

LMC MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

June 2026

Contact Details

Chairman:	Brian Holmes
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Next Newsletter: Please send copy for the next issue to both editors
by midday on the 10th of the month.

From the Meets Co-ordinator

2026 Meets Programme

The meets programme for 2026 is looking quite healthy, but we would welcome additional weekends particularly during the summer months, and day walks are also looking quite sparse after May. Thanks to those who have already volunteered to organise days or weekends or weeks, but if anyone else would like to offer a walk, please contact David Wells and/or submit to the newsletter editor. The club needs a healthy programme to attract and keep members and to maintain the group spirit we know and enjoy. On that topic we would also love to see new members on meets, so free to free to encourage friends to come along and give us a try ... membership numbers are roughly stable, with some renewed interest from the 50th anniversary, but always room for more!

Thanks,

David

LMC Meets & Events Programme 2026

Date	Event	Meet Leader	Comments
Sun 14 June	The Capital Ring – Greenford to Hendon	Marion Downie	Day Walk
Sat 20 to Sat 27 June	The Wales Coast Path – Llyn Peninsula	John Blight	Full Week – Fully Subscribed
Tue 21 to Mon 27 July	Opera and Mountains in Austria	Paul Ackroyd	Full Week – Fully Subscribed
Fri 11- Mon 14 September	Wasdale Head (aka putting the Mountains back into LMC)	Sarah Dixon	Weekend
Sat 15 August	Walking in Pepys Footsteps – Tower Bridge to Greenwich	Marion Downie	Day Walk
Sun 27 September	Barnes Circular (Kew and Gunnersbury Park)	Alyson Lawton	Day Walk
Fri 9 – Sun 11 October	Peak District	David Wells	Weekend
Sun 6 December <i>(amended date)</i>	London Christmas Social - A Walk for Curious Wanderers	Angela Leaman	Day Walk – more details to follow

LMC Meets & Events Programme 2027

Date	Event	Meet Leader	Comments
Sat 16 – Sun 17 January	AGM and Annual Dinner – location TBC	Angela Leaman	Weekend
March (dates TBC)	Cotswolds	Gerry Lynskey and Rita Rawson	Weekend
Fri 23 – Mon 26 April	Llangollen	Brian Holmes	Weekend

Meet Details – forthcoming events

Sun 14 June – The Capital Ring – Greenford to Hendon - Marion Downie

Stage 5 of the Capital Ring is from Greenford to Hendon (c. 11.5 miles) with opt outs at South Kenton (5.5 mile) and Wembley. Meet at 10.30am at Greenford Station. There are plenty of cafes in Harrow but they may be busy so I suggest bringing a sandwich so we have flexibility.

If you are interested, please let me know.

Contact: Marion Downie

Sat 20 to Sat 27 June – Wales Coast Path – Llyn Peninsula – John Blight – *Fully subscribed*

February update

A plan to walk approximately 65 miles during the week from a single base. There are now 8 people booked for this meet, accommodation has been booked and is now *fully subscribed*.

Contact: John Blight

Tue 21 – Mon 27 July – Opera and Mountains in Austria – Paul Ackroyd – *Fully Subscribed*

This trip is now *fully subscribed*. We have 11 people attending the opera on the lake in Bregenz and 9 travelling up to Damuls for walking, wine and food in the mountains.

Contact: Paul Ackroyd

Sat 15 August - Walking in Pepys Footsteps – Tower Bridge to Greenwich - Marion Downie

I found this walk in a Time Out guide to London Walks suggested by London writers, in this case by Claire Tomalin, a biographer of Samuel Pepys. It is basically the Thames Path from Tower Bridge to Greenwich c. 5 miles.

Meet at the south end of Tower Bridge on the Eastern side. We will meet at 10.30am and that then allows time to explore Greenwich and enjoy other cultural activities.

If you are interested, please let me know.

Contact: Marion Downie

Fri 11 – Mon 14 September Wasdale Head (aka putting the Mountains back into LMC) – Sarah Dixon

May Update

We now have 12-14 people confirmed for the meet, some staying in the hotel and some in self-catering apartments. At time of writing there is still one double room available (book directly with the hotel).

It's a great starting point for lots of nice mountains including Scafell Pike, Great Gable and Pillar but there are also possibilities for lower-level walks or gentler valley ascents. Some examples of gentler low-level walks for rainy days or for those wanting a less strenuous and a slower pace option are given below, and of course a slow walk up one of the valleys and back is always an alternative. So if you don't feel fit enough to climb a mountain, there are other things to do, as well as enjoy people's company in the evenings over dinner.

Way out West Walk 10.57 miles 1,295 ft ascent (can be made shorter and lower)

Nether Wasdale 3.83 miles 286 ft ascent (can be made longer and higher)

Wasdale Head 3.63 miles 260 ft ascent (can be made longer and higher)

Please contact Sarah Dixon with any questions or to let me know.

Sun 27 September – Barnes Circular (Kew and Gunnersbury Park) – Alyson Lawton

The walk will be starting again at Barnes station (as it was easy to get to last time plus has free street parking) walking to Kew Green and then into Gunnersbury Park (option to see local very

interesting free council run museum - Victorian kitchens plus displays on Ealing film studios etc) and back via Strand on the Green.

Total distance about 8 miles but lots of opt out points. I will be able to check any planned engineering work impact on trains nearer the time.

Please let me know if you are interested.

Contact: Alyson Lawton

Fri 9 – Sun 11 October Peak District – David Wells

I've now confirmed the dates and location for the programmed Peak District Meet. We will base the meet in Hayfield, which is on the west side of the Peak District National Park, in the High Peak area. It is a pretty and historic village with direct walks available from the village - notably a 10 mile circuit onto Kinder Low, and some shorter walks in the surrounding hills. A short drive (or local buses) can connect to the Derwent Valley and to Edale. I plan to offer full day walks on Saturday and Sunday, and likely a shorter walk on Friday afternoon for early arrivals. I have provisionally booked all 4 rooms in my name for the two nights at the Kinder Lodge in the centre of the village. Room rates are £182 for the 2 nights including full breakfast. Dogs are welcomed and additional nights are likely available. You will need to ring and confirm bookings and likely leave a deposit on 01663 743613. Please let me know when you have booked - we can't hold the rooms for too long. If all rooms are booked, there is other accommodation in the village in pubs or apartments etc, for instance the George Hotel or Lantern Pike Inn (which is just outside the village).

I look forward to seeing a good autumn weekend!

Contact: David Wells

2027 Meet details

Fri 23 – Mon 26 April 2027 Llangollen – Brian Holmes

Following the success of our recent Llangollen meet and the encouragement to repeat next year, I confirm I have booked the Llangollen Hostel for sole use 23 – 26 April 2027 (3 nights).

I will be able to lead some new walks or repeat depending on interest. As previously described, there are a number of options from longer led walks to easier self-guided routes and a host of tourist attractions.

Contact: Brian Holmes

Meet Reports

Walking the Capital Ring Stage 4 – Sunday 31 May 2026

The fourth stage of the Capital Ring was 9 miles from Richmond to Greenford via Osterley lock. Five of us, Charles, Alyson, Teresa, Liz and me, for coffee along with large numbers of Arsenal supporters, presumably on their way to north London.

The route takes us along the Thames, over Richmond Lock, through Isleworth and Syon Park to Brentford where we joined the Grand Union Canal.

We then met up with David Abbott near Osterley Lock in perfect time for lunch and with two convenient benches to accommodate all six of us.

Photo: Joining the Grand Union Canal

At Hanwell locks we left the canal and continued on the River Brent and then we came to the familiar sight of the Wharncliffe Viaduct built by Isambard Kingdom Brunel in 1838 to carry the Great Western Railway over the Brent Valley (and now also the Elizabeth line).

Photo: Wharncliffe Viaduct

Photo: Cornflowers in Brent Lodge Park

We had perfect walking conditions – warm and sunny with an occasional breeze. This is also a lovely section which has a bit of road walking at the start through Richmond down to the river and at the end to the station. Ice-creams were purchased and quickly enjoyed (before they melted) on the train.

The next stage is from Greenford to Hendon (Sunday 14 June) and if anyone would like to join for sections of the walk, let me know.

Marion Downie

Wells Next The Sea, Norfolk Friday 5 to Sunday 7 June 2026

A select group of 3 LMC stalwarts marked the return of the club to Norfolk after a gap of many years. Yes, Norfolk may be short on mountains, but it can be peaceful and the coastline has a quiet beauty, with dunes, low cliffs and a mix of sandy and pebble beaches providing lots of variety for walkers.

Rita, Gerry and David made it to the B&B right on the quayside in Wells Next the Sea (which as we came to learn is at least 1 mile inland at high tide, and much further at low tide!) in time for

dinner at a lively local pub. The sight of all the local lobster pots and crabbing vessels in the sunshine on the quayside tempted us to try the local potted crab, along with the local ales.

Saturday dawned misty with light rain forecast, but, undaunted, we set off walking from Blakeney after a short car ride, with the objective of reaching the resort and beaches of Cromer. The coastal path looped seaward through the dunes, then swung back to the pretty hamlet of Cley Next the Sea (also at least a mile away from the sea) and the first of many windmills. At this point the rain set in and a damp morning followed across fields and back to the coast path, before we spotted the guns of the Muckelburgh Military museum – looking ready for the Russian invasion!

Photo: The Guns of Muckelburgh

A short trudge along the pebble beach and a damp lunch spot on the beach soon led to a gentle climb up the cliffs to arrive at a coastguard look out and a view of the resort of Sheringham. Having decided 10 miles wasn't enough, and taking advantage of the welcome sunshine, we decided Cromer was indeed in our sights and moved on up Beeston Bump (all of 63m high) and then inland to Norfolk's highest point (Beacon Hill at a lofty 105m) before finally descending for a welcome ice cream. Cromer otherwise disappointed, with a run-down air not helped by another shower, and we quickly took the bus back to pick up the car. All in a 16 mile walk and a good day!

After a seafood dinner courtesy of a takeway (owned by a great seafood restaurant which unfortunately required booking 3 months ahead) we enjoyed a digestif and cheese / desserts at a very attractive wine bar looking over the harbour.



Wells Next the Sea harbour after dinner

Sunday promised plenty of sunshine and a 7.5 mile circuit from the scenic village of Burnham Market was decided. A great mix of pretty villages, harbours and the coastal dunes followed, with plenty of deer, rabbits and lots of birds (and bird watchers).



Windmills and meadows : Burnham Overy Staithe

During a break at the inland harbour of Burnham Overy Staithe, we were amused by the traffic of boats, canoes, paddleboards and even brave swimmers in wetsuits adding to the walkers on the coast path.



The return to the start followed the coastal dunes followed by pleasant field paths before arriving at Burnham for lunch and home.

The coastal dunes looking out for the sea!

David Wells

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

Other Events / Items

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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