

BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

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BMC AGM 2016

Saturday 16 April at YHA Castleton Losehill Hall

Agenda Item 6 - Re-elections

a) Rehan Siddiqui (President) Eligible for re-election until April 2018

Rehan was born in Blackburn, where his parents had emigrated to in the early 1950's. As an early teenager he began hiking and rock climbing in Saddleworth and the gritstone quarries surrounding Manchester. He has held a life-long passion for mountaineering, rock climbing and skiing and this love of the outdoors has taken him too many worldwide locations where he has enjoyed walking, bouldering, rock climbing, sports climbing and mountaineering. The BMC represents a diverse range of activities and interested groups and Rehan is very keen to help protect the special nature of British climbing whilst at the same time ensuring inclusion and encouraging participation in all aspects of our sport by the future generations.

b) John Simpson (Honorary Treasurer) Eligible for re-election until April 2018

John has been a Chartered Accountant for 30 years and has an enormous amount of experience of audit, tax and the preparation of management accounts. John's father used to climb with Joe Brown and his son is out (or inside) climbing most nights and weekends. John used to climb in his late teens and early twenties, but his main love is hill walking (second to his wife). John has always enjoyed travelling and before settling down spent a number of years in the Merchant Navy.

c) Rupert Davies (Vice-President) Eligible for re-election until April 2018

Rupert practises as a barrister in the areas of negligence, public and employers' liability, tax and civil asset forfeiture. He also sits on the BMC Land Management Group. Rupert started climbing in his mid-teens in the quarries of Lancashire. Since then he has tried to sabotage his career and other interests to allow him time to climb more, and harder, with mixed success. He predominantly goes traditional climbing, sport climbing and bouldering and has made the first ascents of a few decent routes and problems, mostly in the Peak District. He has authored two editions of the Peak District Bouldering guide and has written extensively for Climb magazine.

d) Nick Kurth (Vice-President) Eligible for re-election until April 2017

Nicholas finished his full RAF career in 2011 having been responsible for the Service's combat support operations, retiring as an Air Vice-Marshal. Following a brief stint running a rail project business, he is currently the Chairman of Trustees / Executive Chairman of the Ulysses Trust, a charity that supports expeditions for Reserve and Cadet Forces. Nicholas has been on the hills and crags since school. He was a 'badged' RAF Mountain Rescue Officer and President of the RAF Mountaineering Association (RAFMA), and made an Honorary Vice-President when leaving the Service. He still climbs, mountaineers and hill walks with RAFMA. He was responsible for the highly successful British Services' Makalu Expedition 2008, which amongst a number of achievements, succeeded in putting 3 Service personnel on the summit of the world's 5th highest mountain.

e) Brian Smith (Independent Director) Eligible for re-election until April 2017

Brian is a life-long hill walker who walks in the UK, Europe and worldwide. His business career spans over 40 years during which time he has been Chief Executive of HF Holidays, Managing Director of Continental Tyre Group (14 years) and held Commercial Director positions at Leyland/Daf Trucks (17 years). The experience and knowledge he brings to the BMC covers all aspects of establishing and delivering long term strategies, creation and allocation of funds and resources and management of performance.

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f) Deirdre Collier (National Council representative)

Deirdre has been a BMC volunteer since 2007 and is the Secretary for the BMC Yorkshire Area as well as a National Council representative. She is currently Club Secretary for the Craven Mountaineering Club. Deirdre has been mountaineering and climbing since 1983 when she joined a local mountaineering club. Since then she has walked and climbed in various parts of the UK and Europe including several trips to the Alps. She's had mountaineering trips to various other parts of the world and her experiences include scrambling and walking in Canada, ascending Kilimanjaro and trekking the Annapurna Circuit. She generally enjoys being in the great outdoors and when at home she is regularly to be found walking the hills and mountains of the Yorkshire Dales and the Lake District. Deirdre's career was in the NHS where she practised for over 20 years as a radiographer before becoming radiology manager in charge of the hospital's radiology services. Some years later she moved into general management and led a division of the hospital comprising most of the Trust's clinical support services. For the last few years, prior to retiring, she was involved in leadership development work latterly working for the strategic health authority as its lead for allied health professionals.

g) Colin Knowles (National Council representative)

Colin has been mountaineering and climbing since 1979, and was a founder member of the Red Rope Club in 1980. He has enjoyed his climbing in all areas of the UK, though Snowdonia remains his all-time favourite, and is happy climbing on the sea cliffs of Anglesey, Pembroke and the South-West. He's been to the Alps many times over the years, last in 2012 where he was happy to succeed on the Vaucher Route at the age of 60 having failed on it when much younger! He's organised three Himalayan expeditions, two of which were successful ascents of virgin peaks. Now retired, he spent the second half of his career in the IT business, culminating in 15 years working for the University of Bristol as a technical expert and manager. IT expertise is essential at Board level these days as no strategic decision can be made without considering how it be implemented using modern technologies.

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