

Chairman's Report 2009 AGM

I'll start by thanking all the members of the committee for an excellent year, particularly Chris Bowen, who is retiring from the committee this year after three years as secretary.

I think that the secretary is crucial to the smooth running of any committee, and the success of our committee over the last three years has been to a large extent down to Chris. Chris has been efficient, calm, wise, and friendly – in a word exemplary.

I also thank Richie who is retiring as Journal editor, a job he has done for the last couple of years, and welcome Barry, who is taking over. I think the standard of the journal over the last few years has been extremely high, and I'm sure Barry will continue to maintain the high standard that has been set. However he will need everyone's help. He needs input: meet reports, stories of individual holidays and adventures, and above all- photos.

I also welcome all the aspirant members who have joined us this year. You will hear from Steve that we've had a very successful year in terms of recruitment, but recruitment is only half the job. I hope we will all play our part in making new members feel welcome- at the pub, and on the crag. I have to say that Steve himself has been right in the forefront in this- most Tuesdays at the wall he's been there climbing with a new member.

In summarising the last year, I'll start with the meets, as they are what define the success or otherwise of a club. You'll hear detail from Trevor, but I will say that I think we've had a successful year, with at least four meets with attendances exceeding thirty. We had a particularly successful Alpine meet, and most recently an absolutely brilliant adventure in Sinai. So I'd like to thank all the meet leaders who work hard to promote and run their meets.

Attendances on Tuesday nights on the crag and at the wall have been good, and I think the scene at the pub on Thursdays has been more vibrant than in the past. We've had a brilliant series of evening slide shows, and seeing Martin Wragg is here, I'd like to thank him again for his inspirational talk on the Hindu Kush expedition.

The lease for Blaen y Nant expires later this year, and I'm glad to say that we have been offered a new lease which we will negotiate in due course.

And finally, I'm equally glad to say that the ongoing saga of the Book of the Mynydd History is finally drawing to a conclusion, and that all elements of the book are now completed, and we are now ready to enter into the production process. And I personally think that it'll be an excellent read!