the weekend started with us clearing leaves from the chapel which was going to be used for a service later than day. Although to be honest a large majority of this time was spent discussing with Mark, a member of the Youlbury service team, the pros and cons of various pubs and nightclubs in Oxford and I picked up the important tip that if I was ever unfortunate enough to visit 'the love bar' to watch the floor and not to wear a short skirt!

After a very nice lunch we started off by the 'men' [*aka Keith, Rob, Michael and Mark – Ed.*] going off to clear the assault course and help destroy what I personally thought was quite a cute entrance to the service team building, while Dessi, Shreya and I rescued and replanted some of the less dead plants from the entrance (what is it with Scouts and the joy they find in destruction!) [*See last issue of PS for Noga's theory of Scouts and Guides – Ed.*].

“My game is covered in custard” –
Rob.

Later on that evening (after a booze run to Tesco's where we again ran into problems of staff not believing we were over 18) all the good old (and not so old) OUSGG games were played. Including Chinese charades, where the highlights were Shreya's (and later Rob's) impression of the Queen Mother, and the interpretation of a golden goose; and Jen (another member of the service team) [*See letters page for a letter from Jen – Ed.*] managed to fox us all by getting away with being the Mafia [*twice in two games of Mafia. Also, curses on all of you who lynched me twice – Ed.*]. Also a big feature of the evening was Mark receiving more and more obscure letters to publish in Postscript (all of which should be present in this edition!) [*Thanks Keith, Rob and Michael. See the letters pages for their weekend names – Ed.*].

The next day started, for me, at 10 o' clock -possibly slightly earlier for the rest of OUSGG! [*Like two hours earlier- Ed.*]. The morning activities included mending a broken fence, cleaning a used hut and Mark impressing us with his sweeping skills (I'm sure you could almost see your face in the tarmac!). After a stupendous Sunday lunch (we were expecting sandwiches but we had a very yummy sausage casserole with veg and roasted tatties) we finished off and tidied up the demolition work done yesterday to the entrance section of the hut. Our work was aided by mince pies from the Cubs who were having a Christmas camp for the weekend. After a final clear up we all headed off home although it was a tight squeeze in Robs car due to the addition of a VERY large (but cute) soft toy dog (don't ask) [*Did you nick toffee? – Ed.*].

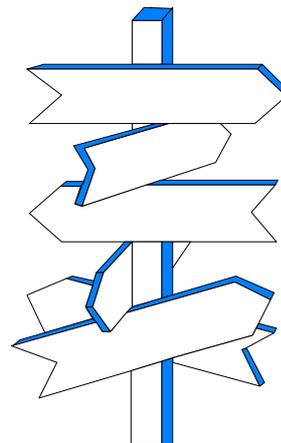
I'd like to say a HUGE 'thank you' to Jeanette, Mark and Jen for a super weekend and I hope you aren't too disappointed with PostScript - a copy of which Mark should be sending to them which we were assured would be pinned up in the service team building! And I hope I've made the rest of OUSGG, who didn't go, jealous with the stories of our luxury accommodation and food!

Jenny Robertson - Wadham.



Final Pestering

Winter Walking™ is proving to be quite a popular destination for members of OUSGG over the up and coming New Year. If you are not already down as going then tell me you are and give me the correct amount of money (£10 a night a real snip) and I will put you down as coming. Other New Year celebrations will not be comparable to the yet undisclosed celebrations that will be going on at Blackhills Scout Campsite near Bingley between 29th December and 5th January. People going Skiing or off to Skye or out with other lesser societies will miss out on the most in-joke ridden week of the OUSGG calendar and will be right royally confused when they come back for next term.



More seriously, I highly recommend this week to all new freshers and to old freshers as well, or even to people who just have never gone before as it is the best way to really get to know everyone in a really relaxed situation.

Don't worry about my reputation as a hard core camper; this is indoors with central heating, hot showers and bunk beds. (I must be getting soft in my old age).

The week will involve as much or as little walking you like (unless you fancy doing Everest or similar) [*Note Everest is in Nepal, several thousand miles from Bingley – Ed*], general socialising, silly games, please think of at least 10 name games before you arrive and lots of normal famous people (Phil!).

Come and wash down your Jenny measure of Baileys and Orange with some Jennings after a long day walking that way ->

HYMOS Keith - Winter tea shopper

PS. You don't have to come for all of it but if you don't you will be missing out on stuff.

PPS. If you are planning to come by train, check availability as the East Coast Main line as well as other more minor bit of track are having major work done on it over the WW period

Keith Crothers – Lady Margaret Hall, Winter Walking Organiser.

Letters to the Editor

Driven up the wall

Dear Sir,

I was disgusted to notice that in your last edition (PostScript 341) the article entitled 'Longridge Weekend' contained no reference to the stalwart individual who, against the severest of impediments, ferried the campers to and fro with no thought for his own well being. I demand this is put right.

Yours disgruntled of OUSGG.

Sorry Rob, it seems that the authors of the article forgot to mention to you: oops! I can only publish what is given to me. Thanks you very much for all the transport you have provided for recent events including the rally, bonfire night, night hike, service weekend – we couldn't do these events without you – Ed.

Climbing up the walls

Dear Sir or Madam,

I was appalled to discover that the recent issues of this previously varied and entertaining publication have been distinctly factual. This absence of so called 'comedy' articles has made the survival of this long & difficult term almost unbearable.

For the sake of my (questionable) sanity I beseech you to amend this terrible situation.

Yours (in a padded cell)

Anne Widecombe

(See you all at Winter Walking again this year).

I never realised that you were a member of OUSGG. Hahahahahahahahahahahahahahahahahahaha. Was that funny enough? – Ed.

Pandering to Popular Opinion

Dear Sir,

I was recently disappointed while reading this once illustrious publication with the lack of explanation about how your wetness rating managed to increase independently of the rest of the group (Bar Tristam) on your recent trip to Longridge. Was this editorial privilege gone too far?

It has also been noted that the once successful comic strip 'Simon' has mysteriously vanished from this bastion of free speech.

Yours

Disappointedly

Eri>|

Surely only certain old members should be saying things about wetness ratings and such like: Eri>| you naughty panda. To answer your question Eri>|,

Tristam and I got wet canoeing. I fell in playing polo and Tristam attempted a roll.

You're just angry about 'Simon' Eri>|, as his removal has made it necessary for me to hide you each week for 'Ou est Eri>|?' to keep you from the evil panda-knappers – Ed.

The evils of drink

Dear Sir,

I am incapable of humour, and as such have decided to write a long and boring letter. When I was a lad, such pointless wasting of everybodys time would have been a hanging offence and I feel this practise should be reintroduced... blah, blah, blah, waffle, waffle, drone rant, complain ... and I couldn't walk normally for a fortnight afterwards. And that's why I feel left handed people should be incarcerated.

Yours,

General Blitterington (Deceased).

My title says it all. I don't believe sense of humour transplants are available on the NHS yet.

The editor would like to point out that OUSGG denounces the discrimination of lefties and their incarcerations –Ed.

Merry Christmas Everyone

Dear Sir,

I note that it is nearly Christmas and as such felt an appropriate message might be appreciated by your readership.

"Baa Humbug"

Yours,

Mr E. Scrooge.

See below for a picture of a humbug – Ed.



Kind, Editorial, Irritating, Thoughtless, Help

To the esteemed editor,

I understand that you have been having some minor difficulties in finding articles to fill the edition of our thrice termly publication.

I therefore humbly suggest that you publish more of the letters that such an established publication such as this must receive all of the time.

Your most obedient servant.
Lord Crothers of Norham Manor.

So many letters, why oh why oh why? – Ed.

Oxymoron

Dear Editor,

I would like to complain about all of the above letters. I find their tone frankly distasteful, and request that all such future correspondence of this nature be removed, and that the editorial staff formally apologise for the offence caused.

Yours,
Irrate
From Youlbury.

Like I have mentioned previously in this issue I publish what I receive, it is called free speech. By the way you are you the person who wanted a sense of humour transplant? – Ed.

Scooby Youlbury Doo!

Dear Sir,

I have a question about the new Scooby Doo! movie. Why have they left out the Scooby Snacks. Scooby Snack are just like a power source, it's just not right that they leave it out. Oh yeah to change the subject, why is the Monty Python so brilliant, I don't see anything funny in it. I would love to be old enough to go to university but I've just left school, good luck in life. Even if I don't know you.

Love
Jen Burns.

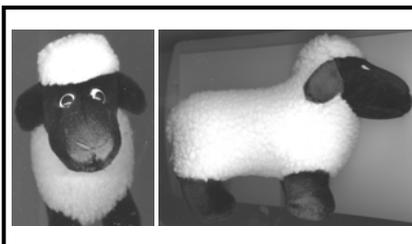
Hi Jen, it was great meeting you and the service team over the weekend and thank you for writing a letter for PostScript. In answer to your questions: I don't know either why Scooby Snacks have been removed from the new Scooby Doo movie, having not watched it yet. There were however rumours that they were rather too similar to certain illicite substances. Monty Python is a lot better when watching the original rather than when acted out by OUSGG members – classic comedy. Good luck and thanks – Ed.

Top Trumps:

The second instalment of the cut out and keep series of sheep top trumps from Chris Seward.

Ed.

Ovine Top Trumps: 2



Bramhope Sheep

<i>Fleece factor</i>	<i>65</i>
<i>Portability rating</i>	<i>39</i>
<i>Cuteness</i>	<i>56</i>
<i>Applicability</i>	<i>41</i>

Ou est Eri>| ?

Same as last issue: one point for finding Eri>| on the picture and another for his geographic location. I've made this one slightly easier as the last one was rendered impossible by the copying process.

Mark Hawkins – The Queen's College.



Minutes of the 125th F&GPC meeting

Held on 28th October 2002 at 13:15 in St. Peter's College

Present: Alison Parker Phil Alderton
 Natalie Jones Rob France
 Madeleine Bunce Keith Crothers
 Sam Snelson

Apologies: None received

Minutes from the last meeting and matters arising:

These were passed with no alterations. Maddie is to send a copy of PostScript to the Scout Network County Commissioner with Rob providing the address. As asked in the previous meeting Rob sent the email to the Scout Network County Commissioner. We will now get sent details of Network events and they are happy to liaise with us.

With Jen as Scout and Guide Liaison Officer having left, Rob has been talking to the Scout Network people and has been going to recruitment meetings. They are happy to have a constructive relationship with us, they won't set up a competing Network, and they are willing to hand round OUSGG information. In return they would like us to distribute more of their information. Rob asked if he could deliver these leaflets etc. to the new freshers. It was suggested that if they were to be delivered in the same way as the term cards then the freshers might not make the connection between them and OUSGG. There were no objections to this plan. It was also agreed that the emails concerning the details of our meetings could be sent to the Scout Network. So now Alison will send emails to Maddie and Rob, with Maddie sending them to the Freshers and Rob to Scout Network, but at first sending one explaining why we haven't sent any emails previously. Rob had sent the email as previously requested and Chris had written the letter (see earlier minutes)

The subject of CRB forms was also brought up and it was asked when the freshers should fill them in. As SSAGO has not received the forms yet they have not been forwarded to us. This is ideal as it allows us to get the freshers to fill in our membership form, ticking a box saying they will be willing to complete a CRB check in the future, meaning they won't be overfaced. Maddie, having seen Chris' form is willing to use this for this purpose. In future years we could do the same, delaying the signing of the CRB checks until 2 weeks after signing the membership form.

Officers' Reports:

Chair:

Alison informed Natalie, the treasurer, that it was likely that we were going to come out of the term at a loss due to having to minibuses etc. It was mentioned that last Michaelmas made a loss of approx. £60 and Alison would have to agree with Natalie as to how much she could lose. Alison said that while the wine tasting should break even, the firework display would be expensive due to the need to hire a minibus to take people up to Youlbury, which wouldn't be covered by the £1.50 charge. It was decided to charge more to current members who would be more willing to pay. It was wondered whether there would be a cheaper option than a minibus hired from Hotsons, either by changing the company or by hiring cars etc. Alison was to investigate this. Other than this Alison said the term was going fine.

SSAGO rep:

Alison said there was not a lot to say because CRB checks had already been covered except to say that the SSAGO exec seemed to be falling apart with a lot of resignations.

Treasurer:

Natalie said she had the last statements and we were now in the process of closing our 4 Barclays accounts and creating 3 accounts at Lloyds. The reason for this change is that Barclays is thought to be incompetent and while there were no objections it was felt that the society should have been better informed about the changes. The three new accounts will be the main account and the ex-members account remaining the same but with the summer activity account and the other activity account merging to form an events account. The advantages of Lloyds would be that they are likely to be less incompetent and it would allow us to write out 5 more checks a month. We also have a National Savings Account with the post office which has approx. £400 in it for emergencies but the book needs updating. It was agreed that having this account was a good idea and Natalie is to update the book and see if a better deal can be found elsewhere.

Last August there were approx. £430 in the main account with 26 current members, but money was still owed to Phil and Rob. With current membership fees and our current numbers we should therefore be financially all right, the problem being that we have no source of income after the start of the year. It was mentioned that Michael (the quartermaster) was in the process of making a kit list for OUSGG and it was agreed that this was needed before any money was to be spent on equipment. If equipment is needed Michael should submit details of what he needs and why before money is spent. In the past an equipment levy was charged for OUSGG trips - £1 for a weekend and £3 for a week away. Phil said the reason he had not done this last summer was that he had not used any OUSGG kit. It was agreed that in the future this levy should be charged for. There was speculation as to what kit would be needed such as tents or new petrol stoves but it was agreed to wait for Michael to compile a list. Natalie concluded with saying she needed the grants info and a copy of the constitution.

Secretary:

Sam said that while he had sent off the re-registration form to our senior member to be forwarded to the Proctors he was still to receive a reply. Once the constitution was agreed he would send a copy round to the officers.

Chair elect:

Keith started by saying that he has asked for the appropriate books and files. He has several ideas for his term; a quoits evening, a Go evening (a kind of oriental game) and a trip to a waterpark. In addition there are three fixed evenings, an introduction, a pancake evening and the TGM. Rob commented that he had expected him to say "pipeline".

Any Other Business:

Rob repeated that he had contacted the Scout Network County commissioner. Maddie said she would send off the forms to the Old Members saying that they would need to send money and fill in a CRB check if they want to be member of SSAGO.

The meeting closed at 14:00