

Oxford University Exploration Club Michaelmas 2023 Week 5



Week 5 Meeting: MONDAY 6th November MEILI-I Analogue Mission Michael Murphy (Impacts of Extreme Environments on Personal Identity)

How do extreme journeys beyond Earth's atmosphere change astronaut identities? What roles do alienation, liminality, and community play?

Drawing on years of research among refugees, asylum seekers, undocumented migrants, and the unhoused, our media officer Michael has applied theories of extreme terrestrial migration to analogue (simulated) missions to other planets in order to better understand the impacts of extreme journeys on identity. This research aims to bridge extreme journeys on Earth and in the stars, so that each can inform the other.

In his talk, Michael will review the project, fieldwork, and preliminary findings before focusing on the development of this project, establishing partnerships, funding, and developing a larger research project with the Ethno-ISS research group at UCL.

You can learn more about Michael's research [[HERE](#)]

When: Nov 6, 19:30

Where: Queen's College (meet at main gate on High Street)



Oxford University Expedition Council Grants

Deadline: Wednesday 15th November

The Oxford University Expeditions Council Grants are upon us. The deadline for submission is Wednesday Week 6 (Nov 15). Definitely join the WhatsApp group above to receive regular reminders and discuss applications with past grant winners. Here are some additional resources:

Oxford University Expedition Council
OUEC Expedition Planning
RGS Expedition Planning
RGS Expedition Planning Handbook (on PDF)



RGS EXPLORE Recap

This weekend, an OUEC delegation attended the annual EXPLORE symposium at the Royal Geographical Society in London. Ideas were formed, contacts were made, and inspiration was found.

Congratulations are in order to James Kempton and Michael Murphy who gave excellent presentations at the weekend event, as well as current student Barbara Francik (a member of the Il Ngwesi Reconnaissance Expedition) who spoke on Friday evening. Thank you to everyone who attended – we look forward to seeing you again next year!



Look Ahead: Week 6 (Tuesday)

Cyclops Mountains – James Kempton

1961: a Dutch botanist discovers a bizarre new animal in the Cyclops Mountains of New Guinea. The mammal lays eggs and looks like a cross between anteater, mole, and hedgehog. Attenborough's long-beaked echidna is not seen by scientists again. 2023: James leads an international coalition of scientists to rediscover it. His talk will chart Expedition Cyclops from inception to end.



Survey of Interests for Hillary Term

We've received a lot of interest in Club outings for Hillary term– keep it coming! As you will see, there are a variety of outings that we could organize. It would be very helpful if anyone interested could fill out this form: [Link](#)



Membership

Benefits of OUEC membership include:

- Free access to all our weekly talks & workshops
- Ability to apply for Expeditions Council funding
- Subsidised OUEC stash (fleeces, jackets and hats)
- Subsidised tickets to expedition related events across the country (e.g. RGS Explore)
- Access to a range of expedition planning resources and documents
- Access to a network of explorers and Oxford alumni
- Weekly opportunities to meet different explorers who come to speak for the Club
- An opportunity to be part of one of Oxford's oldest clubs with a long history of exploring the globe

Our current prices are:

Term - £10

Year - £20

Life - £35

Find out more and register here: <https://www.ouec.co.uk/membership>. Payment can be completed in-person at an event (cash or card), or via bank transfer.



OUEC Platforms

Finally, please find all of our social media platforms and website below. This is the most up-to-date listing.

[OUEC Linktree](#)
[OUEC WhatsApp Group](#)



Many thanks to all of our members, new and old. We look forward to seeing you on Monday!
Matthew Buckley, Chairman

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Our mailing address is:

Oxford University Exploration Club
The Queen's College
High Street
Oxford, Oxfordshire OX1 4AW
United Kingdom

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