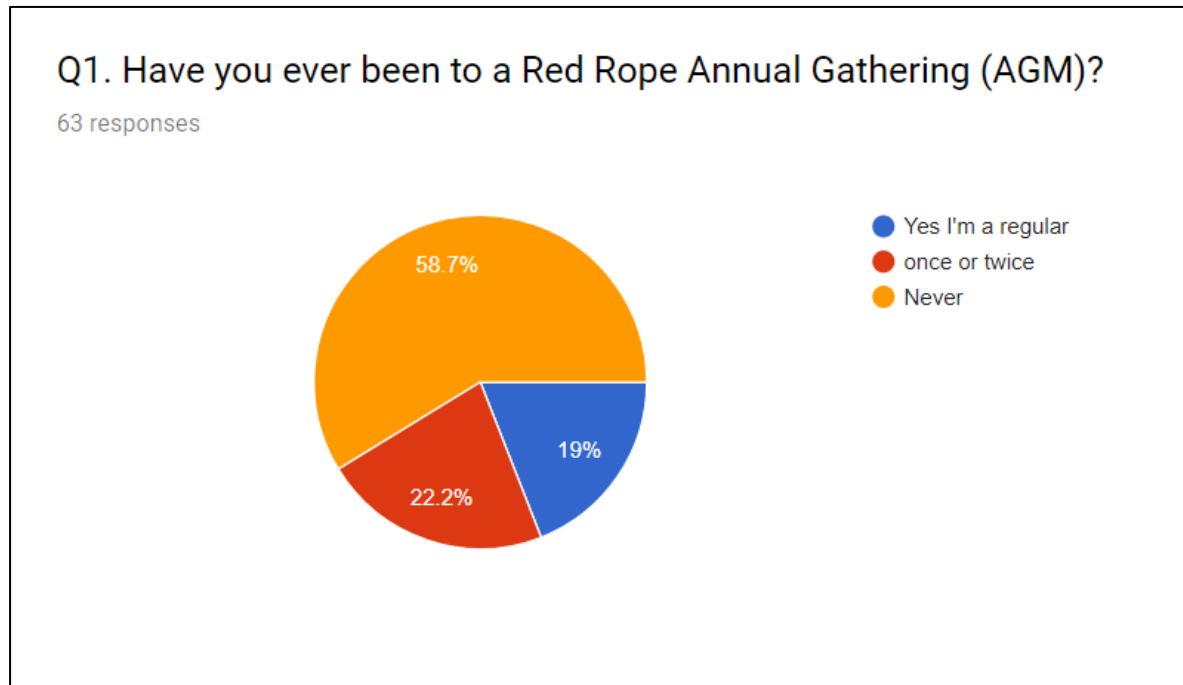


AGM Survey Report - 23 November 2017 (Author: Janet Saunders)

Note: The survey drew 64 responses in all, some people did not answer every question

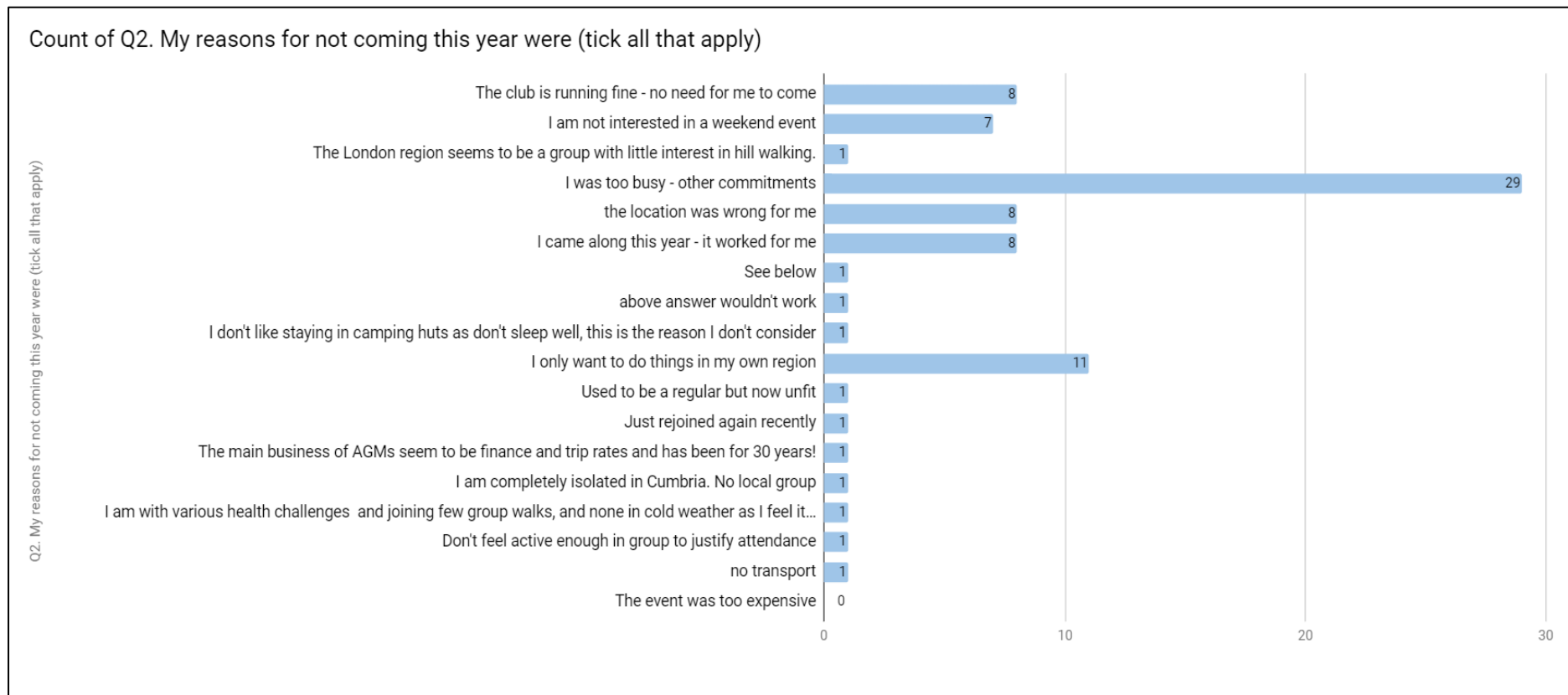
The charts are images 'screen-grabbed' from Google Forms' Charts (it was not possible to cut and paste from Forms to a Word Document), apologies if they are a bit blurry.

The analysis has had to be left basic, as the data was not presented in an easy to adjust format.



Nearly 60% of the responders had NEVER been to an AGM – only 19% were 'regulars', so I think the survey results have some weight.

Question 2 – My reasons for not coming



Too busy – by far the largest answer with 29 responses

Only want to do things in my own region – 11

Not interested in a weekend event 7 ;

The location was wrong – 8 ; The club is running fine – 8; It worked for me - 8

Question 3 Views about event format



The format was OK – 20

Event not appealing – 12

I don't like meetings - 9

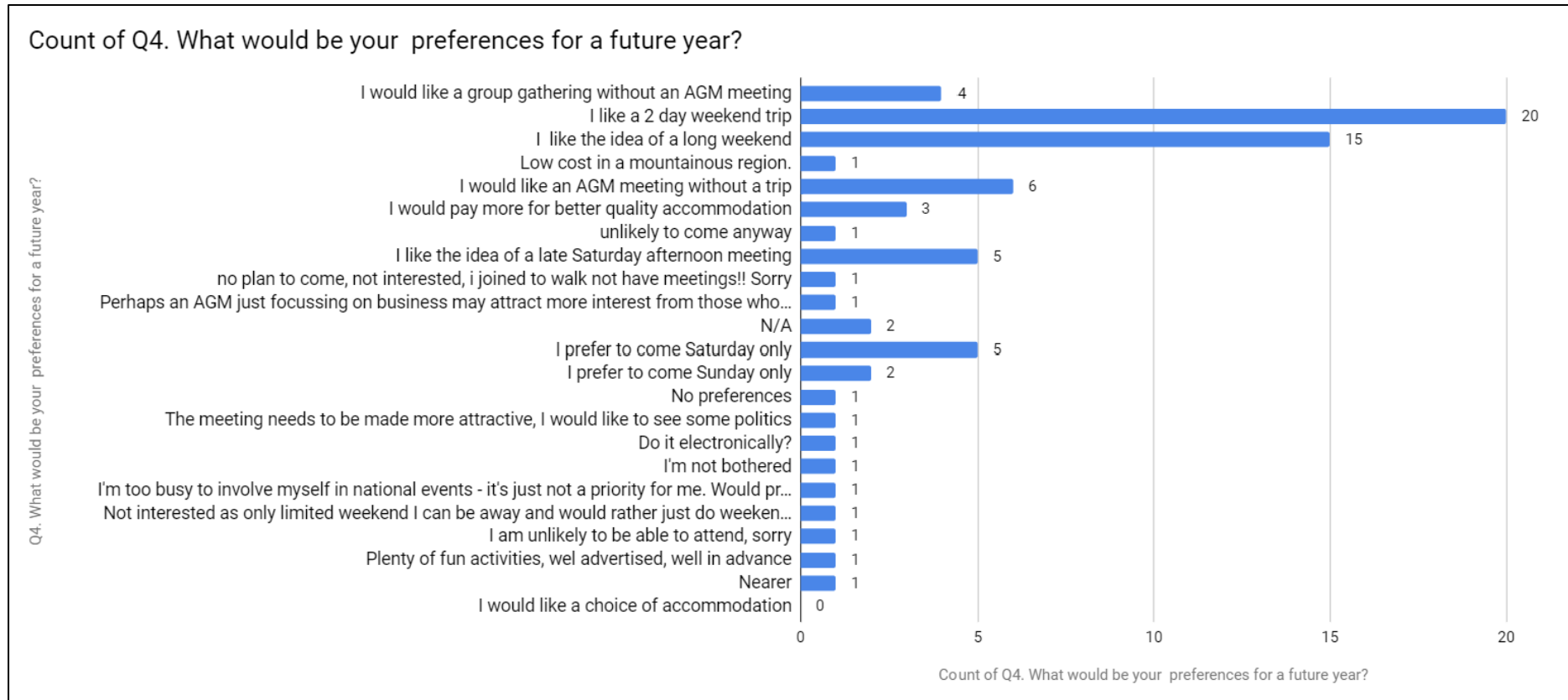
Truncated comments expanded (Q3)

I might be attracted if meeting dealt with matters other than finance, last AGM I did not go to the meeting as it was all about finance

I'm involved in a number of organisations where I am required to go to meetings, I am a red Rope member because I enjoy the walking and the company, I support my local AGM but I don't have time for the...

The motions were interesting debate is useful, its great to meet members from other areas, the food is great, the activities fun, Would be a good idea in order to prevent bias to have some more positive opinions on this question?

Question 4 – Preferences for a future year



The 2 day weekend was the most popular – 20 responses, but the long weekend also gained 15 ticks.

A few preferred Saturday only (5). A few would like a meeting without a trip (6)

Only 3 would pay for better quality accommodation.

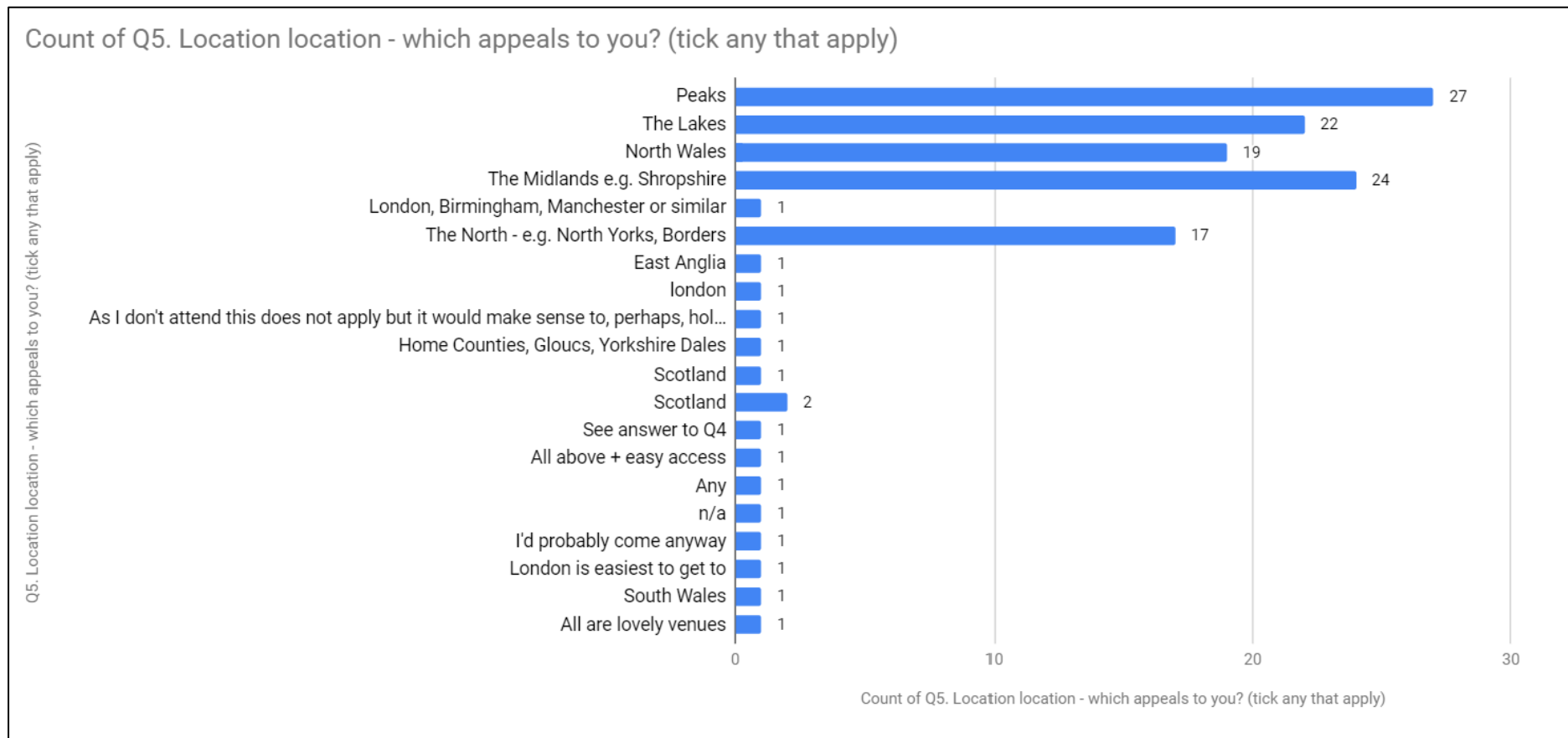
Comments expanded:

Not interested as only limited weekend I can be away and would rather just do weekends with my own region.

I'm too busy to involve myself in national events - it's just not a priority for me. Would prefer 'local member' only option

Perhaps an AGM just focussing on business may attract more interest from those who do not want the distraction of staying, cooking etc, but on the otherhand some members may like it the socialising aspect; a chance to meet others, talk some business and enjoy a walk, there may not be a simple answer to those different views

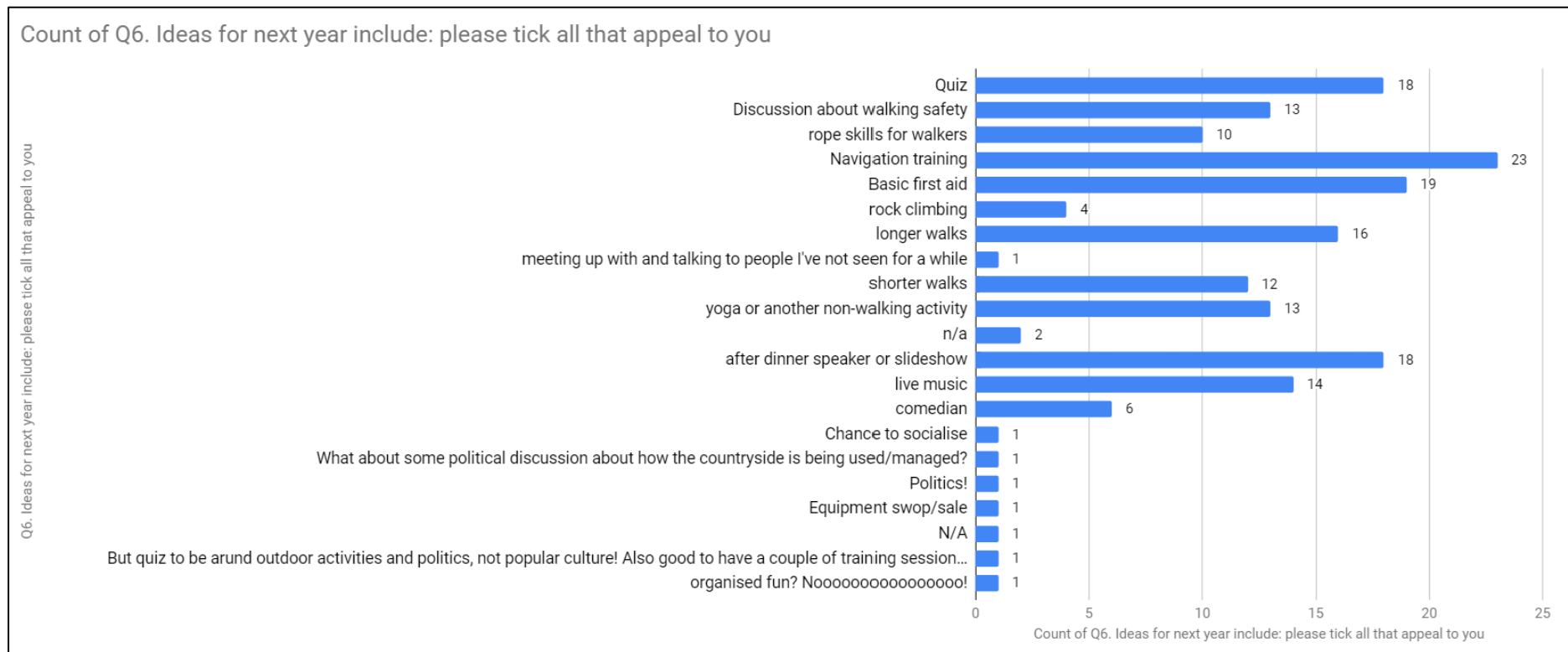
Question 5 - Location



The Peaks the most popular, but the Midlands also scored high, the Lakes also and North Wales a little less.

City venues definitely not popular.

Q6. Ideas for next year



Navigation training the most popular (23) , followed by First aid (19), Quiz (18), after dinner speaker or slides (18)

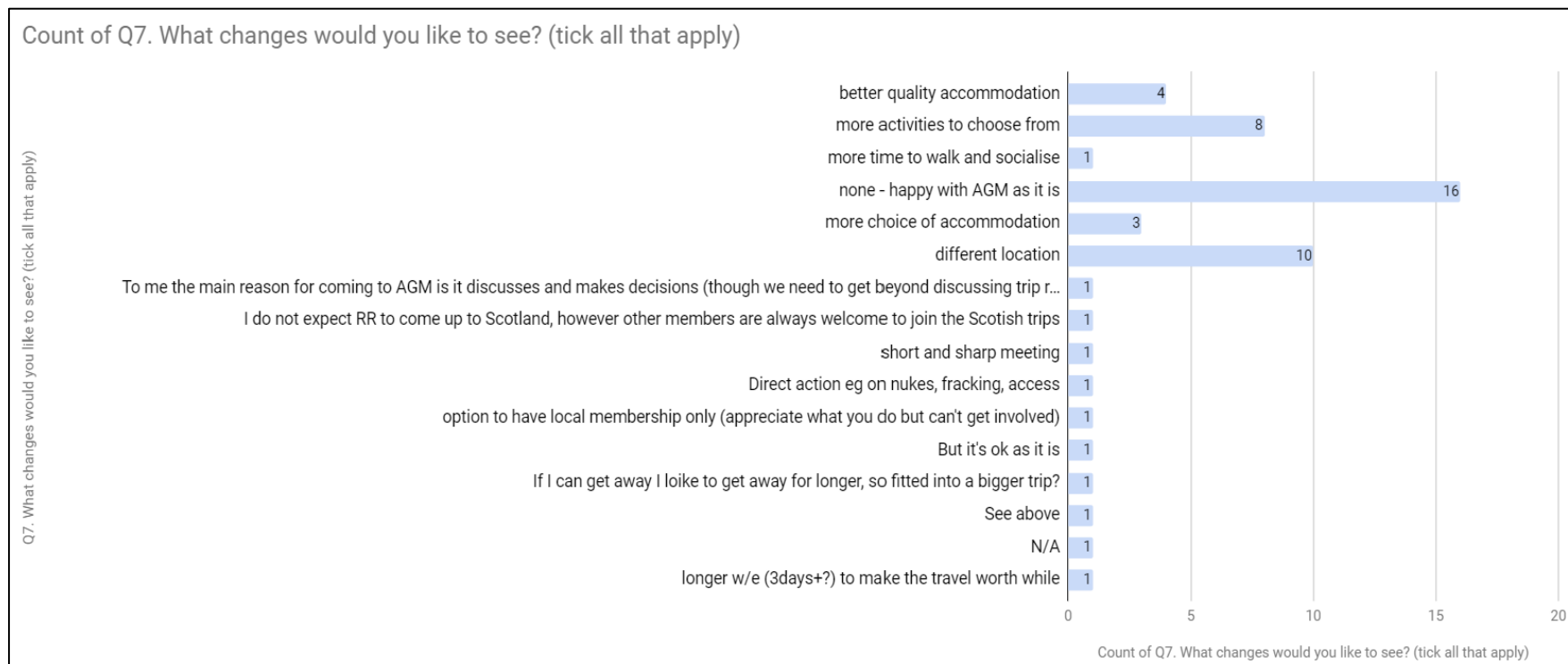
Longer walks (16)

Several other options got 10 or more votes – walking safety (13), yoga etc (13), live music (14), shorter walks (12), rope skills(10)

Comments expanded

Quiz, But quiz to be around outdoor activities and politics, not popular culture! Also good to have a couple of training sessions on offer. I liked the 'treasure hunt' we had a few years ago.

Q7 What changes would you like?



Comments expanded

To me the main reason for coming to AGM is it discusses and makes decisions (though we need to get beyond discussing trip rates every year). A second reason would be to see people and a third is chance to go out with some of them. I don't need activities organised for me and will sleep wherever!

Q8: Any other comments to improve the event?

As I've not been to an agm I feel I can't comment. My reason for not going is lack of confidence so don't think much can be done about that
No space to answer Q1 and no tick boxes!
I routinely attend the London region AGM out of loyalty to Red Rope. I might do the same for an agm meeting in a city centre. I am averse to an agm trip. a longer w/e could be optional but would need to be organised as part of the trip, it might make people who don't usually go on trips more familiar with the whole RR trip experience - eg if there was a 'lead-in' day with slightly few people there - a bit less daunting maybe???
Perhaps it might be helpful for weekend/ national trips leaders to ask people on their trips about this subject and feed back with points of view and ask those at the AGM as well. There is no simple answer to getting more people involved at any level, many voluntary organisations will tell you it is always a struggle these days to get more participation. Also once you have this survey back, look at other questions that arise from it, the good thing is that you are addressing this.
It's never easy to make new members welcome but perhaps making sure they know who all the committee members are and their roles (maybe a welcome event of some kind to start the weekend?). I enjoyed the training elements but otherwise found myself happily washing up as it gave me a role within the group. I was a bit sad when it was pointed out I had done too much as it meant I had to go and sit by myself. Wasn't keen to return this year as a result- but saying that I do love RR, appreciate how difficult it is to run and very much hope it has a fantastic future. :)
I enjoy the event and would have attended if I'd been free. Flexibility of being able to come for one or two days might be useful to maximise attendance. Also, best to minimise meeting time. Would not attend if there were no good opportunities for walking/fun etc. A venue closer to London might encourage London members to attend but could still be rewarding as a place to visit/walk. Location should be central as far as possible.
As I have never attended it is difficult to comment, but thanks to all who do make it and keep the ethos of the group so strong.
A bit more discussion on how to develop the club (particularly recruitment). Whilst this may arise from motions it is not guaranteed. I think trying to rush through business on Sunday is unnecessary as for most people there won't be time for a decent walk. Sock exchange could make a comeback. Happy to have some evening entertainment if somebody wishes to provide.
1) Venue MUST be accessible to all members - so really it would have to be somewhere central like the peaks/Hathersage etc 2) Generally like the present format of a two day weekend, people would not come a long way if it were shorter, 3) The Saturday walking, training etc combined with a Sunday morning meeting is a good mix and whilst needing improvement perhaps with a quiz/music or SHORT talk or whatever on the Saturday night, the current combination works compared to any alternative, 4) Holding an extra national committee meeting during that weekend is a diversion and would detract from the event and would not work,

5) AGM agenda's notices and motions and info about accommodation MUST be sent out in good time according to the constitution. That is essential. However, provided this is done and the AGM held in an accessible location with reasonable accommodation, then the quorum rule should be scrapped. It is not necessary and is completely potty. It stops decisions from being made.
Looks like a great and well-planned event, just too difficult to get to!
Travel subsidy for those coming from afar who need it. Make people with children welcome--I know someone who was discouraged from coming because he would be bringing kids ages 7 and 10
I have a sense that people enjoy getting together with other groups - and appreciate national trips - but think of an AGM as a trip which is interrupted by a meeting. I have been to AGMs in the past when the venue has been near Sheffield and very much enjoyed the walks and communal meals but not always actually engaged with the meeting(s). We obviously need to have an AGM with all local groups represented once a year but maybe do separately from a national get together?
Reiterate that the club only works if we attend - direct appeal, maybe each committee member emailing people they know...I haven't been but I know a personal appeal works with me!!
Regional voting should involve more members than could attend an AGM which would mean that the event itself could prioritise activities/ skill sharing/ socialising
Solidarity, socialist principles shared, shared skills overall, no heavy criticism of members' abilities/choices.
Great to meet up - discussions deeply tedious
We probably need people who come regularly to try and enthuse members in their regions. I suspect it will be difficult to attract more people from the centre.
A speaker or something to inspire at the agm would be good. How about something political like a short film on anti austerity
The Monty Python team once completed all 3 of their necessary AGMs (Books, Films, Records, I think) in 17 seconds.
Less organised stuff, time to relax, walk, talk Shorter meeting before the meal on Saturday Officers reports on paper or display not presented to meeting