

# PostScript

The Official Magazine of the Oxford University  
Scout & Guide Group

ISSUE 3 OF  
TRINITY TERM  
2002

NUMBER 339

Don't miss the  
shocking  
conclusion of  
Simon

## Contents

1. *Chair's report*
2. *The sun has got his hat on*  
*Party Political broadcast*
3. *St George's day*  
*Narrow boating*
4. *Erik kidnap 3 page special*
7. *Songs page*
8. *Flying the flag*  
*Nick's note*  
**Simon!**
9. *Annual pissup*  
*A letter from the farm*  
*Natalie's essay*
10. *Easter activity*
11. *An article from Richard*
12. *A geography lesson*

## The end of the world as we know it!

**Did you know? Chris is infact around 400 years old and was one of the first intake of students in Jesus college?**

### Chair's report – Rob

Well it's over; hopefully everyone has enjoyed their OUSGG summer. Well I say summer, I'm sure it didn't rain half as much in the last two terms as it did this term. Some kind of conspiracy if you ask me!

Don't forget that OUSGG never stops, the fantastic Gold Rally is on the horizon with guaranteed campfire fun, singing, barn dancing and very wet silly games and it's probably not too late to persuade Phil to let you go on the summer trip as well. So come on, let



the fun continue!  
I'd really like to thank everyone who has helped out during the term, especially the pub-crawl organisers (who seem to have been inexcusably distracted recently by exams or something....) and to everyone who turned up - it wouldn't have been much of a term without you.

And finally best of luck to Alison, I'm looking forward to rejoining the massed OUSGG ranks and just enjoying her term.

### Quotes – Richard

Alison (while reading PostScript 337): "I've found a grammar error!"

Rob: "Don't you mean a 'grammatical' error?"

## The sun has got his hat on. Hip-hip-hip-hooray – Phil

As it's the last issue of term, I thought I might try to see what life is like without the hardenend, cold, cynical shell I spend my time living out of. So, having taken various amounts of Prozac, applying the fake grin, and spinning happy, jaunty music on my gramophone, here's my account of our wonderful year.

### *The sun has got his hat on and he's coming out to play*

#### *Top three OUSGG termtime meetings*

3 - Film-making (Trinity 2002)

Low turnout, but a wide range of props, bad jokes, and possibly the worst version of Monty Python's "Yorkshiremen" sketch ever recorded. And the chance to say, plausibly, that I've pranced around Keble with a large giant frog, a mechanical sheep, and a pink, fluffy handbag.

2 - Morris Dancing (Hilary 2002)

Men with bells and sticks. Dancing. Perfect.

1 - Campfire and fireworks (Michelmas 2002)

Not only the largest attendance in recent years, but a spectacular display, lude songs, and great food. Who could ask for anything more?

#### *Top three OUSGG memories*

3 - Probably around 1 am around a campfire at the Birmingham Rally, when Keith decided to take a short cut to the toilets. Over the fire.

2 - Caroline's Mr Potatohead costume.

1 - Christina and Jenny arriving at the punt and picnic.

#### *Top three things OUSGG should learn to take care of*

3 - Erik the panda

2 - Erik the panda

1 - Erik the panda

#### *Worst three OUSGG memories*

3 - Alison getting overexcited at the SSAGO AGM and saying that we'd happily run a rally.

2 - Rob's Ribena Vodka

1 - The aftermath of the Winter Walking Pub Crawl.

We didn't even get around all four pubs in Cartmel.

Most tasteless item in a gift shop:

The Hack Green Nuclear Bunker's special fall-out snowstorm.

### *Now we'll all be happy. Hip-hip-hooray*

#### *Top three revolutionary pinups*

3 - Robespierre

He might have instigated the Terror, but he was obsessed with oranges. Which is, alarmingly, a charming image.

2 - Lenin

Great beard, great guy.

1 - Thomas Paine

Common sense

#### *Top three in-jokes*

3 - Pass the ice-cube

The climbing club's favourite activity. Apparently. Allegedly.

2 - The Jenny Measure

Pour one tablespoon out of a bootle of vodka/bacardi/orange juice/whatever. Drink the remainder.

1 - Bailey's and Orange

You didn't think I'd omit this, did you?

#### *Top three new OUSGG traditions*

3 - The #ousgg IRC channel

For the computer-aware OUSGG member, who can't bear days other than Monday or Thursday.

2 - Going to rallies

And running them.

1 - Wild Pubcrawls

The perfect way to begin your OUSGG career, eh Sam?

#### *Top three crap names for a new section*

3 - Explorer Scouts

2 - Explorer Scouts

1 - Explorer Sco...-Oh well, I should have known that I couldn't keep my cynicism at bay. Still, it was worth a try, wasn't it?

And now... An OUSGG first I believe (feel free to correct me if I'm wrong), an active campaign for a committee post.

## VOTE MICHAEL FOR QUATERMASTER

After seeing the state of some of the equipment in the stores I have decided that they need sorting before it gets to late to do anything about it.

I aim to repair and ultimately replace all decrepit equipment, especially the stoves. To check and update the stores list on the website (introducing a new section – the "Tristam's Garage" store's list) and to keep tighter tracks on what is taken and returned.

I have had experience in stores and equipment, having been Assistant Quartermaster for my home group for a couple of years.

## SO FOR A HAPPIER STORES, VOTE MICHAEL FOR QUATERMASTER (and drink Jennings)

Oh and of course I will want to purchase new rope

## 'A Queen's Scout view of the National St.George's Day Parade' - *Mark*

'On Sunday the 21st of April I was at Windsor Castle for the Annual Scout St. George's Day parade and National Scout Service, you may have seen this on the news! The St. George's Day parade is attended by Venture Scouts who have gained their Queen's Scout Award. It was the Queen's birthday that day, and with it being her Jubilee year there were Scouts from all sorts of Commonwealth countries. The day started at the Victoria Barrack's in Windsor where your uniform was inspected, and appropriate badges added/removed - you could even get your shoes shined (I hope that's grammatically correct) by some cubs! You then went out into the drill area (I was tempted to say quad) where they taught you the marching in small groups. We then watched the guard's doing their drill, in their full ceremonial gear.

We were formed up in sections by area, I was in section Q which consisted of Cheshire, Durham etc. and practiced marching, doing 'eye's right', and (most complicated of all) splitting from 2 to 3 ranks and back again (which we managed that first time!). The full scale practice, which involved a sergeant major yelling at us whilst a couple of leaders pretended to be the Queen and Prince Philip, was next. I remember one of his line's being 'civvy right is the same as military right'. The ever comforting instructions on fainting were then given out before we had time to go and get lunch. The weather all morning had been scorching, and I joined my family in the park next to the barracks along with some other scouts for a picnic lunch.



After lunch it was up to the Royal Mews where we lined up into our sections, then had the short march up the hill and into Windsor Castle. Once in the quadrangle (got it in litgit) we lined up and the Queen and Prince Philip inspected the parade which involved the Queen going round the front line of people and Prince Philip doing the back row. I was on the front row and the Queen commented to me and the person next to me that the weather was nicer than it often was for the parade. Very British the Queen talking about the weather! After that we marched passed and did the 'eye's right' to the Queen before going down to St. George's Chapel for the National Scout Service. The Chief Scout then said a few words about the day, before we returned to the Royal Mews. In the Mews, after a celebratory Mexican wave or so, the National Commissioner for Venture Scouts asked us to dismiss our section leaders, it was then time to leave.

A truly wonderful experience, notwithstanding the lovely weather, the fact it was the Queen's birthday, it being the Jubilee year, or because there were Commonwealth Scouts there, but just because of the sense of occasion and the privilege of being there, in Windsor Castle being inspected by the Queen.'

## The long, hot (hopefully!) Summer - *Phil*

Unlike other, lesser, societies, this year OUSGG is offering not one, but two chances to get away this summer (actually, there is a third, but it's Alison's job to plug the rally, so I won't steal her job).

### Narrowboating

The main trip will be from 14th September until the 21st, and, as you may already have noticed, will involve OUSGG's finest boatmen ploughing up the canals at the giddy heights of four miles per hour. Although one boat is almost full, if I can get at least three more people I'll go and hire a second craft. For More details contact me as soon as possible.

### Exmoor

Probably the most anonymous National Park (its neighbour, the incredible Dartmoor, steals the limelight), Exmoor offers attractive countryside and an easily accessible coastline. If there are any takers I will go ahead and book accommodation for a week's walking, faffing, touring, and general OUSGG-trip style activities. It'll take place from 24th June to 1st July. If you want to come, contact me urgently.

October is a long, long time away. Why suffer withdrawal symptoms from your favourite panda-obsessed group?

## THE KIDNAP ERA: REVISITED

Chris Seward, Jesus

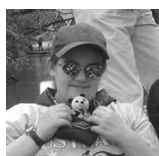
Okay. So where is he? I didn't fall for it last time, and it'll be a cold day in the Lake District before I fall for it a second time. Someone's nicked Eri>|. Again. But now, rather than try and trick me into believing that some random SSAGO club has pinched the poor little guy, everyone seems to be pinning this heinous crime on me. Well, that's just not on: no one has more respect for the integrity of OUSGG's mascot than yours truly. So what are we going to do about it? Well, rather than just spend time making baseless accusations, I have been on the case, trying to track him down. Figuring that he must have been taken by someone either in OUSGG or closely related to us, I've done background checks on all the possible suspects and herein disclose my findings for all to see. Forget SSAGO CE checks, this research probes far deeper than anything that they would bring up. (Incidentally, on the basis of these findings, I don't reckon many of us would be paying subs to SSAGO if this ever gets out...).



### **Suspect: Alison Parker**

Detailed analysis of internet traffic passing Alison's way revealed a high level of contact with SSAGO officials. It is well known that SSAGO members from outside Oxford have conspired to deprive OUSGG of Eri>| on numerous previous occasions.

**Suspect Rating:** Suspicious **Pandanap Probability:** 45%



### **Suspect: Amanda Kerr-Munslow**

Surveillance footage from a number of covert operations links Amanda with a small panda, supposedly the "mascot for NetGuides". Horrifyingly, analysis of water usage in Amanda's house suggests that the said panda may actually be an excessively-washed Eri>|.

**Suspect Rating:** Dangerous **Pandanap Probability:** 67%



### **Suspect: Ben Bateson**

Where does Ben live? And where did the ransom note come from? And does Ben have a motive for revenge? The fact that Eri>| isn't female seems to be the only reason Ben could provide as evidence against charges of pandanappery.

**Suspect Rating:** Traitorous **Pandanap Probability:** 87%



### **Suspect: BUSAG**

Although also resident in Birmingham, it is more likely that BUSAG would dob Ben in than make off with our mascot themselves after our favour to them at the last Rally. Conclusion: this is one SSAGO club that we can trust. For the moment, anyway.

**Suspect Rating:** Low Risk **Pandanap Probability:** 15%



### **Suspect: Caroline Berry**

Rarely seen without a cuddly toy in attendance, Caroline was a prime suspect from the start. Is she really always tired from work, or is it long nights of panda-baiting and torture that are keeping her up? A known associate of Amanda, you can almost bet she's involved.

**Suspect Rating:** High Risk **Pandanap Probability:** 73%



### **Suspect: Chris Seward**

His involvement has been suggested by a number of members of the group. However, no hard (or even vaguely soft) evidence has been presented to back-up such an accusation. Revenge is a possible motive, but as perhaps the most loyal member of OUSGG, not a very likely one.

**Suspect Rating:** Guilty **Pandanap Probability:** 99%



### **Suspect: Christina Mowl**

Chemical analysis of pheromones produced by Christina indicates that pandas are equally susceptible to their effects. It is therefore a possibility that Eri>| fell victim like so many others this year and simply followed Christina home.

**Suspect Rating:** Wanted **Pandanap Probability:** 56%



### **Suspect: CUSAGC**

Never trust anyone from Fenlands Polytechnic, that's what they always say. Ex-OUSGGER come-CUSAGC mole Steven Geer was spotted in Oxford shortly after Eri>|'s supposed date of disappearance. And they did lose the Boat Race this year, after all...

**Suspect Rating:** Tabbed **Pandanap Probability:** 49%

**Suspect: David Ball**

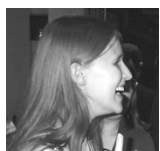
“Never trust a man with a beard” is a famous old adage – you never know what they’re trying to hide. Indeed, it is possible that David has removed our sub fusc’d companion. However, since his car would have broken down during the attempt, we would have caught him by now.

*Suspect Rating: Rusty      Pandanap Probability: 25%*

**Suspect: Florence Pujos**

Last year Bill made-off with poor old Hogan when he went back to the States. It was only months later that the poor koala surfaced in a dusty office deep within the bowels of the university. Perhaps our French friend has taken Eri>| on a little exchange visit.

*Suspect Rating: Accented      Pandanap Probability: 59%*

**Suspect: Gail Templeman**

Gossip certainly linked this mysterious web surfer with the panda’s former keeper earlier this year. Perhaps this gave her sufficient access to the room in question. Also seen in the company of other clubs at SSAGO Rallies. Definitely suspicious.

*Suspect Rating: Connected      Pandanap Probability: 65%*

**Suspect: Gareth Owen**

OUSGG’s sole survivor from the previous kidnap era, it is certain that Gareth has specialist information on the art of pandanapping. Combine this with his unhealthy interest in covert operations and gym visits and you’ve got a lean, mean pinching machine.

*Suspect Rating: Qualified      Pandanap Probability: 76%*

**Suspect: Hayley Thompson**

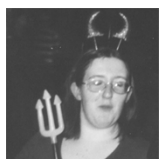
For those of you who don’t know her, Hayley’s a friendly lass, not the sort to steal someone’s mascot. However, it is also possible that in her exile from Oxford she’s been missing the rounded face of our black and white pal. So you can’t count her out completely.

*Suspect Rating: Exiled      Pandanap Probability: 39%*

**Suspect: Jen Harding**

With a previous conviction for kidnapping and concealing Eri>|, the chances of this hardened napper being involved are high. Can we believe that her constant enquiries as to whether we have found our beloved panda are out of concern for his wellbeing? Or are we on her trail?

*Suspect Rating: Previous      Pandanap Probability: 90%*

**Suspect: Jenny Robertson**

What irony it would be if this term’s panda minder turns out to be the secret kidnapper! “Found the letter in her pigeonhole” did she? Of course, the irony would be greater still if Jenny had taken Eri>| during a drunken rampage and then suffered total memory loss...

*Suspect Rating: Shaky      Pandanap Probability: 63%*

**Suspect: Joanne Miller**

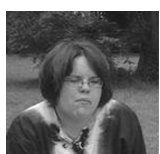
With CCTV footage of an attempted panda-theft at the Gangster Rally, it is clear that this Old Member has an heightened interest in our furry friend. Definite involvement with covert-ops Gareth suggests a possible two-pronged operation.

*Suspect Rating: Identified      Pandanap Probability: 84%*

**Suspect: Keith Crothers**

Although intelligence indicates that Keith is unlikely to be the principal perpetrator on this occasion, analysis suggests that there is a high probability that he may have told the thief exactly how and when to take Eri>|, and with what tools. Just like he took some other toy.

*Suspect Rating: Mastermind      Pandanap Probability: 59%*

**Suspect: Madeleine Bunce**

I tell you, it’s always the quiet ones you have to watch out for, and Maddy seems to manage to keep herself quite inconspicuous. But her convincing portrayal of Star Trek’s Klingon “Lieutenant Worf” during 7<sup>th</sup> Week’s video evening showed us she has a definite dark side.

*Suspect Rating: Quiet      Pandanap Probability: 56%*





**Suspect: Mark Hawkins**

Did Mark really have a bit of a jippy tummy after the Annual Dinner, or was he just feeling off colour at the prospect of returning to the scene of the crime? After seeing the accounts breakdown after the dinner, there's no doubt that he's the calculating type.

*Suspect Rating: Calculating Pandanap Probability: 61%*



**Suspect: Michael Ramsden**

Michael's portrayal of the devil at the Gangster Rally is surely enough to convince anyone that he really is a scheming chap. Or consider the possibility that Jennings beverages have a secret ingredient. And I don't mean a special type of yeast.

*Suspect Rating: Leathery Pandanap Probability: 47%*



**Suspect: Natalie Jones**

Is Eri>| a sheep? Well is he? I think you have your answer there then. Somehow our long-suffering mascot wouldn't quite fit into the décor of Natalie's room. Unless sheeps eat panda, in which case we might not see the poor little chap again...

*Suspect Rating: Stuffed Pandanap Probability: 52%*



**Suspect: Nikolas Salisbury Anderson**

Never trust a man with three names. After all, the guy that shot JFK and the guy who shot John Lennon – they both had one name too many. So why should we trust our Danish visitor? Was he just cycling up to Youlbury that night, or was he checking on Eri>|'s hiding place?

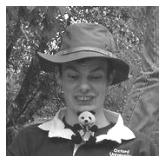
*Suspect Rating: Cyclo Pandanap Probability: 45%*



**Suspect: Noga Zivan**

Everybody knows that Noga is heavily involved in amateur dramatics. She has at her disposal a wide variety of props and equipment. Has Eri>| become one of those props? Is Noga planning a play based on a Chinese theme? It's entirely possible you know...

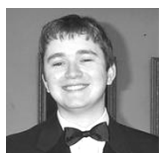
*Suspect Rating: Pretender Pandanap Probability: 81%*



**Suspect: Philip Egbert-Flumpy Alderton-Smythe**

Anyone with even half a memory will remember what award Phil received at the 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Dinner – the "Panda Fetishist Award". His unnatural obsession with Eri>| has a long and colourful history. Eccentrics never should be trusted...

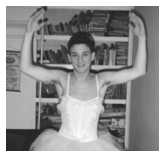
*Suspect Rating: Classic Pandanap Probability: 86%*



**Suspect: Richard Owen**

Let's think about this – when was the last time Eri>| went missing? That's right, it was when he got temporarily hidden under Richard's table. And Richard didn't notice he was gone then. I suggest we consider the oblivious factor and check Richard's room again.

*Suspect Rating: AWOL Pandanap Probability: 77%*



**Suspect: Robert France**

Just like his known associate Jen, Rob has previous form for lifting our faithful mascot. Last time he held onto him for months. Never mind the fact that he has a whole flat to secret him in, Rob's hair is usually enough of a jungle to make a pleasant enough home for Eri>|.

*Suspect Rating: Convicted Pandanap Probability: 94%*



**Suspect: Sam Snelson**

Again, it's always the quiet ones. Perhaps Maddy and Sam are in it together? And anyone who has seen the Cheshire-cat-like smile that spreads across Sam's face when he gets a bit tipsy can't be anything but suspicious.

*Suspect Rating: Smiley Pandanap Probability: 56%*



**Suspect: Tristram Fenton-May**

Tristram's Compsoc connection is well established. The threat from Compsoc to Eri>|'s wellbeing is also well established. Put two and two together and you get one pretty big suspect. Factor-in the three names thing again, and he can almost be convicted.

*Suspect Rating: Innocent Pandanap Probability: 01%*

## In the quartermasters store – *Caroline*

Some of these aren't very good I'm afraid but I've been playing with it for quite a while. I hope I haven't missed anyone, and I apologise for any in-jokes that have slipped in.

Anyway, here's a possible set of words....

**There was Chris, Chris  
Who we'll all miss  
In the stores  
In the stores  
There was Chris, Chris  
Who we'll all miss  
In the quartermasters store**

### **Chorus:**

**My eyes are dim I cannot see  
I have not brought my specs  
with me  
I have not brought my specs  
with me**

### **More verses:**

AG - sat reading her mag  
Alison - saying climbing is such fun  
Alison - sitting on a cushion  
Amanda - gone to have a gander  
Andy - eating cotton candy  
Ben - building a big den  
Bill - climbing up a hill  
Caroline - trying to match a line  
Christina - drinking all the vodka

David - fright'ning a little kid  
Erik - avoiding being nicked  
Fiona - trying to bowl an over  
Florence - getting used to pence  
Flossy - acting rather bossy  
Gail - telling us a tale  
Gareth - playing Mafia to death  
Gordon - getting a stove to cook on  
Hayley - despairing at us daily  
Helen - playing with a lemon  
Helen - clueless about Ben  
Hogan - and ketchup ban  
Hugh - seeing what was new  
Janet - placing a bet  
Jen - trying to find her pen  
Jenny - eating vodka jelly  
Jeremy - making us a cuppa tea  
Jo - putting on a show  
John - soon he will be gone :/  
Kathrine - wond'ring what she's  
got in  
Katrina - hoping no-one's seen 'er  
Keith - trying to find some teeth  
Linda - trying not to hinder  
Maddy - finding a golf caddy

Matthew - going to see the view  
Mark - fumbling in the dark  
Mary - looking quite contrary  
Mike - locking up his bike  
Mike - going on a hike  
Nat - hugging a big cat  
Nick - getting to Youlbury quick  
Noga - getting into bother  
Paul - going to a ball  
Phil - writing with a quill  
Rachel - looking rather pale  
Rich - digging a big ditch  
Roadkill - sitting rather still  
Rob - sleeping on the job  
Roger - taking in a lodger  
Rosie - sat making a posie  
Sam - quiet as a lamb  
Shawn - proudly being drawn  
Simon - his bag does weigh a ton  
Steve - going to Ask Jeeves  
Thomas - checking on our gas  
Thomas - going through a pass  
Tris - getting a bit pish  
Vicky - eating a chocolate biccie

## Ole sad på en knold og sang – *Nick*

### Ole sad på en knold og sang

Ole sad på en knold og sang,  
la-la-la-la-laaa-la-la-la-laa  
får og beder omkring ham sprang.  
tra-la-la-la-la-laaa-la-la-laa

Lyngen sused, og skyen gled, l...  
udflugtslængsler i hjertet sved t...

Heden stænged, og mindet spandt, l...  
moders øjne dog stærkest bandt. t...

Snart den ting dog blev åbenbar: l...  
Minder gør ikke sagen klar. t...

Stak så Ole en dag i trav, l...  
stod med et ved det store hav. t...

Øjet skinnede, tåren randt, l...  
intet mere i verden bandt. t...

Over havene hyrden fo'r, l...  
fårene står der endnu og glør. t...

Ej kan bede og får forstå, l...  
længsler tog over bølger blå. t...

Jeppe Aakjær, 1899,  
poet, writer, farmer (1866-1930).  
Aakjær's works contain many popular/  
national ("folkly") descriptions of rural  
Jutland (continental part of Denmark).  
Happy melody by Alfred Toftt

### Freeform translation<sup>1</sup>

Ole sat on a knoll and sang  
la-la-la-la-laa la-la-la-laaa...  
Sheep<sup>2</sup> and wethers around him sprang<sup>3</sup>  
tra-la-la-la-laa la-la-laaa

The heather whistled, and the cloud(s) glided (past)  
wanderlust stung in the heart

The heath<sup>4</sup> held (him back) and the memories surged  
mother's eyes, however, was the strongest tie

One thing was soon revealed, however:  
Memories do not make this matter clear

Then one day Ole went trudging briskly  
(and) suddenly (he) stood at the great sea<sup>5</sup>

The eye shone, the tear(s) ran  
nothing in the world tied him anymore

Over the seas the shepherd rushed  
the sheep are still there goggling<sup>6</sup>

Wethers and sheep can not understand  
(the) longing of travelling (the) blue waves

<sup>1</sup> Please only try to sing the first verse!

<sup>2</sup> No, I am not kidding – this is by no means adapted

<sup>3</sup> Hey! This one rhymes!

<sup>4</sup> This could be connected with West Jutland and may explain Ole's wanderlust.

<sup>5</sup> The most likely one is the North Sea, confirming the Danes' sense of proportion.

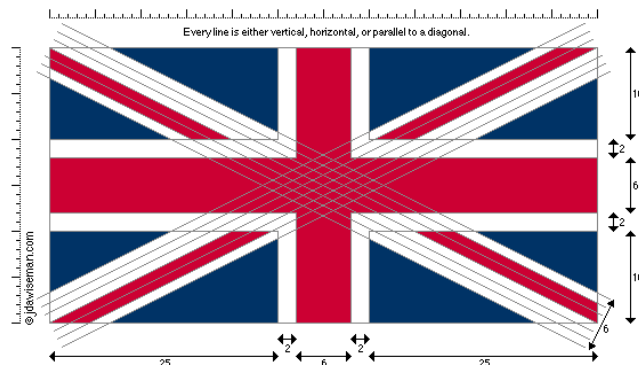
<sup>6</sup> Still not kidding – Jeppe Aakjær had a good sense of humour.



## Flag Rant – Keith (Who still has finals to do and expects you all to come and see him at 17:30 Friday 8th week finishing his exams)

On the jubilee weekend one of the things that struck me most was the lack of union flags flying. Round Oxford there was numerous flagpoles without any flags on them yet the entire weekend comprised of official flag days so people should have been flying their union flags. Of the flags that were flying over half of the ones I saw (three out of five) were being flown upside down, admittedly I wasn't around Oxford much on the weekend due to revising for exams so I didn't get to see many flags at all but the number of empty poles was disturbing. Upon telling the people in Harris Manchester College that their flag was upside down his first response was 'Were you in the Scouts?', to which we had a nice conversation during which he said that he would be having serious words with the maintenance man who had put it up.

With this annoyance in my head I decided to take a break from my studies and look up as much as possible about UK flag protocol. Did you know for example that it is an offence against the crown (otherwise known as treason) to fly the flag upside down without due cause. The UK does not have an official national flag as the union flag was never fully adopted and still remains a royal flag and not the flag of the nation although this is disputed. The red saltire on a white background is the flag of the Fitzgerald family and not of the un-martyred St Patrick.



## A note from Nick – Nikolas

### The serious bit:

Although there is no question that the trip over here gave me possibilities I couldn't have had at home, Oxford was not the perfect place for me, even though this obviously and luckily depends on the people you mingle with. But it was a way of getting a proper taste of and a foothold in England – and for me, England it is. I don't know how mutual it is, but I'm glad to say that you folks have made England and Oxford much more fun and bearable for me, respectively.

At the distinguished age of 23 I hope it is possible to join the old members' gang and the wonderful prospect of Postscript issues delivered (?).

I hope to see you some time. Enjoy yourselves & GOOD LUCK!

Yours truly, (Mæ-æ-æ-h/Ba-a-a-h)  
Nikolas

### End of serious bit

The term Jack does not refer to the flying of the flag on a Jack-staff on a ship as the term jack existed before the jack-staff, it is just a term used to express the diminutive size of the flag in either proportions or in physical size. Examples of when the flag is a jack are when it is part of a larger flag such as the Australian flag and the Red Ensign seen on the back of merchant ships (only the Royal navy are allowed to fly the Union Flag as a complete flag in its own right and the privilege is usually reserved for the admiral of the fleet). It is also a jack when it is in proportions of either 3:5 or 1:1 (rarely seen but is apparently a valid flag) instead of the usual 1:2.





## OUSGG Annual Dinner – Mark

As Annual Dinner organiser I thought it would be appropriate to write an article for Postscript, to refresh any alcohol impeded memories of the event...

The dinner was held at Balliol College, and the evening started in the Old Common Room with pre-dinner drinks where there was an opportunity for everyone to mingle, meet the old members and senior members who were attending the dinner. It was then time for dinner, in the SCR dining room. Once we had got in there (after the staff couldn't initially open the door) everyone took their places round the 'U' shaped table complete with candles and college silver, we were treated to the delights of roast duck, followed by salmon, and finished off with white chocolate tartlet. After the port it was time for me to give my speech (as discreetly mentioned in the folder) - planned well in advanced (does a few hours count as advanced), and yes my notes were on orange paper - during which I was presented with Hogan the Annual Dinner Mascot for my custody (or should that be care). Rob then got a surprise when I handed over to him (even more discreetly mentioned in the folder), but he handled it well! Chris with his last infamous 'Flossy the Sheep Awards' was up next and managed to present us freshers with a variety of comedy awards representing our services to OUSGG during our first year. These included 'the most organised faff', 'most naïve fresher', 'services to corporate promotion' and 'best fresher at avoiding Chris' (isn't that impossible) - apologies to those of you who's awards I haven't mentioned/have got wrong eek! Anyway the senior members then left us and I believe the proceedings proceeded to Richard's room (for further details ask someone who was there, preferably who was sober - if you can find one)... and so ended the evening.

The next morning (as well as being mine and Richard's birthday) was the punt and picnic. After unnecessarily worrying about how the food was going to get for Phil's, and Nik's, to Parson's Pleasure - which involved me hiking up to Phil's to discover he had already left - I made it down to the picnic. Everyone had already started, and had distributed the food (all 10 tonnes of it), and was tentatively tucking in. We were then joined by Jenny, Christina, and Florence, who ate even more tentatively than the rest of us and drank copious amounts of water... It was then time to pack up and go and collect the punts from LMH (thanks Keith), and Cherwell boat house (thanks Alison). It was then time for a relaxing punt up to the pub (I forget its name). what I should really say is that the punting is relaxing when someone else (like Chris) is doing it - its not much fun going round in circles as Carloine and I discovered when we had a go. We then returned the punts and distributed the 9 tonnes of food, left over from the picnic, before we all departed, and so finished the OUSGG Annual dinner/punt and picnic.'

Dear Ms Sheep,

As my retirement from OUSGG is near, I thought it appropriate to end my time as a fresher in your society before then. I'm sorry that I have not written for your respectable magazine before now.

It is with great pleasure I have enjoyed this year of arrangements and I hope the coming years will be as good.

But also I have received the news of Mr. Eric the Panda's disappearance under suspicious circumstances with great sorrow. As I won't get paid until September, unfortunately I am not capable of making any significant contribution to the campaign of finding Mr. Panda for the time being. Please accept my sincere condolences and I hope, eventually, the appropriate measures (may I humbly suggest shaving/shearing of mascots) will be taken against the responsible villain(s) and justice will be done.

Right, now the formalities have been taken care of, the rest will contain something more along the lines of the usual Danish bluntness I've inherited. (You may want to check the shock-absorbers in your reading glasses later on just in case.)

(Nick)



## A Busy Finalist Speaks – Natalie

"I'm nearly there, only one more to go and then I shall be free!!!!"

## Easter Activity – Sam

YOU WANT AN ARTICLE FOR POSTSCRIPT BY SUNDAY NIGHT? BUT I'VE ONLY JUST FINISHED EXAMS. OH OK THEN, HERE'S AN ACCOUNT OF WHAT HAPPENED ON THE EASTER ACTIVITY LAST VACATION:

### EASTER ACTIVITY

*I had only been coming to OUSGG for under a week when, at a post pub-crawl gathering, I was entertained with tales of lurid activities taking place at Winter Walking. Therefore when the opportunity to go the Easter activity arose I leapt at the chance to see what all the fuss was about...*

What do you mean I used this article in an earlier issue of Postscript? I assure you this is a completely new account albeit with a slightly similar opening paragraph...

Oh well it looks like I'm going to have to write something sensible. For example did you know that the word "faff" was first used by Rev. S. Baring-Gould in his book entitled "Yorkshire Oddities" in 1874 (at least according to the OED). Also that "N'n'N" is the name of a wedding video company in NorthEast Ohio. And while we may have the one and only "Eri>| the Panda" there is an "Eric the Panda" who seems to be the advertising gimmick for a company, based in the UK, selling "Panda Stix" a plastic substitute to bamboo canes for the use in the garden. See him dance at <http://www.imhotepcomposites.co.uk/pandastix/shows.html>

Anyway I that think that just about does me, I'm going to go and get some sleep. *[ed: good effort, thank you very much Sam (pity he forgot to attach it to the email on the first attempt, so Chris' version is missing this inspired article)]*



## An article for PostScript – Richard

Once again we are at that point of the year where all of us have to write an article for PostScript. And once again I don't know what to write. So I am boringly going to recollect bits from my last 4 years because after this I shall be leaving. Although you won't get rid of me that easily!

"So you're a fresher..."

Like many others, this was my first introduction to OUSGG. My other lasting memory of the Freshers meeting is Ben (Now there's a surprise). Jo's Term is, unfortunately, not overly memorable - mostly because I didn't turn up to most of it. I do remember turning up for N'n'N a day early though.

Now, when going on a walking holiday, what is the one thing you are likely to need the most?

That's right. Walking boots. This didn't stop me leaving them at home for my first ever Winter Walking (TM). The rest of the trip was good fun though!

Vicky's term was next. My main recollection of that term was going to see Phantom of the Opera in London and for some silly reason sitting next to Ben. This is a bad plan, as anyone who has ever sat near a techie in a theatre will tell you. David's term was, well, full of faff. Mostly because of the weather and the juggling of the programme. I had prelims that term. Can't remember much else.

"So, you're not a fresher. But lots of other people are..."

When doing a powerpoint presentation, make sure the computer isn't going to suddenly go into sleep mode half way through. The second bit of advice: the Isis Tavern is *\*NOT\** in walking distance of the city center... especially when you live somewhere down the Cowley Road.

Hilary Term was an experience.

Well, what do you expect if you let Andy be chair... Lasting memory is probably beer. I can't remember much more. As for trinity term, well, probably less

said about that the better. It was my term you see. I enjoyed it, don't know about anyone else.

Third year. The Sofa. Another Freshers meeting, another presentation. Jesus this time. Scottish Dancing and Bell Ringing. Hilary term. Mike. Missing lots. I think this was another term where I missed lots. I remember the couscous though. Trinity Term. TFM.

CD Termcards. Jumpers for Goalposts. Finals. Argh.

Fourth Year. Christina's Term. Lots of fun. Fireworks. Things going bang. I like things that go bang. The first necker shaped termcard. Oh yes. Ghost walk. Scary. Phil's term. Another necker term card. Carrom. Fun chemicals. Ah yes, and walks around Oxford with Phil's entirely cryptic clues.

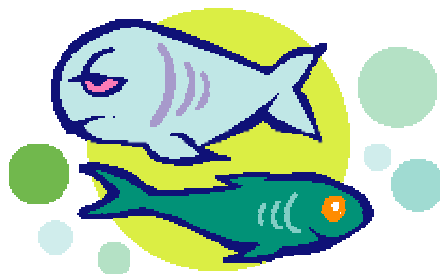
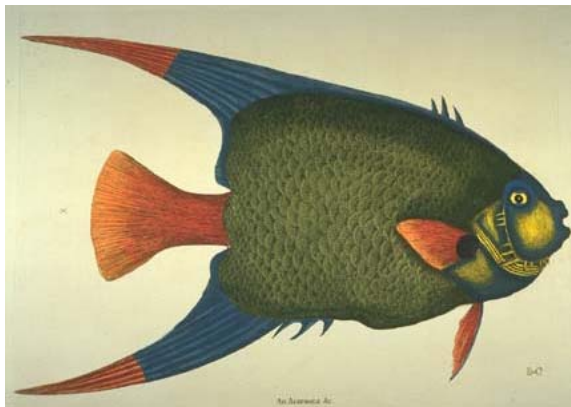
That brings us almost up-to-date. Rob's term has been a bit of a blast from the past. Interceptor, great TV program it was... But where was Rob's Helicopter? More fire. And the chance to make cars. Oh, and seeing Much Ado About Nothing twice in ten days. And of course Phil's sheep dancing experiences...

Well, that is it. It has been a fantastic four years, I wish I had another four, but all things must end. Sigh. The future. Yes, let's talk about the future. The Rally. Good luck ;-)

Anyway, I'm not revising and I have 1 exam to go. Apologies for the randomness of this article.

Congratulations to everyone who has finished work and good luck to those who still have exams

to do. Finally, good luck to everyone in everything you chose to do. So long, and thanks for all the fish. *[ed: no problem you can have them, fish tastes nasty:]*



## Geography Lessons – Angharad

*[ed: This is a short transcript I was sent by Angharad from Big Brother, this should make anyone who's been quoted as saying stupid things feel a bit less bad :) On the positive side it looks like Jade has all the necessary skills to become a world leader :)]*

**Day 13, 12:50**

IF the housemates ever get a task based on their knowledge of geography, they would be advised to steer Jade well clear of answers.

As Jade woke Spencer this morning, her remarkable lack of geographic nous came to the fore.

She may have already consumed a few small alcoholic beverages to toast her 21st birthday, but the following transcript is somewhat tough to comprehend.

Starting by asking Spencer what he does for a living, this is bound to go down as a Jade chat that will live with her forever:

**Spencer:** "You know you see those people in Venice standing on the back of gondolas, pushing it around?"

**Jade:** "They don't do that on the Thames though, do they?"

**Spencer:** "No. I don't work on the Thames. I work in Cambridge."

**Jade:** "Is there not the Thames there?"

**Spencer:** "No!"

**Jade:** "Is there a river called the Cambridge river?"

**Spencer:** "Yeah, it's called the Cam."

**Jade:** "Really? You swear? I only thought there was the Thames. I thought that was the main one in London."

**Spencer:** "It is. I don't live in London."

**Jade:** "I'm confused. I thought Cambridge was in London. I knew Birmingham weren't in London."

**Spencer:** "Would you like to go and tell the group what you just said?"

**Jade:** "No..."

**Spencer:** "Cambridge is a city."

**Jade:** "But we've got a city in London."

**Spencer:** "Yes. This city is called London. And there's different parts of it. Cambridge is a city."

**Jade:** "Of where? Kent?"

**Jade:** "Well England's a country, London's a city, Bermondsey's just a throw-off. Now where are you? What's your country, and what's your things?"

**Spencer:** "What country am I from? England. The city is called Cambridge, the county Cambridgeshire."

**Jade:** "So not Kent then?"

**Spencer:** "Nooooo.... The region is called East Anglia."

**Jade:** "East Angular? That's abroad. Is there not a place called East Angular abroad?"

**Spencer:** "Jade, have you been taking the stupid pills again?"

**Jade:** "Every time people tell me they work in East Angular, I actually think they're talking about near Tunisia and places like that. Am I thick?"

**Spencer:** "Well, I hate to say it, but you are."

**Jade:** "Cos Scottish and Irish and all that comes under England, doesn't it?"

**Spencer:** "No... They come under Great Britain. Scotland and Wales have their own flags. Northern Ireland and Ireland are different."

**Jade:** "So they're not together? Where's Berlin?"

**Spencer:** "Germany..."