

PostScript



Human Wind Turbine Programme Scrapped
Amidst Claims of Inefficiency

Hilary Term 2008 - Issue 1 of 3

An Oxford University Scout and Guide Group Publication

PostScript



Issue 388

Editor: Elizabeth Horne, St. Edmund Hall

Chair: Elizabeth Horne, St. Edmund Hall

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Elizabeth Horne, St. Edmund Hall

Annual Dinner Organiser:

Chris Wood, St. Edmund Hall

Old Members' Rep.: Chris Seward, Ex-Jesus

Senior Member: Gavin Williams, St. Peter's

Any correspondence or articles for submission should be e-mailed to postscript@ousgg.org.uk, or may be sent to Miss E. Horne, St. Edmund Hall, Queen's Lane, Oxford, OX1 4AR.

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 and associated bodies or limbs.

Your future is a horror story written by your crime.

Cover photograph courtesy of Luke Cartey. Printed and published in Oxford.

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Editorial

The New Year is a time for the making - and subsequent breaking - of resolutions. Most are doomed to inevitable failure, unless the resolution is to grow another year older and complain bitterly about it.

While usually wishing people the best of luck with their admirable attempts to change their lives for the better, one resolution the Editor would dearly like to crush beneath her 3" heels, if given the chance, is the resolution, apparently taken by quite a large proportion of OUSGG, to only co-author articles. If the articles submitted were twice as long it would not be an issue, but as it stands large quantities of what can only be described as 'Editor-penned filler' have had to be inserted into the pages of this publication. You may be able to spot them.

Winter Walking seems to have generated its usual slew of gossip, scandal, minor injuries and hefty articles, presented here for the amusement of those who went, and enlightenment of those who were unable - although any enlightenment gained from perusing the quotes is unlikely to be of a particularly uplifting nature.

Happily, any new members who've stuck with the group this term are unlikely to be thin-skinned enough to be permanently mentally scarred, and all current and old members will almost certainly have built up the requisite brain calluses.

See you on the next page -

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

Elizabeth Horne makes the leap across to page 3.

Good to see you made it across the page.

Last week's trip to the Oxford Ice Rink was very well attended, and it was heartening to see so many members turn up on time. It was even better to see so few members injure themselves, even when distracted by the melodious strains of "The Final Countdown", when falling over was an entirely legitimate dance move which I feel I demonstrated suitably stylishly.

Saturday saw us team up with CUSAGC for an afternoon of high-octane, camera-wielding action around central Oxford. Judging by feedback received in the pub afterwards, and the fact that no-one has yet sent me any hate mail, I'd like to think it went well. Determining the winning team may prove to be a somewhat Herculean task, given the sheer number of images snapped by the more enthusiastic of groups, but I'm confident that a verdict can be reached by March 2010.



Whispy the Duck, CUSAGC's mascot, who has been resident in Oxford on and off for the last two years, was finally returned to his legal owners on Sunday. We can only hope that the lengthy separation will encourage them to treat him better, and also to provide him with more adequate security in future. OUSGG cannot be held responsible for the actions of some of its members when tempted by the prospect of unguarded soft toys.

The next few weeks promise to continue the fun, with traumatic theatre, a trip to see acclaimed indie rock group British Sea Power play live on tour, and Erik's 34th Annual Pancake Party.

Don't make any other plans.

Elizabeth Horne, St. Edmund Hall

Inside This Issue

Massively bedded sandstone articles mashed up and sifted into statistically friendly grain-size-and-sorting figures.

- **Winter Walking 2007 - 2008**
We assess the damage done by this year's first trip away.
- **Those Winter Walking quotes in full**
Sordid soundbites best left forgotten.
- **The Llady and Lluke Guide to Cllogwhallian**
The Editor's computer nearly choked to death on the shear density of perceived spelling errors.
- **Sex**
Follow our handy guide and yours can be as good as Jude's.
- **Things Every Study Abroad Student Should Know**
"Bring towels" is just not enough.

...and more!

Winter Walking 2007 - 2008

Jude Owens claims to have written an article.

As happens every year, over the New Year period OUSGG went off on its yearly Winter Walking™ trip.

This year, we were in North Wales, in Bethesda, where the group went a number of years before, and near where they stayed last year. It was the hut with the (in)famous drying room, and there were a number of people who had not only been on that earlier trip, but even present in the same drying room.

Being in Snowdonia, and on a trip with 'Walking' in the name, it was little surprise that we went on a few small wanders, up a few hills. This meant that forgetting your walking boots (naming no Lukes) was getting off to a fairly bad start. The first day started with a gentle amble up a set of 3 or 4 small hills, with winds of only gale force. Fortunately, (empty) sheep folds make excellent places to stop off and have lunch.

The winds came and went throughout the week - some days they were hardly noticeable, on others groups had to come back early because they weren't able to stand up (they claimed that it had nothing to do with anything they may have drunk, too). Snowdon was the obvious target for people, and there is photographic evidence of climbers having made it up to somewhere in the middle of clouds, looking very happy. They claim it's Snowdon, and who are we to argue?



Not all of us went climbing, though - we tried instead to make it to the nearby Caernarfon Castle, only to get there and find that it was closed for the winter. The same happened with the model village on Anglesey - although at least half the group managed to find somewhere nice to watch the sunset from.

All this work meant that we were quite tired by the end of the day. Maddy sprang to the rescue by introducing us to the idea of a 'disco nap' - a nap taken between 4pm and 6pm, which prepares you for the evening ahead. Sadly we had no disco balls in the hut, but we *did* manage to acquire some very stylish fiberoptic Christmas trees, for the total of 98p (batteries not included, some assembly may be required). With a little persuasion, they even worked.

The Christmas trees were part of the decoration for the Christmas dinner (along with a 100-pack of balloons, enough to keep Keith occupied for a while). This year, there was no repeat of the legendary turkey defrosting, in part because the turkey was replaced by chicken, as the local Tesco appeared to



have run out. Despite this drawback, the dinner went well, complete with the custard-flavoured brandy, and Christmas Pudding. This was followed by games until midnight, at which point we discovered that BBC Radio 3 was the only radio station that the hut radio could receive. In an attempt to confuse, they played *Auld Lang Syne* *before* midnight (at least, I think they did, it's all a bit fuzzy now).

No OUSGG trip with Michael and Shell would be complete without a trip to the sea, so we did just that one day. While the rest of the UK seemed to be getting snow, we spent a glorious, freezing day wrapped up walking along Red Wharf Bay, and sitting in the cars eating a picnic (what else do you expect, when the wind is near gale-force?). Oh, and we found a play area, too.

All too soon, all the jelly was eaten, the squash drunk, and it was the end of the week, and time for people to return to reality. Still, it's not long until Easter Activity.



QuoteScript: Winter Walking 2007 - 2008

Luke Cartey punishes those whose minds temporarily suspend control of their tongues.

Jude: Who's Baden-Powell?

Maddy: He got assassinated yesterday -
Lizzy: Lincoln?

Shell: Only female Prime Minister -
Lizzy: Disraeli?

Chris: *(whilst climbing up Snowdon)*
This route gains a lot of height.

Mark: That cloud is coming closer. Mind you, we are driving towards it.

Nick: I'm not going down on the table.

Jude: Erik is nearly a donkey.

Maddy: Nick, you're not drunk enough to do that with that much precision.

Jude : *(about the wine box)* It's like hitting a fat person... it's fun and it wobbles.

Jude: I spent most of my upper sixth in a bath with four other people, drinking vodka.

Jude: Hamish is a small, brown, purple monkey.

Maddy: *(being dragged into a room by Lizzy)* No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no *(scream as door closes)*.



Lizzy: Gunpowder down the cleavage!

Luke: *(to Jenny)* Make yourself more accessible!

Maddy: If you do it with Jenny, you'll see how obvious it is.

Mark: I'd go for the big side, depending on how big your mouth is.

Jude: Just suck from there.

Andrew: I've got the wrong trousers on tonight.

Shell: You should be able to get that, you had your mouth around it!

Chris' Brother: You want me to turn off the light and get naked?

Jude: Use Nick's, it's bigger.

Jude: *(about Mike)* He tried my sex.
Keith: Was it good?
Jude: Yes, I'm good.

Luke: Ooh, I can turn Shell on.

Shell: Ooh, I've never juiced a cucumber before.

Andrew: Two people can become one duck.

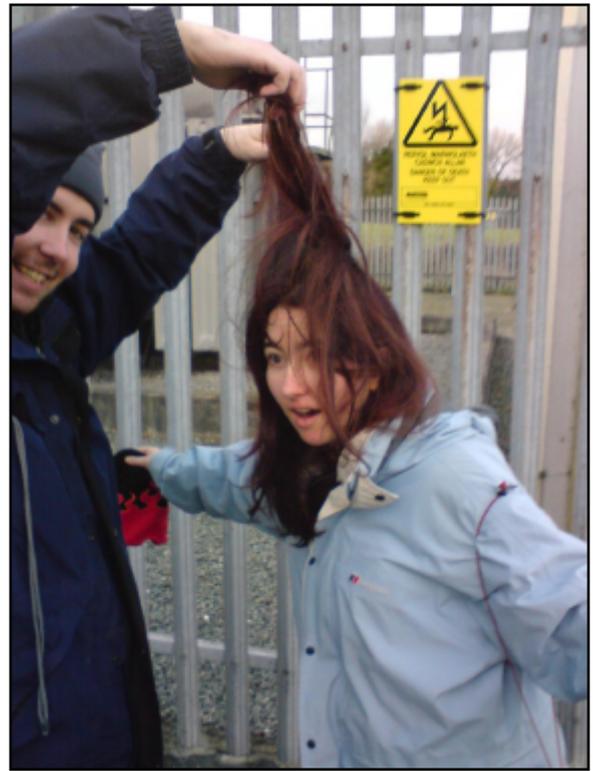
Luke: I'm not hungry.

Shell: Ooh, the heater vibrates too!

Luke: I'm afraid of getting up. I'm afraid I might expose delicate areas.

Jude: Who do I get to slash with?

Luke: *(to Nick)* You can put it in my hole.



Where's Erik?

Can you guess where Erik is? Answer on the back page.



The Llady and Lluke Guide to Cllogwhallian

Luke Cartey and Michelle Barton unlock the mysteries of the Welsh language.

In the best PostScript traditions of investigative journalism, we bring you the Winter Walking guide to the now almost forgotten Welsh dialect of Cllogwhallian, only spoken in the highest peaks of the Welsh highlands. Experienced Winter Walkers may already be familiar with some of the common terms listed here.

Glossary:

Toilled – toxic glitter levels that have resulted in a widespread pandemic.

Lllyn Lllewllyn – direction, towards Allistair.

Pont – ancient art of stick fighting involving Su-Do-Ku locks.

Safle Bws – Welsh jelly cake used for maintaining bounce levels at high altitudes. Best served on a large platter.

Titanic – no definition thought necessary. (*Although an illustration is. Ed.*)



Prefait – no English equivalent, but the most accurate translation would be Drying Room, although its usage has changed somewhat throughout the ages.

Frinking – a form of drunken philosophy often flaunted by the Snellson clan when trying to avoid a lynching.

Fford – the inability to locate mis-placed objects.

Meow – must be spoken to fully appreciate pear drops.

Yarp – small tail flicking bird often found in Red Wharf Bay.

Dis – once the key Welsh industry, closure was forced in many areas due to frequent derailment.

Araf (with a bark) – species bred to control Shell-horses.

Di-Dar-Du-Dar – arcane ritual performed by members of the clan emulating hallmarks of modern society such as toasters, washing machines and police cars.

Parc-y-gadair – originally used to dehumidify the Drying Room, although its purpose has changed. *See Prefait.*

Thought Experiment

Flex your mental muscles after the inevitably slack Christmas season.

Fig. 1 (below) shows an interconnected nodal network.

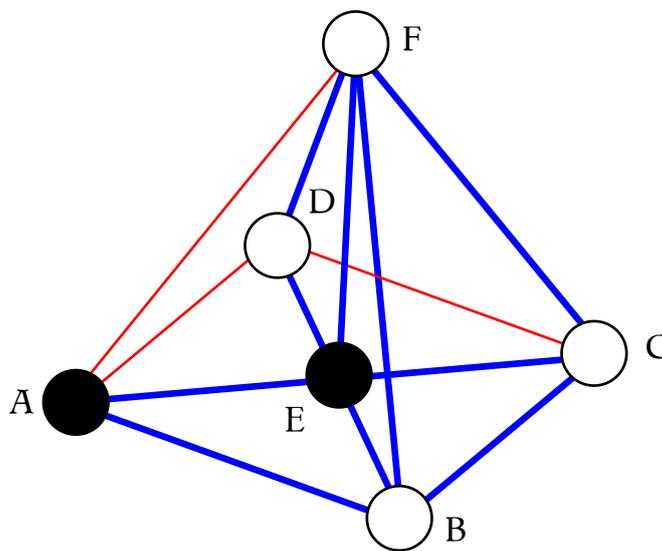


Fig. 1: Hypothetical Network Assemblage

*Blue lines represent active network links; red lines represent dormant network links.
(Active links are portrayed by thicker lines, for the benefit of persons reading printed editions of this publication.)*

Nodes in this binary network communicate with other connected nodes once every hour. A black node has a fixed percentage chance of transmitting its black colour to adjacent nodes, with each connection possessing a different percentage transfer likelihood. Black nodes may not revert to white, but remain black for the duration of the problem. All nodes are white at the start of the scenario.

At half past midnight, nodes A and E simultaneously turn black. Nodes D and B turn black at half past ten and half past eleven in the morning, respectively. Given that Node B receives simultaneous positive signals from nodes C and F at half past ten that night, and that node C is located in Cambridge, what are the transfer rates for all nodal connections to F, and does this worry you? Why? Discuss.

The OUSGG Cocktail Book

This week: Sex.

Don't let a lack of cranberry juice stand in your way - settle for Sex on its own, and save the beach for later in the trip.

You will need: 1 jigger vodka
 1 jigger peach-like schnapps
 Orange juice
 Healthy sense of misadventure

Add the vodka and peach schnapps to a mug. Fill with orange juice, and stir.

Best enjoyed in a drying room at around 5 in the morning, as a prelude to the brandy.



Letters

All 26 are present this time.

Conspiracy II

Madam,

Whilst browsing through Postscript 387 I was overjoyed when my eyes landed on a feature submitted by T. S. Lloyd-Barton and our esteemed Chair, Miss Horne. However, on closer inspection of their work we noticed a few unforgivable omissions. The article in question was entitled 'An Alternative A-Z of OUSGG', in which the letters C, N, U and Y were not included.

The latter two could be forgiven, for I would also find it hard to come up with OUSGG related words beginning with either U or Y literally minutes before PostScript was printed: however, we believe that leaving out C and N is just being knowingly vindictive. Are you seriously trying to exclude C and N from OUSGG?

Yours,
C and N, St. Edmund Hall

Cuckoo Clocked

Madam,

While enjoying a leisurely stroll through the forests, bogs and moorlands of Wales a few weeks ago, I made a shocking realisation: that the female half of the Teddy Hall OUSGG contingent now appear to be imitating each other, both in dress and manner.

Given their already proven ability to communicate with each other wordlessly, their similar ages, the fact that such communication does not appear to extend to the male half of the Hall collective and their eerie domination of the Committee, it might perhaps be time for an Old member to gain their trust and blow them up with an ersatz bomb - before they start stopping planes from flying over Oxford.

Yours,
Concerned of Midwich



Things every study-abroad student should know

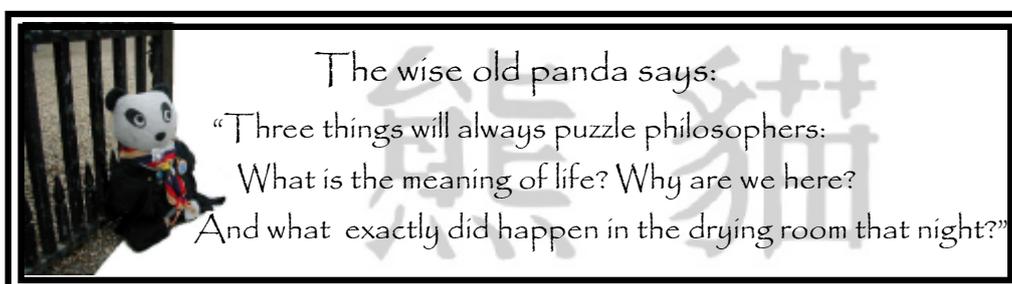
Angela Comana presents some of the less obvious pitfalls to avoid during your time at Oxford.

- Don't wear a shirt that says SWE on the front. People will think you are from Sweden and start speaking to you in Swedish. (SWE = society of women engineers)
- Give up on trying to explain to people at home how Oxford works. They don't understand. (What's a tutorial? Why are there colleges? What's a tutorial again?)
- Be careful how you pronounce "Notre Dame". Your lab instructor might think you said "Rotterdam". He will then come and talk to you about your life in the Netherlands at various times during the lab. You probably know nothing about the Netherlands. You will need to keep a straight face as you nod and smile and pretend to know what he is talking about. Try not to wonder too much why he has decided a person with an American accent lives in the Netherlands and is studying at Oxford for a year.
- Try not to feel too bad when you spend \$17 at Pizza Hut, when in the US you'd spend \$5.
- Be consoled, however, that Pizza Hut does have yummy desserts in the UK.
- Remember more advice about Oxford than "bring towels." (I think the other advice must have been useless, so I conveniently forgot it. Probably not though...) Towels are always good, however. So long and thanks for all the fish.
- Avoid passing time in boring lectures by crossing out the u's in favourite and colourful. While you may find it entertaining to change words to American spellings, your professors at Notre Dame probably won't appreciate this use of your time.
- Bob is not your uncle.
- "Bring a torch and a jumper" does not mean come to the bonfire wearing a dress and carrying a flaming torch.
- Although a "blue pita" sounds good, the person speaking is actually saying "Blue Peter", which is a non-edible TV show.
- Don't forget the most important thing of all – join OUSGG!

Fresher Status

Angela loses her Fresher status with this article, making her the second new current member this year!

Erik's Ancient Chinese Wisdom



Insert these dates into the bibliography of your next essay:

Monday of 3rd: British Sea Power, The Carling Academy, 7pm.

Monday of 4th: Erik's 34th Birthday Pancake Party. Meet at the Oriel College Cowley Annexe, 7.30.

Monday of 5th: "Trout Fishing". Meet outside the Little Clarendon G&Ds, 7.30.

Ans. Erik is back in the hur, warm and dry.

QuoteScript

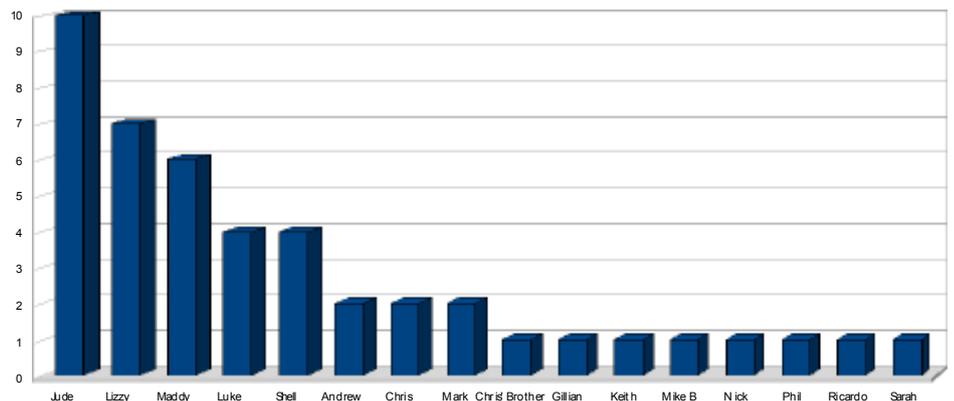
Luke Cartey has already been busy this term.

Mike B: *(on the first floor of a building)* How do we get out? Up?

Lizzy: I had a bedsheet problem. It was really quite fraught.

1. Jude - 10 quotes

2. Lizzy - 7 quotes
3. Maddy - 6 quotes
4. Luke - 4 quotes
5. Shell - 4 quotes
6. Andrew - 2 quotes
7. Chris - 2 quotes
8. Mark - 2 quotes
9. Andrew W. - 1 quote
10. Gillian - 1 quote
11. Keith - 1 quote
12. Mike B - 1 quote
13. Nick - 1 quote
14. Phil - 1 quote
15. Ricardo - 1 quote
16. Sarah - 1 quote



*After a slow start, Jude has shot into the lead.
Do we have a new Gillian?*

Other Events

Saturday of 6th Week: Thinking Day Bar Crawl. Meet at the Turf, 7pm.

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