The Daily Group Theorist

In the classification we trust. 26th July 1997

Conference Office

The conference office is room 24 of level 3 in building 1W ('One West'). Hence it is 1W3.24. It will be open 9:30–17:00 on weekdays. It will also be open for some of Sunday 27th July.

This Organ

Will appear daily during the conference, and will normally consist of a double sided piece of A4. You may wish to bind these items together using a luxury paperclip (available in all good stationery shops). As the days pass by, your collection will build into a thick wad of paper which you can treasure forever. You can be confident that the value of this material is nearly that of the paper it is printed upon.

There will, we hope, be mathematical reports, corrections, and questions. There will also be social information. As events draw close (for example, the conference dinner on Wednesday July 30th), this organ will tell you all you need to know: *Where is it? Is it free? What time does the bar shut? How do I get there and back?* and in this case the answers are *The Assembly Rooms, Yes if you have paid the registration or half-registration fee as an accompanying adult [doesn't look free to me – Ed.], Midnight, Free Bus.*

Welcome to Bath

On arriving in a new city, the first thing you may wish to do is to telnet home. The library closes on Saturday, so if you are reading this on such a day, you will have to wait. It re-opens at 09:00 on Sunday. Put on your conference badge, and stride to the library. Security will let you through because of your badge. Round to the left are banks of machines on Parade level (level 2). If the area is crowded, go up to level 3 where there are many more machines.

The userid of the conference is **exxconf** (external conference) and the password is **groups**. Select option 1 (microsoft windows 3.1) by hitting return. Double click on the big X symbol marked *mary, ss1 etc*, and you will be invited to retype the password **groups**. Now you should get a window and be logged on to one of several machines from which you can **telnet** to the world.

To log out you click on **File** in the top left, and drag the mouse down to exit. At the menu choose 5 to log out completely.

Opening Announcements

The conference will begin with announcements at 08:50 on Sunday July 26th in the University Hall. The first lecture is at 09:00. We hope that verbal announcements will be kept to a minimum by virtue of this very organ, The Daily Group Theorist, which hits the stands at coffee time every day.

Where are the lectures?

All plenary lectures are in the University Hall. Almost all parallel lectures are in building 3E. The only exceptions are on *Burnside Day* and *Lyndon Day* when the two parallel sessions will be split between the University Hall and 3E2.1. As you stroll between these sites, you pass the library where you can read email and visit the book exhibition on appropriate days.

Family and Friends

We strongly urge family and friends to go to the SCR at 09:50 on Sunday 27th of July. Coffee will be served free. Rita Miller will explain the attractions and facilities on offer on campus, in Bath and the surrounding areas.

Car Parking

We have the use of Polden Court Car Park and also the ring of Car Park H which is furthest from the campus buildings. Residents of Polden Court have priority in that car park, and we hope other people will respect this.

Emergency Numbers

Emergency: Fire/Police/Ambulance 999 (no coin required).

Campus Medical Centre: Enquiries 6655, External Enquiries 462395

Campus Dental Centre: 6065

Royal United Hospital: Accident & Emergency (01225) 824391

Campus Security: Wessex House 5349 (WH2.5)

Groups97 Contact Nos: (01225) 323747 or 826198 (Nada Harvey)

AA 24 hour breakdown service: 0800 887766 (from mobile phones 0345 887766) (members only)

RAC breakdown service: 0800 828282 (members only)

Geoff Smith's mobile telephone (crises only): 0802 731972

Shopping

The small grocers shop on campus is fine for small items. Adjacent to the Bus Station in town is a supermarket called Somerfield. Shopping there will involve only a little walking with bags on the way back. Somerfield's store is much larger than the campus grocery, but in turn is much smaller than Sainsburys.

Most days a shuttle minibus service will run from the University Bus stop to Sainsburys supermarket and back. Read the schedule in *The Daily Group Theorist*. On Sunday 27th there will be a bus shuttling back and forth between 14:00 and 16:00 (last pick up at Sainsburys). On Monday 28th there will be a shuttle running between 18:00 and 21:00 (last pick up at Sainsburys).

To get to Sainsburys on foot from the Bus Station, walk past Boots the Chemist and cross the river Avon using Churchill Bridge. Turn right and walk along the Lower Bristol Road for 10 minutes until you reach a large roundabout with buildings in the middle. Sainsburys is at '3 o'clock' on this roundabout when you approach as suggested.

Senior Common Room bar

The Senior Common Room is known as "The SCR".

The bar will close at 00:00 midnight on Saturday 26th July and 23:00 on Sunday 27th July. The default closing time will be 23:00, and prices in this bar are significantly less than in Public Houses in Bath. The latter, however, have more atmosphere, and no doubt many conferees will explore the pubs and restaurants of Bath in the evenings. The SCR is very kindly letting us use its facilities in the evenings, and is also charging members prices. **In exchange, we must not use these SCR facilities (including the lunch restaurant at the back of the SCR) before 18:00 each day.**

A collection of paper is kept at the bar for the express purpose of doing Group Theory.

Sport

You will need to purchase a 'Short Term Membership' card at the Sports Hall at a cost of £2 per week. This will allow access to squash courts, badminton, table tennis, volleyball and basketball at no extra charge. Should you wish to swim and play tennis you will be required to produce the Short Term Membership card to staff at the Sports Training Village to obtain 'Members rates'; £1.20 per swim (rather than the full rate of £2.50), and £4.00 for an outdoor tennis court (rather than £6.00 for non-members). If you have any further queries please ring Noreen Clark on extension 6417.

Photograph

This will be taken in the amphitheatre (by the University Lake and near the University Hall) at 10:30 on Monday 27th July (weather permitting). Full conferees will receive a copy of the colour print towards the end of week one.

Conference Office

Nada Harvey will run the conference office Mondays to Fridays in 1W3.24 (One West Three Point Two Four). This is a room on level 3 (one up from Parade level) in 1W (building One West). When the conference breaks between lectures, Nada will be open for business The office will be open at some other times too. She has a large range of information about Bath, and will do her best to help you with any arrangements or logistical difficulties.

Bus Trip and Conference Dinner

In week one, on Wednesday afternoon, a free bus trip will leave from Car Park F (near the bus terminus) at 14:00 for the Wye Valley, the former mining valleys of South Wales and Cardiff city centre. The Wye Valley is very beautiful, and forms the border between England and Wales. The buses will return to campus at about 19:15, giving you half an hour to freshen up before the conference dinner. Please reboard the buses at 19:45 for the trip to the Assembly Rooms in Bath. Dinner will begin at 20:00, and the meal includes a couple of glasses of wine. If you wish for more wine, this can ordered (paying cash) to a waiter.

A bar will be open in an adjacent room during the evening. That night the SCR bar will not be open, but the Assembly Rooms bar in town will be open until 00:00 midnight(last orders at 23:30). Two buses will operate a shuttle service between the Assembly Rooms and campus during the period 22:30 – 00:00.

Extra Bus Trip (costs money)

On Sunday August 3rd there will be an extra bus trip for those who crave new adventure. The trip will run from 10:00 to 19:00, and you have to pay for everything. A seat on the coach costs £6 for an adult or £4 for someone under 18 years of age. Babies not occupying seats go free of course.

The bus will first drive to Stonehenge, a longstanding geometrical configuration. Next stop will be Salisbury – and those explorers foolish enough to have forgotten their banana and cheese sandwiches will have to resort to a pub lunch. After lunch the coach will drive through the New Forest (so called because it is neither) to view half-wild ponies and then go on to Bournemouth. This will afford the option of paddling in the sea, wearing kiss-me-quick hats and eating ice-creams.

After this exciting day of high living, the bus will return to campus at 19:00 (approximately).

Publishers

From Tuesday until Friday of **week one** there will be a mathematics book exhibition in the library foyer. At coffee time and tea time some of the refreshments will be served at the exhibition. Refreshments will also be served in the usual place close to the entrance of the University (Plenary) hall. The exhibitors will be CUP, de Gruyter, OUP and Springer-Verlag.

EDITOR OF THE DAY: GCS

Minibus service

The conference has acquired the use of some Students Union minibuses. These may only be driven by people who have a minibus licence issued by the Students Union to someone who has passed a specialist test. A collection of postgraduates, postdoctoral students and staff of Bath University who have these licences have put themselves at the disposal of the conference. These people are Stuart Barber, Ryan Cheal, Nick Howgrave-Graham, John McDermott, Natee Tongsiri, Simon Scott, Icarus Sparry and GCS. The minibus service will do regular shopping runs to Sainsburys, and will try to support any adventures suggested by conferees, their families or friends.

Westwood Nursery

Daytime child-minding is available on campus on weekdays for children aged from 2 to 5 years. There is a fee. Contact Tina Hendy on extension 6518.

Not so Fine

Ben Fine has had to pull out of Groups 1997 at short notice. He writes "I ruptured my Achilles tendon Tuesday July 22 and I'm having surgery on Thursday. I will be in a cast and laid up for at least 4 weeks. Reluctantly I have to cancel coming to the conference. " If you wish to send him an email, his address is FINE@fair1.fairfield.edu

Efim missed

Unfortunately Efim Zelmanov is unable to attend our meeting for logistical reasons. He sends profuse apologies, but his influence will be felt in the form of *Burnside Day* August 4th. He co-ordinated the programme for that day.

Advertisements

This paper is happy to run mathematically related advertisements (as space allows). Suitable topics might include 'I want a job', 'I have a job to give', 'buy my book', 'order this journal', and of course the usual lurid lonely hearts messages and threats.

Editorial Policy

Nobody takes any responsibility for anything. Moreover, this paper needs editors. Please volunteer (on a scrap of paper) to any committee member in Bath (Colin Campbell, Chuck Miller, Edmund Robertson, Geoff Smith) or to Nada in the conference office 1W3.24. Nada's number is +44 1225 323747 internationally or just 3747 on the campus phone network.

Worried of Bath

If you are scheduled to speak when you will be 10,000 feet up an Andean mountain, or have been assigned an incorrect talk title, have no fear. The conference schedule is dynamic, and the committee will do their best to accommodate you. Simply inform a committee member as soon as possible.

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