

Postscript

2015-2016



Containing:

- * Exciting N'n'N stories
- * Directions to the Perch
- * Multiple puzzle pages

And...

A Guest appearance from the Queen!!!

Contents



So in-keeping with all the other things I have been organising this year Postsript is a touch late, and has involved an unholy number of emails (that you have probably all forgotten because they were so long ago). I have been thrown in somewhat at the deep end as this issue also contains my first ever article in Postsript, so I get to stop being a fresher just before I leave. However, while editing I have rediscovered the joys of wordart and fonts not approved by tutors, I'm not apologising for either of these. I have also put my bullying talents to good use as we have contributions from a whole seven other people, which is all our current members! So, while aware I might be blowing my own trumpet, you are in for a treat with this issue.

Outgoing Committee

Chair: Danni Fernandes, Corpus Christi
Treasurer: Lizzie Hensman, Balliol
Secretary: Hannah Germain, Corpus Christi
N'n'N Organiser: Kat Davis, St Peter's
Webmaster: Mayur Pant, Kellogg

Chairs Report.....	2
Letter to the Queen.....	3
Trip to the Perch.....	4
Lizzie's Favourite Dogs.....	4
Nosh'n'Natters.....	5
OUSGG by Numbers.....	9
Summer Activity.....	10
Halloween Camp.....	13
Puzzles.....	15

Incoming Committee

Chair: Mayur Pant, Kellogg
Treasurer: Tim Beard, Brasenose
Secretary: Darcy Allen, Lincoln
Webmaster: Claire Evans, Wadham

Chair's Report

It's been a very busy year for OUSGG and, once again, we were determined to not let our small membership hold us back!

The highlight was definitely our Halloween camp in Michaelmas, which included some blind-folded crate-stacking, archery (thankfully not blind-folded), pumpkin carving and a fab campfire. We also had an ongoing game of assassins, of which Matthew was the winner as no one succeeded in murdering him in the chapel with a lantern.

Other activities this year included a cocktail making evening, bell-ringing, a Diwali night and several walks to The Perch in Port Meadow. We have also had film nights, craft nights (involving making marble runs, Greek letters out of string and hexaflexagons) and the return of the OUSGG Bake Off. We also had our 97th Annual Dinner before ending the year with our AGM and BBQ, once again at Liddell.

Thank you to everyone for your help with organising weekly activities this year, particularly when I had finals last term. I'd especially like to thank Matthew who organised the Halloween camp, Lizzie who organised Annual Dinner, and Kat who has been organising N 'n' N. All three are leaving Oxford and OUSGG and therefore I would like to wish them all the best with whatever they end up doing.

I will be moving up the hill next year and therefore will leave OUSGG in the capable hands of Hannah (probably) as well as our new recruits Darcy, Tim and Mayur who will be joining the committee. I'm sure they will do a wonderful job!

Danni

Chair, 2015/16



5th July, 2016

<http://mayur.pant.mp>

Dear Her Majesty the Queen,

I wish to write to you on behalf of the Oxford University Scout and Girl Guide Group, of which I and several friends are members. You are currently the Patron of the Girl Guides Association (and Prince Edward, Duke of Kent, is the Patron of the Scout Association, although I am one of only three boys in the group, and two of them are leaving).

I was not sure if you wanted to hear about our regular activities (our weekly 'Work & Natter', or the putting trips), but since you give us such good advice every Christmas Day, I thought you might prefer some in return! This is from the Official Girl Guiding Handbook by Lord Baden-Powell. It sits on my desk at Oxford (it's a copy from 1938, and was very expensive). We do our best to live by the list:

1. A Guide's Honour is to be Trusted
2. A Guide is loyal
3. A Guide's duty is to be useful and helpful to others
4. A Guide is a friend to all, and a sister to every other Guide, regardless of creed, country or class.
5. A Guide is courteous
6. A Guide is a friend to animals

(Please turn over)

7. A Guide obeys orders
8. A Guide smiles and sings under difficulties
9. A Guide is thrifty. (I can relate to this as a student)
10. A Guide is always presentable.

^(paraphrase)
"A Guide must never be a SNOB. A snob is one who looks down upon another because she is poorer, or resents another because she is rich."
"This is still common at Oxford due to the bizarre Collegiate System, so it helps to have a mature attitude."

"A Guide smiles and sings under all difficulties. When she gets an order she should obey it without question. Even if she does not like it, she must do as soldiers and sailors do - she must carry it out because it is her duty. After she has done it she can come and state any reasons against it, but she must carry out the order AT ONCE."

The order should be carried out cheerily and readily, not in a slow, long-drag sort of way, and she should sing even if she dislikes it."

"When she is in trouble or pain it will at once relieve her if she forces herself to smile, grin and bear it."

"Guides never grumble at hardships, nor whine at each other, nor frown when put out."

I hope you have enjoyed this letter, and it would be great if you could send us (me) a letter of recognition which we could publish in the Bodleian Library in our family magazine, 'postscript'.

Your obedient servants at the OUSGG —
(Mayur Pant)



How to get to the Trout Inn

By Hannah Germain

Step 1: Tell people to meet outside Balliol. Actually meet outside of the Ahsmolean.

Step 2: Find somewhere for Danni to get cash. This has become a regular feature of OUSGG meetings this term.

Step 3: Walk to the edge of Port Meadow. Park bikes. Attempt to fit jumper, compass and map case (note, no map) into Hannah's very small bag. Find torches.

Step 4: Enter Port Meadow, walk past some horses. And possibly also some cows. It's hard to tell in the dark. There were definitely cows later though. We almost tripped over them.

Step 5: Enter "the place where Hannah got lost in the wood-y part on her bike last year." Despite Matthew's directions, follow Hannah's previous example, and also get lost. Proceed to step 5b - battle through barbed wire and brambles to get out of the wood-y part.

Step 6: Walk across the field.

Step 7: Get to river (after passing the cows). Wonder where the pub is. Ask google maps.

Step 8: Find a bridge, get on the footpath, walk to the Perch.

Step 9: Get drinks and chips. Mmmm. Chips :)

Step 10: Leave pub, through some pretty fairy light arches.

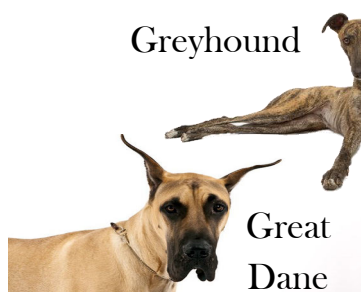
Step 11: Follow path back to where we left our bikes.

Step 12: Home time.

MY FAVOURITE DOGS

By Lizzie Hensman

As those who went on the summer activity this year might have noticed, I love dogs. This proves to be a slight issue when I'm expected to be doing something useful, such as steering the boat. So in the interests of safety here is a list of dogs that will result in me not being any use while in sight.



Greyhound



Dalmatian



Golden Retriever



Husky



Afghan Hound

As an added bonus, while doing serious research for this article I discovered...



PupScouts



2016

N'n'N – Nosh and Natter



N&N

N&N is an OUSGG institution: there are weekly visits to cafes to eat and chat, in a way that's organized enough to provide a really brilliant excuse not to work.

But seriously though, it's great to see everyone and hear how everything's going while munching my way through a panini. Even if it is all about rowing - or very complicated maths - or, worst of all, if it is a complaint about the high work load in history degrees - I love hearing it all. N'n'N people are fantastic.

If the lovely people, food and escape from essays/problem sheets/room-based procrastination aren't enough, Erik the panda makes occasional guest appearances too. Although it is worth noting that in a break with tradition, this year it was decided that Erik should continue to live with Lizzie (previous supreme leader of all things N'n'N), rather than being transferred to the new N'n'N organiser (me). Erik seems happy with this arrangement and continues to look forward to many N'n'Ns into the future.

So that's an intro to N'n'N: people, food and an occasional panda. Read on for tales of particular meetings which I have decided, sat here on this train, may be of interest to you (apologies if I am completely off the mark). Unfortunately, there are some of the

A DIFFICULTY IN ORDERING

Hannah and I like to think we understand cafes. However, there was one fateful visit where we were completely lost. We turned up at this establishment, perhaps over-confident in our own ability. We went up to the counter and began to order. Not here we were told. If you want to eat in this café you don't order here. Knocked back, we moved along to the till and tried again. Had we already eaten? No. Well then we shouldn't be there. A waitress was called. She showed us to a table. We sat. We watched other people approach both counters to order. They were quickly served. So... what was wrong with us? How was our strategy wrong? It was not at all clear to us. Eventually the waitress returned, asked what we would like and passed that information straight to the original person behind the counter. Food was brought. The process was repeated with the bill. I have no idea why. No one else in the café was treated in this way. Bewildered, we watched Mateo, a late arrival, manage the task we were not able to. The reason for our special treatment remains a mystery which has gone down in the OUSGG history books unsolved; if anyone knows quite what it was that led to this, please contact OUSGG, you will be rewarded well. Talking of which...

The prize

At N'n'N on the week after camp we were able to tuck into all the remaining food. Free cake with lunch was welcomed by everyone. However, it was at that point that Matthew introduced the concept of an extra prize, additional to that of Mafia victor (still itself a subject of much contention...). This was for N'n'N leader. A prize for me! He then revealed that the prize itself was not to be revealed until later. I waited. I tried to recall what I could have done to get this prize. I considered what kind of prize could fit in Matthew's bag. I wondered if I could sneak a look. I discovered that I couldn't. More time passed. Eventually it was the reveal. His mysterious bag was opened and a set of shiny tins presented. I inspected the tins and realized that the prize, the gift I was being given, was tuna – and lots of it. For N'n'N stores, I was told. This was a tiny bit disappointing, but I like to think I hid it very well. Quickly correcting my features like

the professional I am. Everyone still seemed to find something funny on my face though. I have no idea why...

ANYWAY, IT'S TIME TO END WITH A STORY ABOUT CAKE.

It was the final AGM and BBQ. The food had all been eaten. Serious discussion was now underway. But this discussion was not focused on activities for next year or who would be president. It didn't even relate to the seemingly endless amounts of paperwork and forms required by the University. Instead the debate focused on the important topic of cake. Or more precisely - whether N'n'N could occur somewhere that serves only cake. N'n'N is a lunchtime phenomenon so is normally restricted to locations where the humble sandwich is available for a reasonable price. Diversity comes in the form of soups, salads and pasta, but N'n'N has to provide those middle of the day sensible foods. However, it is also clear that the attendees of N'n'N like cake. Matthew had recently been to Barefoot Oxford and he had talked of the brilliant cake available. Now we all wanted to go. But could we survive on a lunch of cake alone? Would it go against all the great N'n'N traditions? Was anyone on a diet? Debate raged...

Our Favourite Places To Eat

Olives – The sandwiches we had from here were delicious, and made lunch in the sunny botanic garden perfect (did I mention we also do picnics in summer?).

G&Ds – We're Oxford students, this ice cream organization had to go on the list...

Georgina's – tucked away upstairs in the Covered Market, this quirky café provided us with some lovely comfort food and their nachos are a meal in themselves.

Barefoot Oxford – Those of you reading this carefully will note that this may have already been mentioned, but the cakes here are divine.

Gloucester Green market – Provides a range of delicious food stalls presenting food from around the world, including some delicious Chinese dumplings and Malaysian food.

Maths department café – A bit of a weird one, but if you have to eat in an Oxford department, try to make it maths; this is how Uni provided food should be.

Formal Halls

We have had 2 formal hall events this year, with places quickly being filled and a chance to see everyone turning out in their best dress. Balliol formal was a splendid evening. Grand surroundings, plenty of wine and delicious food made for a fabulous night. Even if some of the combinations sounded odd, we discovered that actually beetroot mousse can be quite tasty. Balliol really impressed us, but Kellogg promised much too. Again the meal lived up to expectation.

I didn't go to Kellogg, I wonder if you have anything to say here Lizzie.

Thanks again to the wonderful Lizzie and Mayur for helping me hugely in organizing these events. We all really appreciate it guys :)

N&N Activities

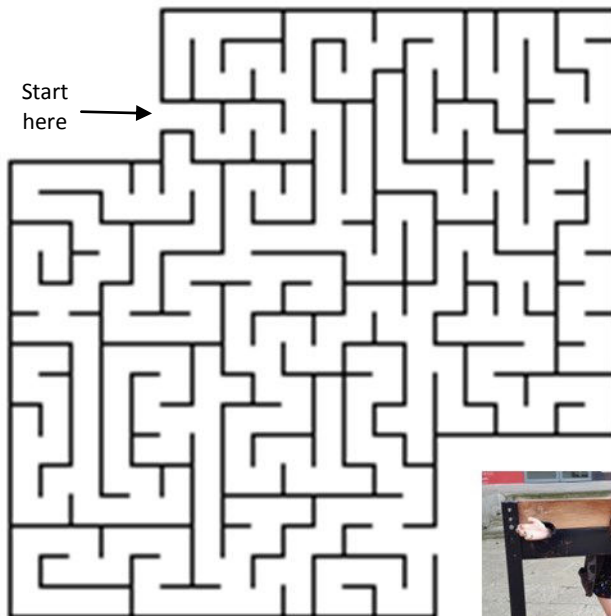
Wordsearch

T X F O R M A L M Z P J G U E
S T Z T O E Y J L F U A Z J W
Y U F L M F T C O T T E Y X O
W R U Y G N D T A S Y W J Z H
Y O K D S T N M A K H K P R S
G U S P A A B P T N E N U O K
Q F S A N H I A Y L R A Q J Z
G H O N D C U J L A X D N G N
E J E I W N W O R L S S R M O
O E Q N I V G M B S I L E I S
E N K I C G D L O Y S O O Z H
R Z D G H R S U E A Q Y L M E
I S G F I C P E E O A V Y A Q
K I C N P E T N P K M C A F E
O O K A S M H N E D K J R T Z

NOSH
NATTER
ERIK
PANINI
SANDWICH
PASTA
SOUP
CAFE
DRINK
CHAT
GDS
CAKE
FORMAL
BALLIOL
KELLOGG

Maze

Can you find Lizzie and rescue her from the stocks outside café 1071, in the Oxford Castle?



2016-17 OUSEGG By Numbers

By Lizzie



1 GIANT MARBLE RUN

2 NIGHTS IN A TENT

3 TRIPS ACROSS PORT MEADOW IN SEARCH OF VARIOUS PUBS

4 MEMBERS LEAVING THIS YEAR

5 NIGHTS ON A BOAT



8 EMAILS

ABOUT ANNUAL DINNER (WHICH IS DEFINITELY
LESS THAN I REMEMBER)

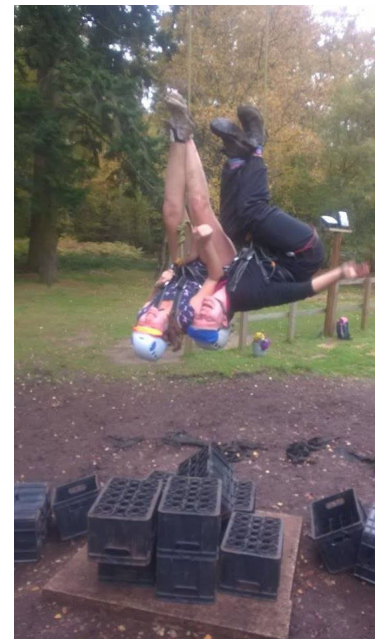


9 MONTHS OF FUN (WELL
MORE LIKE 10 BUT THAT NUMBER WAS TAKEN)

10 PEOPLE AT ANNUAL DINNER

11 EVENINGS BASED AROUND FOOD (AT LEAST)

15 WEEKS FOR ME TO SEND THIS OUT :/



OUSGG SUMMER ACTIVITY

NARROW BOATING

Friday the 15th to Wednesday the 20th of July

By Lizzie



On Friday we travelled to Downham Market where Steve, the king of canal boats, very kindly gave us a lift to Stoke Ferry where the Harboro Adventure II was waiting for us. We all climbed aboard (stepping not jumping of course) and after doing all the relevant engine faff powered off into the distance.

Something that, I imagine, came as a surprise to no one but me was how long the boat was and therefore how awkward blind bends could be. On bendy bits of river someone had to be sat at the front to pass messages back about what lay around the bend. Unfortunately, as the engine was very loud, you couldn't really hear people shouting from the front so communication was done through waving your arms around and hoping the message was understood. Luckily we only ran aground a couple of times and didn't hit a single other boat.



Being the intrepid explorers that we are this year for our summer activity we ventured into the wilds of Norfolk and Cambridgeshire. Bravely captained by myself with Matthew as a first mate (read Matthew was in charge but I wanted to be a pirate), we cruised the seven seas (well five rivers) looking for wrongs to be righted and adventures to be had (think famous five but instead of having our own dog I just got incredibly excited at everyone else's dogs).



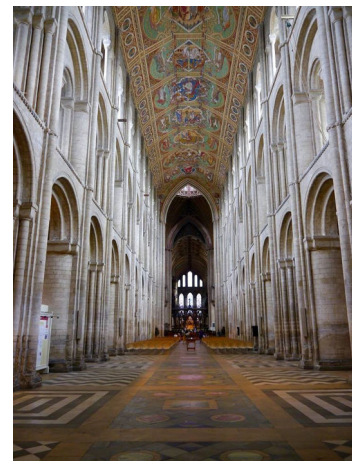


A wonderful thing about sleeping in a boat is that a lot of pubs have moorings for patrons. So, unlike normally when you go out drinking, the walk home was mere steps. It was at one such pub where Shell and Luke joined us on the first evening. A not so wonderful thing is that you are down by the river and there is no escape from the mosquitos.

On Saturday, after a slight detour to refuel, we travelled down the River Great Ouse towards Ely, a tiny city with an amazing cathedral, where we lunched. The sun was shining and after a wander around the town we returned to the boat to continue on in an attempt to reach St Ives.

We wove our way upstream, mostly remembering to signal to Luke, who was at the helm, what was happening around each corner. However, it was one of the things I was most looking forward to about the trip that caused problems in our plans of reaching St Ives. A lock. The first lock we were to encounter turned out to be operated by a lock keeper and we got there after he had shut up shop for the night. We were stranded the wrong side of the lock from the village pub, not only did we not reach St Ives but we had to walk more than 10m to get a drink!

Robbed of our first Lock, on Sunday we turned around and made our way back to where the Cam joined the Ouse and started heading towards the Other Place, and more importantly our first lock. Unfortunately none of the locks we found were the truly exciting kind, they were all electronic. In total we travelled through three locks, all in both direc-



tions, so six wonderful (read irritating and time-consuming) elevation changes.

It was after the second lock (probably) that we said goodbye to Luke and Shell, as they had to return to the real world. This was another night where we had to walk to get to the pub, as we moored up on the wrong side of the river.

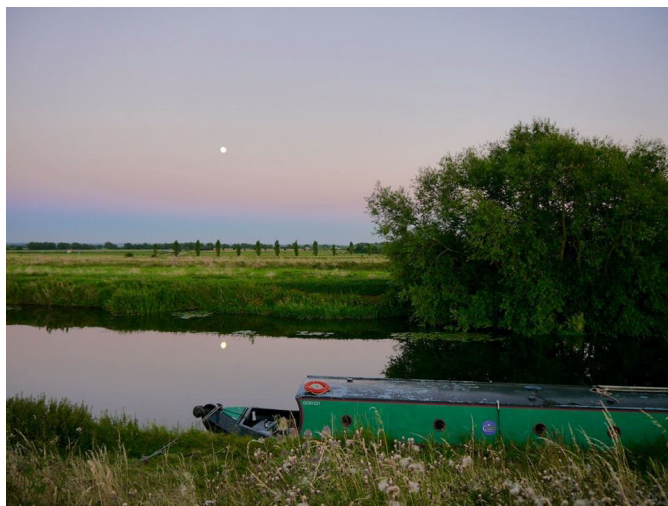
Woken up early the next day by rowers, (I now have a lot more sympathy for the people who glared at me on morning outings) Matthew and I went hunting for breakfast. Having successfully foraged for croissants

we returned to find Tim and Mateo still in bed. After breakfast we wandered into Cambridge, ready to be unimpressed. Somewhat upsettingly Cambridge is lovely, if a bit small. We saw Matthew's old college and the geology museum (it would probably have helped if I had done this when I could still actually remember details of the trip) and I bought tea.



That evening marked the first night when we didn't make a pilgrimage to a pub, we braved the wilds of Cambridgeshire mooring up on a bend in the river. Luckily we had stocked up on beers while still in Cambridge. Here Matthew taught us to juggle using oranges and empty beer bottles and we saw a lot of nature. In fact there had been a lot of nature the entire time, something not surprising but rather lovely.

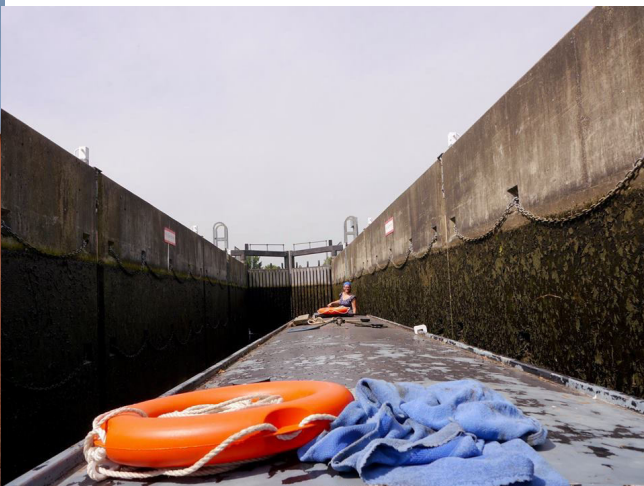
As we had to return the Harboro Adventure II to Stoke Ferry, on Tuesday we returned to Ely. Here we visited its amazing antiques shop and picked up all the necessities for a BBQ. Barbequing on the, well effectively, porch of the boat seemed like a good idea until all the smoke snuck its way into the cabin where we noticed a fire alarm. Luckily it was detachable and the rest of the cooking went smoothly.



So we had reached the final day of our trip. We travelled to the final lock, so me and Matthew could demonstrate our boating skills to Steve in order to earn a certificate. It was a massive lock. There was a massive height difference between before and after, which, although exciting, meant that it took ages to go through, something that was made more obvious by the fact that we immediately turned round and went back up.

It was a wonderful week, with wonderful people.

Thank you Matthew for organising everything.



Halloween Camp

Youlbury Scout Activity Centre

30th October - 1st November 2015

By Tim Beard



So, Freshers' Camp is a critical activity in that its designed to show any prospective new members what OUSGG trips are all about. And this year, it was held at Youlbury Scout Activity Centre, for three days, over Halloween.

It could have started off slightly better, in that we didn't all convene at the starting point for the hike to Youlbury (Oxford Station) until about an hour later than planned, and so we set off at twilight, laden with our bags, and arrived a few hours later, when it was near enough pitch black. We had a little trouble finding our camping spot, but when we did, Matthew was already there with his carload of equipment, so we began setting up camp. Once finished, we decided to get a good night's sleep, as there was a long day ahead.

On the Saturday, we had to get up and have breakfast quickly, as our first activity was booked for that morning: Crate Stacking. Working in a pair to build a tower out of wobbly stacked crates would normally be hard enough, but to make it even more difficult, this entailed standing on top of the tower as we built it! By the end, the stackers were blindfolded, further complicating the matter! This was a great activity, and lots of fun was had by all.



After lunch, we went on a long ramble through the countryside, towards Abingdon and back, which included finding a geo-cache, visiting a playground, and lots of chatting! The route allowed us to take in loads of different scenery, including villages, fields and forests, and also observe a great sunset as we walked back to camp.



Once we'd cooked and eaten our baked potatoes for dinner, we each carved a pumpkin for Halloween, which included one with "OUSGG" cut into it, and sang lots of different songs, with a campfire roaring in front of us, keeping the cold winter weather away.



On the third and final day, we packed up most of the camp, which was definitely easier than setting it up, as this time we had light to see by! There were kebabs for lunch, cooked on the fire, and we did archery for our afternoon activity. Popping balloons has never been as fun as it was with a bow and arrow, and I think we all did pretty well at it!

Then, we unfortunately had to say goodbye to each other, and to Youlbury, which had been a terrific place to stay, and one which we'll certainly be returning to again.

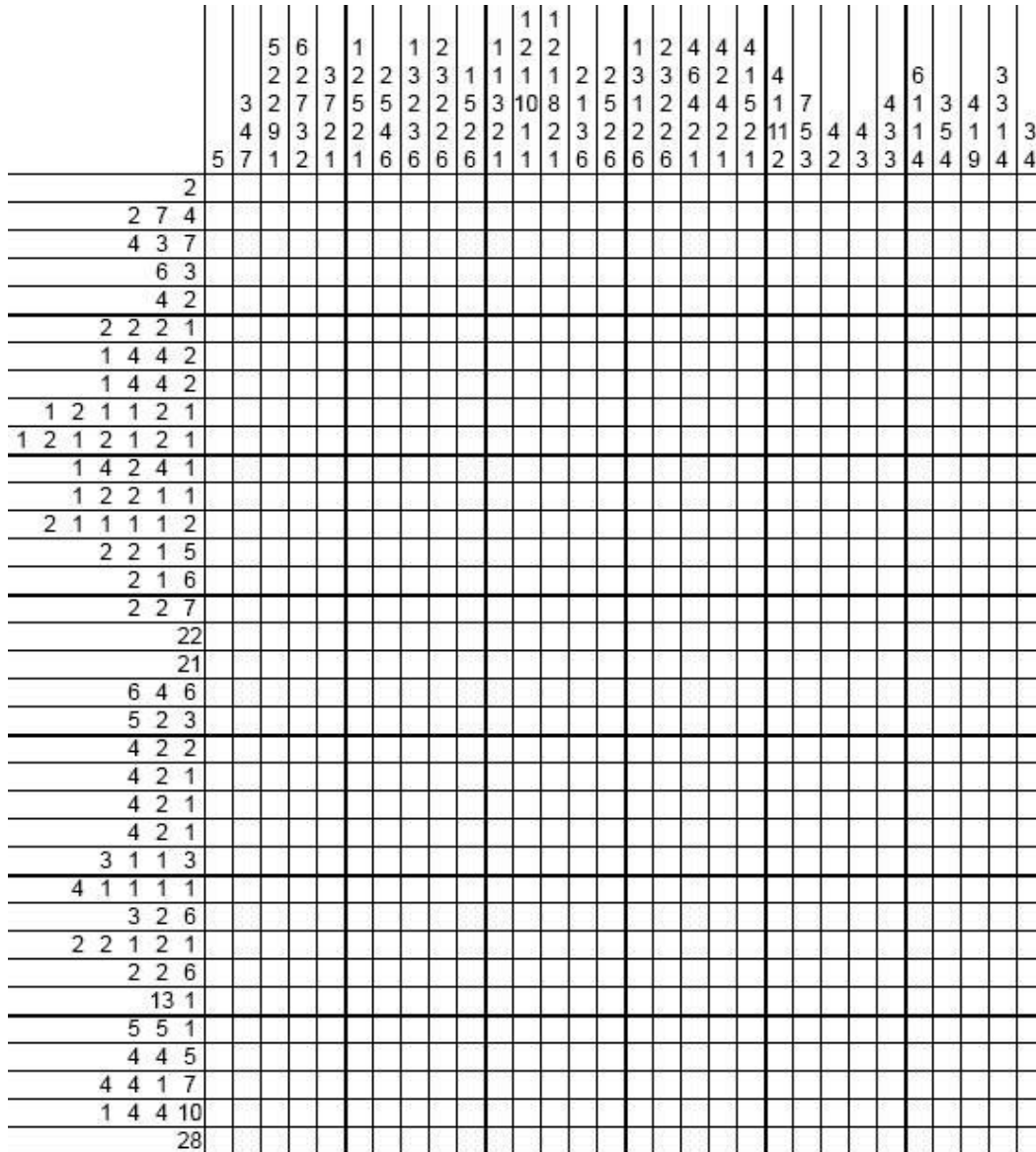


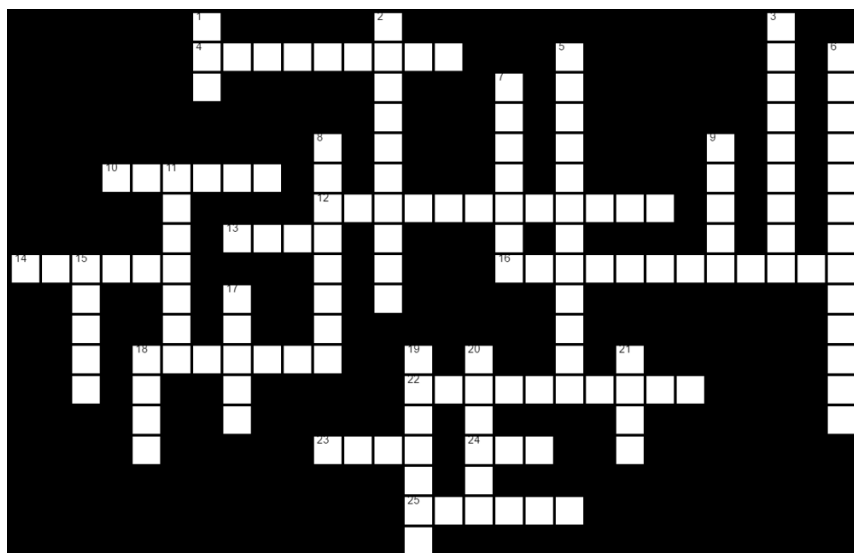
OUSGG Break time

Puzzle setter: M. Jordan

A Walk in the Park

For instructions, see <http://www.nonograms.org/instructions>





ACROSS

- 4 Material strip used to confuse and disorientate the wearer (9)
- 10 An old bovine river crossing (6)
- 12 Sweets often enjoyed once molten and blackened by flame (12)
- 13 Tented accommodation (4)
- 14 A meal of all the animal bits usually avoided (6)
- 16 Long-suffering mascot (4,3,5)
- 18 The friendly university up the hill (7)
- 22 A grand institution for education (10)
- 23 Canvassy accommodation (4)
- 24 Social luncheon (3, abbr.)
- 25 Scarf (6)

DOWN

- 1 End of year meal; a honey-trap to fill committee positions with the naïve (3, abbr.)

- 2 OUSGG's archive (10)
- 3 The evening when the ghosts (and murderers) appear (9)
- 5 The yearly opportunity to catch up with the Old Members (6,6)
- 6 Trip organised over New Year (6,7)
- 7 A flat dessert cooked for our mascot's birthday (8)
- 8 Squashes ritualistically disfigured at the end of October (8)
- 9 To associate together (5)
- 11 One yet to publish in this respectable periodical (8)
- 15 Used to lead another (5)
- 17 One that reconnoitres (5)
- 18 Floaty accommodation (4)
- 19 Leisurely river transport (7)
- 20 An outdoor meal that includes cream cakes are eaten (6)
- 21 The hot gases that every Scout enjoys (4)