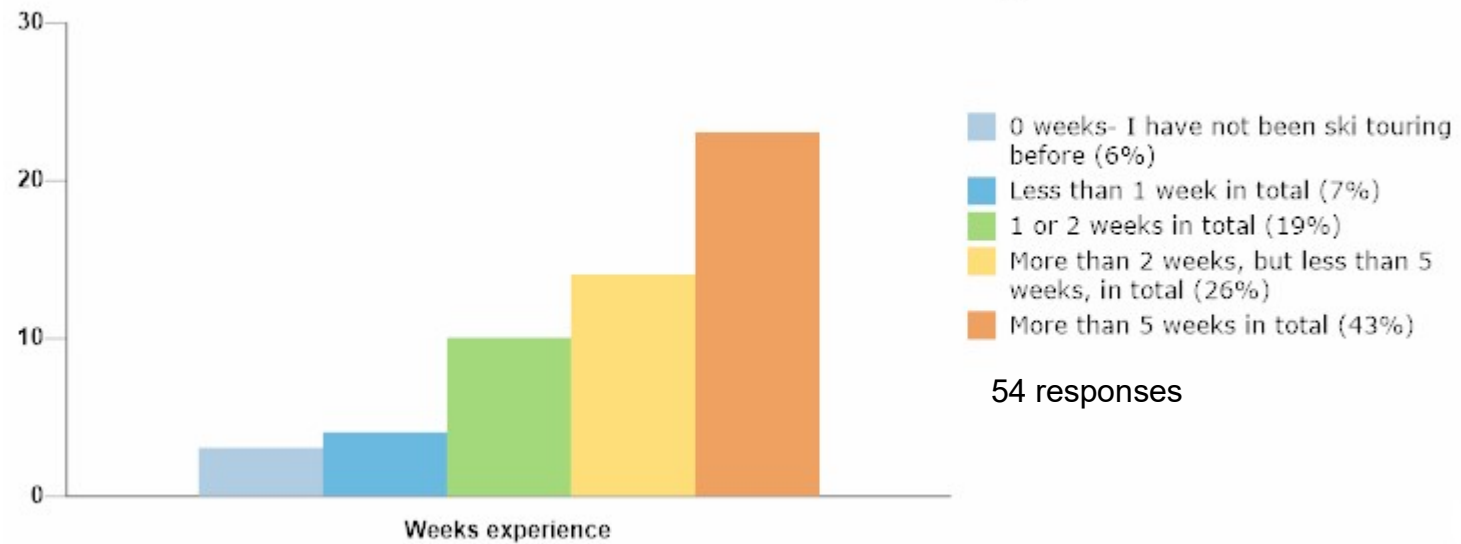
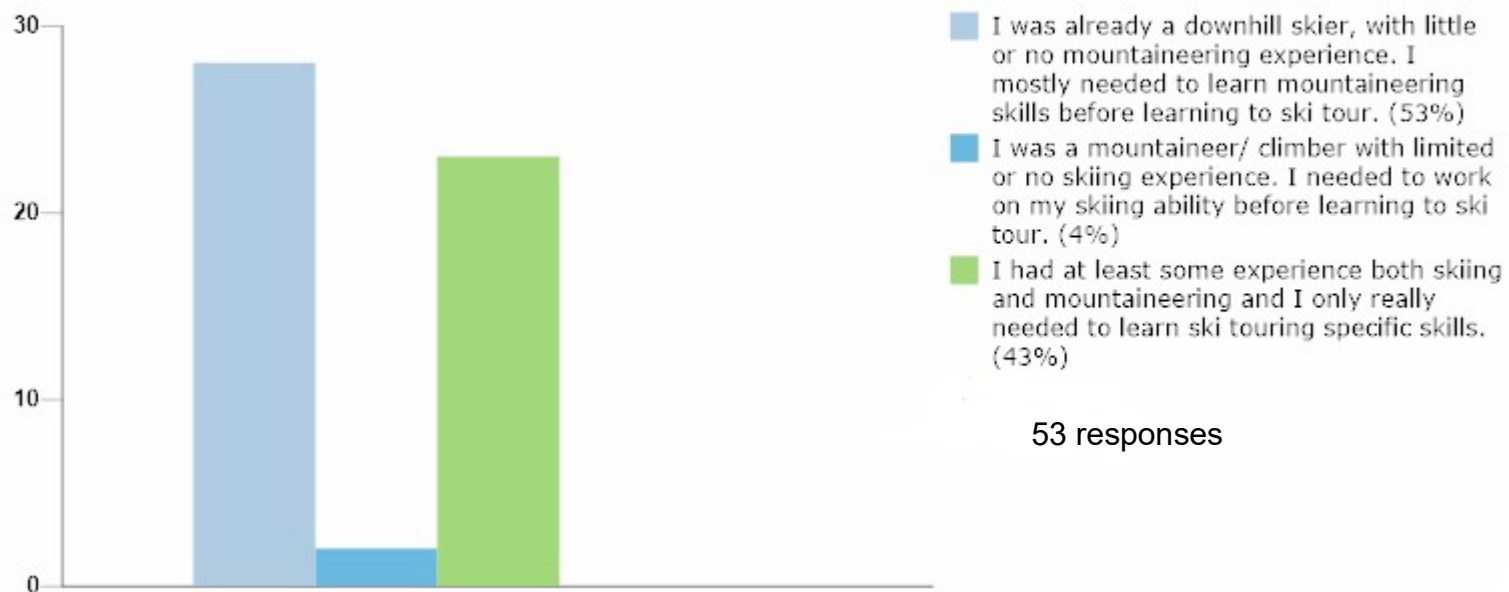


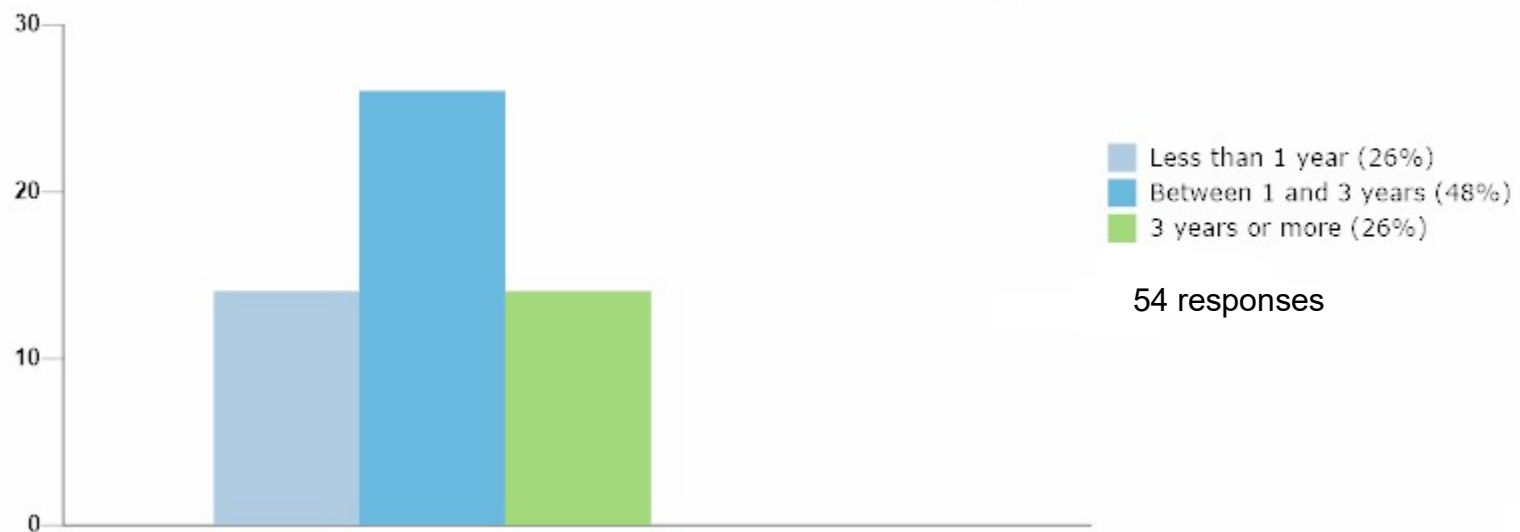
Q1. I have been ski touring for:



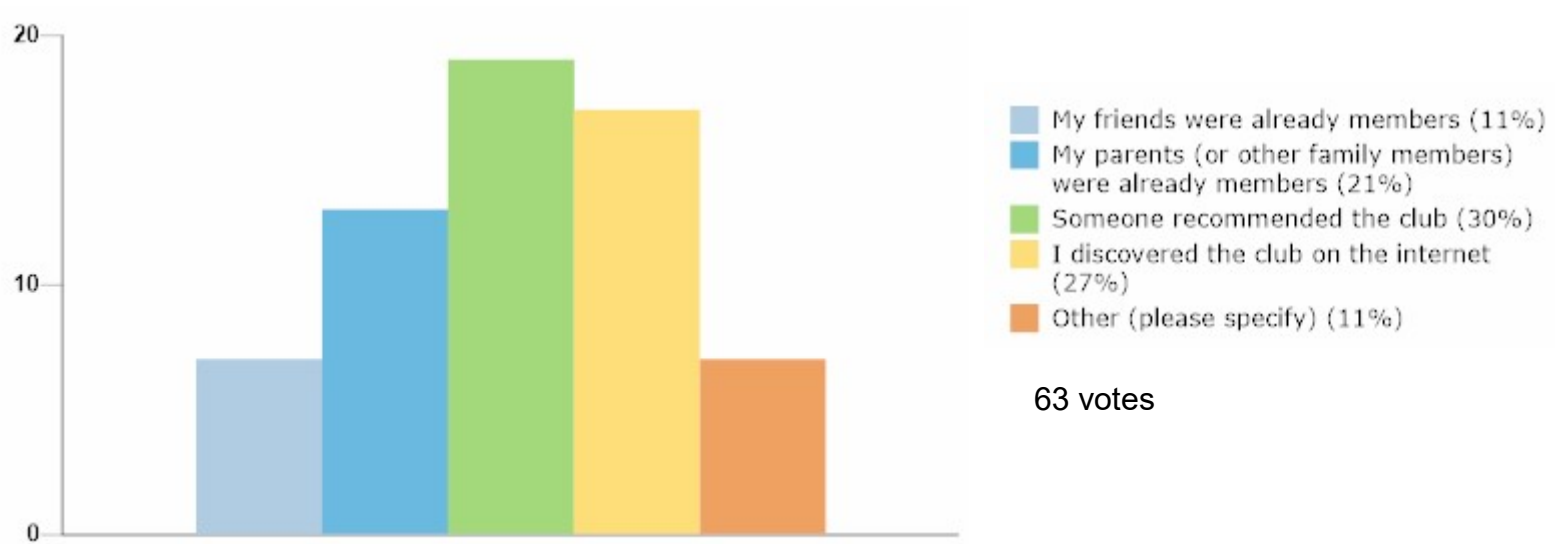
Q2. Which statement best describes you before you got into ski touring:



Q3. I have been a member of Eagle Ski Club for:

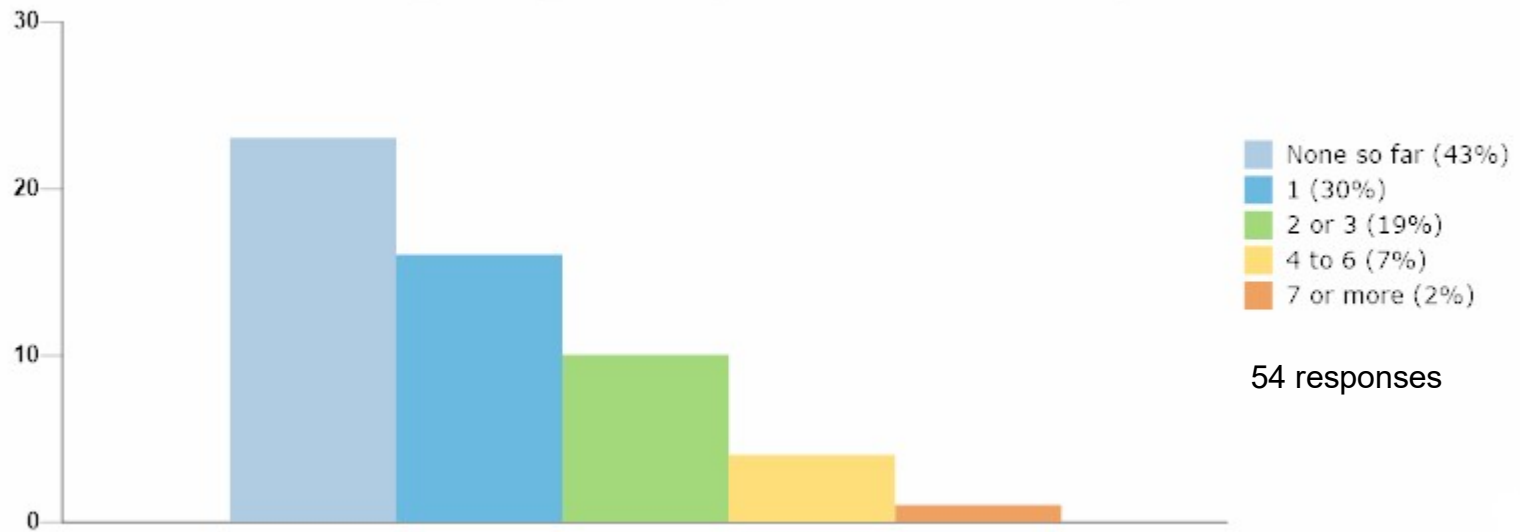


Q4. The reason I became aware of Eagle Ski Club and joined was because (tick all that apply):

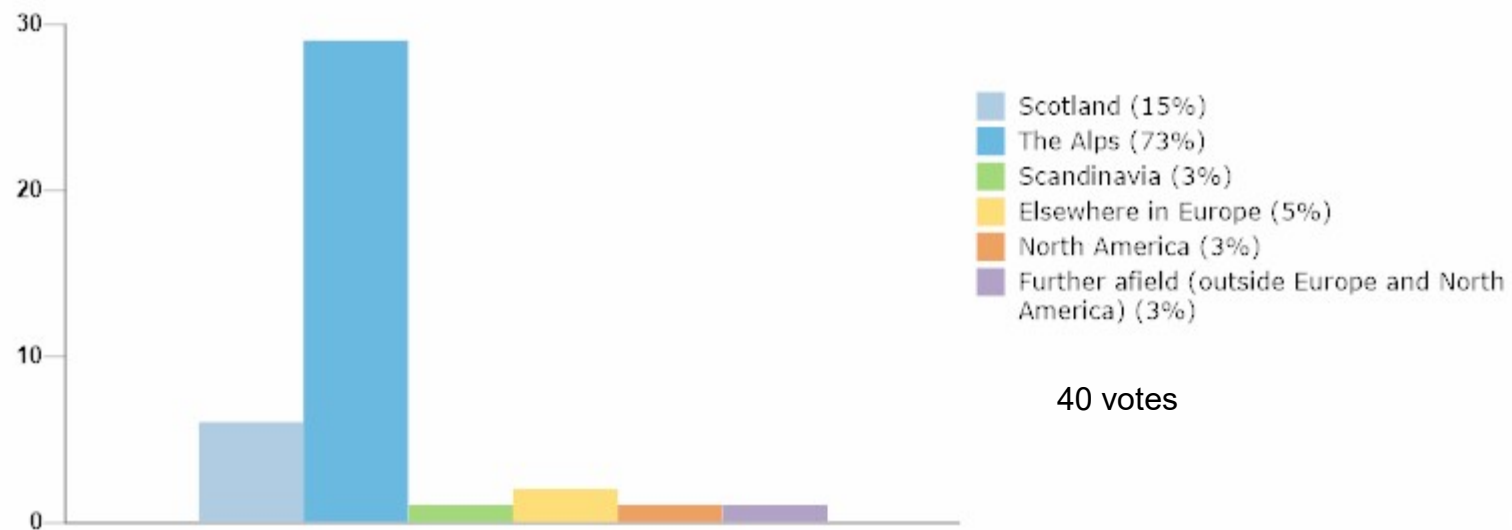


Grant funding was specified as a reason for joining by three respondents (of seven) in the other category.

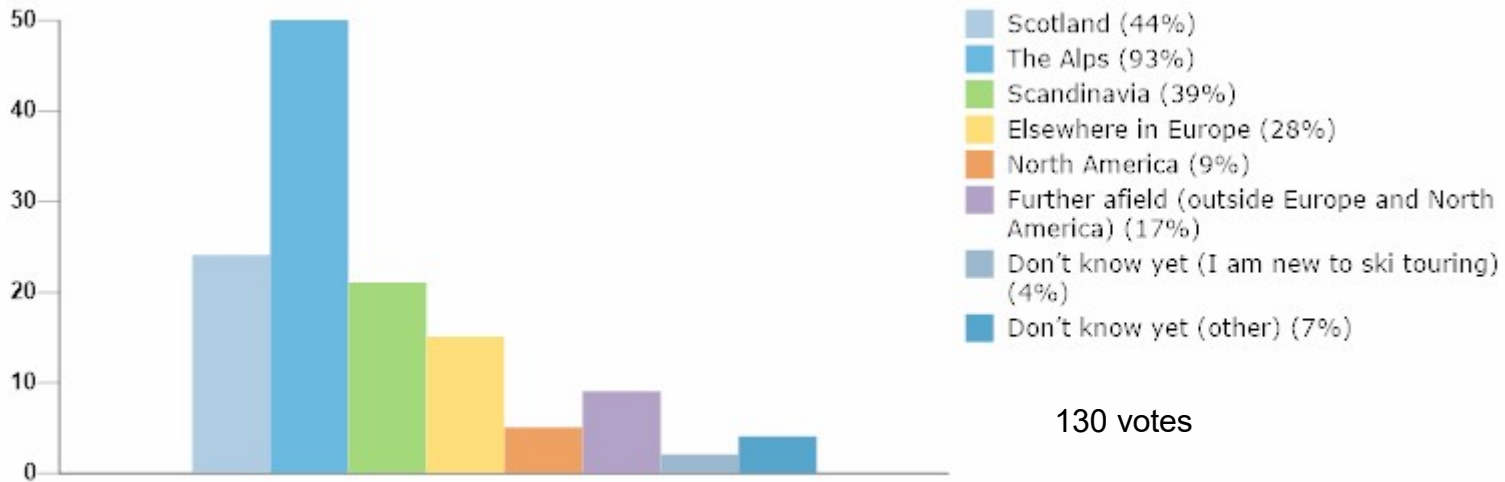
Q5. How many Eagles trips/ tours have you attended?



Q6. Where were those Eagles trips/ tours? (tick all that apply)



Q7. For my next ski touring trip (or trips if aiming to do more than one in a season) I will be looking to ski tour in (tick all that apply):



Don't know yet (other):

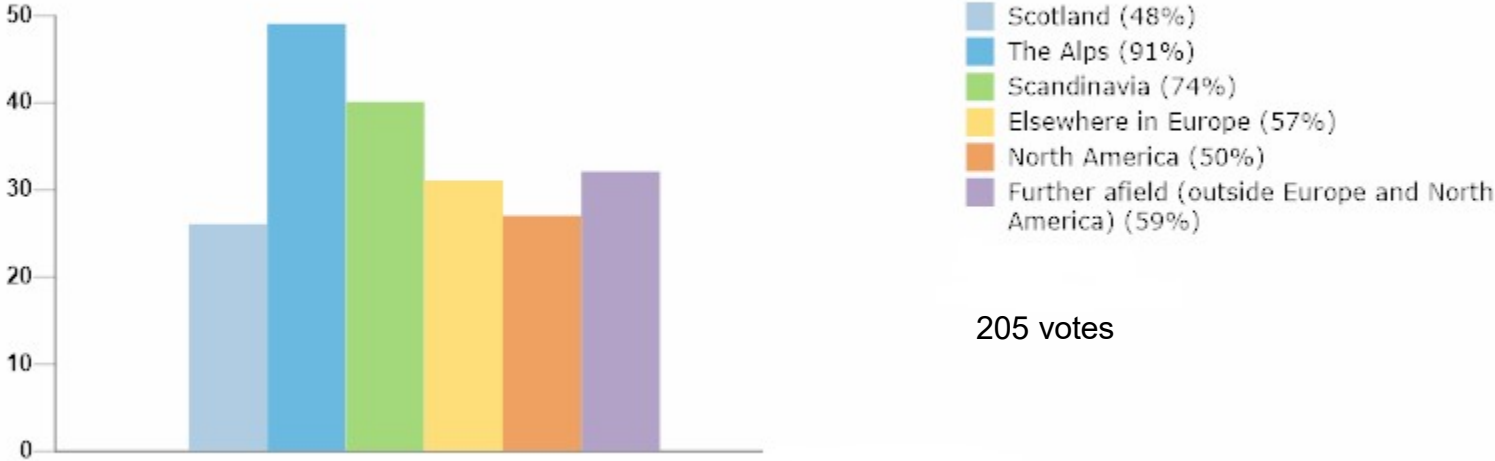
"I aspire for more adventure but leaving Europe tends to come with large financial & time commitments"

"I would love to go to Patagonia and Georgia"

"subject to coronavirus..."

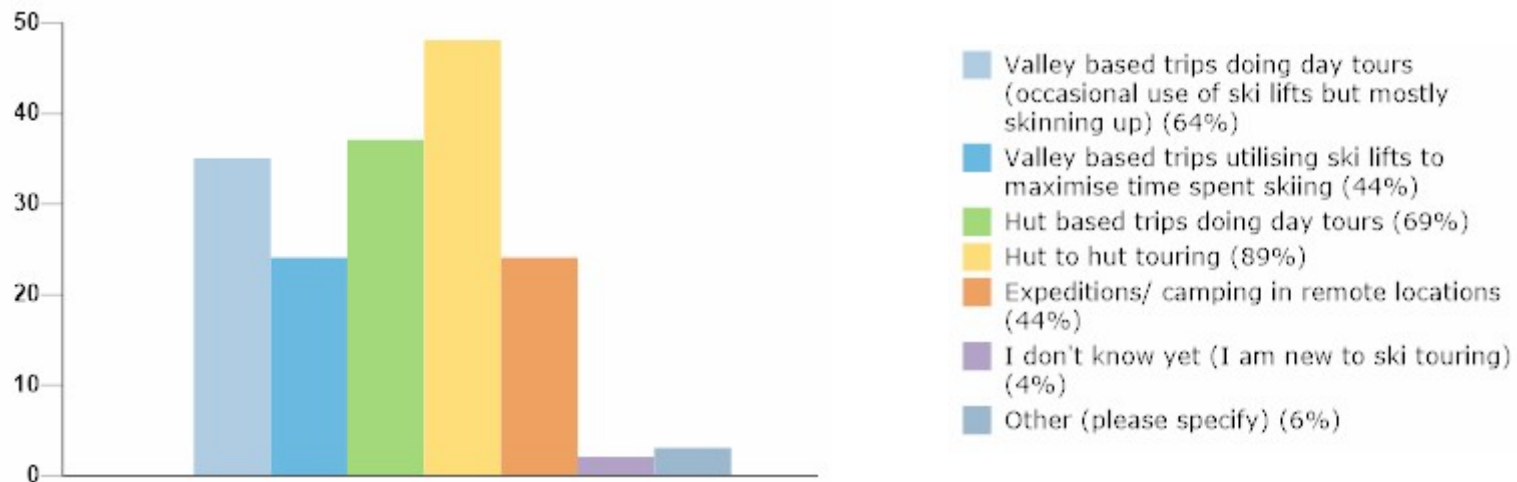
"Covid"

Q8. In future I hope to be able to ski tour in the following destinations (tick all that apply):



205 votes

Q9. I am interested in (tick all that apply, including future aspirations):



173 votes

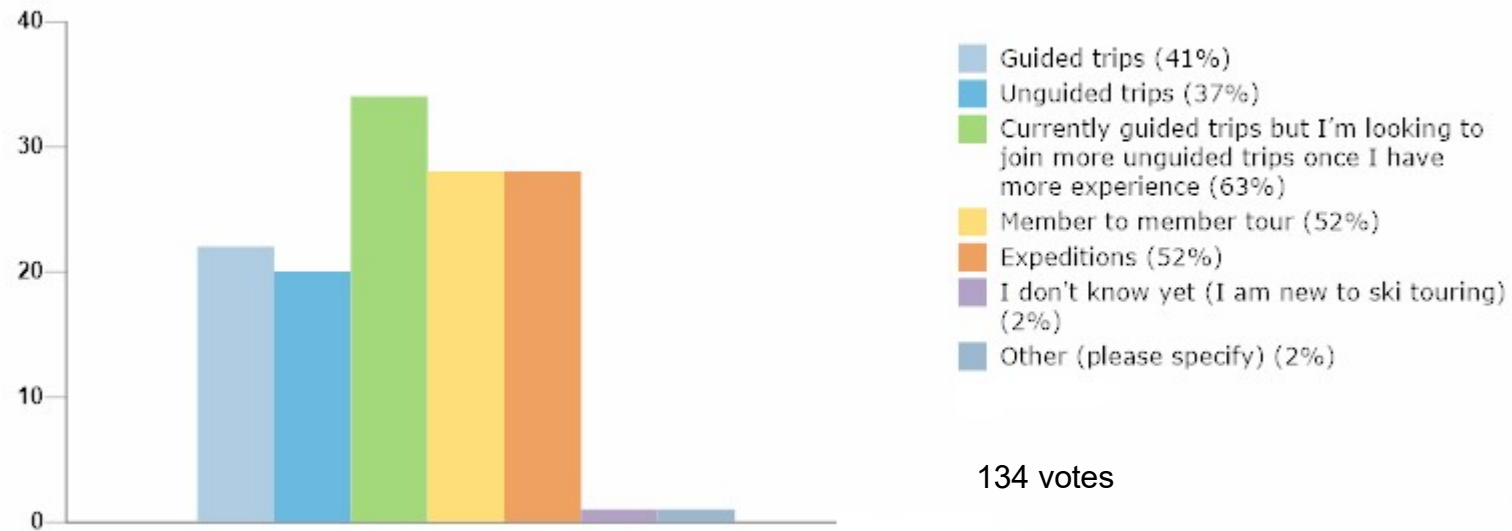
Other responses:

“Ski coaching “

“Scotland day trips”

“As cheap as physically possible...”

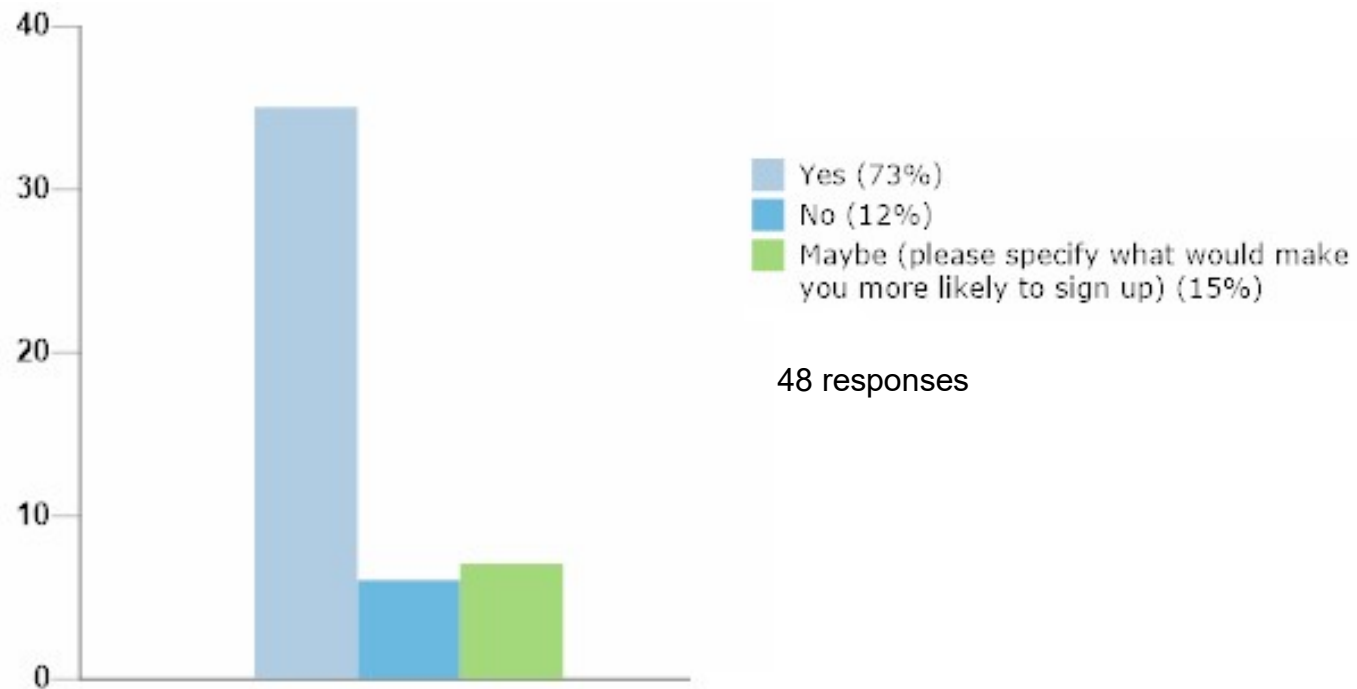
Q10. I am mostly interested in:



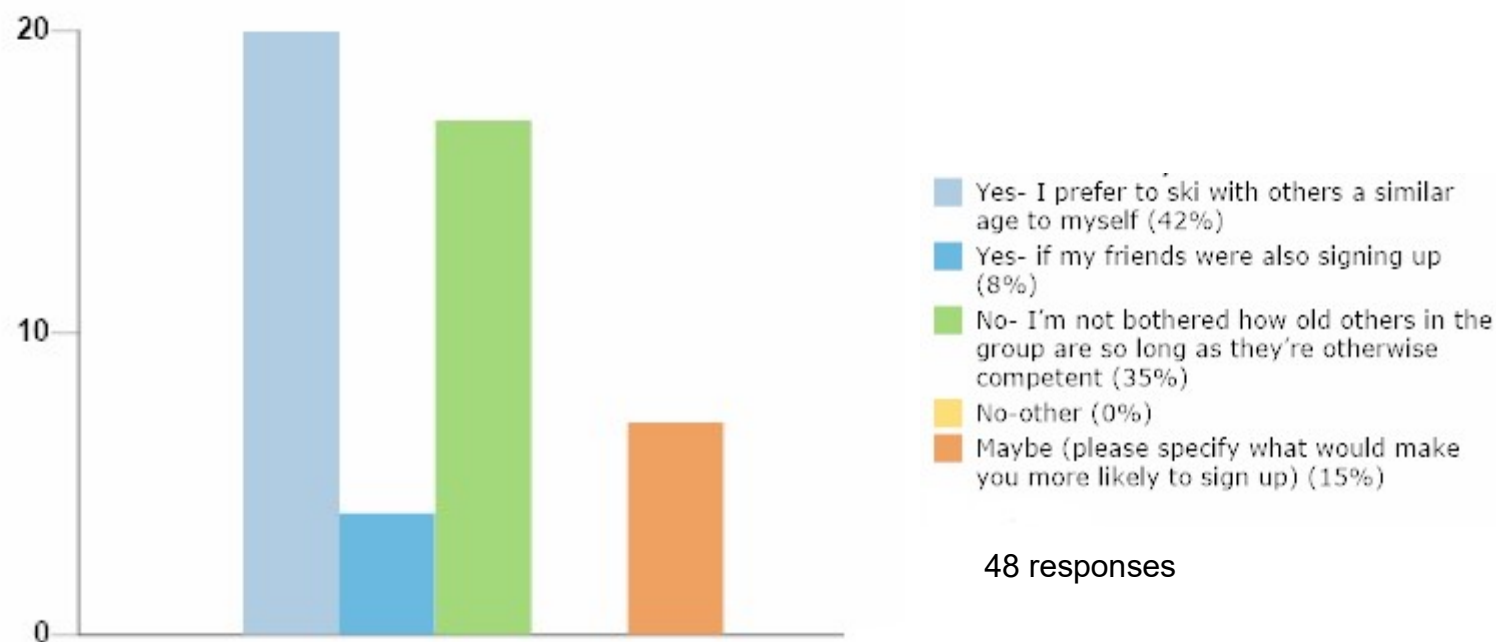
Other response:

“ Would like to do guided trips but the cost is quite prohibitive, I appreciate the sport is expensive but you could be more flexible with accom options (allow me to stay in van/couchsurf without accom) etc.”

Q11. Would you be interested in flexible/ ad-hoc meets?



Q12. Would you be interested in joining an ESC young persons' tour (where the participants would all be under-30 or under-35)?



Maybe... I would be more likely to sign up if:

"A mixture of point 1 & 3- I like skiing with younger people, and don't get much opportunity to in the club, but it doesn't bother me as long as the skiing level is consistent"

"I don't mind too much what age people are but I think a younger trip could be really fun to get to know some other young Eagles and grow together with our touring experience"

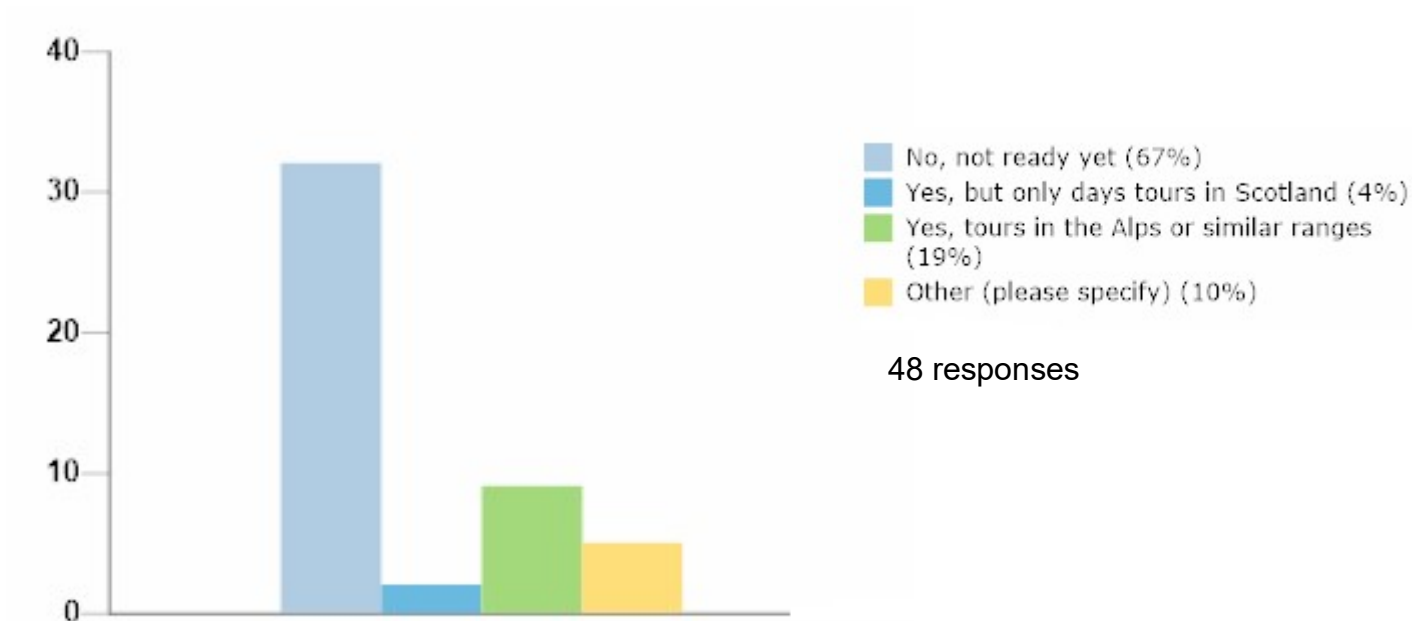
"I mean yes but I wouldn't ski w/people my own age all the time"

"Possibly - but location, type of tour etc are all bigger factors for me. I would probably also only do this if it was guided"

"I'm not too bothered about ages on the trip, but an 'youth' tour would be attractive."

"I don't typically care about age, but if a young persons' tour existed, I'd join"

Q13. Do you feel you currently have the skills to lead a ski tour?



Other responses:

"I feel like I could muddle through and in good weather and no problems would be fine. But know I am deficient in skills (e.g. snow awareness) and experience so might make short-sighted decisions if problems arise"

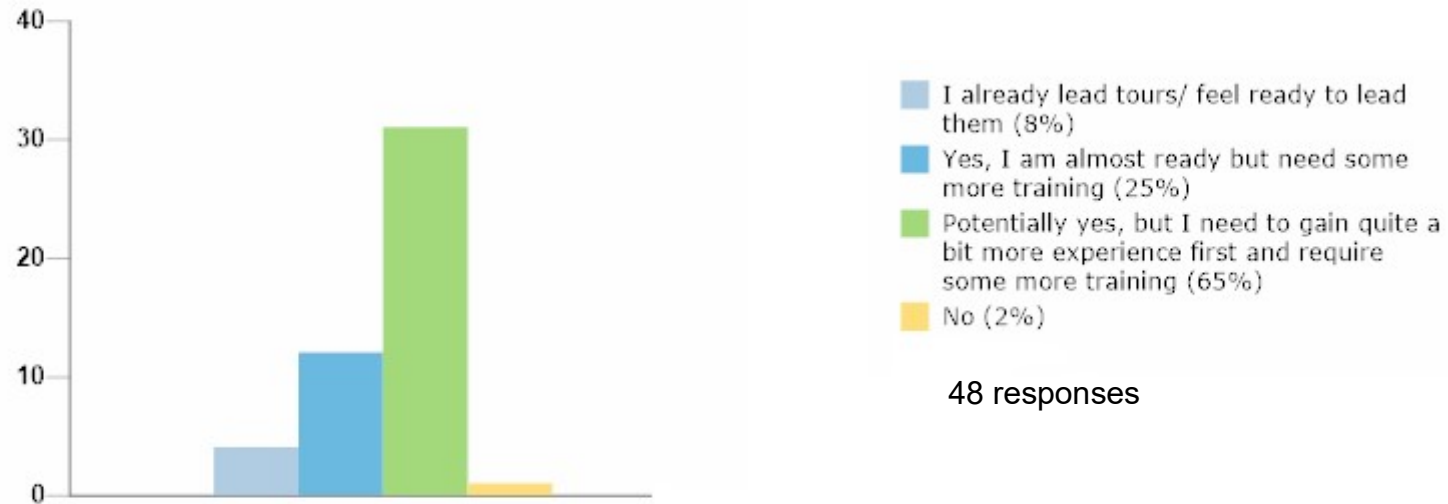
"I have ski toured unguided with a partner multiple times in the Alps and by myself in Scotland but would be unsure about the responsibilities of leading a group"

"Moderate Day tours in the alps"

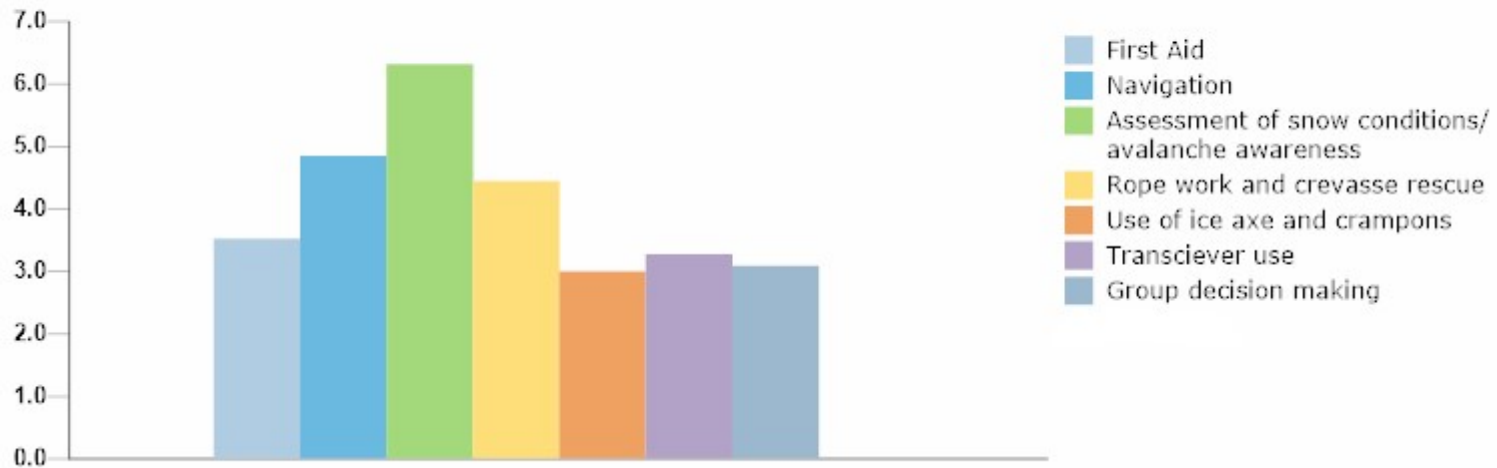
"Some but wanting to develop this over next 2 seasons"

"I have lead ski tours whilst in the Military, I'd love to again but need more experience with ESC"

Q14. Would you be interested in leading tours in the future?



Q15. Which of the following areas would you prioritise for your personal training (rank 1 to 7 with 1 being highest priority):



Relative score (higher scores were given a higher priority by more respondents)

Q16. What would make it easier for you to get out ski touring? Are there any barriers that prevent you from going ski touring?

- 26 respondents mentioned cost as being a major barrier. A number of people suggested that there should be more lower cost options available such as staying in youth hostels as opposed to expensive hotels.
- 11 respondents mentioned their job or the difficulty getting time off as a reason. Some suggested it was difficult to book on tours as they all booked up really early.
- 7 respondents said they didn't know many people to go touring with and a subset said they would prefer to ski with other young people but didn't know any that ski toured.
- 6 respondents said they didn't feel they had enough experience or the right skills to go out touring.
- Other respondents mentioned the pandemic and the age of most Eagles whereas 4 felt there weren't any barriers to them going ski touring.

Q16. What would make it easier for you to get out ski touring? Are there any barriers that prevent you from going ski touring?

Selected responses...

“Eagles trips are really great. But the older demographic and tendency towards nicer accommodation with catering is very expensive. Hard to find youth trips with the eagles, staying at hostels in the valley or self catering accom. Maybe even some nights camping up high to save money and have an adventure!”

“Feeling more confident in key skills and also having more ski touring friends with similar fitness level (usually relatively fast uphill).”

“Building tours where you don't stay in expensive hotels/huts, I generally can't afford hut prices for a week, allow self catering accom or freedom to stay in own accom (van/camping/couchsurf etc.)”

“Understanding what equipment to buy when you're completely new to the sport.”

“Getting training availability (eg avalanche, navigation) is very difficult & expensive. Most courses sell out very fast, and there are very few courses. An under 30s course for this kind of thing could be very helpful as would give more confidence to get out there.”

“Costs and time - I'm really interested in a lot of the tours posted but they usually run for too many days in total inc travel, or are out of my budget.”

“Short term hire of equipment and cost. It would be great if there were more introductory courses/tours for good skiers without much touring experience.”

“Having a cheaper introduction to ski touring course(s).”

“Work is the biggest issue. But finding others I trust and feel comfortable skiing with is another big issue. Takes time.”

“The tours get booked up quickly. I would also like to tour with a guide.”

Q17. What would you like to develop or learn? Is there any specific training you would like to help develop you as a ski tourer?

- 11 respondents mentioned avalanche awareness and route choice.
- 10 respondents highlighted off-piste skiing and steep skiing skills.
- 7 respondents mentioned winter specific mountaineering skills.
- 6 respondents mentioned navigation and poor weather navigation skills in particular.
- 3 respondents were interested in leadership and group management skills and expressed an interest in becoming a leader.
- 3 respondents mentioned glacier travel, another 2 said they just needed to spend more time on the hill getting experience in general and 1 was interested in expedition skills.

Q17. What would you like to develop or learn? Is there any specific training you would like to help develop you as a ski tourer?

Selected responses...

“I think I personally just need more time outside. It's hard to stay as sharp as I'd like with the more technical avalanche/ropes work when I'm not outside as much as I'd like.”

“ No mountaineering background, so a long weekend learning some of the basics would be really helpful for beginners.”

“Leadership and group management on a member-to-member tour (how to manage disagreement / route choices you don't agree with / differences of opinion with regards to safety management etc).”

“I think constant refreshment / honing of skills in assessing snow conditions and dealing with avalanche rescue, glacier travel and navigation will always be beneficial.”

“Strategies for skiing steeper line, selecting a line.”

“Navigation in poor weather. Judgment of how conditions may change.”

“There are skills that I am somewhat familiar with from summer mountaineering that I would not be confident applying in a winter context.”

“Gaining experience to cope in as many conditions as possible.”

“I'd like to understand the path to becoming a guide, and how people balance this with their home/professional life.”

“I would really like to learn how to lead a group tour. I would also like to learn expedition skills (e.g. trip planning, avalanche assessment, navigation, wild camping, first aid, rescue in remote conditions etc).”

Q18 . Do you have any ideas how the club might promote ski touring to younger members both inside and out?

- 13 respondents suggested the provision of cheaper tours for young people or discounts on all tours for young people.
- 9 respondents suggested linking up with University skiing and mountaineering groups.
- 8 respondents mentioned featuring young members in communications, including using social media channels (3 specifically suggested Instagram).
- 5 respondents suggested offering discounts on kit hire or providing a pool of communal kit to borrow.
- 3 respondents suggested running intro or taster sessions.
- 3 respondents suggested placing advert in climbing centres or magazines.
- 2 respondents each suggested a mentor/mentee set up with an experienced member, youth social meets/ young member community and a recommend a friend system.

Q18 . Do you have any ideas how the club might promote ski touring to younger members both inside and out?

Selected responses...

“Have some cheaper tours lined up. Still with good guides but cheaper accom and minimise lift pass cost. We aren't afraid of skinning up from the valley.”

“Build the community among younger members - for the moment, personally I don't feel very connected to younger members and don't even know how many there are (my perception is not many).”

“Featuring younger members more in communications (some newsletter or Facebook groups or whatsapp groups?) for younger members to become more aware of younger members.”

“By providing equipment for free/hire at a large subsidy on first tours. The costs are massive barriers to entry, and yet you can't really work out if you like ski-touring without an initial investment.”

“Maybe an email campaign that highlights the key tours that are best suited for younger members new to the sport. Would also like the opportunity to speak to a seasoned eagle club member to get a feel for the types of expeditions we could aspire to, and how we can get the absolute most out of the club.”

“Offering a course which is an all rounder - a mix of off-piste skiing, snow safety skills, and a couple of day tours. This would provide a good introduction to most components of ski touring.”

Selected responses continued...

“ Availability of kit to rent at low cost, it's difficult to get started as stuff is so expensive. Youth meetings in cities even just to meet people & have a few beers, more likely to bring friends along them and introduce them to like minded people.”

“Not so many barriers to joining - e.g. not needing to be member to see tours, needing recommendations of ski ability from someone etc. Could do video submissions of skiing?”

“ Avoid tedious diversity quotas like every other modern organisation seems to be doing. If the Eagles management starts handing out women- or BAME-only grants for example I'll leave.”

“Turn up and run taster sessions during university ski trips.”

“I think the eco-friendly angle will be come more important vs resort skiing, as well as the wilderness/exploring element of ski touring vs resort. Ultimately I think we're looking for confident skiers (with or without mountaineering experience) who want to get back to real nature vs what "skiing" has become in the last decade.”

“Free skiing touring weeks would probably be more popular with younger skiers, along with perhaps more adventurous options like steep tours.”

Q19. Do you have any ideas how the club might promote ski touring to a wider, more diverse community both inside and outside the club?

Not so many common themes in answer to this question but several people mentioned social media such as Facebook and Instagram as having potential here. Other suggested partnering with charities or organisations promoting outdoors' sports to a diverse community.

Selected responses...

"Skiing by its very nature isn't diverse because of how expensive it is, so you need to start by training people to ski, then taking them ski touring."

"Greater range of diverse write ups for the year book - especially photos showing it's possible for minority groups to get involved."

"Role models are really important in my view - so featuring more role models of the kinds of diverse communities you want to bring in to the club - showing that ski touring can be for everyone."

"What about partnering with organisations etc that have already brought more diverse communities to the outdoors? e.g. doing ski touring taster sessions in an existing course or experience at Glenmore Lodge."

"Shorter, cheaper package trips promoted in urban centres. Long weekends in Scotland (if conditions could be relied upon)? Or maybe trying to promote some kind of ski touring experience day to university ski trips/package holidays in resorts?"

"Maybe hold some free adventure talks and promote to wider community."

"Most people are not aware of ski-touring at all, so raising the general profile would help."

"Perhaps doing something with the BMC or putting an article on UKC would broaden the Club out to a wider group? Or reaching out to groups working with sections of society to promote outdoor activities etc."