



Important Membership News

Important announcement: Change of address for the Membership Sec:

"I have moved to Guildford recently, which means all letters and cheques for the Membership Secretary or Treasurer have to be sent to: Top Flat, 56 Harvey Road, Guildford, GU1 3LU!"

Also if you need to change your email address for the newsletter please email: Stephan Tietz members@ulgmc.org.uk.

Forthcoming Meets

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

2014 meets

Yorkshire Dales: 12-14 September

Kim is arranging a meeting in the Yorkshire Dales for the club. Email her if you want to attend.

Contact: Kim Ashworth, kkashworth@gmail.com, 0742 517 3912

Caseg AGM and BMC safety seminar: 10-12 October

It is the AGM again and Linda has arranged for a safety seminar to help make us safer on the hills.

Contact: Linda Coombs, trojanbadger@hotmail.com, 07731 518452

Fallcliffe Bonfire weekend!! (Tim take note): 31 October - 2 November

Neil is leading the Bonfire weekend. Watch out for the fireworks and with some luck some climbing too (or biking or walking...).

Contact: Neil Brindley, nwbrindley@gmail.com, 0170 870 1724

Caseg New Year meet (Tim take note): 31 December - 4 January

Heather is arranging for the snow, good food, wine and company for New Year. The celebration should again be a good one and Caseg is one of the best places to celebrate it.

Contact: Heather Rumble, heather.rumble@googlemail.com, 0787 669 0979

Land's End: Spring 2015

There will be another Land's End meet. Please wait until November's edition when there will be more details.

Oggie 8 – fundraiser for Ogwen Valley Mountain Rescue (Andy, Stephan and Heather)



Want to submit a report?
14 November latest

Editor: Shaun West
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Meets List

Location	Date	Meet Leader	Notes
Yorkshire Dales	12-14 September	Kim Ashworth	
Caseg	10-12 October	Linda Coombs	AGM and BMC safety seminar
Fallcliffe	31 October - 2 November	Neil Brindley	Bonfire weekend!! (Tim take note)
Caseg	31 December - 4 January	Heather Rumble	

<http://www.ulgmc.org.uk/meets>

Meets and News from Members

Scottish Highlands May 2014 (unofficial report!)

John H Coote

Some 18 of us met for a week at Attadale near Loch Carron in Wester Ross, NW Scotland.

We enjoyed some superb weather which meant no time for 'rest days' so lots of peaks bagged. Most interest these days is in the Corbetts (2500ft-->3000ft) with perhaps a repeat of the odd Munro if time and energy allowed.

Starting from Achintee a circuit of the lower peaks as far as Loch nan Creadha to the east and return to Achintee gave a good day for some with fine views whilst a continuation of the track further eastwards and ending back at the Attadale cottages provided a rather more demanding long trek (15 or more miles) for others. One group decided on a seemingly benign trek over the flank of Carn Ruairidh which ended with an unplanned epic descent via the steepest and most impossible looking gully close to the Attadale cottages. The struggle provided evening viewing for many who had already got back from their trips. The presence of gorse and heather although helpful at the time proved to have harbored lots of Ticks that took the opportunity for a human meal so over the next few days removal of the embedded blighters was a major occupation for those involved.



Sgurr an Airgid, still a long way to go



Summit. (photos Trevor Hellen).

Ascent was made of Sgurr an Airgid a Corbett (841m; 2760ft) rising steeply from the southeastern end of Loch Duich, which on an almost cloudless day gave fantastic panoramic views of Highland and Hebridean peaks.

Will Butler transported a group to climb Macleods Tables in the north west of Skye near Loch Dunvegan. It took some time to find a route around the deer fencing and then a steady climb up through heather took longer than expected so the final push up to the summit of Healabhal Mor 469m was abandoned to tackle the 2 km connecting ridge to Healabhal Bheag 488m giving a total of more than 700m (2296ft) of ascent.

The last 100m or so of these peaks is amazingly steep so they are no place for tired legs. With clear blue skies and wall to wall sunshine the views were stunning particularly of the peaks on Harris and the snow covered Cuillins.



View of Macleods Tables taken near the end of the walk back from across the moorland to the right (photo John Coote)

Many other peaks were visited throughout the week but for some of us the ascent of An Ruadh stac a Corbett (892m, 2926ft) in the Coulags to the north east of Loch Carron gave a cracking last day (total ascent 1000m). The final 1000ft to the summit is dauntingly steep and is serious rock scrambling.

View of Loch Carron from Attadale with Skye Cuillins in centre background and Applecross peaks on the right. (photo G Batten).





Final 1000ft of An Ruadh stac [Trevor Hellen]



Summit An Ruadh stac [Trevor Hellen]

The week was also highlighted by a splendid party for two veterans who had reached their 80th year and then a final dinner in Lochcarron village pub. On Saturday some left for home whilst others ventured further north to either Poolewe or the Orkneys for perhaps slightly more 'leisurely' walking. In contrast Jerry hired a car and spent the next ten days or so alone bashing up more Corbetts achieving 17 in all so bringing down the number he has left to do to a mere 40.

This year also saw Will Butler finishing his long period of organising the Scottish meet and for the moment Bill Toulson with some assistance from Mike Esten will take it on for 2015. A venue has still to be decided. It remains to applaud Will Butler for his energy and enthusiasm and his incredible knowledge of Scottish mountains that has helped keep this meet on the agenda since it was started by John Parsons and Trevor Hellen some 20yrs ago.

[Those on the meet were, Will Butler; Mike and Sue Esten; Tony Gilby; John Coote; Jerry Wright; Bill Toulson; Les Bailey; Geoff and Margaret Batten; Joy and John Parsons; Liz Lindsey; Trevor and Janet Hellen; Michael Johns; Trefor Owen and Patsy].

ULGMC and ski-touring in Scotland: Spring 2014

Mike Bennett

One of the great things about ULGMC is how many young members are now joining the club. Being an older member (I had my 70th birthday last year) I thought I might write about the struggle older members have to keep active in the hills!

First, I have to confess that some of my mountaineering over the last ten years or so has been with a guide. I was very fortunate to find Bob Barton, who as well as being a very experienced guide, is great company on the hill. One thing we have in common was that both of us did a physics degree at university - though he did his at Cambridge!

In March this year snow conditions in the Cairngorms looked promising, and I arranged with Bob to have 3 days ski-mountaineering. Thus one evening found me in the lounge car of the Inverness night sleeper with a plate of Scot Rail's haggis, neaps and tatties, washed down by several beers. At 6am I was back in the lounge car for my first breakfast of the day, as dawn was just illuminating the hills around the Drumochter Pass. I got off the train at Kingussie, and after a short walk up the hill to The Cross Hotel (listed in the Good Hotel Guide and the Good Food Guide), and I was soon sitting down to my second breakfast.

Bob, who lives at Boat of Garten, arrived to collect me and we set off back to the Drumochter Pass. We only had to walk a short way up Coire Dhomain before reaching ski-able snow, and we put on our skis and skins to ascend Beinn Udlamain in glorious sunny weather. Then we traversed to Sgairneach Mhor. The descent was on a typical Scottish mixture of deep soft snow interspersed with sheets of ice, and I was pleased that I coped fairly well as I hadn't been on skis for a year.

Suddenly, on almost the last turn of the day one of my ski-bindings fell apart. We returned to Bob's car and he drove me to the Mountain Spirit shop in Aviemore, where it was tactfully suggested that some new skis and bindings would be a good idea. Thus I ended up with skis that were lighter

than my previous ones - a definite benefit given my advancing years.

Next day with the promise of more good weather we decided to cross the Cairngorm plateau to Ben Macdui. Though ski-mountaineers are not allowed on the Cairngorm funicular railway, you can buy a ski-mountaineering ticket that allows you to use drag lifts to get fairly close to the top of the pistes! From the top lift we skinned up to the summit of Cairngorm and set off across the plateau. My new skis turned out to be excellent and they were what I can only describe as very forgiving. In the good weather there were a lot of people on the plateau. One benefit of going with Bob is that he knew practically everyone we met, thus I got a break while Bob stopped for a chat.

After lunch on the summit of Ben Macdui, we returned via Lurchers Gully. By some judicious linking of snow patches we only had to take off our skis a couple of hundred yards from the Cairngorm car park.

On my last day we returned to Drumochter and ascended Geal Charn in poor visibility. On our return Bob told me the last person he took up that hill was Chris Bonnington. Bob had been checking out Chris's skiing before an expedition they were planning together!

After breakfast at the hotel next morning, the proprietors insisted on driving me the short distance to Kingussie station, where, when my train arrived, the lady station master conducted me to my carriage. On the train, minutes after I took my seat a second full Scottish breakfast appeared in front of me! I then sat back to enjoy the journey home via Edinburgh, Durham and York, enhanced by the regular appearance of more food and alcoholic beverages. What younger members have to look forward to!



Further Fabulous Fables of Fallcliffe: April

Sue Esten

The 2013 meet at Aberdaron was enjoyed so much, that we returned this year to the excellent camp site and village facilities (pubs and shops – very important as not a lot of cooking was done at the camp site in the evenings!).



Boat launch Bardsey

This year the weather was excellent, excepting that we chose to 'do' Yr Eifl (The Rivals) on a day when its tops were shrouded in cloud and it was cold and windy up there. Other parts of the peninsula were enjoying good sunshine on the same day – so it was bit frustrating that we didn't get the views we had anticipated. However it was well worth the climb as one of its summits, Tre'r Ceiri, is the site of a spectacular Iron Age hill fort. The settlement is surrounded by stone walls – mostly intact – and contains the very substantial ruins of some 150 stone houses. As last year, we walked round the end of the Lleyn peninsula – but this year had excellent weather. We also repeated our trip to Bardsey on a day when we watched the sea mist swirl and eventually envelop the island's summit, Mynydd Enlli.



Roped ascent of Mynydd Enlli

Most of us climbed Mynydd Enlli, traversing it northwards, then went round the western coast of the island, 'enjoying' the singing of the grey seals as we crossed the isthmus to reach the peninsula on which Bardsey's lighthouse stands. On the return boat trip to the mainland our boatman took us alongside the sheer cliffs which provide nesting sites to many seabirds – puffins, guillemots and razorbills, to name but a few. It was a very good day's trip – perhaps we imbibed a little of the reputed spirituality and sacredness of the island, - it was a place of

pilgrimage since the early years of Christianity. Be that as it may, the 12 participants (10 ULGMC + 2 'guests') enjoyed a very successful meet.



Lleyn peninsula

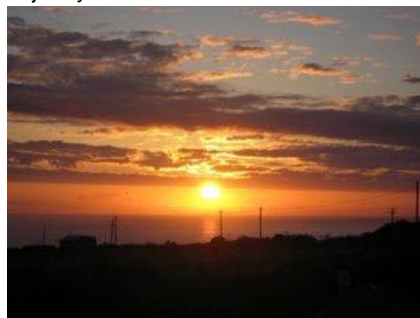
Land's End Meet: 22-28 May 2014

Margaret and Geoffrey Batten

As expected, it was the impact of GCSE, AS and A2 exams which was the reason for the very small group of nine at this year's meet at Trevedra Farm: us, Andy Charalambus and younger son Alex, Frances, Keith and Elanor Mott and Heather Rumble and Stephan Tietz. We had one day of heavy rain but also two days of glorious sunshine, both of which ended with spectacular sunsets. Most importantly, the wind remained light throughout our stay.



Heather, Stephan, Keith and Andy went rock climbing and we did some walking- standing at the old coastguard lookout above Sennen Cove under a clear blue sky it was hard to think that the waves had reached there during last winter's storms. We just had to walk on to Land's End itself after being at John o'Groats a couple of weeks earlier on our way to the Orkney Islands. There weren't enough of us to justify the traditional 'feast' in the caravan



store but we all sat down together for an evening meal on the Sunday in the Trevedra Farm café. We will look forward to a bigger group next year when exam pressure should be less.

Devon meet: 13-15 June

Mike Pollitt

We had a really enjoyable meet in Devon, staying in the Devon Speleological Society hut in Buckfastleigh. On the Saturday, in beautiful sunshine, we started off climbing at Haytor. Much as I am claiming the climbing was stiff for the grade, of all the crags in the UK it is a contender for the best outlook: 360° views around, including to the sea which is maybe 15 miles away. Also on Saturday, we then went bouldering at Bonehill Rocks. On the Sunday, we did some climbs at Sheep's Tor.



The final attempt of the Welsh 3000s (circular): June 2014

Stephan Tietz

As you are aware me and Heather (plus Mike for the inauguration) have participated in the University of London's annual "Champaign Challenge" for the last two years. This involves attempting to complete all of the Welsh 3000 foot peaks in 24 hours while starting and finishing at their hut in Nant Peris. Having failed to complete the round during the two previous years, we were determined to make things good on the third attempt or to never try again. You will be pleased to learn that this is the last report of its kind, though I won't yet tell you if we made it.

After the grand total of three and a half hours sleep we managed our earliest start so far: 3:11am. This time we opted to tackle Crib Goch first and got there at 5:28am. Via the unavoidable Garnedd Ugain, we got to the top of Snowdon and descended via the Pyg track to get to Pen-Y-Pass at 7:19am. So far so good.

We continued up and across the Glyders in a little bit of cold mist before tackling Tryfan. We reached Adam and Eve at 10:28am, where we had a little bit of lunch. Maybe we should have skipped lunch as we lost quite a bit of time on our way to



Caseg Fraith and got to the top of Carnedd Llewelyn at 2:11pm. While we were almost an hour behind our planned time, we were also ahead of the previous year plus the weather started clearing up a little bit. Maybe it was going to happen finally.

We mastered the dog leg towards Foel Fras via Foel Grach and Carnedd Gwennllian though struggled with the way back when we contoured around to Yr Elen. We got there at 5:13pm – one and a half hours quicker than in 2013, despite having avoided running – however that's when it all started going pear shaped the year before. As on cue the weather started getting worse!

We soldiered on to Dafydd and decided to descend Pen yr Ole Wen via the ridge as it had cleared up again. We got to Ogwen cottage at 8:39pm. Too late to bag the last two peaks during daylight, but early enough to think that defeat could not possibly be an option. After all, we felt still a little bit better than the previous year and we were a mere three hours behind our route card.

So, we 'raced' on and up Y Garn, which we summited in time to see the sun dip below the horizon, if only the thick mist hadn't started arriving! 10:16pm and we set off towards our last peak, Elidir Fawr. The fog created a strange eerie gloom, which meant we could still 'navigate by sight' to the last summit (i.e. we could see the faint outline of a path in the dark). We got there before midnight, at 11:20pm. The wind shelter gave us the strange temptation to just collapse as it was very quiet out of the wind. However, on we had to go – only a few more kilometres left in order to get back to the hut in Nant Peris. Surely nothing could go wrong now. Completion in under 24 hours should be possible, though friends of hours had previously gotten lost on this leg needing more than 3 hours for the descent!

We did get to the hut at 0:50am. We had covered 56.6km and 4035 meters of ascent in 21 hours and 39 minutes after we left the hut. Never again would we 'have to' walk for so long via so many mountains!

Out of 10 other starters, only one other member of the LMC completed the challenge this year taking just over 22 hours. It was his first attempt!

Snowdonia fell running challenge: Of course we didn't cash in the second bottle of "Finest" Freixenet Vintage Special, which I have set as a prize for the first person (or group) to complete the Welsh 3000s (either peak-to-peak or as a round trip) in under 24 hours. So this one is still up for grabs!

Alpine trip from the UK: June 2014

Heather Rumble

It is a bit cheeky suggesting we managed an Alpine trip this year. Numbers were looking pretty low, but determined to turn this into a tradition, we decided to join up with ULMC's trip to Chamonix in August. However, at the same time, Stephan and I realised time was ticking on for us and that if we wanted to do the Conville Course (a subsidised Alpine course for people under 30), we would need to apply sooner rather than later. We were told that no one ever gets on it anyway, so it was probably too late.

This turned out not to be true though and we did get on the course. So, the "Alpine trip" split in half, with two of us heading out to Chamonix in June for the course and Mark S, Jake and Ian joining ULMC in August.

The Conville Course was really worthwhile and for those of you who are still eligible, I would really recommend it. We learnt how to place protection in ice and snow, how to perform crevasse rescue and did some basic ice climbing. Stephan showed us all what altitude sickness looks like by losing his omelette outside the Refuge du Cosmiques, having had our first climbing experience on rock with crampons across L'Arête A Laurence traverse. We also had a bit of time by ourselves so used the opportunity to do a long walk around the Mer de Glace with the other course participants, unfortunately getting stuck in a storm whilst descending metal ladders (eep!).

We used the time wisely, plugging the club to the other participants, who were mainly (extremely enthusiastic) undergraduates. Unfortunately we missed Georgia, ULMC's President, by a few days, but have been told she really enjoyed it too.

The ULMC/ULGMC trip to Chamonix was, we hear from Mark, also a roaring success. The group completed the Midi Plan traverse as well as getting up to lots of sport climbing. We're thinking that Saas may be a good option for next year, as some of us would rather climb snow than rock. If you have any suggestions, would like to organise something or would like to come along, let us know! Tour de France: 4-6 July

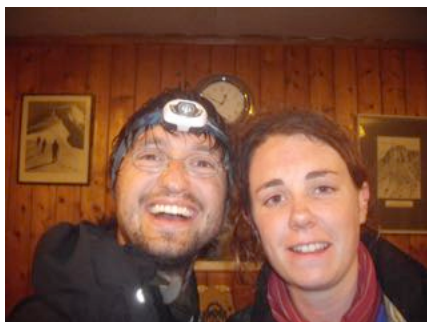
Stephan Tietz

I took over this meet from Mike H as he ended up with other commitments. Unfortunately, it seemed to be a busy weekend for a lot of people. So, in the end there were only a few of us who headed up to Fallcliffe. We spent Saturday in Edale, walking up Kinder before hitting off to Todmorden. We stayed over at Andy and Kim's place, so that we could set off across the hills early in the morning. After an hour of walking over the hills past Stoodley Pike we made it to Cragg Vale. A few more hours of waiting (and a homemade ice cream) later the first a run-away group and then the peloton shot past us. All we had left was getting back to Todmorden and fight the heavy traffic to the South. It was a nice weekend out and the mood along the route was just incredibly amazing. Certainly, a once in a lifetime experience though I still can't quite believe how quickly the cyclists passed making the "watching of the Tour de France" twenty seconds long!

Oggie 8 – fundraiser for Ogwen Valley Mountain Rescue: 1-3 August

Heather Rumble

This year Stephan and I stopped talking about it and finally registered for the Oggie 8 – Ogwen Valley Mountain Rescue (OVMRO) annual fundraiser. The challenge



is to visit all eight of the 3000ft peaks in the Ogwen Valley, racing against other teams. We signed up for this early in the year, sure that we could rope in some other ULGMCers to help us in the cause (you need a team of 4 to enter). We had lots of positive noises, but in the end only one valiant member, Andy Worster, took up the challenge and we had to get OVMRO to slightly bend the rules to let us enter!

We woke up on Saturday a little worse for wear, having arrived extremely late due to a malevolent rock dislodging itself from Pen Yr Ole Wen into the underside of our car the night before and writing it off. That trauma aside though, we mustered outside OVMRO base station, just opposite Caseg, bright and early in the pouring rain. There were 14 teams at the start, with quite a bit of congestion as we wound our way up Carnedd Llewelyn. We kept a steady pace though and had reached the summit after an hour of climbing. Yr Elen, Carnedd Dafydd and Pen Yr Ole Wen were all bagged in reasonable time despite quite miserable weather conditions. The weather started improving on the approach to Pen Yr Ole Wen and this was where the game would change as the chaps at the checkpoint informed us that we were in third position. From that point onwards we couldn't help but remember we were in a race...

We ran down Pen Yr Ole Wen, spying a group just ahead but always conscious of burning out ourselves. Two of this team were flagging, whilst two were steaming ahead. But, realising it was a team event, the trailblazers had no choice but to hang back and we overtook them on the way up Y Garn. We were now in second place! But was it to last with another half of the course to go?

Another team had dropped a member at Ogwen Visitors Centre and were now much faster. They zoomed past us on the way down Y Garn, putting us back in third place. Meanwhile, the flaggers from the previous team had been dropped, so we were neck and neck with their fitter counterparts all the way across the Glyders until they finally overtook us on the ascent to Tryfan.

At this point, Stephan and I were completely exhausted, while Andy continued to bounce ahead like an elf (and feeding Stephan with cereal bars). We pottered

down Tryfan, knowing that the teams behind us were all walking teams and that we had no way of catching the two teams we'd seen speed past us. We left the final checkpoint and started the descent down Tryfan.

Despite having lost sight of all the teams ahead of us, we started running again. Rounding the corner with the road in sight, we spotted another team! This was the team that had been in 1st place all day but had evidently been overtaken by the same two teams we had. At this point Andy said, "It's okay, they have a dog. There's no way they'll run with a dog". At that the team spotted us and started to run down the hill. Despite the protestations of my legs, we took up chase.

As we neared the end of the big stone steps descending Tryfan, Andy lost patience with his two broken teammates and ran ahead. By the time we crossed the stile, Andy could have touched the trailing member of the team in front while Stephan and I were still some 40m away. But at this point, disaster struck, with Stephan and I unable to run up the measly 10° incline between the stiles. The team in front broke away, creating a 50m gap.

At this point it was clear we'd need to sprint to catch them, but it was possible. The team ahead sped up too, with only 400m or so to the finish line. We mustered up all our strength and tore through Gwern Gof Uchaf towards the finish line until... Mme President couldn't breathe.

It was all over. We had to stop running. The other team ran up the hill to the OVMRO hut and we walked up behind, arriving 30 seconds later in 8 hours 40 minutes. Andy, with his ever buoyant cheer said, "Well, at least we know we tried as hard as we possibly could, because we broke Heather".

So, we came fourth in the end. It was really, really good fun and none of us expected it to be such an exciting race. We went with the aim of being "good neighbours" and raising the profile of the club a bit, and we certainly achieved that (we were a bit spoilt with attention to be honest).

OVMRO were amazing, manning all the checkpoints in the pouring rain, offering us sweets along the way and generally being really encouraging. We all stayed to cheer the other teams in and then OVMRO threw a brilliant party. All the other participants were lovely and we generally had a thoroughly good time.

We'll definitely be getting a team together for next year, so please let us know if you're interested. You needn't be a nutter, there were lots of walking teams and a really good atmosphere. Lastly, we raised £154.35 for OVMRO, so a big thank you to everyone who sponsored us! (And you can still do so on www.ogwen-rescue.org.uk/ sponsor/ by picking the event under Stephan Tietz.)

August Bank Holiday: 23-25 August

Heather Rumble

A less bumper than usual ABH this year, with 17 of us making our way up to North Wales. At least we didn't have to worry about an over-packed car park though! The weather was pretty ropey for the whole weekend, but we made the best of it. Mark S and Tom (ULMC) went climbing on Saturday, while Andy and Mike P went for a scramble on Idwal Staircase while Nic and Katie went for a walk. I dragged along three work colleagues, Mina, Tamsin and Peter who completed Oxfam's 100km



Trailwalker with me earlier in the year to put them through their paces in the hills! Stephan, Graham and myself took them up Tryfan via (most of) the North Ridge and then over Bristly Ridge which was a pretty long day, but they coped admirably and might even have had fun.

On Sunday, Mark S and Tom attempted to climb for a second day but their approach was longer than the bad weather managed to stay away. On making their way back to the hut though, they made the most of a break in the weather and climbed on London Rocks behind the hut. Peter, unperturbed by the previous days exploits, joined Graham for some more scrambling, while Tamsin and Mina went for a more gentle stroll around Llyn Idwal. Katie, Nic and Sarah went for a walk, whilst Stephan and myself walked up Moel Siabod, ascending and descending in clear weather but summiting to see only clouds (so much for the famous view!). The Motts joined Trefor and Patsy for a walk as well before returning to the hut to cook us all a splendiferous meal.

Monday was a complete wash-out so Mark S, Tom, Sarah, Nic, Katie, Stephan and myself headed off to Ironbridge for a mosey and a cream tea. Mike P, Mina, Peter and Tamsin went for a walk around the slate quarries and Eleanor joined the Owens at Bounce Below, the new underground trampoline centre in Ffestiniog.

All in all another enjoyable bank holiday at Caseg Fraith. We hope to see more of you next year, when better weather is bound to return to this meet!

Alpine trips from Switzerland: July and August

Shaun West

We have had a good(ish) summer, the early summer was good and the late summer has been good too. July and August were almost washouts. Here is a quick round up of the highlights.

Before the summer holidays Jakob and I took the train to the Santis and climbed on the wires down there to the Rotsteinpass from the Lucht Seilbahnstation. This is an interesting walk that benefits from a head for heights!



We then went to the Tirol (Kaunertal and the Pitztal). We stayed half-way between to Gondolabahnstations meaning we had to walk down every day over 500m - this was on top of the exercise. The kids made some climbing on the via Ferrate that were close by. We managed a trip up to the Rauhekopf hut and the following day bailed out and in doing so got wetter than we thought possible. We did find a rather good rock on the glacier.



In August a colleague and I walked from Arolla to Zermatt via the Cabane de Bertol, Tête Blanche and the Schönbielhütte before dropping into Zermatt. The weather was amazing with the fog and 10cm of fresh snow. I have never seen as much snow on glaciers in August; all but the largest crevices were filled with snow.



Further Fabulous Fables of Fallcliffe: 1970s...

Tim Marshall (and Ivor Delafield)

"Once upon a time, as all good fairy stories begin....except that this isn't a fairy story, it's something that really happened while Ivor Delafield was hut warden at Fallcliffe. When ULGMC first acquired Fallcliffe in 1969/70 it had both mains gas and mains electricity. The gas was used for cooking.

One midweek day Ivor was visiting the cottage, and as he drove into the car park he noticed another vehicle parked there, a small commercial van claiming to be East Midlands Gas (these were the good/bad old days, before Sid had appeared). As Ivor got out of his car a Man appeared along the path along the Grindleford side of the house.

"Hello" said the Man "are you anything to do with the cottage?"

"Could be" said Ivor.

"Oh good" said the Man "you see there's a problem."

"Oh, really" said Ivor "do want to come inside?"

"Yes please" said the Man, and in they went.

"What's all this about, then?" asked Ivor.

"Well" said the Man "you're on mains gas here, aren't you?"

"Yes" said Ivor "and very good it is too. Is there a problem?"

"Sort of" said the Man "you see, the main you're on was laid down in 1883 ..."

"So it's quite old, then."

"Yes. And you are the only subscriber between Grindleford and Hathersage."

"Really?"

"Yes. And every year we lose more gas through leaks from this main than you would use, ever."

"Ever? Oh dear."

"So, how would you feel if we said we wanted to cut you off?"

(Note here that if you pay your gas bills on time - which we did - legally, they can't cut you off)

"Don't like that idea" said Ivor "isn't there another main somewhere that we could link up to?"

"Well yes" said the Man "there's one the other side of the river which links Grindleford and Hathersage. That's much newer"

"Couldn't we link up with that? Put a spur across underneath the river and up here?"

"We've explored that already" said the Man, sadly "but the water bailiffs won't let us do that."

"Oh dear" said Ivor "you have got a problem, haven't you?"

"We could put one of those big gas tanks in your car park outside" suggested the Man, brightly.

"Nah, don't like that idea" said Ivor. "You've seen the size of the car park. There's barely enough room for everyone to park when they up come here at weekends, and a large tank would take up one, probably two, parking spaces. And besides" he went on, sticking the boot in "we're in the National Park here. I can't imagine that they would allow one of those storage tanks just here."

"I thought you might say that" said the Man, rather unhappily. And then, almost conspiratorially, added "How would you feel about going all electric?"

"It's expensive, isn't it?" said Ivor "not only the running of it, but all the new equipment - I mean, what do electric ovens cost nowadays?"

"Oh, you wouldn't have to pay for it, we'd pay for it, and a bit more too in compensation for having, er, cut you off."

"That's beginning to sound interesting" said Ivor "but wouldn't They know?" (The unnamed 'They' was, of course, East Midlands Electricity).

"Oh no" said the Man "They wouldn't have to know at all, you see, we've got our own electricians who would do the work."

"Right" said Ivor "have you got any information about what's available, any brochures or anything like that?"

"Yes" said the Man, and produced a brochure from East Midlands Electricity detailing the latest models then available.

Ivor then said he'd have a look at the brochure and get back to him, and the Man departed in reasonable good humour. Ivor then went off to the East Midlands Electricity office in Sheffield - we're mightily amused at the tale - to get further details of ovens and other equipment the Gas Board might be persuaded to cough up for.

And that, dear reader, is the tale of how Fallcliffe lost its gas.

Ed: How did Caseq acquire - and lose - a telephone, and how the water supply at

Fallcliffe has evolved over the years... Can anyone shed light on this?

Club News

President's Corner

Heather Rumble

The club is gaining momentum! We've beaten last year's membership total with 180 members. But it's a closer inspection of the names on that list that are so important. More and more members are joining the club who regularly attend meets and this is a really encouraging sign. The committee have spent a long time talking about ways to recruit members and have come up with a range of ideas, from helping with undergraduate climbing competitions to offering discounts for first year joiners. Whilst we're keen to develop these initiatives further in the coming year (after all, we're not there yet!), it's really good to see members helping by turning up, inviting friends and most importantly just having fun.

We've had some really successful meets this year. Caseq meets continue to draw large crowds, with around 20 people turning up to most weekends. Fallcliffe has been better used this year than in the past but still needs support from members. We have had great turn-outs for joint meets with ULMC at Fallcliffe and would urge more people to come along to meet our sister club. New and ad-hoc trips continue to be a mixed bag, but we will continue to run them as, after all, variety is the spice of life. Yorkshire is still to go and it looks to be a fantastic weekend!

While we've been supporting as many meets as we can, we've also been gathering opinions on the current constitution and have tried to reflect these in our new draft version. This will be circulated within the next week. We think we've brought it up to date and made it robust enough for the next few years.

So, on with a new year. We'll be continuing website development and recruitment in 2014/15 as these jobs are still ongoing priorities. We will also be continuing to strengthen our relationship with ULMC and supporting the huts, particularly Fallcliffe. We do need your help though and are looking for people to join us, either by supporting with odd jobs or joining the committee proper. So, if you love ULGMC and want to get involved more (or just spend more time with the lovely people on the committee), let me know!

And, for the coming ULGMC year, happy climbing!

Heather

Membership Sec and Treasurer report

Stephen Tietz

I have been so busy climbing and running across mountains that I didn't quite notice that my first AGM as a treasurer has already snuck up on me. As such, I'm a little bit behind where I wanted to be, but one thing after the other.

Firstly, we have managed to slightly increase our membership from 176 to 180 members this year. This is composed of 60 joint/family instances (4 overseas and 2 children), 45 single instances (2 overseas) and 13 honorary/life-time members. As most of you are aware, I have had quite a few problems printing membership cards and sadly I have still to find a (non-ink) printer which either accepts thick card or a company which does it cheaply. Any volunteers to take on this job are welcome, so that hopefully all cards can go out in a timely manner next year!

Also, the BMC has informed us that they will be raising their liability insurance by £1.50 per head to £13.25. This means increased costs to the club of £1.50 per single membership and £3 for a joint membership. Over the last years singles have contributed an overly high proportion to the clubs income: £8.25 per instance versus £6.50 per instance. Or to put it even more plainly a single paid £8.25 towards the club and each joint member only £3.25.

We do have slightly lower overheads for joint memberships as we only send out one membership card for two people. However, this does not equal £5 per person. Therefore, I propose to finance the increased cost of BMC liability insurance by only raising the joint membership subscription by £5. That means membership fees for singles stay £20 and joint members will pay £35, i.e. a £5 discount over two single memberships. The contribution towards the club will then be £6.75 from a single and £8.50 from a joint instance (£4.25 per head, still less than a single member). I hope that is a compromise everyone can live with.

The second announcement I want to make is with regards to the accounts. Both, our major incomes (membership fees) as well as our major expenses (BMC liability insurance) cover a calendar year. In order to account for any losses or profits properly, it will make sense to align our accounting period accordingly. I know that this means that accounts for the previous year won't be approved by the AGM until 9 months later and this is the reason Keith changed the accounting period to go from October to September. I will present rewritten accounts for 2013 and a forecast for 2014 at the AGM.

If you do have any comments about these changes, please email (members@ulgmc.org.uk) or telephone (07984 583146, evenings and weekends) me prior to the AGM. Whilst we're happy for some discussion to happen on the night, I'm sure everyone is also looking forward to getting to enjoy a fabulous dinner at the Royal Oak sooner rather than later!

Meets Secretary Report

Linda Coombs

We have had lots of successful meets this year, in all corners of the country. Come rain or shine us ULGMCers have been out there walking, climbing, running, drinking beer etc. Thanks to all those who have organised or attended meets this year.

Call for Meets!

As always, by signing up to lead a meet, there is no obligation to volunteer again next year, similarly those who have held meets in the past should not feel obliged to continue, unless they wish to. If you want to lead a meet, please email me with the location and dates you're planning so that I can include them in the list for next year.

Club committee contact details

Committee

President - Heather Rumble

07876690979

president@ulgmc.org.uk

Vice President - Mike Hale

Mikejhale+ulgmc@gmail.com

Secretary - Mike Pollitt

(standing in until a replacement is found)

secretary@ulgmc.org.uk

Meets Secretary - Linda Coombs

meets@ulgmc.org.uk

Treasurer/ Membership Secretary - Stephan Tietz

members@ulgmc.org.uk

Committee members without portfolio

Sue Darling sdarling521@hotmail.com

Mark Stitson mark@stitson.com

Keith Mott saymellon@gmail.com

Neil Brindley nwbrindley@gmail.com

Jill Bennett Club archivist

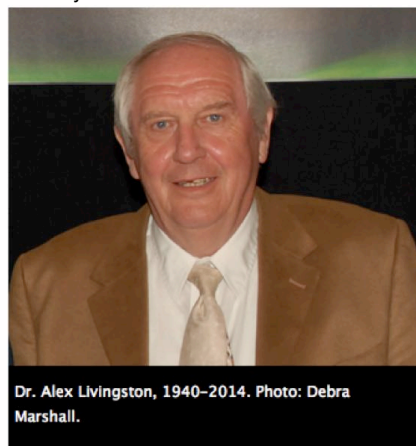
jill.bennett@waitrose.com

Shaun West Newsletter editor

editor@ulgmc.org.uk

Obituary for Alex Livingston

John Coote writes that Alex Livingston, B.Sc, B.Vet.Med., Ph.D., FRCVS, Dip. ECVPT a prominent figure of ULMC and ULGMC in the 60s and 70s died in June of this year 2014, ten days short of his 74th birthday.



Dr. Alex Livingston, 1940–2014. Photo: Debra Marshall.

Alex joined the ULMC in 1959. He was a

keen rock climber exploring cliffs throughout the UK but was particularly active on the limestone of Clifton and Cheddar gorge as well as the sea cliffs of Cornwall. For those of us who had the pleasure of climbing with him he will be remembered for his willingness to tackle seemingly impossible lines often spending a whole day sometimes falling off before working them out. He was kind and thoughtful and had a great sense of humour. He was famous for his stories telling of memorable moments sometimes exaggerated but great entertainment nonetheless.

Alex graduated from London University in 1962; he went on to receive his veterinary medical degree and MRCVS in 1964 and his PhD from the University of Bristol in 1968. Alex continued working at The University of Bristol Veterinary School until 1992. He then moved to Canada to take up the position of Dean at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine at The University of Saskatchewan where he remained until retiring in 2007. He had a distinguished career becoming a Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (FRCVS) in 1993 and Diplomat of the European College of Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology in 1999. Alex was recognized for his leadership and research advances in the areas of animal pain, animal welfare and pharmacology of analgesics and was awarded the Merit Grand Prize for Outstanding Research Program in Animal Pain in 2001. He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Sue Livingston and sons Alex, Andy, Ian, daughter Kate, and grandchildren, Ellie, Stephanie, and Adam.

ULGMC AGM 2014

Saturday, October the 11th 2014

**The Royal Oak Hotel,
Betws y Coed,
LL24 0AY**

Dear ULGMC members,

It is my pleasure to invite you to the ULGMC AGM and Dinner 2014, taking place at
The Royal Oak from 6pm. Dinner will be at 8pm.

Three courses with coffee will cost £25.00.

If you would like to attend the dinner, please do **one** of the following, **by the 1st of October**:

1. Fill out and print the form below detailing your **three** choices (one from each section) and return to me (address below) along with a cheque made payable to **Linda Coombs**.
2. Email me your **three** choices and I will send you my bank details for transfer of your payment. My email address is trojanbadger@hotmail.com

There will be limited accommodation available at Caseg for the nights of the 10th and 11th. This is a short distance from the hotel, and costs £6 per person per night. If you would like to reserve any spaces in the hut, please specify in the form below, payment arrangements and deadline are the same as for the meal.

I will also book a taxi for people between Caseg and the Royal Oak, please indicate whether I should book a taxi for you (payment for this will be taken on the day).

I hope to see you all in October!

Linda Coombs, Meets Secretary

**07731518452 – trojanbadger@hotmail.com
C/O Paul Sims 12A Wilroy Gardens, Southampton, SO16 9WF**

ULGMC AGM and Dinner 2014, Saturday, October the 11th, at The Royal Oak Hotel, Betws y Coed

Please select **one choice** for each of the **three courses**
If multiple people are answering on one sheet, please enter a name

Name(s):

	Yes	No
I/we would like to attend the 2013 ULGMC AGM dinner at The Old Dungeon Ghyll	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	10th	11th
I/we would like to reserve space in Caseg	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Yes	No
I/we would like to reserve space in the taxi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Starter

Cream of Roast Beetroot and Apple Soup	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rilletto of Slow Cooked Duck with Orange Jelly Peppered Frisse, Crostini Toast	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fricasse of Garlic Button Mushrooms finished with Baby Leaf Spinach	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fanned Galia Melon with Homemade Fruit Sorbet	<input type="checkbox"/>

Main

Prime Roast Welsh Beef, Horseradish Yorkshire Pudding, Pan Gravy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Baked Fillet of Cod on Puy Lentil and Root Vegetable Casserole	<input type="checkbox"/>
Steamed Breast of Chicken stuffed with Chorizo Sausage & Leek Mouse set on Fine Cut Ratatouille	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feta & Butternut Squash Risotto with Cherry	<input type="checkbox"/>

Pudding

Chef's Classic Sticky Toffee Pudding, Butterscotch Sauce	<input type="checkbox"/>
Blueberry & Welsh Honey Cheesecake	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vanilla Poached Pear with Hot Chocolate Sauce, Chocolate Ice Cream	<input type="checkbox"/>

Coffee or Tea

I enclose a cheque for _____ or
I will arrange a payment for _____ by email
07731518452 – trojanbadger@hotmail.com
C/O Paul Sims 12A Wilroy Gardens, Southampton, SO16 9WF

ULGMC AGM Agenda 2014

Draft Agenda

The 64th Annual General Meeting of the University of London Mountaineering Club (ULGMC) will take place at 6 pm on Saturday 11th of October 2014 at the Royal Oak, Betws-Y-Coed

1. Apologies for absence

2. *Adoption of the agenda

3. Minutes of the 2013 AGM

- a) *Adoption of the draft minutes
- b) Matters arising

4. Finance

- a) Treasurer's report and presentation of accounts 2013 and 2014 to date
- b) *Adoption of the 2013 accounts
- c) *Agreement on membership subscription rates for 2015
- d) *Authorisation for expenditure of funds 2015

5. Other reports

- a) President
- b) Secretary
- c) Membership Sec
- d) Meets Sec
- e) Hut wardens/trustees
- f) BMC area meetings

6. Programme for 2015

- a) 2015 meets programme
- b) *Date of next AGM

7. *Election of new committee

- a) President (currently Heather Rumble)
- b) Vice-President (currently Mike Hale)
- c) Secretary (currently Mike Pollitt)
- d) Treasurer/Membership Sec (currently Stephan Tietz)
- e) Meets Sec (currently Linda Coombs)
- f) Committee members (currently Neil Brindley, Keith Mott, Sue Darling, Mark Stitson)

8. *Other elections

- a) Scrutineer of ULGMC accounts
- b) BMC representatives
- c) ULMC representative

9. *Review of constitution

10. Any other business

** means a decision is required by the AGM*