

Chair and Secretary's report 2023

Thank you all for coming to our second AGM, and for being part of the club.

This report is going to be a recap of our achievements and an overview of the changes that have and are happening in the club.

This year has been a fantastic and busy year full of change and new adventures.

This year we saw some big achievements within the club as well as for wider LGBTQ+ climbing.

Within the club we continued to have lots of fun outside with day trips, bouldering, and roped climbing.

I would like to thank K, Ibex outdoors, AMI and Alpkit for their support in acquiring funding for and running a series of training days for us to allow members to increase and update their skills and knowledge in running sessions for club members. Out of this we received 3 days of training covering, Outdoor lead climbing skills and tactics, Introducing new climbers to the outdoors and sharing skills to club members.

I would also Like to thank J Jackson and Garland mountaineering for providing a number of our members with Climbing Wall Instructor (CWI) training.

We also successfully achieved our first full club multiday trip away to Eryri in north Wales. We need to say a big thank you to K for all the pre-trip organisation and organising the accommodation for us. Although sadly K wasn't able to make it on the trip we still had a fantastic experience and made good use of the voluntary additional fees paid by people to hire an instructor through Nick (surname) of Pride expeditions for which we thank him and his support in making the trip successful. This trip was a fantastic experience with many people pushing themselves personally by coming on the trip and sharing a bunkhouse together as well as pushing their climbing and trying new experiences such as scrambling along Crib Goch.

Outside of the club members of the committee and the club were also heavily involved in helping to organise the first year of ClimbOut festival, the UK's first LGBTQ climbing festival and were so excited to see so many of our club members come along and share in the Queer joy of this fantastic weekend! Thank you to Matilda, Ali, Jack, K, Char and myself, and especially thank you to all the other organisers for creating such a fantastic event and so excited for next years!!

Over this year we have also seen a little change within the committee as we have seen Laura stand down and Josh decide he is unable to continue being part of the committee. We would like to say a massive thank you to them (you)

both and especially to Josh who was one of the founding committee members and without his skill, knowledge and ability to kick committee members we would have struggled to achieve all we have so far. Josh will be continuing to support the committee and club in the back ground with our email, database and website and we cannot thank him enough for doing this.

Jack is also standing down as EDI officer to move to a new role, we thank him for all his hard work in this role as it can be a challenging role to take on and we thank him for his hard work with the consultation around our demographics collecting that we will look at later.

We are also excited to introduce some new roles to the committee as we aim to introduce a Plymouth officer and a Safeguarding officer.

The aim of the Plymouth officer is to help increase a focus on the Plymouth and non-Exeter activities and explore ways to increase our membership and activity attendance from these areas.

The aim of the Safeguarding officer is 2 areas; firstly, we have been aiming for a while to introduce young people into the club and so the safeguarding officer will be helping us to do this safely as well as ensuring everyone in the club is safe as we do this. Secondly as a community of adults we are often quite vulnerable and particularly at the moment with everything going on our trans and non-binary members

are particularly vulnerable, so the safeguarding officer will be helping us to ensure all our members are safe and that we are doing everything we can to support all our members.

Lastly I would like to thank Char for taking on training to improve our social media and working so hard on this this last year, their hard work on the Discord server with Nora that we will be looking at later and their excellent work on the members and beginners sessions, as well as generally bringing the hype to the Exeter sessions.

I would like to thank K for all their hard work planning, supporting and running outdoor sessions this year and looking forward to what adventures they have planned for us next year!

I would also like to thank Simon for looking after our finances so carefully.

I cant thank the committee enough for all their help support and hard work. As a group of volunteers it is not always easy to fit in club stuff alongside life, health and work and I cannot say how much I appreciate everything you do to keep this club going.

Thank you all for joining us, supporting each other, climbing together, and creating such a beautiful, diverse found family. I truly love and appreciate you all.