



Hiking up Conwy Mountain at the August Bank Holiday Meet

The postal address is: 1 Braishfield Rd, Havant, PO9 2HS

In this issue...

- [Important Announcements](#)
 - [Subs time](#)
 - [Volunteers Needed!](#)
 - [Important changes to the 2019 AGM](#)
 - [2019 Expedition and Training Fund](#)
- [Upcoming Meets](#)
- [Meet Reports](#)
- [News from Members](#)
- [Club News](#)
 - [Presidents Report](#)
- [BMC News](#)
- [ULMC News](#)
- [Meets 2018/19](#)
- [Committee 2018/19](#)
- [ULGMC Huts](#)
- [Minutes of the 68th ULGMC AGM](#)

Volunteers Needed!

**Seeking a fulfilling role in the outdoor sector?
ULGMC needs you! We're currently looking for:**

Committee members without portfolio

Meet Leaders, London Socialites/Climbers/Walkers

ULGMC is nothing without its members. Make it yours by helping decide the future of the club. Being a ULGMC committee member is a great way to boost your organisational, leadership, team-working and social skills. Email me: Stephan Tietz, for more details, president@ulgmc.org

Important Announcements

Subs time

'Tis the season to renew your ULGMC membership. Please send a cheque (payable to 'ULGMC'), make a bank transfer (acc no 04145127 and s/c 52-30-40) or set up an authorisation for a Direct Debit: <https://dashboard.gocardless.com/api/paylinks/0QNYCBJ71A>

Subs are £20 singles, £35 joint and £9 to add BMC liability insurance for children. Discounts for non-UK residents is £14.25 as BMC insurance doesn't cover them (overseas prices are £5.75 single, £6.50 joint).

AGM 2019 - Have Your Say

ULGMC is changing to enable more engagement!

The 2018 AGM agreed to move the date of our AGM to the Easter meet in 2019 (18th-22nd April).

Why did the AGM decide this? We recognise that members want to be politically engaged, but that you also want to be able to get outside and enjoy the hills. The Easter meet usually boasts good attendance, great weather as well as giving us more time to balance outdoor activities with the AGM. Not only that, but we think Easter is a better time to involve our recent graduate members.

Want to submit a report?

3rd May at the latest

Editor: Heather Rumble (interim)

Email: editor@ulgmc.org.uk

Web: www.ulgmc.org.uk



This is one of the biggest changes ULGMC have made in the last few years. As a result, we need your help to make it work.

We've designed a very short questionnaire, which should take less than 3 minutes to fill in. Your feedback will help us:

1. Gauge how many people plan to come to an Easter AGM and;
2. Find out which aspects of the AGM are important to you.

We want to make the AGM enjoyable for as many members as possible. We would really appreciate it if as many people as possible could fill this out, here: <https://goo.gl/forms/zyymjEw1I95HjLyh1> (less than 3 minutes).

For more information on how the AGM reached this decision, see the [President's Report](#) and [AGM 2018 documents](#).

2019 Expedition and Training Fund goes live

£200 is up for grabs to run an expedition or provide or receive training (£400 if contributing to the Alps Trip!). See the website for more details:

<https://www.ulgmc.org.uk/fund>



Upcoming Meets

28 Dec – 1 Jan, New Year Meet, Caseg Fraith

All welcome to this very traditional meet with several new twists. I think we should try swimming in the Irish Sea. Any takers!?

Elanor Mott: elanor.bookworm@gmail.com



25 - 27 Jan, Peak Snow? Fallcliffe

We once again look forward to a cold and bright weekend at the end of January. I, personally, would like snow underfoot with enough warmth in the sun to do some climbing. Too demanding? I live in hope!

Keith Mott: <mailto:saymellon@gmail.com>



Feb/Mar, Winter Mountaineering, Scotland

Most years we manage to get a good group of keen mountaineers up to Scotland for some winter mountaineering. This year we are missing a meet leader! Contact Graham (meets@ulgmc.org.uk) if you'd like to lead the rabble on a journey beyond the wall!



8 – 10 Mar, Joint ULMC Meet, Fallcliffe

Our annual trip partnering up with our sister club, ULMC. This meet is the Peak District at it's best, with climbing, walking and (probably) lots of Port!

Mark Stitson: mark@stitson.com



6 Apr, Rumble Ramble, South-East

A day out on the hills in the South-East of England. We'll meet at a train station within easy reach of London, have a good day out walking before dinner in the pub. All welcome.

Heather Rumble: heather.rumble@gmail.com



18 – 22 Apr, Easter Meet and AGM, Caseg Fraith

Our most popular meet of the year, Easter offers everything that Snowdonia can muster. Whether it snows or is brilliant sunshine, a great time can be guaranteed!

Heather Rumble: heather.rumble@gmail.com



Check out the website for more meets:

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

Don't see something you fancy? Contact Graham, the Meets Secretary, to suggest your own meet.

The club offers financial support and helpful guidance to meet leaders: meets@ulgmc.org.uk

Meet Reports

Dorset Camping

Keith Mott

Rachael had booked the camp site not realising it was just a short walk from the largest climbing area in southern England! Unfortunately it was wet over the weekend and then extremely hot during the week. We did manage some sport climbing on Thursday morning when the temperature had cooled to the high twenties!

Frances, Elanor and new member James arrived on Friday afternoon but I had to wait until Rachael had finished WORK before picking her up! How inconsiderate. One thing that the Isle of Purbeck has in common with Pembroke is that you always think it is much closer than it really is. Just getting around Poole takes a lifetime.

We made it to Lulworth on Saturday just to compare it to the place we visited B.C. It has changed out of all recognition. It was my first visit to Durdle Door so I can now see what people rave about. Also, will I still be around when the roof falls and another stack is formed? We survived a mini hurricane to go swimming in the cove. Bliss.

Then it started to rain. We visited Swanage only to find out it was carnival week. There were plenty of shops of interest and pubs and restaurants to keep us busy all day but the museum and the heritage railway filled our day. There is also the bonus of a railway museum at Norden just a couple of stops up the line.

Since the rain did not let up and the wind only increased to storm force on the Monday we decided that a trip to Go Outdoors was in order. We discovered that they offer a 10% discount off any qualifying web price. See instore for more details.

We saw James off before the Charalambali arrived fresh from Womad. The weather helped them dry out

and then it got hotter. We managed to survive a trip to Corfe castle on Tuesday followed by another trip to Durdle Door where we roasted on the beach. We went over the col to Man o' War beach where it was slightly cooler and there was no rip tide. Even Frances went in!

For some the trip to Monkey World, as seen on TV, was the highlight of the holiday. To see so many hairy apes in one place owes a lot to the weather and the Englishman's predisposition to strip off. As an alternative to battling primates you could visit Tank World just across the road.

Four of us went off to climb in Hedbury quarry, certainly my first time leading a group on limestone hence the sports' routes. It was maddingly hot out of the breeze but we managed a couple of climbs before crawling under a rock for lunch. We did consider doing more after but were put off but thoughts of complete desiccation! The walk back up to the campsite, if anything, was worse.

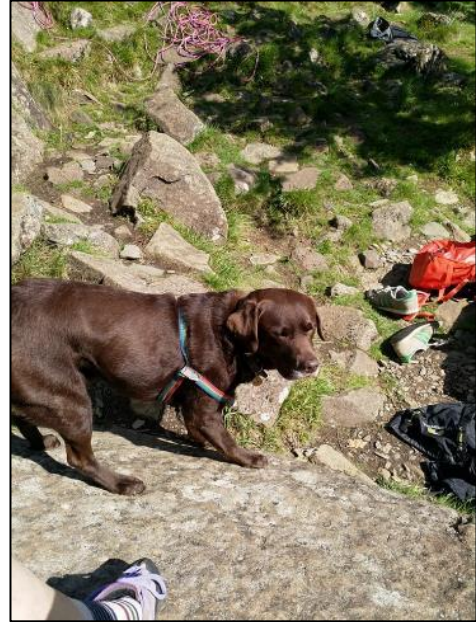
It was a delight to leave this wonderful corner of the country without one piece of wet gear, not something we can often say, even at this time of year. I am sure we will be back.

August Bank Holiday, Snowdonia

Heather Rumble

August Bank Holiday was as busy as ever at Caseg Fraith, with around 20 people in attendance. This year we were joined not only by ULMC members but also by some of Liverpool University Mountaineering Club, who were amusingly referred to as the Fab Four for the entire weekend.

Quite a few grand adventures were had. Chris and Chris, or "The Derby Contingent" went for multi-pitch and had a couple of great days out on Milestone Buttress and Clogwyn Bochlywd.



Meanwhile, a splinter group of climbers consisting of ULMC, LUMC and some of the ULGMC contingent managed to find some sun-soaked crags to spend the days at. One of these was Tremadog, which pleased not only the climbers, but also Alex the dog.



Stephan and I were anti-social as usual, cadging a lift to Conwy with Graham before running back to the hut over the Carneddau. No view as usual, but a good time! Conwy Mountain (Mynydd y Dref) is a hidden gem and well worth visiting! We spent much of the rest of the weekend milling around resting our legs and playing board games.

The Motts, as ever, provided a home from home, with Frances cooking a gigantic meal for everybody.

Thanks to Graham for organising another brilliant weekend.

Inspired? Fancy running a new meet?

Contact the meets secretary:

meets@ulgmc.org.uk

News from Members

Wanted: Your Stories of Adventure!

We know that ULGMC members get up to all sorts of exciting things during the year, from snow-shoeing to climbing inaccessible peaks and scaling rock in exotic locations. We would love to hear about these adventures, as they act as a source of inspiration for so many members. The Wadi Rum piece in the last newsletter got a particularly high volume of praise, so thanks to David Roche for the contribution.

Any contributions are welcome, whether you'd like to write a page or just a few lines with a photo. Please send contributions to editor@ulgmc.org.uk

Tour de Monte Rosa

Stephen Olivant



I joined a friendly group of four KE Adventure clients plus three Tracks & Trails clients in Saas Grund for the start of the Tour de Monte Rosa. Our group leader and all administration was provided by KE Adventure. After a cloudy morning on the first day, we were

hugely lucky to have almost perfect weather for the next eight days.



Our route went clockwise around the Mote Rosa massif, so from Saas Grund we crossed over the Monte Moro pass and into Italy, then steeply down to Macugnaga for the first night. We then had three excellent days walking up from our overnight hut in one valley head, over the ridge and down to the next hut in the neighbouring valley head. There were comfy huts/hotels with good Italian food and drink at each stop. A strenuous day then took us up to an uncomfortable sleep-deprived night in a hut perched above the Theodule pass on the Italian/Swiss border. The next day we tip-toed down a slippery glacier for a bit before descending to busy, expensive Zermatt. We took the underground train up to Sunnegga and followed the Europaweg path contouring above the Mattertal valley. This now includes an impressive 0.5k long suspension bridge built last year to overcome the risk of serious stone-fall on this very loose section. The following day, the next section of the Europaweg was shut because of stone-fall, so we descended from the Europahutte to Randa on the valley floor, walked for half a day to St Nicholas and then climbed back up to meet the end of the Europaweg at Grachen. The last day was along the Hohenweg, another even more spectacular balcony path linking the Mattertal and Saastal valleys high above Visp, and all the way back to Saas Grund.

I would recommended this route highly. The scenery was simply wonderful for the entire trip and the paths were very quiet. Some days we hardly saw other walkers. Quite different from the Tour de Mont Blanc or the Haute Route nowadays. The Cicerone guidebook by Hilary Sharp is accurate and thorough, so would be excellent for an unguided walk. My only criticism is that she describes the TdMR starting from Zermatt and going in the anticlockwise direction. I think our start from Saas Grund and a clockwise circuit gave us a better walking experience.



Walking the Wilds of Wales

Heather Rumble

Stephan and I spent our summer holiday walking/running through some of the areas in Wales that we haven't visited yet, following the route that the adventurous [Dragons Back Race](#) takes from Beddgelert to Ponterwyd.

Despite fantastic weather since April, the heavens opened on our first day, setting off from just South of Nant Gwynant and we spent most of the day with quite low visibility. Cnicht was lovely but progress between Cnicht and the Moelwyns was pretty slow and was not rewarded with a view from either. As we dropped down into the Vale of Ffestiniog, the weather cleared and we had a really nice evening walking along the lanes and through the forests leading to the Trawsfynydd dam. The route also passes Dduallt

railway station, and we were lucky enough to be there as the steam train looped around the station.

We set up camp just past the reservoir on some particularly knobby heather and tucked into a dinner of peanuts and cereal bars (luxury).



The next day we had a great morning walking across the gibbly landscape that characterises this part of Snowdonia. The highlight of the trip happened on this leg: as we rounded a corner of the path that traverses Llyn Eiddew-mawr, we were both stunned to see a snowy owl perching on a ledge just in front of us, and stopped to watch it circle the lake. A few have been spotted in the UK this year, but none (as far as I know) as white as this one, so it was a real find. Not surprising in an area of Wales rarely visited.

The rest of day two was a bit of a disaster, as thick fog (and rain) set in just as we got to the Rhinogs. We were trying to follow the "ideal line" set out by the DB course planners, but we ended up negotiating terrace after terrace that ended in cliffs. If only we had known that the intimidating looking gully on Rhinog Fawr is actually the "ordinary" route down. Needless to say, the weather and slow progress amounted to a very slow plod to our end point in Dollgellau, where we arrived at 11pm to put up a tent and zonk out, after 14 hours of stumbling around.



After the disaster of day two, we had planned to walk to Machynlledd, but our late arrival into Dollgellau meant we couldn't stock up on food the night before and certainly would have needed to leave before anything was open. Feeling dejected, we had a rest day instead. We leisurely got the bus down to Machynlledd and spent our time before check-in at our B&B drying our kit in the park. We were both sad that we still haven't been up Cadair Idris, but glad not to have aching feet!

Day four went much better after a rest, though was the rainiest of all days negating the point of drying our kit the day before. Most of the day was runnable, so we covered the ground to Ponterwyd quickly. The area between consists mainly of rolling hills and forestry and a lot of livestock that are clearly not used to seeing people. The main feature was Pumlumon Fach and Fawr, the latter of which is the highest point in the Cambrian mountains. Both the Severn and the Wye start here, so it's not an insignificant peak. It's a really nice walk to the top as well, with an exciting ford, a narrow path through some cloddy grass, a good lake and a breezy final summit. We finished day four in Ponterwyd at a hotel hastily booked the previous day. The hotelier did her best not to look too disappointed to receive two soaking guests, three hours before check-in, but did her best to dry us off. The next day, we got a bus all the way back to

Porthmadog, where we'd parked, for less than a fiver each. What a steal.

This is a great route for those that want to see some less usual parts of Wales. It could probably be broken down into 20km chunks to make it more manageable, and I'm pretty certain that camping isn't actually necessary!

Fancy joining us for an adventure-run?

We receive several emails throughout the year from members that want to get into fell running and mountain marathons. If you are interested in joining us, or would like some advice on how to start, send me an email (heather.rumble@gmail.com).

Club News

Presidents Report

Stephan Tietz

It has been one year since I was elected as the president of ULGMC. Last year, I said I would focus on four areas to develop the club. For anyone who couldn't attend the AGM I would like to summarise the progress we have made:

Engage the next generation of climbers, particularly ULMC.

In this area I am building on the success of the past committee and the hard work many members are putting in. While plenty more needs to be done, we have seen some progress:

- The membership has been at a stable 170-180 members for at least the last decade with a steady increase in younger members (about 2 in 5 members are now between 20 and 40 years old).
- We have resurrected an Alps meet and thanks to the hard work of some of our members (and a little help from the Training and Expedition fund) many young climbers have made their first mountaineering steps.

- We improved our relationship with ULMC.

The AGM has approved the renewal of the Expedition and Training Fund and we will open up this up for applications shortly. Unfortunately, it has been brought to my attention that the last ULMC president refused for his club to contribute financially to the guides which were hired on the Alps trip despite having available finances. I am saddened by this; we will make some tweaks to the eligibility rules going forward.

Further, we have not been able to encourage younger members to get more involved in the governance of the club – both in AGM attendance as well as a lack of new recruits to the committee. This leads me to my second priority.

Revisit the governance of this club, particularly ensure the AGM works for members.

This year's AGM had a particularly low attendance – the lowest in a decade. Over the last three years the committee has asked for ideas to move or revamp the AGM. We had little response.

I believe that the decline in AGM attendance is down to two aspects:

- Long-standing members are unable to come due to ill health or the general effort of long travel. Unfortunately, there is very little we can do to overcome this issue, as these members that have been the stalwarts of the AGM for many years are also geographically disparate.
- Younger members often don't come as they also want to get some climbing done and the weather tends to be poor in October or a general very busy in October as their life still aligns with the academic term (for example helping out ULMC with training Freshers)

Therefore, the committee made a simple proposal to this year's AGM (full text attached to this newsletter): The 2019 AGM should be held at a time when the

weather tends to be nicer, the academic calendar tends to be less busy and to align it with a meet as we can use past experience to gauge attendance. Therefore we proposed that next year's AGM would be held during Easter bank holiday meet in Snowdonia.

I am very thankful for the AGM in approving and supporting this move. I understand that this sounds like a crazy idea, but I strongly believe that sticking with the status quo is not good enough! We already started canvassing ideas and we really need everyone's feedback and support to make this work by filling out this short survey: <https://goo.gl/forms/J7bz8lvR61vXoBy72>

Support Fallcliffe, so it becomes a more welcoming and enjoyable hut.

For the last two year's we have had a full set of new hut trustees and we have seen improvements to both huts. In particular, both huts can now often be booked with only a few days notice due to the introduction of online booking forms and key boxes.

I am also pleased, that the trust is looking into ways to improve Fallcliffe further. The trust will require the clubs support to make this work though. In particular they are looking for people with expertise in building regulations, architecture (e.g. drawing up plans) and legal (e.g. trusts, leases and requirements to accommodate school groups).

Another challenge will be to raise funds. I will sit down with Ian to see how the club might be able to directly support these aims, but we will also see if we can help with applying for funding. Any other ideas are welcome!

Review the increasing cost of BMC affiliation.

Despite the majority of our membership fees being forwarded to the BMC (£11.75 per head) nothing will be changing in this area in the immediate future. I am

very pleased, with the work the BMC is doing to ensure access and the support they have lend to “mend the Mountains” as one of the key partners. I am also looking forward for the governance changes to the BMC to take affect and see how they will shape the organisation going forward.

For now we are able to keep our membership fees at last year’s level, but we will continue to monitor costs and investigate ways to obtain liability insurance. As with the other areas, any thoughts are welcome!

There were a number of other areas discussed at the AGM including the fact that we are long overdue with scrutinising the accounts and failing to distribute an AGM agenda in accordance with our constitution. In both cases we are implementing remedial actions going forward, but we are overstretched; do take some time to read through the AGM minutes if you can.

And finally, I would like to remind you to renew your membership over the festive season and look forward to see you in the New Year out in the hills to work of any over-indulgence that might have occurred!

If you do have any comments or queries, please email (president@ulgmc.org.uk) or telephone (07984 583146, evenings and weekends).

BMC News

BMC members area, Summit magazine and lost membership cards

As ULGMC member (resident in the UK) you’re covered by third-party liability insurance through the BMC and have access to Summit magazine and BMC discounts. Log in* via <https://www.thebmc.co.uk/login>. Click “Link your membership to this account today”, entering your BMC membership number (on your ULGMC membership card) and your date of birth.

(*If you have never used the member area of the BMC webpage then you will need to register first. Visit <https://www.thebmc.co.uk/register> .)

You’ll now be able to “View your online membership card”, watch BMC documentaries and “BMC TV” and get access to exclusive offers.

As a club member, you receive the first annual issue of Summit magazine each year in print. But you can read the other issues online, in the BMC members area or via the app (Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=air.com.yudu.ReaderAIR4536603> iOS: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/summit-magazine-climbing-walking/id850480265?mt=8>)

ULMC News

ULMC Meets

ULMC members are 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.)

ULMC are always on the look-out for experienced climbers. **If you are interested to help out please get in contact with Rob, our ULMC rep (robhardy.hardy@gmail.com).**

ULMC also climb every Tuesday during term time at Mile End climbing wall. If you’d like to join them, pop along and look out for their ULMC hoodies or t-shirts.

Interested in joining the committee?

Here’s a brief description of the committee roles available at the moment in ULGMC.

The current committee do most of their “meetings” virtually at the moment, because we are quite geographically spread. Very occasionally, we will arrange a weekend away to discuss club issues. We all

try to attend the AGM if possible. Each committee is different though, and finds their best way of working.

Committee Member without Portfolio

This is a role for anyone who is interested in helping out with the committee, but who doesn't want to be tied to a specific role. CMWP's attend committee meetings, helping make decisions on behalf of the club. They also take on ad-hoc roles to generally get stuff done – this could be a clothing order, helping out with the AGM, tidying bits of the website or just being a voice of wisdom. This role is ideal for those that think they might want to take on an officer position, but want a taster first. We also have CMWP's who have held officer roles in the past, to offer advice and to help out.

Email Stephan for more information:
president@ulgmc.org

Secretary

An hour a month, plus committee meetings (usually one or two per year, not including the AGM).

The secretary's role is to organise the rest of the committee. This means keeping a calendar of events and reminding other committee members when deadlines are coming up. The secretary also organises committee meetings and takes notes at these and the AGM. Traditionally, the secretary has also been responsible for putting together the newsletter – however this varies from committee to committee.

Email Stephan for more information:
president@ulgmc.org

We're also looking for meet leaders and people interested in organising socials, climbing and day walks in London/the South East

Meets 2018/19





Dates 2018	Location/Meet	Meet Leader
28 th Dec – 1 st Jan	Caseg Fraith, Snowdonia – New Year Meet	Elanor Mott
25 th – 27 th Jan	Fallcliffe, Peak District – Peak Snow?	Keith Mott
February/March	Scotland - Winter Mountaineering	Volunteer needed!
8 th - 10 th March	Fallcliffe, Peak District – Joint ULMC Meet	Mark Stitson
6 th April	South-East – One Day Rumble Ramble	Heather Rumble
18 th – 22 nd April	Caseg Fraith, Snowdonia – Easter Meet & AGM	ULGMC Committee
24 th – 27 th May	Trevedra Farm, Sennen – Cornwall Meet	Keith Mott
14 th – 16 th June	Fallcliffe, Peak District – Early Summer Meet	Mark Stitson
June/July/August	Alps Mountaineering (Dolomites?)	(Hardys?)
July/August	TBC (maybe Lake District, maybe mid-Wales) – Summer Fun	Heather Rumble
26 th July – 2 nd August	TBC – Camping	Keith Mott
23 rd – 26 th August	Caseg Fraith, Snowdonia – August Bank Holiday	Graham Cunningham
18 th – 20 th October	Caseg Fraith, Snowdonia – Autumn Meet	Graham Cunningham
1 st – 3 rd November	Fallcliffe, Peak District – Bonfire Meet	Elanor Mott
27 th December – 2 nd January	Caseg Fraith, Snowdonia – New Year Meet	Elanor Mott

Please check the website for the most up to date meet info:

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

If you would like to attend a meet, please email the meets secretary (meets@ulgmc.org). For ULMC meets, please contact Rob (robhardy.hardy@gmail.com).

Committee 2018/19




Full officers	
 <p>President Stephan Tietz</p> <p>07984583146 president@ulgmc.org.uk</p>	 <p>Vice President Mike Hale</p> <p>07850937386 Mikejhale+ulgmc@gmail.com</p>
<p>YOU ?</p> <p>Secretary Vacant Recruiting!</p> <p>Please still email to: secretary@ulgmc.org.uk</p>	 <p>Meets Secretary Graham Cunningham</p> <p>meets@ulgmc.org.uk</p>
	<p>Treasurer/ Membership Secretary Ian Ross</p> <p>members@ulgmc.org.uk</p>

Officers without portfolio

YOU ?

Recruiting!

We're looking for fresh ideas from members that are keen to get stuck in!

Non-committee roles		
 <p>Jill Bennett Club archivist</p> <p>jill.bennett@waitrose.com</p>	 <p>Heather Rumble (interim) Newsletter editor</p> <p>editor@ulgmc.org.uk</p> <p>Recruiting!</p>	 <p>Rob Hardy ULMC liaison</p> <p>robhardy.hardy@gmail.com</p>

ULGMC Huts

Fallcliffe



Lead Trustee

Mike Hale

Mikejhale+ulgmc@gmail.com



Trustee

Keith Mott

saymellon@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



Trustee

Mark Stitson

mark@stitson.com



Hut Warden & Booking

Secretary

Phil Tarr

caseg@ulgmc.org.uk



Hut Sub-Warden

Sally Brown

Hut Booking Secretary

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.

Wifi Network: CasegFraith; Password: Tryf@n917

Strictly limited to 8 parking spaces.

To book the hut or check availability, visit:

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

Memorandum presented to the 2018 AGM

Am I the last president?

by Stephan Tietz

I joined ULGMC nine years ago. Five years ago I was elected treasurer and membership secretary. And last year I was elected to represent this proud club as its president. My wife and I have run up to six meets a year and for three years we managed to run regular socials and climbing nights in London (until we had to move further away).

If I am allowed I wish to continue to contribute to this club for few more years as president and many more years as a member. In fact, I am not alone with my commitment to this club. Many other members have spent decades(!) organising meets year in and year out or have been on the club committee or the trust for the huts or both. And that's before we include contributions which are often less visible: our archivist, the hut wardens, the authors of meet reports, the cooks for our group meals and so on.

In its nearly 70 year long history the club has seen Highs and Lows. In fact over just my nine years I have seen ebbs and flows from year to year. However, among the noise there seem to be some clear and positive trends:

- The membership has been at a stable 170-180 members for at least the last decade with a steady increase in younger members (about 2 in 5 members are now between 20 and 40 years old).
- We have resurrected an Alps meet and thanks to the hard work of some of our members (and a little help from the Training and Expedition fund) many young climbers have made their first mountaineering steps.
- We have a full set of new hut trustees.
- We improved our relationship with ULMC. (Though more work needs to be done.)

When I was elected president I said I would do four things, which hopefully would build on these trends:

- Support Fallcliffe, so it becomes a more welcoming and enjoyable hut.
- Engage the next generation of climbers, particularly ULMC.
- Revisit the governance of this club, particularly ensure the AGM works for members.
- Deal with the increasing cost of BMC affiliation

However, I fear that these ambitions are in vain as developments over the last weeks have highlighted the incredible decline in members being politically engaged in this club:

- The committee is now down to four members of which only 2-3 have regular time to commit to the club – not enough for a quorum.
- This year's AGM will have 20 attendees out of nearly 180 members – which questions its democratic legitimacy.

This makes me wonder if I might be the last President of ULGMC?

This trend needs to be reversed if this club is meant to have a future. I believe, if this can be addressed, we will also see an increase in the number of meets again (including a potential return of a Lake District meet).

Over the last three years the committee has asked for ideas to move or revamp the AGM. We had little response. Given the drop in AGM attendance (and the fact that the AGM needs to sign off the date for the next AGM), we will have to make a decision this weekend of how to continue.

The decline in AGM attendance is down to two aspects:

- Long-standing members are unable to come due to ill health or the general effort of long travel. Unfortunately, there is very little we can do to overcome this issue, as these members that have been the stalwarts of the AGM for many years are also geographically disparate.
- Younger members often don't come as they also want to get some climbing done and the weather tends to be poor in October or a general very busy in October as their life still aligns with the academic term (for example helping out ULMC with training Freshers)

Therefore I have a simple proposal to the AGM. Next year's AGM should be held at a time when the weather tends to be nicer and the academic calendar tends to be less busy. I think that the best (and least risky) option is to align with a meet as we can use past experience to gauge attendance. Next year's AGM would be held in Snowdonia and our best attended meets are August BH and Easter. The latter is the more popular of the two ties in with the committee changeover for ULMC and is the more popular of the two.

Hence, I propose that the 2019 AGM should be during Easter bank holiday meet. I understand that this sounds like a crazy idea, but I strongly believe that sticking with the status quo is not good enough. And if it all fails next Easter, we still have a get out of jail free card: the committee calls an EGM for the usual weekend in October.

Minutes of the 68th ULGMC AGM (unadopted)

The 68th Annual General Meeting of the University of London Mountaineering Club (ULGMC) took place at 6 pm on Saturday 20th of October 2018 at the Plough Inn, Hathersage

Stephan Tietz (ST; President) in the chair. Minutes taken by Heather Rumble (HR; interim Secretary)

Committee present: Stephan Tietz, Graham Cunningham (GC; Meets Secretary), Heather Rumble (interim)

Total attendance: 21 members, of which 1 abstained from participating

1. Absence of agenda prior to meeting

Mike Esten enquired as to why no agenda had been circulated prior to the AGM as required by the constitution. ST acknowledged and apologized for this oversight explaining that the club is run by a skeleton committee, which has caused something's not getting done on time.

ST asked the members, if the AGM should be abandoned or continue with an agenda identical to the last years. All apart from one member present agreed to continue with the AGM, but requested for agenda to be circulated in a time for the next AGM **ACTION ST**

2. Apologies for absence

Sue Darling; Rachael Mott; Tim and Caroline Marshall; John Burrows; Roland Caine; Stephen Olivant; Willie and Wendy Butler; Jill and Mike Bennett; John Ashworth; Matt Walters; Mike Hale; Ian Ross; Bill Towlson; Andy and Elena Charalambolous; Mike Pollitt

3. Adoption of the agenda

Proposed by Frances Mott. Seconded by Janet Hellen.

3. Minutes of the 2017 AGM

a) Adoption of the draft minutes

Proposed by Elanor Mott. Seconded by Frances Mott.

b) Matters arising

HR had still not compiled a list of honorary/life members and will roll this over to next year. **ACTION HR**
Accounts from 2014 & 2015 have not been scrutinised still (see Treasurer's Report).

4. Finance

a) Treasurer's report and presentation of accounts 2017

ST reported: Handover to Ian Ross had only been partially completed due to time constraints. Ian Ross not present, so ST is delivering the report:

- Expenses and income were in line with previous years, despite higher expenses and not passing on the cost of the recent increase in BMC subs. In part this is due to:
 - Demographic shift of club members from Joints to Singles, who proportionally pay more into the club
 - Lower than usual AGM expenses due to complementary meals for the Fallcliffe hut warden and for the ULMC President had not been taken up
- Committee expenses had risen due to a small backlog in claims and increased print costs
- Donation to Fallcliffe still a liability as the cheque had not been cashed
- Have not spent all of the bursary from the BMC
- Overall a small deficit, but not concerned given high net assets

b) Adoption of the 2017 accounts

ST explained that the accounts could not be adopted because they had not been scrutinised. This was because the documentation for 2014 & 2015 had still not been returned to the committee by the previous scrutineer, Mike Warden, and that he had intended all accounts to be scrutinised by the new scrutineer, Mark Stitson, at once. Keith Mott asked the legal implications of having unadopted accounts. ST said he was not aware of implications; the bank could technically have an issue with this (though they had never asked for any club documentation previously).

Mark Stitson proposed two motions:

1. That the 2016 & 2017 accounts are deferred to the following year and scrutinised for adoption at the 2019 AGM. *This was seconded by GC.* **ACTION ST/IAN ROSS**
2. That the 2014 & 2015 accounts were completed as best as possible and presented to the 2019 AGM, where it could be decided if they could be adopted or not. *This was seconded by ST.* **ACTION ST/IAN ROSS**

Geof Batten asked if ST could send a letter to Mike Warden asking again for the accounts and expressing the members' disappointment with the situation. ST agreed to do this. **ACTION ST**

c) Agreement on membership subscription rates for 2019

ST proposed no alteration to the current subscription rates.

BMC affiliation is £14.25 per head for adults joining in Q1+Q2. Discounted rates for students (£10.75), children (£9.00) and if joining Q3+4 (£7.13). These discounts are passed on to members where applicable. No BMC contribution charged to non-UK members as they are not eligible to BMC liability insurance.

Single: £5.75 club contribution - £20 in total

Joint: £6.50 club contribution (£3.25 per head) - £35 total

No club contribution for children and parents can decide to pay £9 BMC contribution.

Proposed by Frances Mott. Seconded by Geof Batten.

d) Authorisation for expenditure of funds 2019

ST proposed to continue successful expedition and training fund (£200, unless to ULGMC Alps Trip, in which case £400).

Mark Stitson announced that despite ULMC benefitting from our training fund on the Alps trip, this year they decided not to match fund this from their own budget. ST agreed to add a condition to the expedition and training fund to combat this in future years. **ACTION ST/IAN ROSS**

Proposed Mark Stitson. Seconded Elanor Mott.

ST proposed to continue donations at their current level (or in line with potential rises in affiliated membership), in addition to supporting meets as they arise.

Proposed Keith Mott. Seconded Elanor Mott.

5. Other reports

a) President

Membership remained stable, with a change in demographics of members. Currently have 175 members, which compares to the 170-180 members we have had in the last 8-9 years. The profile of the club is changing, with an uplift in younger members. Concern is that this has not translated into increased engagement in the running and political matters of the club. AGM attendance is poor by younger members and there has been a slow decline of meets due to a lack of meet leaders. ST has some suggestions to overcome this (see: 6) Programme for 2019).

HR is covering the secretary role. Some early interest from a ULMC member earlier in the year had not come to fruition and we do not have another candidate.

b) Meets Sec

GC reported that the meets list has changed a bit and has 15 meets for 2019. GC appealed for new meet leaders, as these have not changed for some time. Attendance has been good, with regular input from small groups of ULMC.

e) Hut wardens/trustees

Mark Stitson (MS; Trustee) reported that the huts are doing well. However, income was lower in both huts this year than the previous year, with a particular slump in July/August, which we cannot explain. However, there is a reasonably good surplus in both huts.

MS and Phil Tarr (warden for Caseg) had been to Caseg the previous weekend and written a maintenance/snag list, which will be implemented soon. In addition, they have drawn up action plans for developments at both Caseg (see Phil Tarr report) and Fallcliffe. In Fallcliffe, the ULGMC donation will finally be spent on doors for the bedrooms. In addition, some plans for a drying room and improvements to the bathroom have been drawn up, for which Dave Morley (hut warden for Fallcliffe) is retrieving quotes.

Phil Tarr (warden for Caseg) appealed for specific help from ULGMC members, namely looking for:

- Experience of building regulations and planning. This is to alter Caseg to make the toilets accessible from the inside and install a drying room.
- Legal advice on contracts and leases. The lease will need renewing in the next few decades and we need to be prepared for this.

HR agreed to add this appeal to the newsletter. **HR ACTION**

Trefor Owens suggested that Geoff Williams may be able to help.

f) BMC area meetings

Trefor Owens (Wales) reported that there were still problems with footpaths and access to Snowdon, as it was overrun with visitors. In addition, off-roading has become a big problem in Snowdonia that the BMC are trying to tackle.

Trevor Hellen (South West) reported that the South-West region was very concerned with local issues and that access to meetings is hampered by geographical dispersion of meetings and members.

ST (South-East) reported that the BMC had been involved in the large "Mend Our Mountains" fundraiser. BMC has also gone through governance review and changes have been agreed by its AGM. New governance structure creates a board of directors with more formal input from various stakeholder (including clubs and members), which should make the BMC more accountable.

ST appealed for regional BMC reps to come forward, particularly a London rep.

6. Programme for 2019

a) 2019 meets programme

The Meets List for 2019 was available at the meeting and will be made available more widely after the AGM.

b) AGM 2019

ST proposed that, given a lack of engagement in matters of governance by younger members, the AGM is moved to an already popular meet. He outlined some persistent problems that he thinks may contribute to a lack of attendance at the AGM:

- October is the busiest period for ULMC teaching freshers; recent graduates are also drafted in to help with this
- The weather and limited time to participate in activities during the day means that some members feel the travel time does not pay off at the AGM weekend

ST suggested that the Easter Meet would be an ideal meet for the AGM because:

- It is a long weekend, which gives flexibility in terms of providing other activities and ensuring members get to participate in outdoor activities
- The weather tends to be better
- This is the most popular meet of the year and generally has a good mix of ages and interests attending, covering a wide demographic of members

Discussion about this proposal was generally positive:

- Frances Mott offered to cook a buffet if the AGM was to occur in Caseg
- GC suggested that the AGM and meal could be on different nights, to offer flexibility of participation. He suggested that PYB could be a good venue for one or both.
- Trevor Hellen pointed out that parking could be an issue if the AGM occurred in the hut. HR suggested that shuttling could be organised if needed from the layby, but that in general we would need to be flexible depending on how many people were interested in attending.
- HR offered to send an expression of interest with the newsletter to try to gauge attendance.
- ST stated that if the AGM at Easter proved to be unsatisfactory, an EGM will be called for the usual weekend in October.

The AGM agreed that in 2019 the AGM should take place in Snowdonia over the Easter weekend. The finer details would be worked out by ST and HR. **ACTION ST/HR**

Proposed by Janet Hellen. Seconded by Geof Batten.

ST stressed that members should email him with concerns, support or suggestions for this change.

7. Election of new committee

- President (Stephan Tietz - no nominations received)
- Vice-President (Mike Hale - no nominations received)
- Secretary (vacant - no nominations received)
- Treasurer/Membership Sec (Ian Ross - no nominations received)
- Meets Sec (Graham Cunningham - no nominations received)
- Committee members without portfolio (vacant - no nominations received)

Voted on block. 18 voted for. No abstentions.

8. Other elections

- Scrutineer of ULGMC accounts (Mark Stitson)
- BMC representatives (Trefor Owen)
- ULMC representative (Rob Hardy)

Voted on block. 16 voted for. Two abstentions.

9. Any other business

- Trefor Owen asked the AGM attendees to take particular care walking in the Peak District, as some dangerous aliens had been encountered by Dr Who on the train between Grindleford and Hathersage the previous week.

ACTION AGM ATTENDEES

- Joy Parsons proposed a vote of thanks to the committee
- HR proposed a vote of thanks to everyone attending the AGM

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON GRADUATE MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Accounts for 1st January 2017 to 31st December 2017

	From 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017		From 01/01/2016 to 31/12/2016		BALANCE SHEET	
	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	On 31/12/2017	On 31/12/2016
Subscriptions	2,942.25		2,721.95		7,633.43	7,843.27
Arrears/Donations	35.00		40.45		4,533.30	4,743.62
Current Year	2,907.25		2,681.50		3,000.13	2,999.65
					100.00	100.00
BMC Affiliation		2,173.53		1,942.75		
Q1		1,569.00		1,942.75		
Q2		564.75				
Q3		39.78				
Q4						
Donations		316.00		310.00		
Friends of Lake District		30.00		30.00		
Snowdonia Society		36.00		30.00		
MR England & Wales		150.00		150.00		
MR Scotland		50.00		50.00		
SARDA		50.00		50.00		
Miscellaneous		484.40		395.28		
AGM dinner		50.00		115.00		
Committee Expenses		222.38		71.71		
Direct Debit (GoCardless)		12.02	12.47	8.57		
BMC Funding						
Expedition and Training Fund		200.00		200.00		
Meets	811.00	811.00	1,102.00	1,102.00		
Easter BH	36.00	36.00				
AGM	775.00	775.00	1,102.00	1,102.00		
Interest	1.18		3.23			
Bank	1.18		3.23			
TOTAL	3,754.43	3,784.93	3,839.65	3,750.03		
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		(30.50)		89.62		

	On 31/12/2017	On 31/12/2016
Assets	7,633.43	7,843.27
Reserve Account 816	4,533.30	4,743.62
Reserve Account 916	3,000.13	2,999.65
Current Account	100.00	100.00
Liabilities	(2,362.12)	(2,259.71)
Pre-paid subscriptions	(981.25)	(976.75)
Credit for subscriptions	(97.00)	(111.25)
Donation to Fallcliffe	(500.00)	(500.00)
Expedition & Training Fund		(200.00)
BMC Affiliation	(39.78)	
BMC Funding	(400.00)	(400.00)
Meets	(50.00)	
Committee Expenses	(294.09)	(71.71)
Creditors	281.75	0.00
Subscriptions	6.75	
Meets	275.00	
NET ASSETS	5,553.06	5,583.56
Opening balance	5,583.56	
Surplus (Deficit)	(30.50)	
CLOSING BALANCE	5,553.06	

This is a true record of ULGMC finances checked against receipts and bank statements

Stephan Tietz

Stephan Tietz (Hon. Treasurer)
18th March 2017

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON GRADUATE MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Forecast for 1st January 2018 to 31st December 2018

	From 01/01/2018 to 31/12/2018		From 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017		BALANCE SHEET		
	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	On 18/10/2017	On 31/12/2017	
Subscriptions	2,925.50		2,942.25		Assets	7,385.06	7,633.43
Arrears/Donations	66.50		35.00		Reserve Account 816	4,283.79	4,533.30
Current Year	2,859.00		2,907.25		Reserve Account 916	3,001.27	3,000.13
					Current Account	100.00	100.00
BMC Affiliation		2,072.27		2,173.53	Liabilities	(2,222.33)	(2,362.12)
Q1		1,865.50		1,569.00	Pre-paid subscriptions	(84.75)	(981.25)
Q2				564.75	Credit for subscriptions	(34.75)	(97.00)
Q3		206.77		39.78	Donation to Fallcliffe	(500.00)	(500.00)
Q4					Expedition & Training Fund		
					AGM dinner	(525.00)	
Donations		316.00		316.00	BMC Affiliation	(206.77)	(39.78)
Friends of Lake District		30.00		30.00	BMC Funding	(400.00)	(400.00)
Snowdonia Society		36.00		36.00	Meets		(50.00)
MR England & Wales		150.00		150.00	Direct Debit (GoCardless)	(12.67)	
MR Scotland		50.00		50.00	Committee Expenses	(458.39)	(294.09)
SARDA		50.00		50.00			
					Creditors	351.26	281.75
Miscellaneous	0.00	579.30		484.40	Subscriptions	132.00	6.75
AGM dinner				50.00	Meets	219.00	275.00
Committee Expenses		164.30		222.38	Bank interest	0.26	
Direct Debit (GoCardless)		15.00		12.02			
Expedition and Training Fund		400.00		200.00	NET ASSETS	5,513.99	5,553.06
					Opening balance	5,553.06	
Meets	525.00	525.00	811.00	811.00	Surplus (Deficit)	(39.07)	
Easter BH			36.00	36.00			
AGM	525.00	525.00	775.00	775.00	CLOSING BALANCE	5,513.99	
Interest	3.00		1.18				
Bank	3.00		1.18				
TOTAL	3,453.50	3,492.57	3,754.43	3,784.93	This is a true record of ULGMC finances as of 17 th October 2017		
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		(39.07)		(30.50)	<i>Stephan Tietz</i>		