



DERBYSHIRE CAVING ASSOCIATION

Information Circular 2004/5, Oct. - Dec. 2004

NEXT DCA MEETING

DCA AGM 2005 - Sat. 19th. February 2005, 10am. Monyash Village Hall

The Hall will be open from about 9.30am with tea, coffee and biscuits on tap. The Old Smithy Cafe, next to the Pub, does an excellent breakfast from about 9am.

GET KNOTTED!

For the second time this year in Derbyshire there has been an accident where someone abseiled off the end of the rope. This time it happened on the big pitch in J.H. and the caver involved fell 30 ft., sustaining serious injuries. Be aware that rope shrinks in use and, unless the length has been checked recently, the rope may be shorter than you think; also, if you are rigging a complicated pitch with many re-belays, it is easy to use more rope than the rigging guide lists without realising it. Always tie a knot in the end of the abseil rope to safeguard yourself, vital if you are first down the rope and it's packed in a bag so you can't see the end. If someone else packed the rope bag, check that they tied a knot. If you are first down a rope rigged by someone else in your absence - beware unpleasant surprises!

DCA SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2005

Club and Associate Members

There are important changes to subscriptions for DCA Club and Associate Members now that the BCA "One-Stop-Shop" has come into operation. Subs. will be paid via BCA from now on and details of the new payment arrangements will be with you shortly. Reminders about this have been sent out - remember also to cancel any standing order for subscriptions made payable to DCA.

Individual Members

There are no changes to the DCA Individual Members subscription this year, it's still £10 and reminders have been sent out. If you are already paying by standing order, that's very helpful - if you want to switch to this method of paying, contact Jenny.

Membership and Subscription details on the DCA website

While all the changes were being sorted out, details of how to join DCA, membership forms, subscription details, etc. were removed temporarily from the DCA website to avoid confusion. They will be put back up again after Christmas when everything is sorted again.

CONSERVATION / ACCESS

If you have any queries or problems relating to access or conservation in the region you can email all the DCA Conservation and Access team members on access@theDCA.org.uk. Team members are:

Conservation & Access Officer, John Taylor: Tel. 01663-734918, Mob. 0786-6705149, Em. jtaylor@uk.tiauto.com

Access Officer, Iain Barker: Tel. 0114-2530112, Mob. 0771-0689704, Em. iainbarker@peakland.freeserve.co.uk

Conservation Officer, Dave Webb: Tel. 0115-840-1109, Em. davidwebb12@ntlworld.com

Asford Marble Mine - Access Change

To obtain the key for access to the mine apply to the DCA Access Officer, Iain Barker, 56 Thornbridge Crescent, Birley, Sheffield. S12 3AE. Phone and email details above. Proof of P.L. Insurance required. (DCA Handbook page 2:4.)

Lathkill Head Cave, Garden Path Entrance - Access change

For conditions of access contact DCA Access Officer, Iain Barker, see above. Proof of P.L. Insurance required. (DCA Handbook page 2:8.)

Hillocks

There is a large amount of what could be "diggers debris" just inside the entrance of Hillocks. It's been there for quite a while and doesn't seem to be in use. If it's yours and you want to claim it, contact Ralph Johnson soon or you may find it cleared away and "skipped" by the Coffin Dodgers, (along with the CCPC stuff at the bottom of Wharf Engine Shaft). Ralph is on Tel. 01782-515753 or Email RJohnCAVE@aol.com

Eyam Dale House Cave

On 14th. November Chesterfield C. C. members reported: "We visited EDH today and found what appeared to us to be extensive new collapse into the rift passage before North-West Chamber. There also seem to be signs of ?fresh fissuring both there and in the big rift (The Other Side). Haven't been there for at least twelve months - so a bit hazy in memory, but it may be getting seriously unstable in places. No evident problems elsewhere, but we think people should take great care."

FLOODING IN WATERWAYS SWALLET

Although the entrance to Waterways Swallet is normally completely dry and there is no water at all in the cave, it can flood suddenly and completely if heavy rain causes the sink a hundred yards up the valley to overflow. One group of cavers received an extremely sharp lesson earlier this autumn when this happened - be wary!

DCA/BCA CAVERS WORKSHOP, 5/6 MARCH 2005

Planning is already in hand for this event which will include sessions on Cave Rescue, Cave Instructor, SRT, Advanced SRT, Ladders Lines Abseiling with Groups & Self Rescue, Cave Video, Mines History, Cave Formation Development & Conservation. Cost per session will be £10.00 and it will be either at Pindale Centre, Castleton or at Upper Limits in Longnor. We'll put the details up on the DCA web site as soon as we have them. Contact: Nigel Atkins - Tel: 01283 210666, Fax: 01283 210777, Mob: 07831 449919, Em. nigel@pennineorganisation.com. Contact Nigel direct for other training events planned in 2005.

CROMFORD CANAL CLEANUP

Peak Training are looking to form a working party to clear weeds from Cromford Canal again, so is anyone available to help during week commencing Monday, 10th January 2005? Anyone interested should contact Vickie, please, as she's again the co-ordinator for this effort. We know that canoeing is not first on cavers' list of activities, but maybe some of our members also canoe? Phone 01629-760297 or email vickie.newey@peak-training.co.uk. Thanks in anticipation.

CAMBRIAN CAVING COUNCIL WEBSITE

Cambrian Caving Council now have their own website at www.cambriancavingcouncil.org.uk. Check it out if you're intending to cave in Wales.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Welcome to New Individual Members:

JOHN S. BATES, 6 Piper Close, Shepshed, Loughborough, Leics. LE12 9TF. Tel. 01509-827117,
Em. john.bates666@ntlworld.com

DAVID WHITEHOUSE, 2 Whitecotes Park, Walton, Chesterfield. S40 3QT. Tel. 01246-554270,
Em. revdavwit04@yahoo.co.uk

Change of Email:

DCA Conservation Officer, Dave Webb - davidwebb12@ntl.co.uk

DCA Cave Registry Secretary, John Beck - john.beck@btinternet.com

DCA Equipment Officer, Dave Cowley - davecave23@yahoo.co.uk

ROLLS ROYCE CAVING CLUB, Victor Holbrook - Hol814@aol.com

NIGEL NIX, nigel.nix@voa.gsi.gov.uk

Address Changes:

DERBYSHIRE COUNTRY COUNCIL YOUTH SERVICE, c/o Rory Sellar, Adventurous Activity
Team, Peter Webster Centre, Sheffield Road, Whittington Moor, Chesterfield S41 8LQ.
Tel. 01246 264660, Em. rory.sellar@ukonline.co.uk

PEAK DISTRICT MINES HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Nigel Nix, 87 Windsor Road, Fairfield, Buxton,
SK17 7NR, Tel. 01298 214110, Em. nigel.nix@voa.gsi.gov.uk

FOR YOUR NEWSLETTER / NOTICEBOARD

www.theDCA.org.uk

dca@theDCA.org.uk

18 December 2004

Hon. Sec./Treasurer, Jenny Potts, 3 Greenway, Hulland Ward, Ashbourne, Derbys. DE6 3FE. Tel. 01335-370629 Email. dca@theDCA.org.uk
