

NOTES FOR CONTRIBUTORS TO THE JOURNAL (Including obituaries)

Format

Contributions in a standard format please – Doc, Docx, odt are acceptable. Please do not send a pdf as we can't edit it. Avoid Apple document format as well. Send it as an email attachment. Please do not send an article as the body of an email.

Photos

It is very helpful to me if you can indicate where in the text you think the photo should go. We will try to accommodate this depending upon the final layout. (Journal pages are smaller.) You can do this either by embedding the photo in the text with a caption and a number PIC1 etc., or you can just indicate its position by putting in the caption and the Picture Number (PIC1 etc).

If you do embed photos also send the photos as separate files, we have to remove embedded files for the print copies and embedded files lose resolution. Please send all photos in as high a quality as you have as SEPARATE FILES, in jpeg format. Please do not embed them in an email. Please save them with a file name which is either the caption or PIC1, PIC2, etc. in the sequence they occur. Preferably, use both the caption and the PIC number.

Slides and old photos.

Please note that all slides degrade over time, it is irreversible even when kept in the dark - 25 years is a good working average lifespan, Black and white photos fare better but still degrade. The quality of the slide degrades significantly and, no matter how high the resolution of a scan, the original quality is the one which matters. This means that scans of old slides and photos are a low quality image. If you are using slides to illustrate an article, you will need to scan it. The editorial team have no capability to scan slides.

MAPS, Copies of Photos and Copyright

We have a licence to publish OS maps as a part of an article in the Journal. Openstreetmaps.com also allow free publication. Other maps can be problematic – please consult with me if you are using a different map, it might be possible to use it.

If you did not take the photograph you are sending please make sure we have permission to publish it. Copies of pictures from websites cannot usually be published without specific permission. Copyright law is all encompassing and it is not just the Editor who suffers, but our printer as well.

Foreign Names

Remember, most of the readers want an easy read, not an exercise in language skills. For some names there is no need for a translation – Mont Blanc for example, and most of the alpine and western European peaks as well known. If it is helpful to add an English translation put it in brackets afterwards e.g Tafelberg (Table Mountain). If there are two or three language versions, i.e. a place in a border area, just use the most common. You can provide a glossary at the end with all the variants if you think fit.

RUCKSACK CLUB OBITUARIES

Remember the audience is the Club – not the deceased's wider community of friends. The Club audience is really interested in memories of them in a Club context.

Length – dictated by involvement with the Club and mountaineering/walking etc. achievements. Someone might have had a rich and varied life in another field (academic for example) but it should only get a brief mention.

Someone with a significant contribution to our sport who is a Club member will obviously warrant a longer obituary

An ex-President or other officer who has done a lot for the Club might warrant more length than an ordinary member, for example, Joe Walmsley did a lot for the Club and had lots of significant mountaineering achievements.

In general:

- Significant mountaineering achievements and other related pursuits should be mentioned
- Their involvement in Club activities or with other members
- Some background on early life and a little on family if relevant
- Something on how they joined
- In general no more than 2 pages of 12 point font.

Contributions in a standard format please – Doc, Docx, odt are acceptable. Please do not send pdf we can't edit it. Avoid Apple document format as well.

A good quality photo or two, of the deceased, in jpeg format sent as a separate attachment. Please note that scans of old photos or slides will look 'grainy' but might be all you have. DO NOT embed the photo in the document.

Neil Goldsmith
Hon Editor