

The Mountaineering Council of Scotland

President's Overview – Pete Hill

Replacing John Donohoe as the President of the MCofS last June felt a little daunting, but I needn't have worried. The Council is in excellent order and, thanks to the tireless work of all involved, it is in its ascendancy. Of the myriad of issues that have passed through the office over the last year I mention here only a few.

Our Mountain Safety Advisor, Fran Potchecary, moved on, and was succeeded by Roger Wild who works for the Council on a three-quarter time basis and is involved with a variety of projects. Courses in navigation, avalanche awareness, winter skills and mountain first aid are a small part of his remit, but reflect the importance of his post. The feedback from the winter skills courses from this year was particularly encouraging.

Our Access Officer, Mike Dales, has had a busy year. The controversial access legislation finally went through the Scottish Parliament earlier this year, with substantial efforts being made at all stages by the MCofS to ensure freedom of responsible access to all land. We now strive to develop an access code that is agreeable to all involved.

Following the founding of Scotland's first National Park, Loch Lomond & Trossachs, we have been instrumental in trying to convince the park authority that a walking and mountaineering liaison group should be formed. We have recently been consulting with sportscotland which currently runs Glenmore Lodge, Scotland's National Training Centre. This has been in connection with the future management of the centre and we are awaiting the outcome of a review.

The administrative burden of the office has increased. Part of the extra paperwork is due to our membership now standing at over 9,000. On a sadder note, volunteer Membership Secretary Tim Adam passed away this year after a long battle with illness.

The issues that are being dealt with by the Council are covered in detail in this report. Suffice it to say here that the Council is in an exceptional position to represent the wishes and views of our membership, and work on all aspects of walking, mountaineering and climbing in Scotland continues apace.

Honorary Secretary's Report – Nick Halls

Work has continued to improve the operational effectiveness of the Council. The creation of a Mountain Services Limited Liability Partnership (MSLLP), capable of providing a centralised administrative service for all home nation mountaineering councils, founded when the BMC withdrew support due to its financial difficulties. Consequently, MCofS was obliged to enhance its IT systems. Employees are now operating with modern, compatible machines, with up-to-date software. The Council is grateful for the assistance of Fergus Gray.

More use is being made of e-mail, which speeds communication and reduces costs, but conversely the volume of information and the variety of issues addressed has increased. The requirement for all office bearers to be connected by e-mail is becoming almost essential if the MCofS is to be effective.

The office continues to operate under considerable pressure and to accommodate more and more work. It has been necessary to ask for significant assistance from volunteers and also to pay people to take on particularly onerous time-sensitive tasks. The Council is very grateful for the work of the National Officer, Kevin Howett, and the Administrator, Pet Thomas, who persevere from day to day getting through the work, and suggesting innovations to enable them to accomplish even more.

The membership database, which is critical for the collection of subscriptions and mailing The Scottish Mountaineer to members, is being redesigned. The limitations of the original database have caused problems and frustration and the data will be transferred into an enhanced database in order to overcome the difficulties. We are particularly indebted to Peter Willmot for his assistance.

The day to day accounts are now being handled electronically, with the assistance of Derek Edge, CA, who has been nominated as Hon. Treasurer. It is hoped that a system can be developed which attributes costs to specific work programmes so that negotiations with funding bodies can be better informed.

The appraisal of employees is being reformed and better coordinated. Beryl Leatherland has to be thanked for this innovation. The outcomes of appraisal will assist decisions by

the Finance & Administration Sub-committee. It is hoped that more effective appraisal will work through to create a better-organised and happier working environment.

The six annual issues of The Scottish Mountaineer are keeping the membership better informed, and raising the quality of debate on the issues that concern members. The publication of the Executive minutes on the website has enabled those interested to monitor the work of the Council. There is growing evidence that access to this information for civil servants and the media is having an impact on the formulation of Government policy.

A cloud on the horizon is an expected increase in the premium for the civil liability insurance, one of the key benefits of membership. This cannot be absorbed and met from financial reserves and the full increase will have to be passed on to members through an increase in membership subscriptions greater than that forecast at the last AGM.

The Council is beginning the process of consulting with the BMC and other stakeholders about the development of software that will form the basis of a UK-wide membership database networking system for all the mountaineering organisations. Funding for this system has been provided by the UK Sports Council. It should result in greater efficiency and reduced administrative costs for all UK mountaineering organisations. It may form part of the infrastructure of a re-enlivened independent service organisation, such as that envisaged for the MSLLP – however it is still early days.

The Council continued to fumble its way forward but has made significant progress nevertheless. I am glad to be able to report that it is a more effective organisation than at this time last year.

Acting Honorary Treasurer's Report – John Miller

The un-audited Income and Expenditure Account for year ended 31st March 2003 shows a surplus of £497.

Total income increased by £11,567, attributable to affiliation fees. Club fees increased by £8,239 (21%) and individual membership fees by £4,214 (12.6%). These impressive increases were due to the professionalism and determination of Pet and her volunteers in the office, supported by the increasing use of the website and The Scottish Mountaineer.

Total expenditure showed a corresponding increase of £12,817. Increases took place in officers' expenses (£1,484) and The Scottish Mountaineer (£1,378) as the magazine increased to six issues per year. Salaries and NIC increased by £2,612 and office expenses by £2,374.

On behalf of the Council I would like to thank the Mill Cottage Trustees for their donation of £3,500, and the individual members who donated £2,957 during the year.

The Council acknowledges the continuing grant support of sportscotland, Scottish Natural Heritage, the Scottish Mountaineering Trust and Walking Wild.

During the year the James Hewitt Bequest made a contribution of £3,274 to the production costs of the Water Hazard videos. The sales of the video amounted to £3,771 although there were considerable postage and despatch costs associated with these sales.

Before retiring at the annual general meeting I would like to thank Kevin, Mike, Roger, Pet and the office volunteers, fellow members of the Finance & Administration and Executive Committees, and Alastair Sutherland, CA, our Honorary Auditor, for all their help during the past six years.

In conclusion, I would just like to wish my proposed successor, Derek Edge, CA, and the Council all the best for the future.

National Officer's Report – Kevin Howett

As well as sport development my post encompasses that of press officer and information officer, including editorship of The Scottish Mountaineer magazine. Published by Pro-sport Promotions in Glasgow, we co-operate to make it the best and most authoritative magazine for Scottish mountain and walking issues on the market. However, I also put together six Club News Sheets, which further inform Club Secretaries, and a monthly page of news in Climber magazine – 'North of the Border' – which allows us to reach beyond our membership. We are indebted to Bernard Newman and Warners Group Publications for their continuing support. I also produced a new Winter Climbing in Scotland Visitors Guide, which has sold well

and finalised a series of Health Information Sheets written by Nick Halls.

I continued to have a role in access issues pertaining to climbing and produced guidance on Birds and Climbers (and held discussions with the Scottish Executive about proposed changes to the wildlife and Countryside Laws) as well as the MCofS submission on future access to NTS owned lands at St Kilda and Barra Head. I am also a director of the Nevis Partnership, which is steering a new course in the management of our most important mountain asset, Ben Nevis.

In the office thanks must go to Sue Wishart, Adrienne Robinson and David Smeaton for their invaluable help, and Mike Newbury's weekly efforts to sort out the access & conservation archive filing deserves particular recognition. The networking of all IT including fax and duplex photocopier, and a franking machine has saved a lot of time and money. But, above all else, our Administrator, Pet Thomas, has worked beyond the call of duty and the MCofS could not have operated without her dedication.

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Overview – Fred Belcher

This is a new committee within the MCofS and held its first meeting on 30th October 2002.

The areas of work of this committee are wide ranging, covering some of the work that the National Officer undertakes including, climbing walls (policy and development strategy), expeditions, international meets & exchanges, climbing competitions, Scottish climbing squad, personal skills coaching, youth development, women's mountaineering, and equity for the disabled. For next year (2003/2004), given the limited resources available to the MCofS, the Committee has targeted youth with 'Realrock' sessions, week-end climbing meets, developing a Child Protection Policy and continuing the British Regional Youth Competitions Series as the first priorities.

Development Reports – Kevin Howett

International Issues

The usual biennial International Winter Climbing Meet hosted by the BMC and MCofS at Glenmore Lodge was dropped this year due to financial constraints – not a bad thing considering there was no snow!

Youth Development, Athlete Support and Expeditions

BRYCS was quite a success for the Scottish teams this year with a second placing for the South Region and many podium winners in the individual age categories. Thanks have to go to all the volunteers who made this possible.

We again supported an application for a sports bursary by Dave McLeod, whose bouldering and headpointing ascents during the year have been at the cutting edge. We also supported a successful Lottery application by Scotland's most talented climber, Malcolm Smith, to compete in the bouldering discipline in the world cup, and he is well on his way to securing a major title.

Expeditions receiving grants this year were Simon Richardson & Chris Cartwright's Canadian trip to Mount Gilbert; attempts on some stunning lines on Kizil Asker by Guy Robertson, Es Tressider, Blair Fyffe and Neal Crompton; and a trip to the Caucasus by Kevin Neal, Oli Brown and friends.

Climbing Walls

The development of indoor facilities made a huge leap forward with the finalisation of a Sports Lottery award to the Ice Factory project at Kinlochleven; a wall incorporating real ice, dry-tooling, mixed winter and summer plastic. It was launched in February 2003 and should be complete by the end of the year. Also due for completion toward the end of the summer is our National Centre at Ratho. I have been consulted on other projects in Perth, on Skye and upgrades at older walls. Climb Caledonia at Inverness continues to thrive because of the dedication of Ruairidh Mackenzie and the management, particularly of the 'gear' placement lines has been commended by independent assessment, showing that MCS commitment to such provision is justified.

Courses

The course for the visually impaired at Glenmore Lodge was again a success. With the impetus started by Lorraine

Annual Report 2002/2003



Nicholson and with funds she secured the year before, we co-ordinated arrangements with Steve McDonald of Ability Explorations and one of the original students, Norma Davidson, who also raised funds, to allow eight folk with a range of impairments a chance to experience the outdoors.

ACCESS & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

**Overview – Mike Dales,
Access & Conservation Officer**

The Committee has been involved in a wide range of work throughout 2002/2003. This report highlights the more significant issues.

Access

The main issue during the past year has been the political process leading to new legislation for access to the Scottish countryside. The MCoFS has been at the centre of this debate and has worked closely with other organisations of which MCoFS is a member (Scottish Environment LINK, Scottish Countryside Access Network and the Scottish Sports Association) to develop fair and workable laws for access.

The MCoFS worked with Members of the Scottish Parliament to seek amendments to the draft Land Reform Bill as it went through the Stage 2 and Stage 3 debates. During the time this Bill was going through Parliament Mike Dales met with about 25 MSPs, including Deputy First Minister Jim Wallace and members of every political party in the Parliament.

The culmination of this work came when the Bill was granted Royal Assent and became the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003. The Act will be fully implemented in 2004 when the Scottish Outdoor Access Code (SOAC) is launched and put in place to provide the guidance on responsibilities to go alongside the new statutory rights. The development of the Code will be the main focus of our access work throughout 2003.

Once again, our Access Symposium in November helped us to gather grassroots views on the legislative process, as well as providing an opportunity to report our efforts to the membership and to discuss the development of the SOAC.

The Hillphones scheme, which the MCoFS operates in conjunction with Scottish Natural Heritage and the participating estates, covered 12 areas in the 2002 stag stalking season. Although the scheme did not expand in 2002, we already have new estates on board for the 2003 season.

Planning Issues

The main planning issue this year was the bulldozing of a vehicular track on the Attadale estate in Wester Ross. The MCoFS managed to have the work suspended whilst Highland Council reassessed their previous decision to designate the track as permitted development.

After years of campaigning for National Parks in Scotland, we were delighted to see the launch of the Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park in 2002. We are generally pleased with the way the park has been set up and look forward to working with the park authority in years to come.

The development of Scotland's second National Park is not running as smoothly and it is disappointing to report that the Cairngorms National Park, launched on March 25th 03, looks set to cause more problems than it is likely to resolve. The twin issues of a controversial park boundary that leaves Highland Perthshire out of the park and the planning powers being left in local authority hands mean that this park has already been severely compromised by political powers that have little interest or regard for conservation or informal outdoor recreation. The Council is signed up to the Perthshire Alliance for the Real Cairngorms (PARC), which is campaigning for the boundary issue to be addressed by the new Scottish Parliament following the May 1st election.

The MCoFS is working with Forest Enterprise and the Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park to resolve the parking problems around the foot of Ben Ledi. Progress is being made and we are hopeful that more parking will be made available.

Publications

Our Winter Climbing Code was discussed and passed at the AGM last year.

General

The MCoFS website has continued to develop throughout the year and has carried a great deal of access and conservation news and we are grateful to webmaster Duncan Gray. The site

was of particular benefit throughout the Land Reform Bill process and was our main tool for keeping members informed of progress in Parliament.

Consultations

During the last year the Access and Conservation Officer and committee responded to the following consultation exercises:

- Scottish Coastal Forum
- Skye Cuillin potential Special Protection Area
- Wester Ross National Scenic Area draft Management Strategy (two responses)
- Cairngorms National Park draft Designation Order
- Scotland's Renewable Energy Potential – Beyond 2010
- Proposed helicopter tourism development on Arran
- Cairn Gorm Access Road Planning Amendment
- A82 Bridges Repair in Glencoe

During the past year the MCoFS was represented by Colin Simpson on the National Trust for Scotland and John Mackenzie on the National Access Forum.

British Upland Footpath Trust – Nick Halls, MCoF S Trustee

I regret to report that there has been little activity by the British Upland Footpath Trust over the past year. The English Access legislation and the financial difficulties of the BMC have reduced the time available for BUFT affairs.

There have been proposals that BUFT be wound up and its work incorporated into work funded by the newly-established UK Access & Conservation Trust. These suggestions have been rejected by the MCoFS, which believes it is essential to retain a charitable trust specifically concerned with upland path issues.

The unique, independent position of BUFT and its interest in upland paths throughout Britain is more essential now than ever before as the policies of countryside agencies of England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland become increasingly differentiated due to the process of devolution. The unique status of upland paths and the importance of landscape quality seem to have become subservient to improving provision for mass access in England and Wales. Wild land is being degraded in the name of social policy.

The distinction between upland and lowland paths is becoming less well defined as resources are devoted to improving access around towns and creating paths for all. This is resulting in unsympathetic machine-built paths encroaching into wild upland areas, often purporting to be extending access opportunities for the full range of recreators in the name of social inclusiveness. This is particularly the case in the Glenmore corridor and also in the Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park, where manufactured paths are creating landscape scars where they previously did not exist.

Nick Halls, Mike Newbury and Mike Dales continue to represent BUFT and the MCoFS on the Upland Paths Advisory Group, and during consultation on particular path projects. They have been involved in discussion with Forest Enterprise on the paths through the forest to the Cobbler, and proposals for paths on Ben Ledi. The quality of work undertaken by Forest Enterprise and supported by European funding is causing considerable concern.

During the coming spring Mike Newbury, supported by Nick Halls, plans to resurvey the paths constructed with BUFT resources – this work will be funded from the Henry Hindmarch Access & Conservation Fund. An approach will be made to the BMC for the survey of paths in England and Wales to be funded from the Access and Conservation Trust.

SAFETY & TRAINING COMMITTEE

Overview – Bill Crabb

Roger Wild has taken over as the Mountain Safety Adviser and he has very quickly settled into the task of organising the MCoFS's wide range of safety and training lectures throughout Scotland.

This year there have been 23 events consisting of navigation courses, a weekend first aid course, four winter skills courses at Glenmore Lodge (MCoFS members only), three Avalanche Awareness courses, seven Tiso Winter Experience lectures and five Clachaig lectures. These events have continued to be very popular and overall attract hundreds of individuals, ranging from the novice to the expert. Roger is also a regular contributor to The Scottish Mountaineer.

The Virtual Hillwalking CD continues to be distributed to a wide cross-section of the public and the Glen Arna home study book is still in great demand from people wishing to improve their navigation skills.

Efforts continue to obtain accurate statistics and encourage research into mountain safety in order better to understand why mountain accidents occur and this is now being used to identify and support safety initiatives, lectures etc.

I wish to thank all the members of the S&T committee for their hard work and efforts to promote safety on the Scottish mountains and keeping the MCoFS at the forefront of that effort.

Scottish Mountain Safety Forum – Bill Crabb

The forum has continued this year to focus attention on safety issues for a wide range of mountain users and to act as a liaison group between the MCoFS and other bodies with similar concerns for mountain safety. The forum continues to also advise the Scottish Executive and the Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport on mountain safety issues.

Funding of the Mountain Safety Advisor post has continued this year at £22,000, but there is no budget for projects. The Advisor's time has now been increased from 0.5 to 0.7 and efforts will continue to increase this to a full time post.

The Scottish outdoor tourism industry generates £400 million per annum and I am pleased to report that visitScotland is now represented on the forum.

The Water Hazards in the Mountains safety video has proved to be very popular and its sales have exceeded all expectations. Consideration is being given to similar future safety video/DVD production.

Roger Wild has prepared an updated Winter Essentials leaflet, which may also be published in other languages.

Mountain Leader Training UK – Bill Crabb

The four Training Boards have agreed to re-brand and now operate under the following titles:

- Mountain Leader Training Scotland
- Mountain Leader Training Northern Ireland
- Mountain Leader Training England
- Mountain Leader Training Wales and also
- Mountain Leader Training UK

The change of names is to promote better running of integrated training and clearly identify the home nation body responsible for candidates to contact when seeking registration.

A completely new official handbook for the Mountain Leader and Walking Group Leader schemes entitled Hillwalking has been prepared and is due to be on sale from early March 2003 costing £14.99.

Mountain Leader Training Scotland – Bill Crabb

Since the conclusion of the foot and mouth disease crisis, registration numbers for all award schemes have returned to pre-outbreak levels.

Scottish courses for the award schemes are also numerous. Programmed at the start of 2003 there were:

- Single Pitch Award (SPA): 21 training courses and 17 assessment courses.
- Walking Group Leader Award WGL: 11 training courses and 8 assessment courses.
- Mountain Leader Award (ML): 36 training courses, 28 assessment courses and 3 refresher courses.
- Winter Mountain Leader Award (WML): 20 training courses, 14 assessment courses and 3 refresher courses.

WGL registration is now increasing and it is noted that there is a much higher proportion of women registering for WGL than for ML awards. There has not been a drop in ML registration since the introduction of the WGL award.

HUTS

Huts Working Group – John Leftley

The group continues to maintain its watching brief and offer advice on all aspects of hut management. The second MCoFS huts seminar was held in November 02 and was attended by representatives of most of the Scottish huts. Topics discussed included the role of commercial bunkhouses in supplying mountaineering accommodation and the possible application of

green technologies. A full account of the proceedings can be found on the website.

The latest revision of the huts directory was published in May 03. Our thanks are once again due to the advertisers who defray most of the cost of the booklet.

The protracted negotiations to establish a formal management agreement for the MacIntyre hut are still continuing and it is hoped that this will finally be ratified within the next 12 months.

Mill Cottage – Vaughan Hammond

The property enjoyed another good year with an increase of 100 bed nights over previous years, giving a total of 1,400. The main cooker was replaced and interior paintwork refreshed. Night charges were increased to £5.50 from 1st January 2003.

During the period the memorial to Bill Bell was completed in the form of a sundial cairn and a stone seating circle, all placed centrally in the open island in the roadways in front of the cottage. The finished works are a substantial reminder of a very fine person and Dorothy Bell, together with a number of friends, held a dedication with the building party at the end of a weekend of hard work.

At the front of the cottage a new wooden bench seat was provided by members of both the Braes o' Fife MC and the Forth Valley MC as a shared memorial to a member from each

club lost in recent years.

After more than ten years sterling service from Willie Anderson as local Maintenance Organiser, this role has been taken over by Roger Gaff who lives close by. Roger has quickly taken control of the position and even dealt with the bureaucracy of the emptying of the septic tank.

Alex MacIntyre Memorial Hut – Tom Webster

Despite being in an excellent location for summer activities, hut usage continues to be mainly in the winter. Overall use during 2002 was slightly lower than usual, with almost no occupancy in July and November. Total bed nights for the year ended 31st March were 1,844.

A persistent damp problem in the toilet area has been investigated by two professional firms and by a number of independent experts, with ambiguous results. The management committee has agreed to proceed with the most sensible suggestions, which will have a modest budget.

Plans for the complete refurbishment of the kitchen are almost complete, and the work will be carried out in the autumn of 2003.

The accounts for the 12 months ending December 31st 02 show an income of £8,060 and expenditure of £3,446 of which £1,216 was spent on heat and power. Cash reserves stand at about £18,500. Hut fees remain at £3.50/night.

Glen Brittle War Memorial Hut – Tom Webster

Hut usage during the past year recovered to the levels prior to the foot and mouth crisis, with full bookings from April to July. Total bed nights were 2,346.

The hut was closed during August 02 for extensive renovations: The original interior walls were clad with cellotex, which was not fire resistant, and this was replaced with plasterboard. At the same time electrical wiring and sockets were renewed, sound insulation was added between the ceiling joists and thermal insulation in the loft. Additional ventilation was installed in the central dormitory to combat mould caused by condensation. The total cost of this work was nearly £17,000. A grant of 30% of this was received from Skye and Lochalsh Enterprise and a further £250 was received from the Friends of War Memorials. The management committee record their appreciation for this help. In order to recoup the building costs the individual hut fees have been raised to £3/night.

The £20,000 long-standing loan that was given towards the purchase of the MacIntyre hut has been written off, for which the BMC and MCoFS are grateful to the GBMH management committee.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

HELD AT GLENMORE LODGE SATURDAY, 22nd JUNE 2002.

This is an edited version. The full minutes can be found on the website, are also available from the office and will be available at the AGM.

Present: Members recorded their presence on a list as they entered.

1. Apologies

A full list is available on the website.

2. Introduction of Guests

The President introduced the following guests:

Helen Lawless, Declan O'Keeffe & Patrick O'Sullivan (MCoF); Gordon Adshead (BMC); Nick Kempe & John Cousins (UKMTB); Kate Ross (SMLTB); Andy Say (MLTB); Andy Newton (WMLTB); Bill Band (SNH); Tim Walker (Glenmore Lodge); Alf Ingram (MRCofS); Blyth Wright (SAIS); Brian Colquhoun & Stephen Strang (Grand Central Outdoor Activity Club) and Alan Bremner.

3. Adoption of minutes of 2001 AGM

The minutes were adopted.

4. Matters arising.

No matters from the minutes were raised.

5. Annual Report for 2001/2002

John Donohoe, the outgoing President, presented the Annual Report reviewing the major issues of the year including Foot & Mouth disease, access legislation, disturbance to birds, and National Parks.

- The MCoFS must continue to assert that "everything is lawful which is not specifically forbidden" rather than the opposite proposition that "nothing is lawful unless specifically permitted".
- The MCoFS should continue to be closely involved in the drafting of the Access Code.
- The MCoFS should enter into discussions with the RSPB to establish a satisfactory mutual understanding.
- It is imperative for everybody who is concerned about the Cairngorm national park to respond to the consultation emphasising the absurdity of the proposed boundaries from the perspective of the recreational community.
- It was agreed that the Access & Conservation Sub Committee would consider this matter with some urgency.

6. Accounts and appointment of Auditor

- The Hon. Treasurer apologised for the errors in Issue 12 of The Scottish Mountaineer: the £2,000 received from Walking Wild should be described as sponsorship. A slight surplus of £1,591 was reported. Costs are expected to increase during 2002-2003, with additional cost for the production of six issues of the Scottish Mountaineer, further investment in office equipment, and an increase in salary costs.
- Increasing the membership is essential in the forthcoming year.

The President thanked the grant awarding agencies for the grants-in-aid received for the financial Year 2002 - 2003:

- sportsotland: £ 8,000 Core grant; £ 2,000 to support Scottish expeditions; £22,000 for mountain safety initiatives and the operation of the SMSF.
- Scottish Natural Heritage: £23,000 to support access and conservation work programme
- The Scottish Mountaineering Trust: £5,000 to support access & conservation work.
- Alastair Sutherland, CA, was appointed as honorary auditor.

7. Proposal to increase subscriptions.

- It was agreed that the following subscriptions recommended by the Executive be adopted.

	2002 - 2003 [agreed]	2003 - 2004 [estimated]
I.M. [Ordinary]	£18.00	£19.50
I.M. [Youth]	£ 8.50	£ 9.00
Concession *	£11.00	£11.00
Joint / Family**	£30.00	£33.00
Club [per head]	£ 6.50	£ 7.25
Associate.	£60.00	£65.00

*UB40, OAP, Student. ** 2 persons at same address [+ 2 children under 18 yrs].

8. Elections to the Executive Committee

- Pete Hill was elected to the office of President unopposed.
- Fred Belcher was elected to the office of Vice President unopposed.
- Nick Halls was elected to the office of Honorary Secretary unopposed.
- It was agreed that the new Executive Committee must co-opt a Treasurer at the earliest opportunity.
- Beryl Leatherland, Mary Webster, John Orr and Keith Miller were elected to the Executive Committee for a first term.
- It was agreed that the Executive Committee should co-opt Peter Willimott to the Executive.

9. Proposed changes to the Constitution

The following amendments were agreed:

- Para 6. Office Bearers
- Para 14. Conduct of General Meetings
- Para 15. Subscriptions
- Para 17. Financial Statement

10. Proposed revised Climbing Walls Policy

- The revised Climbing Walls Policy was endorsed and adopted.

11. Adoption of the MCoFS S. Winter Climbing Code

- The MCoFS Winter Climbing Code was adopted.

12. Mountain Article Competition 2002 Winners

- It was agreed that the winners of the Mountain Article Competition be notified in The Scottish Mountaineer.

13. Any Other Competent Business

- John Donohoe was thanked for all his work and presented with bottles of rare whisky.

14. Date and place of the 2003 AGM

- The date and place of the 2003 AGM will be determined by the Executive after taking into consideration the comments made.

Accounts



The Mountaineering Council of Scotland

Income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 March 2003

2002		2003
INCOME		
39,343	Affiliation fees	47,582
29,191	Clubs	33,405
775	Individual members	710
2,637	Associates	2,957
675	Donations	312
10,000	Interest (Net)	10,000
11,700	Grants	5,000
14,154	sportscotland	21,324
6,289	Scottish Mountaineering Trust	
(5,224)	Scottish Natural Heritage	2,900
1,317	Sales	<u>2,200</u>
319	Less cost of sales	700
889	First aid course	0
119	Royalties	126
0	Rents	1,465
0	Miscellaneous	0
0	Walking Wild - publications payment	2,000
0	Less author's fees	<u>1,830</u>
112,184		123,751
EXPENDITURE		
2,000	Expedition awards (sportscotland grant)	2,000
5,575	Officers' expenses	7,059
2,261	Committee expenses	3,170
2,833	Telephone	1,298
3,444	Postage	2,159
7,862	Scottish Mountaineer	9,240
2,973	Printing, stationery and computer expenses	5,222
3,120	Annual General Meeting expenses	4,134
(133)	Heat and light	321
60,036	Officers' salaries, pensions and employers NIC	62,648
304	Mountain essay competition	200
1,101	Subscriptions	1,024
8,987	Rent and insurance	9,513
8,265	Civil liability insurance	9,063
4,080	Copier costs	4,151
951	Office expenses	3,282
908	Miscellaneous	329
0	Computer hardware	<u>1,941</u>
114,567		126,754
(2,383)		(3,003)
4,000	Mill Cottage Trustees' donation to safety and training	<u>3,500</u>
1,617	Excess of income over expenditure for the year	497

The Mountaineering Council of Scotland

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2003

2002		2003
Current assets		
45,394	Bank	36,955
3,839	Stock	1,745
2,056	Prepaid charges	<u>1,371</u>
<u>51,289</u>		<u>40,071</u>
Current liabilities		
9,707	Accrued charges	6,704
2,000	Grants in advance	0
<u>11,707</u>		<u>6,704</u>
<u>39,582</u>		<u>33,367</u>
Capital and funds General reserve		
7,983	Balance at 1 April - Year beginning	9,600
1,617	Excess of income over expenditure for the year	<u>497</u>
<u>9,600</u>		<u>10,097</u>
Henry Hindmarsh Access and Conservation Fund		
5,295	Balance at 1 April - Year beginning	4,686
(809)	Expenditure during the year	<u>(100)</u>
4,486		4,586
200	Donation	0
<u>4,686</u>		<u>4,586</u>
Legacy - James Hewitt Bequest		
13,274	Balance at 1 April - Year beginning	13,274
0	Transfer for Water Hazards video production costs	<u>(3,274)</u>
<u>13,274</u>		<u>10,000</u>
Mountain Safety Budget		
12,022	Balance at Year end - 31 March	8,684
<u>39,582</u>		<u>33,367</u>

The Mountaineering Council of Scotland

Mountain Safety Budget Income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 March 2003

	2003	
Balance brought forward - 1 April 2002		12,022
Grant from sportscotland		<u>22,000</u>
		34,022
Water Hazards Video		
Production costs		8,966
Less James Hewitt Bequest	3,274	
Grant from Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme	<u>1,333</u>	<u>4,607</u>
		4,359
Mountain Safety Advisor		
Salary, pension & employer's NIC	14,501	
Expenses	<u>1,567</u>	16,068
Glen Arna Study Packs		
Sales	3,022	
Less purchase of projector	<u>2,280</u>	(742)
Lectures and Courses		
Navigation, winter safety and first aid		
Participants' fees		3,638
Tutors fees and expenses	<u>4,353</u>	715
Sale of Water Hazards video		(3,771)
Establishment costs		
Copier		600
Postage and despatch		2,900
Telephone		600
Rent and rates		1,059
Administration		<u>3,550</u>
		25,338
Balance as at 31 March 2003		8,684

The Mill Cottage Trust

Income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 March 2003

2001		2002
INCOME		
7,603	Booking fees	6,875
92	Interest	66
<u>7,695</u>		<u>6,941</u>
EXPENDITURE		
1,527	Repairs, maintenance and cleaning	1,301
899	Heat and light	818
625	Honoraria	500
218	Insurance	262
4,000	Donation to MCofS safety and training programme	3,500
0	Postage	67
0	Contribution to erection of cairn	<u>348</u>
<u>7,269</u>		<u>6,796</u>
426	Excess of Income over Expenditure for Year	145
Shown as:		
4,807	Opening bank balance	5,233
426	Excess of Income over Expenditure for Year	145
<u>5,233</u>		<u>5,378</u>