



Ascending the Allalinhorn via the Hohlaurat on the ULGMC Alps Trip

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It's a great chance to meet other members and shape ULGMC into the club that you want. And the grub is great!!!



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Seeking a fulfilling role in the outdoor sector?
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Secretary - - Newsletter editor - -

Committee members without portfolio

Being a ULGMC committee member is a great way to boost your organisational, leadership, team-working and social skills. As a committee member of nearly 9 years I can genuinely say, it's really satisfying, particularly while we are seeing a new influx of members.

So, as the green cross code man's voice double once said, "Join me, and together we can rule the galaxy!"



Heather Rumble: president@ulgmc.org

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Want to submit a report?
29th Oct '16 at the latest

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Upcoming Meets

21-23 Oct, Snowdonia 2016 AGM

This year's AGM takes place at The Royal Oak, Betws-y-Coed, invitations are at the back of this newsletter. Please return these by the 1st of October.

Sam Hardman: meets@ulgmc.org.uk



4-6 Nov, Fallcliffe Bonfire Weekend

An annual fire and food-filled knees up at Fallcliffe Cottage. Not to be missed!

Keith Mott: saymellon@gmail.com



30 Dec-2 Jan, Caseg Fraith New Year

Meet

See the year out in style with New Year at Caseg Fraith.

Elanor Mott: elanor.bookworm@gmail.com



Meet Reports

South Downs Walk with ULMC

Heather Rumble

After the success of January's South-East day walk, we decided to make it a more regular thing. This time Stephen Olivant treated us to a walk in the South

Downs National Park, just outside Petersfield. We even had a theme, with Stephen giving us a tour of the local arts and craft movement architecture that adorns this area.



We had a good number again, including some ULMC members, some prospective members and a few of my work colleagues from the University of Portsmouth. Stephen led us away from the Butser Hill side of the North Downs, taking us up Mutton Hill from where there are wide ranging views of the Downs. There is also a memorial here of the famous war poet Edward Thomas, whose many poems about the countryside were presumably inspired by the local area.



We lunched in a pub en route, where we were allowed to eat our sandwiches as long as we bought a beer – what a chore! And then continued our circular route back to Petersfield via a village fete where we ate ice cream and pondered on the strange compere - a burly man in a dainty dress and wig...

A most entertaining walk and thanks go to Stephen for organising it. The next walk will be in London and

I have been told includes a brewery... Watch this space for details.



Cornwall

Heather Rumble

A lucky year in Cornwall this year, with not a drop of rain as far as I remember. This year Margaret Batten had broken an ankle, so the Battens stayed down in Sennen while the Motts, Charalamboli and Stephan and I stayed up at the campsite. ULMC were also there with a minibus of keen climbers!

We spent quite a lot of time eating on this year's trip, treating ourselves to ice cream, fish and chips AND a dinner at the camp site restaurant.



We arrived late-ish on Saturday thanks to some horrendous bank holiday traffic from our stop-off in Exeter. So we joined the others for a stroll down to the beach, where we were greeted by the biggest pod of dolphins any of us have ever seen. Elanor (who had a view from above) counted at least 30, including

babies. It was delightful watching them swim in and out of the surfers.



Stephan and I attempted to run from the campsite, down to St Levan and back via the coastal path on Sunday. The cross-country paths are a bit of an adventure to say the least, sometimes disappearing, sometimes crossing fields of crops and sometimes hemmed in between old walls and strangled by brambles and nettles. So, I was somewhat less enthusiastic about the run by the time we got to Lands End and we slowed to a walk. It was a lovely route though, highly recommended for a day out.

On Monday we went to Porthcurno as a big group and I alarmed everyone by swimming in what was, apparently, a freezing cold sea. I tried to investigate a passing seal, but they were having none of it and slinked off into the deep.



We didn't really see ULMC as they were, in stark contrast to us, actually out climbing from dawn until dusk. They spent the weekend at Bosigran and literally arrived after 10pm every night having been benighted on climbs. Hats off to them... Perhaps next year we might achieve a balance between their keenness and our extreme relaxation!

This was the last year that the Battens will be running the Cornwall meet, with the helm being taken over (I think!) by the Motts. A big thank you to the Battens, who have been running this meet for over 20 years and have kept it so successful.

Scotland

John Coote

Attended by John Coote, Geoff and Margaret Batten, John and Joy Parsons, Will Butler, Bill Towlson, Les Bailey, Liz Lindsey, Michael Johns, Mike and Sue Esten, Sue Darling, Tony Gilby, Geoff Williams, Janet and Trevor Hellen, Trefor and Patsy Owen plus Dave Smith an associate.

The traditional Spring meeting of ULGMC older members, this year was held at the 'holiday park' on the side of Loch Linhe just outside Fort William. Twenty of us including divided ourselves into four chalets that appeared luxurious but sleeping and cooking space was limited and hardly more than a good tent for those that did not have the double bedroom. The weather was like high summer and I suspect the campsite in Fort William would not have been a bad option. Nonetheless in general the accommodation was very up market compared to the meets of our youth. Various of us arrived by different means, some by car, some by train, one, Geoff Williams, by walking the West Highland Trail from Glasgow 96miles or 151Km and another Jerry Wright having soloed the seven Corbetts in the Borders and another near the Kingshouse in Glen Coe on his way to Corpach. Such achievements by eighty year olds have to be admired. Once at Corpach Jerry was joined



Joy Parsons, Geoff Batten and John Parsons having lunch on the Glen Finnan ascent.

by Dave Smith a retired RAF veteran and mountain rescue team member. Together they added another six Corbetts making 14 in all leaving Jerry with 18 to do, and so to join Dave in completing them all (221 in total). I should add that that like many of the group both have done all the 282 Munros. Virus infections limited the extent of activity for a few but a number of good mountain walks in the area were much enjoyed by all despite this. For example, Glen Finnan (photo above) and the track up to the North Face of a very snowy Ben Nevis.



Geoff B and Geoff W negotiating the hazards of alternative route around Inchcree.

One adventurous day was spent by MJ, JHC, GB and GW who decided on an alternative high-level circular route to view the spectacular Inchree Waterfalls. It turned out that the track we were on did not join up with a parallel return route so to reach this we struggled through dense hillside forest avoiding rocky

chasms and water on a steep forest floor that was fairly treacherous underfoot ably led by MJ and followed with protest and trepidation by GW at the rear. As seen in photo above, we successfully emerged onto the return track.

We eventually did get to the Falls, which swollen by the melting snow, were worth the effort.



This was not the end of our venture because we found the road back to Fort William was blocked by an overturned lorry loaded and with spilt Tarmac which meant, a ferry crossing of Loch Linnhe at Inchree and a long return car journey round Loch Eil to Corpach after, of course, a visit to the Inn at Corran. A trip by ferry from Arisaig to the Isle of Muck made a notable day with great views of Eig and the mountains of Rhum and good interesting walks on the island. MB with her broken ankle and crutches seemed to nimbly board the ferry but on the return the tide being out meant that she has to overcome an ascent of an extended and uneven swaying walkway. She managed this backwards after another passenger advised her that this would be easier and so it proved. The marvelous weather tempted six of the group to take the train to Malaig and a boat trip to Canna, which allowed a two hour walk on the island. In good

weather and sea conditions this gave mind-boggling views of Rhum and the Cuillins of Skye. A popular 'rest day' route was Neptune's Staircase' at Banavie on the Caledonian canal. It's likely when this newsletter comes out that MJ will be crewing on a 'Tall Ship' passing through the canal from Gairloch. For some of us the completion of all four compass points for furthest north, south, east and west on the British mainland was achieved by getting furthest west by a visit to the Lighthouse at Ardnamurchan. The ascent of this by the 140 steps to the top at 36m was rewarded by stunning views. Others took advantage of the glorious weather to explore peaks that they had not climbed before. One was Beinn Tee a Corbett just shy of being a Munro at 2966ft, which Trevor Hellen and Michael Johns enjoyed after being dropped off by Will Butler who had to make a trip to Inverness. Beinn Tee is considered one of the finest Corbetts because of its position near Loch Locky giving great views of the highlands, no photos I am afraid. Liz, I believe managed at least one Munro as well as other tops with others in the group so although several of us failed to get to a mountain summit we did try to keep up the idea that we are a in a mountaineering club.

Welsh Coastal Paths

Sue Esten

The meet took place at the same good camp site near Dolgellau (Dolgamedd is its name) that we used last year, 9 of us being present. We might have been more had the weather forecast been better – sadly it was one of those situations where one is told, on arrival, "Oh, you ought to have been here last week".... You may remember the tables being turned and Wales having basked in sunshine whilst much of the country was grey and wet. As I commented last year in my report there are plenty of things to do in this area for a group of oldies like us. On the Tuesday we set off in the rain and explored an area south of the Mawddach estuary – a circular route that took us to

the Cregennan Lakes and back along the Mawddach trail.



The large amount of rain that had fallen meant that the streams were in full spate and the waterfalls magnificent. Although the day was wet we were never soaked through – the rain was patchy and never heavy – until the evening once again. It’s a very attractive walk, though it could well have been improved by using a different starting place in Arthog which would have saved a slog along the A493 and a mile or so of the Mawddach trail. The next two days had their improving features in that they involved use of two of the narrow gauge railways of the area! The first was the Talylyn railway which we caught from Dolgoch to the end of the line at Nant Gwernol. We walked up beside Nant Gwernol river – absolutely magnificent with cascades abundant – to the old quarry of Bryn-Eglwys from where the goal was Tarrenhendre on the ridge which stretches towards the coast at Towyn. After a certain amount of difficulty navigating through the forest above the quarry, the party split with one group heading back to Abergynolwen, and the other eventually reaching the top of Tarrenhendre. Then came a boggy walk to reach the track which eventually brought us down to the road a short distance from Dolgoch. A good, somewhat varied in terrain, day even if finding the way at various times had been problematical! Our last day of walking was led by Mary Bolt who, with husband George, lives in the area. She took us from Tan-y-Bwlch, through the woods and pastures and old mine workings above the

Ffestinog railway, from which we had stunning views of the Afon Dwyrdd estuary, to Penrhyndeudraeth.

From here we caught the train back to Tan-y-Bwlch where we finished the day in admirable style with a cream tea at the station café. It was a good meet in less than ideal conditions - I think we all ought to give ourselves a pat on the back!



The Alps

Heather Rumble

Attended by Heather Rumble, Stephan Tietz, Mark Stitson, Ian Ross, Tom Korrison, Jamila Haynes (all ULGMC (ish), Laurence Knowles, Rob Hardy, Francis Hardy, Emily Boorman (ULMC), Will Hardy (Liverpool University MC), Britta Horstmann

This year’s Alps trip returned to Saas Fee, Switzerland, having eyed up lots of potential routes last year. There were 12 of us this year, including ULGMC members, ULMC members and some guests both from the UK and abroad. We also happened to coincide with a small group of London MC members who joined us for some of our adventures.



The weather was a lot better this year, with less rain so much more potential to get up some good peaks. We started the trip with a group refresher on ropework above the Kreuzboden Station. We had three people new to mountaineering this year, so this served as a basic lesson for them as well as a refresher and acclimatisation day for the rest of us.



Eight of us stayed up high, sleeping at the Weissmieshütte for the night. The next morning we set off for the summit of the Lagginhorn (4010m), via the normal route, as our first peak for the trip. This involves a short glacier crossing, before slogging up what can only be described as a mountain of choss with lots of rockfall. Most of the group made the top, but the group I was in only got as far as the 3800m (ish) mark. I'm told the top was very lovely and interesting, but my verdict on the Lagginhorn is it wasn't that great considering the rather worrying amount of rockfall!



Back down in the valley, Rob and three of our new mountaineers made it up the Allalinhorn (4027m) via the normal route. They had a great day out and this lovely peak proved a great testing ground for their new skills.

The Allalinhorn was to be our next peak as a group too, but this time tackling it via the Hohlaubgrat on the East ridge. Again we were eight, with two groups of four including two of our new mountaineers. The Hohlaubgrat starts somewhat abruptly if taking the train up to the start, with climbers being kicked out of the first train into a tunnel sticking out of the side of the mountain. A scree pile is negotiated onto the glacier, which is truly beautiful and leads to some interesting steep snow/ice slopes. The route finishes with a rock step, which seems to be notorious for accumulating queues of people below it (as happened to some of the group last year too). It's not particularly challenging and had some new bolts this year to protect it. All of us made it up and back down the normal route, though the route was quite challenging for our two newbies. I think they were pleased they had done it though!



While some of us were on the Hohlaubgrat, Rob, Emily and Britta, another new mountaineer, ascended the Weissmies (4023m) via the South-South-East ridge from the Almageller hut. This year the snow conditions on the Weissmies were more favourable, with the pair using a lot more snow than rock on the

way up and able to return via the normal route to the Hohsaas cable car (this was a death trap last year). Rob reported that the huge crevasses on the normal route were simply spectacular.

At the same time, the Hardy boys (Will and Francis) tackled the Jegigrat, a long climb and ridge traverse appending the Jegihorn (I think, correct me if I'm wrong). They tackled the first few pitches admirably considering the grade, before deciding that was quite enough for them for that day.



For our third big peak day (still in week one - the weather really was great!), the groups split again. Ian, Laurence and Will decided that it was time to push their grade and spent a very long day on the Portjengrat Traverse. This is a very long (8 hours ish) rock route that follows the ridge line between Switzerland and Italy. The boys had a great day out, getting lost relatively little and keeping to guide book time. They were pretty exhausted when they got back though!

Meanwhile, Stephan and I ascended the Nadelhorn (4327m), having spent the night at the Mischabelhütte. This was a real test for Stephan, who suffers very badly from altitude sickness. But he managed to keep the sickness at bay and we had a smooth ascent and descent back down to the valley.

This route was really spectacular – the views across to the Weissmies and beyond were breathtaking and the recent snow meant that we had our first experience clawing a steep slope. My only criticism is that this peak attracts lots of novice mountaineers, despite the

long ascent via staples up to the hut. This made some of the more tricky sections a little frustrating, even dangerous at times.



We had a week to go and the weather turned, with one day of heavy snow and a big temperature drop. With such a good week leading up to it, some of us had been too busy mountaineering to tick off some of our other ambitions, like going for a run, hike or swim. So for most of us, our peak bagging was over. But the youngsters (Will, Laurence, Emily and Francis) were still thirsty for more, so went to the Mischabelhütte with hopes of summiting the Lenzspitze (4294m). The previous day's snow meant that this wasn't really safely possible though, so the group instead opted for the Nadelhorn. We think they had a good time, though the drop in temperature made the last rock section pretty unpleasant and a hasty retreat was made before Emily lost her ears!

So a good number of high peaks summited but, even better, we got some of our new mountaineers up some quite significant peaks. It wasn't all high peak bagging though and lots of other activities went on too.

Tom and Jamila did the classic via ferrata up the Jagihorn. Again, this was a new experience for them and they found it enjoyable but tough. Mark and Britta walked the Grachen to Saas Grund path that Stephan and I had so enjoyed the previous year. We

also walked as a big group up to the Antrona Pass, which takes you through two stunning valleys and up onto a high and very cold ridge walk between Switzerland and Italy. The Hardy's, Emily and Britta also wild-camped in one of these valleys on the last night.



Mark, Stephan and I enjoyed a very nice day at a spa racing down the flume! And we have also instigated a ULGMC Monster Trotti Team. For those that don't know, Monster Trotti's are wide-wheeled off-road push-scooters. A group of us hired them from Kreuzboden and raced down into the valley. It was really good fun, though when they say "Don't push the front brake too hard", they really do mean it and Laurence found out the hard way!



So overall a smashing Alps trip that I hope we can be even more successful in next year. I will be taking a break from running it next year but have had a few volunteers to organise it already. So watch this space, and if you are interested in coming along or helping organise next year's meet, please send me an email – president@ulgmc.org .

August Bank Holiday

Heather Rumble

This years ABH was run by Graham Cunningham for the first time and was really good fun. In attendance were the Motts, me and Stephan, the Hardy's, Neil Brindley and his guest, Simon and Elizabeth Hills, Mark Stitson and Tom Smith. Oh, and three dogs, which was interesting at times!

I was feeling a bit broken from the Alps (running down from the Mischabelhütte turned out to be not such a good idea after all), so Stephan and I curtailed our running plans and scouted some more of the Paddy Buckley Round at a leisurely pace. On Saturday we walked up to Carnedd Llewelyn via the path behind the OVMRO to scout Pen Yr Helgi-Du and Pen Llithrig-Y-Wrach and bumped into Mark and Tom who had spent the morning on Amphitheatre Buttress. We walked with them for a time before parting ways and meeting Mark for a pint in Plas-Y-Brenin, which is always a highlight of Caseg meets for me!



On Sunday the two of us ascended Crib Goch via the North Ridge (the best way up Crib Goch!) and scouted another section of the PBR we haven't done before, from Crib y Ddysgl to Moel Ellio and down into Llanberis, taking in a few other peaks on the way (Moel Cynghorion, Foel Goch and Foel Gron). Some of these are a bit featureless and were a bit dull in the fog, but it was really exciting walking past Cloggy as I have never actually seen it. In general, the PBR

seems a bit too daunting (it's a bloomin' long way!) but it has been really fun exploring new areas of Snowdonia that we might not have seen otherwise. We have scouted most of the route now and are thinking of doing over a couple of days to fill in the few little blanks missing. Let us know if you would be interested in joining us!

We spent Monday bouldering at RAC boulders with Will and Francis. Both had a good crack at The Pump Traverse while Stephan and I loafed about in the sun!

In general, everyone got some good walking, scrambling and climbing done. I think the Cniefion Arete featured somewhere, as did ice creams in Beddgelert and, as usual, a sumptuous communal meal cooked by Mrs M. Yum!

Fancy running a new meet?

Contact the meets secretary:

meets@ulgmc.org.uk

Club News

New Committee Members

Please welcome to the committee Graham Cunningham!

Graham will be joining us as the new meets secretary until the AGM, when he will also be standing for the role. Graham will be organising the meets list and co-ordinating the AGM organising committee.



A number of other committee members are stepping down. Sue Darling is retiring from her role as a CMWP after over 10 years on the committee. Sue was

President of the club from 2009 to 2012 as well as having served as meets sec and in the last few years a CMWP. I certainly couldn't have functioned on the committee without her and wish her a happy and well deserved retirement from ULGMC.

Keith Mott will also be stepping down to concentrate on other roles within the club. Keith was meets sec in 2008 and treasurer until very recently. He has remained an organised and motivating member of the team and we wish him well in his new capacity.

Neil Brindley is also stepping down after many years as a CMWP and a brief spell as treasurer. Neil has been a valued member of the team, helping us come up with new ideas for the club and ensuring no one has an empty glass at committee meetings!

We will miss you all!

AGM 2016

This year the AGM takes place back in Snowdonia at The Royal Oak Hotel on the 22nd of October at 6pm. Your invitation is at the [back of this newsletter](#). Please complete and return to Sam Hardman (who is kindly orchestrating while Graham settles in) by the 1st of October.

This year there will be no changes to the constitution, but members may nominate a proxy voter on the new committee positions. To nominate someone to vote on your behalf, please email or snail mail the Secretary, Mike Pollitt (pollitt@talk21.com) by the 12th of October stating who you would like to vote on your behalf. The nominations for this years AGM are outlined in the [AGM agenda](#) appended to this newsletter.

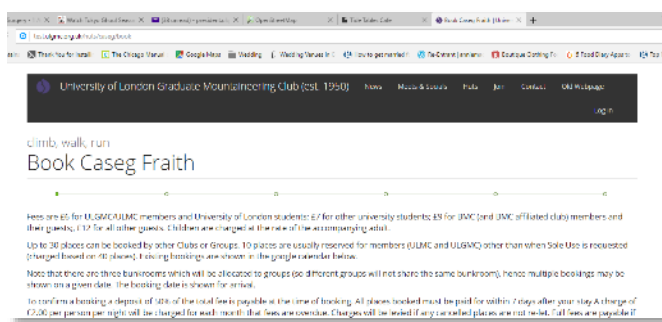
Presidents Report

It's been an eventful few weeks to end the year, particularly with the BMC's rebrand. I've said more on this in a [separate section](#), but the attempted move to "Climb Britain" by the BMC reminds us all that change

is inevitable and that as both a club and a sport, we have to move with the times.

On that vein, I have decided that it's time to bring some fresh ideas on to the committee and so won't be standing for President at the 2017 AGM. As some of you may have noticed, I have reported varying figures for my time served... Perhaps already a sign that I've done it for too long! I have now finally confidently worked it out and I am entering my 9th year on the ULGMC committee and think it's time for someone else to take the reigns. I do still plan to be involved in the running of the club if I am still wanted though!

What have we achieved this year and what are the plans and challenges for my final year? Whilst I know you are all probably sick of hearing this, we have made good progress with the website this year. Stephan and others have been slaving away and you will notice that it is now a lot easier to book huts at the last minute, with an online calendar and the new keypads at both huts. We think this could really benefit our members and hopefully attract new ones.



We have had quite a bit of change on the committee, with members moving to running the huts and new members entering the committee. This is really great and will inject a new set of ideas and enthusiasms into the club governance.

As with the last few years, we have mainly focussed on strengthening our bonds with ULMC and diversifying our meets program. This is working really well and we have had the most mixing of the two

clubs on trips yet. The Alps trip was probably the highlight of the year in these terms and we have had several new members join just to come on this trip. It has taken four years to build up the inertia, but I think we could be there.

Challenges for the future? As with all UK clubs, attracting members is the key issue. We have been getting steadily better at this and have had lots of new members join this year simply through finding us on the web and coming along to London socials and meets. This isn't quite sustainable yet, so we have started reaching out again to other London undergraduate clubs in the hope that some of them may join us each year. This is a work in progress, but with new ideas coming from Graham and Robbie (as new committee members), I think we can try out some new techniques this year, such as sponsoring the London Undergraduate Bouldering Event and being a little more persistent in getting our posters up in climbing walls.

For me, finding us a new leader for the coming year will also be something I focus on. Governance of the club is a real challenge. It's been so refreshing having volunteers come forward to join us on the committee this year, but it would be even better to see a wider variety of members at the AGM helping decide the future of the club. If we cannot do this, we may need to review how we make those decisions as a club and if the AGM is fit for this purpose. My ambition for the 2017 AGM? To have some new members at the AGM and at least one contested position for a committee member! Wish me luck.

Membership Sec & Treasurer's Report

Stephan Tietz

Another successful year for ULGMC is nearing its end.

I am not sure what my personal highlight of the year was. It is either the Great Lakeland 3 day Mountain Marathon with Heather and Mike Hale during which

we got both sunburned on snowy Hellvelyn and chilled to the bone near Honiton slate mines. Or most excellent Alps trip where we added a few more notches to our 4000s list.

However, almost as exciting as scaling mountains is to oversee the development of the club as part of the committee. And in a few weeks everyone has the chance to add their own ideas during this year's AGM where we will decide what we are going to do in the year ahead. I think Heather will be giving you a sneak peak of what to expect in her report, which for both us will be the last AGM before we step down from our respective officer roles.

So, without further ado, I will summarise this year's membership numbers and finances. Membership numbers continue to be stable. So far, we have 166 members for 2016 (composed of 43 joint/family instances incl. 4 overseas, 50 single instances incl. 6 overseas, 6 children and 14 honorary/life-time members), compared to 175 members in 2015. This is split into 152 who renewed and were also members in 2015, 8 members who had temporarily lapsed and have now rejoined and 6 completely new members (i.e. there are 29 members who have not renewed since 2014, only 2 of them joined in 2015). The number of people who opted to pay by direct debit has also further increase, which does make my life (and theirs) a lot easier. I am happy that so far 8% of members have agreed to set up a direct debit.

On-going recruitment is still a time consuming task. We certainly have seen an increase in interest, but somehow my sweet emails, our exciting meets list and our entertaining newsletter aren't always enough to encourage people to actually sign up, come to a meet or renew after their first year. I personally think that we need to continue to listen and to continue our efforts of ensuring the club serves the next generation of mountaineers, hill walkers and fell runners.

One thing we have heard again and again is that the huts should be easier to book on a short notice. I think we have made some great progress in cooperation with the trust. Both huts can now be accessed without the need of a key being posted and Caseg availability can now be checked on our website. But, there are plenty of ways where don't yet know how we serve our members best. Probably, because we haven't yet asked the right questions.

For me one of the most important challenges is to ensure that as many members are involved in running and shaping the club. Maybe understandably AGMs and committees don't seem to have much sex appeal. While we can't (yet?) do without them, I think we have to think of how we can make them more appealing. We certainly have to investigate new ways of getting involved and we will use the coming year to see how we can give members who aren't regular meets goes a voice and how we can make proxy voting at the AGM easier (and more useful).

Though all our ambitions might not pay of as well as we want. Maybe we need to make the AGM as small a chore as possible. We have recently demonstrated that the vast majority of the club is still based in the South East. Maybe it is time to follow the lead of other clubs and have an evening AGM in or near our "heart land"?

My latest forecast for 2016 (which I will update for the AGM) shows that we are currently running a surplus of £47.94 with net assets increasing to £5,541.88. We have spent circa £200 of the £400 we were given by the BMC to improve our website and the donation to Fallcliffe has not yet been paid as I still haven't received a receipt. We continued to make donation of a total of £310 to Mountain Rescue England & Wales, Mountain Rescue Scotland, Search and Rescue Dog Association (SARDA), Friends of the Lake District and Snowdonia Society. Affiliate membership for

Snowdonia Society has gone up by £6 and I am proposing to increase the amount accordingly.

Last year I proposed an Expedition and Training Fund to be trialled over the coming years. We advertised the first round earlier this year. Unfortunately, we have had no suitable applications. I will propose to the AGM that we roll over the existing £200 and top it up £400. As before this could either be given to one group or split among multiple applications. In the meantime I will try to work out how we can ensure more people hear about it.

As you can see the club is in good financial health. Moreover, the BMC has not informed us of any increases for the liability insurance. That means that we can keep the current membership fees, i.e. single membership is £20 and joint/family membership is £35. We will continue to provide discounted memberships for overseas members (excl. BMC liability insurance) and the option to insure children (£8).

As always, if you do have any comments or questions, please email (members@ulgmc.org.uk) or telephone (07984 583146, evenings and weekends) me. I am looking forward to our AGM at the Royal Oak this year. And if you can't make it this year then I am sure I will see most of you on the hills and mountains. Onwards and upwards!

Caseg Fraith News

By Phil Tarr (Hut Warden)

New Booking Secretary for Caseg

A reminder that Caseg Fraith has a new booking secretary. Samantha Hardman took over from the start of the year.



For bookings, you can contact Sam on casegfraith@gmail.com. The ULGMC website also shows when the hut is booked: <http://www.ulgmc.org.uk/casegbooking.html>



Wifi @ Caseg

The phone line has been re-connected at Caseg to provide broadband Internet access for the hut. A handset has been installed in the hall but outgoing calls, apart from freephone and emergency calls, have been barred. Incoming calls can be received and the number for callers to dial is 01690 720605. If you have a BT Chargecard you can make outgoing calls via 0800 144144 (I think just 144 should also work) and have the calls charged to your home phone.

To enable the WiFi and the broadband, the router in the cupboard under the stairs must first be switched using the switch on the power socket. We are currently asking hut users to switch the router off when they depart, but this instruction may change in future. If it does there will be a sign by the power socket that will say "do not switch off".

The WiFi log-in details should be on the whiteboard in the hall, but are also given below:

Network: CasegFraith

Password: Tryf@n917

As might be expected, the broadband in the mountains is a bit unreliable. It has already failed twice. If it's not working, first try rebooting the router by switching it off at the socket, if it still doesn't work then report as a fault to BT Business Faults on 0800 800152 giving the status of the router lights.

New Colour Scheme for Caseg

The hut has been completely repainted inside to make it look both lighter and brighter. We hope you all like the new colour schemes!

Caseg Magazines

Some of you may have noticed that many of the old magazines have disappeared from the hut. You may be wondering what happened to them. The majority of the National Geographic Magazines were donated to Bangor University, who although they didn't want them for the Library, said they would leave them out for any interested students to pick up. I did retain those NG magazines that indicated on the front cover that they contained articles on mountaineering subjects and these are still on the shelves in the hut. The majority of the climbing magazines were also donated to the University Library, but they did want to keep most of these. The Library at the Normal College site in Holyhead Road (LL57 2PZ) is building up a collection of climbing/mountaineering material, having already acquired books, journals and magazines from the Climbers' Club and the Pinnacle Club. They were very grateful to receive our magazines for this collection, although there were a relatively small number of duplicates, which they didn't want and these have now been put back on the shelves in the snug.

The collection (known as the Climbers' Club Collection) is housed in a separate room in the Normal College Library which is open to the public where any of the material can be referred to (but not borrowed). I cannot see a way to examine the catalogue of this collection, but most of the material in the collection can be found by entering the search terms (mountaineering, mountaineers, mountains, climbing or climbers) in the main Bangor University catalogue at <http://encore.bangor.ac.uk/> or by using the following pre-defined search: [\[untaineering%20%20mountains%20%20mountaineers%20%20climbing%20%20climbers\\)%20b%3Auad_Orighresult__U1?lang=eng&suite\]\(http://encore.bangor.ac.uk/iii/encore/search/C__S\(mountaineering%20%20mountains%20%20mountaineers%20%20climbing%20%20climbers\)%20b%3Auad_Orighresult__U1?lang=eng&suite\)](http://encore.bangor.ac.uk/iii/encore/search/C__S(mo</p>
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The material in this collection have the location "BU Normal Climbers' Club"

Caseg Fraith - Parking

And another reminder - ULGMC members (and your guests), don't forget that parking at Caseg is limited to 8 cars. If you're the 9th, you need to move. If you're the 7th or 8th and you know people are going to arrive in the middle of the night, be nice, leave a space for them. This isn't optional – if we break this rule we could seriously jeopardise our lease renewal with the National Trust. So be good, please.

BMC News

BMC members area, Summit magazine and lost membership cards

ULGMC is affiliated to the BMC, which means that as ULGMC member (resident in the UK) you are not just covered by third-party liability insurance, but you also have access to the Summit magazine, discounts and some other goodies.

If you have never used the member are of the BMC webpage then you will need to register first. Visit <https://www.thebmc.co.uk/register> and enter your name, choose a username, your email address and choose a password. You will receive an email with a validation link you need to click on (this confirms that you own the email address you've entered).

You can now login via <https://www.thebmc.co.uk/login> and you will be greeted with "Link your membership to this account today". Click on it and enter your BMC membership number (you received this via your Summit magazine or it is also printed on the ULGMC membership card) and your date of birth.

Hopefully, that will just work and otherwise you will be provided with some information of how to contact the BMC support to resolve it.

You will now be able to "View your online membership card" (in case you signed up after Q1 or lost the old one), watch exclusive short documentaries and instruction on "BMC TV", get access to exclusive offers and also find instructions on how to access Summit magazine (Membership > Summit Magazine).

On that note, as you are aware you will (as a club member) only receive the first annual issue of the Summit magazine each year in print. But you can easily read the other three issue online (latest issue here:

<http://content.yudu.com/web/2p8f9/0A2p8gr/SummitNo81/index.html>) or via the app. Here are the download links for the Android App <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=air.com.yudu.ReaderAIR4536603> and the iOS App: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/summit-magazine-climbing-walking/id850480265?mt=8> You will need to login using the emails and password you used for registration above.

BMC Rebrand

You will all know by now that the BMC announced recently that it intends to rebrand to "Climb Britain" (you can find out more about this here: <https://www.thebmc.co.uk/bmc-to-change-its-name-to-climb-britain>). This came as a surprise to all of us, no less those members of the club who attend the local area meets.

It's fair to say that the announcement has caused a bit of an uproar. As President, I was contacted by committee members of several other clubs voicing their concerns. The BMC comments section was also brimming with comments of dismay from BMC members.

Whilst I am not keen on the name change, I felt that as President it should be your views I was passing on and so you will have received several emails asking for your comments, as well as a survey asking for your views. The overwhelming result of that survey was that ULGMC members are not keen on the name change, feeling that it excludes certain activities and members.



[climb hills](#) / [climb rocks](#) / [climb indoors](#) / [climb ice](#) / [climb mountains](#)

We passed this onto Dave Turnbull, the CEO of the BMC at the South East area meet. He presented the BMC's rationale for the change, stating that several organisations including important BMC funders have been pushing for a more "modern" name. However, it was also clear from Dave's presentation that the market research was not broad enough, consisting mainly of BMC committees (including walkers) and a range of indoor climbing walls in London. We (those who attended the meeting) voiced that this simply wasn't good enough and that the majority of clubs were not in support of the name change.

It seems that the BMC will have to reconsider the name change, and we will have to wait and see what the outcome of that is. Some of the options discussed were that "Climb Britain" becomes a campaign under the BMC title. We will continue to be as involved as we can in the process.

Stephan, Mark Stitson and I all attended the meeting and chatted with committee members from other clubs, including the London MC and the Alpine Club, who are of a similar opinion to us. The meeting, re-branding, as well as other material from the BMC, highlights that the sport is going through a transitional period. Many of us are concerned that

the BMC's future may be narrowing to indoor climbing, though this has not been openly outlined. Personally, I was not reassured at the local area meet. My feeling is that we have not been as active within the BMC governance as we could have been and I encourage members of ULGMC to attend local BMC area meets to ensure our voices are heard and to help shape the organisation in the future.

ULMC News



ULMC Meets

ULMC members are always welcome at ULGMC meets and ULGMC members are welcome at ULMC meets (although where accommodation is limited members of the hosting club have priority in booking.)

In addition to their own trips, we've had a few successful spontaneous joint meets to accompany a less successful organised meet! In March our joint ULMC/ULGMC meet to Fallcliffe was only attended by a few ULMC members. But a whole minibus of enthusiastic ULMC craggers joined us for the [Cornwall](#) meet this year, climbing from dusk 'til dawn. As usual, we also had a good mix of ULMC and ULGMC members on the Alps trip this year ([see the report earlier](#)).

In September, freshers season starts again for ULMC. Over recent years more ULMC members have become interested in climbing which means more experienced climbers are needed to teach them. **If you are interested to help out please get in contact with Rob (robhardy.hardy@gmail.com).**

ULMC also climb every Tuesday during term time at Mile End climbing wall and if you want to join them look out for their ULMC hoodies or t-shirts.

ULMC Elections



The ULMC elections were held at the end of the last term. Laura Dempsey has been elected as the new club President and will be attending the ULGMC AGM this year. We look forward to seeing her there and welcoming her as the head of our sister club.

Dates 2015/16	Location/Meet	Meet Leader
26 th – 29 th August	Caseg Fraith, Snowdonia - August Bank Holiday	Graham Cunningham
8 th - 9 th October	Caseg Fraith, Student Safety Seminar	Mark Stitson (contact - booked by bed)
21 st – 23 rd October	Caseg Fraith, Snowdonia – AGM at The Royal Oak, Betws-y-Coed	Sam Hardman
4 th – 6 th November	Fallcliffe, Peak District - Bonfire	Keith Mott
30 th December – 2 nd January	Caseg Fraith, Snowdonia – New Year	Elanor Mott


The 2017 Meets List will be in the next newsletter but please check the website for updates: www.ulgmc.org

If you would like to attend a meet, please email the meets secretary (meets@ulgmc.org). For ULMC meets, please contact Mark (mark.stitson@ulgmc.org.uk).

Committee 2015/16 (to be approved by the AGM)

Full officers	
 <p>President Heather Rumble</p> <p>07876690979 president@ulgmc.org.uk</p>	 <p>Vice President Mike Hale</p> <p>07850937386 Mikejhale+ulgmc@gmail.com</p>
 <p>Secretary (interim) Mike Pollitt</p> <p>07717392304 secretary@ulgmc.org.uk</p>	 <p>Meets Secretary Graham Cunningham</p> <p>meets@ulgmc.org.uk</p>
	<p>Treasurer/ Membership Secretary Stephan Tietz 0798453146 members@ulgmc.org.uk</p>

Officers without portfolio



YOU ?

Robbie Pineda

Non-committee roles	
 <p>Jill Bennett Club archivist jill.bennett@waitrose.com</p>	<p>YOU ?</p> <p>Vacant! Newsletter editor</p>
	 <p>Rob Hardy ULMC liaison robhardy.hardy@gmail.com</p>

ULGMC Huts

Fallcliffe



Lead Trustee

Mike Hale

Mikejhale+ulgmc@gmail.com



Hut Warden

Dave Morley

trylinedave@live.co.uk

Fees include fuel and electricity, and are £5.50 for ULGMC members and University of London students, £6.50 for other students and £9 for guests, per person per night.

No individual bookings accepted except for ULMC & ULGMC members.

Bunk space available for parties of up to 15 people.

To book the hut or check availability, visit:

http://www.ulgmc.org.uk/fallcliffe_availability.html

Caseg Fraith



Lead Trustee

Mike Pollitt

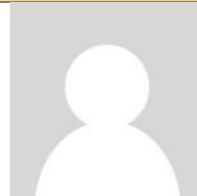
pollitt@talk21.com



Hut Warden

Phil Tarr

p.tarr@gold.ac.uk



Hut Sub-Warden

Sally Brown



Hut Booking Secretary

Sam Hardman

casegfraith@gmail.com

Fees, which include fuel and electricity, are £6 for ULGMC members and University of London students, £7 for other students and £9 for guests, per person per night. Bunk space is available for parties of up to 40 people.

To book the hut or check availability, visit:

<http://www.ulgmc.org.uk/casegbooking.html>

ULGMC AGM
Saturday 22nd October 2016
The Royal Oak Hotel,
Betws-y-Coed, LL24 0AY

Dear ULGMC members,

I write to invite you to the ULGMC AGM and Dinner 2016, taking place at:

The Royal Oak Hotel from 6 pm. Dinner will be at 7.30 pm.

Three courses, including coffee, will cost £25.

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

1. Fill out and print the form below detailing your choices and return to me.
or
Email me your choices.

2. Post me a cheque made payable to **ULGMC**
or
Pay electronically: **ULGMC, Acc No: 04145127, S/C: 52-30-40**

There will be accommodation available at Caseg Fraith for the nights of the 21st and 22nd. This will cost £6 per person per night. If you would like to reserve any spaces in the hut please specify in the form, payment arrangements and deadline are the same as for the meal. As usual parking is very limited. **If you are not assigned a parking permit you will need to park elsewhere, this applies to day visitors as well as overnight guests. No Exceptions!** If you are staying at Caseg Fraith please let me know if you would like a lift in a taxi or otherwise, or if you can offer a lift.

Regards,

Samantha Hardman, AGM co-ordinator (former Meets Secretary)

ULGMC AGM and Dinner, Saturday 22nd October 2016, at The Royal Oak Hotel, Betws-y-Coed

If multiple people are answering on one sheet, please enter a number

Name(s):

	Yes	No	Subtotal
I/we would like to attend the AGM dinner (£25 per person)			£.....
	Friday	Saturday	
I/we would like to stay at Caseg Fraith (£6 per person per night)			£.....
TOTAL:			£.....

Pay either by **cheque made payable to ULGMC** or
electronically (ULGMC, Acc No: 04145127, S/C: 52-30-40)

Meal Options:

Starter

◦Rillette of Pork Belly with Apple Puree & Black Pudding	
◦Fricasse of Garlic Button Mushrooms finished with Baby Leaf Spinach (V)	
◦Fanned Galia Melon with Parma Ham (or with Sorbet for (V), please specify)	
◦Cream of Sweet Potato, Apple & Ginger Soup (V)	

Main

◦Prime Roast Welsh Beef, Horseradish Yorkshire Pudding, Pan Gravy	
◦Baked Fillet of Cod topped with Welsh Rarebit Glaze	
◦Steamed Breast of Chicken stuffed with Chorizo Sausage & Leek Mouse set on Fine Cut Ratatouille	
◦Feta & Butternut Squash Risotto with Balsamic Glaze (V)	

Pudding

◦Sticky Toffee Pudding, Butterscotch Sauce (V)	
◦Bramley Apple Cheesecake (V)	
◦Vanilla Panacotta with Banana & Caramel Compote (V)	
◦Selection of Ice Creams (V)	

(V)=vegetarian

Transport Options:

I/we would like to park a vehicle at Caseg Fraith (limited spaces available)	
I/we would like to be included in a taxi/car share from the hut to the dinner	
I/we can offer _____ car spaces from the hut to the dinner (and back)	

ULGMC AGM Agenda 2016

Draft Agenda

The 66th Annual General Meeting of the University of London Mountaineering Club (ULGMC) will take place at 6 pm on Saturday 22nd of October 2016 at the Royal Oak, Betws-y-Coed

1. Apologies for absence

2. *Adoption of the agenda

3. Minutes of the 2015 AGM

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

4. Finance

- a) Treasurer's report and presentation of accounts 2015
- b) *Adoption of the 2015 accounts
- c) *Agreement on membership subscription rates for 2017
- d) *Authorisation for expenditure of funds 2017

5. Other reports

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

6. Programme for 2017

- a) 2017 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 Graham Cunningham)
- f) Committee members (currently Robbie Pineda)

8. *Other elections

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

9. *Review of constitution

10. Any other business

MINUTES OF THE 65TH ULGMC AGM

17 Oct 2015, Millstone Inn, Hathersage

Heather Rumble in the chair

1. Apologies for absence

Mel Owen, Mike & Liz Parkinson, Jill & Mike Bennett, Stephen Olivant, Sue Darling, Mike Warden, Geoff Williams, ULMC were unable to send a representative, Neil & Regina Brindley, Andy & Elena Charalambous, Les Bailey, George & Mary Bolt, John & Valerie Burrows, John Parsons, Andrew Rydlewski (chair as proxy), Matt Walters (HR as proxy)

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Proposed: Mike Pollitt, Seconded: John Coote. Accepted by consent

3. Minutes of the 2014 AGM

Proposed: Frances Mott, Seconded: Elanor Mott. Accepted by consent

4. Finance

a) Treasurer's report and presentation of accounts 2014

ST reported membership numbers are stable (181 members). ST thanked those who have signed up for direct debit as it makes the treasurer's job easier and noted that 7 members have not yet paid their fees. Increase in membership fees has had no negative effect (ratio between single and joint memberships stable). Membership fees proposed to be unchanged for 2016 (£35 joint, £20 single, no BMC liability insurance contribution for overseas, BMC liability insurance is currently £13.25 per head and £8 for each child). Accounts for 2014 were presented by ST: subsidised Yorkshire meet and £20 for room rental at AGM, £162.83 surplus increasing assets to £5,113.60. Forecast for 2015 presented: noted August bank holiday and AGM meets are being run through the club account, surplus of £319.48 expected. Mike Warden has the information to scrutinise the accounts for 2013 and 2014. £400 BMC funding has been received for website & newsletter, which has not yet been spent.

Issues in changing signatories and main contact with Natwest noted. Tim Marshall and Sarah Hampton removed as signatories. Full list of current signatories: Stephan Tietz, Michael Hale, Heather Rumble, Neil Brindley and Keith Mott. Signatory rules are: one person needed for payments up to £500 (e.g. meets), two for anything higher (BMC Q1 + Q2, AGM). Payments up to £500 require one signatory and approval from one other committee member.

ST noted that club used to subsidise PyB training at Caseg Fraith, but this has not been taken up recently. In order to encourage new joiners and support younger members, ST proposed £200 expedition & training fund (covered by current surplus). Application would be by a few written paragraphs, with decision by the committee. ST will present progress at each AGM, and advertise in newsletter. Bill Bristow noted Fell & Rock Club have a weekend in the Lake District to encourage new members.

Motion for authorisation for expenditure of funds 2016 (including expedition fund)

Proposed: John Coote, Seconded Diane Bennett. Accepted by consent

Motion to accept the accounts presented (noted accounts have not yet been scrutinised):

Proposed: Diane Bennett, Seconded: Frances Mott. Accepted by consent

Motion to continue donations as per previous years and continue to support meets as previous years

Proposed: Bill Bristow, Seconded: John Coote. Accepted by consent

5. Officer's Reports

5a. President's Report (Heather Rumble, HR)

HR discussed communication from the club and noted that the committee do not have time to do things we would like to do (e.g. website revamp – BMC funding obtained). The aim of improved communication is to recruit new members. We are trying to build connection with ULMC. ULMC have noted difficulty in attracting members as big colleges have their own clubs. ULGMC is struggling with retaining younger members.

5b. Secretary (Mike Pollitt, MP), 5c. Membership Secretary (Stephan Tietz, ST), 5d. Meets Secretary (Sam Hardman, SH). Covered elsewhere

5e. Hut wardens / trustees. MP announced that Elspeth Howell had decided to step down as Caseg booking secretary, to be replaced by Sam Hardman. MP thanked Elspeth for all of the work she had done as booking secretary and as warden up until last year. There was a vote of thanks: proposed by Mike Pollitt, seconded by Bill Bristow. Accepted by consent and applause.

Phil Tarr (Caseg Warden) reported on Caseg Fraith: The 2014/15 financial year resulted in a £8k surplus. Major maintenance problem was the roof leak: slates have been reset. A new cooker has been purchased and a snug cushion replaced. Also the snug has been decluttered with surplus magazines sent to Bangor university collection / students. Accounts have been scrutinised by Mike Parkinson.

MH reported on Fallcliffe Cottage: septic tank lid was broken but has been repaired. The problem of the retaining wall was noted. Dave Morley has replaced a cooker, covers on beds; new roof has helped. Fallcliffe also made a financial surplus with occupancy equivalent to full for ~half weekends of the year.

Mark Stitson (ULMC rep). Two official joint meets were held this year (March Fallcliffe & Alpine meet). ULMC members have joined on ULGMC meets. For 2016: planning another Fallcliffe meeting. MS was at the BMC student safety seminar. To promote interaction, we will be sending interested ULMC members copies of newsletter. We can also have joint meets (university has given approval) with the aim of attracting new members.

5f BMC Area Meetings

Trevor Hellen (SW region): little to report as area meets happen in Cornwall – usual about sea cliff access

Trefor Owen (Wales Region) Craig Yr Olwen near Llangollen access issues (also SSI). National Trust have taken over part of the Great Orme. Pumped storage scheme and nine other applications for hydro. Access issue to sea cliff (CROW access is working for upland areas). There is an attempt to publish a green paper to get same degree of access as Scotland. Shuttle bus services are decreasing due to removing subsidy from council (no service in Ogwen valley). Vandalism to Llanberis MRT landrovers noted and Sea King helicopters have 'retired'.

6. Programme for 2016

SH noted there are lots of meets in Caseg & Fallcliffe; volunteer requested for organising new year at Caseg. Please let SH know for volunteers to lead meets. Meets programme was distributed. The date for the next AGM is 22nd October 2016 at Caseg / Royal Oak.

Proposed Diane Benett, Seconded Frances Mott. Accepted by consent (but note discussion under AOB)

7. Committee Elections

- a) President: Heather Rumble (HR)
- b) Vice-President: Mike Hale (MH)
- c) Secretary: Mike Pollitt (MP)
- d) Treasurer/Membership Secretary: Stephan Tietz (ST)
- e) Meets Secretary: Samantha Hardman (SH)

All committee considered together. Proposed: Frances Mott, Seconded: Elanor Mott

Accepted by consent

It was noted that other Committee members were Neil Brindley, Mark Stitson (MS), Keith Mott & Sue Darling. There were no nominations for newsletter editor (Shaun West has stepped down). In interim, Heather will edit the newsletter. There was a vote of thanks to Shaun West by applause

8. Other Elections

The account's scrutineer is currently Mike Warden. In case he wanted to retire MS proposed that the committee might appoint a new scrutineer without prior AGM approval.

Proposed: John Coote, Seconded: Elanor Mott. Accepted by consent

ULMC representative: Mark Stitson

Proposed: Heather Rumble, Seconded: Elanor Mott. Accepted by consent

9. Review of constitution

The draft constitution had previously been circulated in newsletters. Four specific amendments were voted on:

1. Line 30: Honorary members, as defined in the constitution, will not receive BMC affiliation

(this is to protect the club from future liabilities).

It was noted that whatever rights of previous honorary members or honorary vice-president had been granted would still be honoured and not affected by this change.

Vote: In favour: 23+2 (proxy). No objections. Remainder (6) taken to have abstained

2. Line 30: Honorary members, as defined in the constitution, will not receive voting rights.

It was also noted that this change will not affect existing honorary members, honorary vice presidents or lifetime members. HR had looked at old AGM minutes and found different 'benefits' had been granted to people in the same category

Vote: In favour: 23+2 (proxy). No objections. Remainder (6) taken to have abstained

3. Line 40: The committee may expel a member under the terms outlined in section 9.

Vote: In favour: 29+2 (proxy). No objections. No abstentions

4. Line 91: The date of the AGM no longer needs to be held in the last three months of the year.

Vote: In favour: 27+2 (proxy). No objections. Remainder (2) taken to have abstained

As all votes were carried, the new constitution was approved and will be included in next newsletter.

10. AOB

-Will be trying another run of the club T-shirt

-Discussion around membership fees. Some other organisations charge a higher membership fee than ULGMC. However, noted desire to attract new members and no great motive to increase membership fee if no need for the money

-Discussion around the venue for the next AGM. Noted that many members wanted it to be in the Lake District but that the committee & meets secretary had encountered extra organisational problems with an AGM in an area where the club does not have a hut. Nobody outside of the committee volunteered to organise a Lake District AGM when asked. Noted that getting a booking for the Old Dungeon Ghyll can be problematic.

Vote of thanks to the committee by John Coote.