

Oxford University Speculative Fiction Group

C.S. Lewis and SF-guru Brian Aldiss founded OUSFG in the early 1960s, when the term 'science fiction' was deemed too disreputable by the university. We're now glad of the broad scope that 'speculative' allows us. We're a friendly, open group of people who enjoy SF, fantasy, horror and other related genres, owing our longevity to our diversity of interests, activities and members. Meetings are held twice a week during term, on Sundays and Wednesdays.

Sundays (from **Sun. 2nd week** (16th Oct)) are reserved for library meetings, held from **8pm till late**, in the rooms of our Librarians at **Balliol's Jowett Walk Building** (note: this isn't in the main Balliol site. It's a short distance away on, unsurprisingly, the road named Jowett Walk). The termcard page on our website, <http://users.ox.ac.uk/~ousfg/> has full directions). These evenings are an opportunity for people to socialise and chat about life, the universe and everything, whilst also perusing and borrowing from OUSFG's library of over 2400 books.

Wednesdays alternate between author/discussion meetings and video meetings, both starting at **8pm**. Author/discussion meetings are usually in **Jesus College, Staircase XVIII, seminar Room A**. Video meetings will be held in the video room of **Hollywell Manor** (which is on the corner of St Cross and Manor Roads (on the way to St Catz)). Both rooms will be signposted for the first meetings, and directions can be found on the termcard webpage.

Sunday 1st Week (9th Oct.): Freshers' Drinks! This will be held in the bar at **Hollywell Manor**. Drop in any time between 4pm and 6pm (it'll be signposted). Directions and a map can be found on our website (see above for the address). Come along and meet us for drinks & nibbles, an introduction, conversation and a spot of acclimatisation.

Wednesday 1st Week: The first discussion meeting of the term, 'The OUSFG Award'. This will be the start of the 2nd annual award, which is for the best 'speculative fiction' novel published in paperback during the preceding year (i.e. October 2004 to September 2005 in this case). This will be a good introduction to OUSFG's brand of discussion. Audience contributions are encouraged, but don't worry, no-one will be forced to speak!

Other discussion meetings this term include a Q&A session with author John Courtenay Grimwood, a talk about writing by author Juliet E. McKenna, and a discussion of time travel in books.

The video meetings this term (Wed. of 2nd, 4th, 7th weeks) are a mix of very different films. First there's the recent adaptation of Douglas Adams' *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, then *Angel Heart* and finally *The Chronicles of Riddick*.

We also hold occasional **bonus video meetings** during term. Usually on a Saturday, these are a chance to see something we wouldn't have time to show at a regular video meeting. This term there'll be the chance to see episodes of *Firefly*, the Joss Whedon TV series which is continued in the soon-to-be-released film *Serenity*.

Annual **Special Events** mark the end of each term. This term we have a **Christmas Party**, whilst Hilary and Trinity see the black-tie **Banquet** and **Punt Party** respectively.

There's only so much you can fit on a flyer, and details are subject to change. The best way to be kept up to date is to join our low-traffic e-mail announcement list. You can find details of how to subscribe on our website at <http://users.ox.ac.uk/~ousfg> The site also contains the full termcard, as well as loads of other information and fun bits. If you've any further questions, contact details for the committee can be found on the website. Hope to see you soon...

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