

Mountaineering Training Board Ireland Members

Dawson Stelfox- Chair

- Architect & Mountain Guide
- Member of MI Board & MI representative on MTUK
- Been on MTNI as MI representative for 30 years
- Chair of Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland
- Holder of Mountain Guide Qualification



Stephen Creber

- Head Teacher Post Primary School- Brownlow Integrated College
- Run outdoor leadership training for Boys and Girls Brigade
- ML holder
- Was member of NIMTB representing voluntary youth organisations
- Part-time staff member of Tollymore NOC
- B.C.U level 3 coach inland and sea



Kate Thompson

- Director of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award NI with responsibility for the Joint Award Initiative with Gaisce – The Presidents Award and The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award
- Prior to this role - Board Director of PR for ASG, a full service Marketing Agency and other roles in the public, private, NDP and charity sectors
- Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award holder
- BCU Canoe and Kayak Instructor
- Trainee ML
- Old ELB Hillwalking Level 2
- Keen hillwalker, canoeist, traveller and photographer



Lorcan McDonnell

- Chief Instructor Cappanalea OETC
- Background in training/education in the mountains, QQI
- Live in the Macgillycuddy Reek
- IML holder, Canoeing Ireland Level 3 river, Level 4 canoe instructor



Kieran O'Hara

- Head of Mountaineering (24 years)
- Tollymore National Outdoor Centre/Mournes
- Deliver and develop wide range of Mountain & Rock courses
- MIC/IML
- Training and Assessment on MIA



Alan Fairweather

I am originally from Scotland and have been living in Ireland over the past 16 years working in Outdoor Education. I love the outdoors and in particular the mountains. It has been a great privilege for me to bring many young and older people too higher ground for education, training and enjoyment, safely and responsibly. I have an interest in developing a greater appreciation and understanding of the value of being in the mountain environment for everyone. I would like to see more links made to our curriculum tapping into our great natural resource which are our hills.



John O'Brien

John O'Brien was elected onto MTBI in March 2020. He is an army officer with over 20 years military experience in the Irish Defence Forces. He has previously been the chair of the Defence Forces Association of Mountaineers. John spends time in the mountains both professionally with the Defence Forces and also personally in his spare time. He is a qualified Mountain leader and has climbed extensively in the UK and Ireland. He has also climbed in the alps and has previously summited Mt. Blanc and Gran Paradiso. John has been part of numerous training boards within the Defence Forces and has previously delivered a wide variety of training for the Defence Forces including the training of new recruits and junior leaders. He enjoys the challenge of working alongside the other members of the MTBI to improve and enhance the training delivered by Mountaineering Ireland.



Alan Mordaunt

- Trainee Mountain Instructor Award
- Captain in Irish Defence Forces
- 7 years involved in military training including 2 years at HQ level
- Chief Instructor in Defence Forces Mountaineering Club



Kath Maguire

I have had a long involvement in the outdoors. I studied Outdoor Education in the Community at Strathclyde university in 1996 and have been working as an Outdoor Instructor since - including for The Probation Board Northern Ireland, and the Education Authority for the past 20 years as part of the instructional team at Delamont Outdoor Learning Centre. I have been involved in introducing young people to the outdoors and its many benefits in my role as an instructor.

In 2015 I established The Feel Good Factor Club, to expand opportunities for women in climbing, hillwalking and mountain biking. This is still an exciting and developing club that gives a supportive pathway to encourage greater participation for women in these sports with the view to redress the gender balance at instructor level, where women are still underrepresented.

I enjoy all aspects of journeying through the mountains - climbing, skiing, walking and even more so now, I take great pleasure in sharing these adventures with my son - favourite spots to enjoy with a younger child in tow would be bouldering at Fontainebleau and biking Lets Gets ...(and of course local options are available too)

I believe that the mountains should be accessible for everyone, as the benefits are far reaching for our physical and mental health and I see that my role on the board is to ensure that safe, respectful practice throughout Ireland.



Jane Carney (Training Officer)-Secretary

- Outdoor Education & Science Teacher & Instructor 28 years
- MCI & WML
- Trainer & Assessor of MT Climbing & Walking Awards & Schemes 15 years
- Mountaineering Ireland Training Officer 8 years



Laura Griffin (Training Support) -Secretarial Support

