

Oxford University Cave Club

Hilary 2015 AGM

Minutes

Present: Steve Roberts (SR) – President, Thomas Leung (TL) – Chair, John ‘Jack’ Williams (JJW) – Secretary, Jeremy Welch (JW) – Treasurer, Oliver Robshaw (OR) – Junior Treasurer, Alex Diwa (AD) – Meets Secretary, Olaf Kahler (OK), Rosa Clements (RC), Frances Pope (FP)

Apologies for absences: Fleur Loveridge, Simon Goddard, Lou Maurice

NB: Committee reports are in Black and comments are in blue.

Unresolved from MT14's TGM

New college school gym for SRT training – Simon Goddard had a discussion with the safety officer and found an indoor venue for SRT training. SG will give further information during the AGM. [SG is making headway on this but it is not yet finalised.](#)

Pod's fund – SG mentioned during the annual dinner the fund will be ready soon. Further detail will be given during the AGM.

[Same as above - yet to be finalised but progress is being made. SG: A bank account is currently being opened. Just waiting for the bank. I meet Grace and pods sister in a few weeks' time. So should have the money sorted then](#)

Poster - [JW suggest Rosa is creative and can make something. SR mentions that one big attractive picture rather than a collage. Two separate things to be done: rolling banner for freshers fair \(TL will do this\) and posters for Trinity term \(JJW will do this\).](#)

Committee members' reports

President (Steve Roberts):

- I joined OUCC in 1981, and I have been OUCC President since 1992, when I first took up an academic staff position at the University. I will be retiring from my University position in 2016; possibly at the end of March, possibly at the end of December. It would probably be useful for the club to be thinking about who might be my successor as OUCC President. I think the eligible OUCC members are Tim Guilford, Gavin Lowe, Jeremy Welch and Hilary Greaves, all of whom are “Members of Congregation”.

Chairman (Thomas Leung):

- This is another successful year for the club with the help of all the committee members. Since I will soon finish my study in England and no longer stay in UK, I would like to step down and wish the club all the best with the new committee in the coming year.

Secretary (John Jack Williams):

- Nothing to report - everything is going well, this year has been successful. Annual dinner was fun last weekend.

Meets secretary (Alex Diwa):

- Firstly thanks everyone for being helpful, especially Olaf who gave lots of advice, we've had a successful year especially in MT when fresher's trips were popular & fun; this term we booked a lot more beds than necessary. I'm not sure if I can continue being Meets Sec this year as I am now MCR president so time is pressured.

Treasurer (Jeremy Welch):

- See report on separate sheet.
Possibly we should retire some of the gear as we have enough cash in the account (e.g. undersuits, oversuits). SG concurs. FP notes that sizes of suits and kneepads are the things that freshers care about, so we could aim to fix this with our purchases. Size above quality. The new gear officer can decide this.
NB: By the time of writing this minutes, the oversuit and undersuit has been recorded (see separate sheet). Some of them are planning to be sent for repairing.

Gear Officer (Simon Goddard):

- Not too much to report for Safety. As far as I am aware, there have been no safety issues to report.
- Just a few notes from me though.
- It is still the responsibility of club members to check any novices using club SRT kits. Especially that everything is in working order. Even if it is people who have done quite a bit of SRT. I had to remove a foot loop tape as it was knackered. Someone should have noticed it before it got to that stag. That kit is hanging up and should not be used yet. I have new foot loops at home.
- New knee pads have arrived for novice cavers. Not experienced cavers whose own have worn out and can't be asked to replace them.
- I have also made good progress with the Uni sports fed about getting a training site on the sports ground. Will update at later time.

Librarian (Steve Roberts):

- Business as usual: though as I am no longer a tutorial Fellow at SEH I may move the library journals currently stored in the materials teaching room there back to my house.

Website (Steve Roberts):

- Business as usual.

Committee member election

- Positions up for election: Chairman, Meets Sec, Gear Officer
- OR unanimously voted (seconded by JJW) to be junior meets sec and help AD with trips but will stay on as junior treasurer.
- Chairman will be re-elected at the next TGM.
- OK stands to be Gear Officer, seconded by SR, unanimously voted in. JW resolves to retrieve the key from Emma.

Any other business

- Fleur is going to attend the Cambrian Caving Council (CCC) AGM and request a full mandate as a representative and vote on behalf of the club.
- To attract freshers we can have other tactics apart from posters - a publicity drive would be useful - JJW has exams in 2nd week and can work on this thereafter.
- FP will discuss to whom Pod's leatherman will go to on email.
- TL became the lemming this term and OR became the tankard holder ("low-profile caver").

Plans for next term:

An over tide trip has been booked for Otter Hole. Other caving weekends will need to be discussed during the AGM.

- SWCC trip
- Yorkshire (winch meet is next term) - training weekend for expedition?
- North Wales (inc. bounce below - this could attract freshers - OK and RC say that it's best to leave this to MT)
- Devon

TL closes meeting.

Alex Diwa's report on past caving trips:

Michaelmas Term 2014 (Cont.) (Refer to last Michaelmas TGM report for previous trips)

22nd/23rd November 2014 (6th Week, Michaelmas)

Meet Leaders: Rosa and Jack

CHECC Forum in South Wales near Gilwern.

29th/30th November 2014 (7th Week, Michaelmas)

Meet Leader: Olaf

Varsity meet with CUCC. 20 beds booked at Bull Pot Farm. Permits for Lancaster Hole, Top Sink, Bar Pot & Flood Entrance Pot (Saturday), County Pot & Wretched Rabbit (Sunday).

New Year 2015 caving

Hilary Term 2015

25th January 2015 (1st week, Hilary)

Meet leader: Daniel Ball

Forest of Dean day trip. A party of four did a trip to Miss Grace's Lane and made their way to the end of the cave, while another party visited the Slaughter Stream cave for the round trip.

31st January/ 1st February 2015 (2nd week, Hilary)

Meet leader: Thomas Leung

Stayed at WCC. 3 OUCC members visited the Withyhill cave on Saturday and St Cuthbert's Swallet, September series on Sunday.

14th/15th February 2015 (4th week, Hilary)

Meet leader: Sarah McCullough

28th February/ 1st March 2015 (6th week, Hilary)

Meet leader: Olaf Kahler

7 OUCC members stayed at the Dan-Y-Mynydd hut at Tanygrisiau. Through trip was made (as a group) to Croesor Rhosydd slate mine on Saturday. On Sunday, six went to Bounce Below in the morning and then caving afterwards. 3 members went to Cwmorthin Slate mine and do the round trip, while 3 others did a trip in ODB with two leaders.

Easter holiday

Four cavers visited Draenen on the 18th of March and found their way to War of the worlds.

Oversuit, undersuit and tacklesacks inventory (create on the day of 18th March 2015)

Here are the lists of oversuits, undersuits and tacklesacks. Based on their states and under the assumption, that seams are probably the easiest to fix, we've sorted them into 3 categories, fine, fixable and fucked.

Oversuits

Fine:

M Warmbac blue/red: "no repairs needed" (currently with Steve Roberts)
M Warmbac blue/red: elbows have holes
M Warmbac blue/red: elbows have holes
L Warmbac blue/red: one knee and elbow has holes
M Warmbac red/yellow: sleeves get slightly apart
M Dragon red/purple: fine!
M/L Dragon red/purple: small hole in side

Fixable:

S+ Warmbac blue/red: sleeves get apart
L+ Warmbac blue/red: back seam needs fixing
XL Warmbac blue/red: small hole in back
M AV blue: outer layer broken and should be removed, otherwise fine
L AV blue: outer layer broken, small hole in back
S Caving Supplies blue: "repairs to seam in bum needed" (Steve)
S Caving Supplies blue "Kirsty": crotch broken, needs new patch
M Caving Supplies blue: back seam broken
XL Caving Supplies blue: back seam broken
M/L Caving Supplies blue: big hole in back
L Caving Supplies red: back badly broken

Fucked:

S 2* PVC suit "marbach" D.M.: lots of holes
M Warmbac blue/red: lots of holes
XL AV blue: very broken
1A Meander PVC suit: seams badly broken
L Caving Supplies blue: some holes and zip broken
M Daleswear red: crotch broken and elbows ripped
M Daleswear red: crotch broken and very frayed
S Dragon red/purple: lots of small holes

Also note that all zips are very hard to operate and most of the Caving Supplies suits do not have any velcro as alternative. Most of the Dragon ones only have velcro and don't work well in dirt. The AV ones also only have velcro but work much better.

Anyway, we have only two perfectly fine oversuit and 7 wearable ones. Assuming all the fixable ones get fixed, we have 18 in total:

2*S, 1*S+, 7*M, 5*L, 1*L+, 2*XL

(and that includes 6 CS ones which have nothing but an awkward zip and 2 Dragon ones that only have a not very strong velcro)

Undersuits:

Fine:

XL Dragon "OUCC 1": fine
XL Dragon "OUCC 2": fine
XL Dragon "OUCC 3": fine
M Dragon teal: fine
XL Daleswear teal: fine
XXS Daleswear yellow: fine
L Warmbac teal: fine
M Warmbac green: fine
XXS Warmbac black: fine
S Warmbac blue labelled "M": fine
S+ (Warmbac?) purple: "no repairs needed" (currently with Steve)
kidsized Polartec blue: fine

Fixable:

L Bat Products green: hole on back
XL Dragon blue: small hole
S Unknown blue "OUCC 4": hole on back

Fucked:

XL Dragon blue: big hole in back
XL Dragon blue: zip broken

Most of them are quite thin by now and probably not very warm anymore. Assuming all the fixable ones get fixed, we've got 15:

5*XL, 2*L, 2*M, 1*X+, 2*S, 2*XXS, 1*kidsized.

Tacklesacks:

Fine:

Dragon yellow blue, big and bulky
Black and green small
Dragon black yellow

Yellow green "fragile"
Beast red blue
Green and fat
Blue red small
Dragon black red blue small
White "Felix"
Dragon blue yellow small
Lyon red black
AV red

Okay:

Round bottomed yellow: outer layer starts falling off
Round bottomed yellow/white: outer layer starts falling off
Round bottomed green/blue: outer layer starts falling off
Round bottomed blue/yellow: outer layer starts falling off
Round bottomed small green/yellow: small holes

Fixable:

Round bottomed yellow red: some holes
Dragon grey blue red "T8"
Black/yellow: straps broken and small holes
Black/yellow: straps broken and holes
Dragon yellow white: straps broken

Plus a box of other tacklesacks that I believe were meant to be sent off
for repairs...

Inventory by Olaf Kahler, with the help of Thomas, Jack, and Rosa

Oxford University Cave Club

Hilary Term 2015 Annual General Meeting

Treasurer's Report

Balances

Main account £1715.04 (10 March 2015)

Local Account £235.00

Cash in transit from University Stores: ~ £2595

Held in cash by Senior Treasurer: £72.41

The figures above exclude two significant items – a transfer from the University Stores is due, and is estimated to be approximately £2595. The second item is the payment of the insurance subscriptions to BCA which is estimated to be approximately £250. With these taken into account, the overall balance of the main account is effectively £4060.04 (2014: £3505.13). This is contributed to by the second year of effective subscription collections using the University Stores. The payment of subscriptions by members in a timely way is much appreciated.

No interim grant was paid to the Club in Michaelmas Term, and the Club made no submission in Hilary Term. Having received an Annual Grant at the start of the year, the Sports Federation are looking for unplanned, unbudgeted items to support, and to date the Club has not had any such expenditure.

Accounts

The accounts were submitted to the University Sports Federation. No comment was received, and the payment of the annual grant is seen as an acceptance all is well with them.

Operations

Trips during Michaelmas Term have operated mainly around a break-even point; it is anticipated that trips later in the year, particularly in Trinity Term, may be less profitable as the numbers of often lower.

The now well-established use of the University Stores makes collection of funds due, and their processing, much more straightforward than large cash transactions. Members are producing (usually) timely requests for payments of expenses following trips, and the Club should note the value to the Club of members paying out for expenses and claiming them back.

Equipment loss continues to be a frustrating source of expense. Some losses and write-offs of equipment are of course inevitable, but the mislaying of expensive personal equipment on loan that is not returned is something that should be avoided.

Proposed Expenditure

It has been agreed to purchase two pull-up roller banners to be used at Freshers' Fair and other events. It is expected that some equipment replacement (e.g. helmets) will take place at the end of Trinity Term, ready for the new Academic Year.

Jeremy Welch

10th March 2015