

[OUEC] Newsletter HT24 Week 6

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To:ouec@maillist.ox.ac.uk <Ouec@maillist.ox.ac.uk>

**Oxford University Exploration Club
Hilary 2024 Week 6**

Thank you for coming to the Kiko Matthews event last week. We hope you enjoyed it!

This evening, we will be hearing from Heather Needham. Do come along to hear about her recent expedition to Chile, and her role as the University's Biodiversity Manager. For anyone interested in Royal Geographical Society grants, Heather would a great person to speak to!

Also, a surprise OUEC Social this Saturday: a scenic walk in the Cotswolds. See below for more details.

**Week 6 Meeting: Heather Needham
Darwin200: Waterfowl and American Mink at the end of the world**

The University's Biodiversity Manager, Heather will share her experience from her expedition to the Cape Horn Biosphere Reserve in Chile, where she undertook research and interviews, and directed a three-part series about waterfowl and the invasive American mink. This expedition was part of the Darwin200 program where she was selected as a Darwin Leader. The Darwin200 project is training

200 conservationists from around the world to deliver conservation projects, re-tracing Charlie Darwin's famous journey on HMS Beagle two centuries ago. Heather won a Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) grant in 2019, which supported her project to install low-cost weather sensors in the Colombian Andes. She will also share her insights and experience from this expedition.

Free for OUEC members / £5 for non-members

Where: The Queen's College, High Street Entrance

When: Tuesday 20th February, 19:30



Surprise Social to the Cotswolds

Saturday 24th February (this weekend!)

On Saturday morning, our Chairman will be taking the train to Charlbury to go for a scenic walk. He would like some company.

We will be catching a 15-minute train from Oxford to the pretty town of Charlbury. From there, the plan is a 9-mile circular walk at a leisurely pace, over gentle rolling hills. Highlights include Wychwood Forest and a 13th century medieval church.



There is no charge to the Club for non-members - all are welcome! You will need to buy a return train ticket to Charlbury. About £5 with a railcard, £8 without.

You will need solid footwear, a waterproof jacket, and a water bottle. It may be muddy in places. We recommend bringing snacks and lunch with you. The walk will be around 9 miles (14km) and we expect it to take between three and four hours. Let us know by Friday lunch if you are coming via this form:

<https://forms.gle/ZyuZxahBVVodfPD9A>

Where: Oxford Rail Station
When: Saturday 24th February, meet 09:30 for 09:45 departure
Return train arrives back in Oxford at 14:30



Week 7 Meeting: Expedition Welfare

A workshop with Dr Catherine Grasham

Welfare is paramount, especially on an expedition. As we push for improving avenues for member welfare, OUEC proudly hosts Catherine to dive into Expedition Welfare. This is an essential workshop for those heading out on expeditions over the coming months.

Dr Catherine Fallon Grasham is a social scientist who specialises in water security in Ethiopia. She currently leads social science research in the Awash River basin, Ethiopia, for REACH: Improving water security for the poor, an interdisciplinary, global research programme. With mixed research methods, her work addresses the interconnectedness of water, politics and human development with a particular focus on the inclusion of marginalised voices in research.

Free for OUEC members / £5 for non-members

Where: The Queen's College, High Street Entrance
When: Tuesday 27th February, 19:30



Hilary Term Events

Check out all our Hilary events below. We will have a weekly meeting each Tuesday evening for the next three weeks



Hilary Term 2024

Shulman Auditorium, Queen's College

Please refer to our social media channels for updates:




All events are open to the public and tickets can be purchased before the event.

OUEC Membership entitles you to free entry to all the talks and workshops throughout the year.

Sign up to our mailing list here:



Become a member here:



Week 2 - Tue 10 Jan 2024, 19.30h
"This event will take place in Lecture Room B, Queen's College"

Masterclass: Expedition Essentials
Matthew Buckley, Carla Fuenteslopez & James Kempton

Current & former OUEC Presidents will be running a workshop-style event for your projects, lending our expertise to anyone who is putting together or preparing for an expedition and calling on the collective knowledge of our membership. This informal event will be a chance to have focused feedback from the entire club on ideas and questions you may have. Even if you are not putting together a project, come along and help out!

Week 8 - Tue 5 Mar 2024, 19.30h
"Venue TBC"

Masterclass: Expedition Filmmaking
Sophie Carlzme

Sophie is a filmmaker and producer with a few documentaries and short films under her name. Currently, she is producing the documentary of the Oxford University Principe Expedition (2023).

Designed to be accessible to those with little experience as well as those who are already making their own films, this Masterclass will contain hints for all participants to help enhance the quality of their future work, as well as specific tips for expedition filmmaking.



Week 5 - Tue 13 Feb 2024, 19.00h

Kiko Mathews: "Resilience"
World Record Holder, Environmental Champion, Social Entrepreneur.

In 2018, Kiko Mathews set a world record by becoming the fastest woman to row solo and unsupported across the Atlantic Ocean (in 49 days), after recovering from brain surgery only months earlier. Since then, she has completed an ultramarathon in Jordan and worked with local communities on beach conservation while cycling the UK coast. She will be speaking about the life skill of resilience, drawing on her personal adventures and experiences.

Book your ticket here!

Please arrive at 18.45h for a prompt start at 19.00h.



Week 6 - Tue 20 Feb 2024, 19.30h

Darwinzoo: Waterfowl and American Mink at the end of the world
Heather Needham

The University's Biodiversity Manager, Heather will share her experience from her expedition to the Cape Horn Biosphere Reserve in Chile, where she undertook research and interviews, and directed a three-part series about waterfowl and the invasive American mink. This expedition was part of the Darwinzoo program where she was selected as a Darwin Leader. The Darwinzoo project is training 200 conservationists from around the world to deliver conservation projects, re-tracing Charles Darwin's famous journey on HMS Beagle two centuries ago. Heather won an Royal Geographical Society (with RGS) grant in 2019, which supported her project to install low-cost weather sensors in the Colombian Andes. She will also share her insights and experience from this expedition.



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Masterclass: Expedition Welfare
Dr Catherine Fallon Grasham

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Upcoming Grant Deadlines

Please note that the Exploration Club does not play any role in the application or selection process. Please refer to the Grant Body's website for full details.

1. Explorers Club (<https://www.explorers.org/grants/>)
 - Discovery Expedition Grant – Pre-Application open now, no deadline published. Decision made in 30-45 days after submission.

2. National Geographic Society (<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/society/grants-and-investments/>)
 - Level I & Level II – 11.59 pm (Eastern Timezone) on 11 April 2024. Funding decisions in September 2024.
 - Royal Geographical Society (<https://www.rgs.org/in-the-field/grants/student-grants>)

3. Harvard Travellers Club Permanent Fund (<https://www.travellersfund.org/>) - end of February, decisions made in April 2024.

4. Captain Scott Society (<https://captainscottsociety.com/>) - end of March 2024.

5. Additional Grants

- Please visit this website for details and deadlines: <https://www.rgs.org/in-the-field/advice-and-training/plan-an-expedition/other-funding-sources>.



Join our WhatsApp Group!

Members can now join our WhatsApp group by clicking on the following link:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/GpEHUcol8veLC5mrJbgLSP>



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 our social media platforms and website below. This is the most up-to-date listing.

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



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

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