

PostScript

When Two Tribes
Go to War

OUSGG

v. CUSAGC

Michaelmas Term 2007 - Issue 1 of 3
An Oxford University Scout and Guide Group Publication

PostScript



Issue 385

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All items received will be presumed for publication unless otherwise notified. The Editor reserves the right to modify contributions.

Views expressed in **PostScript** are those of their authors, and may not correspond to those of OUSGG or associated bodies.

Drape yourself in greenery. Become part of the scenery.

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Editorial

Greetings, one and all: welcome to the very first issue of PostScript for the new academic year.

Returning members will notice that things once again look a little different. It is a truth universally acknowledged that a new Editor in possession of PostScript gets the urge to fiddle with the format, and it is an urge that I have cheerfully indulged. The logo has taken on a distinctly dark appearance, the title has been reset yet again, and Gill Sans is still not the preferred font, despite a not-so-subtle attempt from an ex-Editor to sneak it in.

With two articles about the summer exploits of various members, and an action-packed report on this July's punt jousting match against the Scouts and Guides of Cambridge University, this issue has a distinctly summery feel. As the first issue of the year, it also contains the now traditional OUSGG A to Z, and further articles on how best to infiltrate the group. This year's Freshers should have no excuse for feeling left out.

Finally, I'd like to remind new members that in OUSGG you stay a Fresher until your first PostScript article is published. Our current Chair holds the record for the fastest loss of Fresher status, having lost his in the second issue of his very first Michaelmas term, with a report on a trip he didn't attend. While breaking this record is now impossible, you can at least match his ridiculous achievement by submitting an article of your own for issue 386. Details of how to do so can be found in the sidebar.

Until next time, eat, drink and be merry - for tomorrow you may have a tutorial.

Elizabeth Horne, St. Edmund Hall - Editor

The next issue of PostScript will be published on

Monday of 5th Week,

and so the deadline is

Friday of 4th Week.

Articles received after this time will be included at the Editor's discretion, or may be retained for use in future issues.

Chair's Report

Ex-Editor returns as Michaelmas Chair. Hang on, why does that sound oddly familiar?

So, another ex-Editor makes the jump across to page three to welcome you all to a brand spanking new, all singing, all dancing, bells and whistles included, new *and* improved year and term at Oxford and OUSGG.

It's been great to see so many enthusiastic Freshers this year. Standing outside St. Peter's at half seven last Monday was one of the more nerve-wracking moments of my life. The was term organised (mostly), the room set up and just waiting. Would anyone turn up? But you did and it's been an excellent start to the term. We've had slightly fewer than expected, but you've all seemed really keen. Quality not quantity I suppose, but thanks for turning up so far. I hope OUSGG will live up to expectations, and you'll be with us for a long time.



There's lots of fun stuff coming up this term. A wide game around Oxford, an International Film Night and our annual bonfire and fireworks. Plus as part of this term's semi-theme "Comedy" (because basically my term's a joke – see what I did there!), visits to see the Oxford Imps and a performance of "Would I Lie To You": a change to the schedule, but a welcome one. Plus Wine and Chocolate tasting. Can't wait!

Nicholas Scroxtton, St. Edmund Hall - Chair

Inside This Issue

Hefty 330ml articles broken down into more manageable 150ml fun-sized cans.

- **The OUSGG A to Z**
We kick off the issue with this year's abecedarian introduction to the group.
- **Summer Trip 2007**
This week: cannabis and hookers.
- **The Punt Joust 2007**
Unlike the Boat Race, sinking is guaranteed.
- **Rotary International Youth Camps**
Learn about the importance of being able to balance a 90lb canoe on your head.
- **How to *Really* Join OUSGG**
Follow these five easy steps and you'll be Chair before you know it.
- **Letters**
Not even a Royal Mail strike can staunch the flow.
- **QuoteScript**
Sometimes people say silly things. Being mature adults, we like to print them.

...and much more!

An A to Z of OUSGG

If you use the American pronunciation, it even rhymes. Sarah Harvey presents.

Annual Dinner. OUSGG's black tie event in Trinity, consisting of a posh meal followed by an after party where anything is possible.

Boots. Essential kit for walking in, or treading on things with.

Chair. Something to be sat on and this term's boss of OUSGG. (Note: the two definitions are not mutually exclusive.) Nick Scroxtton is our Chair this term.

Duck, such as the mascot of the Cambridge SSAGO group, CUSAGC, which we have currently kidnapped. Again.

Erik, a large cuddly panda and our own mascot on whose birthday we eat pancakes. Yum.

Far From The Madding Crowd, a.k.a. the OUSGG pub. Can be found hiding next to Borders.

G. The fifth letter in the acronym OUSGG. Coincidentally, also the 4th.

Hogan. A small Koala, and the Annual Dinner mascot who comes out once per year. Do not be fooled by his subdued appearance.

I am going to subtly remove X from the alphabet and hope no one notices, because the deadline for this article was technically 1 hour and 51 minutes ago.

Jaffa cakes. An OUSGG essential.

Kayaking! An activity from last Trinity involving water, kayaks and mad paddling to get away from rowers practicing for Summer Eights.

Lunchtime. The best, naturally being Thursday lunchtime, when you will be at N'n'N.

Monday meetings! When we get up to all sorts, with a food theme if Luke is involved.

N'n'N. Short for Nosh and Natter. That just about sums up what it is, really. Held in Brasenose this term - come along!

Punt Jousting! A chance to show that Oxford really *is* the better University, when it comes down to the important stuff.

Quavers. I'm sure people have bought them to N'n'N in the past.

Rallies. There is one every term, held with other SSAGO groups.

Scapegoat. An official committee post; the person to blame when something goes wrong.

Trips! OUSGG has 3 per year, all of which you will want to attend.

Uniform. Something we don't have. We do however have a *very* comprehensive range of stash available, should you choose.

Varied! Our programme.

Winter Walking. Our New Year trip to somewhere with hills! (And tea shops, if you're not too fond of hills.)

Youlbury campsite, where our Bonfire Night event will be held this term, and Lizzy will set things on fire.

Zero. The exact number of 'normal' members of OUSGG.



OUSGG Overtake Bruised Tabs To Retain Title

Nick Scroxtan reports from the Cam Punt Dome, Cambridge.

In the fierce June heat, the heroic OUSGG punt team led by their fearless coach Erik T. Panda retained the “SSAGO Punt-Joust Cup” from a CUSAGC team smarting from an overwhelming defeat in the previous year’s championship.

Cambridge were out for revenge and OUSGG, Oxford’s only professional punt jousting team, were without their star of 2006 and captain Chris Wood, and only second favourites according to the bookmakers. Pundits up and down the land were predicting a hard-fought encounter and the two teams delivered from the off, with two hard-hitting passes in the first tie between the club’s respective magazine editors. But it was OUSGG who struck first blood, with PostScript’s rookie, Nick Scroxtan, capitalising on a mistake by the experienced CUSAGC Sky Blue editor to take OUSGG to a somewhat shock early lead, with the traveling fans delirious on the bank.

Madeleine Bunce put aside tabloid newspaper talk of a desired move to the fen-based team, and showed why she is so highly desired by the Cambridge side. Her bold and adventurous style however left her exposed on her left flank, and her opponent took advantage to leave Maddy in the water and Cambridge back on terms.

Next up, young Worcesterian Mike Howe, also on his debut, faced up in the Secretaries’ tie, but soon found himself off the punt and into the muddy waters of the cam. Oxford were reeling, and the home side were 2-1 up and in command.

Then came a bold move by assistant manager, Caroline Berry, again in charge due to Head Coach Erik T. Panda’s strict travel policy. Luke Cartey, OUSGG’s head punter, was withdrawn from punting duties to enter the fray as a joust, with Alistair Green called up to replace him with the pole. Known to be as rock steady on the Cambridge end of the punt as the Oxford end, Cartey steadied the OUSGG ship with a solid draw to put the scores at 2-1 to the tabs. His consistent performance with the joust has shown why he is such a talent in the game, and on the verge of stardom as one of the game’s all-rounders.



Above: Cartey rallies the troops with this decisive jousting cameo.

Below: Competitors make for the bank, after Horne’s cheeky reverse slice in the third set.



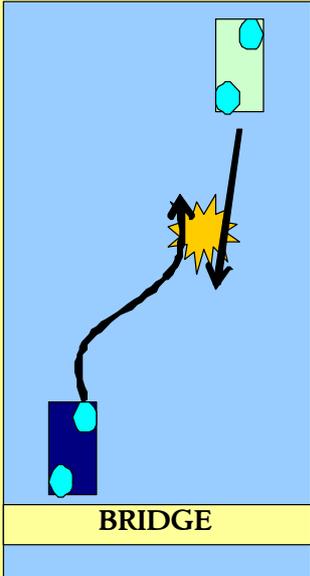
OUSGG were now out to draw the tie up and sent out reliable veteran Sam Snelson, with Nick taking up responsibilities at the other end of the punt. Sam had the upper hand in his bout, but his tab counterpart held firm on the first two passes. Sensing a victory OUSGG lined up for the final pass, but naïve punting from Oxford put the two punts too close together in a front-on lock and Snelson, without the space for a side sweep that would have surely unseated his opponent, could only fend off the opposition for the second draw of the afternoon, leaving the scores at 3-2.

Luke Cartey returned to the punt to propel Lizzy Horne into the final tie, with OUSGG desperate for a victory and Lizzy determined to overcome last

year's towel debacle. A cheeky reverse slice from the Teddy Haller on the final pass gave Oxford their first dunk of the game, and tied the game up with all six matches completed.

Hogan's Chalkboard:

With OUSGG on top but a point down this highly skilled pass from the West Oxford pairing of Cartey and Horne, brought Oxford back onto level terms and into a play-off match. The late turn by the punter unsettled the tab pairing enough for an expert move by the joustier to dunk her opponent and seize the initiative in this hard-fought but engaging encounter.



So it came down to the Cambridge Chair, Tom, against the Oxford Chair-Elect, Nick, in the play-off. The tie was extended to sudden death, with no limit on passes.

With neither side giving an inch it was CUSAGC which struck the first blow, with an unpadded blow to Scroxton's right knee on the second pass. The young Teddy Haller was out for revenge, and a high push aimed at the left flank struck the Cambridge man's head. The pass was declared void and Scroxton was rightly booked for unsporting behaviour. It was in the sixth pass that the Oxford man crowned his debut with a low swipe to the ankles which lead to a slip off the jousting platform, and an Oxford victory by 4 points to 3. Calls of a too low a joust were waved away by the match referee, and Oxford celebrated an unexpected but thoroughly deserved victory.

The Bunce/Horne Flashmob grudge match, dedicated to Rosé wine, ended in a draw. But Oxford had held onto the "SSAGO Punt-Joust Cup" and with no intentions of letting go in next year's rematch.

Note: The exact punting order for the 2007 Joust is a contentious issue, with eye-witnesses and participants alike maintaining that the event as it is here described is chronologically inaccurate. The timing of the Cartey-Horne partnership is perhaps the the most hotly contested, with strong evidence for it taking place significantly earlier in the match. Ed.

Chris Wood's Man Of The Match: Luke Cartey

Despite strong showings from Aularians Scroxton and Horne, it was Luke Cartey's masterful punting that kept Cambridge guessing. His cameo with the joust calmed Oxford nerves with the team looking beaten and set them on the way to a second consecutive victory over the tabs.

Now you too can experience the thrills, spills and other things ending in "-ills" from this year's Punt Joust!

Thanks to CUSAGCers Jess and Andy selected highlights of the day, including the nail-biting sudden death battle of the Chairs, the controversial "Scroxton Foul" and never-before-seen footage of Man of the Match Luke Cartey propelling the OUSGG team to victory can be seen at:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6_Is6TfsXTE

Coming soon - OUSGG Pictures Present

Punt Joust 2007: Collector's Edition

Featuring director's commentary, exclusive interviews with the cast, promotional material, theatrical trailers, "The Making of Punt Joust 2007" detailing the extensive range of CGI techniques used to bring this epic masterpiece to the 1024 x 768 screen, and many other special features you may never look at.

Rotary International Youth Camps

Chris Wood proves that the WSJ wasn't the only international experience available last summer.

If someone said the words 'Rotary Club' you would probably imagine a group of old men (well over 50) sitting in a room drinking beer and analysing the various sports matches that have taken place this week, and to be honest in my experience you aren't terribly far off the mark. But there is one thing the Rotary Club do that I believe you should hear about, and that is RIYC - Rotary International Youth Camps. These are camps that take place all over the world every summer, and are aimed at people aged between about 16 and 25. The word 'camp' is used very loosely here, so if you thought you had left sleeping in a tent and freezing despite wearing all the layers that your mother had carefully packed into your rucksack behind when you turned 11 and left the Cubs you can still read on.

As I mentioned there are camps all over the world, but the majority are in Europe and America. The way the system works is that you choose a camp that you like the look of (and there are guaranteed to be several) and then apply to a central coordinator in the UK, who will liaise with foreign clubs and then let you know if they will accept you. If you are imagining a rigorous selection process with interviews and lots of questions such as "From the perspective of your future career, describe where you think you will be in ten years' time and what hurdles you will have to overcome in getting there", then I am sorry to disappoint but the "rigorous" process is usually first come first served so long as you appear vaguely human and interested. Sorry Nick, you're out.

Once you have done this then there is very little you have to do apart from book flights and then turn up at the airport on the appropriate day. Once you land in your destination country you will be greeted by your host family and they will take you to their home for probably a week before you move to a different part of the country and new accommodation for another week. However although you are staying with a host family you very rarely see them, as you spend most of your time in the company of fifteen or so other campers, all from various countries, whilst exploring the local delights with a few Rotarians to take you to places. Some camps have particular themes and the majority of the days will be filled with this activity, whereas others are just general camps where you do bits of everything. There are far too many things for me to tell you about here as I could probably fill a PostScript just listing the activities you could do, so I shall just tell you about the two camps that I know most about, having been on them.

The first was in Innsbruck, Austria, where I spent a week in the city itself seeing the tourist attractions and generally just having a good time sampling (obviously not excessively, "ahem") the Austrian beers and of course Schnapps. We visited many of the old buildings and did sort of general tourist things, but when you are being shown things by a local it is far more interesting than walking around a city looking



for the few really famous things that everyone knows the world over, plus you get more of an insight in to the local way of life and get to live their lifestyle (which in Austria means you must have coffee and cake at least twice a day on top of what you have with your normal meals, and then of course Schnapps). The second week was spent trekking through Alps climbing to heights over 10,000ft descending glaciers and all the other delights that spectacular mountains have to offer. Despite the dangers that these activities can pose everyone was as safe as could be reasonably expected, we all had rope and harness training and were with two alpine guides who knew the area and

potential hazards well. Rotary is very keen to make sure that all the camps place safety as high up their list of priorities as having fun.

The second camp that I went on was to Canada, to a small town called Sioux Lookout, population 5000, in the middle of nowhere – the next nearest town was over an hours drive away and that only had a population of 8000. This camp was advertised as a “Canoeing and Wilderness Camp”, which pretty much sums it up. About three days were spent in Sioux Lookout learning the necessary skills that would be needed to survive the canoe trip, including how to build a toilet in the middle of a forest and how to pack a rucksack so that it floats (which is kind of useful to know). After this initial period we set off at 6 o'clock the next morning (which as any rower knows is the only time in the day when water sports can begin) to start an eight day, 200km expedition. Each of these days followed a similar

format of rising at 6 o'clock, starting a fire, making breakfast and sorting out camp. Then by 8 o'clock we had to be on the water canoeing, and depending on the distance, weather and current conditions we could be out for anywhere between four and eight hours. Six times on the trip we had to empty all the kit out of the canoes and carry them over land to reach another part of the river system. The longest of these portages was about 2.5km, which is a long way when you are up to your knees in loon shit and have a 90lb canoe on your head. Once the canoeing was over for the day then camp had to be set up for that night. The evenings tended to be filled with either preparing a meal or going fishing to supplement the food that was provided, as obviously we couldn't carry fresh meat. Once all of these tasks had been completed people would sit and chat to each other, or play games and generally building up friendships with others.



The evenings tended to be filled with either preparing a meal or going fishing to supplement the food that was provided, as obviously we couldn't carry fresh meat. Once all of these tasks had been completed people would sit and chat to each other, or play games and generally building up friendships with others.

The first time I went on this camp was in 2005, just before coming to University. I managed to stay in contact with a few of the people there, one of which has turned out to be a great friend of mine who I talk to often, and resultantly I was asked to go back this summer to help as a leader taking around new campers. The experience was so different to the first time however I still had an immense amount of fun on the trip and again managed to make some great friends out there.

Despite my best efforts there is still one thing in particular that I feel I have not been able to properly convey in this article, the atmosphere. Although you are visiting one country you are there with people from fourteen different others. This is what makes these camps so special as you get a great bunch of friends and it is surprising how similar we actually are to so many of these “foreign” people. We all listen to the same music and have the same social issues such as academic work and the pressures of growing up. It is often so easy to forget that people are essentially the same regardless of colour or creed. So not only are you learning about the life of one country you are learning about the life of all these other. What is more by the end of two weeks together these people effectively become your world, you forget about home and everything outside your new little bubble but here is the sad bit, *you all have to go home*, and to be honest it feels like the time when you graduated from college and knew that you were going to part with the biggest thing in your life.

I do hope that I have excited a few people reading this to think about trying out a Rotary camp this summer. I guarantee you will not be disappointed. For further information, visit <http://www.youthribi.org>

Letters

Despite upgrading the strength of my anti-spam software, some still make it through.

Mysterious Omissions

Sir,

We are all aware of the amount of faff that OUSGG can generate. Therefore it is with some dismay that I note that the term card sent to new members did not contain any note of the fact that we have an entire position dedicated to such important jobs as minuting our official twice-termly faff sessions.

Yours in faffness,

Secretary,
Oxford University Scout and Guide Group.

In light of the severity of this error the Editorial team brought this matter to the immediate attention of the Chair, who sent the following response:

Ma'am,

Surely the esteemed Secretary - and Quartermaster - realise that no publication written by yours truly will ever be without its fair share of monumental cockups? It should be obvious enough from last year's PostScript debacle.

Yours ungrammatically,

Chair and Ex-PostScript Editor.
Oxford University Scout & Guide Group.

Etiquette Confusion?

Your Royal Highness,

On the SSAGO poster displayed at this year's Freshers' Fair, a six-letter word with all the letters replaced by asterisks was to be found under the heading 'Social Events'.

What exactly happens at these rallies that is so explosive as to be unprintable?

Perplexed of Surrey.

Judging by the contents of the SSAGO Rep's file, it's best not to speculate about these things. Ed.

Spot the Difference

Sir,

Regular readers may recall that a certain image was published no fewer than 14 times in last year's issues of PostScript - 7 times in the last issue alone. Charming as said image was, and despite its iconic status, might I suggest that it is time to draw a line under this sordid chapter in OUSGG's turbulent history, and consign this image to depths of the Bodleian archives, before its one-year anniversary next issue?

Yours,

Vested Interest, SEH.

Agreed - not that the new management really needs much persuasion. Ed.

Erik's Ancient Chinese Wisdom

Sage advice from the world's most publicly-minded panda, courtesy of **Alistair Green**.



Link these dates onto the term-planner you picked up for free at Freshers' Fair:

Monday of 3rd: Cluedo Wide Game, Carfax, 7:30.

Monday of 4th: International Film Night, St. Catz, 7:30.

Monday of 5th: Bonfire and Fireworks, Youlbury Campsite - meet at St. Aldate's Church, 7:00.

QuoteScript

Our keeper of the quotes, **Luke Carthey**, brings us an early crop of ill-phrased soundbites.

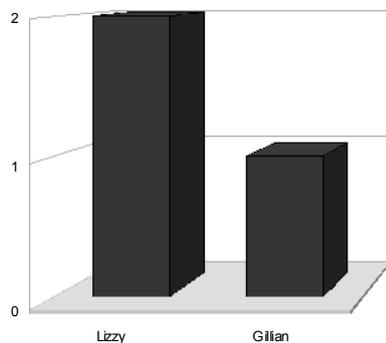
After a summer lacking dodgy insinuations, weird phrasings and sly quotations, QuoteScript is back!

Lizzy: I'm going to bend over while I eat this.

Lizzy (to Luke): Why didn't you take *me* in the back of a boat?

Gillian: You can trade in the beer for services at that event.

Which leaves us with the QuoteScript "Premier League" table looking something like this:



1. Lizzy - 2 quotes
2. Gillian - 1 quote

Yes, a most impressive graphic this issue. I'm very proud of it.

Other Events

Saturday of 4th: CUSAGC Marathon Challenge

For full details of upcoming meetings and events, visit our website at www.ousgg.org.uk.