

Ghar Parau Foundation

Awards Meeting (Round One – Winter 2012)

Minutes of Meeting.

Date & time of meeting: 11:00: 12th Feb 2012

Location: Conformance Ltd, Gt Hucklow, Derbyshire

	Name	Responsibility	
Chairperson	Andy Eavis	Trustee and Chair	
	Nick Williams	Trustee	
	Dave Judson	Trustee	Apologies for Absence
	Roo Walters	Secretary	
	Paul Ibberson	Treasurer and BCA Treasurer	
	Ed Waters	Elected Member	
	Hillary Greaves	Elected Member	Apologies for absence and resigned
	Trevor Faulkner	BCRA Foreign sec	
	Phil Rowsell	Elected Member	
	Jarvist Frost	Elected Member	Apologies

1 Matters (Raise Any Issues Not Covered By Agenda And Schedule Them For Discussion)

None

2 Apologies for Absence

DJ, HG and JF.

3 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Proposed by AE, Accepted by all.

4 Matters Arising

Covered by other items.

5 Finances

Draft accounts have been circulated.

Interest rates have fallen slightly, but the capital fund has grown to £53,680 as at 31st Dec 2011. GPF has had significant donations from Phil Rowsell, Chris Jewel, Graham Hunter, Robbie Shone and OUCC. Additionally, Hidden Earth donated £3000. Concern was expressed about the level of interest rates gained in NSP bonds, but the committee confirmed its strategy that the fund itself should remain in the safest of investment portfolios that is possible and at this time this remains the NSP Bonds.

At the year end, the significant fund raising endeavours of Phil Rowsell have raised over £700. Unclaimed grants and retentions to date total over £900. The Treasurer recommended that these be re-allocated to funds available for grants as GPF funds as an when required.

Fund for allocations:

BCA: £5000 plus £600 deferred from 2011, proposed to retain £1150 for Round Two.
GPF: £300 and use £600 for Pitcher and £50 for Tratman.

6 Awards

6.1 Confirm Ground Rules for 2011 Winter Awards

The success in increasing the number of Alex Pitcher applications, largely as a result of the promotional work completed by PR, was welcomed. However, a tidy up of the rules was deemed necessary to make the process clearer and easier to assess. After much discussion the goals of the Alex Pitcher Award were confirmed as “to encourage younger cavers to participate on foreign caving expeditions”. The rules were clarified as the following. The Alex Pitcher Award will be made available to younger cavers applying as part of a wider GPF application satisfying the following criteria:

- First foreign trip
- Age limit: 25
- Two applications per trip.
- Expect a short report from all applications.

Funds will be paid to the individuals. We shall expect all applications to provide basic information including: Age, Experience, Club and what the fund will be used for.

6.2 2011 Round One

Recommendations were made that Mulu 2012 and The High Atlas Expedition should make a direct approach to the BCRA/CISTR I for funding.

The awards made in spring 2012 are as follows.

													BCA	GPF	China Caves	Alex Pitcher	Other	Total			
Funds Available													£ 5,600	£ 300		£ 600		£ 6,500			
Ref	Leader	Title	Country	Dates	Duration (weeks)	Total cost	Travel Cost	Personal Contribution	Special Costs	UK Cavers	Alex Pitcher App's	Non-UK Cavers	Field person.days	MEP Rec'h	SCW Rec'h	BCA	GPF	China Caves	Alex Pitcher	Other	Total
GPF2012a-001	Andy Eavis	Mulu 2012	Malaysia	Apr-12	4	£ 25,839	£ 11,800	£ 1,520	£ -	12	0	5	418	n	n	£ -	£ 200				£ 200
GPF2012a-002	Clare Tan	Sledi Vetra	Slovenia	Jul/Aug 12	5	£ 14,900	£ 5,650	£ 250	£ -	21	2	5	600	n	n	£ 750			£ 150		£ 900
GPF2012a-003	Thomas Smith	SUSS Morocco 2012	Morocco	Jun-12	3	£ 9,652	£ 3,777	£ 290	£ -	27	4	2	324	n	n	£ 600			£ 150		£ 750
GPF2012a-004	Miguel Tome	MCG Andalucia 2012	Spain	Sep-12	3	£ 8,010	£ 1,900	£ 890	£ -	9	0	5	108	n	n	£ 200					£ 200
GPF2012a-005	Mark Sims	UCPC Montenegro 201	Montenegro	Aug-12	2	£ 3,980	£ 1,890	£ 400	£ -	9	0	9	117	n	n	£ 400					£ 400
GPF2012a-006	Phil Walker	Tresviso 2012	Spain	Aug-12	2	£ 10,022	£ 3,258	£ 626	£ -	16	2	0	224	n	n	£ 450			£ 150		£ 600
GPF2012a-007	Julia Barrott	Morocco - High Atlas	Morocco	Oct/Nov 12	1	£ 1,990	£ 1,590	£ 100	£ -	3	0	0	15	n	n	£ -	£ 100				£ 100
GPF2012a-008	Joe Duxbury	Montenegro 2012	Montenegro	Jun/Jul 12	3	£ 4,550	£ 1,550	£ 500	£ -	8	0	1	126	n	n	£ 250					£ 250
GPF2012a-009	Mark Richardson	Oman 2012	Oman	Apr-12	3	£ 10,800	£ 6,900	£ 1,350	£ -	8	0	2	120	n	n	£ 500					£ 500
GPF2012a-010	Ben Hudson	Xitu 2012	Spain	Jun/Jul 12	6	£ 8,305	£ 4,200	£ 150	£ -	26	2	2	380	n	n	£ 400			£ 150		£ 550
GPF2012a-011	Juan Corrin	Matienzo 2012	Spain	Jul/Aug 11	6	£ 14,000	£ 9,000	£ 700	£ -	20	0	5	560	n	n	£ 400					£ 400
GPF2012a-012	Serena Povia	CUCC Austria 2012	Austria	Jul/sep 12	7	£ 12,120	£ 2,900	£ 400	£ -	20	0	2	600	n	n	£ 500					£ 500
Funds Allocated													£ 4,450	£ 300	£ -	£ 600	£ -	£ 5,350			
Funds held for next round													£ 1,150	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 1,150			

There have been no advanced notices this year. It is noted that there have been no China expedition applications. It is understood that Chris Jewel intends to re-launch his diving expedition to Pena Colorada in Mexico later this year.

7 Tratman Awards

Alan Jeffreys was sidelined by Chris Howes from the judges line-up of last year when it became evident that he was heavily involved in what became the winning publication. It is hope he will return to the list next year; Ric Halliwell took his place.

CH makes a request for more time to complete the awards assessment. Tratman closes on the 31st Dec with a decision due by 31st Jan.

The Tratman Awards Citation is included in full below.

Tratman Award 2011

The Tratman Award is presented to the author of the best caving-related publication of the year, being judged by three independent cavers who make a recommendation for the award to the Ghar Parau Foundation, which funds the award. The judges for 2011 were Ric Halliwell, Chris Howes and Martin Mills, who also sought opinion from a wider readership. Both books and club journals were considered and a shortlist was produced for further discussion. In alphabetical order of author or editor, the titles were:

Caves of the Peak District by Iain Barker and John Beck -- an excellent guidebook published by DCA. The publication year was printed as 2010, but the volume was not released until too late for consideration in 2010, so - as the rules permit - it was shortlisted in 2011.

Decades in the Dark, edited by Alan Jeffreys and subtitled '50 years of Scottish caving', covers the history of the Grampian SG from 1961 to 2011.

Sheffield University SS 50th anniversary journal 1961-2011, a club history with similar coverage, edited by Rob Middleton.

Shuttleworth Pot into Witches Cave II, edited by Pete Monk and published by CNCC, being a comprehensive and timely documentation of the cave's exploration (a factor that the judges felt that other caves would benefit from).

Aspects of the History of Slovene Karst 1545-2008 by Trevor Shaw, a fine piece of research immaculately presented to the reader, just as we would expect from this author. It is also dated 2010 but was not available for consideration until 2011.

After much deliberation, from among these commended publications the judges unanimously decided that the 2011 Tratman Award should go to Decades in the Dark. In reaching their decision, the judges noted that it contains a high volume of material written specifically for the publication (rather than only reprinting past articles), it is liberally scattered with photographs and the text is interesting and readable (this publication is far more than a chronology).

Congratulations therefore go to Alan 'Goon' Jeffreys and his team from the Grampian SG. All entries in the shortlist should note the prestige that is conferred here, though there can only be one winner. The award itself is a piece of original artwork by Mark 'Gonzo' Lumley, which will be presented at Hidden Earth 2012.

Chris Howes, on behalf of the judges

The GPF accepts the decision of the panel.

8 Fund Raising

The committee was delighted to learn of the fundraising exploits by PR, through the production and selling of Christmas cards, with help from Henry Rockcliff and Mark Helmore. Top line accounts are as follows:

Expenditure: 1864.00
Sales: 3192.00
Profit: 1328.00

The Committee agreed to PR to do one more print run and generally make decisions as needed but to keep trustees informed of progress.

9 Website

New website proposed, universally welcomed by committee. The draft site is available at: <http://ghar.comeze.com>. Permission was given to go ahead with informational elements now, with site referring back to the wookware site for applications. We shall look to go live after close of Round Two, 2012 applications with a view to launching the new site at Hidden Earth. RW and PR to look at updating forms within the new website.

10 Members

Dave Cooke is no longer BCA treasurer and so stands down as a GPF Member. This role is temporarily taken by Paul Ibberson who is both BCA and GPF Treasurer. The list of committee members is therefore:

		Date of expiry
Andy Eavis	Trustee and Chair	none
Nick Williams	Trustee	none
Dave Judson	Trustee	none
Roo Walters	Secretary	none
Paul Ibberson	Treasurer	none
Trevor Faulkner	BCRA Foreign sec	none
Vacancy	BCA Representative	none
Phil Rowsell	Co-opted Member	none
Ed Waters	Elected Member	Feb 2016
Jarvist Frost	Elected Member	Feb 2014
Vacancy	Elected Member	
Vacancy	Elected Member	

AE to look at BCA vacancy

NW and PR to look at elected member vacancy

11 Date of next meeting

Sunday 0900 at Hidden Earth in Sept 2012, probably in the Yorkshire Dales.
Winter 2013 on 10th Feb 2013. In Gt Hucklow, Derbyshire.