

# Oxford University Cave Club

Michaelmas 2018 - TGM

21/11/2018

Present:

Rory Rose (RR), Rebecca Miller (RM), Nick Adams (NA), Reuben Harding (RH), Jack Williams (JW)[Skype], Dan Kent (DK), Tom Spriggs (TS), Thomas Leung (TL), Ollie White (OW), Jeremy Welch (JW), Chris Densham (CD), Will Ivison (WI), Karim Alsaka (KA), Linh Nguyen (LN)

## Officers' Reports

President (Steve Roberts):

- Nothing to report

Chairman (Jack Williams):

- I'm leaving at the end of the year so am keen for someone else to take the chairman role. They need to be a student.
  - RR will do both secretary and chairman
  - Sports fed might come after us about that so ideally we want someone to take the secretary role
  - Sort out agm, Claire to take sec?

Librarian (Steve Roberts):

- Following discussion at previous GMs, I have now opened discussions with the British Caving Library for the possibly to take off our hands some of our non-OUCC specific stuff. Ongoing.

Webmaster (Steve Roberts):

- As well as keeping stuff on current rips up to date, I've been working on the more archival stuff. This includes photos from the 1962, '63 and '65 expeditions. I've done my best to clean up the images I was sent by Michael Walker (to whom many thanks), and put copies on the website. I've also been working on a "portal" page for information (descriptions, surveys, photos) on major Picos caves explored by OUCC.
- Code of conduct and risk assessment not available on website (SGR: 26/11/18 – now added)
- Need to update risk assessment

Treasurer (Jeremy Welch):

- See Appendix A for treasurers report
- Balance seems high, didn't but anything over the summer
- Uni stores are now charging a service charge
- Membership information for sports Fed
  - Sports Fed college membership details to "enable club members access to Iffley and to comply with the proctors' rules about membership ratios."
    - max 20% Brookes members, max 20% external members for Sports Clubs
  - Is the Club is happy to provide name, college, bod card and status (i.e. student/staff/external) information on members for the Sport's Federation?
    - Unanimous agreement
  - Is the Club requests that the Treasurer review and update the Club's privacy statement to ensure GDPR compliance, and to ensure this use of data is communicated.
    - Unanimous agreement
- We need to be clear about the financing of the Hungary trip and its status with respect to the club
  - In the case of unplanned financial commitments, security of the club's finances may be compromised.
  - Separate bank account
    - We have a local account
    - Would need to add signatories

- Club will lend kit

Meets Secretary (Rosa Clements):

- See Appendix 2 for meets sec report
- Trips being early in the term worked well
- **Transport Issues**
  - Do we want to adjust the timeline for how transport is arranged for trips?
  - Brookes have minibuses
  - Sports Fed have changed; person who runs minibuses has changed.
  - Trip organiser needs to chase up now every two or three days
  - Make sure we book them early
  - MPV is better for hauling gear
  - Minibus costs have gone up - £20 less than MPV
  - Need more people to do MPV licence!
- **Next term:**
  - Wales
  - Yorkshire
  - Drinan
    - Underground camp trip
    - Combine with training trip, surveying, photography, navigation etc.
  - Training weekend would be good regardless
    - Surveying
    - Also training at pub
  - Trips with other clubs
    - Cambridge
    - Exeter (Mendips or Wales)
    - ULSA
    - Birmingham just got set up
      - Share knowledge with them
  - Day trips
    - Forrest of Dean
    - Mendips
      - More to see
  - Split trips up week on – week off is ideal

Safety officer (Nick Adams):

- Nothing to report
- Jurie hurt foot on a fresher's trip

Gear officer (Nick Adams):

- May want a better system for signing kit out of the hut
  - Student's invite had problems with helmets being taken
  - Looking into making a sign out sheet
  - Laminated sheet on the wall, write on with whiteboard marker
    - Phone number as well so we can chase them up
- Haven't had to buy new equipment this year
- Kit is in good shape
- Rope washing has been good this term

Secretary (Rory Rose):

- Student's Invite
  - Same again next year

- Steve expressed interest to help organising
  - 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> October
- Annual dinner
  - Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> of February (6<sup>th</sup> week) @ Jericho Café
- Social Media
  - Have had more activity this term
  - Still not much engagement
  - Link to facebook on website - Steve
  - FB should be first point of call we give to interested members
  - We should clean up our members – clean up fake people
    - Thomas will do
- Pub
  - Do we want to keep going to the Gardener's Arms?
    - Move somewhere closer
    - A&G...
    - Go back to moving around
  - 'Special' social events at the pub
    - Knot tying
    - Surveying
    - Ect.
    - Everyone in favour of doing
- Fresher's Week
  - 218 sign ups at the Fair
  - ~20 turned up for the talk
  - ~20 have come on a trip (rough numbers)
  - Pub attendance is up
  - Day trips were very good
  - Being more into social area makes them come out of their shell
  - Taking them to the middle of nowhere isn't great
  - Have had a good group this year
  - Good to work with other clubs, ask them at combined trips?
  - Could ask Brookes students if they want to join
- Summer Trip
  - 1<sup>st</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> /11<sup>th</sup> of July
  - Hungary
  - ~10 people turned up to meeting
  - A couple of others have expressed interest
  - Cambridge Expo
  - Ario also option
  - Talk on caving expo from CD next term
  - Resource for freshers on website
    - Take inspiration from Cambridge's website
    - Pre expedition training a good idea (Camping trip?)
  - Brand training weekend as Hungary training weekend
    - Don't use Draenen weekend for this, have it separate
    - At Mendips
    - Mendip tower
- Training
  - Wolvercote Boulder
  - Trinity as a venue
  - Ask for permission?

- Probably won't get
- Wear helmets

**AOB:**

- Ogof Draenen
  - This weekend is Draenen PDCMG meeting, coinciding with CHECC
    - Sunday morning
  - new entrance has been closed
  - conservation issue
  - we should try to visit more
  - long way to take members
  - camping trip is good to increase interest
  - Steve Roberts may attend this weekend meeting
- Have had a request to bring more fruit to weekends
  - Bananas are a good option

## Appendix A – Treasurer’s Report

### **Balances**

Main account £4292.84 (15 November 2018)

Local Account £235.00

Cash held in University Stores: the last transfer was in August 2018, and an approximate value of funds held in the Stores that is due to the Club is £1639.00

The figures above reflect the current balances and shows a total of £6267.94 in the accounts, an increase on the previous year’s figure (£3844.31, 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017, after stores transfer in). There may be some adjustments as a result of the trip cancellation earlier in the term.

### **Operations**

There is an invoice of £240.00 outstanding for University Stores services; these charges are new this year, and will be paid when the VAT situation is confirmed. There are no other significant amounts outstanding for payment.

The club received a grant from the Sports Federation of £375.00 for this year.

Collection of subscriptions and insurance form members is expected to start near the end of Michaelmas term, when insurance rates for the coming year from BCA are confirmed.

Overall, the financial position of the Club presents no concerns at this time.

### **Proposed Expenditure**

Apart from routine equipment replacement, there is no expected unusual expenditure at this time.

Jeremy Welch

## Appendix B – Meets Sec Report

This term's trips were:

7th October (end of 0th week): Wales Freshers' Day trip

14th October (end of 1st week): Mendips Freshers' Day trip

19th-21st October (end of 2nd week): Freshers' Wales weekend

2nd-4th November (end of 4th week): Mendips Bonfire and Freshers' weekend

16th-18th November (end of 6th week): Peak District

23rd-25th November (end of 7th week): CHECC, Peak District

The Freshers' day trips were very popular. We had two decent sized trips on each Sunday, first to Slaughter Stream then to Swildons. There was a high ratio of travel and faff to actual caving, but the caving went well and was enjoyed by new and old members (or at least that's what they told me). We even had nice weather for the Slaughter Stream trip. I do think it's a good idea to do trips early in term even if they have to be day trips.

The Wales weekend was a bit of a disaster. The Freshers' Wales Weekend is normally the biggest weekend of the year, however it ended up cancelled. This was mainly due to a complete lack of transport, despite the minibus being requested with a decent amount of notice. I have since been informed that Brookes has a lot of minibuses, so many that they often don't need booking in advance at all, so if we have a Brookes student on the weekend we could explore that possibility. The fact that I didn't manage to get us in at SWCC may also have been partly to blame.

The Mendip weekend had some transport issues and was a bit smaller than might be expected for a Freshers weekend, but overall worked out quite well. We had a satisfying Eastwater trip and a fun Swildons trip on the Saturday, and some successful SRT training followed up by a trip to Hunters Hole on the Sunday. We also experienced the BEC fireworks and Shove Ha'penny at the Hunters.

The Peak weekend and CHECC are yet to come, but it's looking good so far. Apart from complete fancy dress apathy about CHECC, but that's pretty normal for us.

We've had a lot of really great new cavers join us this term, I really hope they stay so we can get to know them better.