

Cambridge

Since the last rally CUSAGC have done many things together. During the holidays we went to the Czech Republic and to Alton Towers. This term we have been walking and sailing, climbing and swimming. We've also done not so energetic things like a film evening and watching fireworks. We ran an incident hike for local Scouts and Guides that was very successful. Of course we've also continued our weekly lunches. This term has been really good and we've had lots of new people come along including a couple who have even got involved in the committee!

Loughborough

This year, we have gained about 12 enthusiastic freshers. We had two stalls at our union. One inside and one outside serving tea and coffee to anyone. Although, this year the weather wasn't too good to be outside. We hope that the freshers this year will provide a secure and fun-filled future for the club. On top of that, the club has now got about 35 members with over 20 being active.

We have spent the last few weeks welcoming the freshers with a few events such as pub crawls, silly games (a very amusing evening!!) and a joint camp with Leicester. Plenty of the old crowd are back again and are enjoying the joys of student life (but not the work load!).

We have a full program arranged for this term with some activities including our annual walk up Beacon Hill, our Christmas Meal and we are even trying out Fencing. We have visited Nottingham where we joined them for a challenge evening and everyone who went enjoyed themselves. We are also planning to go and visit Warwick for a challenge evening as well and going to go ice skating with

Leicester

We have changed our website address to www.scogui.org.uk We have had a Semesterly General Meeting on the 23rd and we now have a new keen freshers rep. We have a record number attending the rally at Bath of 24 people!! This year looks likely to be fun packed full of activities for everyone to try.

Leeds

Normal service has been resumed in sunny West Yorkshire, with LUUSAG going from strength to strength. We signed up over 30 people at freshers fair, but in typical fashion only 10 are now fully active members. Must have been something we said.....

We continue to spend most of our time in the pub on Monday lunchtimes, which may change to Wednesdays due to an oversight by the committee. Maybe it would have been wise to ask when everyone was free to meet before organising things!

Recent activities include bowling, pub quizzes and going for a curry with Bradford SSAGO. We are also getting increasingly involved in local groups in North Leeds district.

Future plans include a campfire, some night hikes and a meeting with SLUGS to sort out our rally. The theory is that we will be testing out some potential activities - any excuse for a pub crawl!

Heriot Watt

Heriot-Watt are doing OK, with the most prominent stall at our fresher's fayre (a pioneering tower outside the union) we signed up about 40 new bodies! Pity we've still to see 38 of them though. Plenty people showing interest and wanting to be informed, but low turnouts, sadly. Anyway, since the last report (yonks ago) we've been to a couple of Scottish Venture/Ranger camps, had our stunningly successful scavenger hunt, attended by 50-odd folk from all over Scotland (an activity that will almost certainly be repeated next year - we hope to see some of you guys come up for it too!! - read the reports on our website www.hwssago.org.uk), and all the usual pub crawl/bowling/etc sort of things. New clubs at Stirling and Edinburgh mean we'll hopefully have a bigger Scottish turnout at events Down South, and we're also looking forward to invading the territories of these new societies sometime next term.

Hull

It has been a good start to the year for S.H.A.G.S.. The active membership has increased 5-fold from this time last year with a couple of old SSAGO members coming back or joining the club along with some new 1st and 2nd year members. We have had the general social activities at the start of the term with varying levels of attendance but there are plans for much more original activities later on. For the first time in 2 years, there will be a S.H.A.G.S. presence at a rally with a much larger contingent hopefully attending the Gangster Rally in Spring.

Bristol

Bristol Guide and Scout Club ended last term with summer camp in Poole, where we visited Brownsea Island and took advantage of on site activities of the rather wet variety. We started this term with a successful Frehers' Fair, supported by members of the local Guide districts.

The new freshers were straight in at the deep end with our first service event of the year, an outdoor cooking competition, on a Mexican theme. All chilli powder was carefully rationed, and, in fact, the tasters were treated to some superb meals (especially all the chocolaty puddings!).

We have also upheld our reputation for winning the booby prize at local pub quizzes, and are looking forward to meeting up with everyone at the Bath Rally.

Manchester

We started off the year with only 4 members left in our society and then successfully recruited 10 new members at our freshers fair. Our first event was a very drunken pub crawl which included the delights of aftershock swilling (causing most of our members to then lose the sense of taste for the next few days!). We then had a shooting evening, showing us that hitting something 50 feet away is not as easy as it looks in the movies! The following week we had a pictionary evening. We spent most of it repeating rounds, as we could not decide who had said the answer first! For our freshers camp we went to a local guide campsite for weekend away. On Friday evening we played some truth games, and found out some interesting facts about our freshers!. Saturday was spent doing service work, and in the evening we went to the local pub and tried to sing karakoe. Let's just say that I don't think that any of us will be trying to apply to Pop Idol!

Swansea

The society has once again grown in size with a very productive day at the University's Societies fayre. With the increase in numbers has seen an increased demand in the organising of outdoor activities. Our Fresher Camp in October was a great success, with lots of fun and games. We also visited the National Botanic gardens, Cefn Coed colliery museum and the waterfalls at Aberdulais. The camp was such a success that we decided to hold a winter camp in January with all the fun and excitement which we had in October. We have walked extensive parts of the Taff trail and participated in both white water rafting and rock climbing. We have arranged a variety of events this year including ten-pin bowling, barbe-ques, video and pool nights. We have participated in National Scouting awareness week and helped with the Guiding stall at the Companies fayre at the University in September. We had extended our membership to UWIC and have played role in the setting up of a new club in Swansea.

Oxford

Another successful term for OUSGG. We can even claim to have made it to two rallies in a row with a respectable turn-out, which I have been told is a bit of a rarity. A belatedly organised summer trip saw us head to Dartmoor, for hiking and, of course, faffing (OUSGG's premier activity). The summer also started off with the Sweetie Rally. Having planned a major recruitment drive for the start of the new year, our attempts at catching Freshers unawares during the Freshers' Fair and filling their email inboxes with constant reminders of exciting events have led to all the meetings in term so far (5 as I write) having turnouts of over 20: the peak was 28. For OUSGG this is very encouraging.

After the traditional Freshers' meeting, in which we sell OUSGG like soap powder using the OUSGG custom-made introductory video ("They might think we're some kind of Satanic cult" - one committee member who shall remain nameless), the next meeting was a grand and complicated quiz, consisting of elements from just about every gameshow we could think of. Unfortunately, we stupidly included "Who wants to be a millionaire" and ended up with one team on over 500,000 points. Never mind.

We took a tour of the Bodlien library, which is our University's main library (and also one of the few copyright libraries in the UK). No, we hadn't gone mad and organised a trip to a building we all have access to: we were taken underground to see the mythical 'book train' and storey upon storey of books, alongside being told stories of the history of the library and its buildings. Halloween was celebrated with a ghost walk around Oxford in which tales of supernatural occurrences were mixed with quite a fast walking pace! For Fireworks' night we went to the local Scout Camp for a campfire, fireworks and food, which was also well-attended. Looking ahead, we have our annual New Year trip, the originally and subtly entitled "Winter Walking (TM)", and what looks to be like another good year for OUSGG.