

## Recipients of the George Band Award 2013

**Gordon Adshead** - Gordon has been an integral part of the financial management of the BMC for many years and set up the reporting system that we still use. During my time as Honorary Treasurer Gordon has consistently provided wise words when needed and his encyclopaedic knowledge of the historical context of many issues has been invaluable. I appreciate that Gordon's involvement in recent years has been very much in the background but extremely valuable none the less. His earlier years (and two terms as Treasurer) were much more high profile.

I asked Graham Richmond as Chair of the Finance Committee for his views and received the following by e-mail: *Gordon was one of the main people who gave so much of his time when the BMC was in crisis. The financial controller was out of his depth and resigned. The then Treasurer was also useless. The office didn't have many checks and balances in place. The whole business of the BMC having a trading side and membership side was falling apart. I went to my first National Council meeting (then Mancom) at Plas y Brenin and the whole show was in chaos. It was after that that Gordon became Treasurer. There were invoices paid twice. Money lent to staff unrecoverable and so on. He came into the office 2/3 days a week to help sort out the mess. Without him the BMC would have been in very serious trouble. He has to my knowledge never claimed expenses and even slept in his car to save the BMC money. A true volunteer who gave 100%. It took us a long time with many 12 o'clock and 1am meetings every 4 weeks. Yes Gordon gets my vote.*

Alan Brown, BMC Financial Controller since 2002 comments as follows: *I'd definitely support the nomination and reiterate what Graham has said. When I started here in Feb '02 Gordon was brought back in for a second stint as Treasurer following a succession of financial problems. I know he and others on the committee gave a lot of time in the 4-5 months before I started at the BMC to get the accounts straight and to get the year-end figures for 2001 prepared and ready for audit. Following that period we had monthly Fincom meetings and he was a frequent presence in the office and, speaking personally, it was very reassuring to have someone on tap that had so much historical knowledge of the workings and finances of the BMC. Also as Graham has mentioned and to my knowledge (and on Sage) Gordon has not claimed any expenses – even to the point of sleeping in his car during AGM weekends.*

Gordon retired from an active role in the BMC in 2012 and this year would be an appropriate time to recognise his exceptional contribution.

David Lanceley, Honorary Treasurer

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**Mark Alderson** - At the last meeting of the Competitions Committee, the membership proposed to put Mark Alderson forward for the George Band Award for 2013. Mark has been an integral part of the competitions structure in the UK for many years. Mark has been responsible for the scoring, the rules and all the technical administration at all the national and international competitions for at least the last 10 years, and has attended almost every competition himself in that time frame.

Mark is also responsible for all the scoring and rules for the whole of the BMC Youth Climbing Series and the Leading Ladder, and most of the staff in the office know that there is not much he can't do with an excel spreadsheet! Mark does all of this hard work behind the scenes putting in countless hours of work both during and pre and post events, with very little recognition and most of the time does not even claim expenses!

The Competitions Committee feels that Mark would be a very worthy recipient of the George Band award for all his hard work and dedication to the BMC for many years.

Kind regards,  
Rob Adie, BMC Competitions Officer & BMC Competitions Committee