



# DERBYSHIRE CAVING ASSOCIATION

## Annual General Meeting, 10am. 25th. February 2017, Monyash Village Hall

### MINUTES

<b>Present:</b>	Club Members:	Eldon P. C.	Bob Dearman [BD] (& Ind. Memb.)
		Masson C. G.	Jim Borrington [JB], Chris Wilson [CW]
		Orpheus C. C.	Boyd Potts [BP]
		P.D.M.H.S.	Adam Russell [AR]
		T.S.G.	Alan Brentnall [AB] (& Ind. Memb.)
	Individual Members:	Mike Higgins [MH], Pete Mellors [PM], Jenny Potts [JP] (& OCC),	
		Wayne Sheldon [WS], Phil Wolstenholme [PW]	
	Associate Members:	DCC AMAT	Gary Noble [GN]

1. **Chairman's Welcome:** Introduction, quorum and procedures.
- 1.1 **Chairman's welcome.** The Chairman, WS, welcomed members to the meeting and reported the death earlier in the week of DCA Honorary Member, Trevor Ford. He also noted that the Vice-Chairman, Terry Jackson, was unable to attend due to illness.
- 1.2 **Quorum:** The meeting was quorate with 4 club reps. and 5 Individual members present. (1 more club rep. arrived later.)
2. **Apologies for absence.**
- 2.1 Vice-Chairman: Terry Jackson, Projects Officer: Pete Knight, Treasurer: Angus Sawyer, Training Officer: Nigel Atkins, Nigel Ball, Elaine Hill, Karen Slatcher, David Wall, David Webb.
3. **To Approve Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting:** (*Previously circulated*)
- 3.1 To Approve Minutes of Annual General Meeting 27 February 2016.  
**That the Minutes of AGM 27 Feb. 2016 be approved.** Prop. B.Potts, Sec. M.Higgins. **Agreed unanimously.**
4. **Matters Arising Therefrom:**
- 4.1 None.
5. **Election of New Members:**
- Individual Members: **Martin Barnsdall.** Prop. J.Potts. **Approved unanimously.**  
**Matthew Telling.** Prop. J.Potts. **Approved unanimously.**
6. **To Approve the DCA Annual Report:** (*The report was tabled before the meeting together with a detailed breakdown of the accounts.*)
- 6.1 **Chairman:** (*Written report tabled.*)
- 6.1.1 **That the Chairman's Report be accepted.** Prop. B.Potts, Sec. B.Dearman. **Agreed unanimously.**
- 6.2 **Secretary:** (*Written report tabled.*)
- 6.2.1 **That the Secretary's Report be accepted.** Prop. C.Wilson, Sec. M.Higgins. **Agreed unanimously.**
- 6.2.2 **Secretary's Post:** In answer to a query JP said that she hoped someone would come forward to take over from her in 2018 and she would want to work with the new recruit during the coming year. She had no-one in mind to take over but hoped there would be a volunteer.
- 6.3 **Treasurer:** (*Apologies sent & written report and provisional accounts tabled.*)
- 6.3.1 **Assets:**
- 6.3.1a JP stated that the HP Inkjet had been removed when Mel Milner's flat had been cleared after her death and could not be traced; it should therefore be written off;
- 6.3.1b Angle Grinder needs new batteries and **BD** will sort this out. **Action: 020**
- 6.3.1c Noted that assets list needs updating:
  1. Container contents need to be checked by **PK**. **Action: 021**
  2. **BP** will check items for use with ASS. **Action: 022**
- 6.3.2 **That the Treasurer's Report and Provisional Accounts be accepted.** Prop. B.Potts, Sec. C.Wilson.  
**Agreed unanimously.**
- 6.4 **Conservation Officer:** (*Written report tabled.*)
- 6.4.1 **Lathkill Dale:** CW reported that the new shaft (Vixen Hole) in Lathkill Dale is being stabilised, it is in the quarry just below Garden Path - secured currently by cap of walkway mesh.
- 6.4.2 **Conservation Officer's Archive Files:** Dave Webb's files have now been transferred to the British Caving Library at Glutton Bridge with some which are of current interest kept back for use by CW.

- 6.4.3 **Suicide Cave Sign:** A draft of the sign has been done; it is to go in the entrance to deter rubbish dumping and vandalism. NT have funded it and will install the sign. DCA needs to monitor the situation there to see if there is an improvement.
- 6.4.4 **Masson Cavern:** This has now been approved for Instructed caving use so there is conservation tape installed and use will need to be monitored.
- 6.4.5 **Natural England:** NE have approved £2000 budget for conservation work - materials only
- 6.4.6 **Gate on Bateman's Shaft:** BD queries whether we have been "repaid" the £80 for gate in level behind Bateman's shaft. **Action: 023**  
**BD/CW** need to check whether material to this value has been replaced by NE.
- 6.4.7 **That the Conservation Officer's Report be accepted.** Prop. M.Higgins, Sec. A.Brentnall.  
**Agreed unanimously.**
- 6.5 Access Officer:** *(Verbal report.)*
- 6.5.1 GN gave a verbal report. No change on last year. Everything going OK.
- 6.6 Projects Officer:** *(Apologies sent and written report tabled.)*
- 6.6.1 **Eyam Dale House Cave:** Now in private garden so not easily accessible so need for lock should be discussed with the owner. We would recommend from the conservation point of view that it should be not too easily accessible - possibly try Derbyshire key system. Some more work needs doing on the access route - steps section needs stabilising.
- 6.6.2 **Devonshire Mine shafts:** Noted that DCA should only be concerned with the shafts on the land belonging to the owner of Devonshire Mine. Other shafts in the area are not DCA's concern.
- 6.6.3 **Thanks:** Pete Knight received a vote of thanks for all his work. Prop. J.Potts, Sec. G.Noble. **Agreed unanimously.**
- 6.6.4 **That the Projects Officer's Report be accepted.** Prop. P.Mellors, Sec. C.Wilson. **Agreed unanimously.**
- 6.7 Legal & Insurance Officer:** *(Written report tabled.)*
- 6.7.1 **Holme Chert Mine:** JP noted that thanks are due for the work done by volunteers at Holme Chert Mine to tidy the place and secure back entrances.
- 6.7.2 **DCA Materials Container:** There appear to be no more problems with accessing the container and PK is now visiting it regularly.
- 6.7.2 **That the Legal & Insurance Officer's Report be accepted.** Prop. B.Potts, Sec. C.Wilson.  
**Agreed unanimously.**
- 6.8.1 Equipment Officer:** *(Written report tabled.)*
- 6.8.1.1 Inform PICA that Devonshire Hells Wells pitch head bolts and all other bolts have been checked OK with Hydrajaws. Noted: 2 new bolts installed by **NA** so topo on website needs updating. **Action: 024**
- 6.8.1.2 Speedwell Assault course - query whether it needs to be P-bolted. AB suggested that it does not need to be done at the moment as it is an exploration route.
- 6.8.1.3 PW queried whether any new bolt installers are needed. BD replied that we have a large team, 11 (+ 2 currently lapsed), so we have sufficient.
- 6.8.1.4 Noted that BD has the diagram of new bolts in Rowter but waiting for topo from installers to go on the DCA website.
- 6.8.1.5 **That the Equipment Officer's Report be accepted.** Prop. B.Potts, Sec. A.Brentnall. **Agreed unanimously.**
- AR arrived at this point.*
- 6.8.2 Cave Atmosphere Monitoring Report:** *(Written report tabled.)*
- 6.8.2.1 **New meters** - AB recommends waiting till DCRO purchase their 5-gas meters in order to get a better price. For the time being we need not purchase a Scott Protégé for £125 because we can use the one belonging to DCRO which will be adequate for what we need. **Agreed to accept A.Brentnall's recommendations.**
- 6.8.2.2 **That the Cave Atmosphere Monitoring Report be accepted.** Prop. C.Wilson, Sec. G.Noble.  
**Agreed unanimously.**
- 6.9 Training Officer:** *(Apologies sent and written report tabled.)*
- 6.9.1 Noted that the programme for 2017 was also supplied and will be circulated separately by JP and put in the NL.
- 6.9.2 **That the Training Officer's Report be accepted.** Prop. C.Wilson, Sec. B.Dearman. **Agreed unanimously.**
- 6.10 Newsletter/Publications Officer:** *(Written report tabled.)*
- 6.10.1 BP commented that he felt the special "Conservation Issue" was a very good effort.
- 6.10.2 **That the Newsletter/Publications Officer's Report be accepted.** Prop. B.Potts, Sec. A.Brentnall.  
**Agreed unanimously.**
- 6.11 DCA Online Resources/Access Guide Report:** *(Written report by Wayne Sheldon tabled.)*
- 6.11.1 WS reported a new software section is being written by Matt Voysey to allow photographs to be included.
- 6.11.2 JP said she has had queries from people not realising all access information was now online - emphasised you have to click on "the cave" icon to access the information.
- 6.11.3 A map of the relevant area shows if you click on either Google Earth or OS map as choice. JP noted that there are early Peak District aerial photos from John Beck's collection at the British Caving Library.
- 6.11.4 **That the DCA Online Resources/Access Guide Report be accepted.** Prop. P.Mellors, Sec. B.Dearman.  
**Agreed unanimously.**

**7. Election of Officers for 2017/18:**

7.1 JP reported that Terry Jackson wished to stand down as Vice Chairman but was willing, if asked, to continue as a Trustee and a member of the Cave Discovery Fund Panel.

7.2 Election of Officers:

<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Wayne Sheldon.</b>	Prop. J.Potts, Sec. A.Russell. <i>Elected unopposed.</i>
<b>Vice-Chairman:</b>	<b>Alan Brentnall.</b>	Prop. J.Potts, Sec. M.Higgins. <i>Elected unopposed.</i>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Jenny Potts.</b>	Prop. M.Higgins, Sec. P.Mellors. <i>Elected unopposed.</i>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Angus Sawyer.</b>	Prop. J.Potts, Sec. C.Wilson. <i>Elected unopposed.</i>
<b>Conservation Officer:</b>	<b>Christine Wilson.</b>	Prop. J.Potts, Sec. A.Russell. <i>Elected unopposed.</i>
<b>Access Officer:</b>	<b>Gary Noble.</b>	Prop. J.Potts, Sec. C.Wilson. <i>Elected unopposed.</i>
<b>Projects Officer:</b>	<b>Pete Knight.</b>	Prop. J.Potts, Sec. P.Mellors. <i>Elected unopposed.</i>
<b>Legal &amp; Insurance Officer:</b>	<b>Pete Mellors.</b>	Prop. J.Potts, Sec. G.Noble. <i>Elected unopposed.</i>
<b>Equipment Officer:</b>	<b>Bob Dearman.</b>	Prop. J.Potts, Sec. P.Mellors. <i>Elected unopposed.</i>
<b>Training Officer:</b>	<b>Nigel Atkins.</b>	Prop. J.Potts, Sec. B.Dearman. <i>Elected unopposed.</i>
<b>Newsletter/Publications Officer:</b>	<b>Mike Higgins.</b>	Prop. J.Potts, Sec. C.Wilson. <i>Elected unopposed.</i>
<b>Cave Registry Secretary:</b>	<b>Phil Wolstenholme.</b>	Prop. J.Potts, Sec. M.Higgins. <i>Elected unopposed.</i>

7.3 **Any other Officers or Assistant Officers thought necessary for the efficient running of the Association:**

7.3.1 **Events Organiser (Cliffhanger):** Boyd Potts was willing to continue.

**8. Elect Three Ordinary Members to the Grants Panel of the DCA Cave Discovery Fund.**

8.1 **Agreed unanimously to re-elect the current members: Dave Webb, Terry Jackson & Boyd Potts**

**9. BCA AGM – Sunday, 11 June 2017:** To be held in Derbyshire. Agenda not yet compiled.

*(Note that the Agenda for the 2017 BCA AGM may be downloaded in due course from the BCA website at [www.british-caving.org.uk](http://www.british-caving.org.uk).)*

**There are proposals for amendments to the BCA Constitution being drafted by BCA Council and which will be finalised at the BCA Council Meeting on 25th. March 2017. The first draft will be discussed at the DCA Council following this AGM.**

**10. Appointment of Delegates / Representatives to BCA AGM and BCA Committees:**

10.1 Delegates for the BCA AGM on Sunday, 11 June 2017, Derbyshire.

**DCA Rep. to BCA AGM: Jenny Potts:** Prop. C.Wilson, Sec. B.Dearman. *Elected unopposed.*

10.2 **BCA Council.**

**DCA Rep. to BCA Council: Jenny Potts.** Prop. C.Wilson, Sec. P.Mellors. *Elected unopposed.*

10.3 **Special Committees.**

**Agreed that the appropriate DCA Officers or their nominees should normally attend the Special Committee Meetings: i.e. Conservation & Access, Training, Legal & Insurance, Equipment, Publications & Information.**

10.4 **BCA Working Groups:**

**Agreed the following as DCA reps.**

**Rep. to CRoW Working Group: Jenny Potts**

**Rep. to National Cave Register Coordinating Committee: Phil Wolstenholme**

**11. Appointment of Delegates / Representatives to Other Organisations:**

11.1 **DCA Underground Conservation Forum** (Incorporating the SSSI Regional Liaison group)

DCA Conservation Officer, **Chris Wilson**, who is the Convenor of UCF.

11.2 **Peak Instructed Caving Affiliation**

DCA rep. to be **J.Potts & P.Knight** (noted PK, DCA Projects Officer), is PICA Chairman.

11.3 **UK Cave Conservation Emergency Fund:**

JP had confirmed that **Dave Webb** is willing to continue.

**12. Date, Time and Venue of Meetings for the year:**

12.1 **2018 AGM.**

Saturday, 24 February 2018; to be followed by a brief Council Meeting. Monyash Village Hall, 10am. **Agreed**

12.2 **Council Meetings for 2016:**

Saturdays, 24 June & 27 Oct. Monyash Village Hall, 10am. **Agreed**

**13. Any Other Accepted Business:**

13.1 None

Meeting concluded at 12.14.

*J.E.Potts, Recorder*

**Appended to these Minutes and forming part of them is the DCA Annual Report for 2016, including the provisional DCA Annual Accounts for the Year Ending 31 Dec. 2016.**

**DCA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017**

**25th. February 2017**



# **Annual Report For 2016**

**Including**

**DCA Annual Accounts for the  
Financial Year Ending 31 Dec. 2016**

# DERBYSHIRE CAVING ASSOCIATION

## DCA Annual Reports from 2016 for the AGM 2017

### DCA Chairman's Report for 2016

I would say it has been a good year for DCA in terms of activity.

Jenny has been working away in the background, the backbone of the organisation and I really want to thank Jenny for the time and effort she puts in, not just into DCA but for BCA and BCRA as well. Angus updates the accounts regularly and pays the bills when required. Terry has been there when required but has been ill recently.

The conservation and access team have now settled down, following the loss of our previous conservation officer during 2015. They have made some good progress, being very active in coordinating, undertaking projects, or representing us at various meetings locally and nationally. Thanks to Christine, Pete M, Pete K and Gary for the work they do. The conservation part of the website has been developed and some useful information added to this, thanks to Angus for keeping the website updated.

The equipment team, coordinated by Bob, have been busy bolting a number of sites this year. The newsletter goes from strength to strength, and thanks to Mike it's a regular publication again.

Nigel carries on in the background arranging suitable and well attended training events; as well as getting involved in conservation and access projects when required.

As Terry intimated last year, the registry has been in a state of flux awaiting a way forward and an able volunteer. We seem to have a way forward now but it's slow going and we do have an able volunteer to carry on this very important role.

Personally I have been working on the online access guide and looking at the proposed merging of the online access guide and the cave registry data. (See DCA Online Resource / Access Guide report)

I am willing to stand for the position of chairman if members will have me for the coming year.

I don't want people to forget that this is a volunteer organisation and cavers who are involved in DCA need to be thanked for the time and effort they put in while trying to do their usual day job and other interests that they may have.

Many thanks also to all the Officers and volunteers whose hard work has made 2016 a great success.

*Wayne Sheldon, DCA Chairman 2016*

### DCA Secretary's Report for 2016

I see my job as maintaining communications all round, both within DCA and with other caving organisations such as PICA, BCA, BCRA, the Regional Councils, etc.; also with other cavers and non-caving bodies.

During 2016 I have circulated information to members via a series of 6 "DCA Information Circulars" on issues of conservation & access, safety, training, coming events, etc. I have also circulated 15 other items of information where more urgent matters were involved, including Agenda and Minutes of DCA Meetings. As far as possible these are emailed out to Club Secretaries (hoping they will keep their members informed) and to Individual Members; however I do post information to Associate Members to enable items to be posted on notice boards and I still have to post to some Individual Members for whom I have no email address.

In addition, I have used [UKcaving.com](http://UKcaving.com) to supply information, particularly on Derbyshire access issues where visiting cavers would not receive news through their own club. Other DCA officers have also done this and, where we "sign off" as DCA Officers, we are careful to ensure the information is strictly factual.

I also deal with sales of DCA publications to shops and other outlets, in particular the newsletter "The Derbyshire Caver" and "Caves of the Peak District", delivering sale copies and collecting monies. The Derbyshire Caver is always well received, selling steadily in small numbers to non-members via our shop outlets and also to a number of postal subscribers; thanks to Mike Higgins' enthusiastic Editorship, it is a good advertisement for DCA. Most copies of Caves of the Peak District are now sold through caving shops and on-line outlets with just the occasional request for a direct sale to an individual.

It is encouraging to have two new Individual Membership applications at the AGM; sad though that one of our long standing Associate Members, Burton Venture Trust, has now disbanded.

My thanks to all the officers who supply information to me and who put up with my pestering for written reports for meetings. So many members never attend DCA meetings or take part in any discussion on projects or views to be expressed at national level that I believe it is important to ensure that, nevertheless, they are as well informed as possible. DCA is rarely short of volunteers to carry out essential tasks on behalf of cavers in the region so it is tempting to assume that we must be "getting it right" at present.

I am willing to stand for election as Secretary for another year but feel I would like to be able to hand over the job by 2018.

*Jenny Potts, Hon. Secretary, February 2017*

### DCA Treasurer's Report for 2016

#### Income

Income for 2016 has reduced greatly from 2015, mainly because of the lack of additional funding from Natural England. Expenditure from this grant on work stabilising the entrance shaft of Longcliffe Mine has continued into 2016 and early 2017.

Funding from the BCA is also reduced after issues were raised regarding costs relating to administration, specifically postage. The bulk purchase of stamps and stationary made the identification of the full costs of newsletter production problematical. With the assistance of Jenny Potts I have resolved this for the 2016 accounts, where the true costs of newsletter production are now included within the account. I will be revising the 2015 accounts appropriately, and hope to obtain further BCA funding when this is complete.

Publication income has remained steady, and as for 2015 is largely from sales of 'Caves of the Peak District'.

### **Expenditure**

Expenditure in 2016 was lower than 2015, mainly because of reduced conservation project activity. A donation of £500 was made to Dave Nixon for the relining of the Titan entrance shaft. As discussed above, the true costs of production and distribution of the newsletter are now shown, hence the significant changes in administration and publication production expenses.

### **Banking**

After the work carried out by Wayne Sheldon and Jenny Potts last year moving the DCA accounts to Unity Trust, the new bank began charging for current account customers. To reduce our costs I am currently opening new bank accounts that do not impose standing charges and provide the dual authentication internet banking facility that we require.

### **Assets**

There has been a significant reduction in the value of the DCA's non-cash assets.

Our last working gas meters failed in 2016 and have been written off. Alan Brentnall is currently arranging the purchase of new equipment.

The remaining copies of the 'Peak District Access and Rigging Guide' have been written off and disposed of. The guide has become increasingly inaccurate with changes to access requirements and rigging, and sales have been minimal.

I have been unable to confirm the current inventory of materials and equipment because of lack of free time in the last two months. Thanks go to Lorraine Bartrop for scrutinising the 2015 accounts.

I am willing to stand as Treasurer for the new year.

*Angus Sawyer, Hon. Treasurer*

**DCA Provisional Accounts are attached in 3 separate sheets on pages 9, 10 & 11.**

## **Conservation Officer's Report for 2016**

Most of the conservation and project work undertaken to date, has been organised and completed by Pete Knight and these items have probably been covered in his report. Many thanks for his unfettered enthusiasm and commitment to this work and thanks also to those that he has mustered to help him!

### **Special Conservation Issue of The Derbyshire Caver**

Since my last report in October, it was felt that something need to be written and presented about various subjects. Having sent quite a bit Mike's way for the Derbyshire Caver it was suggested that the next edition should be a special 'Conservation issue'. It contained a personal take on the conservation element of the Eurospeleo week and future of cave conservation; the role of Underground Conservation Forum and the ways and means of producing a conservation audit in order to conserve cave features in newly discovered systems.

I also asked if others would like to contribute to the edition: Andrew Chamberlain and Jess Eades kindly offered interesting pieces on 'Recent Finds of Bones in the Peak/Speedwell System' and 'The not so secret life of bats', respectively. Other contributors included John Barnatt on the 'Restoration of the Ecton Dressing Shed Wall' and Pete Knight on recent project work.

### **DCA Website C & A Section**

The conservation & access section of the DCA website now includes, among other new items, a link to Andrew Lewingtons 'Cave Life of Britain'. He is hoping to complete the Derbyshire section in the near future.

### **Natural England Funding**

Dan Abrahams from Natural England has managed to secure £2000 for DCA conservation project work. Many thanks for his efforts to secure this, he really deserves a medal!

Materials, etc for various future conservation repair/maintenance projects using this funding have been sourced and priced up.

### **Suicide Cave**

The interpretation wording for the sign at the entrance to Suicide cave in Winnats Pass has been passed onto Shane Bates, from National Trust, to produce. It will be a metal sign and we hope it will deter passers by from wanting to litter it. We hope it will be ready for installation ahead of the spring/summer tourist season.

### **Masson Cavern**

PICA have had Masson Cavern mines inspected and it has had a safe route approved. The route was also carefully chosen to avoid features of conservation interest both archaeological and geological. An information sheet was produced, for PICA to circulate to their members, for interest sake and to help leaders do a bit of interpretation and pass on the conservation message to their clients and fellow cavers.

I would like to thank John Gunn for checking this and the Suicide signage for suitability/accuracy of content!

### **Cressbrook & Lathkill Dale**

We have been helping Natural England reserve staff check and or make safe 'holes' that have been appearing in Cressbrook and Lathkill Dale. Natural England Nature Reserve staff use their own funding to buy the materials required for this work. One hole named 'Vixen hole' has had a vast amount of overhung material removed in order to make it safe for capping with walkway mesh and future access. Work is still in progress at this site. Many thanks to all those that have been giving guidance, knowledge, time and their hard graft to get this type of work done.

### **DCA Conservation Work Files**

Dave Webb's valuable and comprehensive DCA conservation work files are now split between the British Caving Library at Glutton Bridge and my house. Many thanks to Dave for filing this work so comprehensively. Any one is welcome to look at them, please contact Jenny Potts or myself.

### **Thanks**

Finally, I am greatly aware that there are many cavers out there (recreational and professional), receiving no real recognition for their efforts, whom show a continued concern to conserve and protect our cave systems from the rubbish and graffiti that seems to constantly plague a number of them.

Many thanks to all of you!

### **UCF Meeting**

Next Underground Conservation Forum meeting to be held at the Anchor Inn, Tideswell on Wednesday 26th April at 7pm.

*Christine Wilson, DCA Conservation Officer*

## **DCA Projects Officer's Report for 2016**

Since the last report there have been a few updates:

- Pete Mellors and helpers have completed the Holmebank Chert mine work, sealing the upper Oil-Drum entrance. Some safety taping and path clearance was also undertaken inside, on the working face, on behalf of PICA.
- Eyam Dale house cave has had a new approach route cleared and marked by volunteers and the agreement is now back up and running. Currently there is no lock on the lid to the site following the failure of the new combination lock. Do the DCA wish me to purchase another one? Modifying the existing gate to become a Derbyshire Key lock will either be expensive or completely pointless due to the cave's location. As there are no longer residents at risk since the house is a private dwelling, we could leave it unlocked.
- There has been no progress on the Eldon Hole anchors. I've had no response from Dan H for over 6 months. If Bob D cannot get hold of him to accelerate the process, then I suggest he and the Equipment team rapidly come up with an alternate anchor solution (i.e. just buy some stainless angle and bang it in like North route), as the local caving public are starting to become vocally annoyed at the delay in completion. As it is anchors, and I've been told by Bob that it's his department before, I am passing this job over to the Equipment team. I do not see any way that I can complete this job to the specified requirements without resorting to the original plan of installing the bollards, wasting 18 months since I was told that we should use resin anchors.
- DCA volunteers have been up on land at Devonshire mine, checking out shaft tops for the new owner. I am happy in principal for DCA to cap these shafts or at least fence them off. Phil Lilley of DCC has kindly offered to take this job on after it was dumped on me last month with no warning and a tight time scale.  
NB – One or more of the shafts are not on the land owned by the new owner yet we have agreed to cap them. Can Nige Atkins confirm that he had the permission of the actual owners to cap these before promising DCA would do this? If not, can he please provide Phil with the contact details he will need?
- The gate frame at Mouldridge mine has broken conveniently while discussions were underway to repair it. Adam Russell at PDMHS is taking this on but I have offered DCA/PICA volunteer and material assistance if required.
- There have been a number of visits to Lathkill Dale and a shaft we are calling 'Vixen Shaft'. This shaft has opened up and we have been asked to make it safe by the reserve. This has taken a lot of visits so far as there has been a huge volume of soil and overburden to shift in order to make this area safe enough to work in. Christine Wilson will have more details.

I am happy to continue and be voted back in in my absence, providing no other volunteer comes forward for this role. If anyone else would like to take this on or even have a job-share like arrangement, then I'd be very grateful.

Like previous years, my work load is high and availability for 'on the ground' work can be very slim. I shall remain in the role if the DCA are happy for me to continue, despite restricted availability and long periods where I cannot do much more useful than send emails.

*Pete Knight, Projects Officer, 08/02/2017*

## **Legal & Insurance Officer's Report for 2016**

### **Holme Chert Mine (1)**

Sadly I have no progress to report on access to the Lower Entrance which remains barred and locked by the owner of Holme Hall. I wrote to this person in the summer explaining DCA's and PICA's long association with the site and stressing its value as a recreational and educational resource. I got no reply. Chatsworth too, it seems, can bring little leverage to bear, largely because of the history of the site as two separate legal titles under the same shared hillside. I wait to hear if Duke's Barn has had any luck in persuading the owner to relent when it comes to admitting wheelchair users.

### **Holme Chert Mine (2)**

Work was begun and completed on a DCA-led project, sanctioned by Chatsworth on grounds of public safety, to obliterate the so-called Oil Drum Entrance in the Top Quarry. This entrance had long suffered from break-ins by revellers, and replacement locks have only encouraged attempts to get inside by pulling out large key stones supporting the roof. I am grateful to the Projects Officer for organising working parties to do the job. Cavers continue to have access via the other less obvious entrance in the same quarry, subject to the usual permission from Oldfield Design.

### **Derby Lane Traffic Regulation Order**

The National Park Authority proposed to close this lane near Monyash to all motorised traffic beyond Summerhill Farm. I submitted a written objection on behalf of DCA explaining the importance of the lane to cavers visiting Water Icicle Close with digging and other bulky gear. The TRO has now come into force with an exemption for caver traffic, though details of how exactly the exemption will operate have still to be agreed between DCA and the Park Rights of Way Team.

### **DCA Container**

I wrote to the Works Manager at Cavendish Mill asking why an attempt had been made to cut into the container but got no reply. In the same letter I explained what DCA used the container for and asked for written notice if the firm wanted it removed, adding that no reply would be taken as permission to leave the container where it is. This is how the matter stands.

### **Castleton Street Parking**

To my knowledge DCA was not approached to back TSG's opposition to the proposed new charges and restrictions. Without detailed knowledge of the grounds for objection, I considered I could not put together a convincing enough case on behalf of DCA.

### **Paper on Access Control and Risk Assessment**

I compiled this paper in anticipation of a request for the information from BCA's insurance broker. In the event the request did not materialise and the paper has been shelved for the time being. Let sleeping dogs lie, as they say.

### **Re-election**

I am happy to be considered for a further year in office.

*Peter Mellors, Legal & Insurance Officer, February 2017*

## **Equipment Officer's Report for 2016**

As you are probably aware it is almost impossible to get any new anchor installation projects moving during the summer months as most of the installers are away working on rope access jobs or climbing/caving instruction. Consequently the work on the Rowter project had to wait until December when a substantial workforce was available. The work was carried out by a team led by Mark Richardson over three weekends, two in December 2016 and one in January 2017. A total of sixty eight anchors were installed and subsequently Hydrajaws tested. The anchor numbers were recorded and a vertical section of the cave survey supplied by the team with anchor numbers included. As the survey is so large and as I have only an A4 printer I will bring the computer graphic to the AGM where an enlarged image will be able to be viewed. There is still much work to be done and as of now no proper topo has been available with rope lengths etc included. This was a monumental effort by the team who came from far and wide and thanks must go to all involved with the bolting in what is an extremely hostile and difficult section of new cave. Indeed this is the largest anchor installation programme ever undertaken by DCA.

On a different problem two anchors were reported loose on the Hell's Well pitch in Devonshire Cavern. These anchors had been reported loose on three previous occasions over the last four years following which they were proven to be perfectly sound. The problem seems to be that people think that if there is slight resin cracking round the entrance to the drill hole this means that the anchor is loose. The reason for this cracking is down to Hydrajaws testing when slight flexing of the anchor under load sometimes separates the excess resin from the substrate. This has no effect whatsoever on the strength of the anchor although it may look a little disconcerting. Anyhow, after testing these anchors to EN 959 they again were proven to be sound. A good idea, if people can be bothered, is to carry a short tommy bar and exert a gentle moment on suspect anchors to see if there is any rotational movement. If excessive rotational movement i.e. +/- 2mm is observed it should be reported to DCA. Also at Devonshire Cavern five more anchors were installed to provide an update to training facilities.

On the equipment side we now have two fully functioning Hilti 36v drills with four new batteries and a further three Hilti bits courtesy of BCA. Also we now have access to more BP anchors and resin which can be obtained at short notice.

One of the next projected jobs was to upgrade the anchors in Assault Course in Speedwell. Not surprisingly there seems to be a reticence on the part of some installers to be involved. If you've ever been up there you'll fully understand why. I don't think this section of the cave is visited very frequently and I would appreciate a discussion at this meeting on whether this project is justified.

*Bob Dearman, DCA Equipment Officer*

## **DCA Cave Atmosphere Monitoring Annual Report for AGM 25/02/2017**

### **1. Problems reported.**

There have been very few reported problems this year. I believe that this is partly due to weather conditions, but I also suspect that cavers are anticipating problems in known high-CO<sub>2</sub> venues such as Knotlow and Water Icicle Close Cavern. Certainly, measurements in the latter location indicate that the problem has not gone away.

### **2. Measurements.**

Unfortunately, measurements were only possible during the first half of the year owing to the failure of the carbon dioxide monitor and (several weeks later) the oxygen meter. If problems had been reported in the second half of the year, I would have been able to make use of DCRO's gas monitoring equipment, but, as already noted, this year has seen hardly any complaints of air pollution in Peak underground locations.

The measurements which were taken (at Merlin Mine, Masson Cavern, Deep Ecton and Water Icicle Close Cavern) are given in the table later in this report. Note that the last set of readings, from Water Icicle Close Cavern in late December 2016, were provided by Paul Thorne of Orpheus, using a Kurg meter, capable of measuring both CO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub>.

### **3. Equipment.**

As reported above, both of the DCA meters (Crowcon Gasman CO<sub>2</sub> meter and a GasAlertClip Extreme O<sub>2</sub> meter) have ceased to function. These meters have life expectancies of 2 to 3 years (depending on usage) and we have had quite reasonable service from them, especially the Crowcon, which has been going since long before I started recording the figures.

On 22 November 2016, Pete Dell, Christine Wilson and I attended a meeting with Jason Sidebotham from [Resmar Ltd](#), a company based in Middlewich which supplies gas monitors and other safety equipment. This was primarily to look into replacements for the DCA meters, but Pete, who is the DCRO Equipment officer, attended because DCRO's own QRAE and Crowcon meters are also nearing the end of their likely lifespans. After a discussion about the different products which are currently on offer, we all agreed that the most suitable instrument was the [GMI PS500](#) 5-gas monitor, covering oxygen, carbon monoxide, hydrogen sulphide, carbon dioxide and LEL (for methane), rather than purchasing two separate meters. The cost of one of these meters is around £500 (approximately the cost of replacing our Crowcon CO<sub>2</sub> monitor).

However, for reasons of price and calibration, I would recommend that DCA waits until DCRO make their purchase as this will be for several units, possibly including kit for other UK cave rescue teams, and will also include calibration equipment, which costs around £200.



In the meantime, if we wish to record atmospheric conditions in our caves and mines, I would recommend purchasing a single gas, disposable, 2-year personal oxygen monitor. At the above meeting we were impressed by the [Scott Protégé](#), a rugged meter which has been made for operatives working in locations not dissimilar to our caves, costing around £125.

#### 4. Equipment Usage.

As reported at the October meeting, John Gunn asked to borrow the CO<sub>2</sub> meter for a visit with the Environment Agency to Cromford Sough. No figures were recorded, but there was a report that the decrease in O<sub>2</sub> atmosphere percentage was greater than the increase in CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere percentage. This phenomenon seems to be associated with soughs.

There was also a request from NWCC for me to bring a monitor with me to Rhyd Alyn, an old lead mine which links with the Milwr Tunnel near Loggerheads in the Halkyn mountains, when I visited with Crewe CPC in January 2016. The tunnel, which is 10 miles in length, was created in the late 19th century in order to drain the Halkyn mines into the Dee estuary at Bagillt, near Holywell, and some of the further "inland" stretches are notorious for high accumulations of CO<sub>2</sub>.

#### 5. Readings

Cave	Date	Surface O2	Cave O2	CO2	Location & Comments
<b>Merlin Mine</b>	02/02/2016	20.90			Surface Reading
	02/02/2016		19.80		Foot of winze
	02/02/2016		19.70		Gimli's Dream
<b>Masson</b>	09/02/2016	21.00			Surface Reading
	09/02/2016		20.20		Junction with side entrance
	09/02/2016		20.20		Lake
	09/02/2016		20.00		Pipe Workings generally
<b>Deep Ecton</b>	02/04/2016	20.90		0.08	Surface Reading
	02/04/2016		20.20	0.64	Deep Shaft area
	02/04/2016		19.80	0.90	Salts Level
<b>Nettle Pot</b>	03/05/2016	20.90			Surface Reading
	03/05/2016		20.90		Sentry Box
	03/05/2016		19.70		Foot of Bottle Pot
	03/05/2016		19.00		Foot of Gulley
<b>Water Icicle</b>	10/05/2016	20.90			Surface Reading
	10/05/2016		18.80		Foot of entrance shaft
	10/05/2016		18.70		Gate at top of ladder
	10/05/2016		18.70		Throughout Cherty2 & Urchin passages
<b>Water Icicle</b>	31/12/2016	20.90	20.90	0.04	Surface Reading
	31/12/2016	18.90	18.90	2.13	Halfway down entrance shaft
	31/12/2016	18.70	18.70	2.43	Base of entrance shaft
	31/12/2016	19.10	19.10	1.93	NW passage - ladder to new extensions
	31/12/2016	18.60	18.60	2.33	Halfway along North passage
	31/12/2016	18.50	18.50	2.39	Deads near end of North passage
	31/12/2016	18.70	18.70	2.31	South passage Batty Farber entrance
	31/12/2016	18.50	18.50	2.25	South passage Great Rift
	31/12/2016	18.70	18.70	2.19	Base of entrance shaft on return
31/12/2016	20.90	20.90	0.04	Surface at end of visit	

*Alan Brentnall, February 2017*

## DCA Training Officer - Annual Report, February 2017

### DCA Caver Workshops

As training officer, it falls in my duties to respond to demand of the clubs and individual cavers to provide provision for training in many aspects of caving. My main focus is to encourage and support clubs to run their own training to a high standard, as you know, I am a big believer that training should be provided by caving clubs for their members. This is achieved by either running a workshop directly for the club, setting up a workshop with a specialist trainer or training up their own training officer. Some of these training officers are now going through the BCA leader and instructor schemes which goes to show that enthusiasm is still very much out there.

DCA has for the last 27 years run lots of successful caver training workshops in various topics such as SRT training, SRT rigging, rescue and specialist subjects such as photography etc. Some of which have run at a loss if the numbers were short. If we make any money, the proceeds go back into the pot to cover any shortfalls. Sometimes, individual cavers are not able to attend organised club events or clubs themselves do not have anyone at the appropriate level to run training in certain topics. The DCA training workshops for these such people provide valuable opportunities and I encourage everyone to support them in any way they can.

### **REPORTS ON 2016 EVENTS**

These are the workshops that were run last year:

#### **SRT Introduction Workshop**

Another 2 sold out workshops for those at the beginning of their SRT caving were held last year.

#### **SRT Assessment**

We ran quite a few module 3 (personal SRT) assessments last year qualifying cavers to move onto the more specialised workshops and training courses, SRT rigging & rescue etc. More assessment days will be run in 2017.

#### **Specialist SRT Rigging and Rescue Workshop**

There were 2 of these run last year for cavers who passed their module 3.

#### **Cave Leader Workshop**

This practical workshop, ideal for cavers already or are thinking about leading others underground proved to be very rewarding for the 5 people who attended. These specialist, low cost days look at the leadership skills and knowledge required for leading parties underground.

#### **Digital Cave Photography Workshop.**

Not run in 2016 but there is interest to run another one this year.

#### **SRT Underground Master class**

There were 2 of these days run last year for cavers who passed their module 3. These are ideal workshops for cavers who have done SRT but wish to perfect their techniques and become more slick. Again, these days are brilliant fun. If you want to know what we get up to on these master classes.... Come on one.

#### **Caving Club Training Officers Workshop**

This is THE workshop for 'Training the Trainers' which we run every year. Many clubs already have a CTO to whom it usually falls to organise and supervise training for newly joined novice cavers. This DCA event, open to training officers anywhere in the UK was attended by 7 club training reps and the topics covered included leadership & judgement, geology, equipment, flooding and ropework from life lining to rescue.

Almost a 1 day crash course between the LC/MLA and CIC schemes, this workshop is a brilliant opportunity for any caver wishing to share their teaching experiences whilst gaining new skills.

#### **Cave Leader Assessment Workshop**

This day was run as a mock assessment looking at conservation, weather and flooding, cave geology, equipment and rope work. A very full day which finished with a de brief and a look at opportunities for cavers to gain further experience of leading others underground or possibly moving forward into the professional schemes.

*Nigel Atkins, DCA Training Officer*

**Details of DCA Training Courses for 2017 are given on page 12.**

### **Newsletter Editor/Publications Officer's Report for 2016**

Publication of *The Derbyshire Caver* through 2016 has continued to achieve four issues per year and (so far) sufficient content has been received to fill the maximum sixteen pages per issue that postage costs normally allow. By the time you read this you should have received the Winter 2016/17 issue, no 143. As discussed at the last Council meeting this is a special conservation issue and so much material was received that it ran to an extra four pages. Many thanks to Chris Wilson for all her help with this. As always, however, more articles would be welcome – DCA members, please, please help out by contributing

Work on the production of the index of the Newsletter from the first issue in 1962 up to the present time is proceeding (slowly but surely) again now that winter is here and it's something that can usefully occupy me on those long wet dark cold days when the outdoors doesn't look so attractive.

My sincere thanks to everyone who has submitted articles or photographs for publication over the last 12 months – please help me (and DCA) out by keeping that material coming.

*Mike Higgins, DCA Newsletter Editor/Publications Officer*

### **DCA Online Resource / Access Guide:**

The Online access guide has been used throughout the year, it has received mixed reviews but like anything, it's only as good as the data that we feed into it and it does need updating regular. The team of registrars update it when updates are received but more volunteers are required especially if we want to use it to its full potential.

I would like to encourage club cavers to become more involved in helping us update this site.

Early in the year, I was approached by John Gunn from BCRA with a view of updating the Derbyshire section of the National Cave Registry. My response was why have three separate systems: online access guide, national cave registry and Derbyshire cave registry. The planned cause of action is to merge all of these into one online system kept on the BCA servers, and hopefully it will be there forever.

This isn't a straightforward job, so I have developed additional database fields and the database developer, Matt Voysey is updating the database so we can have one system for Derbyshire. I won't go into detail on the ins and outs of this. Once we have this, the registry data will be imported into the system.

The photograph and bibliography section will be added and there are plans to incorporate cave surveys but that is in the early stages of development and sorting out as there are copy write issues to contend with.

It is slow going but as its volunteers who work on this including Matt who has developed his excellent software to be used by cavers, we will get there in the end.

The overall aim to have a very good resource for cavers wanting to cave in Derbyshire.

***Wayne Sheldon, DCA Chairman 2016***

**Derbyshire Caving Association – Annual Accounts (provisional)****Income and Expenditure for the financial year ending 31st December 2016**

Income	2016	2015
<b>Subscriptions &amp; Entry Fees (ind. members)</b>	<b>309.00</b>	<b>370.00</b>
<b>Publication Sales</b>		
Newsletter "The Derbyshire Caver"	257.67	198.20
Masson Conservation Audit	0.00	13.00
Jug Holes Conservation Audit	0.00	16.00
Cumberland/Wapping Conservation Audit	0.00	11.00
Manifold/Hamps Conservatin Audit	0.00	15.00
Stoney Middleton Conservation Audit	0.00	20.00
Caves of the Peak District	939.66	896.20
Handbook	3.50	0.00
	<b>1,200.83</b>	<b>1,169.40</b>
<b>Donations</b>		
(from members)		
to General Fund	55.59	82.00
to Cave Discovery Fund	0.00	0.00
to Cave Conservation Emergency Fund	0.00	0.00
(from non-members)		
to Youth Development Fund	0.00	0.00
	<b>55.59</b>	<b>82.00</b>
<b>BCA Grants</b>		
Core Funding (admin and C & A )	500.00 <b>2</b>	858.09
Training	0.00	0.00
Youth Development	200.00	410.63
	<b>700.00</b>	<b>1,268.72</b>
<b>Awards and Grants from non-caving bodies</b>		
Natural England SSSI 2014/2015	0.00	2,568.82
Other	0.00	0.00
	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,568.82</b>
<b>Caver Training Course Fees</b>	<b>40.00</b>	<b>70.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,305.42</b>	<b>5,528.94</b>
<b>Cash flow</b>		
Bank balances brought forward	20,461.22	18,898.14
Income	2,305.42	5,528.94
Expenditure	(2,639.20)	(4,022.87)
Interest in deposit accounts	19.24	57.01
<b>Bank balances carried forward</b>	<b>20,146.68</b>	<b>20,461.22</b>

## Derbyshire Caving Association – Annual Accounts (provisional)

### Income and Expenditure for the financial year ending 31st December 2016

Expenditure	2016	2015
<b>General Administration</b>		
Travel	31.15	71.00
Post	87.34	359.50
Phone / Email	0.00	15.00
Materials, printing, copying etc.	226.54	375.28
	<b>345.03</b>	<b>820.78</b>
<b>Conservation and Access</b>		
Travel	36.00	255.50 <b>1</b>
Post / phone / email / administration	38.45	63.48
Materials	155.25	460.57
	<b>229.70</b>	<b>779.55</b>
<b>Cave Conservation Plans / UCF</b>		
Travel	0.00	0.00
Post / phone / email / paperwork	0.00	0.00
Materials	0.00	0.00
	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Equipment, Anchor installation etc</b>		
Travel	37.75	122.00
Post / phone / email / paperwork	0.00	0.00
Materials	77.60	0.00
	<b>115.35</b>	<b>122.00</b>
<b>Publications</b>		
Newsletter	1191.88	667.00
Conservation Audits	50.57	68.36
Handbook	0.00	4.80
Caves of the Peak District	9.02	10.17
Other	3.75	3.56
Website expenses	0.00	10.00
	<b>1,255.22</b>	<b>763.89</b>
<b>Training, PICA Liaison, Youth Development</b>		
Travel	0.00	0.00
Post / phone / email / administration	0.80	2.60
Training Events, Instruction etc.	0.00	0.00
Youth Development: Cliffhanger etc.	0.00	348.78
	<b>0.80</b>	<b>351.38</b>
<b>SSSI Conservation work for Natural England</b>		
Projects funded in 2014/2015	157.10	980.18
	<b>157.10</b>	<b>960.18</b>
<b>Cave Conservation Emergency Fund</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Cave Discovery Grants</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>104.44</b>
<b>Donations to other organisations, causes etc.</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Bank Charges</b>	<b>36.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Exceptional Items</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>120.65</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>2,639.20</b>	<b>4,022.87</b>

## Derbyshire Caving Association – Annual Accounts (provisional)

### Balance Sheet for the financial year ending 31 December 2016

Bank accounts	2016	2015
RBS current account	1.00	1.00
RBS deposit account	1.01	6.60 <b>1</b>
Unity Trust current account	662.23	1,375.23
Unity Trust deposit account	19,482.44	19,078.39
<b>Total cash assets</b>	<b>20,146.68</b>	<b>20,461.22</b>
<b>Note that the balance carried forward includes:</b>		
Cave Discovery Fund	313.29	313.29
Cave Conservation Emergency Fund	1,002.66	1,002.66
<b>Materials &amp; Equipment</b> (depreciated by 20% p.a.)		
DCA banner (2008)	23.20	29.00
DCA laminated notices ( 2008)	9.86	12.33
DCA stand shelter ( 2008)	35.90	44.87
Belle cement mixer & Honda engine	0.00	0.00
DCA artificial speleological system (ASS)	163.57	204.46
tarpaulin (7m x 5.4m)	8.96	11.20
hand torches for use in ASS (x6)	5.88	7.35
tent pegs for use with tarpaulin (x30)	2.94	3.67
helmets for use with ASS (x10)	12.23	15.29
head torches for use with ASS (x2)	6.55	8.19
large holdall to store helmets, lamps etc.	6.55	8.19
laminated notices	3.28	4.10
display stands (x2), donated to DCA	98.30	122.88
HP Business Inkjet 3000	0.00	40.96
DeWALT angle grinder (2012)	86.00	107.50
stationary box, torches, batteries, tape	13.90	17.38
stationary, name naddges (2012)	1.63	2.04
pin badges (2012)	9.01	11.26
laminated posters (2012)	2.46	3.07
21' x 12' container	337.92	422.40
fencing posts, rails and wire	80.69	100.86
steel mesh panels (x28), 2m steel angle iron (x18)	614.40	768.00
plastic Wheolite pipe, 6m x 600mm, 3m x 750mm	256.00	320.00
HGI 2.8KW Honda 240/110volt generator	194.56	243.20
NEC M300W media projector & screen	357.17	446.46
Sperian PHD6.	0.00 <b>3</b>	102.40
Crowcon Gasman IR CO2 meter	0.00 <b>3</b>	312.32
gas meter	0.00 <b>3</b>	159.12
BW GasAlert Clip Extreme	0.00 <b>3</b>	75.78
conservation tape 15mm x 50m (x20)	16.38	20.48
SS wire 3mm consvsn. tape pegs, 100x30cm, 50x 60cm	122.88	153.60
	<b>2,470.22</b>	<b>3,778.36</b>
<b>Publications</b> (valued at nominal trade prices)		
Cave Conservation publications	129.00	156.00
Caves of the Peak District	9,165.00	10,049.00
Peak District Access & Rigging Guide	0.00 <b>4</b>	312.50
	<b>9,294.00</b>	<b>10,517.50</b>
<b>Total Assets at 31 December</b>	<b>31,910.90</b>	<b>34,757.08</b>

- Notes**
- Figures corrected from 2015 accounts (2015 account totals are still correct).
  - Final BCA grant to be determined.
  - All gas meter have failed and are due to be replaced.
  - Written off, no longer accurate and superceded by online access guide.



## DCA TRAINING EVENTS 2017

### Derbyshire Caving Association Caver Workshops

February

#### Coaching for Cavers Leader/Instructors

Sunday **June 11<sup>th</sup>** - places available

This brand new workshop is designed to introduce the skills of coaching. This is an ideal introduction for any leaders wishing to move into coaching not just for caving, but for all sports - especially in the outdoors.

**Caving Club Training Officers Workshop** - Sunday **May 14<sup>th</sup>** - Derbyshire -

**Surface Navigation Workshop** - Sunday **April 2<sup>nd</sup>** - places available

This workshop is designed to introduce and improve navigation techniques useful to any outdoor enthusiast, especially cavers venturing to those more remote caves. We will look at map interpretation, compass work and micro navigation. This workshop is for anyone wishing to navigate themselves in remote areas. £30 per person

**SRT Introduction workshop** - Saturday **April 15<sup>th</sup>** - places available  
- Sunday **May 7<sup>th</sup>** - places available

**SRT Assessment (Module 3)** - Saturday **May 13<sup>th</sup>** - places available

**SRT Master class** - Sunday **April 16<sup>th</sup>** - places available  
- Sunday **June 17<sup>th</sup>** - places available

**Specialist SRT Rigging and Rescue Workshop** - Sunday **July 9<sup>th</sup>** - places available

This workshop is not an introduction to SRT, however there will be plenty of opportunity to pick up on techniques etc. People attending will be expected to demonstrate basic S.R.T. This surface training day will be of an informal nature with emphasis on personal techniques improvement.

**Cave Photography Workshop** - *phone for details as this is a very specialised event with limited places.* £40 per person

#### **BCA Cave Leader Training (LC/MLA)**

Level 1 Wednesday & Thursday April 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> – Derbyshire - cave

Level 1 Friday April 7<sup>th</sup> – Derbyshire - mines day

Level 2 Thursday & Friday May 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> – Derbyshire

Level 2 Thursday & Friday August 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> – Derbyshire

#### **BCA Cave Instructor Training (CIC)**

Monday to Thursday April 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> 2017

Please **call** or **email** for further details on any of the above workshops and courses.

Good caving  
DCA. Training officer

Nige

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Nigel Atkins

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DCA. Training officer

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