met; on the other hand, a stream of (presumably neutral) emulsion injected into the droplet stream glowed at its end.

Proof positive of the reality of that never-quite-believed-in phenomenon called ball lightning appeared in the respectable journal *Nature* last year. A lady in Smethwick was burned by it and earned herself scientific immortality thereby. The bright blue sphere, interrupting her at her kitchen stove, burnt a 4-inch hole in her dress and left a swollen hand in evidence of its passage. The dress fabric was not charred although shrivelled, and showed no traces of radioactivity. The ball, a physicist calculated, must have delivered substantially less than the one megawatt of power anticipated by some theories of ball lightning.

In Arizona, in a sandstone cliff, a geophysicist from Caltech discovered the first fossilized thunderbolt. A lightning discharge may represent an electric current of some tens, or even hundreds of thousands of amperes. The associated magnetic field is sufficient to magnetize the rocks at the impact point and would be expected to do so in a particular pattern. Sampling the cliff on a grid revealed such a pattern of fossil magnetizations.

Alpine Club Notes

Meetings of the Alpine Club 1976

13 January	Modern ice climbing—Alan Rouse
17 February	A winter ascent of the North Face of the Eiger and other climbs—Joe Tasker
16 March	Avalanche rescue technique—Dr Walter Lorch
6 April	Gasherbrum III—Alison Chadwick-Onyszkiewicz
4 May	Climbing in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda—John Cleare
14 September	The Himalayan frontier—Peter Lloyd
12 October	Volcanoes and associated phenomena—Peter Francis
26 October	Members' slides; Jack Longland, George Steele, Charles Warren, John Harding, Ernst Sonderheimer
16 November	AMA and Royal Nepalese Army expedition to Everest—Tony Streather and others
6 December	Annual General Meeting and President's Valedictory Address
7 December	Annual Dinner

Office Bearers and Committee 1977

President	P. Lloyd, C.B.E.
Vice-Presidents	Mrs I. A. Richards, M. H. Westmacott
Hon. Treasurer	The Hon. R. R. E. Chorley
Hon. Secretary	M. F. Baker
Committee	Dr C. R. A. Clarke, G. C. Band, Mrs J. Carleton, Miss M. Darvall, Rev. F. L. Jenkins, D. E. Fordham, W. H. O'Connor, C. J. Radcliffe, Prof. E. Williams
Trustees	A. Blackshaw, C. G. Wickham
Hon. Editor A.J.	E. C. Pyatt
Assistant Editor	T. M. Connor
Business Editor	R. G. Pettigrew
Guide-book Editor	W. H. O'Connor
BMC Representative	C. J. Radcliffe
MRC Representative	Sir Jack Longland
Hon. Librarian	R. Lawford
Mount Everest Foundation	R. A. Hodgkin, Sir Edward Peck, K. Wilson, C. J. S. Bonington, Dr C. R. A. Clarke
Hon. Auditors	F. W. Edwards, J. K. King, the Earl of Limerick
Hon. Archivist	V. S. Risoe

Club Staff
During 1976 the Club lost by retirement the services of its caretaker, manageress and housekeeper, Dorothy Lewis. A new caretaker, Mr Warner, has been engaged and has taken up residence. A new, permanent, young, efficient Assistant Secretary has also been engaged. Her name is (Miss) Sue Lawford. The function of managing the gallery is at present being shared between the Officers and the Assistant Secretary and our member R. H. McCall who has rendered invaluable service in this and other matters over the past year.

Obituary
We regret to record the deaths of our members: Dr A. W. Barton (1957), P. H. Biven (1964), T. S. Blakeney (1930, Hon. Member 1969), K. M. Cameron (1921), R. D. S. Carpendale (1955), B. T. Dickson (1959), Mrs J. Dunsheath (LAC 1951), J. W. Healy (1935), H. A. Haworth (1925), R. L. Holdsworth (1931), Prof. K. W. Mason (1914, Hon. Member 1973), G. C. Miles (1950), E. F. Pilkington (1910), M. R. Tatham (1938), Mrs R. Underhill (Miriam O'Brien, LAC 1936, Hon. Member LAC 1970, Hon. Member AC 1975), Dougal Haston. See also p. 265.[1]

Membership
New members are welcome at all times. Correspondence on membership should be addressed to: Frank Solari, Oakside, Duffield Lane, Stoke Poges, Slough SL2 4AH, Bucks.

Miscellanea and Editor's Notes

The Alpine Club Library From its inception in the early days of the Club until 1972 the Alpine Club Library was developed and maintained by the devoted labours of a succession of Honorary Librarians, but by the later '60s it became evident that the Library could no longer be run satisfactorily without far more effort than could be generated voluntarily—professional assistance would be necessary to restore the Library and to maintain it so that it could provide an acceptable service to members and be a credit to the Club. The cost of engaging professional assistance was, however beyond the Club's resources and it would be necessary to find additional sources of income if the rehabilitation of the Library was to be undertaken. After much study of the problem (in which the dispersal of the Library was dismissed as unthinkable), the Club Committee accepted a proposal by the Hon. Treasurer to set up a Charitable Trust to which the Club's books, etc., would be lent and which would be able to attract funds and benefit from tax concessions (*AJ* 75 288). The Alpine Club Library was duly incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee on 22 February 1971 with Lord Tangley as Chairman, and shortly afterwards it was officially registered as an Educational Charity. The Memorandum of Association and Articles of the Alpine Club Library provide for the Members of the Library to be 7 in number, of which 5 are nominated by the Club and one each by RGS and the BMC. The management of the Library is vested in a Council which consists essentially of the same 7 Members, at present Sir Douglas Busk (Chairman), and Messrs H. R. R. Fedden, L. Frank, R. Lawford (Hon. Librarian of the Club) and E. Viney nominated by the Club; Mrs D. Middleton nominated by the Royal Geographical Society, and Mr J. H. Llywelyn Jones, FCA (Treasurer) nominated by the British Mountaineering Council. Mrs J. Lancaster-Jones, former Hon. Librarian of the Ladies' Alpine Club, is professional adviser, and Mr F. Solari is Secretary.

The first task of the new organization was raising funds so that a professional Librarian could be engaged to undertake the re-cataloguing of the Library. (The re-organization and re-cataloguing had been begun by the previous Hon. Librarians as

[1] Where no obituary notice is included, the notice will, wherever possible, appear in the next Journal.