

**Orielton**

**TUNSBERGDALSMBREEN  
ONE YEAR ON**

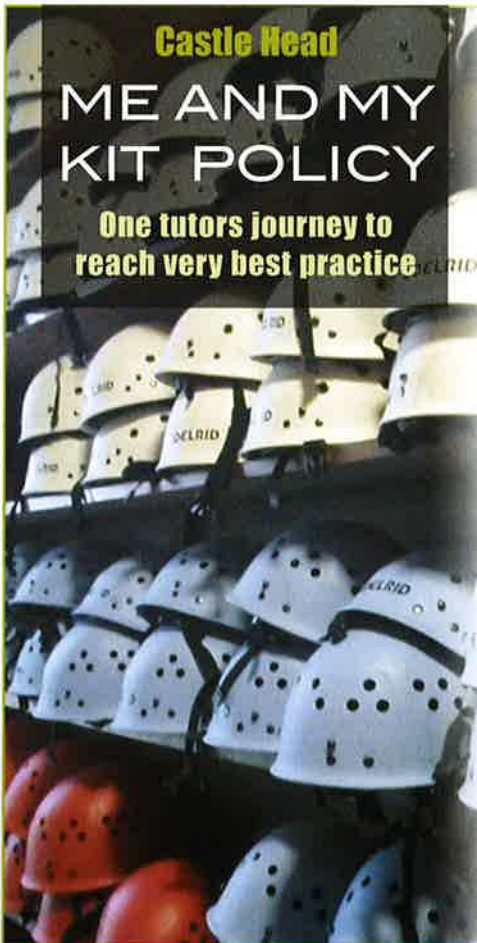
The previous *FSC Magazine* featured an article on the 2009 expedition of a new scheme to investigate dynamics of the Tunsbergdalsbreen glacier in Norway, linking results to climate change. In August 2010, an extremely positive and successful trip second trip was carried out by a team of ten members from a variety of backgrounds and organisations, including FSC staff.

It now looks likely that we will achieve our next big goal of getting younger people (17–21 year olds) involved in the international scientific research in this isolated region next summer. Their data will be added to that already collected, to be used by a range of organisations, especially the Norsk Bremuseum and NVE (the Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directive). Closer to home, it is hoped the project will provide learning opportunities, resources and data sets that can be used with FSC centres to aid teaching of glacial environments, physical geography and climate change studies. ■

*Ben Bryant*



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**T**his article describes a personal development odyssey behind the scenes at Castle Head. As you may know, the Centre runs outdoor activities which require a large quantity of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as helmets, harnesses, ropes and buoyancy aids, and a system of storing and maintaining it.

Upon taking over the responsibility for PPE as a new tutor in 2008, there was a very basic system for recording and safe checking, with little guidance. It was obvious that a more comprehensive system was vital to ensure that the life of every single piece of PPE is traceable, including information on when it is bought, used, inspected, maintained and retired. Soon, it also became obvious that in order to complete this thoroughly, more expertise was needed than I possessed! So, I undertook two courses provided by Lyon Equipment and Training, a leading PPE training organisation, the first being a one day PPE inspection course which was followed by a four day PPE Inspection Competent Person Certificate about a

year later. This training was brilliant, much of it a confirmation and continuation of what I already knew – a great confidence boost and provision for a framework to develop my knowledge and safe systems.

One of the main outcomes of this personal development process has been formulation of a Centre Technical Equipment Policy. This has now become a FSC-wide document; an appendix to the new FSC Operating Codes of Practice. Our recent AALA (Adventure Activities Licensing Authority) inspection report was particularly complimentary too, noting that “the management of this area (the stores) reflected very high standards.”

Through the willingness of the FSC to invest in staff, I have journeyed from feeling unsure and a little overwhelmed by the big task of organising the stores at Castle Head to being competent and happy that our PPE is well looked after with the added bonus of contributing to the organisation. This is, I believe, a great example of how to invest in staff. ■

*Katie Sheehy*