



University of Leeds Speleological Association

Annual General Meeting held at the University of Leeds Baines Wing on 11th March 2024

Attendees in person

Mike Butcher	President
John Holloway	Secretary, CNCC representative
Janey Gregory	
Aidan Keegan	

Attendees online

Chris Williams	Treasurer
Ane Appelt	Photographer
Adam Baldock	Student tackle master
Dinny Davies	CNCC representative
Libby Dodsworth	
Lyndon Easterbrook	Ordinary committee member
Adam Erskine-Jones	Training coordinator
Francesco Fustinoni	
Lea Giguère-Richards	Vice President
Si Jepps	Ordinary committee member
Larisa Onoufriadi	
Sarah Parker	
Alice Shackley	
Ben Snowball	
Carl Spence-Jones	
Luke Stangroom	CNCC representative



Carla Tonks

Emily Williams

Lantuoya (Toria) Wu

Angela Minerva

Meeting started 18:25

Declaration of any proxy votes

Adam Baldock had advised that he was acting as proxy for Ben Chaddock.

Acceptance of minutes from the last AGM (23rd March 2023)

One abstention; all others in favour.

Matters arising from previous meetings

Mike Butcher read out the current list of action items from the February committee meeting.

Reports

President (Mike Butcher): It's been a good year so far. Since the last AGM we had a trip to France as well as a lot of weekend trips. A lot of people went on expo with Cambridge. We had a good student intake: the club is looking healthy.

Secretary (John Holloway) (written report): *As well as sending out meeting notifications, writing minutes etc., I have added all the meeting minutes I have to the ULSA website. To access these, you'll need to log in to the ULSA website, then go to Library>Meeting Minutes and Agendas.*

Treasurer (Chris Willams): I'll give a quick summary of the accounts as of the end of 2023. The accounts are slightly skewed due to the BCA membership and the Dinnermeet. The total income was around £4000 with outgoings of around £3000. The outgoings will be slightly higher as the BCA



subscriptions have yet to be paid. The balance was £4199.64 at the end of 2023. Around £500 will be membership this year. The Watty fund remains. Overall, there will be about £3000 after outgoings.

Training coordinator (Adam Erskine-Jones): Everything is going well with training. Some of the freshers' favourite hobbies are rigging their own traverses. We have done basic rescue stuff, including 1:1 and 1:3 hauling. We have a lack of pulleys at the moment. The freshers are picking up very quickly. We went down Gaping Gill very successfully.

Meets Coordinators (Simon Jepps and Nadia Raeburn-Cherradi)

Nadia Raeburn-Cherradi (written report): *Since the last AGM we had a camping long weekend in Malham that was redirected for the first few days to the lakes due to wet weather. We had about 25-30 people attend at various points including some minis. We also had a trip to Bull pot farm in September to enjoy some caving before freshers season. I'm hoping to plan a trip to South Wales on the August Bank Holiday weekend.*

Librarian (Adam Aldridge): Not present.

Mike Butcher: It would be good to get someone who can diligently look after the library. Phil Murphy has a whole stack of stuff to go in.

Chris Williams: I have a heap of BCRA journals to go in there.

Mike Butcher: It's a really good resource. There's a lot of stuff that's not online.

Distribution and sales officer (Chris Williams on behalf of Nicola William): I don't think there have been any sales this year.

Photographer (Ane Appelt): There have been photos taken. Student members have been very accommodating. I have the login details for our Instagram account and have been sharing photos there. At some point we should arrange a dedicated photography trip.

Mike Butcher: We have some slides from a 1950s expedition. Does anyone have the ability to scan slides?

Ane Appelt: I'm happy to do it, but I don't have access to any facilities.

Editor (Kristian Brook): Not present.

Mike Butcher: There were a few newsletters at the beginning of the year. Kristian has been busy recently.

Webmaster (Michael Brigham): Not present.

Conservation officer (Nicola William): Not present.

Mike Butcher: There was a talk about conservation last year, and plans for a conservation trip, but that hasn't quite materialised yet.

Ordinary committee members (Rachel Turnbull, Lyndon Easterbrook and Mike Fearn)



Rachel Turnbull (written report): *This year we have 142 members, 14% increase on last year. There are 74 student members, which is 52% of the club. Last year, students made up a similar proportion of the club, and their numbers have risen slightly too this year.*

A vote was held to accept the reports: all in favour.

Election of committee members

President: Mike Butcher. All in favour.

Secretary: John Holloway. All in favour.

Treasurer: Chris Williams. All in favour.

Training coordinator: Adam Erskine-Jones. All in favour.

Meets coordinator: Nadia Raeburn-Cherradi. All in favour.

Librarian: position vacant.

Distribution and sales officer: Nicola William. All in favour.

Photographer: Ane Appelt. All in favour.

Editor: Kristian Brook. All in favour.

Webmaster: Michael Brigham. All in favour.

Conservation officer: Libby Dodsworth. Proposed by Mike Butcher, seconded by John Holloway. All in favour.

Ordinary committee member: Mike Fearn. All in favour.

Ordinary committee member: Lyndon Easterbrook. All in favour.

Ordinary committee member: Rachel Turnbull. All in favour.

In addition to the above, these incumbent members of the student society committee have positions on the ULSA committee:

Vice President (student president): Lea Giguère-Richards

Student secretary: Niamh Barry

Student tackle master: Adam Baldock



Election of CNCC representatives

These are not committee positions, but by convention are elected at an AGM to represent ULSA at the Council of Northern Caving Clubs.

Dinny Davies: All in favour.

John Holloway: All in favour.

Mike Butcher: Thank you very much to everyone who has stood down. Your work is appreciated. Welcome aboard to the new guys, like Libby. Not being in the committee doesn't stop you from following a passion: just speak up if you want to do something.

Any other business

ULSA committee to reconsider the quorum for next year

Lyndon Easterbrook: I think it's worth minuting that if we have 142 members, we shouldn't be struggling to get 21 to a meeting.

Mike Butcher: We should have a think about what people want for meetings.

Alice Shackley: I think you're preaching to the choir.

Mike Butcher: Perhaps we should push it on other media like WhatsApp. Not many people are signed up to the email group.

John Holloway: I used Teams as the University equipment works with it, but not tonight!

Date and time of next meeting

Mike Butcher: March next year, prior to the Dinnermeet?

Lyndon Easterbrook: The plan for the Dinnermeet next year is to have a weekend in June.

Mike Butcher: A midweek evening in mid-March. Is 6 o'clock a bit early?

Lyndon Easterbrook: It's not great for parents.



Mike Butcher: Maybe aim for 7pm.

Meeting ended 19:10

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