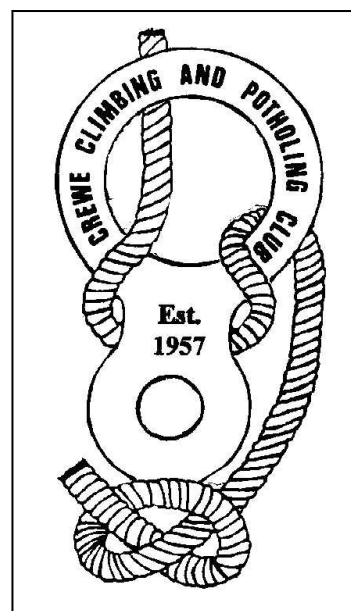


C.C.P.C. Newsletter 72. Winter. 2001

www.ccpc.org.uk



Bolt Tests

Seeing as Rob Farmer had access to bolt testing facilities as part of his rope access job it seemed too good an opportunity to miss. Since his employer wouldn't loan out the gear "the mountain had to go to Mohamed"! A piece of Derbyshire was despatched along with two bolts-a "Fixe resin anchor" and a 10 mm expansion bolt. The Fixe bolt refused to budge at 2 tonnes and was eventually extracted by smashing the limestone block! The expansion bolt started to move at 1½ tonnes –on close inspection the block had cracked along a line of weakness. Since the accepted industrial standard is ½ tonne it would appear that both these anchors are well above the limit reqd for safety. Their only disadvantage when compared with eco-hangers is that they CANNOT be remove should they become loose.

P.Ton (Equipment Consultant.)

Ghost Rift.

Mat, Ralph and Robbie Shone (TSG) have placed anchors and a "new" rope on the climb into Ghost Rift. If anyone wishes to visit this location-now's the time.

For Sale.

Oversuits, These are on sale (see Ralph) they are of a lighter weight material than usual to give greater flexibility and can be produced in "breathable" material if desired.

Fleece Neck Gaiters cum hat £5.00



Gore-Tex, A bargain at £45.00–direct from Nepal. Concealed hood, 4 pockets, pit zips. The usual **tee shirts and sweatshirts** –see Ralph.

G de la Diau.

This "quickie" to the Jura was eventually accomplished by Mat (CCPC) Robbie Shone (TSG) Lee Langdon and John Highfield (Masson CG) It looks well worth putting onto the "To do" list.

Whalf fence.

At the last DCA meeting the access officer offered to contact the National Trust with a view to fencing Whalf Engine Shaft. After a wait of around 2 months he sent me a phone number for the NT-which turned out to be the wrong office. However, after a quick call to the right office, arrangements were

made for the NT to make arrangement with the NEW tenant. It would now appear that the NT is going to fence (or wall) the shaft-funded by English Nature

Alternative to Leviathon.

Towards the end of September Darren and Neil Conde visited Leviathon where they almost managed to complete the bolting of “Leviathon Alternative” Rob F. also placed a bolt enabling a rebelay to be organized in the entrance shaft.

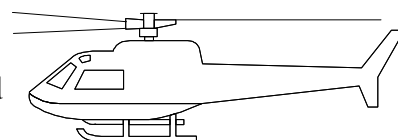
DCRO Radio Location Exercise at Peak Cavern. Sunday 21 October.



Generally A good exercise with 26 cavers present, sadly only 3 clubs were represented (Masson, Chesterfield and Crewe) Most members changed in the Chapel then wandered across to the car park for a briefing (0930) The scenario “*A caver on a through trip JH-Peak had been reported missing.*”

Matt Ryan downloaded from his laptop into 3 GPS’s the Grid refs of all the underground sites to be visited (see list). These had been superimposed onto blown up 1:25000 OS maps of the surface above the system. Two surface teams were provided with GPS’s, Heyphones, maps and radios plus a list of estimated times that the 4 underground teams were likely to be in position.

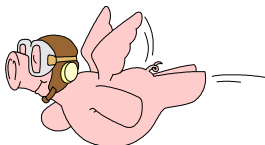
4 underground teams were given Heyphones, lists of locations and estimated times of arrival before being despatched, 2 teams down JH and 2 down Peak The last group left the car park at 1010. In order to keep a few latecomers busy and to give our brand new “Quadpod” an airing an “incident” occurred on the entrance pitch of JH. They were sent to “rescue” one of the (fictitious) team members who had injured his ankle on the descent of JH engine shaft. This gave the opportunity to try out the new “quad pod” and gave members a chance to hone their deep shaft techniques. Incidenrally the group were visited by the heli-ambulance during the afternoon looking for a casualty!!



The weather on the surface went from bad to worse with heavy rain persisting for most of the day. This was one exercise where the surface teams were as wet if not wetter than those underground! The exercise was wound up at 1410 –many of the “above ground team” adjourned to the Bull’s Head to await the arrival of the underground teams with debriefing continuing throughout the afternoon.

Surface communications were also under test and the new mini radios recently donated by Hitch n Hike worked well but as expected are very much “line of site” with a range of a couple of miles.

All in all a worthwhile day and a chance for cavers from various clubs to get together and discuss all manner of cave related topics.



Ralph Johnson.

Beneath Mow Cop!!

It was rather an unusual request “Could CCPC help (i.e. make) a video of an old underground tramway on the Staffordshire/Cheshire border.” The tramway was driven through the hillside a couple of hundred years ago, had not been used for about 100 years and had since collapsed at its eastern end! On a preliminary visit I expressed doubt about the soundness of the roof in several places but was assured by my guide (Len Kirkham from PDMHS) that it was OK,.

Now all I know about video making I learned from Dave Webb so I was more than relieved when, following a frantic phone call, Dave agreed to attend the “shoot” duly turning up at the appointed time

equipped with all sorts of kit that I never dreamed would be useful but needless to say we couldn't have managed without.

Accompanied by Matt Ryan and Nigel (**-2-**) acting as lighting technicians we spent about 3 ½ hours up to our unmentionables in freezing cold water in the 350 yard tunnel (it was built well before we changed to metres) while Dave insisted that we take (and retake) the footage until he was satisfied that it was "in the can".

At the time of writing Dave and I are trying to turn this into a masterpiece- Sid Perou "eat your heart out" You never know it might be accepted at the next "Hidden Earth" conference!

Ralph Johnson October 2001

A DCRO call-out with a difference!

It was a little unusual to get advance warning of a "rescue" but sure enough the request arrived well in advance of a "shout". The "casualty" turned out to be a somewhat modified washing machine (go-fast stripes, high tensile anchor points, extra -large castors etc.) It was on a Round -Britain excursion taking in bungee jumping, parachuting, abseiling, plus a whole load of other activities including of course caving! -all in the aid of charity.

The charity team of about a dozen arrived in the Peak Cavern car park at more or less the appointed time where they were met by Ralph and Matt fro CCPC and Ann and Dave from Masson CG. Once the usual press conference, photographs and video footage were completed, the casualty was transported rapidly to the entrance of the show cave. John Harrison the custodian had kindly agreed to allow the event to take place so we hurried past a queue of bemused tourists and were quickly at the limit of the existing show cave.

Those who have visited the cave recently will recall the fibreglass slide erected for a TV programme, which misses out the incredibly muddy steps down the first part of the "old" show cave. The machine was placed on the slide, protected by a member of the fire service. It rapidly gained speed, negotiated with some difficulty the first couple of bends before launching itself into space thus completing the last few metres by bouncing down the steps.

Needless to say by now it was a little "bent" and definitely muddy. Nonplussed the dozen or so volunteers grabbed it and it was rapidly whisked away to the end of the "old" show cave where it posed for further filming and photography before being returned to the surface to continue its journey.

Before we get a whole load of complaints can I add that prior to agreeing to act as escorts due thought was given to cave conservation which is why this particular venue was chosen and why the trip ended at the start of Buxton Water.

Ralph Johnson (Incident controller!!)

Jug Holes.

The adit now boasts a "new" entrance! The driving force behind the project was Dave Webb although many other individuals and groups were involved including our own Nigel Cooper who manufactured the new gate.

Many thanks for the tankard-sorry about the missing speech- I was lost for words (for a change!)And for those who helped me celebrate at the Bullshed -apologies if you ended up withlettuce!! You'll have to blame those who rushed out of Peak to be first in the queue!!




If you fancy something extra or different now is the time to give John a ring. Don't forget –this list only shows “official” club trips, there are usually SEVERAL trips a week*** in addition to those shown. You only have to ask. Ring John, Ralph or Matt.

January 12	Clatterway Levels	Derbyshire	Dead easy-no SRT
January 21	Tearsall Pipe/Brightgate	Derbyshire	Lots of crawling
January 26	Sell Gill	Yorkshire	Open pot.SRT. Easy (exposed)
February 9	Pipikin/Link etc	Yorkshire	Various entrances. Easy to V.diff
February 23	Lost Johns	Yorkshire	SRT Easy to Strenuous
March 3	Eyam Dale House	Derbyshire	Easy (ladders)
March 10	Meregill	Yorkshire	ClassicYorks. streamway SRT
March 17	Lathkill Head	Derbyshire	Easy short SRT

*** These trips are evenings or (if you are a member of the “coffin dodgers” or work shifts) may be during daylight hours. (i.e. you don't have to be over 60 but it helps!)

Subscriptions 2002.

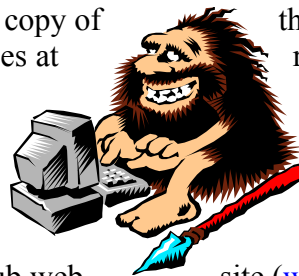
Subscriptions for 2002 remain unchanged i.e. Joining fee (new members £1.00) Full membership £16.50, Associate members £8.25. Ass. Memb. since the only good news on the horizon. Since 2001 it has been **proposed** that reduction for 2002!! (This is apply to all those paying before 31st March.



Many members who cannot attend meetings opt for difference is lack of voting rights. However there's F+M meant that activities were much reduced in all those who paid up in that year get a 50% subject to approval at the AGM) NB. These rates

Electronic Mail.

If you've recently gone on the Internet and we don't have your address then please let Matt or Ralph know. Not only will you receive an electronic copy of meeting you will receive news on club activities at regular) intervals. If you still want a “hard” up at the meeting or have it posted. **If you and still want a hard copy please let**



this newsletter well before the regular (some might say too copy you can always pick one **are on the list for e- mailing Ralph know.**

Also- for those IT literate why not visit the club web site (www.cpc.org.uk) It has been updated and will (hopefully) be kept up to date. It now contains some stunning photos from Kiwi land- (courtesy of Kev and Bron) anyone who has photographs or articles to contribute contact Ralph. Don't be shy

