



DERBYSHIRE CAVING ASSOCIATION

Information Circular 2008/2, February - March 2008

NEXT DCA MEETING

DCA Open Council Meeting, 10am Saturday, 19th. April 2008, Monyash Village Hall

The hall will be open from about 9.30am with tea, coffee & biscuits available. The Old Smithy Café next to the Pub does an excellent breakfast from about 9am. (All meetings start at 10am. at Monyash Village Hall.)

Council Meetings for the rest of 2008 - Saturday, 28th. June; Saturday, 1st. November

AGM 2009 - 10am. Saturday, 21st. February 2009.

DCA OFFICERS FOR 2008-2009

Chairman: Bob Dearman, The Green Cottage, Main St., Chelmorton, Buxton. SK17 2SL.

01298-85594, 07855-920087, chairman@theDCA.org.uk

Vice-Chairman: Terry Jackson, New House Farm, Chapel-en-le-Frith, High Peak, Derbyshire. SK23 0QL.

01663-750647, vice-chair@theDCA.org.uk

Secretary/Treasurer: Jenny Potts, 3 Greenway, Hulland Ward, Ashbourne, Derbyshire. DE6 3FE.

01335-370629, secretary@theDCA.org.uk

Conservation & Access Team:

Conservation Officer: David Webb, 3 De Vere Gardens, Woodthorpe, Nottingham, NG5 4PH.

0115-840-1109, conservation-off@theDCA.org.uk

Asst. Conservation Officer: Wayne Sheldon, 37 Cudworth View, Grimethorpe, Barnsley, S. Yorks. S72 7LW

01226-710368, 07941-211209, conservation-off@theDCA.org.uk

Legal & Insurance Officer: Pete Mellors, "Fairview", Station Rd, Edingley, Newark, Notts. NG22 8BX

01623-882515, legal.insurance@theDCA.org.uk

Projects Officer: Martyn Grayson, 29 Hindle House Lane, Page Hall, Sheffield. S4 8GY

07976-953089, projects@theDCA.org.uk

Access Officer: Iain Barker, 56 Thornbridge Cres., Birley, Sheffield. S12 3AE.

0114-264-7561, 07710-689704, access-off@theDCA.org.uk

Training Officer: Nigel Atkins, Wharfedale House, Springfield Cl., Midway, S. Derybshire. DE11 0DB

01283-210666, 07831-449919, training@theDCA.org.uk

Equipment Officer: Dave Cowley, 12 Norton Hammer Lane, Sheffield. S8 0BP

0114-255-1285, equipment@theDCA.org.uk

N/L Editor/Publications Officer: Paul Lydon, Kirby House, Main Street, Winster, Matlock. DE4 2DH

01629-650482, newsletter@theDCA.org.uk & publications@theDCA.org.uk

Cave Registry Secretary: John Beck, Glebe Cottage, The Hillock, Eyam, Derbyshire. S30 1RB

01433-631732, john.beck6@btinternet.com

Asst. Secretary / Planning Liaison: Chris Broome, 'Carpathian', Dale Close, Bonsall, Matlock. DE4 2AY

01629-824512, asst-sec@theDCA.org.uk

DCA Cave Discovery Fund Panel: Panel Members are Terry Jackson, Iain Barker, Boyd Potts + DCA Chairman, Treasurer & Conservation Officer.

CONSERVATION & ACCESS

If you have any queries or problems about Conservation or Access in the region, please contact the Conservation Officer, Dave Webb, 0115-840-1109, or Asst. Conservation Officer, Wayne Sheldon, 01226-710368, both at conservation-off@theDCA.org.uk; or the Access Officer, Iain Barker, 0114-264-7561, 07710-689704, access-off@theDCA.org.uk.

CARLESWARK CAVERN COLLAPSE:

A collapse in Carleswark cavern was reported in February in the Stub Scrin area of Big Dig, close to its upstream junction with John Smith's Passage. Some timbers have fallen out and poised blocks in the roof appear unsupported. The area has been inspected and must be regarded as highly unstable, and until such time as remedial work can be put in hand, you are strongly advised to keep away from this part of the system.

GIANTS HOLE ACCESS:

DCA has just been informed that the charge for Giants has been raised to £3.00. According to our informant: *"There's a big sign pinned to the side of the box where you fill out your envelope and post it, which says quite clearly that it's now £3 each."* DCA Access Officer will be querying this but doubt there's much we can do.

EYAM DALE HOUSE CAVE:

There is currently some confusion about access here: In February DCA Access Officer, Iain Barker, sent revised details for access as follows: *“Park in the gravelled area immediately on left upon entering the grounds. There is no need to call at the nursing home. The entrance shaft is not locked but please replace the lid. Please be aware of residents and visitors when getting changed and keep your presence as ‘low profile’ as possible.”*

However, we received a report at the end of March, saying that the cave lid had been padlocked again and that no key was available. The situation is being investigated and we'll try to sort it a.s.a.p.

SUICIDE CAVE:

The boulder choke above the low crawl has now collapsed completely so there is no access to the further reaches of the cave by this route. Access to the top of the pitch is unaffected.

INSTALLATION OF ECO-ANCHORS

If you have any queries about Eco-anchors installed in the region, please contact the Equipment Officer, Dave Cowley, 0114-255-1285, 07956-560055, equipment@theDCA.org.uk.

OXLOW CAVERN, Y-HANG PULL-THRO':

Oxlow now has a cable & ring Y-hang pull-thro' on the climb up to Pilgrim's Way. (Replacing the former 'chain & maillons' pull-thro' system.) The new setup is not yet quite complete, it awaits installation of two Eco-anchors at the base of the climb to allow free run for the pull-back rope and to allow a secure lock-off. It does work OK now, even though it's not quite complete, but we'll let you know when the job is finished.

DCA NEEDS A NEW TREASURER FOR 2009

Present DCA Treasurer, Jenny Potts, has been doing the job for many years and would like to hand over to a new Treasurer in 2009. (She is willing to continue as Secretary for a couple more years so that the post of Secretary/Treasurer is once again split.) The post would suit an experienced club treasurer or someone similar who has experience of dealing with varied and detailed accounts. If you are interested yourself, or know of someone who might be suitable, please contact Jenny direct on 01335-370629 or email secretary@theDCA.org.uk with a view to discussing what's involved.

CAVING EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY - HOME AND ABROAD

MENDIP CAVING 2008, 6th to 8th June 2008.

More info. from website <http://mendipcaving.org.uk> when it becomes available.

SHEFFIELD CLIFFHANGER, Millhouses Park, Sheffield. 12th & 13th. July

There will be a caving stand, organized by DCA, at the UK's largest open-air outdoor-pursuits festival. Also featuring: The British Bouldering Championships, Mountain Biking, Local Beer Festival, Come-And-Try-It Climbing Walls, Open Air Market, Skateboarding, Reverse Bungee, Orienteering Races, A Guinness World Record Dyno Competition, Demonstration Events, Massive Bargain Area, Music, Children's Rides, And Much, Much More.

NAMHO Conference 2008, 11th. - 13th. July 2008

Details will be posted on the NAMHO website - <http://www.namho.org/>

FRANCE: Vercors 2008, 23rd. to 30th. August.

Further details from the website: <http://vercors2008.ffspeleo.fr>

HIDDEN EARTH 2008, 26th to 28th September

The Venue is Prince Henry's Grammar School, Otley, Leeds. Further information from the Hidden Earth website: www.hidden-earth.org.uk

NEWS FROM BCA

BCA AGM, Saturday, 5th. April

The BCA AGM will take place at 10.30am. at the Baptist Church Hall, Alvechurch. The Agenda has not yet (at the time of writing this) been circulated to Club, Associate and Direct Individual members.

FOR YOUR NEWSLETTER / NOTICEBOARD

www.theDCA.org.uk dca@theDCA.org.uk

31 March 2008

<p><i>Hon. Secretary/Treasurer,:</i> Jenny Potts, 3 Greenway, Hulland Ward, Ashbourne, DE6 3FE Tel. 01335-370629 Email. secretary@theDCA.org.uk</p>
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