

LMC MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

December 2024

Contact Details

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Secretary Charles Harrison
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Next Newsletter: Please send copy for the next issue to both editors
 by midday on the 10th of the month.

LMC Meets & Events Programme 2024			
Date	Event	Meet Leader	Comments
Sat 14 December	Londinium – history walk and Christmas social	Marion Downie	Day walk + social
2025			
Sat 18 January	AGM and Annual Dinner Cotswolds	Angela Leaman	Weekend
Sat 8 to Sun 16 March	Crickhowell Walking Festival	Andy Johns	Not LMC. Book direct via the CWF website.
Fri 9 - Sun 11 May	Gower, Wales	David Wells	Weekend
Fri 13 to Mon 16 June	Exmoor	Heather & Andrew McGinn	Weekend
Sun 6 – Sun 13 July	Welsh Coastal Path	John Blight	Full week – details to follow
Fri 12 – Fri 19 September	Lake District	Sarah Dixon	Full week or shorter stay
Sat 25 October	LMC - 50th Anniversary Reunion, Salisbury	Angela Leaman	Club social

LMC Meet Details – forthcoming events

Sat 14 December - Londinium – A Saturday Walk around Roman London followed by dinner – Marion Downie

Londinium – A walk around Roman London on Saturday 14 December followed by dinner. This will be a stroll around the City, looking at some of the main Roman sites, starting at 11am and followed by an early evening meal at 5pm.

I have emailed those who have confirmed that they wish to come with the details as I am away for most of November. If anyone else wants to come for the walk or the meal, please let me know.

Contact: Marion Downie,

Sat 18 January 2025 – Cotswolds LMC AGM and Annual Dinner – Angela Leaman

We will be returning to the Cotswolds for our AGM next January. The venue will be the Hatton



Court Hotel which is located near Painswick and 12 minutes' drive from Gloucester station. The Cotswold Way passes close by and there is good walking to explore. The AGM and private dinner will be held in the Cotswold Room.

I have a provisional booking for 14 rooms for Saturday night which will be held until the end of November. Bookings can be extended on request to Friday, for those who wish to arrive the night before. Walks will be arranged for mid-morning Saturday and on Sunday morning.

To book your place please call the hotel

directly on 01452 617412 and quote my name to link into the LMC group booking and discount rate. Guests will be required to pay in full for Saturday dinner/accommodation at the time of booking, but Friday night can be paid for on arrival. Friday dinner can be at the hotel, or there is a cheap and cheerful pub 5 minutes' drive away at the Kings Head in Upton St Leonards.

The rates are as follows:-

Saturday DB&B: Double £149 (total for 2 people); Single occupancy £129.

Friday B&B: Double £109; Single £99. Note there is no provisional booking held for Friday. The hotel is unlikely to be busy but advise booking early to ensure availability if staying two nights. All rooms will be Executive/Superior grade.

Any unallocated rooms were released at the end of November, so if you still wish to book please contact the hotel for availability.

T&C: Bookings can be cancelled free of charge until 7th December. After 7th December we can cancel 2 rooms free of charge up to 48 hours prior to the event. Further cancellations will be charged in full.

Hope to see you then.

Contact: Angela Leaman;

www.hatton-court.co.uk; Hatton Court, Upton Hill, Upton St Leonards, GL4 8DE

Sat 8 to Sun 16 March 2025 - Crickhowell Walking Festival – Andy Johns

CWF booking went live at 06.00 on 1st December. First booking received at 06.02! We have 82 walks in 9 days in and around the Bannau Brycheiniog National Park, from 2 to 17 miles and up to 3,600 ft ascent at the top end. Almost 40% sold so far and three walks booked out already but still loads of variety available.

See <https://www.crickhowellfestival.com/2024-gallery> for great images from March 2024 – fog, rain, plenty of mud, sunshine, fantastic views and many happy walkers. Come and banish those winter blues!

Fri 9 - Sun 11 May 2025 - Gower, Wales – David Wells

It's a few years since the club visited the Gower (and actually not sure I've ever been!) and will be a few years before John reaches there on the coastpath, so I'm organising a weekend meet in May, avoiding the public holidays. The Gower is great for coastal walks stretching from Rhossili in the west through Oxwich to The Mumbles in the East but also has some interesting if lowish hills.

I'm proposing to base the weekend in Reynoldston, which is slightly inland and away from the tourists. You are welcome to add either Thursday or Sunday nights as well - I will organise a full day walk on Saturday, probably walking from Reynoldston, and a longish half day on Sunday depending on interest. We will arrange dinners later - the King Arthur is well rated. I've blocked 3 rooms until end December at each of Rushbrook Cottage (which takes pets) and Hills Court B&Bs (no pets), both of which offer continental breakfast in the room. For anyone wanting full English breakfast, the King Arthur hotel is also available. There are not too many other B&Bs so get in quick. If you wish to come, please contact the B&Bs directly quoting my name and/or LMC. Contact details are Claire Lloyd for Rushbrook Cottage and Jill John for Hills Court. Both are also available on Airbnb. There's also 1 room available at Luddington Grange (Carol though I haven't blocked this). Most rooms are £80 or £90 single or double.

Please let me know if you book.

Contact: David Wells

Fri 13 to Mon 16 June 2025 – Exmoor – Heather & Andrew McGinn

We will be running another meet at the Simonsbath House hotel, Simonsbath, Exmoor next year from Friday, 13th June to Monday, 16th June.

Double/Twin - £98.50 per person per night DB&B, plus packed lunch

Single - £108.50 per person per night, DB&B plus packed lunch

Dogs - £7.50 per night

There will be two days of long walks plus a shorter walk on Monday before everyone heads home. We will also use the hotel minibus for some walks.

Please let me know if you would like to join us by the **20th December** or if you would like any more information so that I can inform the hotel of names and numbers. A deposit of £50 per person will be required by the end of February.

We have already had about 10 members who have expressed an interest but could you all please confirm too. At present we have the whole hotel. Final numbers will depend on rooms and the capacity of the minibus. Bookings will be on a first come first served basis.

We look forward to you joining us.

Contact: Heather McGinn

Fri 12 – Fri 19 September 2025 - Lake District – Sarah Dixon

Due to the popularity of the location in the [Duddon Valley](#) giving a wide choice of beautiful walks on high and low fells for all capabilities and states of health I am planning to organise a week from Sept 12th-19th 2025 in the same two cottages we hired this year (see the meet report). The price has been reduced for 2025 due to direct booking and is now £1800 for the two cottages (See Cottage 1 and Cottage 2 below for details). The two cottages accommodate between 6 to 8 people giving a price per person per week of £225-£300.

We have 6 people signed up so far. There is still a double room available in the cottages and I can find other accommodation if there is demand. If people wanted to stay for a couple of days instead of a week I'd be happy to organise that.

There is other accommodation very close by as detailed below and I can enquire about availability there should there be more people interested. The Riverside Stone cottage is just over the bridge from Cottages 1 and 2, and the Newfield Inn and Seathwaite Lodge next door to it are a short walk away.

[Cottage 1](#)

[Cottage 2](#)

[Newfield Inn](#)

[Riverside Stone Cottage](#)

[Seathwaite Lodge](#)

Contact: Sarah Dixon

Sat 25 October 2025 – Salisbury LMC - 50th Anniversary Reunion

Those that were there will remember the fantastic evening we had in 2015 to celebrate the 40th anniversary of LMC Mountaineering Club. Around 80 current and former members came together for dinner and a hugely sociable evening at Lensbury Club in Teddington.

Therefore we plan to do it again for our 50th! Yes, it all began in 1975.

Kirsty and I have been in touch with a long roll call of past members and we have had a very enthusiastic response. Therefore, I'm delighted to let you know that the LMC 50th Reunion dinner will take place on **Saturday 25 October 2025** at the White Hart Hotel in Salisbury. Further details will be released as plans progress, but in the meantime – **SAVE THE DATE!**
Contact: Angela Leaman;

Meet Reports

Teddington to Chiswick – 17 November 2024

I was joined by Teresa and Martin for this walk along the Surrey side of the River Thames, starting from Teddington Lock. The walk was timed to coincide with low tide during the annual draw-off, when Richmond half lock is left open so the river is tidal up to Teddington, exposing the river bed and allowing for essential maintenance checks and repairs.

We were fortunate with a bright although cold day with glorious autumn colours on display.

We stopped at Richmond for coffee and a closer look at Richmond bridge – the dark marks on the piers show how much is usually underwater.



Richmond also has the issue of high tides but one enterprising pub has a solution:



We walked as far as Richmond Lock but then needed to cross to the Middlesex side as the path onwards to Kew Bridge is closed due to a breach in the river bank.

This picture of the damage was taken from the river: the railing shows where the path used to be:



We walked past former wharves and a boatyard to Old Isleworth; then through Syon Park with a short detour to see a plaque commemorating Pocahontas who briefly lived nearby:



At Brentford Lock we took a detour along by the River Brent/Grand Union Canal to see the extensive redevelopment in this area. We saw lots of evidence of former industry: a railway bridge to Brentford Dock, more old wharves and former dry docks. We passed the site of Brentford Gas Works; now covered by the (sadly derelict) Watermans Arts Centre and adjoining Watermans Park. The tide had been rising for some time so by this point, water was lapping the path. Once we reached Kew Bridge it was time to leave the river for the short distance to our house where Clare (sometime guest of LMC) provided a delicious and warming lunch.

Charles Harrison

Out Walking Reports & / or Photos . . . *None this time*

Other Events / Items . . . *None this time*

Extra Elements: Books, DVDs, Films, other Walks / Climbs – views & comments . . .
If you've read any walking / mountaineering / travel books which you've enjoyed, please share.

LMC Newsletter link to send to interest future possible members:

<https://www.hillsandvalleys.co.uk/LMC/LMCdownloads.htm>

BMC: <https://www.thebmc.co.uk/> Newsletter at: <https://www.thebmc.co.uk/newsletters>

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