

**A**LONG WITH THE 35 international climbers who travelled to the Scottish mountains for the BMC International Meet in January, there was one uninvited guest: Storm Gertrude. Yet, despite storm-force winds and heavy snow, teams made the most of the conditions. UK host climber Tom Livingstone reported "Abilities ranged from winter climbing superstars to first-time-in-crampons novices. Everyone was really psyched and they got to experience the delights and elation of winter climbing in Scotland, and also suffer the frustration and hardships: wild weather, driving rain, soaked kit and unsuccessful walk-ins. Friendships were formed, routes shared and stories retold, and every climber agreed they had certainly undergone the 'full' Scottish experience, and will be back for more."

*Mess of Pottage* and *Fiacull Buttress* were particularly popular. Impressively, Raphael Slawinski managed to onsight *The Secret* in a single pitch. Dave Almond and Luka Strazar climbed *Pic 'n' Mix*, and Ian Welsted and Tom Livingstone climbed *The Gathering*. German Michael Rinn and UK host Simon Richardson made the first ascent of a new V,7 at Lochnagar. Thanks to the international guests, the host climbers and Glenmore Lodge for a great event.

# Wild winter meet

Storm Gertrude no match for Scottish psyche

READ MORE: [www.thebmc.co.uk/international-meet-2016](http://www.thebmc.co.uk/international-meet-2016)



Ian Welsted from Canada on Sioux Wall (VIII,8), Ben Nevis.

PHOTO: IAN PARNELL

## Berghaus sponsor GB Climbing Team

→ Berghaus has signed up to sponsor the BMC GB Climbing Team for the next two years. The North East based brand, which is celebrating its 50th birthday this year, will provide kit for the 75 climbers in the Senior and Junior GB teams when they compete in regional, national and international events. Look out for more details of this major new partnership online.

## Apply now for the Pinnacle Club/BMC Women's International Climbing Meet

This summer, 20 women from around the world are coming to test their trad mettle in Snowdonia. Fancy being part of it? The Pinnacle Club/BMC Women's International Climbing Meet will be based in the Llanberis Pass from 12-19 June. If you're over 18 and a competent female trad climber, you can apply to be a UK host (either for the full week or just the weekend). There are 30 places up for grabs.

APPLY: [www.pinnacleclub.co.uk/wicm2016](http://www.pinnacleclub.co.uk/wicm2016)



## Ben Lyon picked for George Band Award

→ The 2016 BMC George Band Award goes to Ben Lyon, founder of Lyon Equipment, for his outstanding contribution to the BMC and mountaineering over many years. The George Band Award for Exceptional Voluntary Contribution to Mountaineering recognises people who have played a significant role in the BMC's work over an extended period of time, and Ben's nomination was put forward by the BMC Technical Committee. Congrats Ben.

## BMC Alpine Skills Lectures

Sponsored by Berghaus

26 April to 5 May, nationwide

Got some alpine dreams? Get ready for an alpine adventure with alpinist and BMC ambassador Calum Muskett and British mountain guide Steve Long. Ideal whether you're new to alpinism looking or looking to develop your skills. £5 BMC members / £7 non-members / £3.50 groups of 10+.

BOOK: [www.thebmc.co.uk/alpinelectures](http://www.thebmc.co.uk/alpinelectures)



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