

[OUEC] Week 5 Newsletter

Mon 22.5.23 15:47

Oxford University Exploration Club Trinity Week 5



Week 5 No meeting this week

Fear not! In the next two weeks, we have two very exciting meetings lined up!

Week 6 will explore space through training here on Earth.

Week 7 will explore the former Iron Curtain.



An Evening with an Astronaut

From intense launch training to piloting a spaceship, NASA astronaut Tony Antonelli will reveal the secrets, science, & wonders of space exploration. Gain a new appreciation for the challenges & triumphs of the journey to Mars. Join us for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to explore the cosmos! Tony will be sharing his incredible journey of becoming an astronaut, piloting two Space Shuttles to the International Space Station, and the successes and obstacles of developing the plan to make human exploration of Mars a tangible reality by 2028. To know more about this amazing opportunity visit their website here and Get your tickets here.

Day And Date: Monday, 5th Of June,2023

Time: 18:00-20:30 pm

Venue: Oxford University Museum of Natural History

[\[Website Link\]](#)

[\[Tickets\]](#)

Note: This is not an OUEC-organized event.



Cycling Through Time and Place

Michael Murphy

A book review of Full Tilt, by Dervla Murphy

One of the unexpected joys of reading travel for me has been the sense of traveling in time, as well as space. This is certainly the case in Full Tilt, by Dervla Murphy (no relation). In 1963, Murphy set off from Ireland to cycle across Europe and the Middle East to India. Despite this, she only started journaling when she reached Yugoslavia, and much of the book takes place as she crosses the Middle East. Maybe it has something to do with my generation, but reading descriptions of Yugoslavia, of a newly formed Pakistan, and of Afghanistan just before the Russian invasion—plucked right from that precious window of time, and observed by a fellow explorer—I'm not sure there are words for it.

Besides being a touchstone in history, Full Tilt is a raucous, often hilarious joyride. Like my heroes Martha Gelhorn and Marie Colvin, Dervla Murphy smokes, drinks, and fights her way through 5,000 miles of adventure. A deeper connection between these three women, however, is in how Murphy captures the people that she meets. It is a rare talent and one that only shows when the author really, truly cares for the people she is writing about. Even Rozthe, her beaten and battered bike has a personality all her own. I cannot remember if the bike was named after Rocinante, or if I made that up in reading the book, but the impression is just as lovable and just as pitiable, nonetheless.

I would recommend Full Tilt to anyone who is likely to be reading this newsletter. It is an excellent example of travel writing, an unwitting documentary of multiple regions just before dramatic change, a dedicated and careful study of cultures and geography, and an absolute joy to read.

Full Tilt can be found here on [SOLO](#).



Kendal Mountain Festival

Are you interested in attending Kendal Mountain Festival in November 2023? Kendal Mountain Festival is the UK's biggest adventure festival, taking place in the beautiful Lake District. The adventurous weekend includes incredible talks, workshops, music, and parties - all surrounded by other outdoorsy people. We are working on a discount for tickets for OUEC members, and having an

idea of potential participants would be helpful. Please express tentative interest in the poll below if you are keen!

Poll:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1tF8-cAxL6Xn6b0e0u01v26_tWNAdkc0IWNquB-LZaTM/edit

Read more about the event here
www.kendalmountainfestival.com



Stash Incoming!

Stash has been ordered! We will keep you posted with any updates.



Call for Book Reviews!

Do you have a good book recommendation concerning exploration or your subject of interest? Let us know! Send a one-paragraph summary of the book and its importance to Michael Murphy at m.w.murphy2015@gmail.com. We will post the review on our social media, other members will know to look it up, and we may even add it to our new and growing OUEC Library!



OUEC Platforms

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

[OUEC Linktree](#)



Many thanks to all of the members, new and old. We look forward to seeing you next Tuesday!

Michael Murphy, Social Media Secretary

On behalf of...

James Kempton, Chairman

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