

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, 2015 certainly flew by!

My election to president occurred just minutes before news broke of the devastating earthquake which struck Nepal on 25 April. Our decision to do something to help the people of Nepal resulted in our raising over £24,000 through the BMC Nepal Charity Auction. Our community has always held a deep affection and regard for Nepal and its wonderful inhabitants, and I was immensely proud to see so many of our members fundraising for charities providing emergency assistance and long-term help to people who have lost their homes and income streams. As BMC president, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to you all.

In support of the government's new strategy for an active nation, we continue to promote the health benefits, both physical and mental, of hill walking, climbing and mountaineering. By strengthening our ties with government, we can also ensure that our voice is heard on important access, conservation and safety issues; and we now speak for a record number of members, having surpassed the 80,000 mark at the end of the year.

The BMC underwent a significant staff restructuring during 2015, and our new departmental structure will enable us to work more effectively across all areas of activity, providing a better service to members and communicating more successfully with the wider world. As part of the restructuring process, we have strengthened our communications team and appointed new partnership officers for youth and equity, to enable us to engage more effectively with inner city kids and, through the work of our Equity Steering Group, with black and minority ethnic communities.

It's often said that children are our future; with more young climbers than ever entering BMC climbing competitions, and the GB Climbing Team going from strength to strength, the future is bright. In August, we'll find out whether sport climbing will be a new event at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games;

becoming an Olympic sport would certainly raise the profile of our sport and attract new participants, so we must be prepared for its potential impact. At the same time we must never forget our heritage, and that's why we continue to support the Mountain Heritage Trust, established by the BMC in 2000.

Looking ahead, I'm keen to help to protect the special nature of British climbing and hill walking whilst at the same time ensuring inclusion and encouraging participation in all aspects of our sport by future generations.

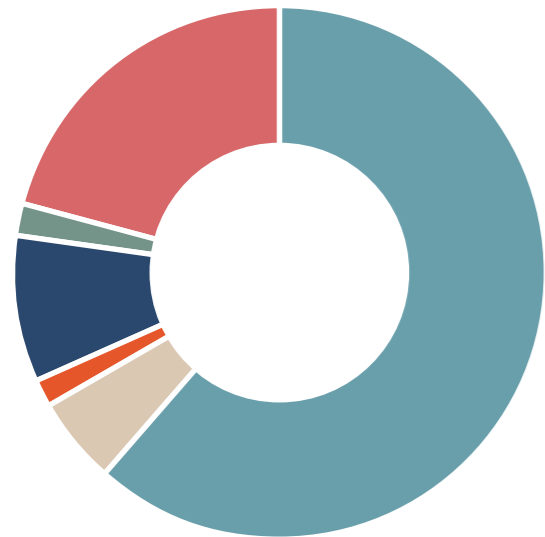


Rehan Siddiqui
BMC president

BMC MEMBERSHIP



Membership has climbed steadily since 2007



SUMMARY OF INCOME 2015 (£2,735K)

- subscriptions **£1,688k**
- specialist programmes income **£142k**
- other income **£42k**
- travel insurance **£243k**
- publications **£54k**
- Sport England grants and other donations **£568k**

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE 2015 (£2,688K)

- office costs **£486k**
- personnel **£1,159k**
- personal accident and civil liability insurance for members **£294k**
- Summit **£171k**
- specialist programmes **£531k**
- AGM and committees **£47k**



NET COST OF SPECIALIST PROGRAMMES AFTER ALLOCATION OF OVERHEADS, GRANT AND OTHER INCOME 2015 (£742K)

- access and conservation **32%**
- facilities (managed crags and huts) **9%**
- heritage **6%**
- guidebooks **9%**
- competitions **15%**
- expeditions **4%**
- performance **4%**
- safety and training **8%**
- technical **6%**
- youth and equality **4%**
- national and international representation **3%**



ACCESS AND CONSERVATION

- » Secured an access and management agreement with the new owners of Tremadog's Craig Pant Ifan, to protect access to this important crag.
- » Conducted a monthly online survey, to help us better understand the visitor patterns and experiences of climbers and hill walkers, and their contribution to local services.
- » Encouraged members to make their views known about the management of Snowdon to the newly-established Snowdon Partnership.
- » Responded to the Welsh government's consultation on improving opportunities to access the outdoors for responsible recreation.

CAMPAIGNING

- » Joined forces with 26 other organisations and charities across the UK to campaign for the protection and enhancement of our treasured landscapes. The new Landscapes for Everyone coalition launched a vision to protect and promote Britain's landscapes.
- » Ahead of the General Election, we launched a campaign to make 2015 the 'Outdoor Election', calling on political parties to recognise the huge value of outdoor recreation in their manifestos and policies.
- » Through the All Party Parliamentary Group for Mountaineering, we helped secure a parliamentary debate on the economic value of outdoor recreation, and met with the minister for sport to discuss the government's vision for a new sport strategy and the importance of outdoor recreation within it.
- » We were highly commended as 'Campaigner of the Year' in The Great Outdoors Awards.

CLUBS

- » Held a training weekend to support clubs taking novices climbing and hill walking.
- » Improved the club guidelines support documentation, with the addition of a welcome pack for new members and an update of the guidelines on insurance provided to clubs.

COMPETITIONS

- » There were international wins for three GB Climbing Team members: Shauna Coxsey (IFSC Boulder World Cup), Jim Pope (IFSC European Youth Cup) and Aidan Roberts (IFSC European Youth Championships).
- » Hosted two international events: the IFSC European Youth Championships and the IFSC Paraclimbing Cup.

GUIDEBOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

- » *Peak Limestone North* was published, documenting 1,100 trad routes and 1,400 sport climbs.
- » *New Rock Climbers* was published, a free guide to help climbers heading outside for the first time.
- » Two new books were added to our Green Guides series, providing practical advice to groups of climbers and walkers on how to minimise their impact on the crags and hills; and we published the *Lake District White Guide*, providing advice on how to maximise winter climbing opportunities whilst minimising impact on sensitive mountain habitats.
- » We published a free guide to choosing, using and looking after a climbing harness.

HILL WALKING

- » Sponsored a new exhibition celebrating the life and work of one of the Lakeland's most recognised walking writers and personalities, Alfred Wainwright.
- » The BMC Access and Conservation Trust helped to fund the Three Peaks Partnership, a new website which aims to reduce the negative impact of the national Three Peaks Challenge.

INCLUSIVITY

- » Signed The Mental Health Charter for Sport and Recreation.
- » Supported the launch of This Girl Can, a new national campaign from Sport England and partners to encourage more women and girls to get active regularly.
- » Climbing for All workshops were delivered at six locations around the country.
- » Established the Women's Think Tank, to help support women through their interest in and active involvement with a range of outdoor activities.

MOUNTAIN TRAINING

- » Supported Mountain Training's Coaching, Technical and Management groups.
- » Developed BMC input to Mountain Training provider workshops and resources.

YOUTH

- » Piloted a Coaching Children workshop.
- » Ran 28 Regional and National Academy events for talented young climbers.

BMC 2015 IN NUMBERS

COMPETITIONS



800
entrants and
300 finalists in
the BMC Youth
Climbing Series



No1
Aidan Roberts
ranked European
No 1 in junior
bouldering



No2
Shauna Coxsey
ranked world
No 2 in
bouldering



No10
Molly Thompson-Smith
ranked world No 10
in junior lead and
bouldering



No5
Jim Pope and Hamish
Potokar ranked world
No 5 in junior lead and
bouldering respectively



No6
GB Bouldering
Team ranked
6th in the world

30% of the GB Climbing Team
achieved top 10 placing
in their categories



8
national climbing
competitions

BMC PEOPLE

81,000 members
1,100+ members attended 37 BMC Area Meetings in the nine BMC Areas
500+ volunteers
273 affiliated clubs
72 associate member organisations
33 staff
6 new trustees recruited to the BMC Access and Conservation Trust

INTERNATIONAL

£24k

raised for
the people of
Nepal by the
BMC Nepal
Charity Auction

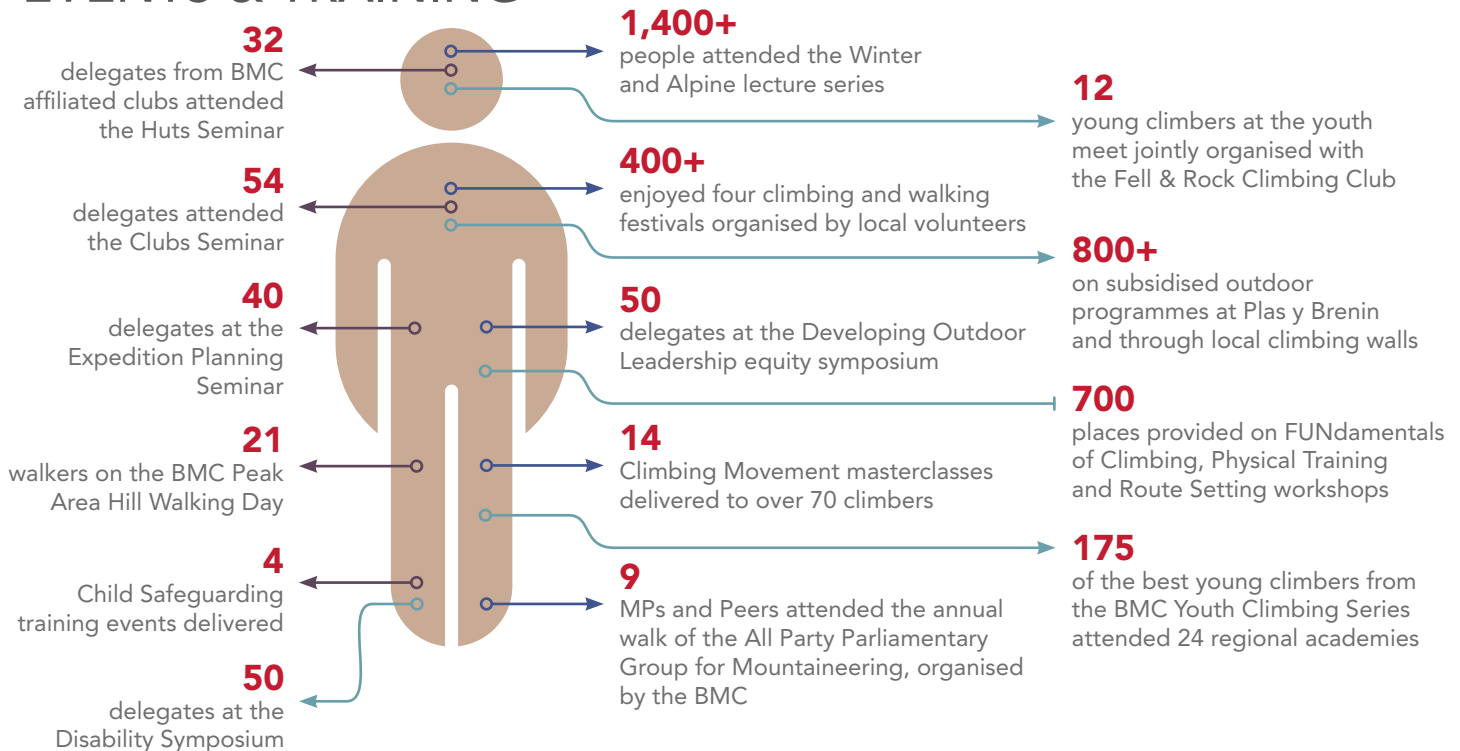
£15k

awarded to
24 expeditions

70

climbers from
23 countries at
the International
Summer
Climbing Meet

EVENTS & TRAINING



ACCESS & CONSERVATION

150+ volunteers assisted at six crag clean-ups

38 local access representatives

15 BMC owned and managed crags

BMC ONLINE

255,000 website visits per month
115,000 email newsletter subscribers
68,000 Facebook likes
29,000 Twitter followers
7,000 Instagram followers
700 films on BMC TV

CLUBS

104

people
attended club
member training
courses

85

university club
members at the
annual Student
Safety & Good
Practice Seminar

£20K

funding
grants awarded
to 77 clubs

255,000



115,000



68,000



29,000



7,000



700

