

NEWS & VIEWS

Commemorative Edition

May 2016



In Memory of Lilli Hvingtoft-Foster
The Open University Psychological Society

www.oups.org.uk

OU  PS

What does OUPS do?

The role of the Open University Psychological Society (OUPS) is to advance public education in psychology amongst members of the Open University and elsewhere who are taking, have taken, or are preparing to take courses in psychology or cognitive psychology subjects with the Open University or elsewhere. The management of the Society is carried out by members elected to the Executive Committee who are unpaid volunteers.

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FROM THE EDITOR



Lorna Rouse

Welcome to the May edition of *News & Views*. This edition commemorates the life of Dr Lilli Hvingtoft-Foster, the Society's long-term President who passed away last year. I did not meet Lilli but the word that keeps coming up to describe her is *formidable*! Lilli was clearly hugely influential to the Society's development, including bringing on board and inspiring committed and longstanding committee members and tutors who share their memories of Lilli in this edition.

Alongside these memories are some articles from the Society's archives providing an insight into the history of OUPS as well as some articles by Lilli herself, which describe her relationship with OUPS and what the Society meant to her.

These articles from the archives also describe the contribution of another important figure in the Society's history, former OUPS Vice-President and Professor of Psychology at the OU, Judith Greene who also passed away recently.

You can read more about the Society's history and the contribution of these two figures on the OUPS Past & Present section of our website http://test.oups.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=843

Bringing us right up to date, our Website Officer, David Byrne introduces the Society's new website and describes some of the challenges in its production.

We also have details of exciting upcoming national and regional events including the annual conference on *Evolutionary Psychology* in September, which has a great line up of speakers.

The deadline for articles for the next edition of *News & Views* is the 1st August. If any recent graduates are interested in sharing their experience of their degree journey or graduation ceremony please do get in touch with me at newsletter@oups.org.uk.



My memories of Lilli

By Fred Toates



I first met Lilli in 1983 on the occasion of B.F. Skinner's lecture to OUPS in London. At about the same time, she invited me to tutor on the module 'Biological bases of behaviour' to the OU Psychology Society revision weekend, then in Nottingham. I had just got back from a summer school tutoring this course, also at Nottingham, and was suffering from withdrawal symptoms. The date of the revision weekend coincided with a planned visit to Holland, which I desperately and successfully tried to rearrange. If my hosts were not able to rearrange the lecture, I dread to think how my life would have been without OUPS. I guess that I must have met with her approval (Lilli meticulously monitored new tutors), since a few weeks' later the invitation was extended to the module 'Introduction to psychology', so I divided my time between the two.

Lilli loved Nottingham and had a great rapport with the Italian family who ran

the catering in Hugh Stewart Hall. These folk treated her like royalty (which apparently she was), putting flowers in her room. Lilli regretted our move from Nottingham to Warwick and really could not bring herself to accept it.

Over many years as our President, Lilli's energy, determination and commitment were of enormous importance to the success of OUPS. With great self-confidence, she had a way of persuading distinguished speakers to come to give lectures to us. In addition to B.F. Skinner, these included Alan Baddeley, Noam Chomsky, Charles Spielberger, Robert Ressler (founder of the FBI Behavioural Sciences Unit), Richard Gregory and Hans Eysenck. She described to me how she found herself in Harvard one day and noticed Skinner's name on a door. So, she knocked on it and told the occupant that OUPS needs him in London, to which Skinner invited her in to take tea and agreed to lecture to us. An exchange of letters followed, some of which Lilli handed to me shortly before her death.

Lilli did everything in style, as befitted her social status! I was often entertained at her apartment in Hendon, where she prepared sumptuous Danish meals (Lilli moved to London from Denmark in 1939). Later when her health failed, a helper organized the meals. She had a rich supply of stories and gossip about European aristocracy, royalty and foreign diplomats etc., which she loved to relate. Lilli was closely involved with the Danish and Greek royal families.



MEMORIES OF LILLI

Towards the end and nearing her 100 years, very sadly Lilli was confined to bed but still her appearance was immaculate – blond hair done in style, nails varnished etc. She still retained a very keen interest in OUPS and sharp sense of humour. Each time that I visited her, she would say without fail “they don’t want to take me up there” and I would reply “there could be too many sins on this earth, Lilli”, to which she would answer “but neither do they want to take me down there” and I would reply “maybe not enough sins then”. I watched Lilli deteriorate month-by-month. Her cognitive capacities declined and she needed regular prompting within a conversation to keep on track. Yet her emotional reactions were intact. She showed obvious joy at getting a visit and any flowers brought to her would invite warm approval and attention.

With no lack of respect, I think that it is only fair to say that Lilli, being a very strong personality, didn’t like dissent and could sometimes be difficult. I never had any serious disagreement with her and survived the occasional potential crisis. I do not know why or how. Possibly it was because she always claimed that, because of my looks, I must have been a descendent of Danish Vikings and I had lived for two years in Denmark, so had much to share with her.

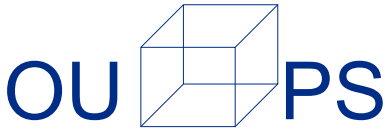
Lilli made an enormous positive contribution to OUPS and to my life for which I shall always be very grateful. As her successor, it is a very hard act to follow.

Frederick Toates

OUPS President



Lilli Hvingtoft-Foster & B.F. Skinner



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY PSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Thinking of Postgrad? OUPS Weekend

‘Thinking of Postgrad?’ 2nd-4th September 2016, Warwick University

Description and Aims :

Are you thinking about pursuing a career in psychology? Do you find the options confusing, or perhaps feel uncertain about what direction you would like to take? Would you like to have a whole weekend devoted to all things postgraduate?

In response to feedback from our members, OUPS is delighted to be able to offer a new weekend! ‘Thinking of Postgrad?’ is a weekend which aims to demystify a range of careers plus provide you with a ‘taster’ of one of two of the many skills and activities that you might come across if you decided to go down a particular psychology path – but without any of the pressure!

It is hoped by the end of the weekend you will come away having decided what is not for you as much as gaining an appreciation of what is - and how to go about getting where you want to be. You will receive clear, unbiased advice from psychologists with a range of experience and expertise who will be on hand to advise and inspire you.

This weekend offers a full programme of nine sessions, running from **Friday evening (registration from 3pm; dinner at 6pm; evening lecture 8pm) until Sunday tea time (3.30pm).**

See our website for further details <http://www.oups.org.uk/events>



OUPS is a not for profit registered charity: number 282744

We are affiliated to OUSA: the Open University Student Association

Find us at www.oups.org.uk and on facebook



REMINISCENCES

(Memoirs of a remarkable woman)



Dr. Lilli Hvingtoft-Foster **President of the Open University** **Psychological Society**

Dr. Lilli Hvingtoft-Foster, President of the Open University Psychological Society was instrumental in founding the society in 1974. She was inspired to study psychology by Marie Bonaparte, (a disciple and friend of Freud and who was personally responsible for rescuing his papers and letters from the Nazis). She travelled all over the world with her mentor and life-long companion who was an anthropologist. She learned to speak many languages which enabled her to fulfil her desire to gain an insight into the various cultures that she visited.

It was through Lilli's courage and charisma that OUPS was able to invite

high quality speakers such as Johnathan Miller, Sir Ernst Gombrich, Sir Edmund Leach, B.F. Skinner and Noam Chomsky. On 3rd April 1993 Lilli was awarded the honorary degree of "Master of the University" by Professor Judith Greene. In response to this accolade Lilli said:

"In those early days of psychology within the Open University we psychology students had to rely heavily on each other for support. There were no psychology graduates we could turn to for advice and no previous exam papers to look at. So, the Open University Psychology Society was formed and events were arranged where we students could get together with Open University tutors, and psychologists invited from other universities to discuss, challenge, and stimulate each other.

The benefits were invaluable. New psychology students soon realised the value of being members of the Society, and as the number of psychology students increased, so did membership of the Society – and today there are members of OUPS in many countries of Europe."

Dr. Lilli Hvingtoft-Foster was interviewed by Lenka Lewington

You were involved at the start of OUPS, can you tell me about it?

Recently I went to Fred Toates' inaugural lecture and someone from the Open University came up to me and said, "It is amazing that OUPS hasn't been an

inspiration to other departments: Nobody has ever tried to copy you which is astonishing because the students are there and it supports the students, so you think that somebody would have had the imagination to set up something similar." It is important, because most departments don't have support and we certainly didn't in the beginning. We had no one to turn to.

Several other students attempted to form united study groups but it became our attempt that succeeded, here in London. Initially a group of eager students would come back with me for more discussions after the few lectures and discussion meetings that the Open University offered us. It was, however, very difficult attempting organising events as we had no funding from anyone.

However, I made use of the various well known Psychologists that I happened to know as I was a member of an international group of psychologists interested in Kelly's Personal Construct Theory. Anyway, there were International Conferences in America and in Europe which I would attend. One of these was at Harvard University. On my arrival I went to the notice board and I saw 'B.F. Skinner' so I knocked on his door and 10 minutes later I was sitting having tea with Skinner. He was sitting opposite and I had to pinch myself. I tried to persuade him to come and talk to us. The Prime Minister, Wilson, and Jennie Lee (his right hand person at the time) had

already approached Skinner asking him what he thought of the idea of setting up a support organisation for the Open University students. He said he thought it was a brilliant idea so when I met him he had already been informed of the possibility of us setting up this society. Then, when I asked him whether he would be willing to come and speak to us he agreed adding that his daughter was married and living in London and that he and his wife visited her regularly. So of course that was a big coup. But then I had to find a venue!

So I went to the Royal Society and said we needed the large lecture room for this famous person and they said, "Yes". We sold so many tickets that we had to have extra rooms. I remember Peter Barnes on the night of the event saying that a friend of his, Fred Toates, had tried but failed to get a ticket and could we possibly get one for him and I said, "No" that we couldn't. But in the end we found him a place. Later on, he set up a friendship with Skinner based on that first event. So the day arrived and we didn't have television but we did have sound which was relayed to the extra rooms. I got another famous person to introduce Skinner and his opening piece went something like this: "When I was at such and such University, there was Skinner, and when I was at such and such University, there was Skinner and now in London, *Here is Skinner!*" He stayed in England for about two weeks

and we entertained him. He was an angel. Yes, that was my first coup.

That's how it all started. But it was still a question of money. We couldn't do anything without money and nobody would support us. So then we started charging the students and we formed a company. We had a Judge on the Committee who got us registered with the Charity Commissioners. So it became sort of professional. Then it was up to me to find good speakers for events. I was the President of London OUPS and I had so many brilliant speakers. Then it progressed to having two main events in a year, a Spring Conference, and the Revision weekend. In those days all 12 branches in England were fully operational. The regions were all active and very keen but that situation didn't last. Well, it was about money. They expected Central OUPS to finance them. We did give them a small allowance in the beginning.

The theme of this conference is about the meeting of Eastern and Western ideas. Do you think that your interest in Buddhism stems from your involvement in Psychology?

No, not at all, because I have a lot of friends who are Buddhists. And, of course, they tried many times to introduce me but I was never interested. I didn't believe in anything. I thought, "When you're dead, you're dead and that's it." I never was religious in any

form whatsoever. And my friend made me promise never to be burnt when I died. Which I promised. Anyway, I never worried about death. But, my parents died, my sisters and brothers died and all my friends died and when I got to 90 I thought, "I don't want to live". So I decided (not in a rash moment, you understand) but I decided that I would kill myself because I didn't want to finish up with a stroke - I'd had so many friends who had died with a stroke and I didn't want to finish up in an Old-Age-Home, I wanted to die in my own bed. So I thought I'll finish myself off, which I planned. I wrote my will and gave all my jewellery away and generally organised my life. I took over 50 sleeping tablets and a drink . . . and I left a notice next to my bed, "Do not try to resuscitate me . . ." But, unfortunately the girl who used to clean for me, she had come and she couldn't get in so she went to somebody upstairs who had my key and that lady used to be a nurse so she came down and she tried to resuscitate me and rang for an ambulance etc. Of course I didn't know anything about all that but they said in the hospital that it took four days to get me back to life. They said I was absolutely horrible, that I was kicking the nurses and saying "Don't touch that, that's my chocolate." (She laughed uproariously at that memory). And so I came round, to the amazement of my friends, who were horrified when they heard that I had tried to commit suicide. I was in hospital then for several months. People were trying to find out what I had

used and when they eventually got a tablet from my home they said they were old sleeping tablets and they weren't working. They were very old sleeping tablets that I had accumulated. So I recovered. But the point is that when I woke up the first thing I said was "Nam-myoho-renge-kyo", and I found myself chanting this over and over again. "Where did that come from?"

Had you done meditation before?

No! and I thought "Where the hell did that come from?"

So I thought, well, it must be in the subconscious. They were astonished at the hospital and couldn't understand where it came from either. And then I asked my Buddhist friends to bring me some literature and talk to me more about this and I suppose in a weak moment I thought "this must be the idea, that I am going to convert", so I did.

And do I get any comfort from this? I do if I go to the headquarters in a place called Taplow. It's a beautiful old building like a castle where some famous people have lived and now it is like a museum and they have big halls for meetings and things like that and if you go there then that is very inspirational. Each region in England has its own group and its members get together for evening meetings sitting on somebody's floor. And I had some in my home once and all my neighbours complained that they were making too much noise. Their chanting was so loud and so strong and so long. I can't do that. You have to

train your breathing and your muscles to be able to chant in that way. And do you get any comfort? Sometimes I think what is it all about? But they claim that if I pray for my illness then I'll get cured, but I can't believe that.

Would you say there is a thread running through your life?

I've had such a fantastic life, I can't tell you. I can't even put it in print because my companion for 36 years was too famous so I can't write that up.

They have written a book about me in America but it hasn't been published yet. I want it published in America not in England because there's more money in America and more women there who would buy it. I've had such an interesting life that my nieces in America felt it should be written about. I was very happy with him. We travelled a lot and I went with him everywhere. He was so brilliant and so clever, so very clever.

Any regrets?

No, none at all. OUPS became my main interest. I did all I could to build up resources and build up the membership and as I said, when I met Bruner (Jerome), he said "It is the most fantastic organisation. I wish there was something similar in America but there isn't." Nobody has tried to copy us here. But you don't know.

Last night whilst being wheeled around the campus a girl came running up to me and said "Oh I want to ask you, I want to ask you, the Open University ought to

give the questions that are coming up in the exams, give them to the students so that they could prepare . . . I said "But we do, that's what you're taught the whole year round. And then it's up to you. When you get your exam paper the questions are designed to test your knowledge, which is all the learning that you have accumulated." But she couldn't see that. She wanted a straight answer to the question. I mean that is the whole point of an exam that you have to know how to fit your knowledge around the question. You can't be spoon fed. There wouldn't be any fun in that.

Do you think the students have changed over the years?

It's difficult for me to say as I'm not involved directly but, Yes, I do think they have changed a lot. There was a period when they were worse but now they're better again. It's middle-aged people mostly. There was a period when our students were very young.

What do you mean by "better" and "worse" ?

More dedicated, I mean really dedicated because it is hard work. People who used to say to me, "Oh, I wrote my essay last night because it had to be in by this morning." Well I used to think "Lucky You!" I always used to re-write and re-write and re-write and that way I learned. And when I did my PhD I would get up at 6 in the morning and I would write and then next week I would re-write it, you know. And that's the way it gets in there. Thank God I did my PhD when I did

because I couldn't have done it today. Or could I? I don't know!

Is there something you would still like to do?

I would like to study other subjects still linked to Psychology, you know, The Brain, the brain, the brain.

But what about the Mind?

I am still feeling my way into Buddhism and, as I said, I have a lot of friends who have been Buddhists all their lives but, I don't know, I can't say that I feel comfort in chanting . . .

And yet there must be a reason why you continue?

Yes, because the people I know who are Buddhists are such wonderful people. They are such gorgeous people, and very active in business and marriage and things like that. Oh yes, very positive.

Is there anything else you would like to add?

I've had such a wonderful life.



Dr. Alan Pechey, Dr. Lilli Hvingtoft-Foster and Dr. Richard Stevens



MEMORIES OF LILLI

In memory of our late President Dr Lilli Hvingtoft-Foster



Lilli with Richard Stevens at Ascot

I would like to contribute something of my memories and impressions of Lilli Hvingtoft-Foster, the legendary President of OUPS for so many years and who died last year. Her name reflects her origins. She was born in Denmark but moved to UK during the second world war and, after a brief marriage to Mr Foster, lived here ever since. She enjoyed royal connections and was for many years the partner of a member of the Greek royal family. He was an anthropologist and through him Lilli became interested in the study of people, eventually satisfying this by taking an honours degree in psychology at the Open University. She later went on to complete a PhD in Forensic Psychology at Liverpool

University.

Her great love was the Open University Psychology Society. Contrary to what many people had come to believe, this had been well established and was flourishing at the time she joined it. But Lilli added her own very special ingredient to dramatically increase its operations and prestige. Her boundless self-confidence and grand manner enabled her to invite famous psychologists to come to speak to the OU Psychology Society. These included B.F. Skinner and Noam Chomsky. She was also able to satisfy her own particular interest in forensic psychology by inviting well-known figures in this area such as Paul Britton to speak. She even managed to persuade key members of the FBI to come to the UK to talk to OUPS students. Under her presidency and with the enthusiasm and experience of a highly effective committee, OUPS mounted some great events, both related to specific courses and to wider issues in psychology, which added a vital ingredient to studying psychology at the OU. These events also offered important opportunities to meet other students and talk informally with established academics and other psychologists.

Lilli was careful with funds and built up enough capital to make it possible for OUPS to mount both revision weekends and general conferences on a grand scale, with some events attracting as many as 1000 students for a weekend.



MEMORIES OF LILLI

Lilli had the posture of a natural aristocrat, which gave her poise, dignity and strength. She wasn't always an easy person to deal with, however, and had an occasional tendency to fall out even with those she had been close to. She had by far the longest reign as President. Once she had attained the post no one felt the need (or dared!) to challenge her. She remained President until her death in 2015.



Lilli at Ascot

Lilli was generous both with her time and hospitality. I have several warm personal memories of delicious and stimulating dinners and lunches in her flat in Hendon. Lilli, among her other skills, was an excellent cook and hostess. Several of us were treated to trips to watch Polo at Royal Windsor where she was a member.

OUPS was always at the centre of Lilli's life and she contributed a verve and energy which has been vital in its development. Though this sometimes required the support of a wheelchair, she carried on attending OUPS events until well into what must have been her 90s (she adamantly refused to reveal her precise age!). Lilli had a long and interesting life and gave a great deal to members of OUPS. She will be greatly missed.

Dr Richard Stevens

OUPS Vice-President

The following article was written by Lilli and appeared in the tenth anniversary edition of the newsletter, August 1984.

MY DEBT TO OUPS

The path to gain a psychology degree can at times become very strenuous and you might often feel desperately lonely. Friends might see a decision to study with the Open University, and especially to study psychology, as a threat to the set pattern of an existing friendship, they may fear that potential development might influence and change and – perhaps break up that friendship.

From the day I joined the Open University my life began to change. As a student of psychology I encountered much scepticism and heard endless remarks as for example – ‘Be on your guard – she is analysing every word you utter’.

Therefore it was with a real need to meet other students of psychology that I joined the Open University Psychological Society. It offered the opportunity of meeting and mixing with other psychology students. The Society arranged both ‘General Psychology’ events and ‘Revision’ weekends at various Universities. Here I would meet other psychology students who perhaps also had (as I had) the need to discuss and exchange views and ideas about essays and projects. Burning topics like ‘unjust tutors’ and ‘incomprehensible units’ were discussed at length.

My many moments of despair and doubt, of wondering why I voluntarily submitted myself to the agony of studying, were pushed aside when stimulating arguments and discussions with fellow students took place. New breadths of vision developed after an endless process of searching, anticipation, verification and conflicts with myself and others. It was not just that I gained new information from other students, but in discus-

sions and interaction with tutors and students I often suddenly realised that in fact I knew and held certain theories in my own mind, that, until then, I had not been able to fully express.

By realising how much I was benefiting by meeting other students at the OUPS events, I felt I wanted to encourage other students to join the Society to gain what I felt the Society had contributed to my own development. I therefore joined the Committee of the London Region of OUPS, at first as an event organiser, later as chairperson.

Before I began studying with the Open University I had been privileged to know some highly esteemed psychologists, whom I knew as approachable and generous with both their experience and knowledge as well as with their time. I invited such psychologists (as well as many others) to lecture at OUPS day and evening events. Such experienced lecturers gave clear concise talks which stimulated and inspired us to further study and research. Memorable speakers are Michael Argyle, R. L. Gregory, John Mayhew, Basil Bernstein, Jonathan Miller, John Bowlby, Peter Wason – to mention but a few.

As the London Region of OUPS became a successful, financially self-supporting branch, some of the committee members felt they would like to contribute their experience to central OUPS, and were elected onto the central OUPS Executive Committee in 1982. Through many sessions of discussions, arguments, and hard work, the Society has more than doubled its membership over the past few years. The 13 OUPS Regions have been encouraged and assisted and now arrange Day and Evening Regional Events for their members. Every year the Society arranges four University Week-end Events in different parts of the country where many hundreds of students attend. A ‘humanistic’ week-

end also takes place once yearly. The publication of four editions of the 'new' *Newsletter* has been welcomed and praised by many members who besides the *Newsletter* also receive the yearly journal the *New Psychologist*.

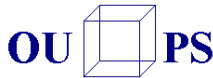
This year OUPS has affiliated with OUSA, this brings with it benefits which give us the use of facilities for postage, printing, publicity and membership, which are important and costly factors now with membership continually increasing. Nevertheless OUPS retains its autonomy and is the biggest and most active of all the Societies within the Open University.

The importance and acceptance of our Society in the psychological world was well demonstrated when Professor B. F. Skinner accepted our invitation to give a talk to our members last July. This event we held at the prestigious 'Royal Society'. It attracted psychologists from all over Britain. Many more members wanted to attend the occasion than space allowed and the BBC recorded and broadcast Professor Skinner's talk on two later dates.

Without the courageous founder members of OUPS, Ann Humphrey, Pat Linley, Len Brown and John Clapham and others who supported them, we would not be able to talk with pride about OUPS, and it is with admiration and thanks that we must look back to these people. I consider it an honour to have had the opportunity to play a part in the development of OUPS.

To the future I look with hope, hope that all coming executive committees will continue to further the benefits of the Society for its many members, and hope that the members will involve themselves more in the continuing development of 'their' Society.

L.H.F.



**The Open University
Psychological Society**

SDK228: 'Investigating Mental Health' Springboard Weekend

2nd – 4th September 2016

Warwick University

Are you starting SDK228 this October? Give yourself a head-start and attend the OUPS 'Springboard' weekend to help prepare for the course.

****This weekend may also be of interest to anyone who is interested in mental health but is not planning to study the course.****

- ❖ **Broad overview of the course**
- ❖ **Looking at the different perspectives/approaches**
- ❖ **Introduction to experimental methods and statistics**
- ❖ **Hand-holding introduction to the material**
- ❖ **Experienced OU tutors and a course author**
- ❖ **Meet other OU psychology students in friendly atmosphere**

This weekend school is intended to give a very gentle 'hand-holding' guide to the course SDK228, with personal attention. It will introduce some of the more accessible parts of the course as well as some of those likely to give trouble (based on past experience). It will look at some of the broad overarching themes of the course such as the biopsychosocial perspective. It will give signposts as to how to approach the chapters and how to be critical of them. The weekend is being run in parallel with other events for psychology courses, including the conference on Evolutionary Psychology, so you will have the opportunity to mix and talk to other students about their experiences of studying with the OU.

This is what some students have said about the event in previous years:

'I definitely think it was beneficial in getting a head start on the module and for reassuring me that I have chosen the right module this year'

'Fred and Neil were excellent – delivered material in inspiring ways – thoroughly enjoyed the talks.'

Weekend fees: £220 for standard room for OUPS members, £240 for non members. Ensuite rooms available for an additional £59. This includes all meals, accommodation, extensive handouts and all social events.

Bookings/enquiries to Irene Baumgartl: Tel: 020 8315 0049

Email: info@oups.org.uk. For more details check out our website www.oups.org.uk

	OU Students Association	OUPS is a not for profit registered charity: number 282744	
		We are affiliated to OUSA: the Open University Student Association	
		Find us at www.oups.org.uk and on facebook	



Dr Alan Pechey

Letter from the Chair May 2016

End of an Era

This is the end of an era. The world has moved on; at least the world of Open University psychology. Over the last year we have lost two of the most influential and charismatic people involved. Lilli died last year and I heard a few days ago that Judy Greene had died. Professor Judith Greene was the key figure in establishing psychology at the Open University and was responsible for driving through acceptance of the OU degree by the BPS. [Luckily she was physically a petite figure as I ended up at a Residential School barn dance having to carry her the length of the dance floor.]

And Lilli was the most important figure in the development of the Open University Psychological Society. She talked about herself as the founder of the society; but truth is I suspect a rather grey area for many powerful figures. And Lilli was certainly one of the most powerful figures that I have ever met. She knew what was required and expected to get her way. Mixing with royalty (including

trips with Onassis on his yacht with Jackie Kennedy) when the official mistress of a European prince had given her an expectation to be obeyed and to be waited on.

I remember when first meeting her at a pre-event meeting at a Nottingham Revision Weekend when she berated the bartender [who had just opened the bar for three of us] for not having any olives for her drink; and then when he had obtained some complaining that they weren't fresh. She cut a very elegant figure; and even when confined to bed would sometimes entertain a select few of the OUPS committee to caviar and champagne lying on her chaise longue in a very smart robe [I was going to say dressing gown but that wouldn't have done it justice].

Lilli certainly was responsible for grabbing the embryonic OUPS and driving the society forward to becoming what she claimed to be the largest student society in the OU and the largest student psychology society in the world. A little grey creeping in again I suspect, but we are certainly high in the rankings. She was also undoubtedly amazingly effective at getting great psychologists to come and speak to OUPS; the classic case being Skinner. I still use a slightly adapted version of her invitation letter when first inviting speakers to present at our conferences.

She was always absolutely certain that she was right; possibly the most critical



MEMORIES OF LILLI

factor if one wants to drive an organisation forward. When I tutored at my first Revision Weekend at Nottingham she told me that a key position had become vacant on the OUPS committee which she thought I should stand for [In those days we had our AGM at the Revision Weekend in September]. I was very impressed by OUPS and thought this was a good idea. What I hadn't realised until turning up at the meeting was that the person on the committee wasn't intending to stand down and was expecting to be re-elected; but Lilli felt they were doing a poor job. So the AGM turned out to be more confrontational and emotional than I had expected. Not many people other than the committee tended to go to the AGM, where they would re-elect themselves. [I think this has improved somewhat today!]. So the start of my involvement with OUPS was quite a turbulent affair. And it remained that way for a long time.

After a few years when I became chair I was very keen on changing some aspects of how OUPS worked. And Lilli wasn't keen on this at all; and wasn't used to the committee disagreeing on anything. So we had some very turbulent meetings. At one there was even a motion that I be impeached as chair on the grounds that I had kept the disco going after complaints by one student about the noise. But I survived this and certainly my OUPS meetings prepared me well for tough business meetings as

a consultant; as they were never as tough as OUPS meetings. These are things of the past now though and we have a great committee today and not too many battles at meetings [certainly not violent ones].

The biggest battle was about getting Irene on board as a paid administrator. The idea of the society employing anyone and not being completely run by volunteers was a complete anathema to Lilli. But the result was that in some respects the organisation was chaotic; because of the combination of its great size and not being able to direct volunteers in the same way as one might an employee. And Lilli did eventually admit to being wrong about Irene; the only time I can remember her admitting to being wrong! But then how often do any of us?

Lilli was certainly an amazing figure and if she hadn't taken OUPS as her baby I doubt whether it would be anything like as valuable to hundreds of OU students over many years.



Lilli with Alan, Richard & Dense



Raising Your Game Workshops

Skills Advice and Workshops for busy Psychology students.

2nd - 4th September 2016

Warwick University

These sessions are suitable for all levels of study and are designed to assist your transition from lower to higher levels of study, understanding and performance.

Tutor feedback on your assignments will indicate areas for improvement and our workshops are based on the most commonly identified areas of weakness. Does the feedback from your tutor sometimes advise you to:

- Focus more on the specific question and avoid irrelevance?
- Offer more evidence to support your main point and explain how it does so?
- Make more critical evaluation of theories or evidence?
- Write more academically and reference accurately?
- Structure your essay effectively?

The weekend offers 8 sessions, which are designed to help you improve your academic writing skills and also to develop a greater understanding of research methodology, why we need to do research, how we go about designing it and interpreting it.

Our weekends are very friendly and informal and as well as giving you academic advice and support they offer you the chance to meet other OU psychology students doing a variety of modules. The workshops are being run by two very experienced tutors, **Brenda Todd** and **Gini Harrison**.

Numbers will be limited to **30 students** to allow a more effective learning experience. So book early to avoid disappointment!

Fully inclusive price of £220 for OUPS members (£240 non members)

- ❖ a great central location with excellent transport links, free sports facilities and plenty of free parking
- ❖ all meals, including dinner on Friday and Saturday are provided together with social events including a welcome drink on Friday night, as well as a Saturday night disco

Ensuite facilities with private tea/coffee making facilities available for an additional £59

To book or for enquiries contact:

Irene Baumgartl, PO Box 986,
Bromley, BR1 9LN

Tel: 0208 315 0049
(answerphone if not available).
Email: info@oups.org.uk

Or book online at
www.oups.org.uk

OUPS is not for profit and is a registered charity: number 282744

We are affiliated to OUSA: the Open University Student Association
Find us at www.oups.org.uk and on facebook

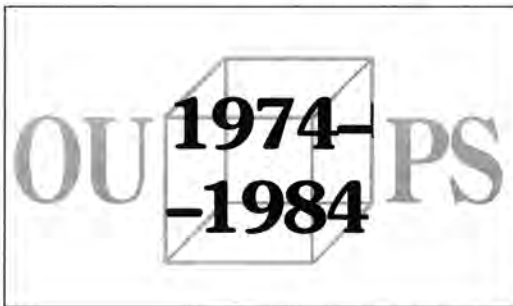
The following history of OUPS is taken from the tenth anniversary edition of the newsletter, August 1984

OUPS - the first ten years 1974 - 1984 Dr. Elizabeth Cowne

It was Ann Humphries who had the vision to launch OUPS. She first wrote to Sesame, in November 1973, and again in April 1974, putting forward the idea of an Open University society for psychology students. Ann suggested that, as the first psychology course offered by the OU was about to start in 1974, this might be an appropriate time to found a society to foster interest in psychology. Initially, it would be for those taking the course.

In response to her first letter in Sesame, students wrote from all over the country. There were so many of these that she divided them up among the 13 OU regions and wrote to one person in each region, asking them to help contact others and set up local groups.

In her second letter to Sesame, in April 1974, Ann shared some of the ideas sent in by the people who had contacted her. Ann had



envisaged the Society as an association of local groups, each helping students to meet each other, and probably running events in conjunction with other local groups, universities, and others, who had psychology as a common interest. A national committee would co-ordinate general activities, such as a newsletter and, probably, an

annual conference which would be held in a different region each year. Affiliation to other OU societies was also a possibility (the eventual link with OUSA was in fact discussed for several years).

Affiliation to the British Psychological Society was also of interest, but this was not possible. The BPS allowed individuals to become Subscriber Members, but Student and Graduate Membership had to wait until the OU had enough courses on offer to lead to a degree that was, in effect, a psychology degree.

The inaugural meeting of OUPS took place in Birmingham on the 1st of June, 1974. All students on DS261 (Introduction to Psychology) were notified through an OU mailing. In October 1974 the first Newsletter was sent out. The Society was, it declared, run by students for students. It reported successful beginnings in some regions, and encouraged volunteers to come forward in regions not yet under way. At national level, there were plans for a dayschool in London, and later in Glasgow, the Midlands, and in Bristol.

The first Chairperson, Mary Winning, wrote describing the inaugural meeting that had brought Ann Humphries' vision to reality. All regions except two had been represented by staff or students. John Annett, the first OU Professor of Psychology, had expressed his support and helped to draw up a constitution. In characteristic OUPS style, there was a guest lecture, from Tom Singleton, Professor of Applied Psychology at Aston. Mary wrote:

"It must be stressed that OUPS is a student society, with the prime purpose of fostering and expanding student interests and activities."

The remainder of that first Newsletter provided short pieces of news from nine regions. The Newsletter was promised every three months, and has continued to be the main channel of communication with members throughout the 20 years of OUPS.

The original subscription for OUPS was £1. It rose to £2 in 1976, £3 in 1980, and £5 in 1983. One of the reasons the cost was so low was the generosity of the founder members - Ann Humphries, John Clapham, Len Brown and many others, centrally and in the regions - who carried so much of the true cost of the Society, either personally or through their businesses.



Vivian
Milroy

The regions soon began to flourish, and to hold regular events. I was a founder member of the London regional group, started by Vivian Milroy. Vivian was later joined as organiser by Margaret Green (now Chester) and myself. London started with social events, held in the University of London Union, in Malet Street or in Central London Polytechnic. We were supported through Vivian's links with the Association of Humanistic Psychology. He invited

the Chair of the AHP, John Rowan, to lead an encounter group as one of our first events. The humanistic thread has run through OUPS events ever since.

Malet Street became a popular venue, and the first OUPS National AGM/ Psychology Day was held there, on 27 September 1975. At this AGM, Ann Humphries was elected National President; Judith Greene, Vice President; Mary Winning, Chairman; Len Brown, Secretary; and John Clapham, Treasurer. It was this group, especially Ann, Len and John, who were to run OUPS for the next few years, and whose energy and enthusiasm turned it into a thriving society which ran many conferences and day schools. Judith Greene, who was Professor Designate of Psychology in the OU, was one of the guest speakers at the Psychology Day, and it was Judith who was to press the BPS to recognise OU degrees in psychology.



Richard
Stevens

1976 saw the beginning of the Weekend Schools for which OUPS has become so well known. The OU offered D305 (Social Psychology) for the first time, but there was to be no summer school. OUPS, and others, put on three summer/autumn weekend schools to support D305, and the course team, including Richard Stevens, helped to run them all.

National OUPS continued to thrive. The original team were joined by Penny Woolf, Pat Lindley, Tricia Potheccary and Ian Aitken. The Newsletter came out four times a year, and the Journal (edited for its first two issues by Ann Humphries) roughly every year. The Social Psychology Weekend became a regular part of the OUPS calendar.

In 1978, the University offered D303 (Cognitive Psychology) for the first time, and there were finally sufficient psychology courses to cause the British Psychological Society to take psychology in the OU seriously. BPS recognition took the form of offers of Graduate Membership to those who had obtained an OU degree with a particular combination of passes from a list of named courses. At first, this meant all the psychology courses that the OU taught, but later, it was enough to take certain core courses: Introduction to Psychology; Cognitive Psychology; Social Psychology; and a selection (amounting to one and a half credits) from the others.

The interest in links with the BPS continued, and for some years our General Psychology Weekend, in April, was organised so that it shared a venue with the BPS Conference. They offered us the chance to attend some of their lectures. As a result, we could offer our members both our own sessions and some BPS sessions, and we could meet BPS members socially.

The first of these General Weekends was held at York in 1978. Those students ready to apply for Graduate BPS membership, in particular, took a great interest in the “big brother society’s” conference. Judith Greene pushed for some special cases to be recognised, and the first Graduate Memberships came through in 1978, with more to follow as the full list of courses became available. OUPS finally felt that it had grown up.

The London Branch, of which I was Secretary in 1979 with Margaret Green as chair, was beginning to blossom. We had run evening events for several years, and successful occasions covered topics and speakers ranging from Guy Claxton on Zen, to Peter Wason on problem-solving. Now, in May, we put on a large dayschool called ‘Psychology Shop Window’, at which practising psychologists told us about careers using psychology. Many other successes followed.

Lilli had joined the London committee as events secretary and we benefited from her talent for persuading eminent psychologists to share their ideas with us. We had a star-studded programme:

*Michael Argyle, Donald Broadbent,
Richard Gregory, John Mayhew,
Jonathan Miller, Liam Hudson,
Basil Bernstein and John Bowlby,*

were just some of the visiting speakers, together with a number of OU Tutors. Then, in July 1983, the pièce de resistance:

B F Skinner was persuaded by Lilli to come and speak to OUPS in the prestigious venue of the Royal Society. The photo of Lilli and Skinner became another landmark in OUPS history.....

In 1980, OUPS applied for registration as a Charity. Judge Brian Clapham, on the National Committee, was instrumental in rewriting the constitution in such a way as to be acceptable to both the



B. F. Skinner
with Lili

members and the Charity Commissioners. An Extraordinary General Meeting was held in May, at the Conway Hall in London, to approve the new constitution.

In 1982, Lilli was elected as National Chairperson, and I was elected as National President, roles that we exchanged in 1983. We worked together, with a team of many others, over several years. Our tasks included increasing the membership, encouraging the regions, and, most of all, putting on Weekend Schools; four or more in each year. The Journal was edited in turn by Pat Lindley, John Platts and LouLou Brown. Marketing of T-shirts, and other goods, continued. As always, the energy and generosity of committee members, giving freely of their time, (and often other resources), kept the Society going forward.

OUPS advertised regularly in Sesame, and in its own Newsletter, the editorship of which, in 1983, was taken over by Sarah Clevely, who used her design studio to see that it was typeset and printed professionally. OUPS put itself on show at OU Open Days as well. (One of these produced a particularly good exhibition on perceptual illusions by John Platts.)

By 1983, I had completed a Master's course, qualified as an Educational Psychologist, and was a lecturer at the Institute of Education in London. The skills I learnt chairing OUPS committees,

A proud day

Liz Cowne (as tutor)
with John Platts
at his graduation

Northampton 1986



along with all the other experiences and lessons from over 12 years of OU life, had equipped me for what I was to do next. I had learnt confidence and competence in the OU, and I would now try to pass this on to the others I would teach, as OU tutor, and work with, in the educational world.

Some of The Originals
at York University on Sunday 14th April 1985

Left to right (back row)

John Platts (national secretary) Angelika Sumpton (treasurer)
Sarah Clevely (newsletter editor) Cliff Unwin (regional development)
Jean Evans (minutes) Sylvia Hunt (publicity) Margaret Green (marketing)

Left to right (front row)

Liz Cowne (Vice president) Lilli Hvingtoft-Foster (president)
and Graeme Cooper (chairman)





MEMORIES OF LILLI

Memories of Lilli

By Neil Frude



Professor Neil Frude

OUPS Vice-President

I don't know the date when I first met any of my friends, or my wife, but I do remember the date on which I first met Lilli Hvingtoft-Foster. It was 28th November 1994.

It was my birthday and I had been asked to end a national conference for psychology PhD students with a funny talk, to lighten the atmosphere and send people away with a smile. Initially, I'd decided to turn down the offer and celebrate my birthday in a more family-centred way, but the conference was local and I decided that I could give the talk and then blow out my candles later. In the lecture – “Getting a PhD the Easy Way” – I passed on such tips as “the thesis title *must* include a colon and should include at least two of the terms

‘neuro’, ‘cognitive’ and ‘constructivist’”. Thus I assured the 80 or so PhD students that “Fruit preferences: a neuro-cognitive constructivist study” was practically guaranteed success just by the title. That sort of thing. Silly, but with more than a grain of truth.

The age demographic in the room was predictable – everyone was between 21 and 25, except that there was one notable outlier. And, in terms of dress, everyone was in t-shirts and jeans, again with one (remarkable) outlier. The outlier was an attractive, designer-dressed and well-coiffured lady in her mid-70s, of royal aspect. Dressed for the Cheltenham races, I did wonder what this Queen Mother clone was doing at my funny talk – had she accompanied a favourite grandchild, perhaps?



Lilli receiving her doctorate in 1993



MEMORIES OF LILLI

At the end of the talk, this lady approached me and introduced herself as Lilli, PhD student (she achieved her doctorate – in forensic psychology – two years later) and president of OUPS. She asked whether I would give a similar talk as a guest speaker at an OUPS weekend in Nottingham some months later. Thus began a relationship with OUPS that has lasted for over twenty years and has enriched my life considerably. (There's a message there about never turning down an offer, even on your birthday).

I have no doubt that others will recall Lilli's personality and demeanour in detail. The four words that come to the top of my list of descriptors are 'elegant', 'effective', 'decisive' and 'formidable'. The last of these was often the dominant one, especially for tutors, as Lilli wandered from presentation to presentation – a one-woman Ofsted, "An Inspector Calls"! Tutors struggled to continue with their teaching and to ignore the inner voice saying "Will Lilli approve of my style, my slides, my pace?" Even well-seasoned lecturers would feel like an apprentice, and the assumption was that a thumbs down from Lilli would mean "you're fired". And when she left after 10 minutes or so, you were never sure whether this signified approval, disgust or simply Lilli moving on to subject the next tutor to her own brand of quality control.

Lilli did an enormous amount of work to build and sustain OUPS over many, many years, and all of us who have benefitted from this great organization have many reasons to be grateful for her huge and unforgettable contribution.



Lilli at Nottingham in 2003

Introduction to the New Website

By David Byrne



The creaky old OUPS website

Over a year ago I was approached by Alan and Denise who mentioned that the website needed “a bit of attention”, and wondered if I’d be able to help as the person who was managing the site at the time needed to move on. When I was an OU student I had found the website pretty difficult to navigate when booking events, and not terribly appealing so I didn’t use it for much else, and I figured I could probably make a few improvements. I’ve been involved in IT all my career, and I like getting ‘hands-on’ with systems like this, so after a chat with the outgoing Website Officer who assured me that it was “just a case of backing it up occasionally” I agreed to take on the role.

However, once I got my hands on the

system I found that the situation was slightly more involved. The software was over three years out of date, and nearly thirty versions behind the current release! This made it difficult to make it look any more attractive, or to add new functions to it. Even adding pictures or being able to download information was hard or impossible. In addition we could get no new features, bug fixes or security updates for that version of the software so had to suffer some long-standing bugs that had been fixed in later versions, and the possibility of the site being hacked at any time.



David Byrne
Website Officer

This happened for the first time last July, when search engines such as Google started to report dozens of links to sites selling sexual performance-enhancing drugs originating from the OUPS website! I found myself regularly patching this up and trying to stay a step ahead but it became clear that we would have to ditch the site and build a new one. This would give us a chance to refresh the

content, make the website more mobile-friendly and generally establish a web presence we could be proud of.

From the old to the new

Because the software was so out of date, it took months of analysis and testing to work out how to map all the information on OUPS members' details, past orders, event details and the web pages on the site into the new version so that we could switch over with minimal disruption. Everything seemed to be coming together for our planned launch over the Christmas break, but as we were making the final preparations we were notified that our hosting provider was ceasing support for non-business websites and that we would have to move to a new provider. This meant a further three months work to build and move to a whole new server environment.

However, in a sense this was a blessing in disguise as it also forced us to replace our creaking mailing list system with one that allows our members to control their mailing preferences and that looks far more modern and professional, and to bring in a new email service that standardises all the administrative OUPS email addresses and makes it easier for our members to contact the right person in OUPS when needed. Running on our own servers also means we have far more control over improving the functionality of the website and of the

back office (reporting, order management). It's also a much faster website (average load time for the front page is less than 2 seconds compared to almost 20 seconds on the old site).

A new era dawns ...

Eventually after what seemed years we went live on Good Friday this year.

In terms of content and usability the new



website is cleaner, clearer and simpler to navigate and works well on phones and tablets as well as on computers. It's now far easier to edit content and to find additional modules to add new functions. We've added more information about OUPS and about the courses and events we provide and have made all our newsletters for the past three years available for download through the site. In addition we have opened up home pages for each of the OUPS regions so that the local committees can publish details of what's happening in their regions.

The new website also has much-improved functionality. For example, we can (though it's hard to believe this was problematic before!) publish pictures within the webpages and alongside our events that give a flavour of who's involved in OUPS and what goes on, and are also embedding videos on the site. Our members can book events directly from the pages that describe these, and we can both prioritise bookings for heavily subscribed events and manage waiting lists for them when they are fully booked.

In addition the new site allows us far more flexibility in the options we can offer for membership and events. For instance, DE100 students who have free membership of OUPS in their first year can now take this up through the website and immediately take advantage of membership discounts without having to go through a rather long-winded manual process as before.

We hope that all of our website users, whether OUPS members or not, will find it easier to interact with OUPS than previously and to keep in touch with what's going on in OUPS both nationally and in your region. And now that the new systems are all up and running I'm happy to go public, so if you have any ideas for additions or improvements to the website, the mailing lists or anything to do with OUPS online, you know who I am and who to contact!



Autumn Day Conference

12th November 2016, 10am-4pm
The Royal Cambridge Hotel, Cambridge

Autism Spectrum Disorders

- **Prof Simon Baron-Cohen** (University of Cambridge) - *[title to be confirmed]*
- **Dr Steven Stagg** (Anglia Ruskin University) - Diagnosis of ASD in older age
- **Dr Rosa Hoekstra** (King's College, London) - Improving autism awareness and service provision in low resource settings: perspectives from Ethiopia
- **David Bottomley** - A personal perspective on living with Asperger's Syndrome
- **Elisa Ferriggi** (Think Autism) - *[title to be confirmed]*

Booking rates: Members £30; Non-members £40

Book online at: www.oups.org.uk

For enquiries contact: cambridge@oups.org.uk

OUPS events are open to everyone. This is an autism friendly conference, and a separate quiet room will be available.

The Open University Psychological Society is a not-for-profit registered charity (no. 282744) which is run by volunteers and is affiliated to OUSA.



MEMORIES OF LILLI

Memories of Lilli from Evelyn Slavid & Alex Sandham

I met Lilli approximately 25 years ago. I was a student and at that time the OUPS revision weekends took place at Nottingham University. We got to know each other over the years and I deeply respected her for her commitment to OUPS. She was the reason that I became so involved as she had a very persuasive manner! I was regularly summoned and went to visit her in her home and consequently I got to know her very well. She had to cope with a lot of illness in her time but was one of the strongest women I have ever known. I did not always agree with her but she accepted and dismissed my views very effectively! She was intelligent, elegant and very scary. She gave OUPs the gravitas it deserved. I miss her.

Evelyn Slavid (Revision Weekend Officer)

Lilli was a formidable lady. She was always impeccably dressed and (in my opinion) had a bone structure to die for as she was still a very good looking lady in her late 70's. I joined OUPS and started to attend Revision Weekends in 1995. It was clear to me as a student that Lilli was "in charge" just by the way the staff at Nottingham deferred to her. Something that always cemented Lilli as being "the boss" was when I attended a Forensics Conference sometime in the late 90s. Unfortunately for Lilli she had done something to her leg and was unable to attend. But keen not to miss any of the talks she had arranged to have them all videoed so she could watch all the talks at home. At the beginning of each talk – each speaker introduced themselves to the audience

and then said "Hello Lilli" into camera and I remember the 2 American speakers from the FBI actually bowing to the camera (and her) also.

My first period serving OUPS as Treasurer was in the early 2000s. Adrian had wanted to step down for some time and no-one else was prepared to take on the role so I duly put myself forward and was elected at the AGM. I thought that was that, however I was wrong. Lilli summoned me over to her table at dinner on the Saturday evening and said that she needed to interview me as she vetted all newly elected members before they were allowed to sit on the Committee. I was terrified – but must have passed as I was allowed to carry out the role for about 5 years before handing over to Vanessa. When Vanessa needed to step down – I was happy to take the role back – but really missed my interview with Lilli. Although I was a tad scared of her at the beginning of my time on the OUPS Committee I always respected her and definitely grew to have a genuine love for her and her funny ways!

Alex Sandham (OUPS Treasurer)



Alex & Evelyn



**The Open University
Psychological Society
London region**

Annual Day Conference

Criminology

Saturday 18th June 2016

University of Westminster, Marylebone Campus, London NW1 5LS



The London branch of the Open University Psychological society welcomes all to attend the Annual Day Conference. This event involves a series of 4 lectures with the opportunity to ask questions. It will appeal to those interested in criminology and forensic psychology.

Confirmed speakers so far include:

- **Professor Andrew Silke (University of East London): 'Criminology and Terrorism'**
- **Dr Jane Wood (University of Kent): 'Identifying the psychology of gang membership'**
- **Professor David Wilson (Birmingham City University): 'Murder and Serial Murder in Britain'**

Please check website for update on final speaker.

For more information visit

oups.org.uk/LOUPS

Email london@oups.org.uk

Fee per person

£35 OUPS Members

£45 Non-OUPS members

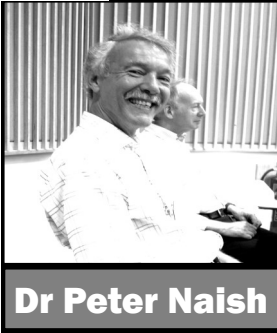
£45 On the door (subject to availability)

Everyone is welcome to attend!

The Open University Psychological Society is a not-for-profit registered charity (no. 282744), which is run by volunteers and is affiliated to OUSA.



Cognitive Column



Cognitive Column – April 2016

I must of course begin with mention of Lilli, the redoubtable woman who, in a country and language that were not her own, was able to steer the fledgling OUPS into the astonishingly successful Society it is today. No mean feat! Sadly I never got to know her well, merely having occasional meetings at OUPS events. In the 40th Anniversary edition of *News & Views*, back in 2014, I mentioned attending one such assembly in London. The meeting seems long ago now; I was doing my doctorate in Oxford and travelled to London together with Donald Broadbent, in his car. I believe he had been invited to speak, and had suggested me as an additional speaker. I met Lilli for the first time on that trip, and was immediately aware of her Danish accent of course. However, strikingly she showed none of the hesitancy or diffidence that one often sees in someone operating in a tongue and culture not her own; in all my encounters she seemed unshakably

assured. Lilli wrote to me from time to time, inviting me to speak at meetings; there was no email in those days, so it was a real paper letter. As I recall, these were always hand written, and began *Dear Peter Naish*. Since we called each other by our first names when we met, I often wondered why the letters required the surname too. I dare say it was intended to convey an appropriate formality to a document requesting a diary commitment. One sensed that Lilli came from an era and background where protocol was always to be observed; it was said that she had moved in very high circles in Denmark. Her bearing did have a certain unmistakable aristocratic touch, and those letters were always supported by a great flourish of a signature, stretching unflinchingly across the page. (It was a long name!) That, I believe, was very much how Lilli spanned her many years; without fear or favour, but in unending support of what she held dear. We have good reason to be grateful that she devoted so many of those years to our service.

When I relate events of long ago I experience a nagging mistrust of my memory. I feel compelled to pepper the account with caveats: 'I believe' or 'as I recall'. There are probably several reasons for this, not least that I have a terrible memory, but I am sure that a significant element is the fact that the problem of erroneous memories has a very high profile for me. Let me remind you that memories are stored in the synapses. As activity ripples through our brains, spreading from neuron to neuron across the tiny synaptic clefts, it modifies the ease with which future activity will manage to jump those little gaps. The activity is caused by stimuli, such as reading this page, and as analysis takes

place, enabling you to understand my words, the information crosses countless synapses, leaving behind a trace of its passage, like footprints in the sand. I fear that, after reading this, your brain will be very slightly altered and you will never be quite the same again! The pattern of activity depends on the stimulus that started it all; listening to music, for example, would be very different from reading an article. Brain scanning, although unable to show what a person is thinking, can certainly distinguish the patterns from different kinds of stimulus. Crucially, those patterns are quite closely replicated if someone tries to imagine the relevant stimulus: much the same networks become activated. If they are activated, the synapses get modified just as they would have been for a real stimulus, because a neuron does not know what activated it. Herein lies a potential problem, because the results of vivid imagining can sometimes be treated as if memories for real events: i.e. false memories are created. We all have some, and for all I know something of what I wrote in the first paragraph may be one.

I have an interest in false memory because from time to time I am asked to be an expert witness in court cases where false memory is suspected. This is particularly the case when hypnosis has been used. Scanning shows that the high degree of realism experienced when imagining in hypnosis is reflected in activity patterns pretty much indistinguishable from the real thing. Not surprisingly, this greatly increases the risk that a false memory will be formed. This scenario is sometimes enacted when a hypnotherapist, believing that a client was once sexually

abused, is determined to unearth the memory of it. Instead they *create* a 'memory' of it. I have met victims of abuse, and also some who have acquired a pseudo-memory for dreadful events that never happened. I've been involved with several cases of late, and it has been impressed upon me just how much these 'false rememberers' suffer. The acquisition of the false memories is almost as damaging as real abuse, and many of these unfortunate victims of memory are in a terrible state, showing the same kinds of symptoms as true victims of abuse. You will be thinking, perhaps, that they might truly have been abused. I will expand in a future *Column*, but for now please be assured that some have most certainly not been.

On a lighter note, after my last *Column*, in which I wrote about parapsychology, a reader contacted me with an intriguing story of seeing someone who wasn't there, or at least, they were there one moment and gone the next, with no obvious hiding place for disappearing. This was much like my friend's story of the 'haunted' phone box, except that he found a rational explanation. Most of us enjoy these spooky tales, so if any of you with stories to tell would like to email them to me (peter.naish@open.ac.uk) then I will relay a selection to everyone in a future edition. If you are sending a story you had better tell me whether or not you want names or places mentioned.

You will probably know that from time to time I share with you my whimsical thoughts on language. I know I've ranted about 'like' before, pointing out its over-use (and arguably misuse). 'Literally' seems to be going the same way. On a recent trip to a police station to see

people involved in a hypnosis case, a nice person met me at the front desk and showed me to the room where I would conduct my interviews. "You are literally in here," she said. As she left to get me a coffee I found myself wondering how it would be if I wasn't literally there. Did most people helping the police with their enquiries have a virtual presence? It's a matter that will probably become important in future trials. No longer will it be sufficient to show that the accused was at the scene of the crime; he will have to have been there literally. I suppose the main thing is not to end up literally in prison.

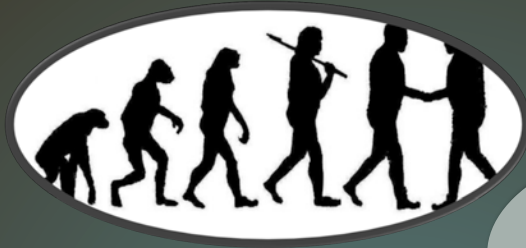
I can't let the In-Out Referendum pass without mention. I don't think this is the place to urge support one way or the other, but I will comment on the Labour and Tory leaders. Jeremy Corbyn has given what is generally acknowledged to be lukewarm support to the In campaign, and this is taken to reflect his long-term euro-sceptic views. If this is true, then gone is the man of integrity I discussed in the last *column*; he's a politician like the rest of them, bending his principles to suit the political needs of the moment. I'm not sure whether that's a relief or not, but it does make it easier to tar them all with the same brush, and you can't beat a good stereotype can you? "What," I hear you cry, "Including that nice Mr Cameron?" Actually I probably don't hear any such thing, and for good reason. Prior to his little flit round Europe, to gain essential concessions, he announced that he was quite prepared to recommend an Out vote if his demands were not met. What he returned with did seem quite paltry, but had he wished he could have argued that these modest changes were exactly what he had been hoping for. However, that's not what he

argued. Instead he began to insist that the reason we should vote Yes was because of a whole host of matters that were never addressed during his grand tour. In other words, he is arguing that we should remain in Europe for reasons that were already in place when he claimed that he was prepared to recommend leaving. It is hard to escape the conclusion that the Europe trip was a charade and that we have been dealt with dishonestly.

Well, that's enough from me. Good luck with the studies, and I shall be back again with the next edition of *News & Views* – literally!

Peter

EVOLUTIONARY PSYCHOLOGY



2016 Annual
OUPS Conference,
2nd-4th September

Speakers

- **Keith Jensen, University of Manchester**
'The prosocial primate.'
- **David Leavens, Senior Lecturer at the University of Sussex**
'The ecology of pointing.'
- **Lisa M. DeBruine, Institute of Neuroscience and Psychology, Durham University**
'Survival, selection and sex differences: the evolutionary survival of women?'
- **Lance Workman, visiting professor of psychology at the University of South Wales**
'How not to think about evolution.'
- **Paul Gilbert, professor at Derby, formerly head of Mental Health Research Unit, Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.**
'The challenge of the evolved mind and the compassionate self.'
- **Oliver Scott Curry, Institute of Cognitive & Evolutionary Anthropology, University of Oxford**
'Explaining morality: psychological and anthropological perspectives'
- **Glenn Wilson, visiting professor of psychology at Gresham college (2009-2014). Former reader in Personality at the Institute of Psychiatry, King's College.**
'Sex wars: the evolutionary basis of male- female conflict.'
- **Helena Cronin, Co-director, Centre for Philosophy of Natural and Social Science LSE**
'Sex at work: the truth about male-female differences.'

Standard room- OUPS members £220, non-members £240. Ensuite rooms- additional £59.

All meals included. To book visit www.oups.org.uk/events



OUJ Students
Association

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We are affiliated to OUSA: the Open University Student Association

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The following article written by Lilli originally appeared in the 25th anniversary edition of the newsletter, September 1994.

My Twenty Years with OUPS

Lilli Hvingtoft-Foster
President

This is a year of celebrations. It is the 25th anniversary of the Open University and the 20th anniversary of the Open University Psychological Society. This presents an opportunity to review the development of the Society, and to reminisce at some of the great events that the Open University Psychological Society has been able to present to its members.

Liz Cowne, an active President and Chairperson of OUPS for a number of years, will be reviewing our history elsewhere in this issue, but regretfully, Pat Lindley, Ann Humphries, Len Brown and John Clapham, who founded OUPS, and others who supported them, have long since found pastures new. We owe the existence of OUPS to these courageous people and I look back at them with admiration and thanks.



Lilli
Hvingtoft-Foster

Although enthusiasm and drive was plentiful in those early days, these founder members were indeed courageous, as they started OUPS without any money, or funding of any sort. Thus, the Society was really built by their enthusiasm and the membership fees. Not that the membership was very large in those days. Those studying psychology courses in the early 1970s were scarce by comparison with today. Psychology courses were equally few when the Open University first came into being, but once our Professor Judith Greene took charge of the faculty, in 1976, new courses soon came off the press. As students studying psychology courses increased so did membership of OUPS.

During those early years we all needed support from each other, because there were no previous psychology students to turn to for

advice, and no previous exam papers to peruse. Therefore, the creation of OUPS was (for us first psychology students) a lifeline. It gave OUPS members the opportunity to share, exchange and discuss views and knowledge with other students, whenever we met at OUPS events. It also brought the course tutors and guest speakers much closer to the students, who otherwise may have been, to them, just student numbers on a piece of paper.

We were therefore deeply grateful for this splendid, new, supportive Society and in return some of us felt encouraged to contribute whatever skills we had to develop it further. My contribution was a determination to bring the world's best to our members; to all those students, working in isolation, who were not so fortunate as those in conventional universities, where students and lecturers mix freely and are approachable at any given time.

I had been fortunate enough to travel around the world with an anthropologist, and I had been privileged to meet many esteemed psychologists whom I knew to be approachable and generous with both their knowledge and time. I was able to invite many of them as guest speakers at OUPS events when I first became an active committee member with London OUPS. Together with people like Liz Cowne, Ann Rattue, Margaret Green, John Platts, Julia Lee, Darryl Grisswood, LouLou Brown and other committee members, we were able to arrange some outstanding day and evening events.

Our events began to draw hundreds of students and, as OU students are mature students, no speaker escaped being questioned, provoked or criticised by the audience! I remember John Bowlby being challenged by LouLou Brown to such a degree that I felt I had to terminate the arguments. Whenever I met him after that, he would recall the incident with his subtle humour and assure me that his theories had often come under attack.

At the Parsifal College day events, the guest speakers would also challenge each other, causing the sparks to fly. While Liam Hudson was talking about the dichotomy between so-called hard and soft psychology (the title of his talk being, *In Two Minds*) Alice Heim and Anthony Gale decided to cross swords. Steve Duck spoke afterwards, about *Friendship: Developing our Access to Other Minds!* I cannot recall if he managed to open the minds of the earlier combatants to each others views. There were other memorable challenges too

At another event, where the great Richard Gregory was presenting his theories to a vast audience, that brilliant, crazy, and lovable John Mayhew dared to challenge him! The scintillating scientific duel between the two of them went right over most of our heads. It ended with an invitation for John Mayhew to visit Richard Gregory, in Bristol, where a degree of mutual admiration doubtless took place!

Other distinguished speakers who have honoured London OUPS with their presence have been:

*Michael Argyle, Sheila Harri-Augstein,
Alan Baddeley, Basil Bernstein, Halla Beloff,
Donald Broadbent, Steve Blinkhorn, Guy Claxton,
Gillian Cohen, Roger Daldrup, Fay Fransella,
Sir Ernst Gombrich, Sarah Hampson,
Johnathan Miller, John Nicholson,
Desmond Nuttall, Maureen Pope, Rom Harré
Mildred Shaw, Peter Wason, and many others.*

It became clear that the success of London OUPS ought really to be transferred to national OUPS, and at an AGM in the early 1980s Liz Cowne, John Platts and I became President, Secretary, and Chair, respectively. It soon became apparent that Liz and I were better suited for the other's role, and we ended up reversing them.

We inherited a Society with a committee that was far from healthy and a depressing financial situation, but thanks to our experience with London OUPS, and by sheer hard work on the part of the rejuvenated committee, we were soon attracting more members. With Angelica Sumpton managing the finances, and with sound legal advice from David Hardisty, we started out on a more promising path. I head-hunted at all of our events for those who would make good executive committee members or regional representatives. We eventually formed a reliable network of regional and national committees whose members were all dedicated to the Society.

*One very lucky discovery was Sarah Clevely, who was able to use her expertise to transform a sad little news-sheet into a super Newsletter, which has been edited, since her time, by Martyn Dyer-Smith and presently, by David Joyce. Our journal, *The New**

Psychologist, was created and edited by John Platts and LouLou Brown.

We were delighted when 250 students attended the Revision Weekend in 1987. Today, we cater for nearly 800. Our membership has grown to almost 2000, making us the largest of the OU Societies. Our events are among the biggest arranged anywhere in the country, and more students attend the Revision Weekend than attend any OU Summer School. It is quite evident that what the many dedicated committee members have contributed to, and worked for, over the years has been more than worthwhile.

This growing success is achieved by hardworking people, who freely give their time and expertise to the organising and running of such events, all for the benefit of the members of the Society. No one is paid. No one has any office facilities other than that which they can provide for themselves.

Organising such events has become a major business. It involves stages of what Pointcaré (in creative thinking) calls; preparation, incubation, inspiration and verification and it involves these elements for months before such an event can be organised successfully. Four or five people have to give nearly all their free time and energy to organising a major event. We have every reason to be proud of our revision weekends and of the multitude of regional events, which are often equally complicated in their organisation.

One of the Society's most memorable events in the 1980s was the visit to OUPS of B. F. Skinner. This event, which took place in June 1983, filled the Royal Society to overflowing and hundreds of applicants were disappointed at not being able to get tickets.

While I was attending a Personal Construct Conference in Boston I decided to approach Skinner, at Harvard University, to try to persuade him to give a talk to our members when he next came to England. Imagine my excitement at having tea with Skinner at Harvard. Pavlov's and Skinner's names are among the first we encounter in the psychology units. Pavlov was long dead, but here was Skinner sitting opposite me drinking tea!

The event at the Royal Society was outstanding. We listened to his views on evolution and about the mind; his views on Greek

philosophers; on Tolman, Hull and Thorndike, and the evolution of behaviourism. He spoke of freedom and dignity, (the subject of one of his famous books). This was indeed an event to remember! As a memento, Skinner was aptly presented with a box. And inside were two pecking pigeons! - engraved on a cut-glass goblet. Skinner, to our delight, assured us that he had never before received a present with these symbols.

This truly memorable event was recorded by the BBC's Open Forum, and can still be heard, now and then in their programmes. Also often shown in their television programmes is the OUPS Chomsky event which Open Forum filmed when Noam Chomsky honoured us with his presence in April 1987. 550 people filled Senate House to hear Chomsky expound his political and psycholinguistic theories.

The opportunity to meet and to hear living legends such as Chomsky is rare. It was not surprising, therefore, that the audience consisted not just of our own members, but also of scientists from other disciplines and from other universities. I have a video tape of an edited version of this event, which members (by request before an event) can see at one of our weekend events. It is a necessarily edited tape as Chomsky actually addressed the audience for several hours.

Some of the other memorable speakers that have honoured OUPS by giving papers at our weekend events are:

Colin Blakemore, Geoff Beattie,
Robert Farr, Neil Frude, Johnson-Laird,
Nigel Nicholson, Estelle Philips,
Dorothy Rowe, George Sik, Janet Stockdale
and again, I could mention many many more.

For the Society to attract these great names as guest speakers demonstrates the high esteem in which the Society is held. For the Society to have developed so successfully, we owe thanks to so many past and present committee members, to a member who donated money to the society when we were in dire financial straits, and to all those people who have dedicated themselves to the cause and success of the Society.

We also owe thanks to the ever faithful and inspiring tutors who

lecture at our revision weekends. Peter Banister, Peter Barnes, Chris Cullen, Sandy Aitkenhead, Mark Coulson, Ken Onion, Robin Orchardson, Fred Toates and last but not least Judith Greene and Richard Stevens, who have contributed so very much to the development and success of OUPS. We must also look with gratitude (for the chance of our very existence) to the Open University, to the many academics, psychologists, creators, and organisers of course teaching materials, and all those anonymous individuals who turn the wheels behind the scenes at the Open University, and to OUSA, for their many support services, on which we have come to rely.

Finally, we must be thankful for the existence of OUSET, who are able to make such good use of our success in running the Society, (we are now able fund up to the value of eight free places at the annual Revision Weekend) for the benefit of those who would not otherwise be able to attend due to financial reasons.

For my 20 years in OUPS it has been gratifying to feel that I may have played a part in expanding the minds of some of our members by bringing to them the opportunity of hearing and meeting interesting psychologists, and also gratifying to feel that I may have played a part in promoting the Open University Psychology Degree.

Above all, it is rewarding to see the Society growing more and more successful and to see so many willing members giving their time and skills to this end.

I look forward to continued growth and success of the
Open University Psychological Society.

- * Studying psychology with the OU?
 - * Want to improve your final grade?
 - * Exam looming in October?
- OUPS CAN HELP!**

DD303 Revision Weekend

2nd – 4th September 2016, Warwick University

- ❖ An invaluable opportunity for students to aid revision and improve their chances of increasing their final grade. Perfectly timed to kick-start your own revision !
- ❖ First rate team of experienced tutors, course writers and exam markers
- ❖ An intensive weekend (a total of nine 90 minute sessions) on the revision of course material and themes, practice in exam questions, revision and exam techniques and more!
- ❖ Includes full lecture handouts

Fully inclusive price of £220 for OUPS Members (non members £240) includes:

- ❖ a great central location with excellent transport links and plenty of free parking
- ❖ all meals, including dinner on Friday and Saturday are provided together with social events including a welcome drink on Friday night, as well as a Saturday night disco

Ensuite facilities with private tea/coffee making facilities available for an additional £59

There are no hidden add-on costs!

To book your place, or for any enquiries contact:

Irene Baumgartl, PO Box 986,
Bromley, BR1 9LN
Tel: 0208 315 0049 (answerphone if not available)
Email: info@oups.org.uk

Or book online at www.oups.org.uk



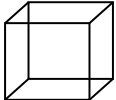
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We are affiliated to OUSA: the Open University Student Association

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SOU  PS

Open University
Psychological Society
Southern Region

An opportunity to meet socially with course team members and tutors, current OU psychology students, OU psychology graduates and other SOUPS members.

SOUPS PUB MEETS

Find out about the OU psychology module you are about to start, share your interests and (TMA!) concerns, or just be social.



1st Thursday of month in Reading 8pm start

The Grosvenor pub, 109 Kidmore Road, Caversham,
Reading RG4 7NH

For more information about this or any other SOUPS events contact
Vanessa Jones *email soupsevents@gmail.com phone 07899 793461*

Do you have an interest in OUPS? Would you be able to help organise and run events in the Southern region? If so

WE NEED YOU!

*Email or call Vanessa to discuss ☺
email soupsevents@gmail.com phone 07899 793461*

The following article written by Lilli describes a talk by one of the famous speakers Lilli persuaded to speak to OUPS, Noam Chomsky in April 1987.

EVENTS

PROFESSOR NOAM CHOMSKY AT SENATE HOUSE, LONDON UNIVERSITY, 9TH APRIL, 1987.

A wish, since my first introduction to Noam Chomsky's theories in 1974, came true when Professor Chomsky honoured the Open University Psychological Society by addressing our members at Senate House, University of London.

It was an interesting and exciting experience to actually see and hear the scientist, author and writer whose research and writings OU students of psychology and/or education have studied and read.

The opportunity to meet living legends such as Chomsky is rare, so this OUPS event also drew visitors from many other universities.

At the end of Professor Chomsky's lecture John Platts, on behalf of OUPS, presented Professor Chomsky with a memento of the evening. A crystal goblet engraved with the date and place of the event and with the letters 'OUPS'.

The entire lecture was filmed and recorded by the BBC Open Forum, and will be shown on television in an Open Forum programme in the autumn.

As well as the BBC, Jane Henry of the Open University interviewed Professor Chomsky for yet another BBC Open Forum programme.

As the evening was such an outstanding event for OUPS, Jane Henry also interviewed me about our society, its aims, and the services and benefits it brings to its members.

A truly spectacular evening for OUPS.

Lilli Hvingtoft-Foster



MEMORIES OF OUPS

During the weekend event which celebrated the Society's 40th anniversary we asked people to share their memories of OUPS and its events on a display board. Below are some of the comments.

- ◆ *Met my best friend*
- ◆ *Got a First Class degree! (thanks to OUPS)*
- ◆ *Gave me a fun social experience*
- ◆ *Meeting people that became lifelong friends*
- ◆ *Dancing to the B 52's "Love Shack"*
- ◆ *Lying/sitting on the grass at Nottingham singing American Pie at 2am*
- ◆ *Not wanting to leave the OUPS weekend "bubble" and return to reality!*
- ◆ *Alan Pechey's moves on the dance floor*
- ◆ *Whole salmon at the University of Nottingham*
- ◆ *Lots of friends old and new*
- ◆ *Mini mars bars*
- ◆ *The bee infestation*
- ◆ *Richard Stevens on the dance floor*
- ◆ *Meeting a diverse mix of interesting people*
- ◆ *Great lectures (especially Fred Toates)*
- ◆ *Hot chocolate before bed!*
- ◆ *Fire alarms at 4 am in the morning*
- ◆ *Made the best of friends*
- ◆ *Summer school weekends and conferences are wonderful and very special. I can meet friends here, find new ones and learn about topics which interest me a lot.*

Post Exam Social Event London OUPS

"Is humour an asset or hindrance for psychotherapy?"

Talk by Dr. Babak Fozooni

Tuesday 28th June: 6pm onwards
New location: The Beaver's Retreat, George IV Pub, Holborn

This social event combines a talk and social drinks where you can meet other Open University Psychology students in the London Region both before and after the talk.

We are delighted to have **Babak Fozooni** giving this talk. Babak is a critical psychologist specialising in social, developmental and political psychology. He has obtained six degrees and has written on topics ranging from discourse analysis and crowd psychology to cinema and sport. He is also an OU associate lecturer, and presents the OUPS Overview day for DD307 (Social psychology).

Babak will talk about the use of humour by psychotherapists and counsellors. His talk is based on his personal research which looks into whether humour is an asset or a hindrance for psychotherapy.

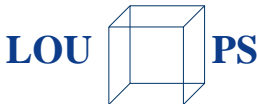
This is a great opportunity to socialise with other OU psychology students in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. In previous years these events have sold out, and we do not guarantee entry on the night, so book now to secure your place!

- 28th June 2016, from 6pm (Talk begins at 7pm).
- The Beaver's Retreat, (upstairs bar of the George IV pub), 30 Portugal St., Aldwych, London WC2A 2HF; nearest tube station Holborn).
- Tickets cost **£10 in advance** or £12 on the door*. Cost includes a glass of wine/beer or soft drink before the talk (up until 7pm).

*subject to availability as numbers are limited. Please check availability on the day.

To book online please visit oups.org.uk and click on Events.

Web: oups.org.uk/LOUPS, Email: london@oups.org.uk, Phone: 07958 773 173 or 07772 406 838



**The Open University
Psychological Society
London region**

Charity Registration No 282744

1 | National Events Booking Form

Name: M / F (please circle)

Address:

.....

Postal Code:

Tel Number:

Email :

Dietary needs (please circle): Vegetarian/Vegan

Food allergies :

.....

Food intolerances:

.....

Medical/mobility additional requirements (if requiring additional support/adapted accommodation)

.....

.....

.....

2016 National Events: All events held at Warwick University. Please tick appropriate boxes for events and courses being booked.

Due to restrictions on maximum attendee numbers we prioritise bookings for course-specific events to students who are currently studying or about to start studying those courses. If you are booking a course-specific event, please indicate whether or not you are currently studying/are about to study the associated course where indicated below.

May Revision Weekend (6th -8th May)

DE200 DD307 Currently or about to study module (please circle) Yes/No

Annual Conference: 'Evolutionary Psychology' (2nd -4th September)

DD303 Revision Weekend (2nd -4th September) Currently or about to study module (please circle) Yes/No

'Raising your Game' Essential Skills Workshop (2nd - 4th September)

SDK228 Springboard Weekend (2nd - 4th September)

Post Grad Event (2nd - 4th September)

Due to restrictions on maximum attendee numbers we prioritise bookings for course-specific events to students who are currently studying those courses or are about to study them. If you are booking a course-specific event, please indicate below your situation.

Currently studying course About to study course Not studying course

Bookings must be made 7 days before the event. Final details for the weekend will be sent out by email.

Cancellation policy : A full refund minus a £25 administration fee will be made on any cancellations received up to six weeks before the event. Cancellations made after this will not receive a refund.

Exclusion of liability: OUPIS, its officers and Executive Members shall not be liable for any loss of or damage incurred by its members, howsoever caused, occurring at or during the Society's activities from any activity connected with the Society, its facilities or equipment.

National Events Booking Form | 2

Amount of payment (please circle amount of payment in appropriate boxes)

	May Revision Weekend	Annual Conference (Sept)	DD303 Revision Weekend (Sept)	Essential Skills Workshop (Sept)	SDK Springboard Weekend (Sept)	Post Grad Event (Sept)	Membership (See below)*
Members Standard room:	N/A	£220	£220	£220	£220	£220	
Members Ensuite room:	£290	£279	£279	£279	£279	£279	
Non members Standard:	N/A	£240	£240	£240	£240	£240	
Non members En suite:	£310	£299	£299	£299	£299	£299	
Membership:							£15
TOTAL AMOUNT PAID							

*** Membership:**

If you are not an OUPS member or if your membership needs renewing for 2016 and you would like to pay for your membership and an event at the same time you can do so by circling the amount in the bottom right hand column as well as the relevant member's weekend package.

Payment Details (please tick):

Total amount payable:
 I enclose a cheque/postal order (made payable to OUPS)

Please debit my Debit/Credit Card
 Type of card (please circle): Maestro / Mastercard / Visa
 Name on card

Card No. (16-digit no.)
 Valid from (MM/YY) Expiry date (MM/YY)
 Issue no. (Maestro only)
 Security code (last 3 digits on back of card)

Please send completed form and payment with S.A.E. to:
 OUPS, P O Box 986, Bromley, KENT, BR1 9LN
 OUPS reserves the right to refuse applications.
 I have read, understand and accept the terms and conditions of booking specified in the section following the booking form.

Signed Date:

Terms & Conditions

Applying to booking of OUPS events

Booking Events To make a booking please complete a booking form making sure that you include all dietary/special needs and course details. The booking needs to be accompanied by full payment for the event. On receipt of your booking fee we will send you a written confirmation. You will have 7 days to change your mind and cancel. To cancel you must give notice in writing. In such circumstances, we will refund any money paid. Due to restrictions on maximum attendee numbers we prioritise bookings for course-specific events to students who are currently studying or are about to study those courses. If you are booking a course-specific event, please indicate whether you are currently studying that course by making the appropriate selection where requested.

Your cancellation If after the 7 day cancellation period you decide to cancel, you will need to inform us in writing. If we receive this notice more than 6 weeks before the event, we will refund all money paid minus £25 to cover the administrative costs. However, if notification is received within 6 weeks of the due date of the event, the Open University Psychological Society (OUPS) will have incurred substantial costs, and refunds will not be given except where the Executive Committee of OUPS (the Committee) consider the circumstances to be extreme. Any request for a refund at this point will need to be accompanied by evidence e.g. doctor's certificate. In addition we advise you to take out your own travel insurance in case of costs incurred/cancellations due to disrupted travel.

Assisted Places OUPS allocates a number of places at the revision weekend event for those unable to pay the full fee. Contact the OUPS office for an application form. You are advised to submit the application form at least three months before the relevant weekend.

Changes (or cancellation) to event We will do everything we can to ensure that the advertised programme is carried out to your satisfaction. If what the committee consider to be only minor changes have to be made to the programme, it will go ahead at the advertised cost. In the unlikely event that the event has to be cancelled or we are forced to make what we consider to be major changes to the programme, you will be notified as soon as possible. You will be offered the option of having a full refund or having the booking transferred to an alternative event. In cases of significant alteration to the programme you might also be offered the option of attending at a lower cost.

What to expect Rooms are pre-allocated by the University prior to arrival. In September the accommodation we use for events is single study bedrooms, in student halls of residence within a University campus. Standard rooms have shared bathrooms for approx. 6 people along the corridor and communal kitchens, while en suite rooms have private bath rooms and coffee/tea making facilities. The food supplied is in a student refectory. In March and May the accommodation is in management conference facilities with ensuite rooms. The campus is open to public access and some facilities may be shared with other groups or organisations. We will do our best to ensure your safety and enjoyment but there are many factors that are outside our control (and other people/ organisations on which we are dependent) and we cannot therefore accept liability for injury, loss or inconvenience arising from such factors.


What we expect of you We would expect you to take care of your property, avoid bringing unnecessary valuables with you and to take sensible precautions regarding personal security. We also expect you to take responsibility for your own behaviour and do nothing to harm the enjoyment of other participants or uses of the facility. The Committee reserve the right to expel delegates whose behaviour seriously impacts on the enjoyment of the event by others, and the right to subsequently refuse bookings from those concerned.


What to do if you encounter problems If you have problems at the event please tell an OUPS officer as soon as possible, to give us a chance to sort out the problem. If you are still unhappy, it is worth making a written note and passing this to the Weekend Officer or another member of the Committee. Hopefully the problem can then be resolved. However, if we are not able to satisfy you at the event, the matter can be put in writing to the Committee at OUPS, P O Box 986, Bromley BR1 9LN. Your complaint will be dealt with in a sympathetic manner and we will send you a written response as soon as possible.

Disabilities We will endeavour to meet your needs. Please inform us of the specific support you need before the event to allow us to make adequate arrangements

OUPS Events: 2016

March 2016						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

 OUPS Consolidation Weekend:
 DE100: E219: DD210: DD307
 and Mixed Methods Weekend Workshop

 SOUPS DD303 Overview day

April 2016						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	


 SOUPS Mindfulness Day


 OUPS North Statistics Day School

May 2016						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					


 May Revision Weekend: DE200 and DD307

June 2016						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

 LOUPS Day Conference : *'Criminology'*

 LOUPS Post-Exam Pub Social

September 2016						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

 OUPS Annual Conference: *'Evolutionary Psychology'*
 and DD303 Revision Weekend
 and 'Raising your Game' Skills Workshop
 and SDK228 Springboard Weekend
 (for those starting in October 2016)
 and 'Post-Grad Event'

November 2016						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

 COUPS Autumn Conference:
Autism Spectrum Disorders

Pubmeets:

SOUPS: Reading: 1st Thursday of the month

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