

PostScript

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Rally report from
the Bear Rally!

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Snails and Pims...My Favourite

Editorial

Well here it is: Trinity term! But what does that mean for OUSGG? Well as far too many of us know it means the 'e' word, which is preceded by not quite enough of the 'r' word, so good luck to everyone, particularly those taking the 'f' word. However for the rest of you it means lounging about on a punt drinking Pims doing sweet F.A for a few weeks – yeah right!



Whilst punts and pims do feature this term, with the punt and picnic following the annual dinner next Sunday (assuming you are reading this when you get it, which hopefully isn't at the end of the annual dinner), and the pims...well our self-named hammock have organised that for seventh week, there are lots more fast-paced activities this term such as snail racing and croquet. No wonder Hayley and Maddy called themselves the hammock, what could be more laid back! Bring on the sunshine (there's more chance of this than any sea or sand in Oxford).

Other events happening are the 'Monopoly' rally, after term from the 4th to the 6th July, so called because it has been monopolising Rob and Alison's time. The details as they stand are on the newly updated rally website at www.oxfordrally.org.uk so check it out... and volunteer yourself! I also believe we are going to try to get a team down to the CUSAGC punt joust – sounds like great fun, trying to knock tabs into the Cam with a big pole whilst stood on a punt

Well this editorial seems to have developed a life of its own, and is taking far too long to write, so I guess I'd better sign off soon. I'd best hope you a happy fiscal year, as I promised I said I would in an earlier issue, first before I leave you with my profound thought for the issue (I know its probably not that profound but hey I'm only a physicist, and I'm writing this editorial so can say what I like).

The hammock is vegetarian (as it's made of Hessian, I guess), snails are vegetarian. Vegetarian's hate cruelty to animals. Snails are animals. Racing animals is cruel. So how many snails will be protesting at our snail racing event?

Hammock's report

Greetings from your trinity term hammock. We hope we have planned for you a thoroughly lazy/childish term, especially for those with exams. Despite planning from the second week of last term we still have a possible 'surprise week'. It could be 'Suck it and See' or it could be 'Wait and See'!

This term is sees the return of co-chairs. Unfortunately for you lot, it fell to Maddy and Hayley (because we couldn't run fast enough!), two

vegetarian Guides. You have been warned! Roll on BBQ and gadget making! The fact that we have decided to call ourselves the Hammock shows you that it shouldn't be too stressful.

We've tried to do a varied term, although we can't guarantee the weather. Of course we haven't planned the main events of term - the 84th Annual Dinner and Punt and Picnic. And, of course, The Monopoly Rally.

Lots to look forward to; hope to see you at as many meetings as possible. Good luck to all of you with exams. [Arrgh!.. the 'e' word-Ed].
The Hammock

Bear Rally Report – the proper one

Once upon a time we all went on a rally.....

Yes it was a long time ago and yes a lot of things have happened since then, so no can't really remember the details but anyway.....

The Loughborough Bear rally started with us managing to leave Oxford just

about on time (amazingly) having collected Christina from the station. After the usual faff the two cars managed to find a country pub (the same one) which served food. Our meal, although very nice, did take a good hour to come and while we waited I think we managed to spoil a couple's valentine's meal (whoops!).

We eventually arrived at the Loughborough campsite around 11 o' clock, with Keith announcing that his car was registering the outside temperature to be -4°C , we had a feeling it was going to be a very cold night! Having succeeded in putting up the tents in the dark and on frozen ground (with me managing to bend Tristam's car key beyond all recognition, sorry!) [*Jenny you little vandal* – Ed.] we retreated to the barn for much needed hot chocolate. The realisation then hit us: that during our journey up to Loughborough we had forgotten to stop for booze – a horrendous oversight on my part, will do better next time! [*Err, did Jenny admit to forgetting to buy booze* – Ed.] Then, I'm afraid due to me feeling very tired and lacking my 'girlie drinks jacket' to keep me warm, I went to sleep, and felt very cold, despite being fully clothed with scarf hat etc. Any gossip that I missed I'm afraid will have to be obtained from other sources.....



We all awoke to the rousing sound of 'pan bashing' and in one form or another made it down to breakfast. Although first we marked our tents, so we would be able to identify them, by writing OUSGG in the ice that covered them! Now for the morning incident hike I am again at a big disadvantage due to me being at the reps meeting. But I do know that at some point in the morning Caroline joined us, after catching an early train. By lunchtime, due to it being a bit warmer, our 'nearly-luminous-green' monopoly rally t-shirts were on full view – very easy to spot the group of OUSGGers!

The afternoon *I think* saw Noga, Alison and Caroline going to the space centre and Christina going on the 'town trail' – getting in practice for the running of our very own 'town trail' I hope! While Sam, Michael, Keith, Tristam and I went on the steam train, where we had a conductor who had come in specially to talk to us (I think on her day off) because she had been involved with student scouting and guiding.

We all then moved onto the evening meal/barn dance [*What you couldn't do both* – Ed.] where, while we were waiting for food we perfected our yogi bear costumes – with a very impressive whip being constructed for kinky bear out of string and black tape. After food (which was very scrummy and plentiful), followed the usual mayhem which was the barn dance. But I got the impression that when judging our costumes, the band didn't quite get the yogi bear theme! [*Obviously the whip didn't do it for them* - Ed.]

The next morning mainly consisted of the AGM, which unfortunately led to the cancellation of the silly games. Then came the closing ceremony and we all packed up camp and travelled back to Oxford, being very appreciative of the soft beds and central heating that greeted us!

Overall a very enjoyable rally (despite the cold!) but the realisation dawned: that yes we were running the next one – doh!!!

Jenny Robertson – Wadham College

Membership Update

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“Slugs and snails and puppy dog tails, that’s what little boys are made from.”

It’s always seemed a little unfair to me that boys are expected to live up to this ideal and even worse that little girls should be ‘all things nice.’ [*And sugar and spice’ as well if I remember correctly* – Ed] Anyone who has ever taken Guides on camp knows just how wrong this is! But anyway, dragging back to the point.

Snails. Big ones, little ones, green ones, brown ones, love them or hate them. Now Maddy and I aren’t overly keen on snails but we are going to learn to love them and we hope you do too.



It struck us that this term should be a little different and we think it will be. We are pleased to introduce the first ever **OUSGG snail championships!** (Any pedants, please note I am assuming this!)

So what do you have to do? It is unfair to make long distance runners race without training so our snails will need building up to prime fitness. Here is the definitive OUSGG guide for caring for your mollusc.

1. Find a snail. In dry weather they are to be found stuck to walls and fences, just hanging around. In wet weather they like being on plants.

OUSGG accepts no liability for your friends doubting your state of mind during this exercise.

2. Fill a large jam jar (as a minimum) with dry-ish soil and a mixture of the finest snail cuisine – the same variety your snail was on at the time of capture, vegetable leaves, grass and mouldy matter (NB. This cannot be made in the chem. lab!). [*Let’s hope that you didn’t find your snail on a wall then* – Ed.]Cover with paper with breathing holes.
3. Name your snail. Obvious really. How else will you be able to cheer it along?
4. Put your snail through its paces every so often. Let it stretch its legs.
5. Bring to OUSGG for the meeting, complete with any snail encouraging banners and fan club members.

Now I know some of you will say that you don’t have a garden. Have you looked around Oxford lately? There are plenty of parks and gardens. I’m even sure there must be some snails that haven’t reported in at your porter’s lodge. I’m fairly certain it is not illegal to borrow a snail for a week.



Hayley Thompson – Co-chair - Oxford Brooke’s.

Easter Activity 2003

Some of us set off from Oxford, after a few delays (a new episode of Futurama, I believe, was partly to blame). After a nice pub lunch in the sun (yeah, we had good weather at Easter, in Wales!), we got to Miskin Scout Village to discover Phil had got there before us. The accommodation was palatial with 30 beds scattered over 5 rooms for (at busiest) 11 of us, a separate building for showers, and another with 2 sitting rooms, dining room, large kitchen and pantry. Enough of this, I'm sure those who were there remember it, and those who weren't, aren't interested. The rest of the day was taken over by shopping, collecting people from the station (and getting tied up in that car park!), unpacking, games, food, working out what we were doing tomorrow and catching up. Oh, and Keith and Tristram went out wood chopping for our log fire.

The next day was the only day of typical Welsh weather we saw [*i.e it rained* – Ed], though those of us being early worms can vouch that it started dry. We abandoned our idea of going to St Fagan's (a museum of Welsh life) in favour of TechniQuest and eventually got there about lunchtime: once everyone had eventually crawled out of bed, breakfasted and got ready. TechniQuest is basically a hands on science area for kids, but that didn't stop us having a great time, getting totally tangled by silly puzzles and standing round discussing how things worked. There were some really fun exhibits, but I think the one that captured people the most was basically a ball run. You wound a handle to corkscrew the balls up to the top and, the size of the ball determined happened before - there were loads of paths. Some of them included balls being catapulted across the area (thankfully enclosed) while others played tunes.

By the time we escaped, it had dried up, so we went to find food in Cardiff Bay area, and sat outside munching and discussing the fact that cash machines thankfully eat your money again and add it back to your account should you walk away from the cash point without it [*Alison* – Ed.]. After this, we went to the Cardiff barrage, to discover it looked shut (though only to cars, and we did manage a quick walk over it before it shut properly). The barrage is used to create a calm bay area, and includes locks so the boats can get in and out, and a salmon jump for (surprisingly enough) the salmon to get in and out. Nice being blown along there, but everyone opted for the pub - a better bet since they were getting a little chilly.

Off we went, got only a little lost in Cardiff in the rush hour, and found a Weatherspoons pub [*They could do with one in Oxford* – Ed.]. By the time the second car had found parking and we got in, the early birds were tucking into very chocolatey puddings. The most impressive thing about the pub must have been the palatial toilets, though those who were eating the puddings may disagree. They were very spacious and

must have been a large proportion of the pub itself, complete with a sofa area for those who wanted to escape! We left Angharad to have a nice quiet evening with her mum while the rest of us went back to base, some via the station to pick up Maddy. The evening was spent back at Miskin, with a nice meal, log fire, the obvious drinking, and an interesting board game of Phil's [*Therapy, yep you wouldn't believe how messed up OUSGG are* – Ed.].

The next day was nice and dry, so after the usual faff with breakfast, and saying bye to Phil (who actually thought he ought to be working over the Easter vac), we set off to a lovely day at St Fagan's. This is a museum of Welsh life near Cardiff, with loads of different houses and buildings. These were from all periods of history, from old round houses with a fire in the middle and no separate rooms, to a house of the future. They also had an interesting terrace with each house and garden done up in a different decade, some of which reminded people of their grandparents or their house a few years ago (the newest one was 1985). It did a wonderful job of showing you the change in houses, from fairly simple and practical in the 1800s, to all mod cons (tv, video player and so on) in 1985. One of the strangest things was probably the low surface in the kitchen (I believe it was 1950s or later), which we discovered was actually the bath, since there still wasn't a bathroom, and the toilet was still in the outhouse.

Another interesting house was the house of the future, which focused on a spacious feel, environmental use of materials (including solar panels and walls built from recycled materials), and accessibility. Their theory was that it wouldn't be feasible to have bungalows, so every house would require it's own lift. We had a good discussion about what was missing though, like anyone's stuff! Also, the idea of having kitchen sides and hob at wheelchair or sat down level is all very well, but not very good for taller people who have to bend over it, or little kids racing around (their idea of the kids being able to cook for you seemed like fantasy!).

All the houses, farm buildings, tannery and so on had lots of information about them, which was absorbed in varying degrees. I think we all enjoyed walking round, as well as visiting various shops from the bakers, to the souvenir shop.

After this, we headed back to base, via supermarkets and DIY stores, and set up a BBQ outside the hut. It was the first BBQ of the year, and good weather for it, even if it was a little cold. I was definitely glad I've now got a camp blanket. When it got too cold, we went inside to the usual drinking and games. We did manage an entire holiday without playing mafia once though!

The Thursday turned out to be another fine day, so we went fossil hunting at the place where the first radio message was transmitted over water by Marconi. It was a lovely beach, with shells as well as ammonites in varying sizes of rocks and degrees of brokenness. Those who didn't find the fossil hunting quite so interesting, were quite happy sat on the beach discovering cavemen writing [*My fault I admit* – Ed.], or sleeping. When food became more important to us than sunning and studying fossils and dinosaur skull Mark found (well, stone that looked surprisingly like one), we headed back to the cars. Some of us managed to escape with just a few fossils, though I think Alison's bag was quite heavy by the end of it.

We moved on to a lovely lake where we sat and had lunch, watching the birds and the model boats being sailed. We did try to go round the mediaeval village, but we'd missed the last tour by about 5 minutes (this is what comes of having a lazy holiday where you never leave the campsite before midday). We did have a very pleasant walk around the lake though, and onto OUSGG's favourite activity, an adventure playground. They had some fun seesaw things, though those of us really into them did have a slight problem of weight ratios. After this, it was on to a grassy area for a game of ultimate frisbee (or sleep/rest for those who were tired) and then back to the campsite.

Being the last night, it lasted for ages, with games, drinking, more drinking, drinking games, talking, singing, and a very late night.

The next morning we got up at varying times, depending on level of soberness and time of departing. Sam and Alison being up early to do their share of the tidying before Sam had to go off home, and Alison went to meet up with a friend in Cardiff. Once we'd managed to pile everyone's stuff into Keith and TFM's

cars (those in the passenger seats obviously didn't want to see or be able to move or anything), we set off to Cardiff to meet up with Alison, drop Jenny and Sarah at the station, and visit Cardiff Castle. We had lunch beforehand, though we were slightly worried sat outside and having three fire engines turn up and go into the castle. We discovered on the tour that it was due to someone taking a flash photo which meant that everyone had to evacuate! We decided to see the inside of the castle as well as the gardens, and it was amazing, and *so* brightly coloured, to the extent that you couldn't take in how much must have been spent on each room. It was definitely worthwhile going round the castle, but the hawks outside also captured our attention. They were there to keep down the pigeons, and had a very knowledgeable owner who gave us a talk about them all. If that wasn't enough, there were peacocks wandering around, and a castle building to climb, from which you could see all over Cardiff. We were next to the Cardiff's Millennium stadium, and from that tower, you could appreciate quite how large it was compared to the rest of the buildings around.

We left when they wanted to shut, and went via a love spoons shop. These were really interesting since they all had intricate handles, complete with holes, and some of them had balls inside them, yet were all carved out of one bit of wood. TFM also discovered someone talking about the armour on sale, but did decide it was a little expensive as a souvenir. From this, we eventually found a sandwich shop with space for us to sit and have a nibble, before everyone disappeared to the station and then off home. I certainly had a great time, with a well needed rest, and I believe others enjoyed themselves too. I think all that's left to write is lots of thanks to TFM and Angharad who organised (eventually) the whole trip.

Caroline Berry – Ex Keble.

OUSGG Clothing Order

- Please select the clothing you ws on the attached table and enter the details below.
- Make Cheques payable to OUSGG and return by pidge or mail to Mark Shephard,
Worcester College Oxford OX1 2HB
- Please return order by Friday 16 May 2003.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Item	Quantity				Cost (£)
				Total Cost	

Type is either

1. Printed badge on front, printed OUSGG on back.
2. Embroidery badge on front only.
3. Embroidery badge and group name on front only.

Item Printed (front & back)	Cost £	VAT %	Total £	Sizes						Colours
Value T-shirt	6.95	17.5	8.17	S 36	M 38	L 40	XL 42/44	XXL 46		white/natural/bottle green/emerald/navy blue/ sunflower/ash/olive/aqua/black/burgundy/orange/ red/khaki/new purple
FR01 Plain Rugby Jersey	17.65	17.5	20.74	S 32/34	M 36	L 38/40	XL 42/44	XXL 46/48	XXXL 50	black/navy/sky/red/purple/emerald/white/gold/ bottle green/royal blue/burgundy
Kids value T-shirt	5.75	0	5.75	3-4 24	5-6 26	7-8 28	9-11 30	12-13 32	14-15 32/34	white/natural/bottle green/emerald/navy blue/ sunflower/ash/olive/aqua/black/burgundy/orange/ red/khaki/new purple
Kids sweatshirt	9.95	0	9.95	3-4 24	5-6 26	7-8 28	9-11 30	12-13 32	14-15 32/34	white/bottle green/emerald/red/new purple/black/ Burgundy/navy blue/royal blue
Ladies skinnifit T-shirt	7.95	17.5	9.34	S/M 32/34	M/L 36/38	XL 40/42				white/navy/stone/lilac/powder pink/black/azure/ red/dusty blue
Hooded sweatshirt	14.65	17.5	17.21	S 36	M 38	L 40/42	XL 44/46	XXL 48		bottle green/navy/red/olive/zinc/black/burgundy/ grey/royal blue/khaki
Embroidery, front only - badge or badge with group name										
Front Row 1/4 Rugby Jersey	18.95	17.5	22.27	S 32/34	M 36	L 38/40	XL 42/44	XXL 46/48		1/4 colours - collar colour (for 1/4 rugby jersey only) navy/jade - white, bottle green/red - white navy/burgundy - bottle green, navy/sky - white black/red - white, navy/marl grey - navy white/navy - white, white/red - white black/gold - black, navy/purple - white
FR01 Plain rugby jersey	17.95	17.5	21.09	S 32/34	M 36	L 38/40	XL 42/44	XXL 46/48	XXXL 50	black/navy/sky/red/purple/emerald/white/gold/ bottle green/royal blue/burgundy
Full zip fleece	16.95	17.5	19.92	S 38	M 40	L 42/44	XL 46/48	XXL 50		navy/crimson/new purple/red/royal blue/black/ forest green/smoke/burgundy
Polo shirt (539M)	9.95	17.5	11.69	XS 34	S 36	M 38/40	L 42	XL 44	XXL 46/48	white/navy/red/burgandy/sky blue/yellow/black/ bottle green/birch/purple
Skinnifit v-neck shirt	7.95	17.5	9.34	S/M 32/34	M/L 36/38	XL 40/42				white/navy/stone/lilac/powder pink/black/azure/ red/dusty blue
Kids value T-shirt	5.75	0	5.75	3-4 24	5-6 26	7-8 28	9-11 30	12-13 32	14-15 32/34	white/natural/bottle green/emerald/navy blue/ sunflower/ash/olive/aqua/black/burgundy/orange/ red/khaki/new purple
Hooded sweatshirt	16.65	17.5	19.92	S 36	M 38	L 40/42	XL 44/46	XXL 48		bottle green/navy/red/olive/zinc/black/burgundy/ grey/royal blue/khaki