



Not an unusual sight from Trevedra this year! See the Jubilee report

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Important Announcements

A New Team

2022 saw a ground-breaking event for this club. Plas y Brenin hosted the first real and virtual AGM in our post-COVID(?) world. Many thanks for all those who attended in body and remotely. I am pleased to report that it went remarkably well. Thanks go to Heather and Stephan for organising it all.

Although Heather and Stephan are still deeply involved with the business of the club it was more than time to give them a break. They have been the cornerstone of the club from before and during COVID but now have other priorities, not least their daughter Astrid.

This has led to the formation of a new committee with four new members. I say new although you may see some familiar faces. Please support them as they take your club forward once more.

On the death of her late majesty, Queen Elizabeth II

I cannot be certain how each one of you feels but following the recent news and after watching the funeral earlier this week I cannot help but feel that we did not realise what we had until it was gone. Whatever the future brings I hope we can learn to face it in the way our late Queen has shown us.

Volunteers are always Needed!

We also need: 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, Keith Mott, for more details, president@ulgmc.org

Upcoming Meets

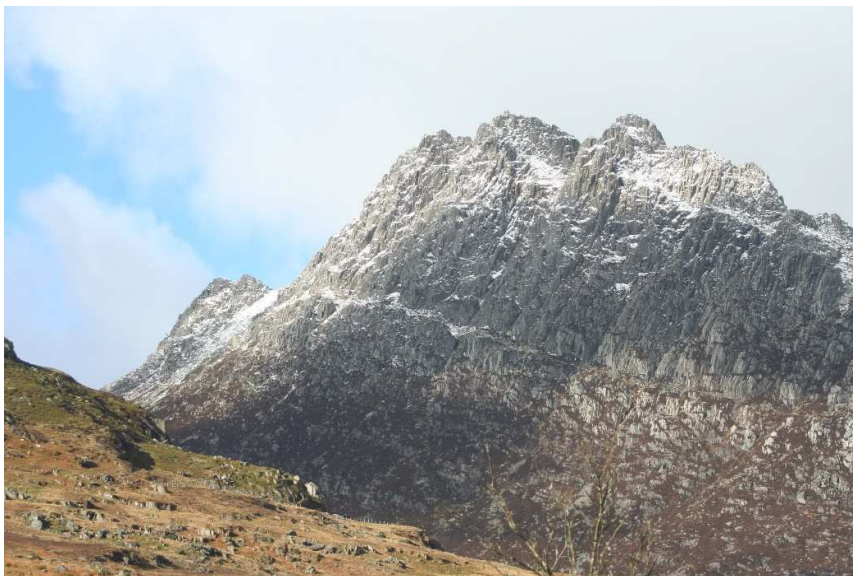
4th-7th November, Bonfire Meet, The Peak District



Hopefully there will have been enough rain by November to make the essentials of this weekend possible. (Does anyone remember what happened in 1977?) If not, there will be usual mix of walking, climbing and, of course, the communal meal at Fallcliffe.

Please contact The Motts to book your places saymellon@gmail.com

29th December – 3rd January, New Year, Caseg Fraith



We may not be swimming in the Irish Sea but all the other seasonal activities should be available. Please email Elanor, meets@ulgmc.org.uk, for more information.

Inspired? Fancy running a new meet?

Contact the meets secretary: meets@ulgmc.org.uk

Meet Reports

Easter and AGM Meet, Snowdonia

The hut was not exactly buzzing but those who attended were grateful for the chance to get back together once again. It was a joy to see young children in the hut again.

There was plenty of activity during the days but no reports have reached the editor so far. Perhaps people have just got out of the habit?

Frances, once again, fed us all to a standstill on the Friday evening. (Perhaps that's why I failed the next test.) Many thanks to Frances and the rest of the team of helpers.

Tryfan was scaled successfully via the North Ridge with Mark Stitson in the lead. I (Keith) failed miserably, being well out of condition. Next attempt, ABH!

We had our customary day out with Trefor and another taking our daughters' friend around Anglesey. Although the café in the Anglesey Museum is waiting for another company to begin, there is now a pop-up pizza parlour in the building next door. Well worth a visit to both.

Saturday evening saw us assemble at Plas y Brenin for the AGM. We were joined by Geof and Margaret Batten who were staying nearby. Our most welcome guests were Lucas Wing, president of ULMC and Gavin Curran, ex-president of UCLMC. Others joined us on-line. Please see the draft minutes below.

We then retired to the restaurant for another fine dining experience. Thanks to the staff who stayed on to keep us fed.

If anyone can provide a more detailed report we will publish this in a later newsletter and on the website.

Cornwall for the 70th Jubilee Celebrations

I think we should all be grateful that Her Majesty has provided a certain stability for this country for longer than I have been around. It is a shame that around the time of her official birthday the weather has not always been as reliable!

This year has certainly been an exception. It was most definitely the Cornish Riviera. The colour of the sea and sky was so bright that my simple camera was not capable of capturing its intensity. You should have been there.

As well as those camping we were once again joined by Geof and Margaret who were at least, if not more, adventurous than the rest of us. We called in on their apartment next to the First and Last only to discover they had taken the bus to St. Ives for the day!

The Motts managed to get to St. Michael's Mount after several attempts, and without drowning. If you haven't been there already it should be on your bucket list.

Those of us who did not enjoy the pleasures of a Cornish King crab, (aka spider crab) last year made up for it this time. It's hard work but well worth it!

I will certainly be ready for a (final?) assault on Commando Ridge next year if anyone is interested.

12th – 15th August, Full Moon and Martian Surrey Meet

Many thanks to Sue for hosting this meet amongst the fields and woods in the Surrey countryside, especially since we took along the family we are hosting under the Homes for Ukraine scheme. They had only been here a week!

It was one of those extremely hot weekends so much of the time was spent relaxing in the garden, fighting off the wasps and occasionally going for walks or rides in the lanes surrounding the house. Both Alica, 11, and Yura, 13, were thrilled to ride Bella.

For some reason we decided to take a portable toilet and tent since some of us were camping in the garden. That turned out to be prescient as the water supply failed on Saturday evening and the tank ran dry early on Sunday. We made do with water bottles collected locally. The supply returned before we departed after lunch on Sunday. Thanks again to Sue for her hospitality.

24th – 30th August, August Bank Holiday Weekend, Snowdonia

After such a lovely weekend in the Surrey Hills, our Ukrainian family were persuaded to join us in Snowdonia just two weeks later. It was not quite as hot as before but very pleasant for walking, climbing and swimming!

We travelled up on Thursday, collecting Elanor and Rachael on the way. There was torrential rain on the M40 but Wales was warm and mostly dry when we arrived later in the day. The evening was spent exploring around the hut. There was talk of climbing on Friday.

The visitors decided on a walk up to the reservoir on Friday morning as a light drizzle was falling. The weather quickly cleared and preparations were made to climb on the rocks behind the hut. After lunch we all made our way up the slope and prepared to climb on and next to the staircase, as we have always called it. The family is really competitive but had great fun getting to grips with their own individual techniques.

Saturday saw us off to the beach. We packed balls, frisbees, kites and a picnic lunch and headed for Newborough Warren on Anglesey. The air temperature was already over 20°C when we left the hut. By the time we arrived it had reached 23°C with it still climbing.

There had been a real dump of sand since we were last there at Easter. The tide was going out at the time but the sea so calm. I could walk out more than 50m without the water reaching my knees. Swimming was an issue with large stones so close below.

The Ukrainians were reluctant but even Frances came in for a swim. We reckon the water was at least 15°C. Not quite a bath but close. The children had a great time with the parents starting to relax. They hope to return.

Sunday saw us back climbing, this time on one of the harder routes behind the hut. The children enjoyed the challenge even if it made them concentrate much more. We, of course, had a communal meal on Sunday evening. Ian and Angus, Andy and Elena had joined us late on Saturday so there were 14 for dinner. Thanks to Frances and her team of helpers for all the wonderful food.

Monday was quiet with short walks around the hut. Alex and Olena were a little more adventurous with a walk to Cwm Idwal where the toddler paddled in the lake. A really memorable Bank Holiday.

ULMC Alps Trip 2022

ULMC applied for and received the ULGMC Expedition Fund this year. It looks as though they spent the funds well. With kind permission, the report is attached to the end of this newsletter.

16th-18th September, Norfolk Mountains

The meet did take place although there were only 10 members present, the Motts and their Ukrainian friends. Together with neighbours and friends we all enjoyed a relaxing day with an all-you-can-eat barbeque in the evening.

President's Report

Further on down this newsletter somebody calls the last two years "slightly unusual". Let's hope we don't get to "really unusual"!

I would have liked to bring you only good news in my first report as president. I have to tell you that the news is mixed. Both the number of members and meets has fallen during COVID, not totally unexpectedly.

As a family, we have always looked forward to visiting the huts and campsites and meeting up with friends. I am sure this will continue to be the case but we, the family that is, do not constitute this club.

We now have a new committee. Many thanks to all those who have volunteered their time and efforts to support the club and its members. With your help they will be able to take the club into our post-COVID times.

Many of you will have received a copy of this newsletter even though you may not have renewed your membership. I realise that many of you no longer feel the draw of camping or staying in huts. Club-related social activities are more likely to have taken place on line or over the phone during COVID and may continue to do so.

If this is the case, all that I would ask is that you pass on your tales of escapades and your enthusiasm to others in the hope that this will inspire them get out and about once again. The list of meets is on the website and accessible to all at <https://www.ulgmc.org.uk/meets>. You can always email through the website if you know of anyone who might like to join us.

Elanor will be looking to add a variety of meets to the list for next year. If you have enjoyed trips to any part of the UK please let her know as others are sure to be interested. You can also report on any of your own activities in an attempt to tempt others.

I have also had discussions with ULMC President Lucas Wing. We will be working at organising one or two joint meets next year. Please see the ULMC section below.

We may struggle to rebuild the club to the position it was in even a few years ago but our task may just be to keep it ticking over until the effects of the last couple of years are a more distant memory. Please let me know if there is anything you feel you can do to help. Thank you,

Keith Mott

president@ulgmc.org.

Club News

News from your committee

The new committee has started taking on the immense workload from Heather and Stephan. With the help of Sue Darling in the role of Vice President and general arbiter of all things, we are slowly making progress. We hope that by the time of the next newsletter we will have more information about the structure and roles within the committee.

Sad News

Keith Mott

This newsletter has been in train over the summer. I am sad to report that a number of members have passed away during that time.

John Nicholas Burrows was a founder member of this club. John, also known to some as Nick, was an integral part of ULGMC, overseeing, amongst other projects, the purchase of Fallcliffe. As well as being an active member alongside his late wife Valerie, he was a mine of information and kindly advice to many members over the years. He will be sorely missed. Our thoughts go out to his family and many friends.

Trefor Owen reports the tragic loss of his wife Patsy. Together they kindly provided a warm and dry refuge when Snowdonia was at its worst. They often joined us for the communal meal and for walks. Our thoughts are with Trefor and with Patsy's family.

Mike Bennett has contacted other members of the club with the sad news that Jill passed away in June. Jill had been the club archivist for many years and always seemed to be able to supply poignant clippings for more recent newsletters. We will miss her and the wonderful service she provided.

Derek Fordham joined the club back in the 60's. He and Jenny, his wife, seem to have been involved in a great number of clubs but he will be remembered by many for his expeditions to Greenland. In 2016 he was awarded the Polar Medal for his work as expedition leader, mountaineer and ambassador.

There will be a more fulsome account of all these great lives in the next newsletter and on the website. Please do send any personal memories to the newsletter editor via the contacts page, <https://www.ulgmc.org.uk/contact>.

New Members

The Ukrainian family we are hosting have asked to join the club. The committee has agreed, so please welcome parents Alex and Olena and children Yura, Alica, Maksym and Slava. They have already been to two meets and hope to join us for bonfire and perhaps even at New Year. Please come along to meet them and give them your support.

Membership Renewals

For those of you who have registered for direct debit payments, this will be taken during November. For the remainder there will be a reminder in the next newsletter early in the New Year.

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.

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: iOS:)
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=air.com.yudu.ReaderAIR4536603>
<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.)

Your committee are working toward holding at least two joint meets each year in order to keep contact between the two clubs alive.

ULMC are always on the look-out for experienced climbers. **If you are interested to help out please get in contact or join the ULMC Facebook page:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2386489671>.

Interested in joining the committee?

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






Committee Members 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 Keith 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 2022

Date	Meet or Social	Location	Meet Leader	Notes
Nov 4 th – 7 th	Bonfire Meet	Fallcliffe Cottage, Peak District	The Motts	  
Dec 29 th – Jan 3 rd	New Year Meet	Caseg Fraith, Snowdonia	Elanor Mott	 

Italics denote unconfirmed details



Children welcome



Early booking required



Dogs welcome



Instruction for beginners/children available



Camping meet



Bank Holiday



Fire



Communal Feast

Members: Contact meet leaders directly to attend meets

Non-members: Contact the meets secretary to attend meets: meets@ulgmc.org.uk

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

Members Corner

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.

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

Meet Leaders Wanted

Elanor Mott

After a couple of slightly unusual years, we are now able to hold meets again. However, the current meets list looks rather small, and one name keeps recurring as meet leader. If anyone is interested in organising a new meet, taking over a meet (the Motts are happy to relinquish some of the meets into other hands), or even a day walk, please contact the meets secretary to get it placed on the meets list.

Also, a reminder to all, as a BMC affiliated club, we can book huts belonging to other BMC affiliated clubs. There are huts up and down the country that can be booked for meets, from the Naismith Hut near Lochinver, Scotland to Bosigran Count House in Cornwall. All the details for these huts can be found on the BMC website

<https://www.thebmc.co.uk/organisations/huts>.

Campsites, B&Bs and Youth Hostels can also be a good base for a meet if there are no huts available in the area where you wish to hold a meet.

New Committee Members

Introduction to the new Hon President, Keith Mott



I realise that many of you know me well, some even too well so please excuse this indulgence! I started climbing at around the age of 4 when my mum had to help me down from a tree in the garden. I was more inclined to long distance backpacking before being recruited into the club by one of my lecturers, Monty Avis. I think I officially joined the club in 1981, at the Land's End meet and have been a member ever since. I have been on the committee before, have run meets at home and away and continue to enjoy camping and the outdoors and encourage others to do the same.

Introduction to the new Hon Treasurer, Clive Pedder



Now retired, I'm a QMC alumnus, joined ULMC in 1975, and have been a continuous member of ULMC/ULGMC ever since. I'm a mountain walker rather than climber and these days tend to spend my hill-time in the Cairngorms which we visit regularly, though I hope to reacquaint myself with Caseg, of which I have very fond memories. My other passion in life is offshore sailing, and the summer months will usually find me somewhere in or around the English Channel.

Introduction to the new Hon Membership Secretary, David Roche



I am a recently retired GP, living in East Sussex close to the Sandstone edges. I have climbed since university, rock climbing, mountaineering and ski touring mainly plus a few related activities.... The interest has taken me throughout the UK, European Alps, Jordan, South Africa and trekking visits to the Himalaya. I am still rock climbing but longer journeys in the mountains are currently curtailed due to a few injuries. As a sleeping member of ULGMC since the 1980's I have finally come out of the closet to help, hopefully!

Introduction to the new Hon Meets Secretary, Elanor Mott



I joined ULGMC in 2010 shortly after my 18th birthday after having grown up attending club meets with my parents (I was approximately four months old at my first meet). I have many happy childhood memories of Caseg Fraith, Fallcliffe and Trevedra Farm Campsite and all the members of the club who became an extended family to me.

I have always enjoyed walking, climbing (as a child I was given the nickname petit chamois by one member of ULGMC), and socialising at club meets.

Introduction to the new Committee Member without Portfolio, Seb Rowlands



Seb (they/them) has been involved with ULGMC since their undergraduate days at Royal Holloway in 2009, and has enjoyed many visits to the Caseg and Falcliffe huts over the years. Seb has been climbing since they were 16, and makes up for their lack of strength with belay snacks and enthusiasm. These days, being based in Brighton, they are more often found paddleboarding in the sea, but always keen for more hiking adventures.

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

Mark Stitson

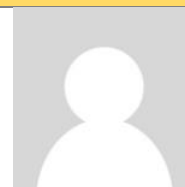
mark@stitson.com



Hut Warden & Booking Secretary

Phil Tarr

caseg@ulgmc.org.uk



Hut Sub-Warden

Sally Brown

casegwarden@ulgmc.org

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>

Draft minutes of the 70th Annual General meeting of the University of London Graduate Mountaineering Club, held at Plas-y-Brenin at 6.30 pm on Saturday 16th April 2022.

Members present: Stephan Tietz (Chair), Keith Mott, Geof and Margaret Batten, Frances Mott, Elanor Mott, Rachel Mott, Mark Stitson, Andy and Elena Charalambous, Sue Darling, James Poddubiuk.

Guests: Adan Del Pozo and Teresa Del Pozo, Amanda Wilson, Lucas Wing (representing ULMC), Gavin Curren (representing UCLMC),

Present by zoom: Heather Rumble, Mike and Sue Esten, Clive Pedder, Jonathon Jones, David Roche, Phil Tarr and Ian Ross,.

Proxy votes had been requested: for the chair by David & Kerstin Wray; for Sue Darling by Tim Marshall.

1 a) Apologies: John and Joy Parsons, Neil Brindley, Trefor Owen.

1 b) AOB No additional AOB items were put forward.

1 c) Minutes. A motion to accept the draft minutes of the 2018 AGM was proposed by Frances Mott, seconded by Elanor Mott and agreed by consensus.

A motion to accept the draft minutes of the 2019 AGM was proposed by Elena Charalambous, seconded by Pauline Owens and agreed by consensus.

1 d) President's report

Recent years had been challenging, due to shortage of club officers, Covid and personal issues, but the future looked promising. Thanks were due to Heather, Keith and Sue for getting things back up and to Mike Esten and others for advice and support.

Membership

Memberships had stopped being processed in 2020 and nothing had been done in 2021, but memberships were now being accepted and processed as usual.

No membership cards were printed in 2020, 2021 or 2022. Printing and posting these is a large administrative effort costing c £150 (against an income of c £400pa for 100 members). The new committee will review alternatives, including electronic.

BMC has announced that affiliation cost will rise in line with inflation and this will be reflected in ULGMC membership fees as decided by the 2019 AGM. Latest prices are on the webpage.

In line with previous AGM decisions, a clear distinction is being made between club and BMC elements of the club subscription. There is no alternative to BMC affiliation for liability insurance, including cover for the committee and huts, plus overall support for climbing and walking nationally. Those with multiple BMC membership should remember to reclaim.

The 2019 AGM had endorsed Mike Esten's proposal that the club write to the BMC, outlining the large proportional cost of BMC affiliation and our concern that it will reduce the number of people able to join mountaineering clubs. This is in hand and will be pursued by the new committee.

Meets

We need members to run and attend meets, official and unofficial. Thanks to the Motts for the 2021 Cornwall, Bonfire and New Year meets, and Heather for the Surrey walk. The 2022 meets list is in the newsletter and on the webpage. Again thanks to the Motts for achieving this.

Hut bookings

Fallcliffe and Caseg Fraith closed temporarily due to Covid restrictions in 2020 and put adjustments in place in 2021. Both huts are now fully open with no or minor adjustments.

Fallcliffe has been refurbished; thanks to everyone who made this happen.

Please use the website to book huts; the site has latest information and contact details for the wardens.

AGMs and club governance

The 2020 AGM in 2020 at Easter at Caseg was cancelled because of Covid, and there was a hiatus in club arrangements. But we are now back in Wales in the spirit of decisions reached at the 2019 AGM, and back on track as a club.

It is important that the committee acts in the best interests of club members. This means the committee should keep members informed and members should provide input and hold the committee to account. To give the new committee time to put forward proposals to members, I will suggest under item 4b a further AGM in October.

Committee

To help get back on track, in 2021 I appointed Keith Mott as membership and meets secretary, Heather Rumble as secretary and Sue Darling as vice president. My thanks to them.

We have since had three volunteers/nominations. Subject to elections under item 6, for the first time in 4-5 years we should have a proper working committee.

We are also engaging with current ULMC members and alumni to encourage their involvement with ULGMC, not only to ensure our future, but also to promote their climbing and mountaineering ambitions.

Club accounts

We lost access to NatWest online banking in early 2020 as they changed from institutional accounts to personal accounts. It took almost 9 months to get this sorted, which took a lot of time and affected processing memberships. We have access back and the ability to make bank transfers, which has simplified some club admin. NatWest credited the club with £100 to apologise.

In this process we found zombie signatories who had not been removed as requested. There are currently 2 signatories, from the same household, which will be addressed by the new committee.

We also finally recovered missing paperwork covering financial years 2013-2014. Mark Stitson has now scrutinised the accounts from 2013/14 to 2021.

Previous AGMs requested a list of honorary & life members, to review our liabilities of BMC affiliation. When I took on treasurer I had no information on the differences between lifetime members, honorary members and honorary Vice Presidents. Therefore we have paid BMC insurance for all of them (and their spouses) even though this is not necessarily what the constitution or prior AGM decisions say. This wasn't an issue when we could cover these costs via 10 paying members,

but given the increased cost (and proportion) of BMC affiliation, we now need income from 40 paying members to cover.

Jill Bennett (our archivist) compiled a list, but this hasn't been reviewed by Heather and the committee until recently. If we haven't done so already we will consult with all beneficiaries to ensure we get this right for the 2023 fy. We will also add a list of known honorary members/VPs and the reason they were appointed to the webpage to ensure their past contributions are more visible.

ULMC future

This was a key focus over the pandemic. In 2020 London University moved to dissolve Student Central (the funding body for University clubs) and encouraged clubs to approach college organisations. Student clubs objected and we asked ULGMC members to write letters of support, which helped achieve a short term reprieve.

Statement by Lucas Wing, President of ULMC.

ULMC had been looking actively for another structure in which to work, with options of linking with a college club or becoming an independent charity. Agreement had now been reached to link to Birkbeck College, while maintaining the separate identity of ULMC and affiliation with the BMC, plus affiliation with a commercial transport organisation. This seemed a good way ahead.

After recent elections, the club had a full committee. 1 trip a month was planned, using hired transport on a self-funding basis. Past meets included Caseg, Scotland in winter and Cornwall; pictures were shown.

ULMC had appreciated funding from ULGMC for overseas climbing and would apply for future Alps meets.

Communications

No newsletter in 2020 and 2021, as no contributions received. With a bigger committee, it's the intention to have 2-3 a year plus more active social media and an enhanced website.

Email. Yahoo keep changing rules around mass emailing, so I'm exploring a different provider.

Website. Over the last 2-3 years we have tweaked the structure and added content. We had an issue with the certificate, now resolved. I plan further improvements, e.g. state our privacy/GDPR policy and add a newsletter archive.

Constitutional review

The pandemic, reduced AGM attendance since 2017/28 and advice from previous AGMs have highlighted the need to amend our constitution (which is on the webpage under "About us"). In the run up to the next GM I will review the constitution and put proposals in a n/I with a view getting input from members and adopting an amended constitution at a General meeting.

70th club and hut anniversary

Sadly the 70th club and hut anniversary passed without notice, but perhaps we can mark the 75th or 80th event.

Conclusion

9.5 years as an officer on the committee has been quite a ride. It's a mixed legacy and I am looking forward to have others take on these key roles and to concentrate on a few things I can contribute more easily to the club at this point.

3. Finances & membership

a) Report on membership numbers and profile

Membership numbers were reasonably stable between 2014-2019 (180 – 181 – 173 – 180 – 174 – 161).

2020: 102 members (mostly via Direct Debit as no reminder was sent)

2021: 33 (no Direct Debit collected or reminders sent, figure includes officers/trustees/wardens)

2022: 103 and will have a handful more

Proportion of people born after 1980 has increased from about 15% in 2014/15 to 38% this year

b) (Re)presentation and adoption of scrutinised accounts for 2014-2018

There had been no changes to accounts since they were first presented to AGMs, but paperwork holdups had prevented them being scrutinised.

2014-2015: papers received and now scrutinised by Mark Stitson

2016-2018: scrutinised by Mark Stitson after last (2019) AGM.

A motion to accept the scrutinised accounts for 2014 – 2018 was proposed by Andy Charalambous, seconded by Frances Mott and agreed by consensus.

c) Presentation and adoption of accounts for 2019-2021

2019 was the last year of donation to 5 organisations (2019 AGM agreed that only 2 Mountain Rescue organisations should receive donations in future). Training fund was £420, including £20 membership from the late John Coote. Committee expenses covered membership cards, printing and postage. There had been a small loss on the 2019 AGM - VAT wasn't collected from everyone as Plas y Brenin had quoted a price without VAT.

2020: No donation, no training fund

2021: No donation, no training fund and essentially no membership collected.

A motion to accept the scrutinised accounts for 2019 – 2021 was proposed by Elanor Mott, seconded by Elena Charalambous and agreed by consensus.

d) Presentation of forecast for 2022

Budget projections were put forward to inform members and help forward planning. The BMC element of the club subscription had gone to the BMC so members were covered. MR donations would continue (£200) as would the training fund (basic £200, could be £400 to help with ULMC overseas meet). Hire of PyB hall for AGM = £102 plus guest meals as agreed by 2019 AGM. This would mean a deficit of £200, but allowing for liabilities there would be £6,500 in the bank so this seemed acceptable.

No questions or objection raised.

e) Membership subscription rates (club contribution & BMC affiliation) for 2022 & 2023.

It was proposed to keep the club element of the members subscription the same, pending future consideration by the new committee: £2 for the first two years after joining, £6 for singles, £10 for joint.

The BMC element of members' subscription rates would follow BMC charges, as agreed by 2019 AGM. Current BMC rates: £21 for adults, £17.35 for students, £15.55 for U18, £10.50 for renewals in Q3&Q4

Overall club membership subscription (for adults): £23 (first 2 years); £27 (single); £52 (joint).

Members who may not be liable for the full BMC rate should contact the membership secretary so records can be amended.

Subscription rates were approved by consensus.

f) Authorisation of extraordinary expenditure for 2022 & 2023

Expenditure around £50-£150 was forecast in line with agreement of previous AGMs, including expenses incurred in running the club - printing and postage of membership cards and other documents (e.g. newsletter archive); costs of banking and using GoCardless to process Direct Debits. The club also covers losses meet leaders may incur from cancellations.

The Expedition and Training fund had contributed to ULMC Alps meets, helping ULGMC and ULMC members develop from climbers to mountaineers. The committee strongly recommend renewing the Fund for 2022. ULMC were hoping for a 2022 Alps meet with a hired guide for basic training. There was a unanimous vote for continuation of the Fund.

Donations to mountain rescue

Proposed £200 donation as before, split between the Mountain Rescue Council of England and Wales and Mountain Rescue Scotland. Agreed by unanimous vote.

AGM dinner for ULMC committee in 2022

To be decided later in the year.

[I still don't know what this was about!]

4. Programme for 2022 & 2023

a) Meets report & planning

Thanks to the Mott family and Heather for arranging meets. Keith Mott outlined plans for 2022 and 2023: 6 regular meets plus hopes for more; more integration of ULGMC and ULMC meets.

b) Date of 2023 AGM/next general meeting

The Chair proposed a virtual AGM in October 2022, to consider proposals from the new Committee including date of the 2023 AGM. The following points were made in discussion:

- An EGM would be more appropriate, and should have a defined purpose, notified in advance.
- The powers of an EGM were limited, and did not extend to setting an AGM date
- Allowance should be made for current circumstances of the Club
- No reason why the current meeting could not decide the next AGM

The Committee informed the AGM that they wished to call an EGM in accordance with para 16 of the Constitution, to take place virtually on 13 October. Purpose to discuss outstanding business, detailed agenda to be circulated at least 4 weeks in advance. The meeting took note.

A motion to convene the 2023 AGM on Saturday 8 April in N Wales was proposed by Frances Mott, seconded by Elena Charalambous and agreed by consent.

5. Other reports

As warden for Caseg Fraith, Phil Tarr reported that in spite of Covid closures and restrictions, Caseg did well financially thanks to a £16k Covid grant from Conwy Council. Parking fees were now charged, and fees for individual dormitories. ??A new water treatment system had been recommended by Conwy Council, due to corroded pipes. There were ongoing cistern issues. Permission was awaited for path repairs.

The 5 yearly electrical inspection had taken place and work was needed including a new circuit board. There was 1 year left of a 2 year electricity contract, but Caseg was likely to have to put up rates. There were issues with power being left on; this might be remedied by thermostats/smart meters when 5G was installed, due in the autumn.

There were surpluses of £5000 in 2019, £8000 in 2020, £10,000 in 2021 and £5000 this year so far. The Fallcliffe loan had been increased by/to £10,000.

Thanks to everyone who had worked at Caseg, especially Keith, Mark and Sally.

6. Club officers & Committee members without portfolio

a) Elections

An unusual time and a small committee. Thanks to Heather Rumble, Jill Bennett (archivist), Mark Stitson (scrutineer) and the hut teams.

- Incumbent: Stephan Tietz (President)
- Reached end of term since last AGM: Mike Hale (Vice President)
- Resigned since last AGM: Graham Cunningham (Meets Secretary)
- Appointed by President since last AGM: Stephan Tietz (Treasurer), Sue Darling (Vice President), Heather Rumble (Secretary), Keith Mott (Membership Secretary & Meets Secretary)
- Standing for election:
 - President: Keith Mott
 - Vice President: Sue Darling
 - Secretary: vacant
 - Treasurer: Clive Pedder
 - Membership secretary: David Roche
 - Meet Secretary: vacant
 - Committee members without portfolio: Seb Rowlands, Stephan Tietz (website editor, constitutional review, as well as handing over treasurer & membership sec), Heather Rumble (newsletter editor, ULMC liaison)

A motion to elect Keith Mott as President was proposed by Elanor Mott and seconded by Sue Darling. It was carried by consensus.

The other officers and committee members were agreed by consensus:

A motion to appoint Elanor Mott as Meets Secretary, proposed by Frances Mott and seconded by Sue Darling, was agreed by consensus.

b) Other positions

A motion to retain Mark Stitson as scrutineer was proposed by Elena Charalambous, seconded by Andy Charalambous and agreed by consensus.

Thanks were expressed to Jill Bennett , Club archivist, for her continuing service.

7 AOB

A warm vote of thanks was expressed to Stephan and Heather for their sterling work in holding the club together over Covid and endorsed by the meeting.

The meeting closed at 19.55.

University Of London Mountaineering Club

Alps Trip 2022

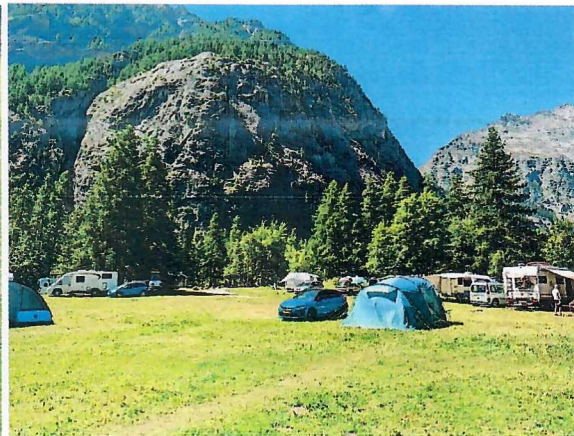
Ecrins National Park



After a year of UK based trips it was time to head abroad for our final trip of the academic year. The location this time was Ailefroide, a village in the Ecrins national park in the French Alps. The location was chosen as it offered something for all members regardless of interest or experience; from high alpine routes, long sport climbs to sunny crags and scenic hikes.

Overview of Activities

We all arrived at the campsite via different methods and from different places (including a selection of different countries!). We spent the first two days familiarising ourselves with the campsite and local valley rock: a popular route ascended by a few teams was *Palavar-les-flots*, a 12 pitch granite slab fest that is typical of Ailefroide.



Friday 3rd July saw the arrival of Vincent: a local guide who was to spend 2 days teaching us safe glacier travel and crevasse rescue. Before being unleashed on the glacier we spent a morning ascending trees and practising our ropework in the campsite. The first test of fitness began with a hike up the winding trail to the Refuge du Glacier Blanc, where we ate a 4 course meal and gave many of our members their first experience of an Alpine hut. Not quite Caseg but it'll do.



The following day saw the crampons and axes out as we headed out onto the beautiful Glacier Blanc where Vincent showed us the technicalities of crevasses rescue with the surprisingly simple method of telling us to “jump in and try to get out”. Aside from a few initial “total failures”, we all eventually understood that crevasses are not so different to trees and could now travel safely on the glacier. His work done, Vincent sprinted off down the hill into the Ecrins wilderness.



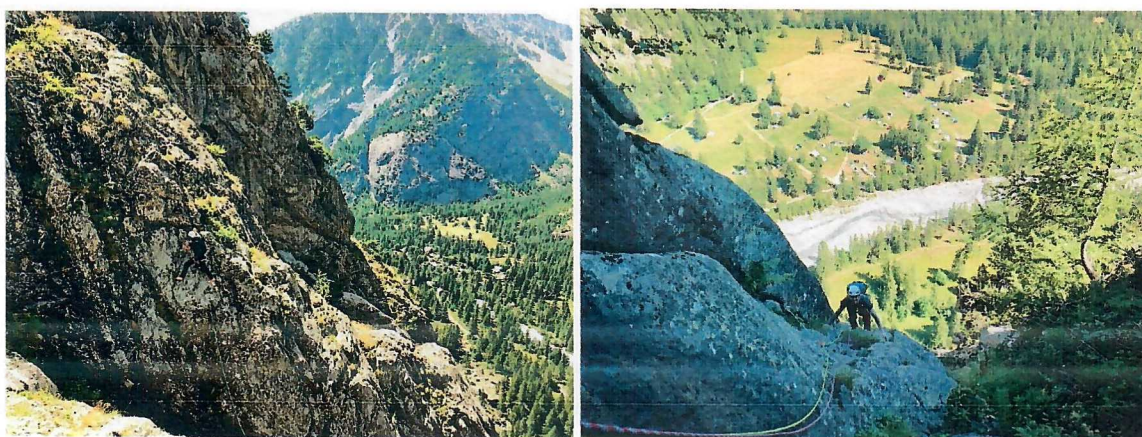
Armed with this new knowledge, Lucas, grande Gavin and Callum headed up to the Refuge Ecrins after a quick ascent of the *Pic du Glacier d'Arsine*. After an early start and an actual crevasse rescue, they climbed the *Roche Faurio*: a 3730m peak with a stunning summit ridge. Meanwhile, the rest of the group returned to the valley for some cragging and long sport adventures: James and Chris climbed *L'interminable agonie du chamois*, Faiz and grande Gavin climbed *Spit on Cup* before attempting to donate a rope to the crag. 7th July saw a two pronged assault by Lucas/Jenny and Callum/Petite Gavin on the *Fissure d'Ailefroide*: an irresistible 300m crack visible from the campsite. Other valley routes sent by the club included: *Cascade blues*, a route with a waterfall traverse, *Riviere Kwai*, featuring an improvised bridge, and the aptly named routes *Caramba! Mais c'est du VI* and *Ma, que! Seulement du VI*.



After an avalanche of sands in the valley the club members started to get sick of the soupy valley air and a return to the high alps was planned. Two teams of Juan/Jenny/Mara/petite Gavin and Lucas/Callum ascended back to the Glacier blanc on the morning of 10th July. While Lucas/Callum traversed the amazing *Pointe de Cineastes*, Juan/Jenny/Mara/petite Gavin embarked on a record slowest ascent of the incredible south ridge of the *Pic du Glacier Blanc*. News of their record time even reached the Refuge, where Lucas and Callum had to ensure with all their English charm that the increasingly grumpy hut guardian would hold their dinner. Lucas/Callum and the now world expert on the south ridge of the *Pic du Glacier Blanc* Jenny (at least in terms of time spent) returned to the ridge the next day for a disappointingly quicker ascent.



The final few days in Ailefroide saw the dual threat of tiredness and the French school holidays reduce the rate of climbing in the club and an increase in trips to the village bar. *La cocarde* and *Mars* were climbed as well as another assault on the *Fissure d'Ailefroide* by James/Juan at the cost of a suncream disaster. With the traditional Wednesday pizza on 13th July to end the trip, club members departed the next day either for home or onward to Chamonix.



Members comments

Our members had lots to say about this trip, here is a short piece written by KCL student Jenny:

"Finally, ULMC is back in their natural habitat! What would a mountaineering club do without actual mountains?

It's time for some high peaks, shrinking glaciers, cosy alpine huts and long multi pitch climbs after all the short and rainy British trad.

And no doubt, the French Alps in the Ecrins Massif deserve their name and wouldn't let us down. Loads of fabulous summits were climbed, even though the impressive Barre des Ecrins and Pelvoux have to wait for another year with more snow and a better crevasse situation.

It was my first ULMC trip, but definitely not the last one - how could I say no to a week in the Alps?! And all the trouble with french trains, strikes and unplanned nights in Paris was definitely worth it: what a great trip!

High mountains, good climbs, sweaty ascends, scary descends, long trad routes and even looonger alpine routes. But no day is too long with the right people around - huge thanks to the fabulous ULMC gang! And how could a fantastic climbing day end better than with a swim in the freezing glacier lake, a cold beer and a crackling campfire. Not to forget all the late-night tent shenanigans.

And with all the good memories and experiences from some amazing days in Ailefroide we'll return to London after the summer to tackle all the British summits, ridges, trad climbs and scrambles... Looking forward to a new climbing and mountaineering year with more great trips and great people!

Closing comments

Overall this trip was a great success. The members had a great time whilst also learning lots. ULMC would like to send our thanks to the ULGMC for granting us the Expedition and Training Fund. This fund allowed us to hire the guide that was a key part of the trip and the highlight for many. Following the success of this trip we are all looking forward to a new year for the club with many more exciting trips and activities.

With sincere thanks,

Committee ULMC 2021-2022

