



Just leaving for the Hills,
AGM weekend



60 years and still going...

2010 is an auspicious year for ULGMC. It will be our 60th anniversary. Events are planned during the year to celebrate this occasion. Re-enactments of classic routes, memorable meets and reunions of lost friends are to be expected along with new locations and events.

Help make 2010 a bumper year for your club. Help recruit the next generation of pioneers and get them out and into the hills.

Please fill out the attached form and return with your subs.

Left at Caseg in August

A pair of GEL-KAYANO 15 running shoes with a Polar watch and wireless pedometer system. A pair of black running shorts were nearby. Also a pair of black Thinsulate gloves.

At the dinner meet we found a small plastic bag containing 2 pairs of gloves and a shoe cleaning kit. I contacted the usual suspects but no luck. Also a grey Peter Storm lightweight fleece.

Forthcoming Meets

January Meet, Fallcliffe, 29 – 31 Jan

Weekend in the Peaks, time for some biking, walking and perhaps some climbing if it is not too cold. Make sure you go and keep the hut warm in the evenings.

Keith Mott, 07973 747756, saymellon@gmail.com

Wales Meet, Caseg, 26 – 28 Feb

What's the chance of snow, only way you can find out is to join the winter meet in North Wales.

Elsbeth Howell, 01604 769277, elspeth.howell@lineone.net

Joint ULMC Meet, Fallcliffe, 5 – 7 Mar

Time for some early cragging with the students from London.

Mark Stitson, 07770 338676, mark@stitson.com

Mid-Week Lakes, Newlands Hut, 23 – 26 Mar

'Back to basics.... Spring in the SW Lakes staying in the Carlisle Mountaineering Club's converted barn in the Newlands valley. Grid ref NY229177. Only 16 places, so book soon

Sue Darling, 01483 203420, sdarling521@hotmail.com

Easter Meet (SPI training), Caseg, 2 – 5 Apr (BH)

Keith is hoping that everything goes to plan this time, the single pitch training is worth having to make sure that you bounce on the rope rather than on the ground!

Keith Mott, 07973 747756, saymellon@gmail.com

New Members Meet, Caseg, 30 April – 3 May (BH)

The bank holiday provides opportunity to welcome into the club new members. Come and meet them.

Mark Stitson, 07770 338676, mark@stitson.com

Scottish Meet, Roybridge, 8 – 15 May

Always a well attended meet, make sure you book early.

Willie Butler, 01883 743289, whbutler@btinternet.com

Spring Bank Holiday, Lands End, 27 May– 2 June (BH)

Once again the 2010 Cornwall meet will be held at Trevedra Farm, Sennen from Thursday 27 May to Wednesday 2 June (note change of date). We have booked what we think should be sufficient space for us in the tent camping field for this period. With Trevedra becoming increasingly popular and likely to be fully booked over the Bank Holiday weekend, Wendy Nicholas requires confirmation of our booking by 1 February 2010 and so we must ask EVERYONE (including 'regulars') who is planning to come to let us know by that date. Otherwise, we may lose some of the space.

Geoff & Margaret Batten, 0121 475 6604, grb@batten.eu.org

Want to submit a report?
10 April latest

Editor: Shaun West
Email: editor@ulgmc.org
Web: www.ulgmc.org



Meet	Location	Date	Meet Leader
January Meet	Fallcliffe	29 – 31 Jan	Keith Mott
Wales Meet	Caseg	26 – 28 Feb	Elsbeth Howell
Joint ULMC Meet	Fallcliffe	5 – 7 Mar	Mark Stitson
Mid-Week Lakes	Newlands Hut	23 – 26 Mar	Sue Darling
Easter Meet (SPI training)	Caseg	2 – 5 Apr	Keith Mott
New Members Meet	Caseg	30 April – 3 May (BH)	Mark Stitson
Scottish Meet	Roybridge	8 – 15 May	Willie Butler
Spring Bank Holiday	Lands End	27 May– 2 June (BH)	Geoff & Margaret Batten
Dartmoor Camping	Princetown	11 – 13 Jun	Heather Rumble
Midweek Camping	Gower	6 – 9 Jul	Sue Esten
Symonds Yat	Forest of Dean	23 – 30 Jul	Heather Rumble
Mid-Wales Camping	Bishops Castle	13 – 15 Aug	Bill Towlson
Summer Bank Holiday	Caseg	27 – 30 Aug	Keith Mott
Motts Norfolk Mountains	Norfolk	24 – 27 Sep	Keith Motts
AGM & Dinner	Old Dungeon Ghyll, Lake District	29 – 31 Oct	Heather Rumble
Bonfire Meet	Fallcliffe	5 – 8 Nov	Neil Brindley
Early Winter	TBC	16 – 17 Nov	Bill Towlson
Snow at Fallcliffe?	Fallcliffe	10 – 12 Dec	Heather Rumble
Christmas and New Year	Caseg	24 Dec – 4 Jan	Elsbeth Howell

Any suggestions/problems, email Heather at: meets@ulmc.org, 07876 690979

Dartmoor Camping, Princetown, 11 – 13 Jun

Dartmoor has some great moorlands to explore plus a few good tea shops.

Heather Rumble, 07876 690979,
heather.rumble@gmail.com

Past Meets

August Bank Holiday 28 - 31 August

Keith Mott reports:

For the first time in 6 or seven years PYB let us down. Although we booked the single pitch the usual month in advance they did not have enough instructor volunteering to cover their own courses, let alone the private ones. We forgive them, if only because we would like to book them again!

One family had booked from the previous weekend so a warm welcome was assured on the Friday. Fortunately for us an instructor was discovered hiding in the hut on Saturday morning, who, with a suitable bribe, was persuaded to teach all-comers up on the crag behind the hut.

The morning went well with some extraordinary climbing and bouldering. A suggestion was made to have a "club" bouldering mat available, locked away in the hut somewhere. After lunch, taken in the

comfort of the hut, we emerged to start one more climb when the rain came down. A classic hasty retreat was made back inside to prevent our superdry ropes from having to brag to their spongy colleagues.

Sunday was pretty much a wash-out with Trefor and Patsy saving the day by providing a refuge from the April-like showers. The weekend was cut short with an exit made on the Monday in order that we could prepare for an insignificant party the following weekend.

Norfolk Mountaineering weekend 4 - 6 September

Keith Mott reports:

A good handful of members turned up on Friday for the camping weekend at Lincolns Meadow, as did the mobile climbing tower. For the first time since moving in, now 7 years ago, there was climbing at this meet.

Liam and Mike turned up, all the way from Gloucester, in a Landrover with a 8m trailer, which took some maneuvering to get it into the meadow. They were both invited

to the party and even camped in the garden.

After breakfast on Saturday the tower was raised and, in ideal conditions, the climbing began. Liam said at the end of the weekend that we had probably broken the record the height attained since Sam and Alex Charalambous spent most of the available time on the tower. Alternative activities had been planned away from the house but these were not needed.

Friends from both work and the village continued to arrive throughout the day. Food was available from lunch but the party began with the lighting of the BBQ at 6pm. Liam and Mike extended the climbing day until the last guests to arrive had had an opportunity to have a go. Long dresses and high-heeled shoes are not the best attire for an activity like this so it was a good thing that none were worn.

Ten years before, at a campsite just outside London, we were sitting out after midnight without the need for jackets. This time we were still outside but jackets were needed by most.

Sunday followed the same pattern as Saturday with climbing until 3pm when the tower was packed up and taken away. A couple of people left to visit a local garden centre but otherwise the tower provided enough interest for most during the 2 days. Thanks to all those who took part in the celebrations.

AGM 2009 23 - 25 October

Heather Rumble - Meets Secretary:

So another year and another AGM for ULGMC, this year at the Swallow Falls, Snowdonia. It was a fantastic turnout but for those of you who missed it, a glimpse at the fun that was had!

Myself and my companions from London arrived late on Friday night to an excited hubbub of reminiscing as members new and old caught up with the adventures of the year, from horse riding in Mongolia to cattle herding in the outback. New members were welcomed, tea was poured in volumes and plans were made for the next day before bunking down in the Caseg rafters.

That oh so familiar sound of pelting Welsh rain greeted us on Saturday morning and any dreams of climbing were soon washed away with it. Our intrepid walkers were not to be put off though and a gaggle of ramblers packed out the kitchen in merino socks, hiking boots and a plethora of exciting knitwear that can only be witnessed on ULGMC trips! The vast majority of the walkers decided a day at the coast would be fitting and ambled in their droves to Lley Peninsula. The Motts decided a short walk with the dog would be plenty wet enough and myself, Mark and David Rose, a new member, attempted to scale Tryfan... And failed obviously! Still, a day witnessing the overflowing "stream" (now more like an estuary) and soaking in some of the overly



saturated Welsh climate was refreshing if nothing else.

We returned to the hut early to prepare for dinner and made our way in our fleets of taxis to the Swallow Falls. No one got lost on the way which was a minor miracle and the AGM went off with its usual mix of formalities and joviality (but we'll leave that to the minutes!) The meal itself was an excellent opportunity to meet everyone again and catch up with what people had been doing, and in what better setting than in black tie amidst the mountains!

As the night began to flag and everyone made their way back to the hut we were treated to an evening of stories from Ivor and Keith, punctuated by the gasps of an enthralled audience (they do know how to tell 'em!) before retiring and praying for better weather.

Sunday morning saw a clear sky and finally some climbing! While the walkers went for a day in Betws-Y-Coed, we managed a trip to Little Tryfan and spent some time exploring the lovely slab there, getting in some much needed multi-pitch practice.

When the cold set in and rain threatened on the horizon, London called and it was time to say our fond goodbyes for another year and spoil the dog for the last time that weekend!

So my second AGM in the club was just as good as the first (despite not getting to finish my beer on Saturday night!). The remarkable stories never cease and I look forward to another brilliant weekend next year.

Bonfire Meet, Fallcliffe, 6 -8 November

Frances Mott writes:

When Fallcliffe hosts the bonfire meet we are never sure whether it will be the select few (15ish) or a regular scrum (30+). This year the select few arrived and 15 of us oohed and aahed at the fireworks, warmed hands by the bonfire and ate for England.

Friday evening was wet for journeys, which in our case included a breakdown, a tow from the AA, and a transfer of 3 people, large dog, bags and baggage and lots of food to a much smaller courtesy car. Saturday was dry at least to start. Some climbs were conquered, as were some walks and some wielded the chainsaw etc to make the bonfire, coming back to the hut for rabbit and chicken broth.

As usual the passing traffic were startled by the whoosh of large fireworks parts 1 and 2. Neil's Tartiflette arriving on the table in the intermission. Pasta Bolognese and various puddings (donated by numerous people) end the festivities.

Sunday saw the weather close in and come lunchtime several groups (ranging from rained-out climbers to rained-in shoppers) met at the Robin Hood for more food. Most were then homeward bound.

A good meet with the usual mix of weather, activities, food and friends. Join us next year.

Brecon Beacons meet 17 - 19 November

Joy Parsons writes:

Bill Towlson arranged a meet at the Clyn Gwyn bunkhouse near Ystradfellte and, in spite of an appalling weather forecast, 8 of us turned up for a memorable meet!

Geoff Williams knows the area well and was able to recommend visits to waterfalls in 2 nearby valleys rather than the hills which were windswept and being washed by heavy rain.

We followed the Nedd Fechan down to Pontneddfechan returning through a deep bog and nearly losing Les to the quagmire!

A good meal in the evening at the Angel cheered and sustained us.

The next day it was NOT RAINING and we visited the Sgwd Clun Gwyn waterfalls. Four of the party took the footpath behind the falls and were seen emerging the other side of the river with smiles on their faces!



The bunkhouse was of good standard, welcoming and warm and is in an excellent position for exploring that area.

The meet was also attended by Sue Esten, Sue Darling and we were pleased to have Helen Lewis with us. Helen is Welsh speaking and lives near Machynlleth and is hoping to join some more Welsh meets. She didn't seem to find the weather unusual and it struck John and myself that we'd all had a good time. Unrepeatable!

Our particular thanks to Bill and Geoff for doing the 'homework' before we set off. Probably worth considering a revisit?



News from Members

Klein Matterhorn and Breithorn, September

Shaun West writes:

Getting to the hills can be almost as good as being on the hills. The four hour train from trip from Zuerich is a splendid way to travel with two under fours given the play area on the train.

September is also a good time to be in the Alps. It may not be the normal period and the weather may not be as settled however the benefits are the colours and the people (lack of!).

Shelagh looked after the kids on the Saturday morning whilst I and my boss took the Seilbahn(en) up the Klein Matterhorn for a quick coffee - who took all of the air? I find an espresso always helps, but this time it did cost me my map as I left it on the table.

Walking out past the skiers and the groups with guides is always fund. The view is spoilt with all of the metal work. So we joined the trail along with half a dozen other groups roped together. For my boss this was the first time he'd climbed a 4000m hill, so what if it is the easiest one in the Alps! The walk up is a great stroll in the park, it was a shame that we did not take the east ridge but nevertheless the west ridge gives some good views and a good long drop on the north side.

The way down was safe and uneventful, well nearly if it had not been for the French speaking school kids who had been skiing. They were, well, behaving like



school kids but they soon shut up after being shouted at in Parisian French. Shelagh and I followed it up by bagging Titlis the following weekend - good month!

Club News

Email addresses @ULGMC.ORG

Just a reminder of the club email addresses:

Sue Darling - president@ulgmc.org

Keith Mott - members@ulgmc.org

Heather Rumble meets@ulgmc.org)

Elspeth Howell - caseg@ulgmc.org

David Jacob - fallcliffe@ulgmc.org

Shaun West - editor@ulgmc.org

Neil Brindley neil.brindley@ulgmc.org

Mark Stitson - secretary@ulgmc.org

Tim Marshall - timstatsmarshall@aol.com

President's corner

Deep sympathy to all those who are affected by the rains and floods. Little consolation to those who have lost property and livelihoods, but the waterfalls in the Brecon Beacons were awesome to see.

It was another lively AGM. Amazingly for a 60 year old club with members spread round the UK, Europe and beyond, a large proportion of our membership was present at the Swallow Falls Hotel on 24 October.

The Committee was mandated to look into ways to mark the 60th anniversary of the founding of the club in 2010 and will circulate proposals after the next meeting. I am sure we will have at least one display of photos, letters etc illustrating the club's history and some of our special personalities and events. So would all members, particularly those of longstanding (note the delicate wording here.....) please look out interesting photos and papers and let me know by phone, letter or email what you have. Of course, we also have the club archive now held by Jill Bennett.

Another issue raised at the AGM, rather hastily as time was running out and the dinner was running in, was the BMC proposal for an 'opt out' facility, by which members of affiliated clubs could opt out of BMC membership (in all respects other than insurance) in return for a partial rebate on their BMC affiliation fee. A show of hands at the AGM indicated that while some people supported the idea, most people had had insufficient time to take a view.

The newly established BMC Clubs Committee has since considered responses from clubs, noted that the proposal had insufficient support and agreed not to pursue it further.

Best wishes to all members for a good Christmas and great times on the walls, rocks, hills and mountains in 2010.

Sue Darling

Membership Sec

After an interesting year I am pleased to report some good news which has since the September newsletter. I was afraid that membership of the, how shall I put it, established members was falling owing to a number of factors, some of which we would rather not contemplate. Several of these members have now made contact and renewed for 2010.

2010 is, of course, an auspicious year for the club. It marks our 60th anniversary. It is a tribute to the founders that such a diverse club, not only in terms of the membership but also in the geographical spread has managed to survive when there are far more calls on people's time these days.

The committee has started in its mandate to arrange presentations at the major meets for 2010. I would like to appeal to all those scribes and photographers for any interesting, extraordinary or downright outrageous mementoes you might have lurking at the back of drawers or in boxes in the loft. Any precious photos or letters will, of course, be copied and returned.

These will be compiled on display banners and taken around to the meets next year. The plan is to produce such a fascinating array of material at next year's AGM that the business part will be kept to a record short time! It will then be handed over to Jill Bennett, the club archivist who has done such a fantastic job in organising and mining the archive for the newsletter. I hope that most of it will be posted on the website as well.

If you have any material that falls into this category that you are prepared to share please contact myself or any member of the committee, especially if you would like to hand it over personally.

Keith Mott

AGM 2009

The final Minutes will be posted on the website. below are the draft Minutes.

Minutes of the 59th Annual General Meeting of ULGMC

Held at the Swallow Falls Hotel, Betws-y-Coed on Saturday 24th of October. The meeting convened at 6.15pm with the President Sue Darling in the chair.

Apologies for absence

Mike Warden, Neil Brindley, Elspeth Howell, David Jacobs, Liz Parkinson, Derek Fordham

Minutes of the 2008 AGM

Adoption of the 2008 AGM Minutes was proposed by Humfrey Berkeley, seconded by John Parsons and unanimously accepted.

There were no matters arising.

Finance

Accounts

The treasurer, Keith Mott, reported that the 2005 accounts had been the last accounts that had been approved by an AGM. The 2006 and 2007 accounts had been not presented due to the changes of treasurers without an orderly hand-over. The treasurer had reconstructed the 2006 and 2007 accounts as far as possible and explained any discrepancies.

Tim Marshall noted that the state of the 2006 and 2007 accounts required no apology by the current treasurer and we owe him thanks for producing the accounts.

Humfrey Berkeley also thanked the treasurer and commented that the accounts presented in advance of the meeting did not add up and the accounts from one year to another did not add up. The treasurer offered to go over the accounts that were presented at the meeting with Humfrey and that any concerns would be relayed to the scrutineers. Humfrey also noted that the format of the accounts was confusing and could be improved.

Mike Bennett seconded by John Coote proposed to approve the accounts subject to consideration of points raised and a favourable report by the scrutineers. The scrutineers were to be informed of the points made with regard to the accuracy of the accounts. A vote was taken with 34 votes for, 2 votes against and 1 abstentions.

Membership Fees

As the BMC capitation fee had not increased, Caroline Marshall seconded by Rosemary Bevis proposed to keep the membership fees at the current level and this was accepted unanimously.

Expenditure

The treasurer reported that donations had been made:

- Mountain Rescue Council for England and Wales: £150

- Mountain Rescue Scotland: £50

Donations were in the progress of being made to

- Friends of the Lakes

- Friends of Snowdonia

Bill Bristow seconded by Diane Macleod-Culinane proposed to continue this level of donations for the coming year.

As the club is in financial good health and Fallcliffe Cottage needs a large amount of work, the Treasurer suggested that the club should donate an amount of money to do a specific piece of work. After leaving in excess of 3 years expenditure in the reserves, around £2000 could be released. Bill Bristow seconded by John Burrows proposed that the club should donate up to £2000 for a specific improvement at

Fallcliffe Cottage. The motion was unanimously agreed.

Other financial business

The treasurer requested to be allowed to move the financial year of the club to better fit in with the accounting requirements.

It was proposed by Humfrey Berkeley seconded by Willie Butler to leave the exact dates to the treasurer and unanimously agreed.

Bill Bristow expressed thanks from the whole membership to the treasurer for his hard work.

Committee Reports

President

The president acknowledged the hard work done by club officers and stated the good position of the club.

After nearly 60 years, the club was solvent and active, there was a good meets programme, we were an inclusive club and we contributed to our sport financially as well as by encouraging our youth.

Secretary

The secretary Mark Stitson reported that in consolidating the membership list with the membership secretary and checking which members had actively asked for hardcopies of newsletters, the number of hardcopy newsletters being sent out had been reduced. All members that did not have e-mail always were sent hardcopy newsletter and those that had explicitly requested a hardcopy were sent one. Unfortunately some members that had not explicitly requested a hardcopy were removed from the mailing list which had led to some members not receiving a hardcopy. Also members that had not paid their membership fee were not sent hardcopies of the newsletter.

The secretary requested that anyone who wanted a hardcopy should explicitly ask him.

It was also clarified that the newsletter editor sent out the electronic copies of the newsletter by e-mail and the secretary sent out the hardcopies and any requests about the hardcopies should be sent to the secretary in the first instance.

The secretary reported that he had attended a few ULMC meets and that the ULMC was interested in combined meets especially at Caseg where there was ample space.

Membership Secretary

The membership secretary Keith Mott reported that more ULMC members were joining the club although overall membership was down.

He proposed to write to all past/lapsed members to invite them to renew their membership on the 60th anniversary of the club.

Boston Spa
(01937) 842233

Ingleborough
7 Clarendon Road
Boston Spa
Wetherby
West Yorkshire LS23 6NG

4 November 2009

Sue Darling
President
ULGMC.

Dear Sue

ULGMC AGM 2009 Agenda Item 4. Finance.

I was saddened and appalled at the reaction of the members when I pointed out that the accounts for 2006 2007 and 2008 supplied with the Newsletter just didn't add up. The amended 2008 accounts, distributed at the meeting, provided no real answer to the incorrect accounts first supplied. The part 2009 accounts, were also incorrect and the balance of 6685 is £200 short.

All these incorrect, incomplete accounts, which had not been signed, should have been withdrawn from the meeting; then circulated for the 2010 AGM, after correction, updating, having been approved by the scrutineer.

I feel sure that members had not read the accounts, otherwise they would also have spotted that the figures did not agree, if they had, they would have pointed out this fact. Even worse, having been made aware that the accounts were incorrect, the majority were still prepared to vote for their acceptance, with only Geoff Williams and myself voting against.

I objected to the suggestion, made by Keith, that he would send information to the scrutineer, so that he could sort out the various accounts because I don't think that the scrutineer should be lumbered with what, after all, is not his work. His job is check they are right, not to put them right.

With regard to the accounts submitted, apart from being incorrect, they lacked detail.

1. 2006 accounts. The difference between balances is -76 not -101
2007 ditto almost correct
2008 Original accounts ditto 207 not 394
2008 New version.
Extra bank interest. So was the original figure a mistake?
Meets. Costs suddenly jump from 25 to 250, another mistake?
A deposit for the 2009 AGM of £200. Where did this money come from in 2008?
2. Subs. 2006 & 2007 no breakdown.
Subs. 2008 (revised accounts) What, under the £ sign, does 41,82 & 1 mean? not pounds obviously, number of subs received maybe, if so we have to work it out for ourselves to see if they add up. This is no way to prepare accounts.
3. Newsletter. No breakdown of costs
4. Membership. Ditto.
5. Donations. No information as to who received what.
6. They were not signed and there was also no indication that they should be signed by the Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Scrutineer.

Detail is necessary, both for clarity to the members and to reduce the work of the Hon. Scrutineer.

At the AGM a change to the dates of the Club's financial year was raised by the committee and you will remember, I proposed that the meeting gave the committee the power to do this, which was agreed.

Having thought about this, as the AGM is held in October, our present dates of December gives the treasurer, perhaps 7 to 8 months for the completion, approval and circulation of the accounts. This may be good for a busy treasurer, however as the accounts are rather out of date when we get them, an end date nearer the AGM would be a very good idea.

As the members did not believe that I had grounds to challenge the figures in the accounts I want this letter to be included in the next Newsletter. I have no other way to defend myself and bring my reasons before the members, as I was prevented from doing so at the 2009 AGM. I may be unable to attend the 2010 AGM.

Let me know what you think.

Yours sincerely

Humfrey

Humfrey Berkeley

Copy to

Geoff Williams
Mike Warden

ULGMC finances

The letter above was written in response to my request that Humfrey let us have details of issues on the accounts which he raised at the AGM so that they could be properly considered by the Treasurer and Scrutineer as directed by the AGM.

I have replied to Humfrey's letter in the light of advice from the Treasurer and will be happy to send a copy to anyone who wishes to have it.

His useful comments have been taken into account by the Treasurer and discussed with the Scrutineer (Mike Warden), who is continuing his scrutiny of the accounts for 2006, 2007 and 2008. The accounts will only be signed off when the Scrutineer has accepted them.

The membership secretary suggested that honorary membership be bestowed on an overseas former member for services to the club including hospitality to visiting members. There was debate on the nature of honorary membership and following a vote the committee was asked to give further consideration to the issues raised.

Meets Secretary

The meets secretary, Heather Rumble, thanked all meet leaders for volunteering to continue leading their traditional meets and also thanked those who had volunteered to lead new meets. The provisional meets list had many favourite old meets as well as some new meets and there might be a few additional meets as well. Also the feedback from members on their meets was useful and encouraging.

Keith Mott reported on the club's commitment to support children's climbing instruction at the Easter and August bank holiday meets. He thanked the club for the financial support and suggested to continue this.

Bill Bristow seconded by Janet Hellen proposed to continue the financial support and this was unanimously accepted.

Trustees and Hut Wardens Report

The Chair presented a summary report on Fallcliffe from David Jacob (full text in Newsletter).

Mike Parkinson representing the trustees reported that Caseg had shown a healthy income partly due to increased bookings and partly due to the increased hut fees. Caseg had passed its fire assessment. Now the work on Caseg was complete, work on Fallcliffe could begin.

Mike Esten asked about the usage of the huts and asked to know how member versus non-member nights compared. Mark Stitson commented that it was often not possible to book places in the members room at Caseg because the hut was exclusively booked by others and wanted to know how often members tried and failed to book the hut. Ivor Delafield pointed out that the simple comparison between member and non-member nights was not the whole picture as members often brought non-members along. The meeting requested the trustees to ask the hut wardens to clarify the usage of the huts and the availability of the members room at Caseg.

Area representatives

Ivor Delafield gave a report on the Peak area meetings and commented that these had been less useful of late (full text in newsletter).

Trefor Owen reported on the North Wales area meets. He pointed members to the excellent BMC website and the regular reports in Summit magazine. He reported that the Sports Council for Wales did not support mountaineering in general or the BMC. The BMC had appointed a new Welsh officer who was based at the Mountain Leader training office in Capel Curig. The Sherpa bus service was having its budget cut and the money was being reallocated to the new Snowdon Airport. Climbing at the Dinorwic Slate Quarries has had to be restricted to non-group use as the owners of the quarry faced liability for certain accidents and could not ignore large groups.

Programme for 2010

The detailed meets programme was presented by the meets secretary and agreed. The committee were asked to pursue ideas for celebrations of the 60th anniversary.

For the next AGM the Old Dungeon Ghyll was proposed; this had been provisionally booked although not at the preferred date. It was noted that as we rotate the AGM around different venues, we do not get the same treatment as clubs that frequent the same venue every year.

Bill Bristow offered to book the Fell & Rock Rawhead hut for the next AGM as the ODG cannot accommodate all who attend the AGM.

Committee Elections

As no new nominations for committee members had been received and all existing committee members had offered to remain in their posts, Bill Bristow seconded by Francis Mott proposed to re-elect the whole committee by general acclamation which was unanimously agreed.

Mike Warden had offered to continue as scrutineer for ULGMC. Humfrey Berkeley seconded by Bill Bristow proposed that he be re-elected, which was unanimously agreed.

The area representatives were re-elected by general acclamation.

As the secretary had started to make good contacts with ULMC, it was agreed that he take on the role of ULMC representative.

AOB

The BMC had proposed a special opt-out facility whereby club members could reclaim some of their BMC capitation fee from the BMC directly. This was only partial as there was no opt-out from the liability insurance which covered the club officials as well as the members.

The BMC had asked for feedback from the clubs' membership. On a show of hands, 10 members thought this was a good idea, and 30 needed more time to consider the question.

Willie Butler raised the point that Caseg Fraith had been opened on the 28th of October 1961 and a 40th anniversary celebration at the hut should be held in 2011.

The meeting ended at 7.30 pm.

Fallcliffe Cottage Warden's report 2008-2009

Bookings at the cottage have increased over the past year, particularly during the summer, bringing a welcome increase in revenue. At the moment reservations for 2010 are not as good although there is still time for this to change.

Expenditure, particularly on electricity, remains higher than income but reductions in electricity bills are starting to appear after having disabled the storage heaters which were identified as by far the biggest electrical consumers in the cottage and responsible for the unsustainably high bills. Severe storms during the summer also resulted in extra costs following damage to the roof, extensive leaking, and extensive flooding. Replacement of the refrigerator completed the unexpected costs for the year.

With the reduction in electricity consumption and hopefully fewer unexpected outgoings, I am fairly confident that the next financial year should not end

with Fallcliffe making further losses for what would be a fifth successive year. To assist, I would ask all members using the cottage to ensure that all lights and both water heaters are switched off when leaving. There have been two occasions this year when lights have been left on (by members) for, in one case, three weeks. Similarly one of the water heaters needed replacement parts/repair after being left on for a number of weeks. A quick check when leaving is all that is needed – apart from the savings it also means that the facilities will be in working order when the next group arrive.

David Jacob

BMC

Report to AGM on BMC Peak Area Committee by Ivor Delafield:

They are very poorly organised;

Agendas for most meetings are issued at the start of the meeting;

The chairing of the meetings I have attended during the past two years has been extremely poor;

Until recently minutes were posted on the web sometimes 2-3 months after a meeting had taken place – and are now rarely available;

Access/Conservation: Whilst these issues are very important (and the Peak Area is extremely fortunate in having Henry Folkard acting as lead person in dealing with these matters) the first 50-60% of each meeting is given over to a repetitive report/update on the various ongoing access and conservation concerns. In my view, most of the information should be reported in writing prior to the meeting – or at the beginning of each meeting – together with a reasonably business-like verbal summary/questions session;

National Council Meetings: From the verbal reports received there would appear to be of little of any importance discussed;

The most important occurrence tends to be the break after the access/conservation report and some minor matters for a free supper of pasta, chips, curry and rice and general socialising.

The most discussed issue at the last three meetings has been whether the BMC should support the IFSC's (the international body for competition climbing) policy to seek IOC games status. The BMC did not issue any informed written or verbal introduction regarding the pros and cons of the IFSC's policy. The outcome was, inevitably, a heated discussion with most people not knowing anything in detail about the matter. At the last meeting of the Peak Area Committee this issue was narrowly supported. The National Council approved this proposal at its last meeting. The other

issues of interest being the proposal to establish a Clubs Committee, a Coaching Awards Scheme and the perennial clubs v individual members subscriptions.

It seems to me that the Area Committees (apart from the very important local access issues) have little involvement in the governance of the BMC.

From the web-published reports of other Area Committees I have done what I can to discover whether activities there are different from that of the Peak Area – it appears that it is much the same.

Copy of email from Dave Turnbull concerning BMC opt- out

From: Dave Turnbull
<dave@thebmc.co.uk>

Sent: Tue, 3 November, 2009

Subject: BMC Subscriptions / Opt-out
Consultation

To: BMC affiliated clubs

I am writing to update you on two important matters which have been the subject of consultation and discussion over the past few months - namely the BMC's position on future membership subscriptions, and the results of the Opt-out consultation exercise. I would be very grateful if you could pass this information onto your members.

Firstly I would just like to say many many thanks to all those clubs who took the time to submit responses to the Opt-out consultation. 127 out of the total 234 clubs sent in completed feedback forms and many of these included detailed written feedback as well.

In summary:

1. Club member subscriptions:

The BMC Finance Committee met last night and reviewed the organisational budgets and forecasts for 2010-2011. The result of this discussion is that the Treasurer and Finance Committee have agreed to recommend to the BMC National Council that club and individual subscriptions should remain level (i.e. unchanged at the current level) until 1 January 2012. In other words, subject to National Council agreement, there would not be any subscriptions increases put to the BMC AGM in April 2010 for the 2011 calendar year. Subscriptions levels for 2012 would be a matter for 2011 AGM to decide based on the BMC's financial circumstances at that time.

2. Opt-out consultation:

The newly established BMC Clubs Committee met on 26 December and reviewed the results of the consultation exercise. The results were as follows:
View of clubs on the Opt-out facility

Opposed: 80 clubs
Supportive: 26 clubs
Undecided: 21 clubs.

As a result of this feedback the Clubs Committee has decided not to take the Opt-out proposal forward. National Council will consider this at its 5 December meeting and is likely to reach a similar conclusion.

Could I just say a final thank you to all those who responded to the Opt-out consultation - hopefully the position on subscriptions will provide some stability and will come as good news to clubs and club members

All the best

Dave Turnbull



BMC Chief Executive

General BMC news

The BMC held its first club meeting, nothing mind-blowing and the note of the meeting can be found on their website. http://www.thebmc.co.uk/bmcNews/media/u_content/file/clubs_huts/Club%20Committee%20Minutes/ClubCommitteeMinutesOct09.pdf.

Harrison's Rocks on the Kent/Sussex border are now owned by the newly established BMC Land and Property Trust, so ensuring access for climbers in perpetuity.

The BMC also owns Stone Farm Rocks in Ashdown Forest, Horseshoe Quarry and Aldery Cliff in the Peak District, Tremadog's Craig Bwlch y Moch, and Lancashire's Craig y Longridge and Wilton 1. It manages Craig Pant Ifan and Upper Pen Trwyn.

BMC has recently developed the Crag Code, a code of conduct to encourage sustainable use of crags in England and Wales.

BMC monthly email newsletters are available on request to members with an email address.

Club Archives

Jill Bennett (thanks Jill), following discussions at the last AGM, thought it might be interesting to include some snippets from the past, in appropriate issues of the Newsletter. Apart from the Club's pending 60th anniversary on 20th May 2010, Caseg Fraith will reach its 50th anniversary in 2010.

By 1960 the new Hut (Caseg) was built, but not habitable in time for the AGM on 26th Nov. 1960, so the AGM was held at the Penygwryd (PYG) Hotel, Nant Gwynant,

Sat. 28th Oct. 1961 Caseg Fraith was opened by Prof. G I Finch, followed by dinner at Llanberis. About 60-70 ULMC members slept at the hut, on mattresses without bunks, concrete floor, no curtains, partitions or mats. There were Elsans, but no electricity. Members were requested to donate cutlery, crockery, kitchen utensils etc, and to participate in working parties for creating shelves etc. ULMC membership was now 50. (NL 46)

3-4 Nov. 1973: the first bonfire meet at Fallcliffe, coinciding with a working weekend, when the old stable building was demolished. (NL 97) But in Jan. 1974 Fallcliffe cottage was broken into and vandalised. (NL 98)

Sat. 21st. Jan. 1950 Meeting of a SubCommittee set up to investigate the formation of a senior section of the University of London Mountaineering Club (ULMC), held at Westbourne Gardens, London. On Sat. 20 May 1950 the inaugural

meeting was held of the ULMC (Senior Branch) with 9 prospective members. The President was Phill Williams, Hon.Sec. Stella Chapman, Hon.Treas. Norman Jones.

By the first AGM on 16th Dec. 1950 (at the Marquis of Granby Hotel, London) the Club had 21 members, and meets were arranged at Maes Caradoc, in December, Glencoe at Easter, and camping at Llyn Bochlywd at Whitsun.

9th December 1970: Completion of the purchase of Fallcliffe Cottage was anticipated, so the first 'official' work party was geared-up for the weekend of 12/13th Dec., and builders to commence work on the roof. Priority was to fit the metal shutters, and lay a pipe down the hillside before yet another winter froze the ground. 25 people, plus others for shorter periods, attended that weekend, including a squad of boys from Tom Hodgkinson's school, camping in the garden. The only snag was, we had not completed the purchase - but we carried on all the same - probably unknown to the agent. Completion eventually took place on 21st December 1970. By the following Sunday, we had laid the water pipe down through the wood.

11th Dec. 1971: Fallcliffe cottage was opened on by Sir Jack Longland, with Prof. Edwin Power and about 50 members and guests - one year exactly since the first official working party. Jack Longland was the obvious choice, as he was a resident of Derbyshire, and Chairman of the Peak Committee of the BMC. His formal welcome and speech are preserved on tape, recorded by Alison Chadwick. The rose Albertine, by the front door, was planted by Peggy Longland.

Jan.1999 Michael Hetherington competed in the INFERNO Ski Race from the top of the Schilthorn down to Winteregg between Murren and Lauterbrunnen, a spectacular event in the shadow of the N Wall of the Eiger.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

GRADUATE MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2010

The Data Protection Act requires us to tell you that, if elected, the information on this form will be held on the club's computerised subscription/address list.

Please fill out the highlighted sections and any others, as necessary, below clearly in BLOCK CAPITALS

Section 1

This information will be used to identify you to club members and the BMC.

Your first name	<input type="text"/>
Your surname	<input type="text"/>
Partner's first name	<input type="text"/>
Partner's surname	<input type="text"/>
Telephone No	<input type="text"/>
email	<input type="text"/>

Children, under 18 years, of ULGMC family members are not covered by the BMC liability insurance unless paid for separately. As an option, they may be covered for a fee of £7 per child.

If you wish, please list the name(s) and age(s) of any child(ren) under the age of 18 to be covered.

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Section 2

The following information will be used, as laid out here, on address labels for the club to communicate with you.

Title	<input type="text"/>	Name	<input type="text"/>
Address	<input type="text"/>		
	<input type="text"/>		
Town	<input type="text"/>		
County	<input type="text"/>		
POSTCODE	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Please tick for newsletter in email form <input type="checkbox"/> and/or in paper form <input type="checkbox"/>

Please renew my/our membership for 2010

Single	£20	<input type="checkbox"/>	I wish to pay for single membership & in advance	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family	£30	<input type="checkbox"/>	I wish to pay for family membership & in advance	<input type="checkbox"/>
			Plus <input type="text"/> Children for BMC insurance @ £7 each	

Please find enclosed cheque for the sum of £

When you have completed all applicable sections please return the form to the Membership Secretary together with your fee (£20 single or £30 family + any children). Cheques payable to "ULGMC" please. Internet banking is available upon request. Please tick if you wish to use this facility ☐

Membership Secretary, ULGMC, Lincolns Meadow Cottage, Hales Street, Tivetshall St Margaret, Norwich, Norfolk, NR15 2EE or email to members@ulgmc.org. Thank you.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

GRADUATE MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2010

The Data Protection Act requires us to tell you that, if elected, the information on this form will be held on the club's computerised subscription/address list.

Please fill out both pages of the form and write clearly in BLOCK CAPITALS

Section 1

This information will be used to identify you to club members and the BMC.

Your first name	<input type="text"/>
Your surname	<input type="text"/>
Partner's first name	<input type="text"/>
Partner's surname	<input type="text"/>
Telephone No	<input type="text"/>
email	<input type="text"/>

Type of membership required Single ☐ Family ☐ (Please tick)

Children, under 18 years, of ULGMC family members are not covered by the BMC liability insurance unless paid for separately. As an option, they may be covered for a fee of £7 per child.

If you wish, please list the name(s) and age(s) of any child(ren) under the age of 18 to be covered.

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Section 2

The following information will be used, as laid out here, on address labels for the club to communicate with you.

Title	<input type="text"/>	Name	<input type="text"/>
Address	<input type="text"/>		
	<input type="text"/>		
Town	<input type="text"/>		
County	<input type="text"/>		
POSTCODE	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Please tick to receive newsletter in email form <input type="checkbox"/>

Section 3

Unless you are a graduate, post graduate or a member of staff of a University of London college or an ex-ULMC member you need to be nominated by 2 current members of the club.

Your application will then be forwarded to the committee for consideration.

You are welcome to attend any club meets on a trial basis to obtain the required nominations.

	Name (in block caps)	Membership No. if known
NOMINEE 1	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
NOMINEE 2	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

GRADUATE MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Section 4

Enter details of any Degree(s) from LONDON University that you hold

Degree

College Year

Section 5

Enter details of any current connection with the University of London

Course or Post

College

Section 6

Please outline below your mountaineering experience including any ULGMC, College mountaineering club or other club meets attended.

Section 7

How did you learn of ULGMC?

Please accept my/our application for membership of ULGMC

Single £20 ☐ I wish to pay for single membership & in advance ☐

Family £30 ☐ I wish to pay for family membership & in advance ☐

Plus Children for BMC insurance @ £7 each

Please find enclosed cheque for the sum of £

When you have completed all applicable sections please return the form to the Membership Secretary together with your fee. Cheques payable to "ULGMC" please.

Internet banking is available upon request. Please tick if you wish to use this facility.

If, in the unlikely event, your application is unsuccessful your fee will be returned in full.

Membership Secretary, ULGMC, Lincolns Meadow Cottage, Hales Street,

Tivetshall St Margaret, Norwich, Norfolk, NR15 2EE or email to **members@ulgmc.org**. Thank you.