

THE ARCTIC CLUB

May 2021 (Updated: January 2021)

About the Arctic Club

The Arctic Club was founded in 1932 by Sir James Wordie (a geologist who travelled widely in Svalbard, East Greenland, Baffin Island and Antarctica) together with other Arctic enthusiasts from the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. Their aim was to dine together once a year. Membership was originally limited to men from those universities, but, in later years, the rules concerning membership were amended to allow candidates from any walk of life.

Members are Arctic enthusiasts with wide fields of interest. Many members lead or participate in expeditions to the Arctic each year. Members are willing to offer advice and information about Arctic regions, particularly to young people who are planning expeditions. Initial contact should be made for such information through the Hon Sec, who can suggest suitable members to approach regarding the areas and aspects of interest. A list of members and their areas of interest is made available to Arctic Club members. See more: www.arcticclub.org.uk & <http://www.facebook.com/thearcticclub>

Application for Membership

Applications for [Membership](#) can be made using the form available on the website. Advice about seeking membership is available from the **Hon Secretary**: Penny Goodman, 4 Corfe Close, Cambridge, CB2 8QA, UK. Tel: +44 (0)1223 214190, E-mail: honsec@arcticclub.org.uk.

Objectives of the Club

- a. To share knowledge and experience of the Arctic;
- b. To promote interest and innovative expedition activity in the Arctic through the annual award of grants from the Arctic Club Award Fund;
- c. To meet once a year, on a Saturday in early December, to dine well and converse as like-minded Arctic enthusiasts.

Arctic Club Award Fund

The Club seeks to promote interesting and innovative expeditions in the Arctic, particularly for young people, through the annual award of money from the [Arctic Club Award Fund](#), which is administered by [The Gino Watkins Memorial Fund](#) Committee (which includes Arctic Club members). [Applications](#) for an award must be made to the Gino Watkins Memorial Fund by 31 January each year. Grants to successful applicants are announced in March.

Arctic Club Members and organisations with Arctic interests are encouraged to make donations to the Arctic Club Award Fund (which can include Gift Aid). Please contact the Hon Sec if you would like to make a donation.

Annual Dinner

A calling notice for the annual dinner is usually sent out to members in October, outlining details, including options for accommodation. On the evening of the dinner, a short presentation by the year's Arctic Club Award winning expedition and other photographic displays of interest may precede pre-dinner drinks. The following morning, at a suitable location nearby, coffee, opportunities for presentations and the chance to discuss/plan future expeditions are available. At the dinner, no speeches are allowed and only formal notices are announced.

General Meeting

In the afternoon immediately prior to the Annual Dinner and linked activities, a General Meeting of the Club Committee is held in a nearby location.

The Current Committee

President (2021)	Peter Schmidt Mikkelsen
President Elect	Paul Rose
Hon Secretary	Penny Goodman
Hon Treasurer	Guillaume Danis
Past 5 Presidents	Brendan O'Brien 2020, Madeleine White 2019, Ian Frearson 2018, Duncan MacKay 2017, Matt Tinsley (resigned)
Committee Members	Vacant
Webmaster	Peter Chaplin
Social Media Manager	Vacant

Club Ties Arctic Club ties are available in silk for purchase from the Hon Sec for £25, including postage.

Rules of The Arctic Club

The Rules of The Arctic Club, originating in 1932 and amended in 1997 and 2015, are stated below [2015 revision agreed by Committee 12 Dec 2015; to be put to members for vote in accordance with Rule 12].

RULES

1. The Club shall be called THE ARCTIC CLUB.
2. The purpose of the Club is to share knowledge and experience of the Arctic amongst members; to promote interest and innovative expedition activity in the Arctic (especially by young people) through the award of grants from the Arctic Club Award Fund; and to dine at least once a year.
3. A General Meeting shall be held on the occasion of the Annual Dinner. A Committee meeting shall also be held in March/April each year.
4. Election to Ordinary "Full" membership shall be made by the Committee from those who have been in the Arctic under circumstances deemed by the Committee to merit membership. Committee guidelines for the interpretation of Rule 4:
 - a) The candidate shall have participated in at least one overwintering or two significant expeditions or periods of research or lived in the Arctic (defined as those areas above the Arctic circle, excluding northern Scandinavia, but including southern Greenland) or been a member of an expedition supported by an Arctic Club Award; shall have made a significant contribution to those expeditions; and shall have sustained interest in the Arctic. A candidate shall be proposed by a Club member from personal knowledge.
 - b) An Aspirant Member shall have participated in at least one qualifying significant expedition but has not qualified for Full membership,
 - c) For election to Associate membership the candidate shall have demonstrated a sustained interest in Arctic, through for example professional activities but lacks qualifying expeditionary experience.
 - d) The Membership List shall be distributed to members. It shall include contact details except where individuals have chosen not to have theirs published. Also available to members will be a list, which will include such information of members' past expedition locations/years, areas of expertise and interests as they think fit to divulge.
5. Honorary Members shall be proposed by the Committee and elected at the General Meeting.
6. There shall be a Committee, which shall consist of the following Ordinary Members (a quorum shall be four):
 - a) A President, elected for one year at the General Meeting and eligible for re-election;
 - b) An Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, elected at the General Meeting;
 - c) Not more than four Members, elected at the General Meeting for their specific areas of interest/expertise, to serve for a period of not more than three years, but eligible for re-election after a lapse of one year. These four may include a representative covering younger members' interests and the website/social media manager/s;
 - d) The previous 5 presidents and the President elect.
7. There shall be an entrance subscription (joining fee) and annual subscription, whose amount shall be fixed by the Committee (Current joining fee £10; annual subscription £10).
8. Guests at the Annual Dinner:
 - a) Members' guests should have a significant interest in the Arctic and be likely to be of interest to other members.
 - b) There may be up to four Club guests selected by the Committee and paid for from Club funds, including two from the year's Arctic Club Award expedition/s.
9. A website www.arcticclub.org.uk shall be maintained, to include an e-noticeboard for current and future expedition activities. The website manager (web@arcticclub.org.uk) may use e-mails to highlight news/notice of events to members. A Facebook presence (<http://www.facebook.com/thearcticclub>) and Twitter account ([@Arctic_Club_UK](https://twitter.com/Arctic_Club_UK)) shall also be maintained and other social-media exploited.
10. Communications with members shall be by e-mail unless special circumstances dictate otherwise.
11. The dress for the annual dinner shall be black tie, but a dark suit is acceptable.
12. These Rules may be amended by a two-thirds majority of members replying to an e-mail or postal voting form. Other Committee decisions may be carried by a two-thirds majority of members present.