



Forthcoming Meets

Don't forget to check www.ulgmc.org for the latest news on trips.

Land's End: Spring Bank Holiday 2013

Once again the meet will be held at Trevedra Farm, Sennen, this year from Thursday 23 May to Wednesday 29 May 2013. We have confirmed our usual number of spaces with Wendy Nicholas which should be enough for the regular attenders. If there is anyone who has not yet been in touch, please contact us **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** so that we can try to negotiate more spaces with Wendy.

Geoffrey Batten, 0121 475 6004, grb@batten.eu.org

Cortina D'Ampezzo, Dolomiti, Italy: 13th-21st July 2013

Some of us have booked our flights as follows:

We have booked on the following Easyjet flights:

Sunday 14 July: London Gatwick to Venice Marco Polo, flight 5263 d 0730 a 1035.

Monday 22 July: Venice Marco Polo to London Gatwick, flight 5268 d 1810 a 1920 (NB Easyjet have rescheduled the flight times to slightly later in the evening than originally stated)

If you would like to join us for all (or part) of the trip please let Mike know as soon as possible. We will be having a planning meeting in late May - June.

Contact Mike at: mikejhale+ulgmc@gmail.com

Llyn Peninsula, N Wales Camping: 1 - 5 July 2013

This year we are abandoning the Pembroke/Cardigan coast for the extreme west of the Llyn Peninsula. The site is Dwyros Campsite, Aberdaron, Gwynedd LL53 8BS and its telephone number is 01758 760295. Its owner is Alun Jones - no need to book at this time he said, but he is aware of the name ULGMC! To get to the site follow the B4413 into the village of Aberdaron. On the bridge turn right, up the hill and you will find the site on your right about 700 metres from the village. Dogs are permitted on the site. Grid ref SH 167 267 - if I have picked the correct site from the OS 1:50 000!

Sue Esten 01442 8644642

Forest of Dean/Symonds Yat: Jul 26th - 2nd Aug

The leave has been booked and the campsite notified of our pending arrival. That just leaves the activities to choose from: climbing; walking; kayak/canoing; mountain biking; pony trekking. Contact Alison Dean at www.dowardpark.co.uk or on 01600 890438 to book your place between 26th July and 2nd August despite what you may have seen on the website. And whatever you do, don't use satnav to get there. It's that good!

Keith Mott, 07973 747756

August Bank Holiday

August Bank Holiday seems a way off from now, but as we may not have a newsletter before then I thought a reminder is in order! Come to Wales for August Bank Holiday (23rd-26th August) for the usual PLUS canyoning in Bala. See you there. Heather
































Aiguille de Péclet, France

Want to submit a report?
1 September latest









Editor: Shaun West
Email: editor@ulgmc.org
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Meets List

Location	Date	Meet Leader	Notes
Caseg Fraith, Snowdonia	Dec 28th – 1st Jan	Heather Rumble	   
<i>Fallcliffe, Peak District</i>	<i>January 25th - 27th</i>	<i>Keith Mott</i>	 
<i>Fallcliffe, Peak District</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>Mark Stitson</i>	<i>Joint with ULMC</i>
Caseg Fraith, Snowdonia	March 28 th – April 1 st	Heather Rumble	   
<i>Attadale Loch Carron</i>	<i>April 27th - 4th May</i>	<i>Willie Butler</i>	
Trevedra Farm, Lands End	May 23 rd – 29 th	The Battens	    
<i>Scotland, Skye or Cairngorms</i>	<i>May-ish</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>Express interest to Mike Hale, Mike Pollitt or Sam Hardman</i>
Brecon Beacons	June 14 th – 16 th	Mike Pollitt	
Lleyn Peninsula	July 1 st – 5 th	Sue Esten	
Dolomites, Italy	<i>July 13th – 21st</i>	Mike Hale	Contact asap 
Doward Park, Symonds Yat	July 26 th – Aug 2 nd	Keith Mott	Book directly with campsite    
Caseg Fraith, Snowdonia	Aug 23 rd – 26 th	Stephan Tietz	   
Old Dungeon Ghyll, Lake District	Oct 18 th - 10 th	Linda Coombes	AGM
The Roaches, Peak District	Nov 2 nd – 4 th	Linda Coombes	
Fallcliffe Cottage, Peak District	<i>Nov 22nd – 24th</i>	Neil Brindley	   
TBC	Nov	Bill Towlson	
Caseg Fraith, Snowdonia	Dec/Jan	TBC	New Year

Italics denote unconfirmed details

- | | |
|--|--|
|  Children welcome |  Early booking required |
|  Dogs welcome |  Instruction for beginners/children available |
|  Camping meet |  Bank Holiday |
|  Fire |  Feast |

Members: Contact meet leaders directly to attend meets

Non-members: Contact the meets secretary to attend meets: meets.ulgmc@yahoo.com

Thinking of running a meet? Contact the meets secretary (above)

Meets

Fallcliffe in January

Keith Mott writes:

Weather patterns are changing. I hope we can all agree. When I was younger, much younger, we had a series of hot summers; 1975, 1976 and the awful 1977. In all those years we, in the southeast of the country, only had 2 or 3 days above 30°C each year. In 2003, and for a few years after, we had 20 days above 30°C! I rest my case.

Well, no. In the last 30 years of visiting Fallcliffe I cannot remember a season of 3 consecutive meets in snow. We had plenty of snow in December for Mark's birthday bash. We had so much snow in March that the meet was cancelled, albeit as souls braved the journey up on Friday night. And then there was January.

ULMC had intended to go west but the eventual driver had already decided to go north. The weather on Saturday was spectacular but then so was the drive up. Snow began to fall in earnest around Grantham and lay almost immediately. By Newark you could wedel. Empty lorries seemed to be the main hazard, apart from over confident Audi drivers!

Both the car and the minibus safely negotiated all obstacles but were both finally beaten, almost within sight of the hut, by the hill out of Grindleford. A great deal of pushing was required to gain the final stretch home. The reek of hot clutch fluid will stay with me forever more.

Sleep was in short supply since, for some irrational reason, ULMC insist on a pre-noon departure. Mike Pollitt led the charge along the unusually quiet B6001 towards Hathersage and up over the back towards Leam Hall. The sky was clear with very little breeze.

We tried button lugging but the crust had either already gone or not developed. We would have to wait until we came across an already compacted slope for those memorable clips. We worked our way back via Grindleford at the end of a most spectacular day.

Sunday, with the snow already beginning to melt and the wind rising, was quite a different affair. The vehicles were parked between Longshaw and The Grouse and a walk taken along White Edge. An area to the south was explored, coming back to the road via Bar Brook and an unusual reservoir construction. A few of us continued around the final loop which took us over the Sheffield-Manchester rail tunnel. The others returned to the hut to begin the clear-up before departure.

For me, even, or especially, having to drive in those conditions made this a most

remarkable Fallcliffe trip. I hope the others thought so too.

Easter Weekend at Caseg Fraith

Craig Rice(some whipper snapper):

Keith Mott and myself arrived at the hut on Thursday just before midnight to find the sky clear and the moon beautifully throwing light across the snow laden land. The absence of snow and ice on the road – sadly – stomped out any repeat of the antics had during the late January trip to Fallcliffe earlier in the year where trailer slewing, snow chains, and helpful locals all featured.

I woke to find a glorious covering of snow and stunning weather conditions too, especially for Wales. I caught wind of Samantha Hardman and Mike Pollitt abandoning their two day walk and wild camp plans due to unfavourable weather. Instead opting for a walk up to Glyder Fawh and I eagerly tagged along.

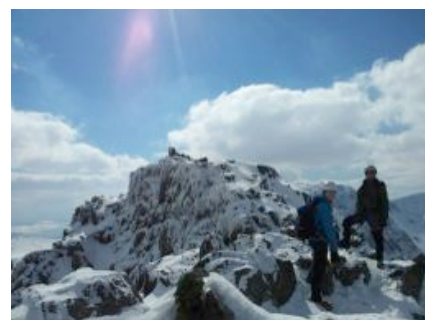
Crampons and axes were quickly drawn given the amount and type of snow and ice ahead. After stopping briefly to admire the frozen lake Caseg, eat and wonder about oddly exposed tents, we headed up to the summit. Upon arriving we were greeted by an array of majestic windswept snow and verglas covered rocks. There was only one other group at the summit to share this timely display of nature with, however, their attention was instead focused on a member of their group lacking crampons, clinging to the arm of another who had.



Day 1: Glyder Fawh's cantilever outcrop.

During a leisurely descent back toward the hut we stopped at a large dump of snow on a windward stream bank. Besides sheer testing, practice snow holes were dug along with an impressive, roomy igloo for one.

The excellent conditions held for a second day. Earlier I had been told by Kim Ashworth and Andy Worster of their initial plan to walk the Snowdon Horseshoe, later on deciding to wait for summer conditions. Alternatively the North Ridge of Tryfan proved to be the next best thing.



Day 2: Tryfan, Adam and Eve ahead.

We reached the summit, finding a stunning view in all directions. We planned to head up Bristly Ridge, Glyder Fawh and conclude at the hill east of Tryfan overlooking the hut.



Day 3: View from Pyg and Miners' track

Andy earned a few pints for helping myself out of a horrible stance scrambling up a gully of Bristly Ridge: all of a sudden a slope and no features. The void below hit me like a tonne of bricks and was a great step up from a recent winter skills course!

Crossing the now weakened layer of surface ice was easier for some and hilariously predictable for others (me). We soon reached the summit of Glyder Fawh to find it absolutely deserted, an obvious cantilever photo opportunity presented itself.

Having summited the final hill we witnessed the unmistakable thudding of rotor blades, hovering in the distance around Snowdon. We trudged back to the hut, stopping to admire a skier make light work of the descent. Not bad for my first ascent of Tryfan!

Lady Luck was on our side for the conditions held another day, with the Pyg and Miners' track below Snowdon on the agenda for Sam and Mike. Plans for the summit were soon abandoned due to time, this confirmed our sanity unlike a few others out that day.

Sam's rapturous greeting to a person using a Stubai (wooden handle, c. 1970) – in great nick too – was a memorable part of the day combined with the fantastic views. Glissading down to the lake had to be repeated it was that much fun. A short walk back to Pen-y-Pass was followed by tea and cake (thanks Sam!).

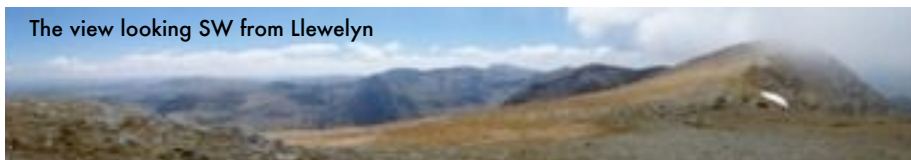
News from Members

Jon Parker and Shaun West in DRY North Wales

JP and Shaun write:

Shaun had not done any climbing in the UK for 2 years (almost to the weekend) so time to get him out of sunny. The weather forecast for Saturday was rubbish - almost so bad it was not going to be worth going out the door. However when Saturday morning arrived there was no rain, we still waited, took breakfast and another cup of coffee - then decided to go out albeit still suffering from the chili sauce on kebab from Llanwrst night before.

The view looking SW from Llewelyn



JP making a copy of the guide book

We decided to climb the East face of Tryfan via the North Buttress. Still no rain! Once we managed to find it (there are two climbs close to each other on East face Tryfan marked "nb" - the left hand one is a moderate climb - the right hand one is an easy/broken scramble with v. diff route finding) we climbed it moving together and taking the steep/direct routes. Finally we managed to get to the top, via a detour to the south. Finally we got to the top and still no rain. The mist had come down but still really very good. Even on the walk back to the Huette we stayed dry.

Dinner was a slap up dinner - almost without any meat other than two lamb chops (from New Zealand!). For the second night in a row we thought the bunkroom was full of swarming wasps (ear plugs would have been good).

Sunday morning was blazingly sunny and we could see snow! Given we'd climbed the day before we agreed to walk over the Southern Carneddau. It is a high walk of around 14km (<http://www.ukhillwalking.com/logbook/r/?i=137>). We completed the walk still in the sun! Two amazing days luckily we always take weather forecasts with pinch of salt.

The Battens in Australia

Geoffrey and Margaret Batten write:

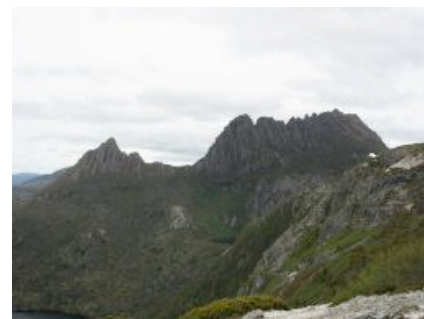
We spent six weeks in Australia last October/November, during which we made our first visit to Tasmania- only a short time before the disastrous fires there. The

Freycinet National Park occupies part of a narrow peninsula on the east coast of the island and is home to one of Tasmania's iconic images: Wineglass Bay. We walked the 11 km circuit which first took us steeply up from sea level to a lookout where we were able to look down on the perfect arc of the bay with the Tasman Sea beyond:



An even steeper path took us down to the beach itself with its pure white sand. We then crossed the thickly wooded peninsula to reach the 3 km long and completely empty Hazards Beach and from there returned to our starting point via a rocky path overlooking the sea, almost tripping over a kangaroo on the way!

Our other walking in Tasmania was to see its best known feature: Cradle Mountain (1545 m). Rising steeply from moorland, the multi-summitted rocky peak reminded us of Tryfan. We stayed in a cabin on a campsite just outside the boundary of the Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park. There is limited first come-first served parking inside the park but we used one of the frequent shuttle buses to reach the start of our walk up to Marion's Lookout (1223 m) which provides a splendid view of Cradle Mountain:



The path was also the start of the 6-8 days, 80 km Overland Track which runs from Cradle Valley to Lake St Clair. We climbed steadily through forest and past waterfalls to emerge alongside Crater Lake and then very steeply up a very rocky and broken path with fixed chains to reach Marion's Lookout perched above Dove Lake, almost 300 m below. We returned via Lake Lilla to complete our 8 km walk.

We ended our time in Australia by staying with Laura and John Hampton at Wollongong, 7 km south of Sydney. We spent two nights with them at a bed and breakfast in Leira in the Blue Mountains inland from Sydney. The scenery there is amazing: a series of plateaux at an altitude of 1000 m bounded by vertical escarpments with many waterfalls cascading down into bush-filled valleys and gorges. Laura and John sent us off to do the walk which starts above Wentworth Falls, drops down almost vertically on steps cut out from the rock:



to reach National Pass. This track undulates along the cliff face until Empress Falls where we returned to the top of the escarpment via a series of staircases attached to the rock: three hours, 3.6 km and about 700 m of ascent. When we reached the top, there was Laura with a very welcome flask of hot tea for us.

We found Laura and John in good health and very happy with their move down-under. Here they are at the end of a final walk along one of their local beaches before we left for Sydney and the flight home.



John and Laura Hampton on the beach in Tasmania

Ski touring in the Vanoise

Shaun and Shelagh write:

Monday we made a BIG error by thinking we could leave the car in the 3 Valleys and skin to the refuge. Not possible give the soft snow, lack of tracks and 100s of meters to climb. We ended up in a 4* hotel in Meribel where we were the first people to have toured to get there that year. Dinner was good and we managed not to fall asleep in our meal. We managed 2 glass of wine between us whereas the people on the next table had 2 bottles.

Tuesday we took the lifts to the top of Point de Thorens and then skinned up to the Aiguille de Peclet. The final climb to the col was a bit steep! The views from the col were fantastic. We bypassed the peak to take a nice ski down (steep fresh powder) and skin up (thanks to the French army who tracked the route up) and finally the long ski down to the refuge (24 hours late). This was all done under blue skies. When we arrived at the refuge we knew that they had had quite some snow.

Wednesday morning we could not see the skis on our feet. We skied down in the mist, trying not to fall over too much whenever we stopped skiing. We missed the bus in Pralognan-en-Vanoise so took a taxi, met Lydia for lunch and skied on and off piste all afternoon. Dinner was also great with wine (not much as we would fall asleep) and chatting.

Thursday we skied with Lydia, we think the whole of the 3 Valleys, east/west/top/bottom/on-piste/off-piste was great. Then home, almost running out of petrol on the Autobahn before getting home just after midnight. Great 4 days.



Club News

Presidents Corner:

After an excellent winter of snow allowing everybody to crack out their ice axes, summer is here (or so I'm told) and the sun cream can come out of hibernation. I write this as I'm gearing up to join the Battens in Cornwall for some climbing, walking, surfing and perhaps even Kubb (if you don't know what this is I urge you to look it up! You can't have more fun with lumps of wood).

Backstage we've been discussing two elements of the club that have been clunky in recent years, namely the website and recruitment. We now have a plan of how to go forward with the website and are working on some new features, new content and a new look. So far we're making good progress. On the recruitment front, the season is just beginning really and we'll be hassling undergraduate clubs in the coming weeks.

On both fronts we'd welcome your opinions and ideas. More importantly though, it would be great to see a few more faces on our meets, after all you (the members) make the club. We have a great meets list this summer, whether hitting the via ferrata in Italy, wandering the hills of the Brecon Beacons or taking in the stunning Llyn Peninsula.

On that note, I hope to see you on a meet soon!

Heather

Membership news from Keith Mott:

Just some stats for you to peruse. As of today the numbers are as follows:

- 26 single
- 28 family

- 1 affiliated child
- 2 overseas single
- 1 overseas family

This compares with 16, 36, 1, 2, 1 from this time last year. That's more instances but fewer heads. Curious?

If you would like another piece you could run an advert for a replacement treasurer/membership sec. Something like the following:

Seeking a new treasurer/ membership

Unique and rare opportunity for the right applicant. Flexible hours, extremely poor pay, no line manager. Would suit any age or gender with no outside interests apart from climbing. Working to deadlines and good with numbers would be definite drawback. Please apply, please. No references required.

More info contact Keith Mott.

Caseg Fraith clean

Some canny members may have noticed that Caseg is looking considerably shinier than it has in recent times. We had our first working weekend for some years at Easter and cleaned everything we could lay our hands on.

So, please, if you see Keith and Frances Mott, Andy and Elena

Charalamboulos, Stephan Tietz, Sam Hardman, Craig Rice or Mike Pollitt on a meet, be sure to thank them for their stirring work. Extra big thanks are in order for Tom Hounsham who worked his socks off on his first meet as a ULGMC member and Neil Adam, our new subwarden, for coming out at the crack of dawn to clear out the sewerage pipes.

Other News

Club Archives

Jill Bennett

In the last Newsletter, Mike Warden mentioned the episode in the early days of Caseg Fraith, when an electricity cable was laid between the hut and the Williams' farm. Members' dug a trench to bury the cable - and this was written-up as a climbing route - "Butler's Eliminate". So this seemed a good time to reprint this epic for the benefit of recent members - and especially for Tim Marshall ...

Butler's Eliminate. 470ft.
Exceptionally Severe

27th May 1962

Boots advisable. 500ft cable required.
Not recommended for small parties.

Start by hut doorway.

1) 15ft Easy spadework from storeroom to wall.

2) 100ft. Easily under the wall. This leads to an exceptionally severe group. Hand pick work leads in 50ft to an infinite boulder. Around this by a shallow traverse to the left. Somewhat easier work to stance by wall in 30ft.

3) Under the wall with some difficulty. Pleasant spade work for some 200ft to within sight of the finish. Stances etc plentiful.

4) Heavy spade work down to the stream. The route follows an obvious weakness but is usually wet and greasy. Strenuous but of no technical difficulty.

First ascent 26-27 May. R Bailey, M Esten, P Owens, B Cunningham, W Towlson, J Coote. Alternate leads.

There remains an obvious finishing patch across the stream. This is at present unled.

The first party were overcome by exhaustion at the end of the 4th patch and traversed off abandoning 400ft of cable. It is proposed that the abandoned cable be used to convey electricity to the hut from the generator at the farm but the idea seems rather far fetched.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

GRADUATE MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2012

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

Please fill out your name and any other sections, 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"/> Title <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 them to be covered, please list the name(s) and age(s) of the child(ren) under the age of 18.

<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 2012

Single	(UK) £20	<input type="text"/>	(Ex UK) £6.50	<input type="text"/>	Plus <input type="text"/> Children for BMC insurance @ £7 each
Family	(UK) £30	<input type="text"/>	(Ex UK) £8.50	<input type="text"/>	

If you wish to pay for 2012 and in advance please increase the figure as necessary and enter sum below

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 ☐

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