

postscript357

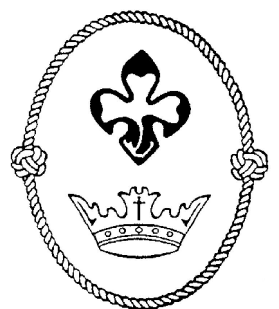
SO LONG, FAREWELL



AUF WIEDERSEHEN

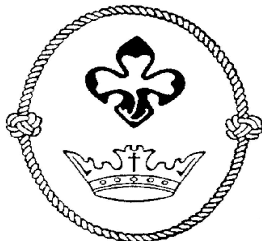
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TO YUR, AND YUR, AND YUR, AND YUR, AND YUR



Issue 357 – Third of Trinity 2004
An OUSGG Publication

postscript



Issue 357

Third of Trinity 2004

An OUSGG publication

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Jenny Robertson

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Ex-members: Chris Seward

Senior Member: Katherine Blundell

Views in *Postscript* are those of their authors and might not correspond to those of OUSGG or related bodies.

The predictor works fine in
OpenOffice.org Calc, by the way.

Apologies for the lack of a quiz – I ran out of space. Thanks to Noga for these two to keep you going, though:

"1) What has been the lowest temperatures in which OUSGG has camped (in recent memory), and when?
2) What item, traditionally, has always appeared on the Quartermaster's report?"

Recognize the tune we end with?

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You can go home again!

Scout and the City

And that's it. Doesn't it go quickly? First years – enjoy it while you can, it won't last. Second years – spend next term in happy denial. Those leaving – farewell. Those still hanging around – isn't time you admitted that the only reason you did another course is to avoid leaving us?

Alas, we cannot put off the inevitable. As Tom Lehrer memorably sang:

*Soon we'll be out, amid the cold world's strife
Soon we'll be sliding down the razor blade of life.*

But before that dreaded day, enjoy the summer, devour the issue, and we'll see (most of) you back in October! With a whole load of eager Freshers and a whole new editor to nag at you for not submitting things.

Phil Alderton, Editor
PS

Academic year 2003-04 - Made bearable by...

New College Bar, Flaubert's Sentimental Education, the Rosenblatt swimming pool, the Paul Miller Late Show on Radio Oxford and other stations across the south and the south-east (for the ylang-ylang and the inedible muffins), the SPC MCR chocolate cupboard, Port Meadow, Prospect, the never-ending ongoing in Ambridge, Fox's Golden Crunch Creams (thanks Alison), the Scout Association (for providing a bored editor with an endless supply of cheap shots), afternoon tea in DPIRS, Balamory, FFMC and other such haunts, late night games of poker, Sloop John B as performed by the Beach Boys, OUSGG...

Made unbearable by...

The mess that is Frideswide Square (and let's not even contemplate Cornmarket), dogs, far too heavy wooden doors at DPIRS, banks in general, punctuality problems, the choice of beer at New College MCR Happy Nights (but at £2 for everything throughout the evening complaining seems a bit ungrateful), arrogance in others, arrogance in myself, hot days when I've work to do, those who complain about programmes without watching them, my hair (though I should be grateful for still having some) trying to find a decent cover for prestigious publications, sleeveless shirts on men, bagpipes...

Thanks to all those who've contributed over the past year. Special thanks to Caroline Berry and Alistair Green for their vast photographic record I continually resorted to for the covers, to Clare Brennan at the Clubs Committee for photocopying and stapling the issues, to St Peter's MCR for my gleeful abuse of printer rights, and to Robert Baden-Powell without whom...er...hang on...

PS

From the top

Jacqui Bradley & Jenny Robertson, Sofa

Hello!

Wow - we've made it to the end of term, and amazingly things seemed to have gone just about to plan, with a good turn out at meetings (well, OUSGG is the best excuse you're ever going to get for a revision break, is it not!?) and hopefully the term was enjoyed, or at least tolerated, by everyone. As Co-chairs we would just like to say how much we've enjoyed doing the term (yes honestly!) and it wasn't anywhere near as stressful as we thought. So if you're reading this through the TGM (and we wouldn't blame you if you were, they are sooo boring...) and you're wondering whether to go for chair-elect (or any other post) do - it's great fun and if us two can do it anyone can!

One half of the chaise-longue is soon to be leaving Oxford (blub blub!) and would just like to say what a fantastic club OUSGG is and how much she has really enjoyed the past three years and is really going to miss you all – though don't expect to get rid of me that easily!!

And the other half of the chaise-longue would like to say Sorry, but you're stuck with me for another year!! And good luck to Jenny and Maddy for next year – we'll look forward to seeing you again soon!

Hope people have a very scrummy and (pretty please!) dry BBQ and have a great summer. And best of luck to Sarah for next term!

J and J x 🍷

Old jokes revisited (1)

The editor would like to apologise for the large number of grammatical, spelling, and other errors in issue 356 (2/TT04). He offers his resignation, but doesn't really think there's much point. PS

“Quote-Unquote”

Our occasional tribute to the hit Radio 4 panel game that nobody likes

Phil: I did something new last night – I spoke to a woman.

CEEFAQ: Isolated showers. Sunny spells. Wet in channel

Ben: Kylie Minogue is entirely responsible for the sexual development of men our age

Alison: So you think he's this big (gestures) “ ” but he's really (gestures) “ ”.

Phil: Ladies can't go commando, can they?

Gail: The trick is to have me [ineligible] for a long period of time

Mark: Do we have a decided number of legs?

Hayley: I've lots of weird pictures of Erik at home

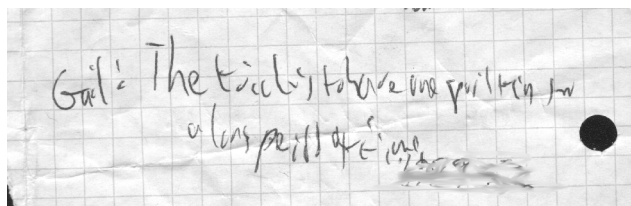
Jenny: Jacqui is obviously the OUSGG expert on suspenders and stockings

Phil: Sex – strangely absent tonight.

PS

Grand “Read Phil's Handwriting” Competition

What should we have Gail for, for a long period of time? Can you decipher Phil's scrawl? Suggestions please, but no prizes – it's just for fun.



Balloon Modelling

This, and all the rest that appear throughout the issue are from Caroline Berry

PS Balloon modelling is done with special long balloons which cope with twisting. It is important not to fully fill these since you need expansion space when twisting. Twisting moves must start on the knotted end of the balloon to give room for this expansion. To hold, twists should go round two or three times.

PS

Letters

Nasty nasturtiums

Dear Sir,

In his pedantry about the rather bizarrely titled 'Culture Wars', Mr. Ball claims that there is no longer any mushroom in the new Scout uniform. It is officially stone. I must apologise for this error and can only put it down to an artistic failing on my part. However, this could be seen to be a final acceptance by the Scout Association that Scouts and Guides have never, and will never, associate with mushrooms.

Secondly, he claims that an overnight activity held indoors cannot be called a 'camp'. I would like to draw Sir's attention to the new camp license badge which is the same for a Brownie overnight sleepover and a five day outdoor Guide camp. Therefore I feel justified in calling an indoor winter sleepover, a camp.

Thirdly, what nasty nasturtiums were cast upon the Guides' ability to light a fire and to gain permission for this! Whilst I will confess that the Guide Association would look poorly on lighting fires in the meeting hall, as far as I am aware, there are no plans to take this little enjoyment from us just yet.

Yours just as pedantically,
Hanger-on, 3rd and 8th Rochester.

What's a nasturtium?

Epidemic fast

Dear Sir,

It is with some concern that I write about the epidemic fast spreading through OUSGG. In the last six months, four couples have become engaged and made plans to marry. Is this some sort of society record? Is there any hope for the rest of us? I suggest that all members not wishing to become affected in this way start taking sensible precautions. One clove of garlic twice a day should help.

Yours hoping to remain foot loose and fancy free,

A Girl.

Seems certain members are immune [cough] PS

More balloons

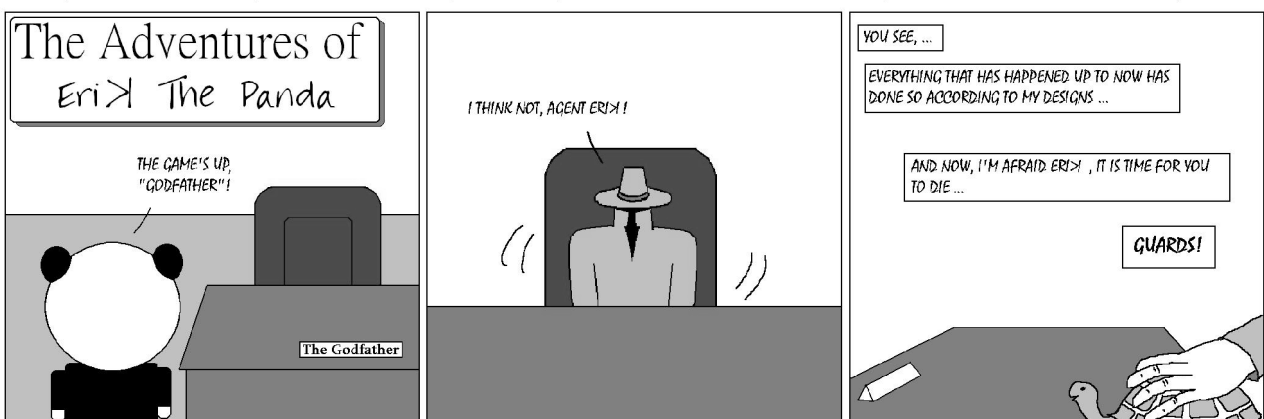
Three-twist dog

Fold over the top (knotted end of the balloon and twist the two parts together two or three times (to give a face, the short knotted part, and ears, the doubled bit). Now double over the long end to make front legs. Twist this to give the neck and front legs. Repeat this on the long end left to make the body, back legs, and tail. Make sure everything is lined up sensibly and there is your dog.

Rabbit

This is made similarly to the three-twist dog, giving him long ears and longer back legs than front legs. The front legs can then be knocked into the back legs (which are pulled apart) to give a sitting rabbit. PS

TRACKING DOWN THE HEAD OF THE BODGRODAVIAN MAFIA TO HIS ALPINE, VOLCANO-BASED, UNDERWATER HIDEOUT AND MISSILE LAUNCH FACILITY, ERI> CONFRONTS THE MYSTERIOUSLY NAMED "GODFATHER"!



Minutes of the 130th meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee

Held on 24th May 2004 at St Hugh's College

Present:

Jacqui Bradley (Chair), Phil Alderton (Secretary), Mark Hawkins (SSAGO Rep.), Alistair Green, Caroline Berry, Michael Ramsden, Sam Snelson

The meeting was declared quorate and opened at 19:25

Apologies for absence

Maddy Bunce and Sarah Behrman

Approval of Minutes-

Mark Hawkins felt the typing was not up to scratch. Caroline Berry noticed a few typos. The minutes were approved

Matters Arising

Phil had contacted the Proctors regarding Bevington Road, and will present their response under point 6. Sam has purchased one mug for N&N, which currently undergoing a process of rigorous consumer testing. He will buy some more. The equipment and stores situation remains unresolved

Officers' Reports -

Chair- The term's happening, and people are showing up. It's all going ok.

Chair-Elect- Sarah had sent to the Secretary the following statement, which was read into the minutes :

"I am very much looking forward to the challenges of being chair in Michaelmas, and promise that my commitment to OUSGG will improve considerably from its current feeble level! Freshers' meeting and TGM are fixed events, and I also hope to run the bonfire again as it has been very successful these last two years. I have a few other ideas and will follow these up as soon as the mayhem of Summer Eight is over, as well as organising a planning and pub meeting one evening. Anyone with any ideas or questions is welcome to get in touch."

Treasurer- Maddy had sent to the Secretary last term's accounts. On 26th April 2004 the balance of the current account was £609.63 . The Secretary apologised for not know how the equipment fund is calculated from this.

Secretary- We're registered with the Proctors. They asked for detail of clubs using CRB checks, or those that should, so he asked Mark for the OUSGG documents on this and forwarded them on.

SSAGO Rep.- The rally is between July 16th to July 18th at Miskin, Cardiff. The theme is Monty Python. Details etc from him. Someone at Brookes emailed him via SSAGO - he will pass it on to Jonathan (Membership secretary). It was unclear whether this person was a current student there, or will be coming up in the autumn.

Provision of resources from OUSU -

Mark Hawkins attended an OUSU council recently (Caroline declared Mark OUSG's unofficial OUSU rep). They have decided not to have a shop anymore, but have proposed to create a 'resources room'. They plan to have a post system there as they receive a lot of correspondence to university clubs which they don't know what to do with. Post to clubs would sit there until collected by the society. They also plan to set up a database of clubs and also a rooms database. Jacqui ask if this would include non-college rooms that some groups use, but Mark did not know. They will offer computers, printers, and copying facilities like the ones the Clubs Committee currently offer at Bevington Road.

Regarding the on-line clubs database, Phil asked if we are on the list and what category we come under. Mark didn't know. Regardling the Freshers 'Fair', Mark told us that registration will be online this year. Caroline asked if the price has gone up, but Mark thinks it is the same as last year.

The Oxford Directory is no longer being published (Caroline - a real pity). Mark was not sure if it's being superseded or if it is going online. Jacqui said she thinks it's going online. Mark noted that they are also offering webspace so we could set up redirects to our pages. It was noted that this might be useful if we lose our current webspace.

Relocation of Stores

Bevington Road will be closing. The Clubs Committee will be having an office, but not a building. The consensus was that it would be highly unreasonable of us to ask Tristram for more space. Phil said that, as per the last F&GPC meeting, he had informed the Proctors of our current situation. They had replied stating that they would bear our general storage needs in mind, noting also that gas bottles and such like could be stored at the Sport Ground, if the Director of Sport agreed. Phil then added that he had spoken to Bob Barnes last week who told him that whilst current tenants of Bevington Road had begun to be shown around the new property, there was an intention to offer us something, although things had been moving slowly. It was asked if we could afford to rent space. Mark noted that OUSU had said that they weren't offering anything, although it was mentioned at the OUSU meeting that they could negotiate for clubs with professional storage firms to try to get a bulk discount. These though would be quite far out and expensive.

Chris Seward had emailed Mark to say that in the past things were stored at the Senior Member's college. Sam said that another option is storing our stuff at a local Scout Troop. The problem with this is how far out it is, and the issue of keys. Would we be given our own set or have to rely on the Troop opening the stores for us. Jacqui felt that if we did not have keys, it would not be worth it. It was noted that Bevington Road is currently convenient for Michael, who lives around the corner. Caroline offered to keep an eye out about the Wolvercote camp stores.

Mark asked if the library is still in Wadham College. Sam thinks so, and Michael suggest we need to find another Wadhamite for the next few years.

A suggestion to have the stores split between people was rejected, with people feeling that this was not desirable. Jacqui felt that it was better to get something university-wide than something college based, due to the problem of needing members in that college, unless we were to come to some arrangement with them. It was felt that it might be worth bringing the issue of storage up with the Senior Member, so Phil agreed to write to her. **ACTION - Phil to write to the Senior Member about possibilities for storage at St John's**

Phil also agreed to contact the proctors and Bob Barnes again. He was also asked to enquire about the costs of tenancy. **ACTION - Phil to contact the proctors and Bob Barnes.**

The meeting felt that Members should keep an eye open for possibilities. **ACTION - people to look for possibilities.**

Any Other Business

Caroline said that Stephen White had told her that oxfordrally.org.uk had expired. As it was sponsored anyway, we shall not be renewing it. Mark said that Cardiff had bought ssagorally.org.uk for their rally, and would be transferring it to SSAGO afterwards. He also noted that SSAGO plan to set up redirects so each club could be listed as www.ssago.org.uk/oxford or www.ssago.org.uk/cambridge as some clubs have long and awkward web addresses.

The meeting closed at 19:50. **PS**

Musings on Scouts and Guides

Mark Hawkins *has a dictionary and isn't afraid to use it*

What's this you think, the next instalment of Phil bashing the Scout Association and Hayley knocking Girl Guiding UK? Well, I'll put you out of your misery: it's not.

We are in a unique (and somewhat unfortunate) position in Oxford in not being the only Scouts and Guides. No, I am not on about the local groups which many of us help with but the ladies (or gentlemen) who clean your college rooms, and usher hordes of French school children around colleges, respectively. Why exactly do these groups assume the names of our esteemed associations (nearly used the word 'organisation', which of course the Scout Association is not: maybe I will explain in some future issue); indeed is there any connection between the two largest youth associations and a bunch of cleaners and tour guides?

Let me first start on scouts (arbitrary choice, honest). Scouts it would seem on first inspection are merely cleaners who clean (or not in the case of mine) students and tutors rooms. This is not to belittle their job, but it does not seem to square with the other (dare I say 'proper') scouts. A closer look at college regulations, however, provides more clues: apparently the friendly staff in college who collect my ticket for dinner each night are known as scouts too. Further digging, this time in the college 'Record' (annual 'magazine' thingy) reveals that once upon a time your scout would wake you in the morning and stoke your fire for the day ahead. Thus the scout was a kind of 'servant' more than a cleaner. All very interesting stuff but where is this leading us? Well it is clear that the role of the scout in college was traditionally to provide the 'essentials' for students to survive in the university 'jungle'. The aim of this was (and still is) two-fold: to make the transition away from home easier for students (who might not know how to stoke their fire for example) and to ease the burden of everyday tasks from the student so they can concentrate on their academic studies.

The Scout Association is a movement to provide young people with the knowledge, skills and confidence to tackle the adult - world, delivered

through a practical fun programme. (Nope I haven't swallowed a load of UKSA marketing material). In this respect a scout in college provides such things for the student (at least traditionally) in a university context – even if this need has been somewhat reduced with the advent of central heating etc. A scout (as in member of the Scout Association) however does this for themselves, or learns how to, in a much wider context: life.

Now I move swiftly onto guides. (These are a current pet hate of mine living in college this term, the tourist ones that is). So what is the role of the guide? Well this is a lot simpler than the college scout (I for one do not need to delve into historical records for one). The tourist guide shows groups of tourists around our great city we call Oxford, pointing out places of interest, be these historical, architectural or academic (and invariably in the case of Oxford all three). Their job is to inform, entertain and enlighten: to give people a real feel of the place. However, before they can do this they need to know their way around the place and learn many and varied nuggets of useful (and not so useful) information about the place. In this sense 'being prepared' in the GGUK way. When it comes to their tours they welcome people of many nationalities and share their knowledge. Again in a superficial way emulating 'proper' guides in themes of international friendship, and shared learning. The main link between the two is more conceptual (as in the case of scouts) - rather than in any one of these aforementioned ways – in helping others. In the case of the tourist guide this is helping tourists to maximise their experience of our beautiful city (and hopefully pass on some of the rich and varied history of these parts) - all be it for a profit motivation. Guides (as in Girl Guiding) have the concept of helping others embodied at the heart of the association through the promise. This like scouting is manifest in a multitude of practical ways, initially in meetings but hopefully in every aspect of the guide's life.

And so ends my 'discussion'. I am totally unqualified to conduct it having no knowledge of linguistics or indeed much knowledge of scouts (aka cleaners) or tour guides..I found a multitude of definitions but none really assisted my rather contrived arguments. However for your delectation

and pleasure I now present a series of definitions of scouts and guides from the OED (in flagrant breach of copyright). Enjoy:

Scout:

- A high overhanging rock.
- A term of contempt applied both to men and women.
- A flat-bottomed boat; ‘a Dutch vessel, galliot rigged, used in the river trade of Holland’ (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867).
- The action of spying out or watching in order to gain information; chiefly in the phrases *on* or *in (the) scout, to the scout*. Also, an instance of this; a scouting or reconnoitring expedition. Also *scout-round*.
- One sent out ahead of the main force in order to reconnoitre the position and movements of the enemy. Hence occas. in wider sense: One sent out to obtain information.
- A bee searching for a new site for a swarm to settle or a new source of food.
- One sent out by an organization (as a sports club, recording company, etc.) to look for suitably talented persons with a view to their employment by that organization; a talent scout.

Guide:

- One who leads or shows the way, esp. to a traveller in a strange country; *spec.* one who is hired to conduct a traveller or tourist (e.g. over a mountain, through a forest, or over a city or building) and to point out objects of interest.
- A director or wielder (of a weapon).
- One who controls the movements of an animal or a flock; a driver, keeper.
- One employed or forced to accompany an invading army, in order to show the way, give information about the enemy's country, position, etc.
- Something which marks a position or serves to guide the eye. **PS**

Balloonacy

More complicated dog

Make a twist just in from the knot, to give a head. Holding this twist, make another further in as the top of the ears. Fold the balloon against itself so the second twist is now one end. Twist the balloons together at the first (head) twist to give a head and two ears. Repeat this process for the front legs, twisting at the bottom of the neck, the bottom of the front legs, folding over and twisting to secure the two legs. Repeat for the back legs to complete your dog.

PS

In praise of OUSGG

Alistair Green *rather likes us*

Picture the scene. I finished Prelims yesterday, and with them all of the work for the year. As a scientist, I am not normally expected to write essays. And yet here I am, having an essay crisis. For Phil has promised dire retribution against anyone who fails to produce an article for his last issue of *Postscript*, and the deadline is only hours away. Oh well, here goes...

They say that at university you should never let your studies interfere with your education, and it's true. Over the past year my course has taught me such trivialities as how to make *N,N*-diethyl-*meta*-toluamide (mosquito repellent) in the lab and solve the Schrödinger equation for a particle in a box. But OUSGG equipped me with much more important life skills, such as how to shoot a bow and arrow. And play Aunt Sally. And juggle (in theory, if not in practice). And make a balloon model of a dog. And dance a highland fling. And pitch a tent on a snow-covered field near Lancaster in total darkness.

My first year at university was, in short, packed with new experiences – most of which could be traced back to a certain society with an unusual interest in stuffed pandas.

I'd imagine that few, if any of us knew exactly what we were signing up to when we put our names and email addresses on that list at Freshers' Fair. In fact, when people ask me what OUSGG does, I'm still not really sure what the answer is. And therein lies OUSGG's appeal: we aren't dedicated to anything in particular, which means it's anybody's guess what we will be doing next term. Plus, of course, all it takes to fit in is the willingness to venerate Erik; unlike some other societies there is no need to be obsessed with just one type of activity to the exclusion of everything else.

Even on those occasions when academic work does threaten to take over, there is a good chance that a Faff email will come in to save the day. Without them, I suspect I would have lost my mind long ago.

So, thanks to everyone who has helped keep the society going – especially Mark, Sam, Jenny and Jacqui for taking on the unenviable task of being chair. Good luck to Sarah in Michaelmas term, and here's to the next 85 years!

PS

Public Transport – A survival guide

Hayley Thompson *survives*

This year I feel that as well as my degree, I have also been studying public transport methods and etiquette. I have spent two terms relying on Virgin trains, weekends relying on the Oxford Tube and London underground, vacations relying on my trusty Skoda and of course good old Oxford buses. I could almost become a public transport bore but life isn't that bad yet. So I thought I would share some things with you as a welcome alternative to finishing my law essay.

1. Mobile phones should not be used on public transport and certainly not to tell your friends (and anybody else in a 20m radius) what you did last night. We don't care!

2. It is no longer PC to call ticket collectors, well, ticket collectors. They are in fact *Revenue Production Officers* although this makes me think that they print money in coach D when things are quiet.

3. Remember that little man walking up the train aisle, tripping over rucksacks favoured by OUSGGers? He's not selling "Refreshments" (which must incidentally be made to sound as enticing as a bath in cold baked beans), oh no, he is selling *Rail Gourmet*. No longer will a hastily consumed Mars bar be seen as such, it will be a gourmet lunch.

4. Reasons for trains being late are wide and varied and with some rail companies to be expected. Any form of weather can cause problems, too hot, too cold, too dry, too wet. Leaves on the line, engineering works, we've heard them all. It was quite entertaining to hear the following announcement. "We apologise for the delay, this is due to the driver not turning up". I'm not too clued up on rail logistics but surely that is a requirement for successfully moving from A to B?

5. Curiously, they give reasons for delays but seem to reserve the right to cancel trains with no explanation given. Cancellation announcements

must be delivered with the same tone of voice as the Rail Gourmet man, just in case people really do think you are sorry about it.

6. I'm not going to tar all PT announcers with one brush though. The day of the rugby World Cup Final, I was delayed or stuck at each stage of an easy journey. What joy to hear the man say "We apologise to passengers on the westbound platform. What do you expect if you use London Underground." No half-hearted attempt at an apology, just the resigned acceptance that the company you work for really is pants. When the train turned up later, it proceeded to get stuck in the tunnel. I've always wondered what I'd do in that situation, now I know.

7. PT seating etiquette. Never, ever make eye contact, especially on the underground. Scrutinise the maps above fellow passengers' heads instead. Never, ever fill from the front. Firstly, make sure that each double seat has one person sitting in it. Only then can you perch on half of the remaining half, taking great care to ensure that absolutely nothing you are wearing or carrying touches the other person. Do buy broad sheet newspapers. When on Thameslink, glare at anyone that has dared to buy anything other than the Guardian. Never, ever give up your seat for the elderly or pregnant women as this implies you are superior to them and they need help. Don't however try to find a seat on Chronic South East as sitting on the floor is far cleaner. Do not sit near the toilets – ever. Never help people with suitcases – they really do enjoy the challenge, especially all last minute platform changes.

8. The most important part of any PT service is ensuring that people know where they are going. Make sure that all announcements are clear and accurate. Don't, for example, say "Change at Reading for trains to the south of England". Oh the possibilities! Do make sure however that the doors open to allow for passengers wanting to leave the train to do so. Believe me, the lady repeating connection options can keep going for an awfully long time.

9. Good old Ken Livingstone has introduced busking areas on the London Underground. If you plan on busking do make sure that you know more than two lines of a song. In many instances you can get away with only knowing two lines but at times this can endanger your life and other people's mental health. If, say for example, a train was stuck in a station for fifteen minutes with seven times its capacity and no air conditioning on World Cup final day with people who have consumed their own body weight in alcohol.

10. Optimum travelling temperature is important. Make sure your Skoda's heating system only blows out cold air for WW and hot air for the Easter vacation. The same applies for trains and buses – comfortable passengers might actually use the service again which would never do.

11. Make sure that there is a designated navigator. Agree a route before setting out. Make sure the navigator understands those directions, especially on the M6. When arguments do arise (at the first junction), resist the urge to throw your grandmother and neighbour out of the car, shouting "I don't want to go to Southampton anyway". Oh, no, wait, that just applies to me.

12. It is always best to make sure that there is a designated meeting place and time that all parties are aware of. I still have nightmares about leaving four guides and a unit helper (OK, the last bit's a lie) on Birmingham New Street station.

13. Make sure you have enough room to store spare rolling stock. If you don't have this luxury, there is a storage company on the Oxford Tube route that proudly announces that "We occasionally store buses." I don't know why or even how that would work as an advertising gimmick.

14. If you are left waiting for two hours at a train station late on a Friday night ladies, look confident. That length of time may make taxi drivers think you are some other type of 'lady' otherwise.

15. It is perfectly acceptable for Oxford bus drivers to shut the doors in your face. It is more entertaining however to do this to someone who

has been running for the bus, in clear view of all passengers, the driver and the man mowing his lawn. The more people that see this humiliation the better and allows for quicker progression in the bus driving industry.

16. Make sure that your chosen method of entertainment is suitable for the journey you are conducting. Radios are good but can irritate other travellers and tell you every fifteen minutes that the traffic jam you are sitting in exists. Books provide the ideal opportunity to avoid eye contact with others and keep you amused. Make sure the subject matter is not likely to offend others though. I did think it strange that Thameslink passengers were being overly generous with the space they were giving me until I realised I was reading a urology anatomy book.

17. The most important piece of travel advice is to remember that there is no place like home and somehow, sometime, in some sort of mental and physical state, you will get there. It might be best not to leave home in the first place though, it's far safer. PS

Old Jokes Revisited (2)

Richard Owen's *article*

An

PS

That was the OUSGG year that was...

Michael Ramsden – *Look, I spelt your name right!*

In this space I had hoped to include a long analysis of the highs and lows of OUSGG 2003/4. Unfortunately when I sat down to write it I remembered I hadn't been to most of it, making such a review quite tricky. To the best of my knowledge everyone has had fun so it must have been a good year. I apologise to the readership of this fine publication for wasting space with the pointless article, but the editor always complains he doesn't get enough articles. PS

What not to wear

Maddy Bunce *wears clothes. Apparently.*

Since I'm about to waltz-off into the sunset I think now is the time to preach a little fashion fascism, oh how Trinny&Susannah would approve!

I have made a list of my top ten worst fashion disasters (in no particular order) for the esteemed reader to heed. So here are my narrow-minded and prejudiced fashion stipulations...

1. **Thongs on show.** There is nothing tackier than thongs rising over the waistline of trousers. Don't do it girls.
2. **Legs and breasts.** It's either one or the other, or neither if you have a tute/vicar's tea party etc. Adopt the "Streetwalker Look" at your peril.
3. **Colourful ties.** It's called "Black Tie" for a reason.
4. **FCUK.** It's not big, it's not clever and it's certainly not funny. My all time least favourite is the "FCUK Fashion" slogan, cos quite blatantly you're only wearing it because it is fashionable.
5. **Ballet Pumps.** Frumpy-frump. You wouldn't have worn them last year, so don't wear them now just because they're comfy and in the shops. They are guaranteed to make your legs more Anne Widdecombe than Julia Roberts.
6. **Bling.** Anything worn by either J Lo or Victorian Beckham should be avoided at all costs. They're not ghetto-fabulous, they're just tasteless.
7. **Men in shorts.** No explanation needed.
8. **Tankinis & sarongs.** Makes it so obvious you have body image issues, never an attractive sight. And wobbly tummies can be cured so easily, simply starve yourself in the three months before you go on holiday.
9. **Charity shop chic.** If you want a vile oversized polyester blouse then by all means go to jumble sales. But remember an old man probably died in it.

10. **Pop socks.** The least sexy little rags of nylon known to humanity.

Things that bizarrely haven't made the list (ie that I think are quite acceptable):

1. **Green Rally T-Shirts.** Practically my favourite wardrobe essential. For jogging, for house-slobbing, for Co-op popping.
2. **Socks and sandals.** Keeps your toes warm whilst wearing your favourite shoes, thus being able to fantasize about summer in December.
3. **Wearing the same dress twice.** Quite frankly no-one will notice. So if it makes you look like a goddess wear the damn thing. **PS**

Procastration

Michael Ramsden *still has exams*

Top Ten 'Legitimate' Ways of Avoiding Revision

1. Meeting Friends out of their Finals
2. Doing the Washing Up
3. Committee Meetings
4. Checking Email Regularly
5. Organising your Long Vacation Plans
6. Reading Newspapers
7. Reorganising all you work
8. Routine Maintenance of Bike
9. Keeping up with Punting Practice
10. Writing Articles for *Postscript*

Top Ten Less Legitimate Ways of Avoiding Revision

1. Daytime TV
2. The Pub
3. The Internet
4. Soap Operas
5. *Monopoly*
6. Student Politics
7. Reading fiction (excluding texts on the course)
8. Computer Games
9. Perfecting the One-handed Punting Technique
10. Reading Through Lots of Old *Postscripts*
Searching for Inspiration

O Fortuna!

Natalie Jones *looks into her crystal ball*

It seems to be that time of year again, when another batch of unsuspecting OUSGGers is about to be thrown out into the 'real world'. It's a shock. The 'f' word is no longer significant, and things are moving faster and faster towards the even more dreaded 'j' word. The Careers Service has been trawled (in some cases, actually in depth) but to no avail. The question "what am I going to do?" is on everyone's lips, and if you're unfortunate enough to be a mathematician, the only answers given are accountant and maths teacher.

But fear not. There is more to life than that. Courtesy of one rather bored friend and her search of the Internet, I give you.....
(da da daaaa.....)

The Job Predictor!

<http://uk.download.yahoo.com/ne/fu/attachments/job.xls>

Simply enter your name – including your middle name usually works best – and you will be sorted for the rest of your life. To show you how fabulously accurate it is, I have prepared a sample (apologies to those I've left out).....

- *Natalie Jones* – Movie Star (Naturally. However, my future as Natalie Dawn Seward is not looking good!)

- *Chris Seward* - Rear End of a Panto Cow (You should see what Christopher Matthew Paul Seward comes out as!)
- *Maddy Bunce* – President (but try *Madeleine Bunce*)
- *Caroline Berry* – Nun (And will there be a vow of silence taken with that?!)
- *Jonathan Harvey* – Chef (Seems like you've chosen the wrong degree again Jonathan!)
- *Hayley Thompson* – Funeral Director
- *TFM* – Cowboy (Need I say more?)
- *Jacqueline Bradley* – Air Stewardess
- *Christina Mowl* – Anything Where You Can Kiss Ass (The consequences of Baileys & Orange...)
- *Alistair Green & Alison Parker* – Top Gun Pilots
- *Mark Hawkins & Michael Ramsden* – Second Hand Car Salesmen (Look where physics gets you lads!)
- *Roger Cotes* - Superhero
- *Jennifer Roberston* – Sandwich Board Advertising (Diet not going too well then Jenny?!)
- *Philip Alderton* – Gigolo (Things are looking up then....)
- *Keith Crothers* – Pole Dancer (Engineering. Poles. Hmm...)
- *Sarah Berman* – Muppet Impersonator
- *Catherine Blake* – Church Minister
- *Katherine Butler* – Satan (!)
- *Erik the Panda* – In a land far, far away

However, I must say that the piece de resistance (and he's already been practising) is:

Samuel Snelson – Trained Assassin!!!! PS

Balloonatics

Giraffe - This is done the same way as the more complicated dog but with different proportions, ie a long neck.

Sausage dog- Another variation on the dog, this time with a long body.

Aardvark - Another variation on the dog, this time with a long nose.

Sword - This time fully inflate the balloon then allow some air out before tying so it's slightly squashy. Fold the filled end over, so roughly 1/6 is folded, twist the two sides together leaving enough at the know to give a handle. Fold the long bit and repeat to give the hilt.

Hat - You will need two balloons for this. With the first, wrap it around your head so it meets and twist a small end on the knotted part to the length left over. This length can be used to attach things, then secured at the back by twisting around the balloon a few times. PS

Abschiedslied der Pfadfinder

Nehmt Abschied, Brüder, ungewiß ist alle Wiederkehr,
Die Zukunft liegt in Finsternis und mach das Herz uns schwer

Ref: Der Himmel wölbt sich übers Land, ade, auf Wiedersehn

Wir ruhen all in Gottes Hand, gut Pfad, auf Wiedersehn
Die Sonne sinkt, es steigt die Nacht, vergangen ist der Tag,
Die Welt schläft ein, und leis erwacht der Nachtigallen Schlag.

Ref.

Es ist in jedem Anbeginn das Ende nicht mehr weit
Wir kommen her und gehen hin, und mit uns geht die Zeit.
Ref.

Nehmt Abschied, Brüder, schließt den Kreis, das Leben ist ein Spiel,
Und were es recht zu spielen weiß , gelangt ans große Ziel.

Ref.

PS