

## **CMC Annual Hut Meets Report 2022-23. Dick Winslow (Hut Meets Sec)**

This report covers meets between 1 Jan 2022 and 31 Dec 2022 to match the annual accounts. It also covers meets to date and has notes on the future of multi-day events.

### **There were 7 meets programmed to take place in 2022.**

13-16 Jan The Smithy (Gritstone) 9 places, 6 booked, 5 attended. Profit £20. Good meet for the small number who went.

22 - 24 Feb Langdale. Meet was a private booking of FRCC property by Fiona. 6 attended. No cost to CMC. Good meet for small numbers thanks to Fiona.

Late March. MacIntyre Hut. I was the hut warden and offered to coordinate any members wishing to attend. No takers as poor conditions.

22-24 April Newlands Hut. Whole hut available. Small number booked two of whom including meet coordinator then had Covid. Carlisle M.C. accepted cancellation at no cost to CMC.

7 - 14 May Glen Brittle, Skye. Amended booking from 2020. Much doubt about numbers, cost, sole use etc due changing Covid regs and rules. Eventually commitment from 15 members allowed a booking at a total cost of £2100 to proceed. An excellent week despite mixed weather with several members taking extra days in the highlands before or after the meet. No cost to CMC.

1 - 4 July Plas y Brenin. Amended booking from 2020. Kara suggested and promoted this event. In early 2020 sufficient individuals had booked a place with Kara and paid so the committee agreed to make a 3 day booking of the bunkhouse at Plas y Brenin. It was hoped that additional members would take up places to cover the whole cost and make for a bigger/better meet for all. The meet was unable to proceed until 2022 but continuing concerns about covid led to the decision to take no more bookings. A small number of the booked member had to drop out but a good meet despite mixed weather was had by those able to attend.

Dec Starkey Hut, Patterdale. First booked over 20 places in 2019 to take place in 2020. Booking amended in late 2020 to Dec 2022. By mid 2022 it was clear that we could not expect to have more than 10 places used at best with a potential loss of around £400. Committee agreed to cancel, limiting the loss to the deposit paid in 2019.

### **Meets in 2023 and beyond**

27 - 29 Jan The Smithy (Gritstone) 9 places, 6 booked, 6 attended. Small loss. A good meet with small numbers despite mixed weather. A good discussion was held about future multiday meets. We reflected on (and welcomed) the success of informally arranged trips by members in the last 6 or 8 months.

We acknowledged that meets often work best if organised by individuals keen on the particular trip/location/activity and that members who want any multiday events (in huts or any other accommodation) must be encouraged to put forward ideas and promote meets that they particularly want. Support from committee/meets sec may be required with bookings, accounting and website entries.

Three of those present agreed to try to promote a meet that they wanted. Since then:-

Michael has booked a meet at the Whillans Hut (Roaches) in October, Paul has committed to a camping meet in Eskdale 23 - 26 June and John is looking to arrange a trip to the Hadrian's Wall area in September. It is my intention to offer a couple of meets that I am keen on.

### **Possibility of joint multi day meets with YMC.**

You may be aware that I have had several conversations with the YMC meets coordinator about the possibility of some shared hut meets to be programmed as joint meets with shared financial risk.

In the short term, this will not happen as YMC have a full hut programme booked for 2023. We agreed that this should be considered again in September 2023 with a view to having a couple of shared meets in 2024.

We agreed that in 2023 some places on some meets can be offered by either club to members of the other. This happened on the YMC Feb meet to the Cairngorms. After an initial offer of places to YMC members, places were made available to CMC members. Two of use booked places. A pleasant meet considering poor weather on most days.

### **My view of the future**

It is my view that multi day meets are important to a mountaineering club. However, if you want to take part in good multi day events you should be prepared to suggest, commit to, promote and participate in organising a meet that you are enthusiastic about. Whoever is the Hut Meets Sec can put the ideas put forward into a programme and assist with some organisation, but only if the ideas, enthusiasm and commitment comes from sufficient members.