



# DERBYSHIRE CAVING ASSOCIATION

## Information Circular 2011/2, May/August 2011

### NEXT DCA MEETING

**DCA Open Council Meeting: Friday, 11th November, 7pm at Monyash Village Hall**

**NOTE - THIS IS AN EVENING MEETING**

The hall will be open from about 6.30pm with tea, coffee & biscuits available.

**DCA AGM 2012: Saturday, 25th. February 2012 at 10am, Monyash Village Hall.**

The AGM will be followed immediately by a brief Open Council Meeting.

### ADDRESS CHANGE FOR DCA'S TREASURER, WAYNE SHELDON

Wayne Sheldon, who took over as DCA Treasurer at the AGM in February, has now moved to **5 Hawthorne Close, Erdington, Birmingham. B23 5NQ. Mob. 07941-211209, Em. [finance@theDCA.org.uk](mailto:finance@theDCA.org.uk)**

### DCA CAVE DISCOVERY FUND

Don't forget that 1st. September is the next deadline for applications to the DCA Cave Discovery Fund. Contact the Secretary or Treasurer (preferably by phone) to ask for Application Forms, Notes for Guidance, etc.

### 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: Christine Wilson, 01433-621149, 07713-416455, both on [conservation-off@theDCA.org.uk](mailto:conservation-off@theDCA.org.uk). Alternatively, contact the Access Officer: Iain Barker, 0114-264-7561, 07710-689704, [access-off@theDCA.org.uk](mailto:access-off@theDCA.org.uk).**

### NATURAL ENGLAND SSSI CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

On behalf of the Derbyshire Caving Association conservation team I would like to thank all those cavers who helped out with the Peak District SSSI Cave Conservation Monitoring Scheme over the last couple of years. In recognition of the observations you made during your caving exploits and the forms you helped fill in and update, Natural England the statutory body responsible for protecting SSSIs in England under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, have awarded you with a 'Certificate of Recognition'!

We hope that you will be able to continue to help Natural England and their legal duty in ensuring each of our SSSI caves remain in 'good and favourable condition'.

For more details, maps and information on the Peak District's caves of Site of Special Scientific Interest please see the following link <http://www.peakcavemonitoring.org.uk/>

Thanks!

Christine Wilson, DCA Assistant Conservation Officer  
on behalf of Dave Webb DCA Conservation Officer

### CLATTERWAY SOUGH

We have received a message from the new owner of 2 Hollowbrook (formerly known as Hollowbrook Cottage) in Bonsall, Mr. Damion Taylor, as follows:

Clatterway sough exits into our garden and I understand that from time to time cavers may wish to use the sough to enter and exit the Clatterway mine system. You might want to make your members/readers aware of the following:

We are happy to allow entry and exit to the sough by prior permission, ideally using the email address [did666@sky.com](mailto:did666@sky.com). The sough will now have a locked metal gate to prevent our small children from venturing inside - this will be installed and locked from 1st. August 2011. In order to avoid a wasted trip, or even worse not being able to exit, it is essential that prior permission is sought so the gate can be unlocked.

Please ensure this information is circulated as widely as possible and that everyone knows to ask Mr. Taylor's permission by emailing [did666@sky.com](mailto:did666@sky.com) in advance.

### SOUGH UNDER BATEMAN'S HOUSE, LATHKILL DALE

After a site visit on Thursday, 4th. August 2011, I discovered that the gate which accesses the sough underneath Bateman's house was missing its bolt. Natural England have responsibility for the health and safety of the general public in Lathkill Dale and this incident could have resulted in a very serious accident. I am contacting all people who use this gate to alert them of this incident and remind them that if they use the gate they must ensure that the bolt is left in place. Please can you pass on this reminder to anyone whom it may concern.

Joe Alsop, Reserve Warden, Derbyshire Dales National Nature Reserve

### OXLOW THIEVES - A WARNING FROM PHIL BAKER

I was at Oxlow Sunday 22nd May - got back to cars and one of group's car window been put through. Nothing taken but we think we disturbed them as someone was at the vehicles as we walked into view. Could you warn folk - always been a dodgy spot. Had a van done there some years ago.

## ODIN MINE COLLAPSE

Sorry, but there is still no access to Odin Mine following the major collapse earlier this year. The situation is being assessed.

## EQUIPMENT AND SAFETY

If you have any queries or problems about Equipment or Safety in the region, please contact the DCA Equipment Officer: Jules Barrett, 07730-981857, [equipment@theDCA.org.uk](mailto:equipment@theDCA.org.uk) or DCA Projects Officer: Martyn Grayson, 07976-953089, [projects@theDCA.org.uk](mailto:projects@theDCA.org.uk).

### PETZL GRIGRI RECALL

Petzl are recalling some Gri-Gri 2 belay devices.

Petzl has discovered that exerting excessive force on the fully extended handle of the GRIGRI 2 can cause internal damage, such that the GRIGRI 2 handle may become stuck in the open position.

The models affected are those with the first 5 digits of the serial number between 10326 and 11136.

See <http://www.petzl.com/en/outdoor/recall-replacement-grigri-2> for more details.

### THE ROWTER POT LID

Equipment Officer, Martyn Grayson, hopes to make a start on repairing the lid soon, now that the extra "traffic" created by the 2011 Credit Crunch Expedition has died down.

## FIRST AID COURSE FOR CAVERS - 17/18th SEPTEMBER

The course is in Hope on 17-18th Sept. It is a 16-hour Outdoor First Aid course, certified by ITC First Aid Ltd. and suitable for validation of NGB outdoor Instructor Awards. In addition to topics dealt with on standard one-day courses such as management of unconscious casualties and CPR we will look at head, neck and spinal injuries and the course will be contextualised for the cave environment. The certificate is valid for 3 years; there is also the option of gaining an Emergency First Aid at Work certificate for a small extra admin charge. Normal fee per person is £120 for the two days. Contact details: [cara.firstaid@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cara.firstaid@yahoo.co.uk) or 07854 695178 or via website; [www.a2efirstaidtraining.co.uk](http://www.a2efirstaidtraining.co.uk) I can also run courses for groups at their own venue for a reduced rate.

Cara Allison

## "LOST TO LIGHT"

### AN EXHIBITION BY THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF SPELAEOLOGICAL ARTISTS

20 August to 29 October at Buxton Museum and Art Gallery, Terrace Road, Buxton, Derbyshire, SK17 6DA.  
T. 01629 53340, [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/buxtonmuseum](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/buxtonmuseum)

Stunning exhibits: paintings, drawings, sculptures, mixed media art, models and even art made from "cave-related detritus". Entry is free and, in addition to the special exhibition of spelaeological art there are other fascinating galleries with displays of local minerals, crafts using these minerals and lead mining. Well worth a visit!

Museum opening hours are: Tuesday to Friday: 9.30am to 5.30pm; Saturday: 9.30am to 5pm; Sundays and Banks Holidays from Easter to the end of September: 10.30am to 5pm.

## CLIFFHANGER 2011, SHEFFIELD

Many thanks to the DCA members and friends who helped to man the DCA stand along with our Artificial "Cave" (a.k.a. the ASS: Artificial Speleological System) and Ladder Climb for the weekend of 2/3 July, including setting up on Friday evening. **You know who you are!** Special mention goes to Martyn Grayson and Jess Eades who between them ran the ladder climb throughout Saturday when around 140 youngsters climbed the 30ft. electron ladder to collect a sweet from the bag at the top of the climb. (By the end of Saturday Jess had blistered hands from lifelining!) Altogether, during the weekend nearly 300 climbed the ladder and approaching 1000 youngsters went through the artificial "cave"; in addition many people came and chatted to us about caving and collected information on local caving clubs from our stand tent.

## BCA DISCUSSION PAPER

The BCA Chairman and Secretary issued a discussion paper for the 2011 AGM on possible changes to BCA's structure. They wish to consult as widely as possible on the points outlined over the coming year (2011/2012) with a view to bringing any subsequent proposals to the 2012 Annual General Meeting.

The paper accompanies this DCA circular and is also on the BCA website at [www.british-caving.org.uk](http://www.british-caving.org.uk). Clubs are urged to bring it to the attention of their members so that everyone has a chance to have a say in the future of BCA.

## FOR YOUR NEWSLETTER / NOTICEBOARD

[www.theDCA.org.uk](http://www.theDCA.org.uk)

23 August 2011

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Tel. 01335-370629  
Email. [secretary@theDCA.org.uk](mailto:secretary@theDCA.org.uk)