





TENSIONS BOIL OVER DURING SMOKED KIP-PER CRISIS TALKS

BEYOND THE FRONT COVER THIS ISSUE:

- Spraying cream onto tables during board meetings
- Tales from a three hour Scout AGM
- Worst Issue Ever...

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Maybe She's Born With It, Maybe Its Postscript

From The Angry Desk Of

<u>The Editor:</u>

Apparently, or so I've been told; members of other Scout and Guide Groups read Postscript. Which is nice. Could they please also submit some articles, because frankly the OUSGG membership seems incapable. Indeed we've had just five current members of OUSGG submit an article this academic year that they didn't have to due to the obligations of committee posts*. Though I did have to turn down an article this week from our esteemed Annual Dinner organisers who thought it appropriate to submit an article that was in fact just an email they had sent to the entire mailing list just twenty seconds previously. Anywho, welcome to this inter-club edition of postscript with articles coming from our counterparts in Durham and an article co-written in the Fens. Admittedly from former OUSGGers, but still.

The fact that there is no innuendo whatsoever in this issue of Postscript is disturbing enough in itself. Or maybe I'm just angry that Torpids is cancelled this year, and at this present moment I should be sitting in a boat on the final day of racing, contemplating the possibility of blades.

But Arsenal are winning at last, after a torrid week of football. 2-0 at the moment, Gilberto Silva with a 51st minute penalty and Julio Baptista's first Premiership goal. About time. So all is forgiven. Provided I get articles for the next issue!!

Nick Scroxton (St. Edmund Hall)



(*Lizzy, Shell, Chris, Alistair and Mike in case you wanted to know)

Following on like sequential words on a page:

- Page 04: New edgier structures
- Page 05: Have you sprained your ankle?
- Page 06: Editor loses his sanity
- Page 07: Competitive elections between Scouts
- Page 08: After zis fifz yar, we wil hav a sensibl riten styl

DEADLINE FOR ISSUE : 382 FRIDAY OF FIRST WEEK Trinity Term 2007 (27th April)

CHAIR'S REPORT:

After only eight short weeks, it's already time to write my third and final report as Chair. It has certainly been an experience that I will never forget. It began with spending Michaelmas Term wondering what I was going to do, getting nowhere, and scribbling down a few vague suggestions a couple of days before the AGM. By 0th Week, I had six ideas, including the TGM and next week's Gang Show. Then I finally got around to cycling the full length of the Cowley Road, in torrential rain, to visit Riley's Snooker Hall and discovered that we couldn't have a meeting there after all, or at least not without coughing up for membership.

Still, Scouts are supposed to be resourceful, and that is why in 4th Week we went to play skittles at a pub that doesn't have a skittles alley any more. Believe it or not, having an Aunt Sally tournament on a winter's night was not actually unprecedented, although the landlady of the Folly Bridge Inn clearly thought we were a little mentally unhinged.



Her suspicions would of course have been confirmed had she seen the results of our stop-frame animation workshop the previous week, which for me was one of the highlights of the term. Never before had I seen a packet of Jelly Babies and a digital camera put to such an, ahem, interesting use.

Thanks must go to everyone who helped to make this term possible: Nick, Chris and Michelle, for offering the use of their kitchen for the cooking challenge and the pancakes; Michael Howe and Luke for the use of their computers for the animation; Mike Bedington for booking the Latner Room and holding onto a large bunch of garden canes for the best part of a week, until I could get them to the stores; David Wibberley and the 22nd Oxford Sea Scouts for housing the stores in their loft; the Oxford University Judo Club, for teaching us how to throw them; Tim, for booking a room for the TGM; and last but not least thanks to all of you for turning up!

It remains only to wish Chris good luck with next term. Don't worry, it really isn't as bad as they say it is - in fact being Chair can even be quite good fun in a masochistic sort of way...

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Dear Mr Editor,

My human helper tells me you're having a bit of trouble filling your lovely magazine, so I was hoping that you could put in a little something about me. I find a picture is always nice, so I'll try and attach one of those and then a quick reminder that they should start sending their nominations for awards to flossy@ousgg.org.uk. Maybe for the benefit of the freshers it should go something like:

For those who've never met me before I'm Flossy the Sheep, and its my job to give out awards to OUSGGers based on their deeds over the past year. The awards are given out at the annual dinner, so with that time being



nearly upon us once again I'd like people to start sending in nominations for suitable awards and their recipients to flossy@ousgg.org.uk. Flossy $\mathbf x$

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

"G" - geddit

While visiting the Ashmolean today, I was interested to discover that the older, iconically elegant main buildings are being joined by a new, edgier structure of equal proportions, which neverthelsss bears a striking similarity to the original. Do you have any photographs that could illustrate this principle to readers?

Yours, Anonymous



The OUSGG Staged Badge

How dedicated an OUSGG member are you? Have you reached Stage 4 of the new improved OUSGG staged badge!!! Maddy and Jenny tell you how:

Stage 1

You **must** have:

Attended a Monday night meeting

And Carried out **one** of:

- Joined OUSGG (yes that means actually paying your membership fees)
- · Met Erik
- · Attended N&N
- · Joined the infamous "faff" mailing list

<u>Stage 2</u>

You **must** have:

Either

Written a postscript article

Or

Received a flossy award



And Carried out **two** of:

- · Attended an OUSGG trip or rally
- · Been nominated for an OUSGG post
- · Played Mafia
- · Attended an AGM
- · Quoted in postscript
- · Wasted your time by writing a random comment on faff
- Attended an Annual dinner and/or punt and picnic
- · Ordered and worn OUSGG clothing

Stage 3

You **must** have held one of the following posts:

· Chair-elect, membership secretary, postscript editor, secretary, treasurer

And Carried out **three** of:

- Attended an F&PGC (and not fallen asleep...)
- · Helped cook (massacre) the OUSGG Christmas dinner
- · Been to Youlbury campsite
- · Carried Erik in public (and not been embarrassed).
- Had your picture printed in postscript (*bonus points if this is your posterior or features in multiple issues*)
- Been to an unofficial OUSGG 'social' event
- · Organised a trip or outing
- · Attended the 'after annual dinner' party and made punt and picnic on time
- Worn OUSGG clothing at a non-OUSGG event (bonus points for wearing it to a CUSAGC event)
- Attended a Ladies' Loos bonding event

Stage 4

You **must** have:

Either

Been OUSGG chair

Or

· Been Flossy

Carried out **four** of:

- Ordered (and wear when received) an OUSGG thong/boxer shorts (*delete as appropriate*)
- Make a fool out of yourself at the 'after annual dinner' party (*example: spraining your ankle while trying to climb in a second floor window*) and/or fall in the river at punt and picnic
- Gone clubbing with OUSGG (yay!)
- Pulled another OUSGG member.....(or married them!)
- Had another OUSGG member stay overnight in your room or house (*bonus point if this was unplanned*)
- Tried (and pretended to like) Baileys and Orange yummy!

You can wear your badges on your badge-sash, alternatively they look very fetching sewn onto a camp blanket.

Following another breach of security Postscript Bitch has changed his alias once more, and is now only known to Postscript as "Chair-Elect". Whatever that means.

S Fears over the sanity of Media Guru NICHOLAS SCROXTON have again been raised this week following a spate of new incidents.

The 20 year old owner of several media
groups including PostScript[™] is thought to have been under pressure from shareholders after sales in his magazines have plummeted. It is believed that this could have caused his relapse.

He was photographed late on Tuesday night in his office wearing a Tea Cosy. This latest incident bears a lot of similarities to the famous Scroxton Spaghetti episode that occurred 10 months ago when the mogul wore raw pasta in his hair whilst entertaining friends in his Oxford penthouse. Following that event he was sent to specialists in Bolivia to get over his problems. However he was extradited from the

country whilst still undergoing treatment after an incident with an 8 year old. At the time Doctors





from the clinic claimed that they believed a relapse would definitely occur if he didn't seek further help. Unfortunately he didn't and plummeted straight back into his hectic work schedule.

At the time of the latest incident he was alone in the building, however members of the Press were taking pictures from outside after a tip of from his secretary that he had been behaving in an odd fashion at work that day.

"Nick hasn't been himself lately" she told us shortly before this latest occurrence, "during this morning's board meeting he was seen drawing on the table with squirty cream."

It is not known what will happen to the magnate, we say lynch him.

Scouting For Boys: 99 years on

Robert Baden-Powell tells us how in Scouting's Centenary Year.

"If it necessary to go into a house to search for feeble or insensible people, the thing is to place a wet handkerchief or stocking over your nose and mouth in a stooping position, or crawl along on your hands and knees quite near the floor, as it is here that there is the least smoke or gas. Also, for passing through fire and sparks, if you can, get hold of a blanket and wet it, and cut a hole in the middle through which you put your head, it forms a kind of fireproof mantle with which you can push through flames and sparks. *practise this*"



A year with DUSAGG

Roger tells us how our friends in the North run things, probably competently.

Coming to Durham joining DUSAGG seemed the obvious course of action. I had in fact attended a DUSAGG event before even coming to University – providing security at CONFIDO ("not for deadbeats obviously" ...) the district scout camp, which had mainly consisted of walking along a railway line conducting frivolous conversations over two separate radio networks (actually one was intended to be for serious stuff, but that was never going to happen). But DUSAGG seemed nice, and indeed had the added accomplishment to its credit of persuading me to join OUSGG.

Yet by the time I showed up as a post-grad in Durham, three years ago had been a long time – everyone who had been at that CONFIDO (in OUSGG clearly they

would all still have been hanging around for the sake of it – the first of many differences I was to discover.) All I really knew about the group was that it was the Durham version of OUSGG, which suggested that it would involve faffing and be nice (and very different from debating).

Both of these assumptions were largely correct. But nonetheless, for the OUSGGer, DUSAG is a bit of a culture shock. For a start, DUSAGG is BIG. It has a version of NnN (less imaginatively titled 'club coffee) but for this event they need a JCR. Twenty to thirty people attending is the norm. I know, SCARY. And admirable. And DUSAGG is admirable in many other ways too – it runs multiple competitions for local scout and guide groups (titled 'Indoor Scout' and 'Outdoor Scout' as well as 'Mid-Mad'). DUSAGG has an 'exec' elected for a year (in fact actually elected, as you are about to discover, elections are COMPETITIVE). Furthermore, as the group is big, the exec is not just the club – those on the exec are in the minority, most members have never been on it. Rather than have a regular Monday meeting DUSAGG has a regular Sunday 'pub thing' and other random events arranged at different times – usually trips plus the occasional 'safari-supper' or 'pancakes' – but actually, random activities in Durham (along the lines of a standard Monday meeting) are quite rare.

I am writing this article waiting for the AGM to commence. This is also scary. I am in fact wondering whether to take my chance and run. The meeting is scheduled to last for THREE HOURS. Bad. Preparations for the event have been careful – a projector is set up – with I think a presentation, perhaps something along the lines of what OUSGG shows to Freshers – it certainly includes lots of photos. Furthermore, there have been all sorts of confidential chats about 'nominations.' I would not want to give the impression that DUSAGG is the Oxford Union, but... I did hear someone telling someone else that they couldn't nominate them, not because they weren't suited for the position but 'because I'd have to ask lots of questions first' and there wasn't time. Strange. So in many ways DUSAGG has achieved a lot that OUSGG could aspire to – it keeps a much larger proportion of those involved in Scouting within the group. It makes a large and worthwhile contribution to local scouting and guiding. It is nice and the members are nice. But there have been costs to achieving these things. It is not quite a family in the way OUSGG is a family – it could be that I have only been in the group six months – but if you had twenty five people at NnN you could not have one conversation. The result is that not everyone knows everyone else; there are groups of acquaintances. At least everyone helpfully has their names written on their DUSAGG tops.

Ooh, the meeting has started – 3 hours (pray for me!). Hum, maybe I should plot how to kidnap Mole... he is planted in an exposed position on the table at the front.

One Europe, One Language

Chris Wood speaks to us in tongues

On December 17th 1903 Orville Wright became the first man to fly a plane. Now barely 100 years later man has flown at speeds above Mach 6.7, designed planes capable of carrying more than 550 passengers and run trains at more than 300mph. My point is that the world is becoming smaller, a lot smaller.

Realising this it has been proposed by several European powers to aid economic growth by having one common language, and after many discussions it was agreed that this language would be English. Now it wasn't surprising that the U.K. and America thought that this was a good idea and not that far fetched that China also agreed to this. What is surprising however is that Germany whole heartedly agreed to the proposals. Now this is a race of people that 70 years ago tried to take over the world, so why the sudden U-turn. Well a leaked document from President Köhler of Germany to his Parliament may explain his decision.

He claims that is makes sense for Germany to support the decision for the international language to be English, it is a language that shares many roots with German and with a small amount of tweaking could be made far easier for many to learn, after all there are some rules that do not make sense.

The document lays out a five year plan to slowly develop EuroEnglish. In the first year, 's' will be used instead of the soft 'c' and 'k' will replace the hard 'c'. Not only will this klear up konfusion and make the life of sivil servants easier, but also komputer keyboards will need one less key. There will be growing publik enthusiasm in the sekond year, when the troublesome 'ph' will be replased with an 'f'. This will make words like 'fotograf' 20 per sent shorter. In the third year, publik akseptanse of the new spelling kan be expekted to get to a stage where more komplikated alterations are possible. So double letters will be removed to inkrease the likelihod of akurate speling. And the horible mes of the silent 'e' wil be banished. By the fourth yar, peopl wil be reseptiv to steps like replasing 'th' by 'z' and 'w' by 'v'. During the fifz yar, ze une-sesary 'o' kan be dropd from vords kontaining 'ou', and similar modifikations vud of kors be ap-lid to ozer kombinations of leters. After zis fifz yar, we wil hav a sensibl riten styl. Zer vil be no mor trubls or difikultis and evrivun vil find it ezi tu understand ech ozer. Ze drem vil finali kum tru.

Based on the writings of Mr J. Clarkson from his book 'Born to be Riled'