



DERBYSHIRE CAVING ASSOCIATION

Information Circular 2017/3, March/April 2017

DCA MEETINGS

NEXT MEETING: Open Council Meeting, Saturday, 24th. June, 10am. Monyash Village Hall
Meetings for 2017/18: Open Council Meeting, Sat. 28 October, 10am. Monyash Village Hall
AGM 2018, Sat. 24 February, 10am. Monyash Village Hall, followed by Open Council Meeting
Apologies for the error in the previous circular, the correct date for the October Meeting is Saturday, 28th. October.

CONSERVATION & ACCESS

If you have any queries or problems about Conservation or Access in the region, please contact Christine Wilson on conservation-off@theDCA.org.uk, T. 01433 621149, M. 07713 416455 or Gary Noble on access-off@theDCA.org.uk, T. 07791 625370.

Herne Hill Caves problem

Herne Hill Cave No. 1 (whose entrance is in a supermarket car park) has had to be locked to prevent vandalism and potential problems with the police. Ulley Activity Centre has kindly offered to hold keys for the cave. Cavers wishing to visit are asked to phone in advance to arrange to pick up a key.

The address is **Ulley Activity Centre, Ulley Country Park, Pleasley Road, Rotherham, S26 3XL** (about 10 mins. drive from the cave.) The phone number is **01709 371438**

If no one answers the phone, please leave a message with your phone no. and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

(Note that access to Herne Hill Caves No. 2 and No.3 remains unchanged.)

Water Icicle Close Mine

Derby Lane Traffic Regulation Order - Exemption for cavers.

Following representations to the Peak District National Park Authority, Derby Lane, a green lane used by cavers as a route to reach Water Icicle Close Mine, is now subject to a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). This is because of long-standing problems with 4X4 vehicles and motorbikes attempting to use it as a through route from Monyash to Long Rake and trashing the surface of the lane. This TRO prohibits any vehicles (other than farm vehicles), driving up the lane beyond Summerhill Farm. (Note that there are no changes to the usual arrangements for access to Water Icicle other than the TRO now affecting Derby Lane.)

Derbyshire Caving Association has been able to negotiate an exemption for cavers who wish to drive up the lane to park nearer to Water Icicle, rather than carry gear about a mile up the lane. Cavers who need to drive up Derby Lane should email in advance to the Peak Park's Sue Smith, who will then email them a permit to be displayed in the car windscreen. Cavers need to provide name, vehicle details and the date or dates on which the exemption is required so that no enforcement action is taken against them. Peak Park want to keep records of the use of the exemptions to see how things work out.

Cavers who are content to walk up the lane are asked not to park their vehicles on the Lane below Summerhill Farm as it is narrow here and this could interfere with farm traffic. Vehicles will need to be parked down in one of the car parks in Monyash Village.

Cavers are asked to email in advance with Name, Vehicle details (registration, colour & make) and the date(s) the exemption is required to: sue.smith@peakdistrict.gov.uk

All DCA Access Information is now on the Web

The DCA website now has all the details for access to caves/mines in the Peak District, including location maps, preferred access routes and rigging topos where appropriate. We hope to be able to add links to surveys soon. (To find the information, click in the "Cave" logo on the left of the home page.)

If you find any errors or need for amendments/updates, please contact the DCA Secretary on secretary@theDCA.org.uk, and we'll arrange for the website to be updated so that the information is always current. (The old DCA Handbook, published in 2012 is now superseded and should no longer be relied on for up-to-date information.)

EQUIPMENT AND SAFETY

If you have any queries or problems about Equipment or Safety in the region, please contact the DCA
Equipment Officer: Bob Dearman equipment@theDCA.org.uk or T. 01298-85594, or **DCA Projects Officer: Pete Knight,** projects@theDCA.org.uk or M. 07812 038233.

Devonshire Cavern

Arrangements are being made for work on capping or fitting access lids to the shafts on Devonshire Mine land. "D-day" is 14th. April and, if you are able to help, particularly if you have concrete-mixing skills, Pete Knighth would like to hear from you.

DERBYSHIRE CAVER NO. 144

The next issue of the Derbyshire Caver, No. 144, is now in preparation - many thanks to Editor Mike Higgins. Mike would love to hear from you with your news, views, photographs, etc. You can email him on

newsletter@theDCA.org.uk or mike.higgins2@btinternet.com

Or you can send him your contributions by snail-mail: 56 Robin Hood Crescent, Edenthorpe, Doncaster, DN3 2JJ

FOR YOUR NEWSLETTER / NOTICEBOARD

<http://www.theDCA.org.uk>

1st. April 2017

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