

INSURANCE

SAFETY & SKILLS

MEMBER DISCOUNTS

GUIDE BOOKS

EQUIPMENT ADVICE

ACCESS & CONSERVATION

CLUBS & HUTS

CLIMBING WALLS

COMPETITIONS



ANNUAL REPORT » 2009

Join us...

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE » FINANCE REPORT » MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION » SPECIALIST REPORTS »
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BMC Participation Statement

The BMC recognises that climbing, hill walking, and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement.



Where you see this logo the BMC has used paper from recycled or sustainable sources.

*Cocoon silk 100% FSC recycled
(100% recycled pulp from post-consumer waste, process chlorine free)*



The BMC promotes the interests of climbers, hill walkers and mountaineers and the freedom to enjoy their activities. Through a democratic representative structure the BMC will:

- Negotiate access improvements and promote cliff and mountain conservation.
- Promote and advise on good practice, facilities, training and equipment.
- Support events and specialist programmes including youth and excellence.
- Provide services and information for members.



Elected Officers

- President Dr Charles Clarke (to 25 April 09)
- Rab Carrington (from 25 April 09)
- Vice President Rab Carrington (to 25 April 09)
- Audrey Seguy (from 25 April 09)
- Vice President Pat Littlejohn OBE
- Vice President Rehan Siddiqui
- HonTreasurer David Lanceley

Executive Committee

- All Elected Officers plus
- Dave Turnbull (BMC CEO)
 - Lyndon Gill (National Council Representative)
 - Mike Pinder (National Council Representative)
 - Scott Titt (National Council Representative)
 - Michael Hunt (Advisor)

Patrons

- Alan Blackshaw OBE
- Sir Chris Bonington CBE
- Lord Chorley
- Ian McNaught-Davis

Honorary Members

- Gordon Adshead
- Les Ainsworth
- Dave Bishop
- Henry Folkard
- Dave Gregory
- Vin Machin
- Neville McMillan
- Geoff Milburn
- Bob Moulton
- Robert Pettigrew
- Mike Ratty
- George Steele
- John Willson
- Ken Wilson

Auditors

- FFT Chartered Accountants

Honorary Legal Advisors

- Paul Debney
- Stephen Porteus
- Anthony Rich
- Martin Wragg

Honorary Medical Advisors

- Dr Charles Clarke
- Dr David Hillebrandt
- Dr Jim Milledge

Headquarters

The Old Church
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Manchester M20 2BB
Tel: 0161 445 6111
Fax: 0161 445 4500
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www.thebmc.co.uk

Equal Opportunities Statement

The BMC encourages its members to adopt a positive approach to equal opportunities and the elimination of discrimination. The BMC values the support of all sections of the mountaineering community and welcomes the opportunity to assist all groups in its work to promote the interests of climbers, hill walkers and mountaineers.

The British Mountaineering Council (BMC) has over 70,000 members and exists to promote the interests and protect the freedoms of climbers, hill walkers, and mountaineers, including ski mountaineers. It is a company limited by guarantee (no 2874177) without a share capital. The BMC was formed in 1944 and is a democratic representative body controlled by a National Council made up of locally elected Area Representatives and nationally Elected Officers. The BMC is a National Governing Body of sport recognised by Government and the different Sports Councils in the United Kingdom. The BMC is grant supported by Sport England.



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President's Message

2010 has started as 2009 left off; freezing cold and with snow on the ground. Great for us Hill Walkers and Climbers but little cheer for Gordon Brown and the rest of the UK.

2009 has been a good year from a sporting point of view, England Cricket team won the Ashes, Andy Murray was seeded #2, Jenson Button won F1 and Jessica Ennis from Sheffield was World Champion in the Heptathlon.

In our world of mountaineering we also had our very notable achievements. Nick Bullock and Andy Houseman's excellent Alpine ascent of the North Face of Chang Himal (6802m) was an ascent which epitomised difficulty and style at altitude. At the other end of the spectrum, Steve McClure's ascent of Hubble (8c+) on Ravens Tor proved how "ahead of his time" Ben Moon was when he made the first ascent in 1990 to produce the World's hardest route.

In the world of the BMC, 2009 has proved to be a year without drama or incident. The work of the office has continued in its normal efficient way. I will try and recap the year by looking at the major events which have been achieved by our Specialist Committees. More detailed information about their activities can be read further on in this report; I only hope I don't get too much earache for stealing their thunder.

The item which has made me feel proudest is the growth in membership of the BMC. In the last quarter our membership has passed the 70,000 mark, a year on year growth of 5%. This is a great reminder that a lot of what the BMC does is very important and relevant to those whose life is Hill Walking and Climbing. So a very big thank you to Membership Services Team who look after all of our members so well. All we have to do now is convince the other 150,000 who walk and climb that they too should join the BMC!

A key part of the BMC work is Access & Conservation. Here we have moved ahead quite significantly. We have recruited the redoubtable Elfyn Jones to strengthen the Access Team as Welsh Officer. Apart from the obvious access issues he also has a special responsibility for footpaths in England and Wales. In November of 2009 Government gave Royal Assent to the Marine Bill. Our Access team pressed very hard to ensure that the Act was of value to our members and have achieved a result which gives us long term access to coastal paths and crags. The Welsh Coastal Path Act will be completed by 2012. Finally, after many, many years of negotiation, Harrison's Rocks, Southern Sandstone is now owned by the BMC. Many thanks to all of you down there who have worked so hard to achieve this.

When it comes to Guide Book writing, there are none better than our very own Niall Grimes (aka Grimer). In November, the re-edited version of The Roaches was published to rave reviews. In early spring 2010, the much awaited Froggatt Guide

will be launched and looking at early art work will receive high acclaim. The British Mountain Maps series, published by Harvey's with the blessing of the BMC have rolled out its Knoydart, Kintail and Glen Affric map. These maps, for those who haven't seen them, were the brain child of former President Mark Vallance. They work on a 1:40,000 scale and are completely waterproof and tear resistant. A must for all keen walkers. Also this year we saw the publication by Steve Long of Mynyddu, the Welsh Hill Walking book. Finally, it would be wrong not to mention that Grimer picked up the "Grand Prize" at Banff for his Biography of Jerry Moffatt, Revelations.

For our members we have been trying new ways to improve communications. We have set up the Club Committee whose role is to look at problems which are unique to Clubs and club members. To improve access to information for our members and volunteers we have spent time and money developing the new BMC Community Site. This will allow more local Area news to be sent out and updated faster and more accurately.

To ensure that the BMC remains truly international, we have hosted a very successful International Winter Meet with 80 participants arriving from 28 different countries. Furthering British Mountaineering in the Greater ranges, the BMC has initiated its own Grant Award scheme, this because UK Sport has withdrawn their funding. This year 10 Expeditions benefited from this scheme.

In competitions, the most important event of the year was Debbie and Tony Powell stepping down as managers of the Junior Team. They have both given so much to the Team and they will be a hard act to follow. I am sure everyone would like to join with me in thanking them for their many years of unstinting hard work. On a more positive note, we have to thank the Committee for producing the new competitions newsletter "Psyched!" This has resulted from the hard work of Iain McKenzie and Natalie Berry and will keep all up to date with the goings on, the successes, the improvements which are happening in our Teams. On the competition front, Ratho hosted a very successful European Youth Series event and Dave Barrans took a very creditable third place in the Bouldering World Championships.

The Training & Youth Committee has continued its good work for youth and training. Nick Colton continues to give excellent advice to Clubs about the rules & regulations of having youth members. This year we have seen the affiliation of specific climbing wall based "Youth Clubs" to the BMC. We hope this will be an ongoing process to involve young keen climbers with development from indoor climbing to outdoors and also provide a stepping stone to normal Club activities. The Youth Climbing Series continues to attract a great following and we also hosted the annual "Student Safety & Good Practice" Seminar. For Training, the Climbing Wall



Leading Award will be launched early this Year. We also put on 17 Fundamentals Workshops intended to improve the coaching of good climbing movement.

Moving from the young to the old, we should spare a moment to think about what will happen to all of our memorabilia when we pass on. The Mountain Heritage Trust looks after all of Mountaineering archive and artefact collections. This year the MHT received grants to archive the Chris Bonington collection which will continue the good work it has already done for many of our mountaineering pioneers. To bring greater stability to this volunteer organisation, the MHT has been developing links with the University of Cumbria which is a very exciting development.

When I started writing this piece, I was concerned that I had nothing to say. The screen now tells me I am on my third page with a word count of over 1,000 (twice what I was supposed to write). This goes to prove that even though one feels that "not much" is happening at the BMC many things are still going on.

So, from the President, many thanks to all of our Volunteers, Officers and Members for the sterling work they do for the BMC. Now it's time to get out into the Hills and enjoy ourselves.

Thank you,

**Rab Carrington
President**

Staff Team

CEO – Dave Turnbull
Deputy CEO – Nick Colton
Financial Controller – Alan Brown
Web & Summit – Alex Messenger
Marketing Manager – Andy Gowland
Information Coordinator – Tony Ryan
Press & PR – Tina Gardner (PT)
Access & Conservation – Cath Flitcroft, Guy Keating, Elfyn Jones (Wales)
Competitions & Climbing Walls – Rob Adie
Guidebooks – Niall Grimes
Technical – Dan Middleton (PT)
Training (BMC/MLTE) – Jon Garside
Volunteers – Martin Kocsis
Projects & Events – Kate Anwyl (PT), Rebecca Ellwood, Becky McGovern
IT & Database – Paul D'Ambra
Finance Assistant – Yas Prabakaran, Suzanne Jones (maternity cover for Yas Prabakaran)

Membership Services Team

Lynda Buckley (Manager)
Arun Patel
Simon Manns
Hannah Skeldon
Jim Krawiecki
Ray Perry (PT)
Clonagh Delafield (PT)



BMC Office

Breakdown of 27 staff
Full time staff 22
Part time staff 5
(PT = Part Time)

National Council Summary

by Dave Turnbull, CEO

National Council met five times in 2009 with the meetings taking place in Cumbria, Derbyshire, Dorset and North Wales (two). Several new members - Neil Foster (Peak), Charles Gameson (Midlands) and Christian Lund (London) - attended National Council for the first time in 2009. Mark Reeves (Cymru / Wales, North) and Mike Pinder (Peak) stepped down from the Council during the year.

Significant issues discussed and agreed during the course of the year included the following:

- Support for clubs. National Council agreed to establish a Clubs Committee and to conduct a consultation exercise on a possible new form of club membership. Terms of Reference and operating procedures for the new Committee were subsequently drawn up and agreed. The Committee held its inaugural meeting on 26 October.
- Access & Conservation work in Wales. A proposal was drawn up by BMC Cymru / Wales, the BMC Access, Conservation & Environment Committee and senior BMC officials to establish an A&C (Wales) Officer position. National Council agreed to go ahead with this in June and an appointment was made on 21 September.
- Climbing as an Olympic Sport. The question of whether or not the BMC should formally support the prospect of climbing becoming an Olympic sport was put out to the Areas for consultation and was discussed by National Council on several occasions. The September meeting unanimously agreed to support the idea of climbing becoming an Olympic sport.
- Coaching in climbing and mountaineering. The possible development of a coaching award was discussed in light of the National Source Group report and a further review conducted by a Coaching Review Group chaired by BMC Patron Alan Blackshaw. National Council eventually agreed to support a coaching award covering indoor climbing, sport climbing and bouldering.
- The BMC's work for hill walkers. National Council also began a discussion about the BMC's work and services for hill walkers and how this work could be developed given the proportion of hill walkers within the BMC's membership.

National Council Members

Members	Jan-April 09	April-Dec 09
President	Charles Clarke	Rab Carrington
Vice President	Rab Carrington	Audrey Seguy
Vice President	Rehan Siddiqui	Rehan Siddiqui
Vice President	Pat Littlejohn	Pat Littlejohn
Treasurer	David Lanceley	David Lanceley
Chief Executive	Dave Turnbull	Dave Turnbull
Deputy CEO	Nick Colton	Nick Colton
Lakes	Polly Sullivan, Tom Ripley	Polly Sullivan, Steve Scott
North West	Lyndon Gill, Conor Doherty	Lyndon Gill, Conor Doherty
London & South East	Christian Lund	Christian Lund, Vic Odell
South West	Scott Titt	Scott Titt
Midlands	Fiona Devine, Iain McKenzie	Fiona Devine, Charles Gameson
North East	Alan Hinkes	Alan Hinkes
Peak District	Mike Pinder, Chris Moor	Chris Moor, Neil Foster
Wales/Cymru	Mike Raine, Mark Reeves	Mike Raine, Ray Wood
Yorkshire	Deirdre Collier, Mick Johnson	Deirdre Collier, Mick Johnson

Observers

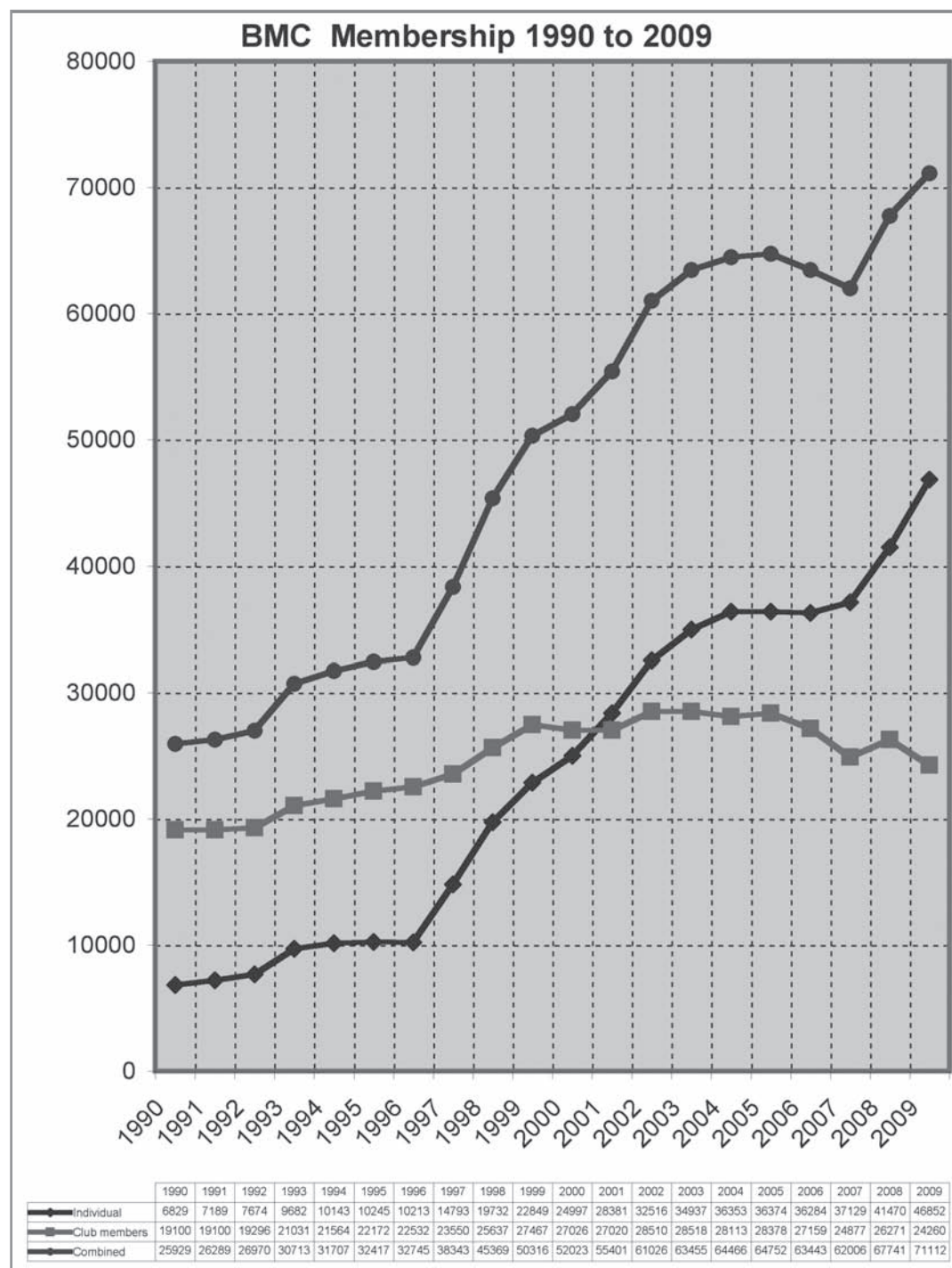
Plas y Brenin	Martin Doyle
Mountain Leader Training England	Andy Say
Mountain Leader Training Wales	TBC
Technical Committee	Oliver Milling
Finance Committee	Brian Griffiths / Graham Richmond
Training & Youth Committee	Ian Fenton
Competitions Committee	Iain McKenzie
Climbing Walls Committee	Nick Bond
Huts Group	Iain McCallum
Access, Conservation & Environment Group	Bill Renshaw
Guidebook Committee	Ian Carr
International Committee	Lindsay Griffin
Clubs Committee	John Farrow
Wales/Cymru South	Stuart Llewellyn

Membership Information

Once again in 2009 there was positive growth in individual membership. At year end we had 46,852 individual members, an increase of 5565. BMC had 71,112 combined individual and club members at

year end. This is 3558 more than in 2008. Total membership was made up of 46,852 individual members and 24,260 club members split between 238 clubs and 57 student clubs, a total of 295 clubs. This is a decrease of 12 clubs for the year.

The total number of club members who have now taken advantage of the reduced rate and upgraded to full individual membership was down slightly at 1,641. Insurance held it's own during the year and we sold 25,180 policies.



BMC Service Charter

The BMC is a busy organisation with a large workload and a focused staff team. This team provides membership services and specialist work and co-ordination with volunteers on the various development programmes. The BMC staff team is committed to working to the highest standards and efficiency and welcomes comments on the service provided. The BMC staff team undertakes to:

- Respond to all orders for services on the day received and dispatch within two working days.
- Answer the telephone within three (and no more than five) rings and where the relevant member of staff is not available offer assistance or voice mail.
- Respond to all other correspondence - using plain English - as promptly as possible (if a lengthy or complex reply is required this will be acknowledged within five working days if it is not possible to respond in full within ten days).
- Support the BMC's policy of encouraging a positive approach to equal opportunities and ensure that all visitors to the BMC office are greeted promptly and dealt with politely and efficiently.
- Treat all database information in strict accordance with the Data Protection Act.
- Meet payments and issue invoices promptly in accordance with agreed payment terms with a target to pay within 30 days.

Finance Report

David Lanceley, Honorary Treasurer

2009 was another successful financial year for the BMC. A number of factors combined to turn our initial forecast surplus of £14K into an actual surplus of some £129K. The income side was significantly increased by a late season surge in insurance sales and associated subscription income and overall better than anticipated insurance sales. We understand that while many insurance providers are seeing a reduction in sales we are not which would appear to confirm that we are providing competitively priced policies packaged in a way that is attractive to the market. Continued careful control and monitoring of costs without allowing services to members to suffer has also contributed to the increased surplus. In particular printing and stationary costs have been reduced year-on-year, due in part to increased use of online methods of marketing, communication etc. Our Corporation Tax bill is also reduced due to the unforeseen recovery of tax previously paid on charitable contributions.

Another year of surplus has meant that our cash reserves have also increased, particularly as the surplus only became apparent late in the financial year too late to adjust our operational budgets. The security of these reserves is an ongoing concern that we have addressed by spreading them across a number of generally UK Government-backed financial institutions. Income from cash reserves is obviously much reduced compared to previous years in this period of low interest rates. The level of the reserves, although more than we reasonably require to guarantee continuity of services to members in the event some unforeseen financial crisis, is not considered to be excessive and (after the operational reserve is allowed) is equivalent to around £18 per member. The additional reserves allow us to intervene in situations where a modest financial input can have a big effect; the recent purchase of Wilton Quarry is a good example. We are always prepared to consider committing BMC funds to worthy projects and welcome proposals in this regard.

Looking forward we are again forecasting a small surplus for the 2010 & 2011 financial years with no increase in subscription levels for either Club or Individual members. Sport England funding is secure for the next few years but bank deposit income will be minimal. We may see some reduction in club members subs income but maybe not and individual subs income continues to rise. We always need to keep in mind that we operate off a high fixed-cost base but our generally cautious financial policy is in any case driven by this. Overall the immediate future would appear to hold few financial surprises.

My thanks to Alan and Yas for another year of effort and to the Finance Committee which continues to provide invaluable support.

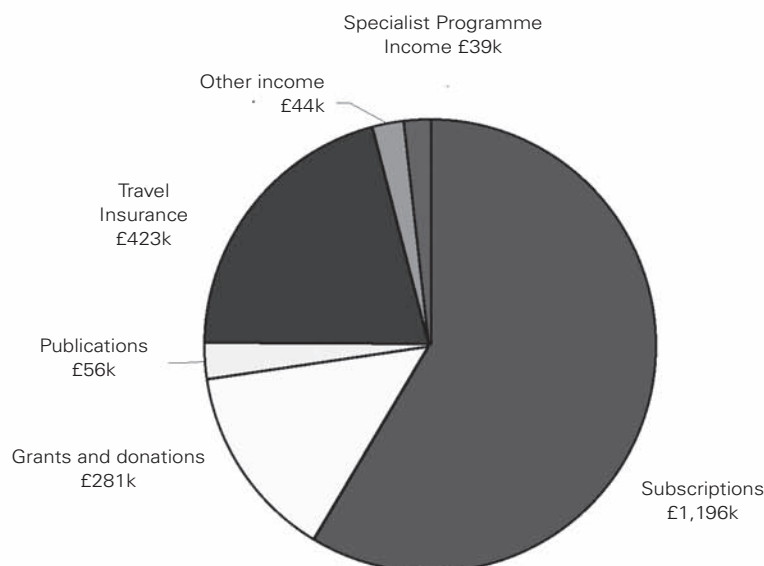
Finance Committee at 31/12/09

- Graham Richmond (Chair)
- David Lanceley (Hon. Treasurer)
- Gordon Adshead
- Vic Odell
- Mike Watson
- Tim Raffle
- Iain Dickinson
- Andy Say
- Brian Griffiths
- Rab Carrington (President) - Paper member
- Rehan Siddiqui (Vice-President) - Paper member
- Audrey Seguy (Vice President) - Paper member
- Deidre Collier (Nat. Council Rep.)
- Polly Sheasby (Nat. Council Rep.)
- Fiona Devine (Nat. Council Rep.)
- Dave Turnbull (CEO)
- Alan Brown (FC)

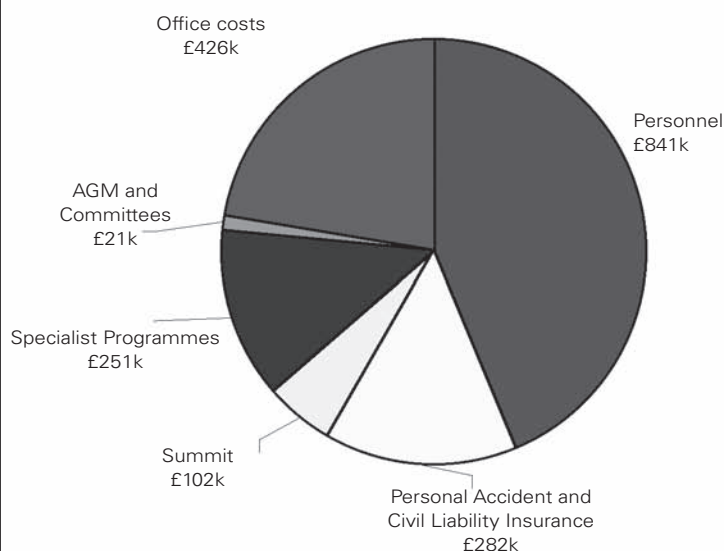
How staff and overhead costs are spread

	Person Year	Staff %	Alloc %
Membership services	3.7	14%	23%
Trading activities	3.7	15%	29%
Headquarters	7.0	27%	0%
External Recovery	0.2	1%	2%
Specialist Programmes	10.9	43%	46%
Total	25.4	100%	100%

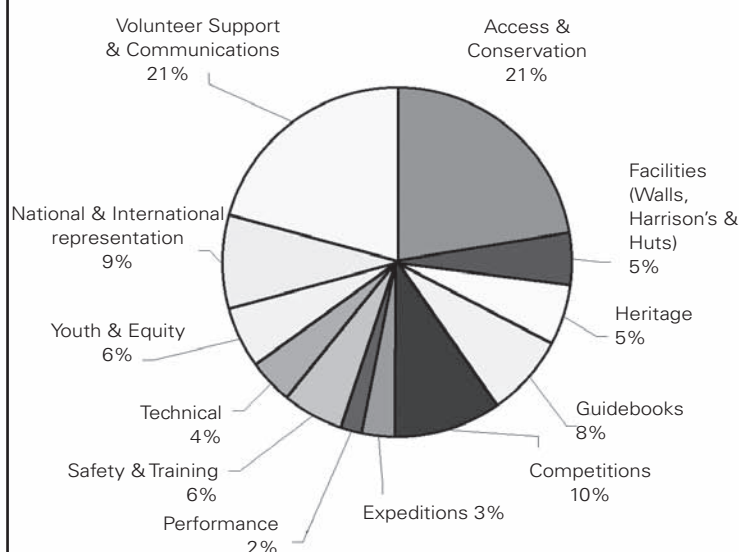
Summary of Income 2009 (£2,039k)



Summary of Expenditure 2009 (£1,923k)



Net cost of Specialist Programmes after allocation of overheads, grant income and other income 2009 (£666k)



Specialist Reports

Access, Conservation & Environment Group

Improving access and conserving the cliff and mountain environment.

The BMC access team had a busy and productive year lobbying central and local Government on a wide range of issues and working on the ground with local volunteers and access authorities to help manage access to our mountain, fells and crags.

The BMC's Access, Conservation and Environment work is now coordinated by three full time BMC officers, including the new post of BMC Access Officer for Wales.

In 2009, the BMC policy work centred on ensuring the Marine and Coastal Access Bill was passed through the House of Commons and House of Lords smoothly and quickly. Working with a number of leading MPs and Peers, the BMC laid down several amendments to the Coastal Access Clauses of the Bill and produced a series of briefing papers for MPs and Peers during the Committee and Report stages of the Bill. The BMC also attended several meetings with Natural England and other key stakeholders on the methodology and legislative process behind increasing coastal access in England. Over the next year, Natural England will begin overseeing the implementation of the new access rights on the ground, liaising with landowners and consulting with the BMC on the alignment of the new route and associated margin of land.

In Wales, the BMC continues to be an active participant in coastal access stakeholder meetings. We are lobbying the Welsh Assembly Government to develop framework powers and a statutory approach to wider coastal access as soon as possible, so they can be delivered by the current Welsh Government alongside the scheme in England.

The key to the success of the BMC's access and conservation work is, as ever, being able to develop and sustain partnerships with many other interested organisations. In 2009, we had several strategic meetings with DEFRA, Natural England, land owning bodies, conservation organisations and other recreational bodies to discuss the issues surrounding coastal access and an appropriate appeals process. We also met with Natural England to discuss the re-mapping of CROW access land. The BMC has also responded to a number of key consultations, including the DEFRA public consultation on 'Proposals to amend the CROW ACT 2000 for coastal land'.

The BMC Green Guide to the Uplands was

reprinted in 2009 and a revised Lake District Green Climbing Guide was also produced. The Green Guides are good practice guides for climbers, walkers and mountaineers visiting the uplands and are a very successful series of publications. Seasonal

Nesting Restrictions were agreed once again in 2009, publicity posters were produced and restrictions were publicised in Summit and on the new BMC website. The BMC continues to work closely with conservation interests across England and Wales to set up and manage seasonal access restrictions and is extremely grateful for the goodwill and co-operation of all involved. Access to information on restrictions has also been improved, the Regional Access Database (RAD) on the BMC website now has the definitive information on access restrictions and is available online.

Numerous local and regional projects have been undertaken during the year including:

- A proposal to LDNPA to reduce the number of agreed nesting restrictions for Common Raven.
- Producing guidance and conservation advice with Sussex Wildlife Trust for climbing in Eridge Green Nature Reserve.
- Access liaison work in the Midlands at Pocketgate / Hangingstone Quarries, the Brand, Markfield Quarry, Charnwood Quarry, Pontesford Rocks.
- Funding tree removal at Back Bowden Doors and Kyloe Crag.
- Erosion control work at Bowden/Back Bowden.
- Access liaison work at Houghton, Witches Quarry, Trowbarrow, Stanworth, Crompton Moor.
- Support for the successful RSPB/National Trust bid to manage the Eastern Moors inc. Froggatt, Curbar and Baslow.
- A collaborative project with the Forestry Commission to remove trees at Black Rocks.
- Collaboration with PDNPA and Lydgate Pistols and Rifle Club to improve access at Shooters Nab.
- Collaboration with Torbay Coast & Countryside Trust in issues relating to Deep Water Soloing (DWS) activities at Berry Head.
- On-going access liaison work at Fairy Caves Quarry.
- Collaboration with YDNPA to address parking issues at Kilnsey.
- Support for local activists during the development of Castleberg Crag.
- Collaboration with Kirklees Council to remove graffiti and litter from Holmfirth Edge.
- Support for the YDNPA Three Peaks Project to maintain the ProW network in the area.

Problems with access to abandoned quarries is a recurring issue, with liability concerns by many landowners, and will be a major area of work in 2010.

The Land Management Group

The Land Management Group had another productive period overseeing the BMC's owned and managed crags.

The big news was the acquisition of Wilton 1

quarry and securing legal rights to access quarries 2, 3 and 4. Other work included completing the landscaping work at the ever popular Craig y Longridge, and woodland management work at Craig Bwlch y Moch.

In Horseshoe Quarry, we rebolted a number of routes and equipped the lower-offs with innovative 'Rams Head' units (which do not require a leader to untie before descending), and at Aldery Cliff we addressed problems caused by inappropriate use during the summer.

At Craig Pen Trwyn the North Wales Bolt Fund volunteers have almost completed a project to replace the aging lower-offs which the BMC has responsibility for.

And finally, the BMC's acquisition of Harrison's Rocks has been completed and we look forward to progressing site and woodland management initiatives here.

ACEG Committee

- Bill Renshaw (Chair)
- Cath Flitcroft (Secretary/BMC staff)
- Les Ainsworth
- Dave Bishop
- Hebe Carus (MCofS Representative)
- Mike Dagley
- Henry Folkard
- Charles Gameson
- Steve Marriott
- Ian McMorris
- Dick Peart
- Guy Keating (BMC staff)
- Elfyn Jones (BMC staff)

The President and CEO of the BMC are *ex officio* members of the ACEG.

Paper members and specialist advisors

- Alan Blackshaw
- Susan Francis Gray
- Tony Greaves
- Barbara Jones
- Peter Latimer
- Ken Taylor
- Clare Bond
- Kevin Gray
- Libby Houston
- Nick JE Kurth
- Bob Lowe

BMC Access reps

The national list of access reps. and contact details can be viewed on the BMC website.

BMC Access & Conservation Officers

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Tel. 0161 445 6111 Fax. 0161 445 4500
Cath Flitcroft cath@thebmc.co.uk
Guy Keating guy@thebmc.co.uk
BMC Wales, Siabod Cottage, Plas y Brenin, Capel Curig, Betws y Coed, LL24 0ES
Tel. 01690 720124
Elfyn Jones elfyn@thebmc.co.uk





Access & Conservation Trust

The Access & Conservation Trust (ACT) funds projects to improve access for climbers, hill walkers and mountaineers, and to protect mountain and cliff environments. It brings together the BMC and Mountaineering Council of Scotland and works throughout the British Isles.

In 2009, 16 projects were supported. These have included the publication of the annual nesting restrictions poster, and an updated version of the BMC Green Guide to the Lake District, containing good practice guidance to climbing in the Lake District as well as providing detailed wildlife and conservation information. Similarly, ACT has funded a re-print of the popular BMC Green Guide to the Uplands, a good practice guide for walkers, climbers and mountaineers to the uplands of England and Wales. This year ACT has also helped fund the production of access and conservation signage at Giggleswick Scar, North Yorkshire; Cheddar Gorge; Bowles Rocks, Sussex; and Berry Head Nature Reserve, Devon.

In the Peak District National Park, ACT part funded the Stanage bus service as part of the traffic

management strategy at this popular crag, running from Sheffield to Stanage. A number of practical projects have also been completed with the help of ACT funds including the removal of fallen trees at Ben-y-Gor, Gloucestershire allowing safe access to the Main Cliff; ground erosion repair at Sea Wall, Avon Gorge; and the installation of several belay stakes in the live firing Range, Range West in Castlemartin, Pembrokeshire.

An important coastal climbing site audit, funded through ACT, was undertaken in 2009. This audit identified key sea cliff climbing sites that should be included within the 'coastal margin' definition of the new Marine and Coastal Access Act. This will help inform the BMC and Natural England staff working on the ground during the implementation of the coastal access scheme. Similarly, ACT funds are currently being used to put together a 'Coastal Access Volunteer Guidance Pack' - a comprehensive information and training pack for volunteers that will inform them of the new Marine and Coastal access Act and how to play a full part locally, in the implementation process.

The Trust is extremely grateful to all its supporters without whom none of its work would be possible. The Trust very much welcomes corporate donations and would like to acknowledge those from Castle Climbing Centre, the Climbers' Club, Yorkshire Mountaineering Club, Army Mountaineering Association, Northumbrian Mountaineering Club, Awesome Walls Climbing Centre, Colchester Climbing Club, all BMC guide book sales and Tom Hatt Film Productions. Many thanks also to everyone who has made an individual contribution; these are vital for the work of the Trust.

We have had real success over the past two years in raising funds by the recycling of printer cartridges and mobile phones using the envelopes provided in Summit magazine. This scheme has now raised over £3,000 for the Trust. Look out for more envelopes in which to put your old phones and printer cartridges in Summit magazine throughout 2010.

ACT is a charity and relies on donations from individuals and organisations to fund its work. Please visit the BMC website for further information. (www.thebmc.co.uk/act)

Climbing Walls

The Climbing Wall Committee offers advice and support for the management and sustainable development of new and existing climbing walls through a network of Regional representatives.

The committee met three times in 2009, with an average attendance of seven, and with many local issues discussed through electronic correspondence.

Summary of Key Achievements & Outputs for 2009

- New Climbing Wall Directory (published Oct 2009).
- Rob Adie advised on numerous wall projects, ranging from school traversing walls to major dedicated centres including Newcastle Climbing Centre, Plymouth Life Centre, Huddersfield Sports Centre etc.
- Generic climbing wall facility specification for Sport England produced.
- Work started on the BMC Climbing Wall Users survey.
- Work started on the BMC Climbing Wall Essentials DVD.
- Climbing Walls section of BMC website continually updated.
- BMC advised on the set-up of the Adventuremark scheme in conjunction with the Association of British Climbing Walls (ABC), using the BMC Climbing Wall Accreditation scheme as a basis for the Adventuremark scheme.
- Rob Adie completed a Q&A day on climbing walls on UKClimbing.

Forward Plan 2010

- BMC Climbing Wall Directory, Oct 2011.
- Rob Adie to continue advising on potential wall projects.
- Continued collaboration with ABC on National Indoor Climbing Achievement Scheme (NICAS).
- Continue development of Climbing Wall DVD – script writing and planning spring 2010, filming summer 2010, production winter 2010.
- Continue development work on BMC Survey for climbing wall users.
- Develop BMC climbing accident reporting database, including the production of data analysis reports.
- Develop website content for climbing walls section.
- Development of interactive online climbing wall database using the new communities section of the BMC website in order to get climbing walls to have their own profiles and promote their own events forum section of the site.
- Develop BMC membership in climbing walls.
- Continue development of English National Training Centre idea.
- Bi-annual Climbing Wall Managers Seminar.

These are the major points of the Committee, however, it will continue to advise on all types of climbing wall development. Also, improving the content and interactive

ability of the climbing wall section of the BMC website and climbing walls database.

Climbing Wall Committee

- Nick Bond (Chair)
- Robert Adie (Secretary)
- Graham Coff
- Ian Dunn
- Peter Dyson
- Mark Hounslea
- Gary Lewis
- Gary Morgan
- Jonathan Richardson
- Claudia Sarnier
- Audrey Seguy
- Steve Taylor
- Jan Van Geet

Observers

- Guy Jarvis
- Steve Mayers
- Tom O'Rourke
- Andy Reid

Paper Members

- Colin Boothroyd
- John Hartley
- Kev Howett
- Paul Myers
- Don Robinson
- Andy Say
- Calvin Torrans



Competition Climbing

This has been a good year for our competitors and you can see from the detail below that members of the Team achieved some impressive results. The events that we organised throughout the year were all successful and we hope to continue this trend in the future.

The Team continues to be supported by a large number of very enthusiastic volunteers and I would like to personally thank them for giving up so much of their time. Iain McKenzie successfully took over as Chair of the Committee; thanks go to Mike Watson for his many years of service, as well as thanks to Tony and Debbie Powell, Tom Randall, Dave Binney and Sue Pinner for the dedicated efforts with the British Teams.

Summary of Key Achievements

& Outputs for 2009:

- Successfully ran the British Lead Climbing Championships (BLCC), the British Bouldering Championships (BBC), the BMC Leading Ladder, and the International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC) European Youth Series (EYS) round (the first international competition in the UK since 2004) and assisted with BMC Youth Climbing Series (YCS).
- Ran numerous training days for Junior Team (national and regional training trips, and crag based training included safety related training where needed).
- Ran numerous training days for Senior Bouldering Team.
- Ran numerous training days for Senior Leading Team.
- Junior Team results include high placings for many team members, notably: Natalie Berry 4th at Ratho, Jonathan Stocking 5th at Ratho, Caitlin Wallace 6th in Kaliningrad and Michaela Tracy making finals at EYS competitions. Numerous team members ranked in the top 20 in Europe, with Caitlin Wallace ranked 8th.
- Bouldering team were very successful. Dave Barrans ranked 3rd at World Championships, China, 6th at Wien, Austria (now ranked 11th overall in the World). Ned Feehally 6th at Eindhoven, Holland (now ranked 31st in the world). Stewart Watson 6th at Innsbruck, Austria (now ranked 25th in the world). The British Bouldering team are now ranked 11th in the World.
- Administered Team travel and entry to international events.
- A national judge's course was run at the BLCC.
- A re-structuring of the competitions calendar for 2010 to allow for international events both in the UK and abroad.
- BMC made a positive decision to support the idea of Competition climbing becoming an Olympic sport.
- Completed a Q&A day on UKClimbing on competitions and the Olympics.
- Set up 'Psyched!' – a competition specific Newsletter.

Forward Plan 2010

- Run BLCC, BBC, Open Youth Competitions, World Youth Championships, Bouldering World Cup and

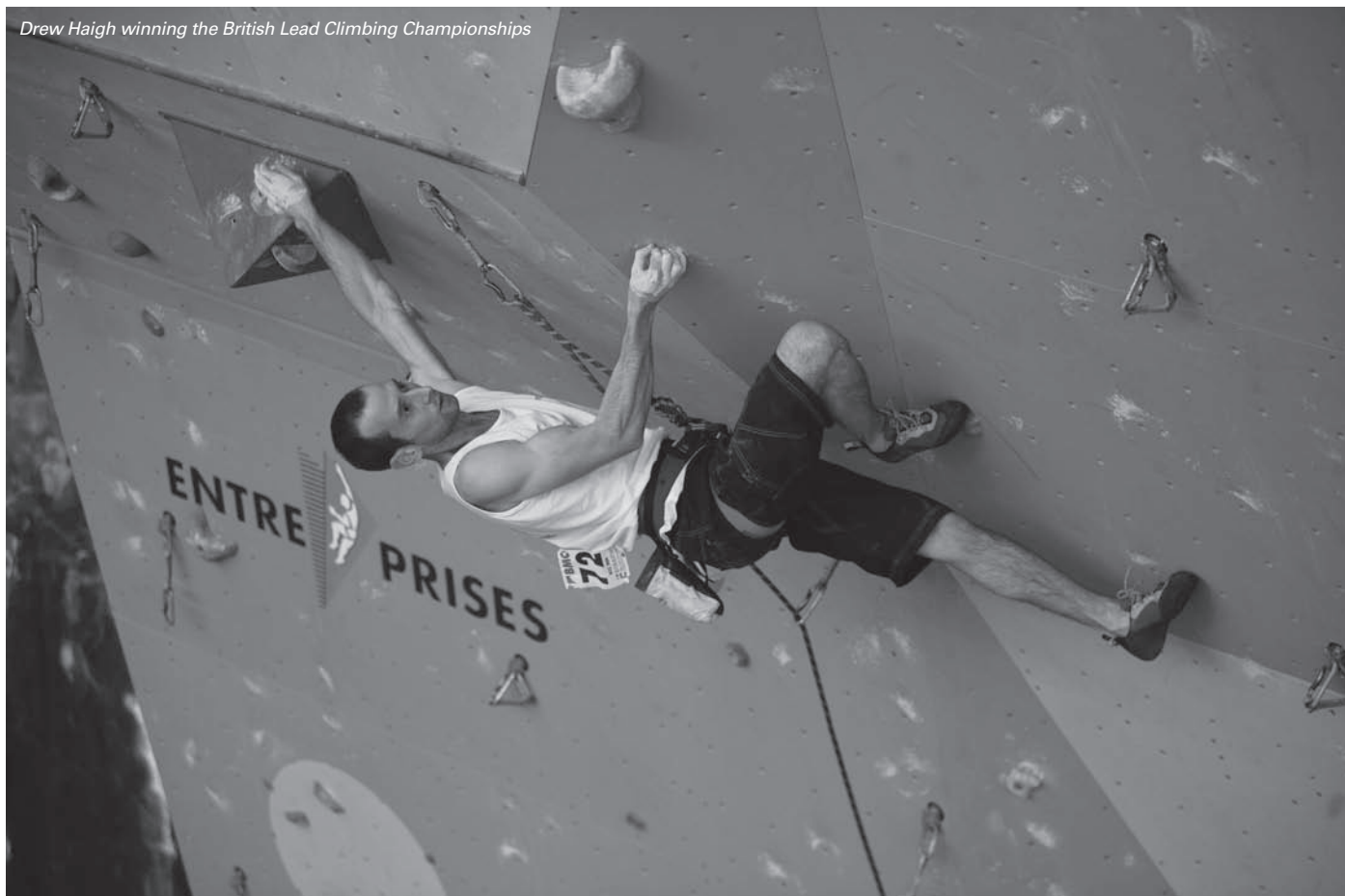
new BMC Combo event (bouldering, lead & speed).

- Raise the profile of the British Team and seek external funding to support their efforts, we intend to do this by recruiting a 'Team Sponsorship Coordinator'
- Assist with BMC YCS.
- Run Team training sessions.
- Administer Team travel and entry to international events.
- Organise a national route setting course.
- Review the success of the 2009/10 Leading Ladder.
- Organise the British Team section of the BMC website and keep it updated on British team successes at home and abroad.
- Use the new communities section of the BMC site to good effect to promote the team and give them an identity that they can use to promote themselves to potential sponsors.
- Assist with the development of the upcoming International competitions to be held in the UK in the coming years.
- Select a possible host for the World Championships for 2013

British Bouldering Team

- Dave Barrans
- Leah Crane
- Mark Croxall
- Ned Feehally
- Mina Leslie-Wujastyk
- Diane Merrick
- Gaz Parry
- Jonathan Partridge
- Stewart Watson

Drew Haigh winning the British Lead Climbing Championships



British Bouldering Squad

- Keith Bradbury
- Adam Jeeworth
- David Mason
- Gill Peet
- Katy Piddock
- Helen Shilletto

Bouldering Support Team

- Nick Clement - Team Manager
- Tom Sugden - Assistant Team Manager

Junior British Climbing Team

- Nikki Addison
- Steven Addison
- Natalie Berry
- Rachel Carr
- Shauna Coxsey
- Angus Davidson
- Jaime Davidson
- Charlotte Ellison
- Joshua Farrell
- Jonathan Field
- Charlotte Garden
- James Garden
- Oliver Grounseil
- Rebecca Hall
- Edward Hamer
- Tara Hayes
- Eleanor Hopkins
- Michael Hopkins
- Sean Hopkins
- Ross Kirkland
- Ellen Macaskill
- Dylan MacKenzie
- Robert MacKenzie
- Carmel Moran
- Edd Mowbray
- Olivia Ratcliffe
- Billy Ridal
- Matthew Roby
- Randy Roby
- Lily Rosengard
- Jonathan Stocking
- Molly Thompson-Smith
- Luke Tilley
- Michaela Tracy
- Caitlin Wallace
- Alice Waterhouse
- Jonny White
- Catherine Whiteman
- Paul Williamson
- Suzannah Zitter

Junior Support Team

- Ian Dunn - Team Manager
- Jane Newman - Assistant Team Manager

Senior British Leading Team

- Adrian Baxter
- Drew Haigh
- Rob Haigh
- Adam Watson

Senior Leading Support Team

- Ian Dunn - Team Manager
- Drew Haigh - Assistant Team Manager

Competitions Committee

- Iain McKenzie (Chair)
- Gareth Parry (Vice Chair)
- Rob Adie (Secretary)
- Graeme Alderson
- Dave Barrans
- Percy Bishton
- Nick Clement
- Nick Colton
- Ian Dunn
- John Ellison
- Scott Malina Derben
- Tom Randall
- Audrey Seguy
- John Shaw
- Mike Watson

Paper Members

- Ian Alderson
- John Arran
- Kevin Howett

Equity

The BMC aims to ensure that all people, irrespective of their gender, religious belief, marital status, age, race, ethnic origin, sexual orientation or disability, have a genuine and equal opportunity to participate in climbing, hill walking and mountaineering at all levels and in all roles.

To meet this aim, the BMC is looking at ways to remove barriers to participation that under-represented groups may face. The BMC Equity Steering Group oversees this work as well as advises the BMC on equality issues. The group is chaired by BMC Vice President Rehan Siddiqui.

As part of our commitment to equity you may have noticed that we use a wide range of images in BMC publications to ensure that we don't inadvertently give the impression that some groups of under-represented people are not welcome. Accordingly, a balance of images is used that show women and people from all ethnic minority backgrounds.

To help people from disadvantaged backgrounds there is a low income discount available to all who enter the BMC Youth Climbing Series.

From an equity point of view, it is also very evident that in the younger age categories there are now as many female as there are male competitors. To help parents understand what our activities involve, we have published the well received booklet *Young People: Climbing, Hill Walking, Mountaineering - A Parent's Guide*.

This is also available as a free download on



the BMC website. Additionally, during 2009, we held BMC Outdoor Youth Meets for climbers in North Wales and in the South East. Our first hill walking meet for young people was held in Yorkshire. These meets were organised by the local Area Youth Coordinators and young people were accompanied by their parents so both child and parent could learn more about the nature of these outdoor activities.

On disability issues, the BMC Equity Steering Group now has members with disabilities to represent this part of our community. The BMC is working towards ensuring that there are no removable barriers to disabled people's involvement in climbing and mountaineering activities. With this aim in mind, with Mountain Leader Training England (MLTE) we have been working on a future publication *Hill Walking For All*, which contains practical guidance on hill walking for people with a wide range of disabilities. Additionally, and again in conjunction with MLTE, the BMC has supported a number of training initiatives aimed at improving support for people with a disability.

BMC safety posters have been translated into the Welsh Language. BMC Summit magazine contains a regular article that appears in both English and Welsh and we have translated the book *Hill Walking* into Welsh.

Equity Committee

- Rehan Siddiqui (Chair)
- Nick Colton (Secretary)
- Kabeer Bostan
- Marcus Drummond
- Graeme Hill
- Fida Hussain
- Bob Moulton
- Mahesh Patel
- Kamala Sen
- Fredelina Yong

Paper Members

- Karen Darke
- Tim Marshall
- Trevor Massiah
- Iain McKenzie
- Bill Renshaw
- Andy Say (MLTE)
- Dalvinder Sohdi
- Ken Wilson

Guidebooks

The Guidebook Committee produces a definitive set of guidebooks for the Peak District and also assists other groups to publish guidebooks.

Summary of Key Achievements & Output for 2009

The key achievements of 2009 for guidebooks has been the production of a new version of the Staffordshire Roaches guide, a reprint of the Lancashire Rock guide and significant advances in the preparation of both the Froggatt and Moorland Grit guidebooks.



The conception of the new edition of the Staffordshire Roaches guide was in some way unplanned, but thankfully has turned out to be in no way unwanted. The 2004 edition had sold out and, popular as it was, it was obvious that some changes would improve it in many ways. This had initially been intended to be the insertion of several new routes and a few Stanage-style bouldering circuits, but when it was looked into, it seemed that there was a lot that needed improving. These improvements were carried out – more, larger photo-topos, a full new set of action pictures, more, better maps, grade changes, and of course the new routes and bouldering circuits. This has resulted in what at least one BMC CEO referred to as “the best definitive guidebook yet produced in the UK”. The resulting bouncing baby guidebook has been warmly welcomed by all.

Of course, the production of this hasn't been without cost. The major project since the publication of the Stanage guide has been the Froggatt to Black Rocks guide, and this has certainly been set back by the efforts that have gone into The Roaches. The Froggatt guide will be a monster of a book. It covers most of the crags from the old Froggatt guide – Froggatt, Curbar, Baslow, Yarncliffe etc., as well as everything from the old yellow Chatsworth Gritstone guide – Birchen, Gardom's, Chatsworth, Cratcliffe, Robin Hood's Stride, Eagle Tor, the Amber Valley, Black Rock, Whatstandwell Quarries, Shining Cliff, and probably 25 other crags. This encompasses 15 years of development on the major crags, as well as all the bouldering, old and new. Never have so many crags and routes gone into a BMC guide before (or indeed any guide), and it presents its own challenges.

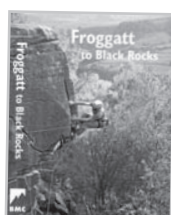
The good news is that during the time work on Froggatt has continued. Thus, perhaps the most anticipated guide ever will hit the shelves in spring 2010.

The intensive work behind the research and preparation of the series continues. With lessons being learned from the workload on the Froggatt guide, a lot of the design work on other guides in the series is now being outsourced, in order to prevent any bottlenecks in the system. The Kinder Area guide, under the editorship of Martin Kocsis, continues to advance. This will appear in a single volume, covering all the moorland areas from Kinder, Bleaklow and the Chew Valley regions. Work continues on the Leicester and Merseyside area guidebooks, and once Over the Moors is out of the way, work will begin on the new series of Peak Limestone guides. The new Lancashire guide, which will be produced in the modern BMC format, continues, although the need for crag photography is the obvious crux of the task.

The guidebook committee itself continues to operate very successfully under the chairmanship of Ian Carr.

Forward Plan 2010

Froggatt to Black Rocks will appear in spring 2010. The moorland grit guide, Over the Moors is intended to



be finished later in the year. Work continues on two smaller guides, to Leicestershire and Mersey Sandstone, and it is hoped to bring Leicestershire out in 2010 also.

Guidebook Committee

- Ian Carr (Chair)
- Niall Grimes (Secretary)
- Les Ainsworth
- Brian Griffiths
- Martin Kocsis
- David Lanceley
- Dave Turnbull
- Richard Wheeldon

Heritage

The climax of this year was the launch on

10 November 2009 of

Mountain Heritage Trust's

(MHT) partnership with the University of Cumbria at its Ambleside campus (formerly Charlotte Mason College),

hosted by MHT trustee Sir Chris Bonington and the university's Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter McCaffrey.

The BMC had already approved the joint business plan which will provide a working, accessible national base for the historical collection of British mountaineering, a programme of events drawing attention to Britain's mountain heritage and culture, and access to MHT's resources for university teaching and research.

The MHT operates as the heritage arm of the BMC, which appoints its trustees. It is the only body that is concerned with identifying and preserving the heritage of British mountaineering and MHT's ever-expanding database includes the collections of individuals and clubs.

The MHT Archivist, Maxine Willett, continues to support the heritage work of clubs and individuals, but has mainly been cataloguing the Bonington Archive Collection this year, largely funded by a Heritage Lottery Fund grant, partly by the BMC and partly by consultancy work for mountain film festivals and the Scottish Mountain Heritage Collection.

Updating the national database remains our priority, but additions to the MHT archive during the year include:

Artefacts

- Donations of oxygen set, boots and clothing worn by Doug Scott on Everest (1975) and the Ogre (1977).
- Donations of equipment used on the 1975 Everest expedition by Dave Clarke.
- Home-made descendeur from K. C. Gordon.
- Piton found by Joe Tasker on the Eiger North Face.

Archive Collections

- Mountain Film Festival Collection (donated by John Porter & Brian Hall) - films (1999-2009).
- Kendal Mountain Festival CIC (donated by KMF CIC) - films (2008-2009).



- Brian Cropper has donated his collection of 1000 digital images of climbers.
- We received a copy of the 1933 Everest film, plus a copy of Stanley Watson's film High Hazard (1934).
- A history of the formation of Wild Country written by Mark Vallance.
- Paul Diffley (Hot Aches Productions) donated Giles Barker's audio interviews with climbers in the Peak District (including Brown, Whillans, Nat Allen and Simon Nadin), plus a draft manuscript of an unpublished book.

The historic audio interviews made by Alan Hankinson have been digitised in 2009 to make them more accessible.

Volunteers from around the country have been helping Maxine transcribe the audio interviews and two volunteers have been able to assist in MHT's Penrith office with the cataloguing of the Bonington Collection. Indexing the photographs of climbers is also being carried out by a volunteer who recognises the usual (and the unusual) culprits. But more volunteer help would be welcomed from BMC members. Please contact Maxine Willett through the MHT website.

MHT Trustees (2009)

- Prof. Terry Gifford (Chair)
- Julie Summers (Vice-Chair)
- Sir Chris Bonington
- Paul Braithwaite
- John Innerdale
- Ron Kenyon
- Richard Lemmey
- Dr Jerry Lovatt
- Jim Lowther
- John Porter
- Doug Scott
- BMC

Huts

The Huts Group coordinates the BMC's support for huts, where the BMC has a direct interest, and offers advice and guidance where it is sought by affiliated clubs and users.

The Group met on one occasion in 2009 to discuss current issues and to review matters relating to the Don Willans Memorial Hut (DWMH) (for which the BMC holds the lease) and the Alex MacIntyre (AMMH) and Glen Brittle (GBMH) Huts which are both held in trust jointly with the Mountaineering Council of Scotland (MCofS).

During the year the Group advised affiliated clubs and their members on a range of matters. These included business taxation, Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC's), civil liability insurance, funding improvements, fire risk assessments, employers' liability insurance, green issues, health & safety issues, maintenance of hut equipment including gas, electrical and water systems, hut insurance and legal issues involving breach of contract, data protection and trustees.

The Group liaises closely with the MCofS Huts Advisory Group (HAG) on matters of common



interest. In conjunction with HAG, we have produced 13 Guidelines to assist hut operators. These Guidelines are available on the BMC website. A Guideline to cover Private Drinking Water Supplies in England and Wales is planned for 2010 when the regulations become available. All the current Guidelines are reviewed from time to time to ensure that they are kept up-to-date.

The Group's Chair attended meetings of the AMMH and DWMH Hut Committees. He continues to act as Secretary for the AMMH Hut Committee. The Group's Chair also serves on the BMC's Child Protection Steering Group. A new BMC and MCoFS Management Agreement is being prepared for the AMMH Hut. This new Agreement will reflect the appointment by the BMC and MCoFS of two *ex officio* trustees. These trustees are the Chairs of the BMC Huts Group and the MCoFS Huts Advisory Group.

The Group is planning the seventh Huts Seminar which will be held at Plas y Brenin in October 2010. Topics may include Civil Liability Insurance, Hut Insurance, Fire Risk Assessments, Private Drinking Water Supplies and Energy Saving. The Group also intends to update the BMC's Huts List.

The Group will continue to encourage and support the National Hut Committees where they try to improve and update the properties and their facilities. Recently we helped the AMMH Hut Committee to obtain BMC finance for the refurbishment of the Hut's toilet block.

Huts Group Committee

- Iain McCallum (Chair)
- Martin Kocsis (Secretary/BMC Officer)
- Nigel Charlesworth
- John Farrow
- Lyndon Gill
- Michael Hunt
- Ken Jackson
- John Leftley
- Tony Margetts
- Bill Renshaw
- Dave Roberts
- Chris Thickett

International

International representation, information, advice and expedition support.

The International Committee provides logistical and financial support, information, and guidance for British mountaineers travelling overseas, and strives to protect the interests and freedom of all mountaineers at an international level.

Highlights of 2009

- Grant aid and support to 10 overseas expeditions, and approval of another six.
- Holding a successful international winter meet in February at Glenmore Lodge, Scotland.
- Close liaison with the Mount Everest Foundation, Welsh Sports Association and Mountaineering Council of Scotland on the distribution of Overseas Expeditions Awards.

- Inauguration of the Julie Tullis Memorial Award.
- Consolidating an electronic database of expedition reports.
- Nominating British climbers for international gatherings.
- Publicising British expedition success through a lecture program at the Kendal Film Festival and on the BMC website.
- Contributing to the Expedition Symposium in October at Plas-y-Brenin.

This year was the first in which expeditions were supported directly by the BMC, rather than indirectly through UK Sport funding. The BMC dedicated a small sum of money to climbers meeting a new and tighter set of criteria, focused more towards the aims of, and bringing direct tangible benefits to, the BMC. Notably, grants were focused primarily but not exclusively on younger mountaineers and those for whom the support would make a significant difference to the viability of their trip. All these climbers were BMC members, who took BMC insurance cover. To maintain meaningful grants, only 10 expeditions were awarded financial support, though six others gained BMC Approval.

Venues in 2009 ranged from Alaska to Chile, and from Greenland to Malaysia. In the main it was a highly successful year for British expeditions, the most notable achieving hard new routes in the Xuelian Massif of the Chinese Tien Shan, on Grosvenor, Church and Pk 11,300 in the Central Alaska Range, Kyzyl Asker North Summit in Kyrgyzstan's Western Kokshaal-too (a range visited by no less than three BMC expeditions during the year), and Chang Himal in East Nepal.

There was also successful exploratory climbing in previously unvisited corners of East Greenland, the Canadian Yukon, and Kyrgyzstan's At Bashi Range and Sarychat Valley, plus trips to rarely visited areas such as the Russian South Kurai and North West Sikkim. One team put up a big wall route on the West Face of Dragon's Horns in the South China Sea.

The International Committee includes some of the leading figures on the World mountaineering scene and liaises closely with other grant giving bodies. It has two representatives on both the Mount Everest Foundation's Screening and Management Committees. It also has a representative on the Welsh Sports Association's Overseas Expedition Panel, which administers Sports Council for Wales funding. A representative from the Mountaineering Council of Scotland, which awards Mountaineering and Climbing Bursaries, also attends International Committee meetings.

International Meets

Despite pretty mixed weather and conditions, Glenmore Lodge made a great job of holding the biennial BMC International Winter Climbing Meet, which in 2009 took place from 22 February - 1 March. Over the years, these events have undoubtedly raised the profile of the BMC, always fostered excellent international relations, and led to many profitable exchanges and, from

time to time, notable climbing partnerships. 36 enthusiastic international guests from a total of 26 countries teamed with a similar number of British hosts to battle with fickle conditions, either high on the Ben, or when winter climbing was not possible, climb rock on low altitude crags or dry tool in quarries. The winter meets traditionally result in at least one or two new routes and this one was no exception, with two completed on the Ben. Evening sessions included spectacular presentations from several of the foreign participants. For more details see the BMC website. There were also other international gatherings at which BMC members took part, e.g. the American Alpine Club's meet at Indian Creek, Utah.

In 2010 there will be a change from the usual venue of North Wales for the International Rock Climbing Meet. It will now take place in on the Cornish sea cliffs during early May, with accommodation at the Count House or nearby camping.

BMC International Grant awards for 2009

Grant awards were made to eligible members of 10 expeditions as follows:

- Chang Himal £2,500
- Xuelian Feng £750
- Dragon's Horns £400
- San Lorenzo £1,250
- Alaska (Hunter) £1,500
- Alaska (Foraker) £400
- Alaska (Pk 11,300) £600
- Alaska (Ruth) £2,500
- Kokshaal-too £1,500
- Greenland (Ren Land) £400

Approval was also given to climbers visiting the Russian Altai, Sikkim, Canadian Yukon (two expeditions) and Kyrgyzstan's Kokshaal-too (two expeditions).

International Committee

The Committee met once in 2009 and comprises the following members:

- Lindsay Griffin (Chair)
- Dave Wilkinson (Vice Chair)
- Nick Colton (Secretary)
- Rab Anderson (MCoFS)
- Paul Braithwaite
- Pat Littlejohn
- Andy MacNae
- Stephen Sustad

Paper Members

- Alan Hinkes
- Kevin Howett (MCoFS)
- Bill Ruthven (MEF)
- Ron Rutland
- Mike Turner

Technical

In 2009 there were five Technical Committee meetings, with an average attendance of eight. Virgil Scott and Megan Hadley joined the Equipment Investigation Panel (EIP). Rob

Foster joined the Technical Committee, Bill Stronge joined as a paper member and Trevor Hellen went from a full to a paper member.

Three Technical Reports were concluded and published online. Four Tech Skills articles were published in Summit magazine. A number of website features articles and news items were produced and an interim Knots download was published online. These include a video feature showing how to safely thread the top anchors on a sport route.



Working with the North Wales Bolt Fund, BMC anchors at Pen Trwyn were inspected and maintained. Through the Better Bolts Campaign, bolt donations were distributed and used to rebolt routes at Lower Pen Trywn, Battleship Edge and other venues.

An equipment seminar at Student Safety & Good Practice Seminar, Plas y Brenin was held. There was BMC representation at the MLTA Conference and equipment advice was given out at the BMC Clubs and Huts Seminar.

At the UIAA Safety Commission, Neville McMillan is the UK National Delegate. Rob Allen is the UK Corresponding Member of the Safety Commission. At CENTC136/WG5 Mountaineering Equipment, Neville McMillan is the Principal UK Expert, appointed by BSI Technical Committee SW136/5. Neville McMillan is the BMC representative on SW136/5, and Ben Lyon is the Chairman. Rob Foster has been recruited as eventual successor to Neville and will shadow him over the next 12 months at UIAA & CEN meetings.

For 2010, the forward plan is to continue to publish key Technical Committee reports on the BMC website, to produce Tech Skills features for Summit magazine. We will also produce features, videos and downloads for the BMC website including: Helmets mini-guide, Knots mini-guide, and Care & Maintenance videos. We also hope to have a Ropes mini-guide mostly completed by the end of the year. We will run another equipment seminar at the Student Safety & Good Practice Seminar, Plas y Brenin. Finally, we will run a BMC Technical Conference, Plas y Brenin in November 2010.

If you are interested in joining the Technical Committee, we'd like to hear from you. In particular, expertise in polymers, textiles and plastics is required.

Technical Committee

- Oliver Milling (Chair)
- Dan Middleton (Secretary)
- Rob Foster
- Alan Huyton
- Ben Lyon
- Stu McAleese
- Neville McMillan
- George Steele
- Scott Titt

Equipment Investigation Panel

- Jane Blackford
- Phil Dowthwaite
- Megan Hadley
- Fred Hall
- Steve Long
- Dan Robinson
- Virgil Scott
- Mark Taylor
- Richard Terrell
- Phillip Tootill

Paper Members

- Rob Allen
- Dave Brook
- Petra Ernst
- Trevor Hellen
- Mike Margeson
- Paul Seddon
- Bill Stronge
- Roger Wild
- Nick Williams

Training & Youth

The Training & Youth Committee (TYC) has had a productive year; the Youth Climbing Series continues to be the BMC's largest event with over 500 young climbers competing; over 100 students attended the annual good practice seminar and the BMC Alpine Meet has become established as a regular calendar feature.

The TYC is responsible for managing BMC training and youth events and publications, an outline of its work programme is listed below.

BMC Youth Climbing Series

Proving as popular as ever, the series was made possible by the dedication of the BMC Area Youth Coordinators (AYCs), the many volunteers, and the hosting climbing walls. The MCofS organises rounds in Scotland, and 2009 saw Mountaineering Ireland organise Irish rounds for the first time. Those who did best in the British and Irish rounds then competed in a national final held at the Westway in London.

Outdoor Youth Meets

Three parent and child Outdoor Youth Meets were organised by volunteer AYCs. Mark Dicken and Julie Zitter organised climbing meets at Holyhead Mountain and Harrison's Rocks respectively. Anne Chevalier organised a walking meet in the Yorkshire Dales.

Talent Support Day for young climbers

Ian Dunn (NW AYC & Junior Team Coach) organised a training day for the top 50 boys and girls based on their results in the Youth Climbing Series. Four years of funding has been sourced from Sport England to expand this programme.

Long Term Athlete Development workshops

Both Fundamentals and Learning to Train are stages within the Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) model. The Fundamentals workshops have been running since 2001, and with Sport England funding, the Learning to Train workshop was developed in 2009, and will be rolled out in early 2010.

Child Protection

Child protection and other specialist training days were delivered to key BMC youth volunteers. The BMC's internal child protection policy and procedures developed in line with current good practice.

Student Safety and Good Practice Seminar

Over 30 volunteers delivered good practice talks and practical workshops to 107 students. Plas y Brenin hosted the event.

BMC Alpine Meet

The fourth BMC Alpine Meet was based in La Berarde over two weeks in August. Slightly less people attended than in previous years, but the meet will run again in 2010.

Good Practice Lectures and Masterclasses

Two series were delivered in 2009: Rock Climbing Essentials and Winter Essentials. Practical rock climbing masterclasses were delivered for the first time in 2009, which proved very popular.

Training & Youth Committee

- Ian Fenton (Chair)
- Jon Garside (Secretary)
- Ed Allaway
- Anne Arran
- Martin Chester
- Nick Colton
- Mal Creasey
- Mark Dennison
- Mark Dicken
- Ian Dunn
- John Dunne
- Tim Hogan
- Julie Hurst
- Adrian Japp
- Neil Johnson
- Mike Margeson
- Karl Mather
- Andy Newton
- John Simpson
- Jon Wilson

Paper Members

- Dave Binney
- Iain Blanche

- Angela Carlin
- Anne Chevalier
- Aaron Cox
- Paul Debney
- David Farrell
- Lyndon Gill
- Matt Heason
- Tina Heselden
- Kevin Howett
- Howard Jeffs
- Ruairidh Mackenzie
- Neil McGeachy
- Jane Newman
- Barnaby Poulton
- Peter Rowlands
- Andy Say
- Paul Smith
- Paul Walters
- Jim Watkin
- Jonathan White
- Roger Wild
- Julie Zitter

Child Safeguarding

The Child Safeguarding Group is a sub group of the Training and Youth Committee that oversees the implementation of the BMC Child Protection Policy and the provision of advice and support to BMC Affiliated Clubs and BMC staff on Child Safeguarding issues.

The Group met four times in 2009 and produced guidance for BMC affiliated clubs on child safeguarding and child protection issues.

Child Safeguarding Committee

- Christine Scarborough (Chair)
- Nick Colton (Secretary)
- Mike Coxsey
- Shauna Coxsey (Junior Climbing Team Member)
- Iain McCallum

Paper Members

- Mark Alderson
- Dave Binney
- Matthew Brown
- Dick Green

Area Reports

Lake District

After two years of exemplary service, Al Phizacklea stepped down from the post of chair. In that time, the Lakes area became a model of excellence and activity for all others to envy!

The second Lakes Festival successfully came and went with numbers similar to the first event, thanks to the efforts of a friendly and efficient team based out of Kendal.

Attendances and involvement have been good and the area meetings are consequently sociable and interesting affairs. The access team under Peter Latimer's leadership has been hard at work ensuring fair access for walkers and climbers throughout the nesting season, and the meetings as a whole have dealt with various ethical conundrums. The Lakes Bolt Fund is a significant part of the area activity, and it will be spearheading the rebolting of St Bees in 2010. Area meetings are on the move for this year, with meetings at the four points of the compass in order to involve as many people as possible. See you at one of the meetings, or at the Lakes Festival in mid June.

Lakes Area Notes

4 meetings, average attendance: 24

- Chair: Mike Parsons & Ewen Turner
- Secretary: James Bumby
- National Council Representatives: Polly Sullivan & Steve Scott
- Access & Conservation: Cumbria Coordinator – Peter Latimer; Eden Valley – Ron Kenyon; Borrowdale & Thirlmere – Stephen Reid; Ullswater, Haweswater & Swindale – Mike Hornby; Duddon & Eskdale – Al Phizacklea; Wasdale, Ennerdale & St Bees – Ben Whitely; Kentmere & Longsleddale – Max Biden; Coniston – Jim Loxham.
- Clubs Representative: Martin Dale
- Youth Representative: Ron Kenyon

Members	2008	2009
No. of clubs in the area	11	10
With club membership of	919	723
Share of national clubs	377	319
Individual members	1,307	1,447
Total members in area	2,603	2,489

London & South East

Four meetings with an average attendance of around 40 showed that the area is enjoying a renaissance of interest – probably due to the venue (it is now run in a pub), shorter and more effective meetings, and some excellent guest speakers (many thanks go to Dr. Jeremy Windsor, Neil Gresham and Steve McClure).

The area also managed to do quite a lot this year – we had another great year with regards to youth and competitions, and added an adult

meet to the sandstone which, despite the very damp weather, was still a success. We're looking forward to repeating this success next year, but hopefully the weather will be better and we'll be able to do more climbing!

The area also benefitted massively from the improved communications and emails from the office notifying the membership of the area meetings – hopefully attendance will continue to rise and we'll have to find a bigger venue!

The area had a number of interesting themes to the meetings – ranging from a discussion of environmental concerns and doing our bit, through the clubs committee, and to starting discussions about an artificial climbing area in the South East. This last is rumbling along slowly – but it's difficult to argue that whilst the majority of the BMC's membership lives and works down here, we're sadly lacking in quality climbing venues when compared to our luckier brethren in other parts of the country (despite Harrison's, Swanage, the chalk cliffs of Dover et. al.). It's also hard to find something wrong with having a world-class artificial boulder park constructed in East London after the 2012 Olympics – all we've got to do now is find a way to make it happen.

Finally, we've a fresh-faced, energetic bunch of people taking over as those crucial volunteers in our area – wish us luck for next year! Thanks to Anna Gregory who finally steps down from the area, to Graham Coff for his hard work on the climbing wall committee, and to Julie Zitter and John Gibbons for their excellent youth work over the years.

London and South East area notes

4 meetings, average attendance: 40

- Chair: Christian Lund
- Secretary: Tom Perrin
- National Council Representatives: Christian Lund, Vic Odell
- Access & Conservation: Martin Brice
- Clubs Representative: Tony Williams
- Youth Representatives: Julie Zitter, Sam Johnson, Elizabeth Holley, Ruth Gibson, Steve James
- Climbing Wall Representatives: Damon Clark & Richard Eckersley

Members	2008	2009
No. of clubs in the area	96	91
With club membership of	5,481	5,023
Share of national clubs	2,247	2,217
Individual members	11,259	13,314
Total members in area	18,987	20,554

Midlands

There have been three area meetings since the last AGM. Attendance remains steady. At our March meeting we saw the resignation of our chair John



Matthews due to ill health and the election of Charles Gameson to Chair in June. We wish John well and offer a big thank you to Iain McKenzie for chairing our meetings in March and June.

The AGM saw a return of Nick Bullock providing yet another entertaining slide show and lecture. Nick being an ex-local to Leicestershire always draws a good crowd keen to hear of his pursuits. This is proving to be most successful as an annual event.

As usual there have been a number of access issues which have kept our Access Reps Howard Pymm and Richard Law busy. In the East Midlands two applications were made to Natural England to undertake crag clean-up work at Westminster Arms crag and Reservoir Quarry. Works have yet to take place and are scheduled for next autumn.

In the West Midlands Richard has been busy working with a number of climbing clubs organising a crag clean up at Nescliffe. The cold weather in the winter has had the effect of creating a brand new cliff on Wenlock Edge in Shropshire with five new routes of grades up to VS, lengths up to about 15metres.

Climbing walls are also doing well. The Midlands area has yet another state of the art bouldering and roped climbing facility "Shropshire Climbing Centre" in Newport near Telford which opened in March. Creation climbing wall has opened a new section of wall. Redpoint continues to thrive seeing a very successful year. The Tower Climbing Centre now has its own BMC affiliated club for the under 18's to name just a few of things going on at our local centres.

The BMC Youth Climbing Series continues to attract much interest in the Midlands with over 40 entrants competing in the three regional events and 12 going forward to compete in the finals at the Westway, London. We fielded a strong team finishing 7th overall. This year saw the boys excel, George Morris came second followed by Dominic Vincent third in the 8-10 year old category. Well done boys. A good result too for Wolf Mountain where the boys regularly climb. Thanks to everyone who competed and to everyone that helped at the regional events and in particular to our Youth Officer Iain Blanche for making it such a success.

Much of the hard work of Martin Kocsis at the BMC office goes unnoticed at an area level, so it is appropriate to thank him for all the support he has given to the area. Thanks also to the members and volunteers who have assisted in making the Midlands area a success.

Midlands Area Notes

3 meetings, average attendance: 20

- Chair: Charles Gameson
- Secretary: Fiona Devine
- National Council Representatives: Fiona Devine, Charles Gameson
- Access & Conservation: Leicestershire – Howard

Pymm; West Midlands – Richard Law

- Clubs Representative: Ed Proctor
- Youth Representative: Iain Blanche
- Climbing Walls Representative: Claudia Sarner

Members	2008	2009
No. of clubs in the area	43	41
With club membership of	2,780	2,653
Share of national clubs	1,140	1,171
Individual members	3,835	4,477
Total members in area	7,755	8,301

North East

The North East Area has a new climbing wall in Newcastle, situated in St Marks Church in Byker.

The Newcastle Climbing Centre is a Rockworks development which includes an eight metre roof section. This is a great new facility for the Tyneside area and climbing talks are being organised – I recently saw Lakeland Lad Dave Birkett entertain the Geordies in his inimitable Cumbrian way.

Also in Byker, (is this area becoming the climbing hot spot of the NE!? It always was famous for the Byker Wall and Byker Grove!) Climb Newcastle has been up and running over a year, set up as a dedicated bouldering facility in a converted swimming pool building. Another good bouldering facility is the Durham Climbing Centre near Durham City and the Mackems on Wearside still have the scarily high Sunderland Wall. In South Durham, Barnard Castle Wall has been extended, Rock Antics has changed ownership and recently been given elite status by Jingo Wobbly.

More importantly on real rock two brave Cleveland Mountaineering Club lads, Luke Hunt and Franco Cookson, made the first free ascent of the Girdle Traverse on Whitestone Cliffe, an epic 309 metres HXS 6a/6b over 7.5 hours. A truly valiant achievement. If you feel heroic enough, give the second ascent a bash, or try and beat their time.

Another noteworthy ascent was made by Steve Crowe, a long time North East activist. He made a foray into the Yorkshire Area and climbed the Central Wall at Malham Cove 70 metres 8b. He is only the second person to do so after John Dunne in 1988.

Crag and access news includes tree felling at Kyloe Out, access problems at Heckley and a CROW Act closure on Simonside for 28 days in June by the Duke of Northumberland Estate.

In The North York Moors a new access agreement for Danby Crag is in place for 1 June-30 Nov. In Swaledale, Orgate Scar has been opened up at last with access from 2 Feb to 30 July. There is some potential here. Could it become the next Yorkshire limestone bolt venue!?

I really would like to thank all the access reps for great and diligent work in this area.

Karin Magog has been an excellent Secretary and has passed the 'baton' on to Lloyd Murray.

All in all, few problems in the area and we

North Easterners are enjoying our craggin'; in Summer, Club Meets outside in the long, light evenings and in Winter at indoor walls (or even outside for some with head torches and ice tools!)

North East Area Notes

3 meetings, average attendance: 12

- Chair: Alan Hinkes OBE
- Secretary: Lloyd Murray
- National Council Representative: Alan Hinkes
- Access & Conservation: Northumberland – Richard Pow; Durham & North Yorks Moors – Peter Hay
- Youth Representative: Jane Newman
- Climbing Walls Representative: Peter Dyson

Members	2008	2009
No. of clubs in the area	9	8
With club membership of	592	642
Share of national clubs	243	283
Individual members	1,486	1,721
Total members in area	2,321	2,646

North West

The North West area continues to involve large numbers of local climbers in its discussions and activities.

During the year two very successful clean up days were organised at Wilton. Many routes were given a thorough going over, some in situ gear was replaced and the quarry itself was tidied and cleared of rubbish. Quite a few climbers later commented that this showpiece crag was now in as good a condition as any of them could remember. Well done everyone and thank you to Martin for the cakes. Working parties also visited Egerton on a number of occasions.

On the access front a number of minor problems were resolved through discussions with landowners. However, Hoghton, the jewel in the crown of Lancashire climbing, remained an ongoing issue. A formal proposal for much improved access to the crag was made to the estate but no response was received in time for this year's season. The end result was that the existing limited access agreement was applied and this, combined with the late fledging of the peregrines, resulted in a climbing 'season' of less than a fortnight. Given the overgrown condition of the crag such a short period of access was of little value. Undoubtedly pushing the estate to agree more reasonable arrangements for 2010 will need to be a priority for the area.

Another matter considered by the area was the proposal that the BMC should support the principle of climbing as an Olympic sport. This issue mattered a lot to some whilst others found the protracted discussions deeply dull – sorry about that but letting ordinary climbers have their say is a key function of area meetings.

The NW area twice requested that the BMC put the matter to a national ballot of the whole membership but the National Council did not



support this proposal. The North West area did, in the end, agree to accept the principle of climbing as an Olympic sport but urged the BMC to consider whether, in future years, the long term interests of traditional and competition climbers might be better served by the establishment of an autonomous body to represent the latter.

Towards the end of the year Gai Ashmore and others brought a proposal to re-bolt Frogsmouth Quarry to an area meeting held in Cheshire (we continue to rotate area meetings to include venues throughout the region). The vote was unanimously in favour and was followed up by an application to the BMC's Better Bolts Fund for the equipment needed.

The actual work on the crag has already started and there is every prospect that climbers will be able to enjoy a fantastic new sport climbing venue in 2010. This is a great example of how the BMC represents, supports and involves local climbers. So next time someone asks 'what has the BMC ever done for us?'.....

All of these developments plus a variety of interesting articles about climbing in the North West have featured in the excellent NW Area Newsletter that Richard Ginns has been producing – if you have information, opinions or articles that you would like him to include in future editions he can be contacted on rginns@hotmail.com

Overall, 2009 has been a productive year for the NW area. A lot of good things have been achieved and we have ideas and plans for 2010.

The area meetings continue to be open to all and we want you to join us - we will continue to bribe you with chips, guest speakers and other interesting items. If you haven't been to a meeting yet why not give it a try? Nobody wants the BMC to be dominated by elites, cliques or bureaucrats and you can help to ensure that it isn't.

North West Area Notes

4 meetings, average attendance: 30

- Chair: Colin Struthers
- Secretary: Nick Bond
- National Council Representatives: Lyndon Gill, Conor Doherty
- Access & Conservation: Lancashire – Les Ainsworth; Cheshire – Mark Hounslea
- Clubs Representative: Steve Gill
- Youth Representative: Ian Dunn
- Climbing Walls Representatives: Nick Bond, Steve Gille

Members	2008	2009
No. of clubs in the area	39	33
With club membership of	3,165	2,272
Share of national clubs	1,298	1,003
Individual members	4,462	5,130
Total members in area	8,925	8,405

Peak District

The five meetings this year saw us travel to Ramshaw, Glossop, Sheffield and twice to the

Grouse (near Froggatt). This has worked for the last two years and seems to work well in terms of allowing access to everybody in the region.

Most of the year has been concerned with access issues at the various crags and quarries around the region. Henry Folkard (who was last year presented with the prestigious Torch Trophy Trust award by HRH The Earl of Wessex for his 35+ hours a week as voluntary access rep) never fails to keep us all informed of the issues at large. Entertainment at the meetings was always of high quality, with a lecture from Andy Benson, films from ShAFF, and the new hardest Christmas Climbing Quiz of all time by Ben Heason and George Taylor.

The newsletter has gone from strength to strength this year, with Martin Wass now firmly established at its helm. This 4-8 page document is produced in time to be made publically available a fortnight prior to each meeting, and contains a mix of news, Peak based articles and photo galleries, forthcoming events in the area, a profile of one of the local activists, and items for the agenda for the forthcoming meeting. It is disseminated largely electronically via the BMC and Heason Events mailing lists, but is also printed and distributed to prominent climbing walls and shops. Feedback has been excellent, and numbers of people attending the meetings generally up on recent years (average attendance of 45ish).

The following message has been conveyed through the four letters so far: "There are five Peak Area Meetings a year. If you can make it to at least one it'll make a huge difference to the meetings and ultimately to your experience of climbing in the Peak District". If anyone has anything they would like to contribute to the newsletter please get in touch via the BMC office.

Peak District Area Notes

5 meetings, average attendance: 45

- Chair: Matt Heason
- Secretary: Trudi Materna
- National Council Representatives: Chris Moor & Neil Foster
- Access & Conservation: Peak Co-ordinators – Henry Folkard & Adam Long; Northern Peak & Chew Valley – Rick Gibbon; Matlock area – Reuben Brown; Western Grit & Staffordshire – Andi Turner and Chris Nunn; Bouldering – Simon Jacques; Sheffield Area Grit – Trudi Materna & Julian Materna
- Youth Representative: Jim Watkin

Members	2008	2009
No. of clubs in the area	23	22
With club membership of	1,232	1,213
Share of national clubs	505	535
Individual members	2,666	2,999
Total members in area	4,403	4,747

South West & Southern

Five meetings with an average attendance of 18

showed that participation in the running of the area is remaining at a steady level. Two of the meetings have been held outside Bristol in an attempt to take the meetings to more people.

A notable success was the summer meeting at Princetown on Dartmoor. Climbing at Hay Tor on the day after the meeting had to be rapidly curtailed following a hailstorm which left the ground white and the crag streaming with water.

During the year, a number of access issues arose in the area, keeping our Wye Valley and Mendips Access Reps, Rick Sowards and Ian Butterworth, busy. At Huntsham, a climbing ban during the shooting season was announced and climbers have been asked to leave. The approach to Fly Wall via Woodcroft Quarry was fenced off. It was not possible to contact the land owner. A number of encounters with a "security guard" took place, but latterly the situation has been quiet.

In the Mendips, Fairy Cave Quarry was also fenced off and a climbing ban imposed. Ian Butterworth and Guy Keating met with the landowner and there is optimism about a positive resolution. However, negotiations are not yet complete.

Following an exchange of letters with Bristol City Council, proposing a standing liaison on Avon Gorge matters (an initiative by Colin Knowles), the BMC were invited to respond to the Council's Avon Gorge development plan. The response was made and also an extremely positive meeting with the Parks Department took place. We hope to develop the relationship further.

A group of climbers was established the previous year to assist in placing a webcam overlooking the Peregrine nesting site at the Avon Gorge. This project is currently on hold, but the same group has been helping local naturalists gain access to various inaccessible peregrine and raven nesting sites so that the chicks could be ringed.

Other access and conservation work has also taken place. A grant from the Crag Care Fund enabled dangerous fallen trees to be removed at Ban-y-Gor. An Access and Conservation Trust grant was approved to part-fund improved drainage at the base of Sea Walls. A crag clearance day at the Avon Gorge Main Area resulted in the clearance of a huge area of scrub, allowing free passage along the base of the cliff.

The Dorset Bolt Fund enabled the replacement of belay bolts on popular low-grade routes at Swanage.

Summer climbing in Cheddar has continued this year. In November, the landowners of both sides of Cheddar issued letters announcing a moratorium on bolting for the next five years, and this was subsequently adopted as the BMC bolting policy for the gorge.

Finally a thank-you to BMC staff who have made the long trek to the South West. In particular Martin Kocsis whose help has been invaluable.



South West & Southern Area Notes

5 meetings, average attendance: 18

- Chair: Jerzy Wieczorek
- Secretary: Sam Mayfield
- National Council Representatives: Scott Titt
- Access & Conservation: Avon Gorge – Steve Findlay; West Penwith – Jeremy Dyke; North Devon – Rick Abbott; South Devon – S.W.A.T.; Wye Valley – Rick Sowards; Portland – Neal Heanes; Swanage – Steve Taylor; Cheddar & Somerset – Ian Butterworth, Martin Crocker
- Youth Representative: Tina Heselden
- Climbing Wall Representative: Steve Taylor

Members	2008	2009
No. of clubs in the area	24	22
With club membership of	1,725	1,392
Share of national clubs	707	614
Individual members	4,078	4,918
Total members in area	6,510	6,924

Yorkshire

The Yorkshire Area held four meetings in 2009, the fourth being held in tandem with the AGM. Much route development has again gone on with new trad and sport routes being developed on both gritstone and limestone.

The big development of the year has been at Castlebergh Crag in Settle. This was developed as a result of a unique collaboration with Settle Town Council with a group of eight local climbers cleaning up the cliff and transforming it into an excellent climbing venue with 24 high quality sport routes.

On the gritstone front an old quarry – Hidden Quarry – at Heptonstall has been cleaned and developed and at the time of writing has 12 routes but with potential for more.

There has been some outdoor Youth activity with the first BMC Hill Walking meet for parents and children, which was held in the Settle Area in June. It was a wet day but enjoyed by all and there was even some easy cave exploration included. Then in July there was a camping & climbing meet at Hutton Roof with a day's climbing followed by an easy walk on the Sunday.

There have also been developments on the climbing wall front with the opening of two new bouldering walls in Leeds and a new climbing wall in Harrogate.

Yorkshire Area is pleased to note the current freeze on BMC membership subscriptions. This was suggested to the BMC following a previous Area meeting when discussing how to use the BMC's surplus.

Yorkshire Area Notes

4 meetings, average attendance: 22.

- Chair: David Campbell
- Secretary: Deirdre Collier
- National Council Representatives: Mick Johnson, Deirdre Collier
- Access & Conservation – Limestone: Martin Christmas; Gritstone: Mick Johnson

- Clubs Representative: Andy Blakely
- Youth Representative: David Farrell (indoors); Anne Chevalier (outdoors)
- Climbing Wall representative: Jonathan Richardson

Members	2008	2009
No. of clubs in the area	25	23
With club membership of	1,426	1,419
Share of national clubs	585	626
Individual members	2,303	2,723
Total members in area	4,314	4,768

Wales/Cymru

This has been another very busy year for BMC

Wales/Cymru with a continued high attendance at BMC Wales/Cymru meetings.

Four meetings have been held during the year in the north, two at the Vaynol in Nant Peris, one at the Deganwy Castle Hotel and the traditional AGM at Plas y Brenin with an average attendance of 44.

Three meetings have been held in the south, one at Cardiff's Boulders centre and two at Swansea's Dynamic Rock with an average attendance of 14 of people

In between meetings we have produced a newsletter to keep climbers and hill walkers up to date with goings on around Wales and to raise issues for forthcoming meetings. We have also used the newsletter as a way of reporting from other meetings rather than take up valuable discussion time with endless reports of other meetings. The newsletter is now professionally translated into Welsh. Attendees at meetings are still able to comment on anything raised in the newsletter or indeed raise their own issues through an open forum slot at every meeting. We also have a presence on the BMC Website and a regular page in Summit which different Welsh activists have contributed to this year.

In March we voted to support the idea of climbing becoming an Olympic sport. We expressed support for BMC coaching in climbing awards. Craig y Forwyn left-hand end was opened and we had to quickly deal with some problems here, this work is ongoing.

April saw the final of the Welsh Junior National Climbing Competition held at the Beacon nr. Llanberis and another successful Tremadog Festival.

In May we hosted the BMC Family meet organised by our area Youth Coordinator Mark Dicken who also ran another successful BMC Family meet in June.

In June the biggest news of the year was the appointment of Elfyn Jones as BMC Access and Conservation Officer (Wales).

In August Mynyddu was launched at the BMC Stand at the National Eisteddfod. Mynyddu is the translation of MLT's Hill Walking into Welsh.

In September we reported the completion of the Tremadog Revival project. Rob Greaves was elected to the BMC Clubs Committee. Concern

was raised about wind farm developments near Plumlumon.

During the year there have been discussions about access at Dali's Hole, Craig y Forwyn, parking issues in Snowdonia, coastal access, the BMC work for hill walkers and extensive re-bolting work, led by Pete Harrison was carried out on the Orme.

In the south there was a very successful Gower Festival organised by Swansea based climbers which attracted 75 people. Visit the Gower Climbing Festival website for a full write up. The South Wales Bolt Fund has increased its profile by arranging film nights, lectures and selling colour topos. Craggs which have seen attention from the team include Foxhole, Dinas Rock and Taffs Well. In Pembroke we continue to have good relations with the National Park and the Military with the usual briefing and bird nesting discussions taking place.

Wales/Cymru Area Notes

4 meetings, average attendance: 44

- Chair: Mike Raine
- Secretary: Ray Wood
- National Council Representatives: Mike Raine, Ray Wood, Stuart Llewellyn (South)
- Access & Conservation: Pembroke – Steve Quinton; South East Wales – John Cunstance; Gower – Mark Winder; Clwyd - Roger Bennion
- Mountain Leader Training Wales: Andy Boorman
- Mountain Leader Training UK: Neil Johnson
- Mountaineering Co-ordination Group: Mike Raine
- Clubs Representative: Rob Greaves
- Youth Representative: North – Mark Dicken; South – Paul Walters
- Climbing Wall Representatives: North – Gary Morgan; South – Gary Lewis

Members	2008	2009
No. of clubs in the area	13	16
With club membership of	1,248	1,324
Share of national clubs	512	584
Individual members	2,025	2,409
Total members in area	3,785	4,317

Other Reports

British Association of Mountain Guides

by Libby Peter, *Honorary Secretary*

The British Association of Mountain Guides (BMG) has membership of 180 spread between Scotland, the Lake District, North Wales, the Peak District and the Alps. Members are involved in guiding, climbing activities and personal expeditions world-wide, so have a broad collective experience of mountain conditions and activities which they are always happy to share.

2009 was a year of consolidation for a new Management Committee, and much emphasis was placed on renewing our links and exchange of dialogue with other Mountain Training bodies. In particular, agreement has been reached to review the framework of awards in the UK. This coincides with a decision by the International Federation for Mountain Guide Associations (IFMGA) to review qualifications below the level of International Mountain Guide, which follows the agreement by IFMGA members to adopt a revised professional platform, which was adopted by the 26 member associations in a televised signing ceremony in Chambéry, France.

We were delighted to present IFMGA carnets to six new fully qualified British Guides, including the first female to complete the award for some years, who also happens to be the first second-generation British Guide. This marks the end of several years' hard work for these members and the beginning of an exciting new career.

We also welcomed seven new applications to the British Guide Scheme, and wish them all the best for the training and assessment over the coming years.

Central Council of Physical Recreation

The Central Council of Physical Recreation (CCPR) is the umbrella body for National Governing Bodies of Sport.

The CCPR Outdoor Pursuit Division (OPD) met three times in 2009 with meetings attended by Bill Renshaw, who was elected Deputy Chair, and Jon Garside, who represented Mountain Leader Training England.

In 2009, the OPD and the CCPR Water Recreation Division decided to revitalise the CCPR Access Working Group, under Bill Renshaw's Chairmanship. This group will enable CCPR member organisations to agree upon a common approach to improving access, and allow members to share good practice in this area. Bill is the current chair of the BMC's Access Conservation and Environment Group.

The CCPR continues to provide support, information and a forum for discussion on many aspects of sport and recreation. Issues discussed by the OPD in 2009 have included the various accreditation schemes now operating in the outdoor sector, and the future for existing NGB quality assurance schemes. An analysis of recent case law

of compensation claims demonstrated how judges were recognising that in activities carrying an inherent level of risk, that competent adults should be able to make an informed decision as to whether to take that risk.

Catherine Flitcroft, Access and Conservation Officer, was also invited to sit on the CCPR led 'facilities enquiry', an independent investigation exploring the full range of places where people choose to participate in sport and recreation, and examining good practice and improvements that need to be made. The inquiry will make recommendations to ensure that every British citizen can access affordable and sustainable recreation opportunities.

Mountaineering Council of Scotland

by Dave Gibson, *Chief Officer*

The Mountaineering Council of Scotland (MCofS) is the only organisation which represents, supports and promotes Scottish mountaineering. We represent our members and other mountaineers' interests by working with the Scottish Government and its national agencies; mountaineering, environmental and land management organisations; our network of 135 climbing and hill walking clubs, and over 10,500 members.

Our Access & Conservation work is partly supported by the BMC and during 2009 we were pleased to obtain official acceptance of our guidelines for stalking signage through the National Access Forum, which includes representatives of the majority of Scotland's land and deer management interests. As a result, hill walkers and climbers should no longer be subjected to misleading and intimidatory signage during the stalking season.

We also made representations to the Scottish Parliament concerning the impact on wild land made by bulldozed hill tracks. Following a meeting between our Access & Conservation Officer, Hebe Carus, and an MSP, questions have been asked in Parliament, and at the time of writing we are awaiting the Government's response.

As Scotland's wild land comes under increasing pressure from industry, we have continued our lobbying against the proposed Beaulieu-Denny power line through our membership of the Beaulieu-Denny Landscape Group. We also consulted with members over proposals to open up a number of tracks to vehicle access through Forestry Commission properties, where the traditional mountaineering principle of 'the long walk in' may be subject to review in 2010.

We also engaged in a high-profile media debate concerning way marking, and we have maintained our position against the wholesale way marking of popular mountains due to a range of safety, access and conservation-related issues.

We appointed Heather Morning as Mountain

Safety Adviser in June. Our mountain safety events, courses and lectures now provide more than 1,000 places available to members and non-members alike, reflecting MCofS' broader responsibility for the promotion of mountain safety in Scotland. We also need to get the message out to visitors to Scotland, where non-residents account for more than half of mountain rescue call-outs, so please check the mountain safety section of our website for up to date information!

We worked closely with members of the Scottish Climbing Wall Network to promote indoor climbing and organised an expanded range of MCofS-supported events. We also supported three new specialist kid's climbing clubs, which we hope will form the basis of a new network of kid's clubs throughout Scotland.

Scottish climbers again fared well on the competition scene, with podium places gained in the Youth Climbing Series, British Bouldering and British Lead Competitions. There were outstanding performances throughout the year from Jonathan Stocking and Natalie Berry.

Finally, it's worth noting that following extensive consultation with members, there was significant change in MCofS governance. The MCofS Executive and specialist committees were stood down at the AGM in September, and a Board of eight directors elected, to be supported by specialist advisory groups, responsible for the development of mountaineering activities. The new structure is expected to improve the speed of decision-making and increase opportunities for volunteers to influence and support the work of MCofS in the future.

Mountaineering Ireland

by Alan Tees, *President*

Our new name "Mountaineering Ireland" was duly ratified at the 2009 AGM in February. It was felt that the name "Council" was unnecessary, and that members could more easily identify with the organisation without it! Our logo also changed to our new "Milk Carton" design, (but the less said about that the better!)

Membership remains at around 9,500, and whilst one or two clubs may have fallen by the wayside, there has been a steady increase in individual membership. An exciting new development is the proposed link with Scouting Ireland, where a scout, having completed his various scouting outdoor awards, will continue, seamlessly, with tailored BOS (the Irish Mountain training organisation) courses, becoming a Mountaineering Ireland member, and hopefully a competent mountaineer.

The summer alpine meet at Innertkirchen was well attended, and for the first time we included a multi-day hut to hut trip to encourage more walkers to attend. Registration for courses was slightly down, due presumably to the recession!



of the “Celtic Tiger” Fortunately the economic down turn does not appear to have affected our general funding as seriously as we had feared, yet!

The new climbers guide to Wicklow appeared in the summer, the Mournes guide should be available to purchase in the new year, and our quarterly magazine, Irish Mountain Log just seems to get better and better under the editorship of Patrick O’Sullivan.

The October Meet was in Kerry, ably hosted by Dingle Hill walking club, and we were delighted to welcome Nick Colton from the BMC, Steve Long from MLTUK, Mike Raine from BMC Wales/ Cymru, and David Gibson from MCofS. The attractions this year were a climbing competition in Ireland’s best indoor wall, Dermot Somers as guest speaker, and of course Mt Brandon and the charming village of Dingle itself.

Progress on our five year strategic plan has undoubtedly been set back with the departure of our chief officer and training officers during the year, but a new CO (Karl Boyle) has been recruited to start in the new year, and we are currently interviewing for a replacement training officer.

Looking forward to 2010, we have our winter skills meet in the Alps for the first time, (in March at Adamello), it looks like we will all be heading for the Ecrins in July, and the October gathering will be in the Mournes.

Mountain Leader Training England

by Andy Say, Executive Secretary

When is there ever a year that is not a ‘busy year’? Mountain Leader Training England (MLTE) has been working through 2009 with a new award to administer, a lot of complicated work with the Qualifications & Curriculum Authority to do and a renewed emphasis on some of the ‘peripheral’ work of providing additional support and materials for candidates.

The administration staff continue to do a sterling job with Cath Luke, Cat Forster and Sam Allfree providing the important first point of contact for many providers, candidates and general enquirers (and, yes, we still get enquiries about ratios, equipment, accidents and the weather in Capel Curig). Sam Allfree has now moved on after nearly two years with us and we wish her well in her new job.

In March MLTE staff organised the first of a proposed series of ‘all MLT’ Conferences at Plas y Brenin. A busy day, with many sessions focused on the work of the technical advisor, was enjoyed by all. It is, incidentally, a tribute to Plas y Brenin that despite their staff believing that they were catering for 55 for lunch they actually fed around 95 delegates and presenters due to a rush of late bookings; a true ‘loaves and fishes’ moment. These events are invaluable as a means of getting to know others in the fields and getting

valuable updates on current thinking.

At the beginning of the year the impact of the financial situation was a slight worry for the Board as there was no way of knowing if there would be a reduction in the number of folks registering for award schemes; especially those who are doing the awards out of interest rather than as part of a career path. In the event our forecasting was a trifle pessimistic. The ML showed a very slight drop in registrations over 2008, the Climbing Wall Award (CWA) scheme continued to grow and the Single Pitch Award (SPA) even showed a slight growth (showing that people obviously do still climb outdoors sometimes!). The Walking Group Leader was the only scheme that demonstrated a significant drop and the training boards are undertaking consultation to see if there are ways of making this award more accessible and ‘fit for purpose’. A major initiative during 2009 was the development of an additional award which can act as a ‘bolt-on to the CWA and SPA for those who wish to teach the skills of leading on indoor walls. All of the Boards worked together on this initiative which should be ready to launch in early 2010.

Of real significance to the work of the Board was the bid put in to Sport England for enhanced funding support on behalf of the BMC and MLTE; an enormous amount of work went into this bid by staff at the BMC offices and the quality of the submission is reflected in its success. From the perspective of MLTE this funding will help with the new initiatives in terms of the Climbing Wall Awards – development of materials and a lot more moderation visits - as well as work being undertaken to try to make the award schemes more accessible to non-traditional participants.

A major initiative this year has been the resurrection of the Disability Awareness/ Climbing for All workshops pioneered by Don Mabbs for the then MLTB. Don’s notes had formed the basis for the MLTE ‘Climbing for All’ booklet but subsequent to his death in 2007 there had been a hiatus in this work. In 2009 MLTE and MLTA formed partnerships with some of the trainers from the ‘Adventure for All’ organisation, especially Graeme Hill from Rochdale who resurrected these workshops. Aimed at SPA holders they give an awareness of the various types of disabilities one may encounter and give suggestions about adapting climbing to enable participation from a wide range of people. As the year drew to a close Michael Hunt, one of the MLTE board members, had finished the text of a companion booklet on ‘Walking for All’ which MLTE hopes to publish in 2010.

There is ongoing work being done with the various bodies that oversee the delivery of qualifications within England and Wales. After the success of getting the MLT awards onto the National Qualification Framework we are now faced with the upcoming termination of that system and its replacement with the Qualification

and Credit Framework. We will be working with Ofqual and other bodies to seek to get our awards on to that framework as it does enable some training funding to be accessed by some candidates as well as giving us some kudos in the eyes of government. I anticipate that it will be a bit like working an 8a... 2010 looks like being yet another busy year.

Mountain Leader Training

by Steve Long, Chief Officer

Mountain Leader Training has dropped the “UK” suffix in its communications, to reflect the level of cooperation throughout the UK and Ireland and also to acknowledge the role of the Board in assisting the development of qualifications at an international level.

The entire portfolio of MLT qualifications has continued to see good levels of registrations despite the recession. The Climbing Wall Award has proved particularly successful, with continued positive feedback from climbing walls and NICAS providers. The remaining section of the project, the proposed Climbing Wall Leading award, is almost complete and a series of induction workshops was provided for prospective course providers through partnership between all the home nation boards over the autumn, ready for an early launch in the New Year.

The publication of a Welsh language version of “Hillwalking” (Mynyddu, 2009) was a milestone event that has been well received in Wales, and the appointment of both a new officer for MLT Wales and the BMC Access and Conservation Officer (Wales) – both based at our office in Siabod Cottage - reflect a positive synergy throughout the UK and Ireland.

The Chief Officer continues to chair the UIAA Training Standards Working Group of the Mountaineering Commission. Interest in these standards continues to grow from all around the world, and interest is such that a series of meetings have been scheduled for 2010 to look into a viable model for sustaining the activity at its current level. Information about the work of this group can be found on the UIAA website.

MLT has worked in close partnership with the BMC to address concerns from some quarters about the impacts of the proposed coaching scheme upon traditional mountaineering values. This reached a satisfactory conclusion and meetings have been scheduled for early 2010 with the group designing the Long Term Athlete Development workshop programme and with a representative from Mountaineering Ireland to ensure harmonisation and to start fleshing out the syllabus.

MLT has continued to oversee an increasing level of cooperation between all the home nation training boards, which has allowed the development of a new portal website that is currently in draft form.

MLT has been working closely with its member



organisations: British Mountain Guides, British Association of International Mountain Leaders and the Association of Mountaineering Instructors to build closer relationships between the bodies and a greater degree of harmonisation between qualifications. This cooperation will feed into the review of the Mountaineering Instructor scheme that we are currently undertaking after an initial online consultation that elicited over 500 responses.

The MLT Association has continued to develop, and membership support for its training programme has increased dramatically in 2009. Another successful conference was held in the autumn.

MLT assisted the BMC in numerous projects during 2009, including regular correspondence with the Technical Committee, staffing on the BMC student seminar and guest appearances at the PyB Expedition Symposium.

Mountain Rescue Council - England & Wales

by David Allan, Chairman

2009 has been an interesting and challenging year for mountain rescue teams. The year began with a return of true winter conditions in North Wales and the Lakes. It had been predicted that after a number of seasons without these conditions a spate of accidents would happen and so it turned out. There were a number of long falls with serious injuries, and sadly fatalities, which presented some difficult rescues.

It was pleasing to see the GPS mapping system that has been developed within Mountain Rescue (MR) was proving its worth in desperate weather conditions. It has already proved a very valuable tool, particularly in searches, but on this occasion on Skiddaw, faced with a combination of darkness, high wind, blizzards and hypothermic casualties, it was life saving.

The following months have witnessed a steady rise in the number of incidents. In North Wales and the Peak District the increase has been in the region of 25%. This has also been the experience of three Lakes teams although the figures for the Lakes overall show a more moderate rise. As we approach the end of the year there is no doubt that one or two teams will be nearing 150 call outs in the year. It is too soon to be certain of the exact cause of these figures but the simple fact of more people in the hills is a contributor. There are, unhappily, a significant number of incidents where the lack of knowledge, basic kit and common sense are responsible. Mobile phones have proved of enormous value in many accidents but they do offer an easy alternative to thinking for those so inclined.

Although MR teams have responded to this increased work load without fail, there is real concern about the future if the trend continues. We hope to work more closely with the BMC during 2010 to try and address some of these issues.

The value of the skills of MR teams in non-mountain situations has been recognised and deployed more widely during 2009. The performance of 15 teams from the Lakes and adjacent regions during the flooding was invaluable to the local communities and to the other rescue services. The downside is the cost of replacing damaged kit which is not catered for in normal fundraising. We remain hopeful of some assistance with this. These events received great publicity but there is a regular contribution that does not hit the headlines. In the past weeks many teams have been reaching places inaccessible to the Ambulance Service because of the weather conditions.

Plas y Brenin & Mountain Training Trust

by Martin Doyle, Chief Executive

In 2009 Plas y Brenin worked closely with the BMC contributing to the work of the National Council, Training and Youth Committee and the coaching discussions.

The annual programme of leader and skills courses saw activity in North Wales, the Scottish Highlands as well as ski touring courses in Austria and summer alpine climbing courses in Switzerland. Additionally 180 training places were administered and run for the Jonathan Conville Memorial Trust in Scotland and France. Over 6,000 people attended residential courses.

Performance climbing courses are ever more popular being the largest proportion of courses to members. In August 140 young climbers (12 – 17 years) attended climbing improver and performance courses at Plas y Brenin, probably the only venue in the country offering the opportunity to develop their skills in sport and trad climbing.

In April a very successful lively BMC AGM and dinner was again held at Plas y Brenin with a range of influential guests in attendance. In May the UIAA Council held its biannual meeting at Plas y Brenin hosted by Mark Vallance and Doug Scott with delegates coming from as far as India, Iran and Canada.

Following involvement with the BMC and as part of their growing interest in climbing, Dame Kelly Holmes and Angela Smith MP took part in climbing courses at the Centre in the summer.

In November a weekend Mountaineering Expedition seminar filled the Centre and was supported by various mountaineering figures including Nick Colton and Kenton Cool.

Other events in the year included the Welsh dinner of the Climbers' Club, other climbing club dinners and annual dinners for the Association of Mountaineering Instructors and the British Association of Mountain Guides. In November the BMC Cymru/Wales AGM and funday, and the BMC National council meeting coincided for a busy day at Plas y Brenin.

A series of courses aimed at hill walking

members of the BMC are planned to take place in the coming year.

2010 is a critical year for Plas y Brenin as the Mountain Training Trust (MTT) of which the BMC is an owner, bids to renew its management contract with Sport England. Having successfully managed the Centre and enhanced its reputation in the outdoors nationally and internationally for the past 13 years MTT has a very strong case for renewal.

Union Internationale des Associations d'Alpinisme

The BMC continued to be well represented within the UIAA and its specialist Commissions during 2009.

In the course of the year Doug Scott took over from Mark Vallance as the British delegate on the UIAA Council and was subsequently elected to the Management Committee as well. Bob Pettigrew came to the end of a 10 year term as President of the UIAA Access Commission in 2009 and was succeeded by former BMC Access & Conservation Officer Clare Bond. The BMC would like to thank both Mark and Bob for their important contributions to the UIAA's work during their periods in office. The full list of BMC representatives is shown below.

Of note at the October UIAA Council meeting in Porto was Doug Scott's input into the development of the UIAA Mountain Ethics Declaration. He also put forward a motion, 'It is appropriate for the UIAA to be known as the guardian of the best traditions of mountaineering with special emphasis on encouraging, preserving and promoting traditional rock climbing', but this was narrowly defeated by one vote.

The Mountain Ethics Declaration together with a full report of the UIAA's work can be found on the BMC website.

BMC Support to the UIAA in 2009

- UIAA Management Committee Representative: Doug Scott
- Mountaineering Commission (Training Standards Group): Steve Long
- Access & Conservation Commission: Clare Bond
- Safety Commission: Neville McMillan
- Medical Commission: Dave Hillebrandt
- Youth Commission: Anne Arran

Club & Associate Members 2009

Club Name	No of Members		
Aberystwyth Expedition Society	46	Croydon Mountaineering Club	43
ABMSAC-Association of British Members		Dacorum Adventure Group.....	40
of the Swiss Alpine Club.....	220	De Montfort Uni (Leics) Mt Club.....	20
AGC Mountaineering Club	20	Derby Mountaineering Club.....	37
Aldermaston Mountaineering Club	27	Derbyshire Pennine Club.....	54
Allen & Overy Climbing Club.....	20	Derwent Mountaineering Club	64
Alpine Club	924	Dockyard Ventures.....	24
Alton Mountaineering Club.....	36	Dorset Youth Climbing Academy	22
AMI (England and Wales)	700	Durham Mountain Sports.....	48
Anabasis Mountaineering Club	33	Durham University Mountaineering Club.....	56
Arete Mountaineering Club.....	21	Dyfi Climbers Club	25
Avon Mountaineering Club	140	East Grinstead Climbing Club.....	29
Aylesbury Climbing Club.....	95	East Pennine Outdoor Club.....	45
Barnsley Mountaineering Club	63	East Yorkshire Mt and Climbing Club.....	40
Barrow Mountaineering & Ski Club.....	88	Eden Valley Mountaineering Club	69
Basingstoke Climbing Club	35	Edge Hill University Climbing and	
Bath University Mountaineering Club	117	Mountaineering Club	20
Battle Climbing Club	19	ELC Hill Walking Club	31
Bedford Mountaineering Club.....	32	Exeter University Climbing Club	140
Bedroc	39	Exploration Group of North Somerset	92
Beeston Hill & Mt Cb - Formerly Siemens	37	Forest of Dean Hillwalkers.....	14
Bewdley & District Mountaineering Club.....	20	Frayednotts Mountaineering Club	28
BHMC - Bassetlaw Hill & Mountain Club	44	Free Barbarian Climbing Club.....	22
Bournemouth University Climbing Club.....	51	Fylde Mountaineering Club.....	162
Bowline Climbing Club	131	G S Exiles Mountaineering Club	24
Bremex Mountaineering & Climbing Club.....	20	Gentian Mountaineering Club	61
Brighton University Mountaineering Club.....	20	Gloucestershire Mountaineering Club	104
British Airways Mt Walking & Trekking Cl	45	Goats Mountaineering Club.....	30
Bromsgrove & Redditch Mt Club.....	42	Gorphwysfa Club.....	55
Buxton Mountaineering Club.....	60	Gritstone Club	118
Calderdale Mountaineering Club	41	Guernsey Mountaineering Club	31
Cambridge Climbing & Caving Club.....	79	Guildford Mountaineering Club	67
Cambridge University Hillwalking Club	162	Gwent Mountaineering Club.....	115
Cambridge University Mt Club	18	Gwydyr Mountain Club	97
Cardiff University Mountaineering Club	68	Hampshire Mountaineering Association.....	30
Carlisle Mountaineering Club	104	Harpenden Expedition Club	31
Castle Mountaineering Club	45	Hastings Rock & Fell Club.....	64
Cedars Mountaineering Club	14	Hereford Climbing Club	33
Cerberus Spelaeological Society.....	20	Hereford Mountain Club.....	44
Ceunant Mountaineering Club	140	Heron Outdoor Pursuits.....	37
Chamois Mountaineering Club.....	215	Hertfordshire Mountaineering Club	108
Charlotte Mason Mountainerring Club.....	41	Herts and Essex Climbing Club	33
Chelmsford Mountaineering Club.....	79	Highdown Hillwalking & Mountaineering	
Chester Great Outdoors Club.....	94	Club	52
Chester Mountaineering Club	222	Hillingdon Mountaineering Club	28
Christian Rock & Mountain Club.....	92	Hinckley Mountaineering Club.....	88
Clare Rats (Rock & Trek Society).....	8	Ibex	98
Cleveland Mountaineering Club.....	184	Imperial College Union Outdoors Club	20
Cliffhangers Climbing Club	26	Imperial Medics Mountaineering Club	20
Climbers' Club.....	1,406	Innominata Mountain Club	70
Climbers Section - Cave & Crag Club	38	Ipswich Mountaineering Club.....	118
Clingons Climbing Club	23	Jersey Rock Climbing Club.....	34
Clitheroe Mountaineering Club	67	John Clare Mountaineering Club	20
Clogwyn Mountaineering Club.....	44	Junior Mountaineering Club of Scotland	37
Clwb Mynydd Cymru	288	K Fellfarers.....	138
Clwyd Mountaineering Club	89	Karabiner Mountaineering Club	130
Colchester Climbing Club	103	Keele University Mountaineering Club	53
Congleton Mountaineering Club	34	Kendal Mountaineering Club	51
COPA	16	Kernow Climbing Club	15
Coventry Mountaineering Club	48	Keswick Mountaineering Club	85
Cragrats Mountaineering Club	16	Kings College London Mountaineering Club..	73
Craven Mountaineering Club.....	85	Kingston University Mt Club.....	20
Cromlech Club.....	75	Kodak Walking & Climbing Club	15
		Lancashire Caving & Climbing Club	215
		Lancashire Mountaineering Club	175
		Lanchester Mountaineering Club	52
		Landlopers Mountain Club.....	12
		Lands End Climbing Club	20
		Leeds Mountaineering Club	137
		Leeds University Mountaineering Club.....	100
		Leicester University Mountaineering Club	72
		Leicestershire Mountaineers Association	10
		Lichfield Mountaineering Club.....	20
		Lincoln Mountaineering Club	49
		Lindsey Climbing Club.....	15
		Liverpool Outdoor Club	20
		Liverpool University Open Air Club	54
		LLangorse Mountaineering Club.....	38
		Lloyds TSB Outdoor Sports Club	12
		London Mountaineering Club.....	420
		London Rockhoppers MC	171
		Loughborough Students Mt Club	95
		Loughton Mountaineering Club	34
		Lymm High School	10
		MACS (Royal Holloway Uni of London)	20
		Maidstone Mountaineering Club.....	26
		Malvern Mountaineering Club.....	20
		Manchester Metropolitan Mountaineering	20
		Manchester University Mt Club	100
		Marylebone Mountaineering Club	87
		Mercian Mountaineering Club.....	51
		Merseyside Mountaineering Club.....	199
		Midland Association of Mountaineers.....	551
		Milton Keynes Mountaineering Club	20
		MMU Cheshire Climbing Club.....	20
		Mountaineering Club of Bury	39
		Mountaineering Club of North Wales	66
		MPMC LTD	54
		Munro-pineapple Society Notts Univ	31
		Mynydd Climbing Club.....	202
		Newbury Mountain Club	65
		Newcastle University Mt Club	20
		Newton Rigg Mountain Activities Club	52
		Nimrod Mountaineering Club.....	20
		Nor' West Sgurramblers	25
		Norfolk Hillwalking Club	34
		North East Wales Mountaineering Club	30
		North Kingston Hillwalking Club	38
		North Leicestershire Mountain Club.....	25
		North London Mountaineering Club.....	209
		North Yorkshire Fell Club.....	47
		Northumbrian Mountaineering Club	251
		Norwich Climbing & Mountaineering Club.....	34
		Not So Trad - Southern Lesbian & Gay Climbers	83
		Not The MLC Mountaineering Club.....	17
		Nuneaton Mountaineering Club.....	31
		Ohjac Club	16
		Open University Mountaineering Society.....	76
		Oread Mountaineering Club	179
		Osler Rock Climbing Club.....	10
		Out There.....	60
		Outdoor Network.....	55
		Over The Hill Club	119
		Oxford Mountaineering Club	110
		Oxford University Mountaineering Club.....	152
		Patterdale Mountain Rescue Association	30
		Peak Climbing Club	54



Pembrokeshire Climbing Club.....	80
Peterborough Hospitals Walking Club	15
Peterborough Mountaineering Club	155
Phoenix Mountaineering Club.....	36
Pinnacle Club.....	141
Polaris Mountaineering Club	56
Powers Mountaineering Club	39
Preston Mountaineering Club.....	70
Reading Mountaineering Club.....	103
Reading University Mountaineering Club....	130
Red Rope Walking & Climbing Club.....	294
Robinwood Mountaineering Club.....	48
Rock & Heather Club - Nottingham	25
Rock Chicks Climbing Club.....	20
Romsey Climbers	29
Royal Air Force Mountaineering Association	287
Royal Navy & Royal Marines Mt Club	660
Royal Veterinary College Mt Club	38
Rucksack Club.....	398
Rugby Mountaineering Club.....	48
Salford University Mountaineering Soc.....	98
Saltley Hillwalking Group	17
Sandstone Climbing Club.....	32
Scunthorpe Mountaineering Club.....	20
Sheffield Hallam University Climbing Club	20
Shrewsbury Mountaineering Club.....	105
Skyline Mt Club - Burton on Trent.....	25
Slough Mountaineering Group	48
Solihull (Police) Mountaineering Club	20
Solihull Mountaineering Club.....	84
South Cheshire Climbing Club	29
South Devon Mountaineering Club	95
South Wales Mountaineering Club	174
South Yorkshire Police Mountaineering.....	20
Southampton Rats Climbing Club.....	50
Southern Trekking & Mountaineering Club	77
Southfields Mountain Sports Club.....	53
Sphinx Mountaineering Club.....	28
St Helens Mountaineering Club	67
Staffordshire Police Mt Club	20
Staffordshire University M.C	40
Stoke Damerel Climbing Club	82
Sunderland Mountaineering Club.....	32
Super Drooper Mountaineering & Caving	37
Surbiton & Kingston Mt Club.....	35
Swansea University Mountaineering Club	30
Swindon Mountaineering Club	34
Taunton Trailblazers	12
Thames Valley Climbing Club	40
The Barcap Climbing Club.....	22
The Chapel Mountaineering Club	34
The Fell and Rock Climbing Club of the English Lake District Limited.....	1,172
The Foundry Academy.....	32
The Heights Climbing Club	28
The LMC Mountaineering Club	23
The Mill Climbing Club	42
The Mountain Club - Stafford	49
The Outcasts.....	30
The South Face Climbing Club	15
The Walking Club	60
The Warminster Adventure Sports Club.....	33
Trentham Outdoor Pursuits Club.....	20
Tuesday Climbing Club.....	51
Tunbridge Wells Mountaineering Club	51
Tyne Valley Mountaineers.....	20
Unemployed climbers Club (Craggers).....	64

Univ of Birmingham Mt Club.....	86
Univ of Bristol Explorers Club	57
Univ of Essex Mountaineering Club	55
Univ of Glamorgan Climbing & Mt Club.....	20
Univ of Huddersfield M'tng Club	32
Univ of Kent at Canterbury Mt C	35
Univ of London Graduate Mt Club.....	142
Univ of London Mountaineering Club.....	38
Univ of Nottingham Mt Club.....	38
Univ of Surrey Mt Club	68
Univ of Sussex Mountaineering Club.....	20
University of Bolton Climbing & Walking Club 44	
University of Chester Mountaineering Club ...	15
University of Hertfordshire Mt Club.....	20
University of Manchester Hiking Club	140
UWFRA Outdoors Club.....	50
Vagabond Mountaineering Club	83
Vertically Challenged Climbing Club.....	23
Vibram Mountaineering Club	48
W.T.F.A.I. Club	24
Walking & Adventure Group (WAG)	26
Wanneys Climbing Club	31
Warwick Climbing Club.....	87
Wayfarers.....	196
Wellingborough Mountaineering Club.....	60
Wessex Mountaineering Club.....	223
West Bromwich Mountaineering Club.....	215
West Cumbria Mountaineering Club	58
West Lancashire County Scouts Mt Group	20
Wok and Rice Club.....	10
Wolverhampton Mountaineering Club.....	76
Worcester Mountaineering Club	40
Wrekin Mountaineering Club.....	99
Yeovil Mountaineering Club.....	40
Yeti Club	21
York Alpine Club.....	55
York Mountaineering Club	80
York St John Climbing Club	51
Yorkshire Mountaineering Club.....	195
Yorkshire Ramblers Club	175
Yorkshire Walkers & Climbers Club.....	20
Yr Hafod Scout Mountaineering Fellowship...	22

295 Clubs

24, 260 Club Members

BMC ASSOCIATE ORGANISATIONS

BY TYPE

Climbing Walls:

- Entre-Prises (UK) Ltd
- Roefield Leisure Centre
- The Ackers
- Urdd Gobaith Cymru
- Upper Limits
- Llangorse Rope Centre
- Westway Sports Centre
- The Castle Climbing Centre
- Arethusa Climbing Wall
- King Kong Climbing Walls Ltd
- Mile End Climbing Wall
- Bourne End Junior Sports Club
- Kirklees Active Leisure
- The Mill Adventure Centre Ltd
- Undercover Rock Ltd
- West View Leisure Centre

Local Authority:

- Wirksworth Leisure Centre
- West Sussex County Council

Mountain Rescue:

- Lake District Mt Rescue Association
- Cockermouth Mountain Rescue Team
- RAF Mountain Rescue Service

Multi Activity Groups:

- Eldon Leisure Centre
- Swaledale Outdoor Club
- Bicton College
- The Old Vicarage Adventure Centre
- The Bendrigg Trust
- Water Park (Eric Wright Trust)
- Portsmouth Youth Activities Committee
- Avon Outdoor Activities Club

National Body:

- Fire Service Sport & Athletics Ass'n
- British Association of Mountain Guides
- Lake District National Park Authority
- Scout Association
- The Ramblers

Other:

- Outdoor Industries Association
- Barclays Bank R and C Club (BBRCC)
- Simonside Youth Initiative Centre
- Outdoor Training/Expeditions:
- Northants C & YPS
- Rhos-y-Gwaliau Outdoor Education Cent
- Peak Training For Management Ltd
- Northants Asso Yth Clubs & Action C
- Calshot Activities Centre
- Fairbridge
- PGL Travel Ltd
- Joint Services Mt Training Centre
- YHA Edale
- Nantmor Mountain Centre Assoc
- Maes Y Lade Outdoor Education Centre
- Adventure Dolphin
- Consett YMCA Ltd
- In2venture
- Whickham Thorns Outdoor Activity Centre
- Manor Adventure
- Hagg Farm Outdoor
- Calvert Trust Adventure Centre

Trader:

- Allcord
- Climb UK Ltd
- D R International Climbing Walls Ltd
- Bendcrete Climbing Walls
- Inglesport
- Lyon Equipment Ltd

Youth/Schools/Groups:

- Herts Young Mariners Base
- Highgate School D O E Scheme
- Oundle School Mountaineering Club
- Air Training Corps
- St Albans School
- Portsmouth Grammar School
- The College of St Mark & St John



BMC Annual Report 2009



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