# PostScripT

# The Official Magazine of the Oxford University Scout & Guide Group

### Issue 3 of Michaelmas Term 2001

#### NUMBER 333

#### LOOK OUT FOR THE NEXT SHOCKING ACTION PACKED EPISODE OF 'SIMON'

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# Thanks

Thanks to everyone who's contributed articles this term, especially Phil, Amanda and Christina. How about next term we have more articles from freshers? It's easy to contribute, just write an article about anything you want (even better if it is relevant to OUSGG) and email it to me at tfm@earth.li. I can deal with most file formats, but if it is something weird include a plain text version as well. If you can't do it on a computer, give it to me at a meeting, and I will curse you and then type it in :-)

# We've Nearly Survived the Term!

Hi there everyone,

Well here we are and its eight week already, I can't believe my term of office is nearly at an end. Only one more week and all the power and responsibility passes to my chair elect, Phil. I have actually really enjoyed being Chair and its been wonderful when everything went smoothly, most of the time. I have even enjoyed the art of faffing!

Last Monday was our Bowling trip all the way to Swindon Megabowl. I have to admit that as Chair you can't organise everything and a certain amount of the arrangements are

due to luck. A prime example of this was that exactly 17 people turned up on Monday to fill the 17 seater minibus! It was a nice bus, complete with a good sounds system to pump out some Abba melodies, while we made our way to Swindon. We even

drove straight to the megabowl with out getting lost, thanks to our great driver, and some extra directions (thanks editor). think everyone enjoyed the two games of bowling and some people did really well, with the help of some expert tuition by Rob and Tristam. I am afraid I was not on form that night and I think I failed to get a single strike, but then my excuse it that I was too busy faffing and being Chair. Anyway, it was a great opportunity for me to hasstle, sorry that should be ENCOURAGE, everyone to take a committee post. The evening overran just a bit, but hopefully that's because everyone was enjoying the bowling. We made it back to Oxford just before midnight, so it was still Monday, just! Welldone for everyone participating enthusiastically in the sing song on the return journey and for creating a verse to "in the stores.." for all 17 of us. I would like to thank Chris for being the man at the helm of



I can also report on our excursion to the Cotswolds which took place only yesterday. Seven of us in all met at the station, and after waiting for the train (which was late) we went to Moreton-in-Marsh. I am pleased to say that I was not required to navigate us on our trip thanks to our keen navigators Keith and Steven. Thanks to them for being able to decipher the map, which was of insufficient detail, for finding a yummy pub

> for lunch, and for not getting us lost. I won't go into great detail, as I am hoping someone from the trip will like to loose their fresher status and write a full report with photos for the next postscript! I will give my thoughts on the day though.... I have to say your jammy chair,

struck lucky with the weather again and we enjoyed a bright warm day with beautiful blue skies. It was in fact so warm that I had to carry most of the warm layers that I had brought with me, not bad for November. We enjoyed some lovely views of the Cotswolds, including charming little villages and autumn trees with gold and amber leaves. We also thankfully survived the day without being attacked by dogs, or cows, or getting shot by gamekeepers.... but you will have to wait for the details!

So that's it from me, I have had a great term, if not a bit stressful in places, it was all well worth it. Hope you have all enjoyed it. Thanks to everyone who has made the term a success, and welldone to our freshers you have survived the term, so don't forget to come back for more next term.

Luv Christina, your happy Chair xx



# Phil's subtle advertising page

It involves walking! It takes place in winter! It's ....

# WINTER WALKING.

There are still plenty of places left in the last OUSGG trip of the year (and the first one of the next, thinking about it).

Where? South Lakeland Scout Base, Cartmel.

When? 28th December - 3rd January (but you can come for only part of the time).

Why? For walking, touring, adventure, fun, and laughter, contact Phil Alderton

- How? (email winterwalking@vicious-circle.org.uk or telephone 07989 224 341(mobile) / 01865 469379).
- **Cost?** And all this for just £10 a night (£3 deposit per night by 30th November final balance by 15th December if possible)!
- **Blackmail?** It'll be great. If you don't go, you'll regret it. Maybe not today, maybe not tomorrow, maybe not even for the rest of your life, but you'll regret it [ed: does this mean you are guaranteeing us some kind of afterlife Phil?]. See the previous version of postscript for a form.

# **Rob's megalomaniac section**

#### Ever wanted to rule the world?

I noticed recently that some members of OUSGG enjoy nothing better than a bit of scheming, intrigue and subterfuge (okay - it was while we were playing Monopoly).

Well there's another game out there that some of you may



have played, and there are no dice (so Chris that means you can't claim it's all down to bad luck when you get beaten into next week). I all comes down to strategy and most of all negotiation. It's called...

# Diplomacy.

Seven players, or teams of players, set out to conquer europe. To win you will need to know when to make alliences and most important of all when to stab your allies in the back.

It takes a long time to play (longer than Monopoly) but works really well on a one turn per week basis. The time involved is minimal, it probably takes 10 minutes to write down your moves and you can spend as much time scheming as you like.

If anyone thinks they might be interested in playing I will get the rules (which like most good games are very simple) printed out for people to read and explain how everything would work. This article is really just to see if it's worth my time!

So if you think you might be interested e-mail me (robert.france@sjc.ox.ac.uk), or just tell me (but I'll probably forget) and I'll go from there.

# **Mystic Phil's Gibberings**

[ed: Well some of them, he asked me not to publish the article, so I didn't I just published part of it (sorry but insulting Postscript doesn't get your way Phil) :-P ]

"The futility of Economics has been well-documented but not that of philosophy [ed: Isn't futility the reson'd'etre of Philosophy?]. Consider, for the sake of example, the question I have been asked to ponder by my tutor, and which I should really be answering as opposed to, say, contributing four hundred words of complete nonsense to an amateur (very) publication [ed: hmmm do insults from the clinically insane count?]: 'Are causes real?'."

1st week:	Surprise evening. [ed: sounds good so far]
2nd Week	Something exciting
3rd Week	Something we did last year that I like
4th Week	Armed take over of Oxford Union Society
5th Week	Erik's birthday party. And he's paying.
6th Week	Trip somewhere.
Mon 7th	Death of Mr Alderton through mental exhaustion
Tues 7th	Parties in streets, fanfares, dancing, music, ticker-tapeparades, etc.
8th Week	TGM and Burial at Sea.

Apparently, I have no way of knowing that just because I've

hurt my hand severely every time I've placed it into the blender (and that's not an uncommon experience down here at Magdalen Road, trust me), this time I'll scream out it pain just as much. Still, I guess it isn't all bad. If I don't do any work for OUSGG over the vacation, there's a chance that a term card will magically appear if I flick this switch, which up to now has turned my light on, given that I can't rely on a causal relation between the work of a chair-elect and the production of the programme of activities.

# **Post-Postscript The Postscript Questions Page**

#### Hello new editor!

Forgive my ignorance, being a mere arts student, but I can't work out what's going on in the otherwise excellent "Simon" strip from Issue 332. All that seems to be happening is that our hero and heroine appear to be launching an intercontinental ballistic missile against a hidden enemy for no apparent reason. Am I missing something? Please put me out of my misery.

# Respectfully, Phil Alderton

Well Phil, first let me point out one again how fortunate we are to have managed to win the bid for Simon in our high brow magazine, would you believe it, the author was about to sink into the depths of obscurity to sign a deal with a large Sunday paper before we picked him up, and put his career back on track. As for what is going on, may I suggest you re-read the strip with a more meta-physical mindset to see if you can work out what is going on.

#### Lieber Herr Redakteur!

There appears to be a lack of pedantic letters published in your otherwise fine magazine. Is this because you are, in fact, perfect, or is the reason to be found in the fact that we're all too devoted to our studies to waste time writing to student publications correcting minor typos?

#### Mit freundlichen Grüssen,

Well, obviously being the devoted editor that I am, if I was to receive any such missives, I would not only immediately publish them, but would publish additionally publicly apologise for the mistakes. I would never even consider simply disposing of the evidence and organising for an accident involving a grand piano and the author of the complaint. So I must agree with your own assessment of the situation.

# **Rally Quotes Section**

Well, nobody wrote this section, so I guess you'll have to forgive me if some of these quotes are less than 100% accurate (OK, so I can't remember any so I had to make some up) [ed: to any lawyers out there is this enough to stop you suing me?]

Rob: Jen, Jen, let down your hair.
Allison: There were only about a couple of dozen men, and one was my boyfriend so that's OK
Gail: That's a big one
James: Who am I?

#### "A Box of Christmas Delights"

An evening of traditional festive entertainment in aid of the Oxfordshire Jamboree fund Wootton village hall (near Abingdon) Saturday 22nd December 7 for 7.30pm Tickets £6 adult, £4 child (under 14) includes a mince pie and drink Tickets from George Golding on 01865 739852 (cheques payable to "Oxfordshire County Scout Council")

[ed: I thought Postscript wouldn't be complete without something scouty, and this looked vaguely relevant :)]

#### Simon



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#### Across:

**1** OUSGG meeting evenings (7) 5 Part of a saddle (6) 8 Evening feature of 31 (3,5,5) **10** Do this to end a faff (5) 11 Sweep (5) 13 OUSGG (2) **14** Useful when walking (3) **16** Take 22 or 23 here on 31? (4) **17** Tiring feature of 31! (3) 18 Italian city (4) **20** See 26 22 Controls of ship (4) 23 Go down briefly (3) **24** Small car (4) **25** Fay Weldon's Devil (3) **26, 20** Dwarf song (2-2) **27** Use this to get to 31(5)**28** Too legless to be a college Warden? (5) 31 Activity between 1 down and 26 down (6,7) 32 Raise roughly (4,2) **33** Dispute (7)

Down: 1 Archangel's feast (10) 2 Sharp ridge (5) **3** Expresses (4) 4 Runs meetings (6) **5** This journal (10) 6 Toast these at campfire (12) 7 Meadows (4) **9** Don't lose him at rallies! (4,3,5) 11 US President (4) 12 Opposite of 31? (6,4) **15** Campfire lover (10) **21** Norse god (4) **26** Spring term (6) 28 Trite (5) **29** Amazed (4) **30** Hop (4)

Answers to <u>joanne@jomiller.org.uk</u> before the next issue of Postscript, the first correct solution will win a bag of Jelly Babies.