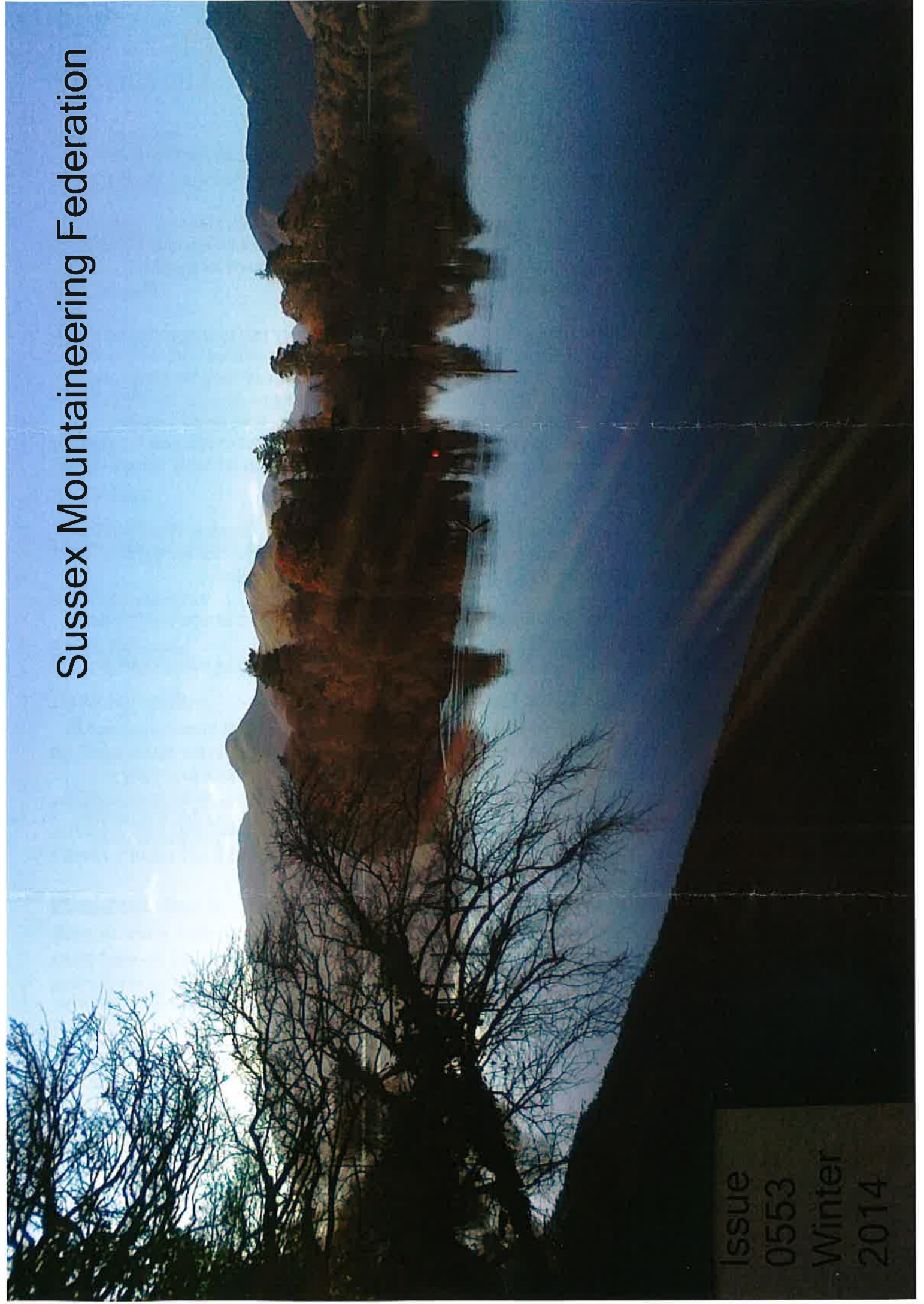


# Sussex Mountaineering Federation

Issue  
0553  
Winter  
2014



## **Editors Ramble**

A very happy new year to all our members, a year where we can promise to get a bit fitter than we were last year, and what better way of doing that than increasing the number of SMF meets you attend !!.

The AGM met and the chairman, treasurer, and secretary were re-elected, surprise, surprise!! Nobody even wanted to take over editing the Newsletter, flabbergasting !!!. So it appears that you may be stuck with my boring style for a while yet, still look on the bright side it does pay a good salary plus a company car !!.

The new years programme is mostly arranged thanks mainly to our secretary pre-arranging the dates and most of the meet ideas, which saved an awful lot of time. The programme is included with this News-sheet. Do make up your minds early and advise Clive accordingly so that he can book the camp-sites. With much tighter legislation camp-site owners are more and more insisting on advance booking to prevent overcrowding, even arrival times have often to be negotiated. Do not wait for the weather forecast, they are invariably wrong, we have not had a wet wash out weekend for over a year ! . Providing you do book early we can usually arrange for lifts and car sharing and probably tentage should you have difficulties in that direction.

The annual accounts will follow in due course but some good news is that our Premium Bond holdings have now risen to £775.00 !. For information on your annual subscription read further on, sufficient to say of course that they are now due and your prompt payment would be appreciated.

The meeting agreed that the new membership campaign will take place this year; as a part of this Sully has created a web-site that is nearing completion , it can be viewed on [www.sussexmountaineeringfederation.org.uk](http://www.sussexmountaineeringfederation.org.uk). Should you have any ideas please let either Frank or Clive know.

The last two camping barn meets of last year apparently went well. The large multi-burner stove and its attendant radiators and facilities at St Johns, are of course all ready well known to us but the barn at Brompton on Swale in Yorkshire broke new ground. What a delight it was, more akin to staying in a hotel than a camping barn, and what superb countryside to explore, woods, valleys, rocky gorges, cliffs, fast running rivers with waterfalls, castles, ruined abbeys, you name it. You will note that it is back on the menu for this year and I would strongly advise you to get your booking in to Clive straight away.

Hope to see you all soon "on the hill"

Editor.

## **Cover Picture**

A wistful shot of Cat Bells seen from Derwent Water, taken on the St Johns weekend. Cat Bells was one of the excursions undertaken

From Clive Jacksons collection.

## **2014 Subscriptions.**

The AGM voted to keep these at the same rate as last year which was £8.00. Please forward a cheque as soon as possible to Ron (address details further on under contacts). It is interesting to note that the sub level when the club was reconstituted in 2000 was set at £5.00 so the increase in thirteen years has been quite minimal. Accepted that we have had corporate support during that time but that has ended

**Meets for 2014.**

<b>24-26 January</b>	<b>Swanage (Toms Bunk House)</b>
<b>21-23 February</b>	<b>Dinner - Hathersage, Derbyshire.</b>
<b>21-23 March</b>	<b>Carrog Station, North Wales</b>
<b>25-27 April</b>	<b>Caving Hut, Brecon Beacons</b>
<b>23-26 May (Bank Hol)</b>	<b>Buckfastleigh, Dart Valley, Devon.</b>
<b>27-29 June</b>	<b>Bishops Castle, Shropshire.</b>
<b>12 July</b>	<b>BBQ Sayers Common.</b>
<b>25-27 July</b>	<b>Walmer, Kent.</b>
<b>18-25 August (Bank Hol)</b>	<b>St Minver, Cornwall.</b>
<b>26-28 September</b>	<b>Cheddar</b>
<b>23-26 October</b>	<b>Brompton on Swale camping barn, Yorkshire.</b>
<b>20-23 November</b>	<b>Loweswater camping barn, Lake District.</b>
<b>06 December</b>	<b>Christmas Social.</b>

**Please book at least two weeks in advance with Clive Jackson, or if booking direct advise Clive that you are doing so to avoid any mis-understandings.  
Clives Phone No 01273 478941 (07710 724018).**

**Please note that the dates given are core dates, you can come for any part of that time or even before or after providing you make the booking accordingly. You can even join us just for the one day if you so wish. Normally the walking or climbing day starts at around 10am**

## **Suggested Accommodation for the Dinner Meet.**

The venue at the Little John has en-suite bedrooms and self catering cottages, contact:-  
www.littlejohnhotel.co.uk Tel 01433 650225 (dogs welcome if accompanied by a human)  
when booking say whether you require breakfast or board only.

**The Scotsmans Pack** within comfortable walking distance. www.scotsmanspack.com Tel01433  
650253

Millstone country inn www.millstoneinn.co.uk Tel01433 650276

**The George Hotel (opposite the Little John)** More expensive but probably seasonal deals available

**Thorpe Bunk Houses** Locate en-route to North Lees camp site. Extremely well equipped, bunk beds  
with mattresses. www.thorpe-bunk.co.uk Tel 01433 650659

**Hathersage Youth Hostel** (3 -4 mins walking down the road

**North Lees Camp Site** (open all year) Tel01433 650838 Hot showers and washing facilities.

Plenty of B &Bs in the area, google Hathersage Hotels and BBs

**Do let Clive know that you are coming before the Saturday morning so that we can advise the  
hotel the numbers attending.**

## **Contact Numbers.**

**Treasurer/Membership:- Ron Scroggins, Upper Flat, 3, Tennis Road, Hove  
East Sussex BN3 4LR Tel 01273 419377**

**Secretary:- Clive Jackson, 2, Valence Cottages, Valence Road Lewes, East Sussex  
BN71SA Tel 01273 478941 (Mob 07710 724018).**

**Chairman:- Paul Giles, Fairstead, Coopers Green, Uckfield, East Sussex  
Tel 01825 733358**

**Newsletter Editor:- Frank Edwards, 7, Stirling Court Road, Burgess Hill,  
West Sussex RH15 0PS Tel 01444247249.**

## **Hastings Rock & Fell Club.**

Jan 21 Committee Meeting, 8pm Jeans

Jan 25 Winter BBQ at Mike & Trish's House. (advise if going to aid the catering)

Feb 22 Ardmair Point, Scotland, still some vacancies , contact Dick.

## **Contact Numbers:-**

**Dick:- 07990 897504.      Nick 01424 813678 (Mob 07942 880858)**

**Jean 01424 426269      Mike 01424 753502**