

LMC MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

September 2025

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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 2025			
Date	Event	Meet Leader	Comments
Fri 12 – Fri 19 September	Lake District	Sarah Dixon	Full week or shorter stay
Sun 5 October	SE London- Petts Wood and Scadbury Park	Paul Ackroyd	Day Walk
Sat 25 October	LMC - 50th Anniversary Reunion, Salisbury	Angela Leaman	Club social
Fri 14 – Sun 16 November	Swanage	David Wells	Weekend

LMC Meets & Events Programme 2026			
Date	Event	Meet Leader	Comments
Sat 17 – Sun 18 January	AGM and Annual Dinner – near the North Wessex Downs, south Oxfordshire	Angela Leaman	Weekend
March	TBC	David Wells	Weekend
Mid July	Opera and Mountains in Austria	Paul Ackroyd	Full Week

Meet Details – forthcoming events

Fri 12 – Fri 19 September - 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](#)

July Update

We currently have 7 people booked into two neighbouring cottages and 1 person in the [Newfield Inn](#) nearby. If anyone else is interested in joining us in the beautiful Duddon Valley, offering a wide choice of beautiful walks on high and low fells for all capabilities, there are two rooms available at Seathwaite Lodge next-door to the pub. (Breakfast would be in the pub). They are really cheap - I was offered £270 for the week for either a king or a twin. I'm sure she would be happy to take people for a shorter break. The pub and Lodge are a pleasant short walk away from the cottages, either through the woods or along the road. Please let me know if you are interested - we are pencilled in under my name at the Lodge.

Contact: Sarah Dixon

Sun 5 October – SE London; Petts Wood and Scadbury Park – Paul Ackroyd

I am intending to rerun the Scadbury Park and Petts Wood walk which proved very popular and interesting the last time we did it. In spite of being in suburbia this is a very pleasant, largely wooded walk through ancient woodland past the ruins of the Scadbury House and across farmland and open fields. About 6 miles.

We will meet in Petts Wood about 11.00 am at some suitable coffee shop and end up probably with a drink in the Daylight Inn named in honour of William Willett who had the original idea for adjusting the clocks in winter and to whom there is a memorial on the walk. There are frequent trains from London stations to Petts Wood and easy parking in Petts Wood for those driving. There are plenty of refreshment places in Petts Wood but nothing en route, so please bring sandwiches.

Let me know if you're interested in attending.

Contact: Paul Ackroyd

Sat 25 October – 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.

April Update

I am very happy to report there has been a tremendous response to join us in Salisbury in October to celebrate LMC's 50th Anniversary. It has been great to hear from so many current and former members of the Club.

The Reunion dinner will take place on **Saturday 25th October 2025** at the [White Hart Hotel](#) in Salisbury, near the famous Cathedral Close and within walking distance of the station (trains from Waterloo). Rooms have been reserved at the hotel for Saturday night, and a discount is available on Friday if you wish to stay the weekend. Salisbury is a medieval city and an attractive place to visit. I am delighted to let you know that **booking is now open** and those who have already expressed an interest in coming to the reunion will have received details of how to book on a separate email group.

TRAVEL

The hotel has a car park (complimentary for group bookings) and is within walking distance of the station (trains from Waterloo).

ACCOMMODATION

Please contact the hotel directly to make your booking. **IMPORTANT: quote 'LMC MOUNTAINEERING CLUB' to obtain the group rate.** Note the hotel is a historic building and does not have ground floor bedrooms or a lift - please speak to the hotel for any specific requirements. Dogs are permitted on request.

Room prices (includes breakfast)

Classic Double/Twin: £130 (2 people)

Privilege Double: £140 (2 people)
Double room single occupancy: £120
Single room: £110
Friday rate: As above minus £15
Saturday dinner: £31.50; 3 courses with tea/coffee (excl. drinks)

T&Cs

Dinner and accommodation to be paid for on arrival.

Cancellation - accommodation

Up to 28 days before arrival: No charge
Between 28 and 21 days: 25%
Between 20 and 14 days: 75%
Between 13 and 7 days: 75%
Less than 7 days or non-arrival: 90%

Cancellation - dinner

Dinner may be cancelled free of charge up to 2 weeks ahead

If you experience any problems with your booking do let me know.

Contact: Angela Leaman;

Fri 14 – Sun 16 November - Swanage – David Wells

For the last LMC weekend of the year, I'm proposing to organise a couple of walks around Swanage, in the middle of the Purbecks, with great walks along the coast path as far as Lulworth Cove or Durdle Door, to Studland and Poole harbour, or inland to Corfe Castle and beyond. Swanage offers many restaurants and cafes and entertainment, although unfortunately the Steam railway doesn't operate in November. Bus services do offer the opportunity for linear walks though.

I propose to base the weekend at the Purbeck House Hotel, which has plenty of rooms available at this time. Quoted rates for 2 nights Friday-Sunday are £120 single, £190 double. Continental breakfast adds a further £9/night (no cooked breakfast I'm afraid!). A 10% discount is available for room payment at time of booking. The hotel does not take dogs

Please book hotel, *mentioning to them that you are joining the LMC group*, and let me know if you're intending to come along. I will book dinners for Friday and Saturday evenings nearer the time and also suggest walks depending on the group and likely weather!

Contact : David Wells

Sat 17 January 2026 - LMC AGM and Annual Dinner

I am delighted to let you know that the 2026 AGM will be held at the Chiseldon House Hotel south of Swindon. I have a provisional booking for Friday and Saturday night and rooms will be held until the end of October.



The venue is near the Marlborough Downs where we stayed for the 2024 AGM but, never fear, your intrepid organiser has discovered new pastures to walk upon. A back road from the hotel will lead us to the North Wessex Downs in south Oxfordshire, which I don't think we have visited before. Notably, the area around Uffington with its famous prehistoric white horse. Chiseldon House is a grade II listed building which was built around 1821. Originally part of a large estate, the hotel has a spacious and elegant garden setting (although perhaps not cocktails on the terrace in January!). The AGM and private dinner will be held in the Borelli room on Saturday night. Hospitality prices seem to have gone up rather sharply of late however I have negotiated a decent group discount.

To book your place please call the hotel directly and quote 'LMC' to obtain the group rate.

Guests are required to pay in full for accommodation at the time of booking, but dinner is paid for on arrival. Friday supper can be taken at the hotel, or there is a reasonable looking pub 5 minutes' drive away. The club has a historical link with The Plough on the Hill, as a pit stop for fish and chips en route down the M4 from Shell Centre to Wales on a Friday night!

Hotel details are as follows:

Friday/Saturday B&B: Double £90 per night (2 people); Single occupancy £80.

AGM Dinner: £40 (3 courses + coffee/tea, excluding drinks).

T&Cs: Rooms may be cancelled free of charge until 2pm the day before arrival. Numbers for the AGM dinner will need to be finalised 2 weeks beforehand.

Dogs: permitted at the hotel's discretion in the grounds and bedrooms. Please check with the hotel for details and charges.

Hope to see you there.

Contact: Angela Leaman

Early Notification

Mid July 2026 – Opera and Mountains in Austria – Paul Ackroyd

I am hoping to arrange another trip to Austria as we have done twice in the past. The core of the visit is to stay in Bregenz on Lake Constance for the festival where they have an elaborate opera stage actually in the lake. Their productions are normally spectacular and in 2026 they will be doing Verdi's *La Traviata*. It will be probably sung in Italian with German subtitles. So unless you are fluent in one of these languages, you will not have a clue what is going on but a bit of pre reading of the synopsis should be sufficient and the visual experience is wonderful. After a couple of nights in Bregenz, we will travel (by bus or car) up to the small ski resort village of Damuls where we know a delightful little hotel run by an Austrian lady, Claudia, who has always made us very welcome in the past, and where the food and wine are excellent. The scenery is spectacular (if it's not raining) and there are some good walks accessible by chairlifts which in the past have been free.

The key constraint is accommodation in Bregenz which gets very busy at the time of the festival. Hotel bookings do not yet seem to be open, but I think they will be within the next couple of months. If you are interested in coming, please let me know by email and I will keep an eye for when hotels are taking reservations. It will be necessary to get in very early. Once we have some idea of who has booked, I will contact the hotel in Damuls and arrange tickets for the opera. In the past, people have done various other things around these core activities, including cycling all the way around Lake Constance. It will be up to you to make necessary transport arrangements (which are very easy) and plan any additions to your holiday.

Contact: Paul Ackroyd

Meet Reports

Around the Chess Valley – 7 September 2025

Six of us met, on what may prove to be the last sunny summer's day of the year, in Sarratt where the community shop proved popular with some for a late breakfast pastry. Leaving the village through woodland, we soon picked up the Chiltern Way which took us through open countryside to the pretty village of Flaunden. Here, the lure of the first pub was too great to miss by David, who had planned a slightly shorter route with a rendezvous point later in the day.

The rest of us left the Chiltern Way and dropped down into Latimer village, where the Boer War Memorial stands on the village green commemorating the men from various towns and villages in the surrounding countryside.



By then it was time for lunch next to the chalk stream in the Chess Valley.

Following the Chess Valley Walk, we arrived at the watercress farm to meet David, who had been passing the time by paddling in the stream.



He had hoped to buy some watercress, but sadly the long-established farm had to stop growing a few years ago due to issues with the river. It was his second disappointment of the day as it turned out that the pub didn't offer a roast Sunday lunch, only pizzas.

From here it was a short walk back up the hill into Sarratt, arriving just as the test Government alert sounded, remarkably on all six of our phones pretty much simultaneously. A pub on the green at the end of the walk was perfectly placed for a quick drink before heading for home.

Hilary Pettit

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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